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The Kansas Farmer.

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

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PLANTING APPLE ORCHARDS IN KANSAS

EDITOR FARMER: In your issue of March 27th, I notice an article over the signature of C. H. Cushing, Esq., criticising, severely, my remarks in the FARMER of February 6th, wherein I recommended the planting of peach trees with apple trees as a protection. Now it is evident, from the tone of my friend's letter, that something ails the man. I suspect that he has been using some of those *nasty* pancakes that we read about in the FARMER last winter, or perhaps in his greed he has eaten an apple at the wrong time of day. There is no doubt, I think, that he has the dyspepsia, and that it is growing upon him, for if he was grieved why did he not send up his review before he had entirely forgotten our name, and in time to have the question ventilated before the season for tree-planting was over? But then he was in a better state of health, no doubt, and our suggestions did not look so dangerous to him. Dyspepsia always produces a bad effect upon the mental faculties. I am very fortunate in being free from that annoying malady, for now it does not disturb my rest in the least to have Mr. Cushing tell me that I do not know what I am talking about.

However, as he remarks, a mistake in planting an orchard is hard to remedy, and it is possible that some thoughtless ones may be misled just as I was when I planted my orchard here in Kansas. I had a little smatter of "book larnin';" had read somewhere about tipping the tops of trees towards the south, for a special purpose, and without stopping to take a second thought, I pitched my trees well to the south, and when I got through I said, "There, Old Boreas, just butt against them!" Well, Boreas did butt, and the result is the tops are decidedly upon the opposite side of the trees, and stretching away off towards the north pole at a rapid rate, notwithstanding, as Mr. C. advises, I have planted corn every year among my trees for a protection from the wind.

And that timber-belt, too, that I did *not* plant, one of my neighbors did—the largest fruit-grower in the county. I asked him, one day, what he thought of the plan. He said it was a complete failure, beyond, perhaps, two or three rows nearest to the belt. If my friend C. doubts this conclusion, I would recommend him to place himself twenty rods or forty rods to the south of one of those timber belts of two or three rows, some morning when we have a blizzard from the north, and stand there a couple of hours, and then go in and reflect upon the experiment. It will, at least, be good for his complaint. However, I do not object to the timber-belt upon the south and west sides of the orchard. It will, at least, obstruct the wind some, and it will be a greater benefit in obstructing the heat of the sun, and preventing its scalding the trees in the outer rows.

Now about that peach-tree business. In the great fruit region of southern Illinois, where I resided several years, it was a common practice to plant peach and apple trees together. The object, there, was more especially to obtain a profit from the peach trees while the apple trees were too young to produce fruit, and as the apple trees matured the peach trees decayed and passed away. I owned an orchard there of several thousand trees, a part of which were planted in that way, and my apple trees were not spoiled nor injured by the peach trees, although they stood but sixteen feet apart. Nearly all those who adopted that practice there, planted every alternate tree in each row with peach. Thus, No. 1—first, apple; second, peach; and so on; No. 2—first, peach; second, apple; and so through each row, with the intention of leaving the place of the peach tree open after it was removed, but I filled mine with young apple trees as fast as they occurred, and I am satisfied that I derived a great advantage, in various ways, by this plan.

First, the peach trees are a protection to the apple trees while young. The wind does not sway them about as it otherwise would, and when they begin to bear fruit it is not blown off prematurely, as is the case in more open orchards without the protection of the peach trees.

Second, they protect the apple trees from the effect of the sun, and hence they are not subject to sun-scald, as so often happens in more open orchards. The fact that the sun scalds the bodies of fruit trees, ought to teach us that they need protection, and there is nothing so well calculated for this as the branches of other trees standing near them. And finally, it is natural for the tree family to have *near* neighbors, and they are more healthful every way, and more durable planted reasonably near than when planted at an unnatural distance apart. For choice I would have my trees put near enough together to keep down the undergrowth at the age of say fifteen years, then thin out the tops as occasion requires.

In 1844, in southwestern Wisconsin, I set an orchard twenty-four feet apart. In 1853 I set other trees between these each way, making my trees then twelve feet apart, and that orchard stands there to-day a living monument, while succeeding generations of trees, in the neighborhood, planted wide apart, have passed away; and I will venture to add that those trees have produced two bushels of apples to one bushel borne upon any other trees, of the same number, in the vicinity. It should be borne in mind, however, that in that locality trees do not grow so vigorous as here in Kansas, but still the limbs interlace in many instances, but they do not *poison* each other. They are entirely at home there in case the tops are kept sufficiently thinned out.

Talk about a peach tree starving an apple-tree, or a razorback a Berkshire! The difficulty is not in the orchard nor in the pig-stye. Stop drinking tea and coffee boiling hot. Get cured of your dyspepsia, Mr. Cushing, and then I think it will be easy for you to understand how an abundant supply of good, rich feed, with judicious pruning, will enable a peach and apple tree to flourish together. And with equally good treatment you can produce a very satisfactory result in your pig-pen, even with a razorback and a Berkshire in the same pen and eating from the same trough.

And now, sir, in conclusion, allow me to remark that I am still of the previous opinion, only more so. I will recommend the planting of peach and apple trees together as I have described in the foregoing article—sixteen feet apart, and as the peach trees perish, or crowd too much upon the apple trees, remove them and fill their places with apple trees, and with proper treatment we shall not see so many fruit trees sun-scald, nor so many fairly tipping up by the roots before they arrive at a bearing age, as at present here in Kansas.

J. B. COOLEY.

Mound Valley, Kansas.

A WORD WITH SLOSSON.

"You might as well tell me apple-pie is *pisen* as to tell me whisky is *pisen*," roared a country orator at a debating society one night when the subject of intemperance was under discussion. "I've been eating apple-pie all my life when I wanted it, and drinking whisky all my life when I wanted it, and I'm now a healthy, robust man of sixty." And he was. But he would, in all probability, have been much more healthy and robust, if he had never drank the whisky. And Mr. Slosson may be as healthy as he tells us he is in the FARMER of March 27th, after having eaten a quarter-section of cake; but I veturen the assertion that he would have been a good deal healthier if he had left the cake uneaten. His argument is of the same kind as the country orator's, and proves the healthfulness of cakes and sweet things, just as his did the healthfulness of whisky.

"The fattening of negroes, young and old, while making sugar and molasses," Mr. Slosson says, "is sufficient proof that, even in large quantities, sugar is healthy." If the statement were not absurd and apochryphal, it would prove the very reverse, for the fattening process is a disease-producing process; and obesity or fatness, instead of being a condition of perfect health, is a condition in which effete matters are retained in the system in the form of fat.

If Mr. Slosson's judgment was not as much perverted by his fondness for molasses and sugar, as his taste has been depraved by their use, he would never have placed himself in such an awkward predicament as he has done by blatantly asserting that "God could not, by any possibility, have made any mistake in his creations, or the laws of life and health which were created for our benefit," and that "the mother's milk exactly supplies the sugar required" for the child, and then turning tail, and advising us to add more sweetening to the food which has been already abundantly supplied with sugar by "the unerring hand of nature. Brother Slosson's article proves that the "varieties of vegetable food contains sufficient sugar to adapt them to the wants and convenience of animals," or it proves nothing. But why pursue the subject? Sugar is in no sense food. It is simply an element of food. While it remains in our milk, or grain, or fruit, as an element thereof, it is beneficial to health; but when it is mechanically extracted therefrom its character is materially changed, and its effects upon the system are materially different.

If I could revise my "sweeping assertion" in regard to sweet things, for Mr. Slosson's benefit, I would cheerfully do so, but "for truth's sake and the sake of the children," I am obliged to say that the longer I live the more firmly do I become convinced that the excessive use of sugar, molasses, cake, and other sweet things, is daily rendering the average American stomach more and more depraved and carnal. And, in my judgment, a carnal stomach is answerable for far more wrong-doing and crime than a carnal heart.

W. P. E.

AGRICULTURAL DREAMS AND REALITIES.

NO. II.

No class of men and no kind of occupation but has its day-dreams, and farmers are fully as subject to this disease as men in other walks of life. Like members of all other discontented callings, they behold more brilliant pictures of success in the distance and outside of their profession, painted by the artistic brush of imagination They become excited, nervous, fidgety, discouraged with the business that gives them but a tolerable living, in a majority of cases, and no funds in reserve to build up, adorn, and to educate the thirsty souls that God has given them. They long for more congenial financial accompaniments, and their eyes are magnetically directed towards some town or city where people do abound, and the nimble sixpence is as active as the busy bee in search of the nectar of flowers. Even farmers who have been successful above their fellows, and have a few thousands laid by, show an abnormal condition, and are stricken with that uneasiness of soul which sweeps over the minds of men and lures them from the post of duty to tread in unexplored paths beset with unexpected trials, which dampen the ardor of pursuit and discourage from that persistent effort which often crowns with success.

Mr. Brewster, whose agricultural success was an example worthy of imitation, grew tired of well-doing on his farm, and looked longingly at a dry good's business in his shire town. He had done well at farming, but he was persuaded that selling dry goods was much more profitable than farming. Now Brewster had a good farm, good buildings, good fences, evergreens and deciduous trees in profusion about his house; children who loved their home and their parents and made, bright the social hearthstone with reading writing, and the jolly outbursts of wit, and merriment that laughed in every eye and twinkled in rippling smiles on happy faces. Notwithstanding he was happily fixed to enjoy the sweets of life, unmarred by a snarling wife and fretful children; not a debt hanging in dangerous proximity to an empty purse disturbed his peace of mind, and yet, despite his happy and harmonious surroundings, his mind grew morbid on the subject, increased in violence till he sold his farm and had the nice little sum of fifteen thousand dollars of available cash at his command. He clung to this morbid vision until he went into the dry goods business. He filled his store with a fine stock of goods; customers crowded around his counters asking for six months' credit; sharpers in New York and Chicago took advantage of his ignorance in the business; dishonest clerks robbed him; his goods were scattered over the county upon trust, and the accounts, many of them, were not collectable. In three short years the astonishing reality, bankruptcy, burst over his doomed head. Nearly fifteen thousand dollars were gone to the dogs, and he and his intelligent and agreeable family were reduced to the employment of their own native ingenuity to fill their stomachs and cover their backs. Here was a huge mountain of trouble which many could never surmount, but Brewster's innate pluck stood him in good stead, and raised him above the frowning clouds of despair, and his hope, assuming the bright colors of the rainbow, carried him to pastures green in the then young and growing Kansas. Fifteen years ago he was almost a penniless emigrant in the wilds of Kansas, with the native sod all around him, and bright, prairie blossoms smiling him a welcome to their beautiful bowers. To-day fortune again smiles upon his efforts, because directed to the business to which he was brought up and knew how to manage.

"Let well enough alone," is an old but wise saying, which if heeded by the uneasy mortals who long for a change of business, would save many trials and tribulations, and in many cases prolong life and fill the cup of happiness to overflowing. Brewster's career is only a repetition of Ballard's, but from a different standpoint; and this only proves that a general uneasiness and dissatisfaction with one's lot, is common to all classes and conditions of men, and that it needs discouragement, and that each individual requires an education *sui genesis*, to properly fit him or her for the business to be followed. A lawyer is not fit for a farmer any more than a farmer is fit for a lawyer, and hence to be prepared to battle successfully with the world, we must be prepared with appropriate education to honor the calling of our choice and extract from it all that it is capable of rendering unto professional skill and honest industry.

R. K. SLOSSON.

Verona, Grundy Co., Illinois.

EFFECTS OF TIMBER ON RAINFALL.

The effects of the presence of growing forests on the amount of rain that falls and especially on its regular distribution throughout the year add a great interest and importance to the question of timber planting in this country.

The productiveness of a country is so intimately connected with a regular supply of moisture, that nothing else will compensate for its absence. The climate may be the most equable imaginable and the soil the most fertile to be found, but if moisture is lacking sterility will prevail. That growing trees have a very decided influence on the hydrometric condition of a climate is a well established fact.

History shows that the cutting away of the native forests of a country produces a very marked change on its climate. As is well known to all readers of history many countries once noted for their fertility and productiveness, have, in the lapse of time, become comparatively sterile, if not absolutely barren. Palestine, once remarkable for the great luxuriance of its crops, is now little more than a barren, rocky waste. It is well known that during the years of its productiveness its hills and surrounding mountains were covered with dense forest growths. But these forests have long since disappeared, and with them the fertility of the land has gone. The dense population that once crowded its numerous populous cities has dwindled to a comparatively few scattered inhabitants, who for the most part live in squalor and poverty. In former times Upper Egypt was favored with frequent rains that furnished sufficient moisture to cause a luxuriant growth of vegetation; but during the French invasion of that country under Napoleon Bonaparte, the forests that covered that part of the country were generally cut down and destroyed since which time rain seldom falls in that part of the country. On the other hand Lower Egypt was formerly almost without rain, it seldom falling oftener than once in three years. But some years ago the Pasha, Mehemet Ali, had some twenty millions of trees planted, and since they have grown to a considerable size the rainfall has so increased that there are several rainy days every year. Greece, celebrated in song and story for the fertility of its fields and the beauty of its sylvan forests has been swept of its groves to a large degree and its fertility has been largely diminished. Spain, and adjacent countries both Europe and Africa, once the granery of the world, have largely lost their productive power and their dense population at the same time that their forests have been almost utterly destroyed. Some of the West India islands once covered with luxuriant forests and where fine mansions, beautiful gardens and rich fields abounded, the destruction of the forests has been followed by such a diminution of rain fall that utter barrenness and desolation have taken the place of the former prosperous condition. The same result is slowly but surely following the disappearance of the forests in the parts of our own country once covered with dense forests. It is a fact well known to both the common farmer and the scientific investigator that droughts are more frequent and more severe in those parts of the country where the forests have been cleared away than they were before such denudation had taken place. Numerous illustrations of this truth might be cited but I shall not occupy space for this purpose at this time as probably almost every man who has spent a part of his life in the timbered part of our country will doubtless be able to call to mind instances that have come under his own observation that prove the truth of this assertion. What is of more importance to us is to prove that our prairie climate may be so modified by the planting of timber that injurious drouths will be of much less frequent occurrence. I shall not now discuss the question as to how this change is brought about, but content myself with asserting that such is the case. The water in the Great Salt Lake has risen several feet since the adjacent country was settled, and, it is but reasonable to infer that the growth of timber—of which a large amount has been planted—has had a strong influence in producing this result. If it be true that the growing of timber on these prairies will have a very strong influence in inducing an increase of rainfall, or of distributing it more regularly through the season, it constitutes one very important reason why there should be a more general and extensive attention given to tree-planting.

L. J. TEMPLIN.

From Butler County.

Wheat never looked better. Eastern people say that our county looks like a great sea of wheat. There is a great tide of emigration here. Prospects are very promising for a good fruit crop. A. L.

From Doniphan County.

Fall wheat never looked better at this time of year; spring wheat (grass wheat is the kind principally sown this spring) is looking well; there has been an unusually large acreage sown. Very little barley sown. The acreage of oats sown is small. The farmers are all plowing for corn, and a few are beginning to plant. We have had frost, snow and ice since the peach trees bloomed, but they are all right yet, as are all other kinds of fruit it is said that an insect is eating the apple blossom. Stock of all kinds in good condition. Everything is plenty but money. M. C.

From Riley County.

Corn planting has just commenced here. One of my neighbors planted, last year, quite a large field of corn without plowing the land, and harvested 10 per cent more corn than previously. This spring he is planting another field in the same manner, clearing off the stalks, marking the ground both ways, and dropping with a hand planter, intending to break up the ground only once in two years if this season's work proves successful. I have an apple tree in my orchard that was set last spring, the tree then two years old, and cut back so that it now measures three feet to the topmost leaf. It now has 45 clusters of bloom or 185 single blossoms, all appearing healthy. Who can beat it? Corn delivered in the market sells at 25c. Stock, steers and hogs sell at about 3c per pound. J. N. L.

The last frost killed some of the peaches, but there are more than the trees will stand under yet, should they be permitted to live and flourish.—*Hiawatha* (Brown Co.) *Dispatch.*

Full of work and full of promise. Our county papers are glowing with accounts of the growing crops and spring improvements.

The Peabody *Gazette* says, fourteen hundred trees have been set out on the fair grounds this spring.

CONTAGIONS AND INFECTIONS.

NO. IV.

HOG CHOLERA.

In the papers on "Disease and Decay," it was said that one of the most brilliant discoveries of modern time, was that of Pasteur, that fermentation and putrefaction were not chemical but biological processes; that while we have a class of beings, whose function it is to build organic material from air, water and earth, there exists by its side, another class who live by breaking down the material so formed, into its original elements. That from the elephant and whale to the smallest known animal, each lived upon the plasma so formed being wholly unable to combine into molecules, the elements of which their bodies are composed. That at the death of each, and often without waiting for death, each was to become the food of some predatory species that feed upon the matter of life involved in the host,s tissue, which reduced a part of it and handed over the residue, with its own body to its successors, until at length a handful of germs of invisible species, a handful of earthy salts, the water and gases, would be all that would be left, that could be said to have belonged to the elephant or whale. So long as this devouring is done by visible animals with claws and teeth, or beaks and talons, or even by visible larvæ of insects, we call it "eating." But that when these visible eaters were excluded, the flesh would still go to pieces by a process that was considered oxidation, before Pasteur, but was by him shown to be a continuation of the eating process by hordes of invisible species whose seed float in the air. That this process of resolving organic molecules into less and less complex molecules, until finally all is resolved into gas, water and mineral salts,except the few germs, has received the name of zymosis. And those diseases which proceed in a manner quite analagous to the decay of meat or potatoes or wood, have been named zymotic diseases, and are often spoken of as "germ diseases." That every disease may safely be pronounced a germ disease, when it is as capable of indefinite multiplication as would be a measure of yeast in fresh dough, or a pursley seed planted in new soil. Now the hog cholera has this character: we can take a drop of slime from the bowels of a hog that has died with it, administer it to a well pig, and this one will die with it. A drop from the bowels of this one will give it to another, and so on indefinitely. From this we conclude that the contagion is susceptible of indefinite multiplication, like the yeast plant or the pursley plant.

But, if we take a drop of the mucous from a hog that has died with the disease, and greatly dilute it, say in a barrel of water, not all the hogs that drink a little of this water, will take the disease, yet some of them will. Not only so,we may take a drop of this water and inject it into the veins of a pig, or several drops into the veins of several pigs, and we shall again see that some of them will be infected and some of them will not. Hence, we conclude, that the contagion is a discrete particle, not equally and universally diffused in the water, as would be sugar, milk, alcohol, vinegar and the like.

Again, if we take a drop of the slime from a cholera hog, and add to it a drop of carbolic acid, we may now inject the whole two drops into the veins of a pig and it will not produce the disease. We proceed in this way by testing one drop of acid to ten of slime, one drop to twenty of slime, until at length we reach a limit where the virus and acid ceases to be inoccuous. But if we apply a drop of carbolic acid to a grain of wheat, the wheat will not grow. A drop added to a tablespoonful of the best brewers' yeast, no longer excites fermentation. A few drops added to putrid beef tea or egg albumen in water that is putrid, ceases to putrify further; a little of it added to jelly that has commenced to mould, kills the moulds already formed and stops their spread as if by magic; dropped upon a potato bug, it kills, even when much diluted, but it kills the potato plant too, wherever it touches. From all this we conclude that hog cholera is a zymotic disease, in which a living organism has invaded the swinish tissue, and is resolving that tissue into the products of putrefaction, and this view seems borne out by the feted smell of the flesh and excreta, the rapid distension with gases after death, and the quick falling of the animal into putrefacence. We conclude, too, that the sick hog acquired the disease by imbibing either in food or drink, or by inhalation, of one or more of these discrete particles which we will call "seeds" or "germs." And that this seed has reproduced and multiplied many thousand fold.

Now the hog would not have had the disease if the seed had been killed or kept away from him. To determine how he got it, and where it first took root, we must both dissect and try experiments.

If we dissect we shall find (if the case is really cholera) that the small intestine, near its fastening to the back, is very much inflamed, and is generally perforated, or else in a gangrenous state, and the "striffin" and generally the tissue about the backbone are also inflamed, or perhaps softened to near rottenness. Sometimes the intestines sloughs before the death of the hog (Professer Law), but oftener the inflammation spreads to other parts, and the "seed" enters the large blood vessels, and inflammation and mortification sets up in other organs, as the lungs, liver, etc., and this becomes the proximate cause of death. But to test the question whether the hog inhaled the poison or swallowed it, let us try some experiments. We will take the slime from a hog that has just died with the disease, and pigs being now cheap, we will muzzle a half dozen of them, so that they can not open their mouths, and put them in a box Now we will mix enough starch with the slime to dry up the moisture, expose the stuff to the air to further dry a little, and with our own mouths and noses protected, we will throw this dust into the box with the pigs, and force them to inhale it. After a few hours we unmuzzle them and remove them. If these pigs do not take the disease (as I suspect they will not), we will have established the fact that the disease originates in the stomach and bowels, and we will have learned that the seed is swallowed, either with the food or water.

It has been found that the poison is not killed by exposure upon the point of a probe for a month, to dry air, and that such a probe would communicate the disease, if thrust into the tissue.

If the disease causes sloughing as I have said (and I speak mainly on authority of Pros. Jas Law), and the poisoning of the blood and a gangrenous state of the whole body, especially the bowels and lungs, before death, is it not manifest folly to try to cure a hog in the last stages of the disease. When the skin shows the purple, I feel sure that farmers will find it money in pocket to kill and burn at once. What next? Sort out those that are seemingly well, and with all possible dispatch get them into a new pen, remote as possible from the infected pen, one that hogs have never defiled. One that cannot receive the wash of that infected pen, or any other.

Do not trust the brook water that so elegantly waters your farm, for if you will think a minute you will recollect that on some farms that are at the head of the stream, they have had a good many hogs die, but that they have always claimed that it was "worms" especially toward market time. Beware of the water that receives their sewage.

Keep your hogs from contact with even a pig from the outside world. If another hog dies, or shows sickness that is suspicious, move again on to fresh soil. To facilitate this moving, a few panels of movable fence will prove convenient.

If there can exist the slightest suspicion that the infective germs have got into your well, as they are nearly sure to do, if for convenience, you have built your pen so that the hogs may easily be watered close by it, the water given must be boiled or disinfected with chemicals. The old water-trough that you will probably snake up from the old pen, must be treated with carbolic acid solution, of one part to fifty of water.

If I were treating your hogs under a guarranty of stamping out the disease in ten days,I should require of you that ground feed, and preferably boiled feed, be fed during that time. I think that the success of the Missouri man's turnip cure is not in the turnips but in the fact of the animal's having a digestible food, which, *by the conditions of cooking, frees it of contagion, and since it will not be thrown into the contagion-charged filth of the pig-sty, thus escapes a most prolific source of infection.*

Now, manifestly, if this treatment is followed, presently the hog cholera will vanish. A few hogs will probably die unless, for a few days they receive a proper antiseptic treatment when first removed from the infected pen. To make this clear let us suppose an infected hog is brought to your pen, which is not on a muddy brook. In a few days he is sick; in a in a few more days he is dead. You have not suspected cholera, you don't want to believe it is cholera, for you would find it troublesome to sell your hogs in the winter, if it got out that the cholera is among them. Now, what men don't want to believe, they generally will not believe.

So you quietly feed the dead hog to the living, or you drag him out for the dogs, cats, chickens and flies to devour. Of course, where you have fed the dead hog to the living short work is made of the others, if it was cholera, but if you have prudently dragged the dead one out, it may be several days before another hog takes it, and it may be months.

What is the condition of things now, if the theory I have been expounding, of contagions, is true. The droppings of the sick hogs are here and there over the pen; the bed is infected, and the water trough, probably. As the hog takes his corn out of the mud, he swallows the poison and bears it away with him to the new quarters. The period of incubation is from three days to eight in summer, and from eight days to two weeks in winter, (Law). This is the time "hog cholera cures" must do their work, if at all. The germs are in the stomach or bowels, *usually in the form of eruptive pustules of the small intestines, where the worms abound*, giving, I think, good ground for the belief that the worms forward the pustular eruption. Now if the remedy is to kill the virus, clearly it must be that which is not absorbed in the stomach, but passes through the bowels. If this infected hog, not yet bad enough to show it, is not internally disinfected, manifestly he will seed the new lot as bad as the old one, by his droppings, and so we *might* go on for a dozen removals. But while this might be the case, all must agree with me that if the hogs are watched closely, and at the earliest symptoms of the disease, the sick hog is removed to quarantine and the well hogs to a fresh lot, the chances of infecting a sound hog must grow beautifully less in a geometrical ratio.

This is the scientific way of treating hog cholera. I have faith enough in it that I have offered to guarranty success where I can superintend the manipulations, and administer internally a compound, it has taken much experiment and much medical research to prepare.

In concluding this series of papers, it is due the reader to say that the subject is by no means exhausted, but that it is feared by the writer that the readers of the FARMER, who are not my readers, are indeed exhausted in patience at so much dry, scientific stuff. If during the summer, it should appear that the non-reader will bear it, I may add something on "Purifying Water," and upon "Antiseptics and Disinfectants." In the mean time, if found interesting enough to merit room in the FARMER, some notes and memoranda made in the course of my reading, touching matters more or less germain to zymotic literature, may be given, and some others possessing a a technic value to the farm and fireside.

C. W. J.

Atchison, Kansas.

A TRIP THROUGH PARTS OF PAWNEE, BARTON, ELLSWORTH, SALINE, AND DICKINSON COUNTIES.

Having occasion, the past week, to pass through on horseback the above mentioned counties, I have thought, perhaps, a brief account of the trip might interest your readers, to the majority of whom the district traversed is almost an unknown region.

On Friday, the 4th inst., starting from my residence on Sec. 3, T. 23, R. 16 W., in the south part of Pawnee county, I traveled directly east for about sixteen miles, into the south part of Barton county. From thence my route was north to Great Bend, on the Arkansas river, and the county seat of Barton county. The country, on this part of the route, is excellent land; slightly rolling, and with no vacant government land. Along the south bank of the Arkansas river are some sand hills, in ridges of greater or less extent. South of Larned these hills are more extensive than in Barton county. Many good farms lie between these ridges and south of them; in Pickle Creek and other valleys, the land is of choice quality. The wheat, of which there are many fields, looks full as well as anywhere in the state. In the south part of Barton county much railroad land is unimproved, and probably unpurchased from the railroad company. The railroad lands south of the Arkansas river are appraised low, and considering cost and quality, offer perhaps the best chance for investment in railroad lands in Kansas.

The road to Great Bend from the south, reaches the bridge at that place without passing through any sand hills except one or two immediately on the river, and these can be put in good condition for travel at small expense. The bridge is free; built on piles; a single track, and over 1,200 feet long. Great Bend is on the A., T. & S. F. railroad, and is a fine village of from ten to twelve hundred inhabitants, and appears to be flourishing. Numerous buildings are going up, and among them some expensive business houses of stone and brick. The county has a fine court house and jail, costing $35,000. for which and for the bridge there is a bonded indebtedness. The county, however, has something valuable to show for it, and with its present rapid increase in population and wealth, can, with proper economy, pay its debts without excessive taxation.

From Great Bend my route was east to the Walnut river, three miles. Here is a fine gristmill run by water power, and I should have mentioned that there is a steam gristmill in Great Bend. After crossing the Walnut, my course was northeast, with occasional variations on both sides of improved farms, to Ellsworth, on the Smoky Hill river, and on the K. P. railroad. For six miles from Great Bend the road passed directly through the bottom lands of the Walnut river. These lands are excellent for grass and have a rich, compact soil, but do not prove so good for wheat as the uplands adjoining. The soil west of the Arkansas contains a good quantity of silica, enough to make good wheat and dry roads, (except in low spots in wet weather) but has less sand in its composition than the land generally, south of the river. As you leave the bottom lands of the Walnut, the land becomes rolling to a moderate extent. There is no vacant government land in the north part of Barton county, and a good share of the railroad land has also been taken, either by actual settlers or on speculation, for this part of the state, the north part of Barton county, is an old settlement, and there are many good dwelling houses, finely improved farms, and neat, new white school houses.

About twelve miles north from Great Bend is a Catholic church, and in this vicinity appears to be a large German population. The wheat crop was in splendid condition, a good stand, and pronounced by all the farmers as much better advanced than last year at this time.

The road to Ellsworth crosses Cow creek, Plum creek and Oxford creeks, and the country, as you approach the Smoky river, becomes much more rolling. Still there are many fine farms in the south part of Ellsworth county, and little, if any, government land.

I am told that Rush county, which lies directly west of Barton and north of Pawnee county, is very similar to those counties, and has a good deal of vacant government land. If so, it offers one of the best chances to the emigrant in the state.

Ellsworth is a small but finely built and busy town on the north side of the Smoky river and on the K. P. railroad. It has a fine and lofty iron bridge with three span across the Smoky, which is here a wide and sometimes, from appearances, a turbulent stream. This place has suffered some from fire, and nearly all its new business houses are of white magnesian limestone, and some of them both elegant and commodious. There is a large steam mill and a wheat elevator located here, and there was abundant evidence of a large and profitable country trade. The county has a plain court house and jail in two separate buildings, and costing about $12,000. Immediately about Ellsworth, on the north side of the Smoky, the surface of the land is quite uneven, but the village of Ellsworth shows that it is in the immediate vicinity of the center of trade of a fine agricultural region.

Fort Harker is situated three miles east of Ellsworth on the Smoky, and on the K. P. railroad, in the center of a U. S. reservation of excellent land. It presents, at a distance, a fine appearance, and is watered by several beautiful streams of pure, living water, but has been abandoned by the U. S. government. Its barracks were built of wood and look exceedingly dilapidated, as also do the officers' quarters, which are of stone. Only one room in one of the officers' houses is occupied. The reservation is expected, before long, to be in the market.

From Ellsworth, for twenty-seven miles east, down the valley of the Smoky, the country is hilly, and very few improvements of any kind are visible. It is evidently a stock country. Along the Smoky is a fringe of heavy timber, and frequently, between the hills, are streams of water, and here and there can be seen herds of cattle, and some sheep, grazing under the charge of mounted herders. A dark, reddish sandstone crops out of most of the hilltops, and corrals and fences of stone indicate that stone walls are relied upon, to some extent, for protection to cattle.

The grades on the K. P., west of Brookville, are fearful, and some short corners are turned, so that ordinary freight trains on this part of the K. P., are supplied with two locomotives. The country, here, is very similar to the Medicine region on Turkey creek in the north part of Barbour county. The prairie, or upland part of the country are full as rolling, but the canons, or intervening spaces, are not as deep. In the Medicine region, as in the Kiowa and Cimmaron, cattle *can* be wintered without fodder or shelter other than such as nature has provided, but in Ellsworth county the experiment could hardly be tried with safety.

At Brookville, in Saline county, the surface of the country changes. This is a small but busy place, and the end of the railroad division. Here freight trains east are reduced to one locomotive, and an occasional wheat field and a constantly widening and more fertile valley, indicate a better agricultural region.

At Bavaria, seven miles east of Brookville, is a wheat elevator of a capacity to raise, clean and ship six car loads of wheat per day. This building is the property of about fifty members of the Saline and McPherson Co. Agricultural Club, and cost $4,000. It is rented at $50 per month, and the tenant receives, cleans and ships the wheat of the stockholders at a reduction from ordinary rates. The machinery is run by horse-power.

The country about Salina, the county seat of Saline county, is well improved, but the bottom lands are somewhat low, and must be difficult to travel in muddy times. The crops, however, look well. Elm creek is crossed in approaching Salina from the west. It is well bridged, and on the eastern side the road is turnpiked.

Salina is a thriving and busy town of 2,070 inhabitants, by a census just taken. It has a fine iron bridge across the Salina river, a school-house which cost $25,000, three gristmills, three newspapers, and has many elegant and costly buildings, both business houses and residences.

Along the line of the Kansas Pacific, the valley continues to improve and extensive fields line the highways. The uplands keep at a respectful distance but are much more rolling than the uplands of Pawnee and Barton counties. Heavy timber lines the banks of the Salina, and occasional block-houses and huge fence-posts show that timber has been at least plenty and cheap. Corn begins to appear on the bottom lands as a staple crop.

Near the line of Saline and Dickinson counties, and on the Solomon river, is Solomon City. The valley of the Solomon is one of the finest in the state. Solomon City is a small place of some business importance, but its buildings looked shabby, its streets were dirty, and doubtless it feels the competition, in business matters, of Salina on the west and Abilene on the east.

Abilene is situated on the Solomon, and is the county seat of Dickinson county. It is a fine, growing place, with a population of 1,700 or 1,800, and has many expensive churches, public and business buildings. As you approach Abilene from the west, and about three miles from the city, the uplands crowd down upon the Solomon, throwing the highway over and across numerous sand hills, almost identical with those south of the Arkansas in Pawnee and Edwards counties.

The crops both east and west of Abilene, look well, but no better than the wheat in Pawnee and Barton counties, and some of it is not as good. The famous 1,800-acre wheat field of T. C. Henry lies just east of Abilene, and is a splendid sight. About Abilene, and in various places in the Solomon valley, there are numerous hedges of the osage orange in various states of growth, but some of them from five to eight feet high. These, when standing reasonably close, offer a good protection in their natural condition, but when splashed, make a fence to compel the respect of even the most prejudiced Texas steer. We think our farmers can, with confidence, put out the osage orange, and in a few years, with careful culture, have permanent fences. The soil in the Smoky and Solomon valley, appears to be the same as on the Arkansas, only in the Solomon valley the buffalo grass has disappeared, its place being supplied with a coarse prairie grass, and tall, round stalked grass, growing usually in bunches and upon the more sandy portions.

From Abilene I traveled about twelve miles to the farm of Messrs. Jackson & Thisler on the Smoky river, who have as fine improvements as I saw in the valley. As your "Saddlebag" correspondent reached this point not long since, and will doubtless write up his trip, I close here the account of my travels.

While much pleased with the country I have seen, I shall return to Pawnee county better satisfied than ever with my own location, and somewhat firm in the belief that Pawnee, Barton, Rush, Edwards and Pratt counties, all contiguous, are not excelled for agricultural purposes in the state.

Pawnee and Barton counties contain no government land, and much of the railroad land has been purchased of the company, but Rush, Pratt and Edwards counties, the latter on the line of the A., T. & S. F. railroad, contain considerable government land yet subject to entry. The rush of emigration, however, is enormous, and in these localities, by another year, hardly anything but second-hand land will be in market.

DAVIS H. WAITE.

Pawnee Co., Kansas.

KANSAS FARMING.

Thus far everything seems to point to another year of plenty. The wheat is from a foot,to a foot and a half high and never looked better at this time of the year. Everything seems to be about one month earlier than last year. A large amount of corn will be planted the next ten days if the weather permits and perhaps it will be well to get as much corn planted early as possible, as this spring, if it is portentious of anything, it is that the summer months will be hot and dry and the late planting would then be cut short. I planted about two acres on the 12th of last month which is now coming up and I know of others who planted considerable of their field crop a week or two ago.

There is a splendid prospect for all kinds of fruit. But the apple trees do not seem to promise as large a yield as last year.

In a young orchard of 72 trees that I planted out in the spring of 1870 comprising 14 different varieties, viz: Winter Sweet, White Winter Pearmain, Jonathan, Winesap, Swaar, Baldwin, Wagoner, Rome Beauty, Seek-no-further, Domine, Kennedy Red, Early Harvest, Red Astrachan and Vandevee Pippin, I find that only the Rome Beauty, Winesap and Jonathan, have fruit blossoms notwithstanding the fact that several of the others had borne fruit the previous year.

Cattle generally came through the winter in good condition, and fattening steers took on flesh better than usual when they had a good dry feed lot with plenty of good water to drink. There is an active demand for all kinds of cattle. Hogs are plenty and fat ones in good demand at about $2 50 per cwt., but those who can afford to do so are holding for better prices. At present there is no disease among swine in this portion of the county.

Owing to the heavy immigration this spring farm labor can be procured at very reasonable rates, good work hands are getting from $12 to $18 per month. But for special work, such as trimming and laying down hedges, and there is plenty of this work, experienced hands are making about one dollar per day.

Our surplus products find some home market more more than usual on account of the unprecedented immigration that is pouring into this portion of the state. Some who have large means at their command are coming or are already here, but the large part are people who have little means, and as they say, times got so hard in the east that they could not earn a living for themselves there any longer.

The immigrants are generally impressed with the belief that this is the "promised land," a land "flowing with milk and honey," and, as the Queen of Sheba found that the half had not been told her about the greatness of King Solomon so they, as a general thing ,seem to think that Kansas in its inherent wealth and greatness,surpasses all their previous ideas in regard to it. But it is not improbable that in case we fail to make a good crop this season they will very naturally conclude that the picture was over drawn, and in the course of six months, or a year or two at farthest they will turn their backs upon us and for the remainder of their lives some of them will be able to hurl anathemas at Kansas. But the general tendency of things will evidently be a great succession of permanent settlers, and a steady advance in the price of real estate, all though as yet prices have not changed much in this vicinity, although a great deal of vacant land is changing hands. Those who are well fixed do not want to sell as a general thing.

To the close observer the fact is apparent that this vast and changing west once looked on as the Great Inland American Desert,when made to "blossom as the rose" beneath the magic wand of American civilization it will be capable of supporting a dense population.

M. A. O'NEIL.

Black Jack, Douglas Co, Kansas.

Patrons of Husbandry.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master: John T. Jones, Barton, Ark. Secretary: O. H. Kelly, Louisville, Ky.

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MISSOURI STATE GRANGE.—Master: H. Eshbaugh. Hanover, Jefferson county. Secretary; A. M. Coffee. Knob Noster.

TO OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE GRANGES

For the use of Subordinate Granges we have a set of receipt and order books which will prevent accounts getting mixed up or confused. They are: 1st Receipts for Dues. 2nd. Secretary's Receipts, and 3d. Orders on Treasurer. The set will be sent to any address, postage paid for $1.00.

We solicit from Patrons, communications regarding the Order. Notices of New Elections, Feasts, Installations and a description of all subjects of general or special interest to Patrons.

AGRICULTURAL DREAMS AND REALITIES.

Every young man and woman of bucolic inclinations, looks through the dim eyeglass of the future at a happy home in the grand old forest or on the grass clad prairies, with surroundings which bespeak comfort and the free exercise of æsthetic tastes. No one is so slow of thought but he ranges fancy free the flowery fields hidden in the undeveloped future. At the dead hours of night, during the happy period of courtship, plans of the future are painted in rainbow hues on the tinted sheets of dream-land stationery. Happy hearts sip the nectar of prospective thrift and happiness, and children with cultivated intellects and sympathetic hearts to smooth the rugged way and soothe the spirit as it nears the hour of flight from its clay casket. All is smooth and the ship of life sails in an aromatic atmosphere among the green isles of equatorial hopes and present enjoyments.

Time rolls on—the marriage ceremonies are joyfully performed and the happy pair go to a farm of 160 acres worth forty dollars per acre. The only cloud that hides the blue sky of hope is the little fact that the parents could only spare enough to pay the half, so they are obliged to give a mortgage of 3200 dollars at ten per cent. with a bonus of about ten dollars. With $320 interest, $350 to live on, and $250 per year for implements and improvements, at the end of ten years the mortgage is still $3000 and the expenses of the family are increasing and no very remarkable improvements in buildings or adornments.

Why is this? It is not because they have not been industrious, prudent and careful—not because of riotous living and sins of wastefulness, but because they have paid a higher rate of interest than they have made out of the use of the money loaned. When ten per cent is paid and only five per cent is returned for the use of the money, it is self-evident that progress or reasonable prosperity is next to impossible—that bankruptcy holds her sword over their heads and points to financial ruin, no matter how industrious, temperate and saving they may be. The unrealized dreams of the days of courtship are growing hoary with blasted hopes; inexorable debt stands in the way of the fruition of once bright hopes—streaks of gray begin to besprinkle their locks; their shoulders begin to round with hard labor; premature wrinkles betoken coming age and children from lack of education and early training cast a dark shadow over parental expectations.

Millions of farms in the northwest are fully as hard pressed as our friends above, and a host are already past the hope of redemption. When eastern capitalists through the strong arm of the law, contraction and hard currency measures have reduced the value of real estate to nearly its former value, then these farms are sacrificed to the greed of money lenders, and a huge wave of immigration surges westward in quest of cheap lands, and in due process of time the same game of robbery is played over again, and thus the laboring class is at the mercy of the manipulators of what they falsely call money. With the present management of finance, the country and the people will grow poorer and poorer and the concentration of wealth will grow larger and larger in the hands of the few. Never till we have one kind of currency, and that paper, wholly divorced from gold and silver, and issued by the government and issued to its citizens at a rate of interest not exceeding four per cent., can we compete with the low interest and pauper labor of Europe. We cannot hope to compete when we have dear labor and high interest, while they have cheap labor and low interest. If we continue to sell bonds in Europe at seventy-five cents on the dollar and pledge ourselves to pay principal and interest in gold, it can only be a question of time when we will be as near bankruptcy as Spain. A change in all probability can never be produced so long as the old parties have hold of the handle of the jug. The people must unite and hurl from power the demagogues that will rule or ruin, or our national ruin is as sure as physical death.

R. K. SLOSSON.

LETTER FROM NEBRASKA.

Your paper contains many good hints on subjects that pertain to both our moral and physical welfare, and the rearing of true men and women.

The KANSAS FARMER, for less than two cents per week, is certainly cheap enough, and I have been trying to induce some of my neighbors to take it with me, but have not succeeded; they prefer to take the county paper which they can pay for in wood or other farm stuff, and get it a year in advance of payment.

We had, last year, 80 acres, all of which we enclosed and cultivated, except 15 acres of timber and a five acre pen for the cattle in winter. Two years ago we erected a shed and enclosed it on three sides with boards, and on the south side attached a small yard for calves and shelter for sick stock. Last fall, we built another shed 25x16 feet, which we left open and made a place through the middle to fill up with hay. We used the middle forks for posts, and made rails long enough to reach from one fork to the other (12½ feet). At the bottom we made it tight with three rails, and left a wide space, so that cattle could get their heads in and out without difficulty, and nailed two rails above. Then we set the middle post on the outside to keep the cattle from breaking the nails. On the south side of the hay rack a wagon can pass and unload; we fill it once a day for 26 head, and propose to build a similar structure next fall. When weeds accumulate in the rack, we use them for bedding the hogs. By the horse stable we keep 5 sheep penned up, and feed them the weeds that the horses leave in the manger. We have about 20 head of hogs that will be ready next summer and fall for market; we had none to sell this winter. Last summer I lost two large sows. I am of the opinion that loss of hogs, in a majority of cases results from improper care; when penned up they should be fed regularly and have careful attention.

RUDOLF STAUFFER.

WHITE OIL CORN.

EDITOR FARMER: Many of the purchasers of the White Oil corn are inquiring the best time for planting. In answer to them allow me to say through your columns, that corn should never be planted until the ground is warm enough for it to sprout immediately, and not be checked in its growth by subsequent cool spells. Usually about the tenth of May is the best time, when the season is forward. If the season is backward, keep the seed out of the ground until a little later. My father, who has been experimenting in corn culture for the past sixteen years, and to whom I am indebted for the present state of perfection of the White Oil, generally plants his after that of his neighbors' is up. Sometimes he plants as late as June 1st to 10th The result is, his corn is never checked in its growth, always has a rich, thrifty appearance, and is matured before the early frosts; while that which is planted too early is stunted and matures more slowly, and never yield such an abundant harvest. This rule with regard to time may not apply in your state, but in regard to season it will, that is, never plant until the ground is warm. I will answer in regard to sowing seed corn, at some future time.

CHAS. JOSLYN.

Indianapolis, Ind.

BEE-CULTURE.

In answer to your correspondent of Illinois, about bee culture in Shawnee Co., Kansas, as I have handled a great many stands of bees, all over this county as well as in other counties of this state, and also a great many other states, I lay claim to some practical knowledge of bee-culture and honey-raising in this county. Judging it by the yield in other states, and I have handled more or less for for thirty-five years—in this state, I have found them to pay me better than any other stock, in proportion to the amount of capital used.

I think no farm ought to be without them, say three or four stands, at least, but saying this does not prove that every one will make money out of it. Enough honey should be made for home use. Financially, there are but few that succeed well in the business; it is a trade that must be learned to pay. I would not advise any one to undertake to make his living entirely from the bee, any more than I would in raising potatoes alone; for all these things fail, occasionally.

Again, any one knowing but little about bees, it would be better for him to go slow at the start, and experiment with them but little. To those experienced in bee-culture, I have not a word to say; I know they will succeed wherever there is honey to be gathered, and and in proportion to the amount there is, whether it be in southern California, in a poor season, or in Shawnee or any other county in Kansas, in a good season.

For the last two years I have averaged fifty lbs per hive; the two grasshopper years my bees made nothing but their living, the four subsequent years of the eight, 80 lbs per hive, but I have been using a slinger for the past two years, and I think this accounts for the difference in the amount or honey per hive, to a great extent.

I hope the above correspondent will move to Kansas, whether he settles in Shawnee county or not. This country is certainly the garden spot of the world; I have been here twenty-one years, and I am satisfied to stay here my days out. I have lived in thirteen states, and know how to value this.

H. STAGGS.

Topeka, Shawnee Co., Kas.

SORGHUM—ITS MANUFACTURE AND USES.

BY I. A. HEDGES, ST. LOUIS, MO.

CHAP. III.

The invitation in my last chapter for inquiries, resulted in my receiving by express from Buda, Ill., a package containing some loose seed and also one tuft, short, compact, closely filled with small, round, purple seed of about the same size as bird shot, only partially covered with the sheath of seed case. The tuft, seven inches long, weighing two ounces—one pint of the clean seed weighing seven ounces. With this package I received also a bottle of a fine sample of heavy, clear, bright amber syrup, having a slight presence of free acid, and some of the native herbaceous flavor at first taste, of a very marked strong, saccharine richness. I received also by mail the following letter, which explains the production as well as the boiling apparatus used:

I. A. HEDGES: *Dear Sir:* I send by express, to-day, a bottle of syrup with seed and head of cane, grown on rich prairie soil, rather low. This syrup was made in Cook's Evaporator, on brick arch. This is a new cane in this vicinity, and is giving the best yield and producing the best syrup of anything we have ever had. It came to us under the name of "Golden Stalk," but I wish to get its proper name, if that is not it. You speak of writing for papers. I should like to get your article on sorgo, with your answer to my inquiry of late date. It seems to me, if we can produce syrup like this sample and better, we can afford to raise it for home use, and ought to have a market for some.

C. P. MASON.

Buda, Ill., April 4.

In reply to Mr. Mason's inquiry, I have to say that this seed-tuft and seed is most likely one of Mr. Leonard Wray's imphrees, described by him as follows. "Zim-moo-ma'na; this is likewise a sweet and good variety, with seed-heads upright and compact, and fine, plump seeds very numerous." The tuft may be less than the usual growth. I intend having some planted on soil better adapted to its saccharine development than that described by Mr. Mason, with a view to closely note its true character and capabilities. It will give me much pleasure to devote some attention to this subject during the spring and summer months. It is often a disappointment to farmers when they send their surplus syrup to the city for sale, that it fails to command even country prices. This is not at all strange. For instance, in the first place an appetite has to be cultivated, and then there is no uniformity of equality. A grocer may get a good article and establish a demand, but his second purchase is so different it is rejected, and he loses his custom by it. This can only be remedied when the quality and quantity is such as to justify the establishment of a refining or clarifying and assorting house, where certain grades can be established as in other syrups. There are many uses in the country to which it can be devoted that will greatly assist not only to consume the surplus but also conduce to the health and comfort of those who use it. I will here introduce what I wrote in 1863: "There are within my own knowledge families who formerly used annually some ten gallons of N. O. (sugar-house syrups included) that are now consuming from fifty to sixty gallons of sorghum. This consumption will be greatly increased as experience suggests other uses and as the rising generation come forward, who are everywhere more fond of it than adults, whose appetites and tastes have become attached to the foreign article. Hence it will take the place of fat meat to a very great extent. In curing meat it will be extensively used where the price and quality are such as to justify its free use. There could be ample testimony adduced to prove that its abundant use is conducive to health; being indigenous, it will attach itself to our appetites and tastes and cannot be supplanted by a foreign product, especially one of the tropics. Already our children, accustomed to the use of the sorghum, will reject the finest specimens of southern molasses or syrups, not from prejudice but from choice of quality. From these considerations we may conclude that its use will continue so long as our climate and soil and the industry of our people will produce it." Since first writing the above, fifteen years have passed, and I rejoice to know that what is there said is still applicable to the subject, and that the interest in this crop is yearly on the increase, although it had fallen off soon after the close of the war. It is my purpose to conduct some careful experiments in the use of this syrup here in the city, with a view to report the results through these chapters, hoping thereby to suggest a more general use of it for manufacturing purposes. This is a syrup, not molasses—the latter is the residium after the sugar has been taken out—hence the former possesses a stronger sweet provided it is not discounted by the presence of the free acid; therefore in its use, where sweetening is the essential object, the acid should be neutralized by the use of a reagent which is an alkali, which, when used in exact equivalent, each ceases to exist and a perfect sweet remains. This exactness can only be arrived at by the use of the test-paper (the taste is not a test), which is cheap and simple in use. Eight or ten letter stamps sent to some city acquaintance will get enough for a season's use if properly taken care of. In a little book I wrote for the publishers, in 1868, (now out of the market) I introduced tinted colors showing the colors of the litmus paper before used, viz. blue; after used, a deep pink, and if very acid, like apple-juice, a scarlet. I recommended neutralizing with lime by instalments until only a trace of red is left, not quite equal to purple, preferring to be slightly acid to being alkaline. This, however, is a matter entirely to be governed by the preference of those who use the syrup—as I have before said, the acid is wholesome and more so than a perfect sweet. Our cooks will find the syrup fine for cake-making, but it will require more saleratus or soda than even N. O. molasses, otherwise their cakes will not be sweet. If soda is used at proper times in mixing, their cakes will be light almost to excess.

I am admonished that I must not make my chapters too lengthy, as there is much other equally interesting matter for the readers of agricultural papers. Any remittance of samples by express for inspection, etc., should be addressed to me at 2117 Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Fowls and Eggs For Sale.

I will sell eggs from eight varieties of pure bred, high class, poultry. Bramahs, Cochins, Games, Leghorns, Hamburgs and Pekin and Aylsbury ducks. Some good fowls for sale. At the Leavenworth poultry show, held in Dec, 1877, I won 12 regular premiums out of 13 entries. Write for prices. Address, J. DONOVAN, Fairmount, Kansas.

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Breeder of Pure bred Short-Horns. 1st Duke of Walnut Grove, 3518. S H. Record. A. H. Book $26.412 and Mazurka Lad 2nd 5.513, S. H. Record at head of Herd. Young Bulls and Heifers. The get of the above sires for sale cheap. Inspection of my herd and correspondence solicited. Six miles south of Kansas City. Address, S. E. WARD, Proprietor, Westport, Jackson Co., Mo.

PURE BRED

BERKSHIRES.

I have now a very choice collection of pigs sired by Imported "Kansas King" 1839, and Matchless Liverpool and out of fine sows sired by my famous old Boar Richard 1059, Lord Liverpool 221, and Lord Liverpool 2nd. Can sell at "let live" prices and will guarantee satisfaction to every purchaser. Stock all eligible to registry in A. B. Record. Address, SOLON ROGERS, Prairie Center, Johnson Co. Kansas.

Vinland Nursery & Fruit Farm

COMMENCED IN 1857.

situated at Vinland, Douglas County, Kansas, on the L. L. & G. Rail Road, ten miles south of Lawrence. W. E. Barnes Proprietor, offers for sale a complete assortment of nursery stock.

Thrifty and Reliable fruit trees, consisting of Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Cherry, Apricot and Nectarine trees, Vines and small fruits in variety.

Ornamental trees and Shrubbery, also the largest stock of Evergreens to be found in the state.

We shall have a sale ground in Topeka during the transplanting season, where will be found a good selection of the above. Price list sent on application. Address W. E. BARNES, Vinland, Douglas County, Kansas.

FARM. ORCHARD.

Agricultural College

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EDUCATION!

Thorough instruction and drill in the English Language, Mathematics, Physiology, Agriculture, Botany, Entomology, Horticulture, Chemistry, Surveying Geology, Meteorology, Political Economy and all Practical Sciences of use to the Business World. A liberal education and Daily Practice in the Field or Shops given in a Four Years Course.

No Tuition or Contingent Fees!

Students can enter at any time and earn part of their expenses by voluntary labor. Send for catalogue to JNO. A. ANDERSON, President, Manhattan, Kansas.

SHORT-HORN CATTLE.

ALBERT CRANE, Durham Park, Marion County, Kan., breeder of pure Short-horns of fashionable blood. Stock for sale low. Also, best Berkshires in Kansas. Catalogues Free.

GEO. M. CHASE,

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI,

BREEDER OF

Thoroughbred English

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

—ALSO—

Dark Brahma and White Leghorn Chickens.

None but first-class stock shipped.

Breeders' Directory.

O. BADDERS, Leavenworth, Kan., Breeds Black Cochin & Brown Leghorns. Stock not surpassed in America. Send for descriptive circular and price list.

DR. W. H. H. CUNDIFF, Pleasant Hill, Cass Co. Mo. breeder of thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle of fashionable strains The bull at head of herd weighs 3000 pounds. Choice bulls and heifers for sale Correspondence Solicited.

E. J. IVES, Mound 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. Eggs $3 per 13; 26 eggs, $500.

J. R. DUNLAP & CO., IOLA, KAS., Breeder of pure Poland-China Hogs and P. Cochins, Light and Dark Brahmas, and B. B. R. Game, Bantam Fowls, Stock first-class. Write for prices.

J. BELL & SON, Brighton, Macoupin County, Illinois, Breeders and Dealers in Spanish Merino Sheep. Thirty-five miles from St Louis on the Alton and St, Louis Railroad. Stock reliable; prices reasonable; Reference furnished.

ALBERT CRANE, Durham Park, Marion Co., Kansas, Breeder of Pure Short-Horn Cattle of fashionable families. Young stock for sale cheap. Send for catalogue. Herd of 200 head, Also Berkshires.

R. COOK, Iola, Allen Co., Kansas, Breeder of pure Poland China Hogs, Short-Horn Cattle and Light Brahma Chickens. All Stock warranted first-class and Shipped C. O. D.

W. H. COCHRANE, Emporia, Kan., Breeder of Short-Horn Cattle Stock for sale. Correspondence solicited. Planet, 17948 at head of herd.

JOHN W. CAREY, Canton, Ill., breeders and shippers of pure bred Poland-China hogs. This stock took the $1,000 premium at Canton, in 1871 over 26 competitors.

H. M. & W. P. SISSON, Galesburg, Ill. Breeders and Shippers of Poland-China or Magie Hogs. Young Stock for sale.

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

J. M. ANDERSON, Salina, Kansas. Pekin Ducks Partridge, Cochin fowls, and White, Guineas., Write to me.

LEVI DUMBAULD, Hartford, Lyon County, Kansas, Breeder of Thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle and Berkshire Pigs. Young Stock for sale. Correspondence solicited.

E. T. FROWE, Wamego, Kansas. Breeder of Thoroughbred Merino Sheep. Has a number of Bucks for sale this year.

HALL BRO'S, Ann Arbor, Mich., make a specialty of breeding the choicest strains of Poland-China, Suffolk, Essex and Berkshire pigs. Present prices ½ less than last card rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. A few splendid pigs, jilts and boars now ready.

SAMUEL ARCHER, Kansas City, Mo., breeds Spanish Merino Sheep as improved by Atwood and Hammond, from the Humphrey's importation in 1862. Also CHESTER WHITE HOGS, premium stock, and LIGHT BRAHMA CHICKENS, both bred pure by me for eight years past. Send for circulars. ☞ 500 RAMS FOR SALE this year.

O. Cook, Whitewater, Wis. Breeder of Spanish Merino Sheep bred from some of the best flocks in Vermont. Rams and Ewes for sale. Box 104.

Nurserymen's Directory.

WATSON & DOBBIN. Best of assorted Hedge Plants one and two years old, wholesale and retail, shipped to any R. R. station freight guaranteed Address, ROBT. WATSON, Lee's Summit, Jackson Co., Mo.

500,000 Apple Stocks, 1,000,000 Osage Plants, 50,000 Fruit Trees, 25,000 Small Fruit Plants. &c. Apple Root Grafts put up to order by experienced hands. Send for Price Lists. E. F. CADWALLADER, Miami County Nursery, Louisburg, Kansas.

A. WHITCOMB, Lawrence, Kansas, Florist Catalogue of Greenhouse. and bedding plants, free.

Dentists.

A. H. THOMPSON, D. D. S., Operative and Surgeon Dentist, No. 189 Kansas Avenue, Topeka Kansas.

W. W. ESTILL,

LEXINGTON, KY.

PROPRIETOR OF

Elmwood Flock of Cotswolds,

From Imported Stock. Young Stock for Sale.

Kaw Valley Nursery.

Must Be Sold.

25,000 Apple, 2 to 5 years old.
2,000 Cherry, 1 to 3 years old.
200,000 hedge, 1 year, extra. Also Pear, Plum, Peach, Grapevine, Small fruits, Ornamental trees and Evergreens. Any thing you want call for it. Send for price list. E. R. STONE, Topeka, Kansas.

AGENTS.

Mica Lamp Reflectors, 35c, $3.00 a Dozen. Nigger Head Match Safe 35c $2.00 a Dozen. Patent Pocket Stove $1.50. Send for Circulars,

C. W. FOSTER & CO., 62 Canal St., Chicago, Illinois.

"HIGHLAND STOCK FARM."

Salina, Kansas.

THO'S. H. CAVANAUGH,

BREEDER OF

HEREFORD CATTLE.

COTSWOLD SHEEP,

BERKSHIRE and DORSETSHIRE PIGS.

Premium Cattle, Sheep and Pigs for sale. Correspondence solicited.

M. P. STAMM.

Breeder of choicest strains of Berkshire and Poland-China Hogs.

Hamilton, Greenwood Co., Kansas.

The fine Imported boar, "Achilles," at the head of my Berkshires, bred by Mr. Humfrey, of England, and "Don Pedro" at the head of my Poland-Chinas, bred by A. C. Moore of Illinois.

I have a large lot of spring pigs from choice imported and American bred sows, that I will sell *very low*. Correspondence solicited.

The Kansas Farmer.

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

COMMISSIONER TO THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

Owing to the large increase of work in the office of the state board of agriculture, Hon. Alfred Gray, the secretary who had been appointed commissioner to Paris, found that he could not, without detriment to his official duties, accept the appointment, and, on the 10th inst., forwarded his declination. This is to be regretted, as Mr. Gray would have made a very excellent representative.

The telegraph of to-day, April 16, informs us that Mr. F. P. Baker, who had previously been appointed an honorary member of the commission, has been given, by President Hayes, the appointment held by Mr. Gray. We believe we speak the sentiments of nineteen-twentieths of the people of Kansas, when we say that the appointment of Geo. A. Crawford, upon the resignation of Mr. Gray, would have been the appropriate, and under all circumstances, the just one to make.

So far as our representatives in Washington are concerned, upon whose recommendations such appointments are made, it is altogether probable that they more thoroughly considered the commercial value of a daily paper in the next political campaign, than they did the making a creditable appointment.

KANSAS CHEESE.

The Garnett *Plaindealer* says of the cheese factory of that place:

The new proprietors, Messrs. Daniels & Co., are putting in a small steam engine, and repairing the factory for the season's business. Many farmers are stocking up with cows, and will take the milk to the factory on the new cash system inaugurated by Messrs. Daniel & Co. Quite a number residing within and close to the city limits contemplate adding to their stock of cows and patronizing this home institution. It can easily be arranged so that one team can collect and deliver the milk each morning.

The factory will be ready to receive milk about the 22nd inst.

SHEEP-GROWING IN THE GREAT AMERICAN DESERT.

A writer in *Wilkes' Spirit of the Times*, who is ventilating his opinion of the capacity of the plains as a great sheep range, opens on the subject in the following strain:

From all I can gather, the "Great American Desert" is the natural home of the sheep. West of the Missouri there are 1,000,000,000 acres of land on which sheep can be grazed better and to more advantage than any other country in the world. Commencing at Grand Island, on the Union Pacific railroad, 150 miles west of Omaha, the grazing belt, 800 miles wide, extends west over 1,000 miles. On this enormous tract of land all the sheep in the world might be placed, and still there would be room for more.

THE SEED BUSINESS.

This business has, of late years, grown to to vast dimensions. It is but a short time since every farm house-wife looked to her own little store of seeds for the garden in the spring, and on her, principally, devolv- the care and forethought in the fall, of having a variety of vegetable, herb and flower seeds prepared and carefully stored for use the subsequent season. Now this is all changed. The nearest store is the seed receptacle of every farmer, in this improvident and fast age. While endless varieties may be had without any trouble or previous preparation by our farmers and gardeners, they nevertheless experience much vexation and often serious disappointment and loss, besides the expense incurred in the purchase of seed at well nigh gold dust prices.

What the farming interest have lost by this change, may be estimated by the immense business and profits recently developed by the seed merchants. In bringing out new and pure varieties of vegetable and flower seeds, the concentration of the business on farms specially prepared for the purpose, has been of great advantage, but this is not an unmixed evil. Many very superior vegetables which were produced under the old system, appear greatly changed coming from the seedsman's farm.

But the most important phase of the subject is the expense and money tax which has been placed upon the farm interest to sustain it. A writer in the New York *Tribune*, recently, has been examining this subject, and the following are a few of the facts developed. This writer says:

I have had some experience in seed purchasing, which leads me to believe that our planting interests are imposed upon to an extent which will justify remonstrance, and which calls for reform. I allude to the extravagantly high rates that are charged for seed, when purchased in small quantities. Take beet seeds, for example, which are among the cheapest and most commonly planted of garden seeds. By referring to almost any catalogue it will be seen that, where pound rates range from 60 cents to .25, the ounce rates will be from 10 to 15 nts. This brings them to from $1.60 to 40 per pound, which is considerably more .n double the regular pound rates. The extra cost of putting them up in ounces would be but a trifle. It could not add more than 10 cents to the cost of a pound. I have just weighed the contents of a 10-cent package of onion seed, offered at $1 per pound; at the packet rate they would bring $3.30 per pound. These are cases of the most commonly sown seed. As we come to finer varieties, the differenee becomes more striking. For instance, cauliflower seed, held at $14 per pound, is sold by the ounce at $24 per pound.

These facts are drawn from the catalogues of some of our most respectable dealers and are not the most extreme cases. They are based on the actual weight of pounds and ounces. When it comes to purchasing seeds in packets the difference amounts to downright swindling. I have twice sent east for cauliflower seed, which was advertised at $4 per ounce, or 50 cents per packet, not thinking at the time but that the 50 cents would bring something like an eighth of an ounce of seed, I sent for the packet. There were so few seeds that I weighed them, and found that I had paid at the rate of $264 per pound, which gave a profit of $200 per pound above ounce rates. I submit that this amount of money would have more than paid for wrapping each seed separately in gold leaf. I have just planted a 50-cent packet from the same source, which contained but about 250 seeds, some of them evidently imperfect, and the whole weighing but 10 grains. This would bring them up to $350 per pound, and give a profit of more than $300.

With a little trouble and no actual expense, every farmer can raise and save almost all the seeds he wishes for farm and garden use. And this would be a matter of several dollars clear profit, and with the equally important fact of having what he *knew* to be fresh, sound seed of the varieties named. From a few turnips, beets, parsnips, cabbages and other vegetables planted out this spring, he can raise as much seed, which he will have the satisfaction of knowing to be pure and good, as will plant acres of these vegetables, if he wishes, and all at a mere nominal cost. Radish, lettuce, cucumber, melon and other seed, he may save in abundance through the summer.

One thing of the very first importance is to select none but the largest and most perfect specimens from which to propagate seed. Never resort to the expensive economy of using offal, imperfect potatoes, or other vegetables to grow from. This is a system of false economy which has cost our short-sighted farmers millions of dollars.

A MAMMOTH EXCURSION TO KANSAS.

Preparations are now being made for the grandest excursion to this state, of emigrants and others desiring to visit the far-famed prairies of Kansas, by the G. E. Association of Kansas, that has taken place this season. The excursion will be ostensibly a German-American enterprise, and mainly composed of Germans, but all other nationalities are invited to participate and avail themselves of this favorable opportunity to visit this great objective state of the emigrant.

The association have made arrangements with the K. P. railroad company, which will enable them to give a grand excursion from the various eastern states to all places along the line of the road, with privileges for all parties to stop off at such places as excursionists desire, either going or coming, thus giving them an opportunity to see the beauties of Kansas.

Excursions will leave Baltimore and Toledo May 14, 1878; Milwaukee, Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Davenport, Decatur, St. Louis, and all intermediate stations, May 15, 1878. The officers of this association, aided by delegates from the different counties along the line of the railroad, will personally accompany the train from the east, attend to obtaining good coaches, and see to the wants of the excursionists.

Our readers might aid this laudable enterprise in the interest of Kansas, by sending their copy of the FARMER, after having read it, to some friend or friends in the east, who meditate making the tour of Kansas this summer.

One of the unnecessary and uncalled-for blunders of President Hayes, was the placing of an impecuneous, political place-hunter, in the position of Commissioner of Agriculture. If every lazy politician who can not earn his living, has to be pensioned by the government, give them some insignificant consulship, where they will be no special harm or benefit to anything or any body. That American agriculture, the most important interest of the country, should be made the subject of ridicule because it is represented by a shallow theorist, is no credit to the appointing power, and does not further deserve the patience which has been exercised regarding it. It is about time that the agricultural press demanded a more fitting representative than the present Commissioner.

Prof. Marshall, the celebrated horse-trainer, will give an exhibition in Topeka, on Saturday, April 20th. Robert Lee's horse, Evan Dhu, will be subjected to the Professor's system of training. Evan Dhu is well known as vicious and almost ungovernable.

THE WESTERN SCHOOL SUPPLY AGENCY.—This new business house has been started in Topeka to supply school officers, teachers and parents, in districts remote from towns where supplies and books may be had, with these goods at as low prices as they can be sold. The clubbing feature by which the large profits, which are divided between a number of middle-men, may be saved, is offered by this agency. It is composed of responsible business men, who will inform parties, through their circulars, the terms and advantages they present. Address Western School Supply Agency, Topeka, Kansas.

A meeting of the Shawnee County Agricultural Society will be held at the court house on Saturday, April 20, at 11 o'clock A. M. A full meeting is desired, as business of importance will be before the board. All citizens interested in a good fair are requested to be present.

W. D. ALEXANDER, President.
J. J. FISHER, Secretary.

A FIRST-CLASS AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT HOUSE IN TOPEKA.—Our readers will find on page 148 the advertisement of Messrs. Seery & Kennedy. These gentlemen, who have had large experience in manufacturing and handling agricultural implements, have established a depot in Topeka for the wholesale and retail trade of Kansas. The house is supplied by ample capital and can be relied upon for fair and honorable dealing. Dealers and farmers visiting Topeka, should call upon these gentlemen and examine the machinery, which they are selling at the lowest figures.

THE KANSAS CHURCHMAN.—This handsome monthly has again made its appearance. Rev. Dr. H. H. Loring is, as formerly, the editor. The paper is the official organ of the Episcopal Church of Kansas. Under the editorial care of Dr. Loring, it has won favorable opinions from the press of the east, and been highly commended by several European church journals for the scholarly editorial work given it. It is published monthly at fifty cents per year.

EDITOR FARMER: I should like to inquire, through the columns of your paper, as to the customary method of disposing of the farmers' grain crops with you. Are there grain-dealers at railroad stations, generally, who buy from the farmers, or do the farmers have their co-operative or grange stores?

I should like to locate somewhere in your state to engage in the business of buying and shipping grain, but as I am not a granger, perhaps the farmers would not deal with an outsider, hence this inquiry to know the feeling on the subject.

Yours truly, DAN'L MCBRIDE.

Belleforte, Pa.

Grain-buyers are found at all the principal railroad stations, who purchase grain of the farmers and ship east. The farmers sell to the dealer who pays the best price, and ask no questions as to his granger or anti-granger proclivities.—[ED.

I would be pleased to know what kind of feed rye grain is for sheep, and would be pleased to know from some one who may have experience in that direction. I would be much obliged to any one for answering this through the FARMER. G. F.

The flow of immigration to this state the present spring is composed principally of Americans from the eastern and middle states.

Throughout the state, cattle have wintered well and are in good condition.

It is said that the herd law in Morris county, has not worked up to the anticipations of its friends, and efforts are being made to repeal it.

From Sumner County.

We are near the center of the southern line of the state, east and west. with the Indian territory on our south line. Wheat is the leading crop of this county. This is a herd law county, and most of those who own stock, keep them herded in the Indian ierritory, summer and winter, and from all accounts stock has done well on the range all winter. We had not snow enough here to cover the grass, and no cold weather worthy of mention. Our wheat looks splendidly, and there is forty-five per cent. more in this year than last. Last year would not average over fifteen bushels per acre, I think, owing to wet, cloudy weather two weeks before ripening, preventing the grain from filling out, and it was was worse on late wheat. We are having splendid spring showers, and the prairies on the bottoms, where they have been burnt over, are now looking lovely. We have had flowers since March 4th, and are now in full bloom. Our nearest railroad point is Wichita, fifty-five miles by stage. We have a grist-mill at Wellington, but we expect both flouring mills and a railroad down here soon. We have first-class land here, black, sandy loam, which, with some improvements, can be bought for from $4@$10 per acre. The government land around here is all taken up but some on the western line of the county still subject to pre-emption, at $1 25 per acre. It is said by those who have been here since the county was first settled, that there have been more settlers in this county the last year than in any year previous, owing, no doubt, to the grasshoppers, in part, for where they lacked in reality they made up in imagination.

Corn planting is going on rapidly; it commenced two weeks ago. We have no cattle market here, our nearest shipping point being Wichita. Domestic cows can be bought for from $25@50, and working oxen from $50@100 per yoke. Spring calves when six months old bring from $5@8; horses $75. The apportunities for stock and grain-raising are rapidly being taken advantage of. We get plenty of fire-wood from the territory. We have limestone rock for building, seven or eight inches thick. Peaches are now as large as a pea on trees two years old. WM. CRANNEY.

From Brown County.

April 12.—Fall wheat still looks very promising indeed; probably not over eighty per cent. of the usual amount sown. Spring wheat growing finely; fifty per cent. more than the usual amount sown. Barley, twenty per cent. less than usual. Oats, probably about the average amount sown. Farmers are driving their work right along, and will soon commence planting corn if the weather continues favorable. Stock of all kinds wintered finely; cattle are going on the range in fine condition. From present prospects we will have an abundance of fruit, especially peaches. Considerable emigration to this part of the state. There is a large amount of corn in this county. The markets are: Corn, 25c; wheat, 80c; oats, 15c; hogs, $2.30 per cwt; cattle, $3 to $3.50 per cwt.

At the annual election of officers of the Brown County Agricultural, Horticultural & Mechanical Association, the following gentlemen were elected as directors: J. P. Davis, J. E. Price, W. D. Lewis, Joseph Cracraft and Samuel Detwiler. The board has not yet organized, but will meet next Monday for that purpose.

LETTER FROM MITCHELL COUNTY.

Having seen some inquiry in the FARMER as to whether it will pay to wash sheep, let me venture to give my experience through your columns. I am convinced that it will not pay to wash and sell in this market, from the fact that we do not get a just price for our wool along with the eastern wools. There has not been enough competition among buyers to give us what our wool is worth as washed wool. We have as good facilities for washing here as we had in Pennsylvania, but there is a black dust that settles on the sheep, that when thoroughly wet will stain the fiber and make it uncertain for shippers, hence they will not pay what it is worth. A great many of us were forced to wash, last spring, by the heavy, drenching rains. My wool netted me $1.25 last year, while in three former years it never netted me less than $1.50 per head, and this has been about the experience of all those that washed, the last year. Some even sustained greater loss.

J. M. VERNON.

Asherville, Ks., April 8, 1878.

CRANBERRIES.

EDITOR FARMER: Will some of the readers of the FARMER tell me where to get cranberry plants, how to cultivate, and when to plant them? I cannot find any thing on the subject in any of the Kansas papers; so if any one knows where the plants can be bought, and at what price, they will confer a favor by saying so through the FARMER, as some of my neighbors, as well as myself, would like to give them a trial. We have wet, marshy ground and high, dry land. Which would be the better?

Wabaunsee is filling up very fast. There have been seven families moved within sight this spring. When we came here, two years ago, there was not a building in sight; and almost every day there is some one looking for homes.

Everything is in a promising condition. Wheat looks well and there has been a large amount sown. There will be a large crop of peaches, if late frosts do not kill them. M. M. D.

Wabaunsee Co, Kansas.

ASPARAGUS.

If new beds are to be made, get one-year-old p'ants, and give them all the room that can be afforded. The old directions for a family garden were to put the plants 12x18 inches. This will do if no more space can be afforded, but market-growers find that the wider the space the better the crop. Some who grow for markets, set the plants as wide apart as 6x4 feet, and find this the most profitable for field culture. This would, of course, be impracticable in a family garden, where 2x2 feet will be wide enough. The old practice of manuring a bed to last for years, is not now followed. The plants at setting should have a good supply of manure, and then an annual dressing afterwards. Asparagus should not be cut until the third year after setting.

STRAWBERRIES.

Unless something is spread about the plants to keep the berries from the ground, rains will wash the earth upon them and they must be washed before they can be used. This washing takes away from the delicate flavor of the fruit, and injures well ripened ones so far as looks are concerned very much. A mulch of pine boughs, hay or straw, holds the fruit stems from contact with the soil, and renders washing the berries unnecessary.

LICE ON CALVES.

Will you please ask the many readers of the FARMER if there is a cure or preventive of black lice on calves, and oblige an inexperienced farmer?

The *Colorado Farmer* says that T. L. Miller has just landed in Denver, a carload of thoroughbred and high grade Hereford bulls and a choice lot of Berkshire pigs. Kansas and Colorado are fast becoming the headquarters of the best bred stock in the United States. Both states have the boundless, rich pastures and healthy climate which enables them to claim this proud distinction in the stock business.

During the past month the Berkshire Herd at Durham Park, Marion County, Kansas, the property of Albert Crane, has been enriched by the addition of the sow, Sweet Maria, 2308. Besides being decended directly from Imported Sweet Seventeen, she has no less than three crosses of that grand boar, Sambo II.

The Berkshires at Durham park are doing finely, the sales satisfactory and would make too long a list for publication. The spring litters are coming and the produce of imported Knight of the Bath are very fine.

Mr. D. W. Bourn, I am quite certain that to feed your sheep sulphur will kill the lice on them; a teaspoonful given to a calf or colt, that I have tried, for two days in succession will kill lice on them. Try it on one of your sheep and report the result.

T. B. THOMPSON.

Topeka, Kansas.

The farmers are now busy bringing in their spare grain. Twenty thousand bushels of corn are about the weekly shipments.—*Valley Falls New Era.*

Several thousand dollars have been paid out by our farmers this spring for foreign nursery stock. We fear this will prove a poor investment.—*Sumner Co. Press.*

From every direction comes the news of an exceptionably fine prospect of the growing wheat crop. It is fully one month earlier than common, and, unless some accident befalls, will yield the largest returns we have had for many years.—*Hutchinson News.*

Our exchanges from all parts of the state report the peach crop uninjured or but slightly so by the late storm and cold snap.

Mr. Wilkouskey, north of town, has one hundred acres of winter wheat nearly two feet high.—*Edwards Co. Leader.*

Every train brings in new arrivals, who have come to stay with us. And yet there is room for more.

The annual meeting of the Marion County Agricultural Society was held in this city last Tuesday afternoon; the president, L. T. Webster, occupied the chair. The treasurer's and secretary's reports were read and accepted. An assessment of 2½ per cent. on the stock was assessed, for the purpose of improving the grounds. The following directors were elected for the ensuing year: W. D. Butler, J. H. C. Brewer, F. H. Kollock, L. T. Webster, A. A. Wheeler, B. Fanning, Grant Rivenburgh, G. H. Cooper, John Christ.

TREE PLANTING IN SWITZERLAND.—It is the custom, in parts of Switzerland, to plant a tree on family holidays, such as marriage, etc., the friends of the family usually furnishing and planting the tree. The work is often accompanied with a great deal of parade, the relatives joining in procession. Music and congratulatory speeches make a part of the performance.—*Vick.*

Kansas might with profit adopt this custom.

Have you any painting or kalsomining to do? Read the advertisement of the Averill Paint Company in another column. It will pay to do so.

Send for catalogue of bedding plants, to A. Whitcomb, Lawrence, Kas. We have tried his plants and had good success.

"Have derived some benefit from the use of Simmons' Liver Regulator, and wish to give it a further trial."
HON. ALEX. H. STEPHENS, Georgia."

"I have never seen or tried such a simple, efficacious, satisfactory and pleasant remedy in my life."
"H. HAINER, St. Louis, Mo."

Markets.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, April 15, 1878.

GOLD—Opened at $100⅜; declined at 100⅛; advanced to, and closed at 100⅜ asked, 100⅛ bid.
LOANS—Carrying rates 4 per cent, to flat; and finally 3½ per cent.
GOVERNMENTS—Closed active and steady.
RAILROAD BONDS—Strong and higher.
STATE SECURITIES—Dull.
STOCKS—Opened with great buoyancy and the excitement on stock exchange was such as has not been witnessed for a long time past; the advance ranged from ½ to 2½ per cent.; the immediate cause of the improvement was the favorable progress making towards resumption throughout the country, it having been announced since Saturday that the Third National Bank, of Cincinnati, and the Northwestern National, of Chicago, will redeem circulation in gold. Fluctuations were wide, and frequent large business was done in all the leading stocks, as the market swayed to and fro. There was continued excitement throughout the afternoon, and transactions were on an immense sale. At internals dealings were characterized by great buoyancy and the highest prices of the day and season were made. Towards the close business was well distributed. In final transactions market was strong and right into the highest point of the day.

Kansas City Live-Stock Market.

Special Correspondence of The FARMER.

KANSAS CITY, April 15, 1878.

Receipts of cattle and hogs for sale on this market are light. The market opens dull and dragging; few sales made. Receipts in Chicago, 254 cars of stock; market bad. Live-stock will be carried to Chicago to-day at $20 per car. The cut in rates tends to demoralize the cattle market, producing heavy runs of cattle east; and really is an injury to shippers. We would caution our customers against shipping, on account of low freight rates. We quote:

Choice native shippers, 1300 to 1500,	$4 30@4 60.
Good to choice shippers, 1250 to 1400,	4 10@4 40
Texas and native butchers' steers, 900 to 1250	3 25@4 00
Fat rough steers	3 25@3 75
Fair to good oxen	2 75@3 50
Fat bulls and stags	1 50@2 50
Choice fat butchers' cows	3 25@3 50
Good to choice fat butchers' cows	2 80@3 25
Fair to good butchers' cows	2 25@2 80

Sales this morning; 9 butchers' steers, averaging 890 pounds, $3 20; 4 common cows, averaging 900 pounds, $2 25. 3 butchers' steers, averaging 1,010 pounds, $3 65; 2 butchers' cows, averaging 1,235 pounds, $3 25; 2 butchers' cows, averaging 1,130 pounds, $3.

HOGS—No sales; $2 70@2 90 for packing grades.
BARSE & SNIDER.

KANSAS CITY, April 15, 1878.

CATTLE—Receipts, 318; shipments, 483; market demoralized by the cut in freights; feeders and butchers' in fair demand; sales, shippers', $3 90; feeders, $3 20@3 75.

HOGS—Receipts, 443; shipments, 531, no local buyers; sales at $2.90@2.95.

Kansas City Produce Market.
KANSAS CITY, April 15, 1878.

WHEAT—Quiet and lifeless; No. 3, $1.05; No. 4, 94 c.

CORN—Quiet; No. 2, 33 c; rejected, 32½c. special elevator.

New York Produce Market.
NEW YORK, April 15, 1878.

FLOUR—Medium and choice in buyers' favor; low shipping extras steady; superfine western, and state, $4 10@$4.75; common to good, $3@$5 15; good to choice, $5.25@5.85; white wheat extra, $5.90@6.50; St. Louis, $5.10@7.75.

WHEAT—Irregular; opened slightly in buyers' favor; closed quiet; rejected spring, $1 05; No. 2, northwestern spring, $1 24@1.25; No 1 spring, $1.28½@$1.30½; No. 2 red winter, $1 34@1 37.

RYE—Easier; fairly active; western, 70@72½c.

CORN—Firmer; fairly active; steam mixed, 51@51½c; white, 51c; yellow, 51½c; high mixed, 52½c.

OATS—Firmer; mixed western, 33½@35c; white, 34c.

COFFEE—Less firm;
SUGAR—Dull; refined, $9.18@10.
MOLASSES—Unchanged.
RICE—Quiet and unchanged.
EGGS—Unchanged.
PORK—Mess quiet and firm; $9 87½@10.
BEEF—Dull.
MIDDLES—Western long clear steady; 5 30.
LARD—Prime steam strong; $7.32½@7.35.
BUTTER—Old western, 7@13c.
WHISKY—Firmer; $1.08.

St. Louis Produce Market.
ST. LOUIS, April 15, 1878.

HEMP—Unchanged.
FLOUR—Dealers apart; only local business done.
WHEAT—Firmer; No. 3, red, $1.12; No. 4 do., $1.06; No. 2 spring, $1.07.
CORN—Higher; 37½@38c.
OATS—Firm; 26½c.
RYE—Lower; 59½c.
WHISKY—Steady; $1 03.
BUTTER—Lower; fresh and selected dairy, 20@26c; do. country, 14@20c.
EGGS—Firmer; 7½c.
LEAD—Unchanged.
HIDES—Unchanged.
PORK—Dull; jobbing at $9.25.
DRY SALT MEATS—Entirely nominal.
LARD—Entirely nominal.
BACON—Firmer; $3 27½; $5 30@5 50; 5 60.

St. Louis Live-Stock Market.
ST. LOUIS, April 15, 1878.

CATTLE—Receipts, 3,600; buyers demand concessions, but sellers decline to yield; prices not quotably changed.

HOGS—Lower; good demand; light, $3@3 15; packing, $3 10@3 20; butchers', $3 25@ 3 50; receipts, 6,800.

SHEEP—Fair butchers' demand; other grades weak; extra heavy shipping $5 25@5 60; good to choice, $4 60@5; receipts, 600.

Chicago Produce Market.
CHICAGO, April 15, 1878.

FLOUR—Firm and unchanged.

WHEAT—Firm demand and higher; No.1, spring, $1.10½@1 11; No. 2, gilt edged, $1. 09; regular, $1.09 cash or April; No. 3 $1.04.

CORN—Unsettled, but generally higher; No. 2 gilt edged, 40c; regular, 37½c cash and April.

OATS—Firm; not quotably higher; 22½c cash and April.

RYE—Steady and unchanged; 56@58c.

BARLEY—Steady and unchanged; 44@44½c.

PORK—Active firm and higher; $8 90@8 95 cash; $8 95 May.

LARD—Demand active, and advanced, 6 97½@7 cash and April.

BULK MEATS—Steady and unchanged; shoulders 3½c; short ribs, 5c; short clear 5½c.

ALCOHOL—Nominal; 53½c.

Chicago Live Stock Market.
CHICAGO, April 15, 1878.

HOGS—Receipts, 12,000; choice heavy, $3.35@3.80; light, $3.40@3.50; mixed rough, $3.28@3.50.

CATTLE—Receipts, 2,700; shipping nearly nominal sales $4@4.85; feeders and stockers, $2 75@4 25; butchers' steady, steers $3@4; cows, $2.25@3 80; closed

SHEEP—Receipts, 4,500; dull; supply mostly Texans; sales at $4 60@4.80.

Lawrence Market.
LAWRENCE, April 2, 1878.

Wheat, No. 3	.90@—
" No. 4	.80@—
" rejected	.60@80
Corn	.20@—
Oats	.15@—
Rye	.33@—

HOGS—Heavy, gross $2.00.
CATTLE—Butchers' cows, $2 50@3.00; steers, $3.00@4.25; shippers, $3 75@4.50.
CALVES—$5.00@7.00 per head.
SHEEP—Live, $2 50@4.00.
HIDES—Per lb., green, 7c; green salted, 7@8c; green calf, 8c; dry flint hides, 12@14c; 50@60c each. One-third off on all No. 2 hides.

Atchison Produce Market
ATCHISON, April 1, 1878

WHEAT—No. 3, fall, $1.01; No. 4, do., 90c; No. 2, spring, 88c; No. 3, do., 83c.
RYE—No. 2. 41c.
OATS—No 2, mixed, 18c; No. 2, white, 19c.
BARLEY—No 2, 35c; No. 3, 25c.
CORN—No. 2. 30c; rejected, 28c.
FLAXSEED—95c.

Leather Market.

Corrected weekly by Hartsock & Gossett, Dealers in Hides, Furs, Tallow and Leather.

HIDES—Green	.05
Dry Flint	.10@12
Dry Salt	.9
Calf, Green	.08
Kip, Green	.08
Sheep Pelts, green	.75@1.00

Damaged Hides are bought at ½ off the price..05
TALLOW in Cakes .5

Topeka Butcher's Retail Market.

BEEF—Sirloin Steak per lb	12½
" Round " " "	10
" Roasts " " "	10
" Fore Quarter Dressed, per lb	6
" Hind " " "	7
" By the carcass " " "	7
UTTON—Chops per lb	12½
Roast " "	12½

Topeka Lumber Market.

Joist and Scantling $	22.50
Rough boards	22.50
" " No. 2	20.00
Fencing	22.50
" No. 2	20 00
Common boards, surface	25.00
Stock " D	27.50
" " C	35.00
" " B	42.50
" " A	52.50
Finishing Lumber	35.00 to 55.00
Flooring	25.00 to 35.00
Shingles	3.00 to 4.00
Lath	4.00

Topeka Retail Grain Market.

Wholesale cash prices by dealers, corrected weekly by W. Edson.

WHEAT—Per bu. spring	.80
Fall No. 2	1.10
" No. 3	1.00
" No. 4	.90
CORN—Per bu.	25
" White Old	25
" Yellow	25
OATS—Per bu	20
RYE—Per bu	32
BARLEY—Per bu	25@35
FLOUR—Per 100 lbs	3.75
" No. 2	3.25
" No. 3	3.00
Rye	2 70
CORN MEAL—	.90
CORN CHOP—	75
RYE CHOP—	90
CORN & OATS—	.80
BRAN—	.50
SHORT—	.65

Topeka Produce Market.

Grocers retail price list, corrected weekly by J. A. Lee Country produce quoted at buying prices.

APPLES—Per bushel	125@150
BEANS—Per bu—White Navy	2.25
Medium	2.00
Common	1.50
Castor	1.25
BUTTER—Per lb—Choice	.17
Medium	12
CHEESE—Per lb	10 to 12½
EGGS—Per doz—Fresh	8
HOMINY—Per bbl	5.25to5.50
VINEGAR—Per gal	.30.40
POTATOES—Per bu	.50@.65
POULTRY—Chickens, Live, per doz	2.00@2.25
Chickens, Dressed, per lb	07
Turkeys, " "	09
Geese, " "	10
ONIONS—Per bu	.100
CABBAGE—Per dozen	.40@.75
SWEET POTATOES—Per bu	125.. to .1.50

Do not neglect a cough or cold. Eilert's Extract of Tar and Wild Cherry is a standard remedy, and will cure a cough in half the time required by ordinary remedies. In asthmatic and bronchial affections, and all throat and breast diseases, it is a truly great medicine and has saved many valuable lives. It never fails to give satisfaction. Sold by all druggists.

There is no earthly boon more precious than good health, and it becomes its possessor to endeavor to retain it. If you are assailed with such provoking ills as sick headaches, torpid liver, sour stomach and a general feeling of weariness and disgust, don't go and commit suicide; but take Eilert's Daylight Liver Pills and be cured.

DR. WINCHEL'S TEETHING SYRUP is a safe and sure remedy for Diarrhœa, Dysentery and Children's Complaints generally, it should be in every house where there are Children, Mothers give it a Trial; it has been a blessing to thousands. Sold by all druggists at 25 cts. per bottle.

Distempers, Coughs, Colds, Fevers and most of the diseases which Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs and Poultry are subject to are readily overcome and cured by Uncle Sam's Condition Powder according to the plain directions. Sold by all druggists.

Try Uncle Sam's Nerve and Bone Liniment for Rheumatism, Sprains, Bruises, &c. Sold by all druggists.

Uncle Sam's Harness Oil is superior to any other preparation ever made for oiling leather and harness, it will make the oldest leather soft and pliable as when new and put on a good finish. Sold by all Harness Makers and dealers in leather.

Dr. Wilbor's Cod Oil and Lime—Invalids need no longer dread to take that great specific for Consumption, Asthma, and threatening Coughs—Cod Liver Oil. As prepared by Dr. Wilbor, it is robbed of the nauseating taste, and also embodies a preparation of the Phosphate of Lime, giving nature the very article required to aid the healing qualities of the oil, and to recreate where disease has destroyed. This article also forms a remarkable tonic, and will cause weak and debilitated persons to become strong and robust. It is for sale by all respectable druggists throughout the country, and is an article that should be kept in every family, for convenience of instant use on the first appearance of Coughs or Irritation of the Lungs. Manufactured only by A. B. WILBOR, Chemist, Boston. Sold by all druggists.

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Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

THE NEW SPRING BONNET.

Why any woman should deny that very near her heart lies the ideal of her spring bonnet, we never could imagine. No man would believe her if she did deny it, and no man would like her if it were true. The woman who "don't care what kind of a bonnet she wears" is not often a very lovable kind of woman; she may be very good, and very "smart," but to be charming, the history of womankind has proven that she must be more or less foolish, if it be foolishness to like beautiful colors and ornaments, and to be newly and becomingly dressed. And the man who "don't care what kind of a bonnet a woman wears"—well, no woman cares a straw for him; or no woman would if he could be found. We have two or three men in mind, of each of whom we used to think, "He has not a spark of pride, he don't care what any body wears." But if one will only wait long enough the time is sure to come when such a man's wife or daughter will put on something that will work him up to such a pitch of frenzy that he will break through the outer crust of everyday indifference and disclose the fact that he was only "playing pretend" don't care, after all.

We once heard a "very literary" and really intelligent woman say that there was nothing she enjoyed so much as a fresh ribbon, and although that was an exaggeration, it was a graceful acknowledgment of her feminine weakness, and we liked her the better for it.

Certainly the days when one bonnet did duty on all occasions, and was made over and re-pressed and turned and trimmed anew, are over. The bonnet itself is the smallest part of the arrangement which adorns the head now-a-days; when the ribbons and flowers and feathers are off, there is nothing left. It is an encouraging fact in regard to the new spring bonnets, however, that they more nearly resemble bonnets than anything we have had for a long time. Many of them have, at least, a sensible and modest outline, so that a woman's face within them, looks as if she knew where she was going and what she wanted when she got there. To be sure, there are high, square crowns, and wide, crooked brims, and other outlandish shapes for those who choose, and jaunty round hats for fresh, young faces, but the average bonnet more becomes the average woman. But as much can scarcely be said of trimmings. There is no way to express it but to say, it is piled on; birds, and plumage of all kinds, flowers, fruit leaves, grapes, mosses, ferns, ribbons and laces, not separately, but altogether. Whoever decrees it, this is bad taste, and will not be indulged in by sensible women. The new ribbons are exquisite; nearly all of them are two faced, some satin on one side and gros grain on the other, some watered on one side and satin on the other. Many bonnets are furnished with two sets of ties, of satin ribbon an inch and a half in width, and of contrasting colors; cardinal and black, for instance, or cream color and pale blue.

Straw bonnets can be had in a variety of colors, so that either the bonnet or the trimming can match the best street suit. There is no prettier fashion than that of having a whole suit, bonnet and all, in one prevailing color, and no more sensible one than having one good suit of this kind that will answer for best at all times, instead of dividing the cost of it into several cheap dresses, for the sake of having a variety.

We are not averse to the revival of brighter shades of color, if only the right people will wear them. Nor to see that for very elegant millinery pure white will be stylish; think of a "white chip of rare quality, trimmed with white watered ribbon, one superb white ostrich plume and a fine white tip. A single white rose, with attendant buds and a few green leaves, are added. The brim is lined with black velvet." "What a handsome bonnet!" we all exclaim, but not one woman in a thousand would fit it.

All we of the grayish white, and the brownish yellow complexions, and the indescribable eyes, must stick to our best friend, black, with a dash of pink or salmon, or to dark browns and glimpses of blue. Two shades are seen on all bonnets, but almost the only really ugly ones are black and brown, and black and dark blue.

CLOTHES MOTHS.

This name includes several distinct but similar species of the minute moths belonging to the family *Tineidæ*, which in their larval state are very destructive to woollen goods, fur, hair, and similar substances. Among them may be mentioned the clothes moth (*Tinea vestianella*), the carpet moth (*Tinea tapetzella*), the fur moth (*T. pellionella*), and the hair moth (*Tinea crinella*). These tineans have slender bodies and lanceolate, deeply fringed wings that expand six-tenths or eight-tenths of an inch. The attennæ and palpi are short and thread-like, and there is a thick orange or brown tuft on the forehead. The colors range from buff to drab and dark gray. The eggs are laid in May and June (the moth dying immediately afterward), and hatch out in fifteen days. The young worms at once proceed to work, gnawing the substances within their reach and covering themselves with the fragments, which they shape into hollow rolls and line with silk. These rolls are by some carried on their backs as they move along, and by others fastened to the substance they are feeding upon; and they are enlarged from time to time by additions to the open extremities and by portions let into the sides, which are split open for this purpose. In such ambush the worms carry on their work of destruction through the summer; rest, in seeming torpor, during the winter, and change to chrysalids early in the spring. They transform again in twenty days, and issue from their shelter as winged moths, to fly about in the evening till they have paired and are ready to lay eggs. Then follows an invasion of dark closets, chests, and drawers, edges of carpets, folds of curtains, and hanging garments, and the foundation of a new colony is swiftly laid.

The early days of June should herald vigorous and exterminating warfare against these subtle pests. Closets, ward-robes, all receptacles for clothing, should be emptied and laid open, their contents thoroughly exposed to air and light, and well brushed and shaken before being replaced. In old houses much infested with moths, all cracks in floors, wainscots, shelves, or furniture, should be brushed over with spirits of turpentine. Camphor or tobacco should be placed among all garments, furs, plumes, etc., when laid aside for the summer. To secure cloth linings of carriages from the attacks of moths, sponge them on both sides with a solution of corrosive sublimate of mercury in alcohol, made just strong enough not to leave a white mark on a black feather. Moths may be killed by fumigating the article containing them with tobacco or sulphur, or by putting it, if practicable, into an oven heated to about 150 degrees Fahrenheit.—*Prof. C. V. Riley.*

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.

To brighten stove zincs, rub with kerosene.

Powdered potash will drive away rats.

Kitchen floors, when oiled, will not show grease.

Hang up brooms or stand them on the end of the handle. They will last much longer.

Do not put nice handled knives in hot water.

A piece of rag soaked in a solution of cayenne, is a capital thing to put into a rat or mouse hole. They will not attempt to eat it.

Teach the boys and girls how to use the irons as soon as they are old enough, though never allowing them to continue their work until they are tired of it. As they grow older they will often relieve your aching back and tired hands.

Substitute lemonade, strawberries, and the like fruits in their season, for salts, sulphur, sassafras tea, and the like popular physic, to purify the blood. Partake of fruits without stint, and "throw physic to the dogs."

Dingy dresses can be bleached and made into something serviceable and pretty. Now that the season of soap-making draws nigh, it would be well to have faded dresses ready to scald in lye. Let them be washed, and boiled in hot suds until all the color possible is extracted, then finish the job by scalding in lye and washing with suds, and laying on the first young grass. Good prints and other articles of dress are frequently cast aside because they are faded, but they may be made to render good service by this mode of bleaching.

FANCY WORK.

We can make a great many pretty little things for our rooms if we improve our time. The afternoons are already getting longer, and we can find many minutes in which to do fancy work if we get something started. I have made tidies of fine knitting-yarn, which is only eight cents a ball, and knits a number of small ones. I have, also, made little lamp-mats of No. 8 spool cotton, and they are lovely and will wash nicely. I am going to collect materials very soon to commence fancy articles for a tree next Christmas. We women can make the presents, and have them cost little, if we commence in season. We must do up our summer sewing now, and then we can get time to prepare for Christmas. There are so many lovely things one can make to adorn a house!—foot-rests, slipper-cases, collar-boxes, glove-boxes, wall-pockets, brackets, mottoes, towel-racks—so take courage, mothers, if the times are hard and money scarce, the dear ones need not go without presents if we commence now. Housework is monotonous enough, we all know, and some of us go out very little; but with our reading, sewing and fancy work, we need never be dull or low spirited. There is no better panacea for dull spirits than a bit of something pretty to do when we get tired of everything else. Try it, tired mothers.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Hardy annuals may be sown early in the season, but for the delicate varieties it is better to wait until the weather is warm, or start them early in the house or hotibed, and transplant them into the open border. Tuberoses, Japan lillies, gladiolus, Madeira vine, and similar bulbs may also be started in pots in the house; the season, in this manner may be made longer and more satisfactory.

However limited your space may be, find room for mignonette, sweet alyssum, and phlox drummondii. The latter are profuse and constant bloomers and very easy of cultivation. Late autumn flowers should always be remembered, and do not forget the vines. Wherever there is a stump or unsightly wall, let nature wreath round it her graceful drapery, and transform it into comeliness. There are numbers of annual climbers, each one possessing a beauty of its own, that will flourish if they but have a foothold in the soil, and a string or trellis around which to twine. The balloon vine is a curious tropical plant that flourishes in our climate if it is located in a warm, sunny spot, and watered copiously after planting, with tepid water. Scarlet and white cypress vines are general favorites, but many experience difficulty in making the seeds germinate. If after planting the seed, a tea-kettle full of water is poured over the earth that covers them, they will show their heads above the ground in the course of two or three days, instead of taking as many weeks The foliage of the nasturtium vine is not very attractive, but the blossoms are brilliant, and they make an exquisite garnish for a dish of lettuce, and add piquancy to the flavor. The seeds should be gathered before they harden, and dropped into cold vinegar to be eaten as a pickle, or to do duty in the place of capers. They also furnish an admirable variety for mangoes, or mixed pickles. Then there is the dear old morning glory, the fragrant sweet pea, the beautiful hyacinth bean, the graceful maurandya, the queer canary flower, the prickly loasa, the thrifty cobea, and that most exquisite of vines, adlumia cirrhosa, commonly known as mountain fringe, wood fringe, Alleghany vine, and traveler's joy. This is a hardy plant, and when once firmly established in the soil, will not require to be replanted. It would be well, however, to sow the seeds for two successive seasons, as it is a biennial, and neither runs nor blossoms the first season but makes wonderful progress the second. It loves a damp, shady place, and in such a situation will never die out.

If your space is not limited, devote some portion, not the most conspicuous, however, to perennials. They will furnish bloom and fragrance during the summer months, before the annuals commence to flower, and will require no further care than an annual digging around their roots. Almost all of them can be raised from seed, but will not blossom unthe second year. The tender varieties will need a light covering of leaves to protect them from the winter frosts.

LETTERS.

MRS. HUDSON: I promised to tell something about "Babies and Flowers." I have three babies under four years old, so you see that I have my hands full, but as I have good help I have some time to devote to my forty-five pots of plants which I have kept without the loss of one, through the winter. They are nearly all small plants, as in moving last spring I lost all I had, but friends have been so kind as to give me slips, so I have a nice start again.

Did any of you ever raise geraniums from seed? They are very easy to grow, and if you get mixed seed you are sometimes very agreeably surprised by raising a new variety. Two years ago I raised over one hundred geraniums from seed I saved from one plant, the Wilhelm Pfitzer. It had twenty-five trusses in bloom at one time. It is the most profuse bloomer that I know of. It is scarlet in color. Master Christine I consider one of the best winter bloomers. Pride of Mount Hope is another. But nearly all can be made to bloom in the winter if rightly treated in the summer. Take root cuttings of geranium, heliotrope, verbenas, or any free flowering-plant that you wish to bloom in the winter, during the summer, and keep all buds pinched back till October, then let them grow as they please, and you will have plenty of blossoms during the winter. It does not pay to wait till fall and then go to the garden and take up plants full of buds and leaves, for they are most sure to drop them, and then you will have ugly looking plants and no bloom till spring-time.

Why are not the English wall-flowers cultivated more? I think their fragrance is almost equal to mignonnette. This winter some of mine have lived out of doors with no protection whatever, so I think if a slight protection were given, they would stand our winters very well. I have one plant out of doors now which has a large bunch of buds on it.

We are having a very early spring. Peach, apricot, and some pear and apple trees are in bloom. If nothing happens we shall have plenty of fruit. Farmers are plowing. Some of our neighbors have peas, lettuce, radishes and onions up and growing nicely. Mine are in the ground but not up yet.

I wanted to ask if any of you ever had any experience in growing lillies of the valley in the house? I have noticed them several times spoken of as nice for winter blooming; that they would be in bloom six weeks from the time they were started. Last fall I thought I would try them, so I took some of them out of the ground and potted them, placing them in the cellar, where they were left for six weeks. I then brought them up to the light with the expectation that my eyes would be gladdened by the sight of the delicate white bells in six weeks. Well—there they are today, looking exactly as they did the day I put them there. The tops are green so I know they are alive. Perhaps by the time those in the ground bloom these will too. But I think they are a failure as a winter bloomer. And my "winter-blooming yellow oxalis"—at least it was sent to me as such—has dozens of leaves, but no flowers, and no signs of any.

My letter, after all, has been mostly about flowers—very little about babies; but I guess they are nearly like everybody's else—full of noise and mischief, and as every mother's—the very dearest and best of all.

MRS. MARION A. BUCKNELL.

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THE KANSAS FARMER AND AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS Sent postage paid one year for $2.00.

HIGH HEELS.

Frances Power Cobbe writes at length in a recent magazine article on some of the evils of modern dressing. She speaks of the thin paper-soled boots, which leave the wearer to feel the chill of the pavement or damp of the grass, wherever she may walk, as having shortened thousand of lives in Europe and even more in America. Combined with these we now have the high heels, which in a short period convert the feet into a shapeless deformity, not much more available for the purposes of healthful exercise than the "mere pedal lumps" of the Chinese women—not to mention other and more distressing evils which the unnatural position in walking entails upon the sex. An experienced shoemaker informs us that between tight boots and high heels, he scarcely knows a lady of fifty who has what he can call a foot, at all—they are shapeless clubs; and the best read physicians tell us that from the same causes, there is hardly a woman in the land, who is entirely free from bodily "weakness" of some sort. And all this is done, anguish endured, and lives shortened, for beauty, or rather for a senseless and mistaken idea of it.

A CURE FOR SLANDER.

The following very homely but singularly instructive lesson is by St. Philip Neri:

A lady presented herself to him one day, accusing herself of being given to slander. "Do you frequently fall into this fault?" inquired the saint. "Yes, Father, very often," replied the penitent. "My dear child," said the saint, "your fault is great, but the mercy of God is still greater; for your penance do as follows: Go to the neareet market, purchase a chicken just killed and still covered with feathers; you will then walk to a certain distance, plucking the bird as you go along; your walk finished, you will return to me."

Great was the astonishment of the lady in receiving so strange a penance; but silencing all human reasoning, she replied, "I will obey, Father, I will obey." Accordingly, she repaired to the market, bought the fowl, and set out on her journey, plucking it as she went along, as she had been ordered.

In a short time she returned, anxious to tell of her exactness in accomplishing her penance and desirous to receive some explanation of one so singular.

"Ah!" said the saint, "you have been very faithful to the first part of my orders; now do the second part, and you will be cured. Retrace your steps; pass through all the places you have already traversed, and gather up one by one all the feathers you have scattered."

"But, Father," exclaimed the poor woman, "that is impossible. I cast the feathers carelessly on every side; the wind carried them in different directions; how can I now recover them?"

"Well, my child," replied the saint, "so it is with your words of slander—like the feathers which the wind has scattered, they have been wafted in many directions—call them back now if you can. Go and sin no more."

History does not tell if the lady was converted; but it is probable. It required a saint to give the lesson—one should be a fool not to profit by it.

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I will mail (Free) the recipe for a simple Vegetable Balm that will remove Tan, Freckles, Pimples and Blotches, leaving the skin soft, clear and beautiful; also instructions for producing a luxuriant growth of hair on a bald head or smooth face. Address, inclosing 3c. stamp, BEN VANDELF & CO., 20 Ann St., N. Y.

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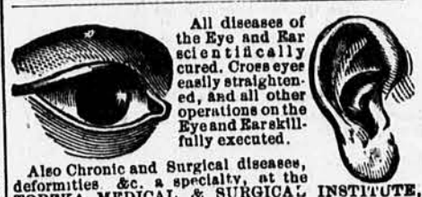

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HOW TO POST A STRAY.

BY AN ACT of the Legislature, approved Feb. 27, 1866, section 1, when the appraised value of a stray or strays exceeds ten dollars, the County Clerk is required, within ten days after receiving a certified description and appraisement, to *"forward by mail, notice containing a complete description of said strays, the day at which they were taken up, their appraised value, and the name and residence of the taker up,* to THE KANSAS FARMER, together with the sum of fifty cents for each animal contained in said notice."

How to post a Stray, the fees, fines and penalties for not posting.

Broken animals can be taken up at any time in the year.

Unbroken animals can only be taken up between the 1st day of November and the first day of April, except when found in the lawful inclosure of the taker up.

No persons, except citizens and householders can take upa stray.

If an animal liable to be taken, shall come upon the premises of any person, and he fails for ten days, after being notified in writing of the fact, any other citizen and householder may take up the same.

Any person taking up an estray, must immediately advertise the same by posting three written notices in as many places in the township, giving a correct description of such stray.

If such stray is not proven up at the expiration of the days the taker up shall go before any Justice of the Peace of the township, and file an affidavit, stating that such stray was taken up on his premises, that he did not drive nor cause it to be driven there, that he has advertised it for ten days, that the marks and brands have not been altered, also he shall give a full description of the same, and its cash value. He shall also give a bond to the State n double the value of such stray.

The Justice of the Peace shall within twenty days from the time such stray was taken up, (ten days after posting) make out a return to the County Clerk, a certified copy of the description and value of such stray.

If such stray shall be valued at more than ten dollars it shall be advertised in the KANSAS FARMER in three successive numbers.

The owner of any stray may within twelve months from the time of taking up prove the same by evidence before any Justice of the Peace of the county, having first notified the taker up of the time when, and the Justice before whom proof will be offered. The stray shall be delivered to the owner, on the order of the Justice, and upon the payment of all charges and costs.

If the owner of a stray fails to prove ownership within twelve months after the time of taking, a complete title shall vest in the taker up.

At the end of a year after a stray is taken up, the Justice of the Peace shall issue a summons to the householder to appear and appraise such stray, summons to be served by the taker up; said appraisers, or two of them shall in all respects describe and truly value said stray, and make a sworn return of the same to the Justice.

They shall also determine cost of keeping and the b enefits the taker up may have had, and report the same on their appraisement.

In all cases where the title vests in the taker up, he shall pay into the County Treasury, after deducting all costs of taking up, posting and taking care of, one half of the remainder of the value of such stray.

Any person who shall sell or dispose of a stray, or take the same out of the state before the title shall have vested in him shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall forfeit double the value of such stray and be subject to a fine of twenty dollars.

Fees as follows:

To taker up, for each horse, mule, or ass,	$ .50
" " head of cattle,	.25
To County Clerk, for recording each certificate and forwarding to KANSAS FARMER,	.35
To KANSAS FARMER for publication as above mentioned for each animal valued at more than $10.00,	.50
Justice of the Peace, for each affidavit of taker up,	.25
" for making out certificate of appraisement and all his services in connection therewith	.35

THE STRAY LIST.

Strays For Week Ending April 10, 1878.

Allen County—T. S. Stover, Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by J. A. Scantlin, Cottage Grove Tp, one gelding pony, 8 or 9 yrs old, about 15 hands high, blaze in the face, blind in left eye, slit in top of left ear, no ot er marks nor brands.

Franklin County—Geo. D. Stinebaugh, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by S. B. Bodley, Lincoln Tp, March 27, 1878, one bay mare, medium size. Valued at $60.

Greenwood County—F. J. Cochrane, Clerk.

STEER—Taken up by J. W. Bay, Fall River Tp, March 12, 1878, one red and white steer, supposed to 2 yrs old this spring, no marks nor brands. Valued at $18.

LaBette County—L. C. Howard, Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by John G. Livingston, Howard Tp, one bay horse pony, 13 hands high, hind feet white, white tip on nose, 7 yrs old, no mark nor brands. Valued at $25.

Morris County—A. Moser, Jr., Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Jerry Breen, Clark Creek Tp, March 18, 1878, one bay pony mare about 10 yrs old, white star in forehead, left hind foot white. Valued at $20.

Reno County—H. W. Beatty, Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by D. M. Harvey, Little River, Tp March 8, 1878, one yellowish gray mare pony 9 or 10 yrs old, 11½ hands high, collar-marks on shoulder, had on leather head stall with short rope, also piece of bridle on neck, no marks nor brands visible.

Shawnee County—J. Lee Knight, Clerk.

FILLY—Taken up by C. H. Tyrrell, Topeka Tp, Mar. 14, 1878, one bay filly, white spot on forehead white stripe on nose, white feet, supposed to be 2 yrs old. Valued at $20.

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SEND FOR IT.
G. H. BRITTON,
Udina, Kane Co., Ill.

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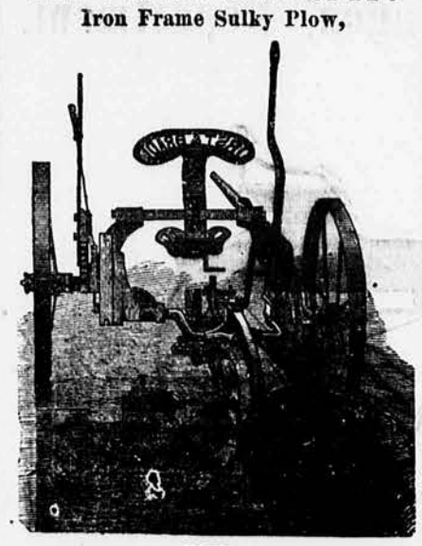

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ASPARAGUS	4.00	" 1000
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Hand Book of Finance.
This work which contains 236 pages, was published to sell at 75 cents. It is a radical view of the Greenback side of the money question. Sent postage paid to any address for 10 cents. Address KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

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50,000 good grafted apple trees at 4 cents per tree. Nursery 1½ miles north of Ottawa, trees from 5 to 8 feet high. Bring your tools and dig your trees, Address HENRY RODGERS, Ottawa, Kansas.

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without a doubt is the easiest riding buggy ever made and so also is a recently improved
Platform Spring Wagon,
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PERINE & ARMSTRONG, Topeka, Kansas.

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HOMES FOR THE PEOPLE.
350,000 ACRES
IN
Bourbon, Crawford and Cherokee Co's, KANSAS.
STILL OWNED AND OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE
Missouri River, Fort Scott and Gulf Railroad Company
On credit, running through ten years, at seven per cent. annual interest.
20 Per ct. DISCOUNT FOR CASH IN FULL AT DATE OF PURCHASE.
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"The Best Thing in the West."
—IS THE—
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe R. R.
LANDS IN KANSAS.
11 years credit with 7 per cent interest.
33⅓ PER CENT DISCOUNT FOR CASH.
Fare over A.T. & S.F. R. R, refunded to purchasers of Land.
Circulars giving full information sent FREE.
Address, A. S. Johnson, Act'g Land Com'r, Topeka, Ks.

Great Bargains
in the sale of Davis County, Iowa improved Farms, or exchanged for
Good Land in Kansas.
Apply to STECKEL & OVERTON, Bloomfield, Iowa

TEXAS CATTLE
Parties wishing to contract for Texas Cattle to be delivered the coming season can do so by addressing the undersigned.
Parties Wishing Texas Beeves and Cows, that are now being wintered in Kansas, can be furnished by
WM. B. GRIMES,
Kansas City, Mo.

STATE OF KANSAS } ss.
COUNTY OF SHAWNEE }

In the District Court in and for the County and State aforesaid.

P. M. Sturgis, Plaintiff,
vs.
Sarah E. Sturgis, Defendant,

The said Sarah E. Sturgis, defendant, is hereby notified that she has been sued by the said P. M. Sturgis plaintiff, in the district court in and for the County of Shawnee, and State of Kansas, and that she must answer the petition filed by said plaintiff, in said Court against her on or before the 22nd day of May, 1878, or the same will be taken as true and judgment will be rendered accordingly, divorcing said plaintiff from her the said defendant. P. M. STURGIS.

By D. E. SOWERS, his Attorney,

SEAL. Attest: R. E. Heller. Clerk.

Dated April, 8th, 1878.

DR. PIERCES' STANDARD REMEDIES

Golden Medical Discovery
Is Alterative, or Blood-cleansing.
Golden Medical Discovery
Is Pectoral.
Golden Medical Discovery
Is a Cholagogue, or Liver Stimulant.
Golden Medical Discovery
Is Tonic.
Golden Medical Discovery

By reason of its Alterative properties, cures Diseases of the Blood and Skin, as Scrofula, or King's Evil; Tumors, Ulcers, or Old sores; Blotches; Pimples; and Eruptions. By virtue of its Pectoral properties, it cures Bronchial, Throat, and Lung Affections; Incipient Consumption; Lingering Coughs: and Chronic Laryngitis. Its Cholagogue properties render it an unequaled remedy for Billiousness; Torpid Liver, or "Liver Complaint;" and its Tonic properties make it equally efficacious in curing Indigestion, Loss of Appetite, and Dyspepsia.

Where the skin is sallow and covered with blotches and pimples, or where they are scrofulous swellings, and affections, a few bottles of Golden Medical Discovery will effect an entire cure. If you feel dull drowsy, debilitated, have sallow color of skin, or yellowish-brown spots on face or body, frequent headache or dizziness, bad taste in mouth, internal heat or chills alternative with hot flushes, low spirits and gloomy forebodings, irregular appetite, and tongue coated you are suffering from *Torpid Liver*, or *"Biliousness."* In many cases *"Liver Complaint,"* only part of these symptoms are experienced. As a remedy for all such cases, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has no equal, as it effects perfect cures, leaving the liver strengthened and healthy.

P. P. P.
Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets.
Purely Vegetable. No care required while using them.

The "Little Giant" Cathartic, or **Multum in Parvo Physic**, scarcely larger than mustard seeds, and are sugar-coated. They remove the necessity of taking the great, crude, drastic; sickening pills, heretofore so much in use.

As a remedy for Headache, Dizziness, Rush of Blood to the Head, Tightness about the Chest, Bad taste in Mouth, Eructations from the Stomach, Bilious Attacks, Jaundice, Pain in the Kidneys, Highly-colored Urine, and Internal Fever, Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets are unsurpassed. Furthermore, I would say that their action is universal, not a gland escaping their sanative impress. Age does not impare the properties of these Pellets. They are sugar-coated and inclosed in glass bottles, their virtue being thereby preserved unimpaired for any length of time, so that they are always fresh and reliable. This is not the case with those pills which are put up in cheap wooden or pasteboard boxes. The daily use of two Pellets has cured the most obstinate cases of Scrofula, Tetter, Salt-rheum, Erysipelas, Boils, Blotches, Pimples, Sore-Eyes, and Eruptions. They are, however, recommended to be taken in connections with the Golden Medical Discovery, in order to secure the best results.

DR. PIERCE'S
FAVORITE
PRESCRIPTION.
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FAVORITE
PRESCRIPTION.

The remedial management of those diseases peculiar to women has afforded a large experience at the World's Dispensary, of which Dr, Pierce is the chief consulting physician, in adapting remedies for their cure. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the result of this extended experience, and has become justly celebrated for its many and remarkable cures of all those chronic diseases and

WEAKNESSES PECULIAR TO FEMALES.

Favorite Prescription is a Powerful Restorative Tonic to the entire system. It is a nervine of unsurpassed efficacy, and, while it quiets nervous irritation, it strengthens the enfeebled nervous system, thereby restoring it to healthful vigor. The following diseases are among those in which the Favorite Prescription has worked magic cures, viz: Leucorrhœa, or "Whites," Excessive Flowing, Painful Menstruation, Unnatural Suppressions, Weak Back, Prolapsus, or falling of the Uterus, Anteversion, Retroversion, Bearing down Sensation, Chronic Congestion, Inflammation and Ulceration of the Uterus, Internal Heat, Nervous Depression, Debility, Despondency, and very many other chronic diseases peculiar to women, but not mentioned here.

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Concord Grapes
Also Hartford, Ives and others.
Apple Grafts,
A No. 1. Hedge Plants, No. 1. and No. 2., 1 and 2 yr. Apple Trees, 2 and 3 yr. Evergreens, all sizes and kinds, small fruits including Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, and Strawberries.
The above at unusually low rates. Will pay purchasers to get our prices before buying.
Also usual assortment of Pear, Plum, (Wild Goose and Minor), Cherry, Peach, Ornamental, &c., &c.,
Address OLOSSON BROS.
Prairie Nursery, Prairie City, Ill.

Evergreens 3 to 6 feet high for Parks, Cemeteries, Lawns, Door Yards Hedges, Screens and Shelter Belts, or Windbreaks, at lower rates than ever. Evergreens, Larch, and other forest trees, Seedlings, all Nursery grown, at very low rates, in large or small quantities. Send for catalogue and write to us for very low rates by the car load. Evergreens and Forest Tree Seeds. We call special attention to our American White Ash, European Larch, Scotch, Austrian and White Pine, Norway and White Spruce of small sizes for Nursery and Forest Plantings, of which we have by far the largest stock in America, and they are very fine. Address, ROBERT DOUGLAS & SONS, Waukegan, Ill.

HOWE'S 4 TON WAGON SCALE $60
THE BEST AND CHEAPEST
Address A. M. GILBERT & CO.,
WESTERN MANAGERS,
93, 97, 99 and 101 Lake St., Chicago.
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Lane's Seed Annual.
My annual catalogue, a complete garden and floral guide, 90 pages, of choice northern grown seeds, 1000 varieties, bulbs, garden and apiarian impl'ts; ag'l books, bees, Queens, &c., &c., is now ready, sent post paid on application, Address C. F. LANE, N. W. Apiary and Seed Warehouse, Koshkonong, Wis.

$57,60 AGENTS profit per week. Will prove it or forfeit $500. New articles just patented. Sample sent free to all. Address W. H. CHIDESTER, 216 Fulton St., N.Y.

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Hot Bed Plants in their season. Manual and Plant List. Sent for stamp. "Fresh, practical and sensible."—*Am. Ag.*
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THE MAGIC COIN BOX
Holds over $5.00 of Silver coin, in "Half Dollars," "Quarter Dollars," "Dimes," and "Nickles." The merest movement of your thumb pushes the desired coin into your hand, and another one immediately takes its place as if by magic. Makes change in half the time with no danger of dropping any. Sample handsomely plated with NICKEL SILVER, sent post paid, 50 cts. Agents Trial Package, containing 3 Coin Boxes, for $1.00. Agents wanted everywhere. Big Pay. Postage Stamps taken as cash.
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TRANSPARENT TEACHING CARDS. Instruction and Amusement combined. Important to parents and teachers, 26 different artistic designs. The entire pack sent free for 25 cts. currency or stamp. Van Delf & Co 20 Ann St., New York.

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, proven by actual test to run in a lighter breeze than any other mill on exhibition; has a patent self-bracing tower, is a perfect self-regulator, will stop itself in gales and start again when the storm subsides. We also manufacture the Stover Twenty Dollar Oscillating Feed Grinder, operated by ten and twelve foot pumping Mills; is a novel and economical grinder for farmer's use, will grind from ten to twenty bushels per day and pump at the same time. All who have used them speak of them in the highest praise. Therefore buy a Windmill and Feed Grinder. Save money and make home happy. Agents wanted in unassigned territory. Send for circular.
S. DOWNS, Agt.,
Topeka, Kansas.

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POOL'S SIGNAL SERVICE BAROMETER
And Thermometer Combined.—Foretells correctly any change in the Weather, 12 to 24 hours in advance. Endorsed by the most eminent Professors and Scientific men as the Best Weather Indicator in the World. FARMERS can plan their work according to its predictions. It will save fifty times its cost in a single season. Warranted Perfect and Reliable. We will send it Free to any address on receipt of $2.00 Beware of worthless imitations. None genuine without our trade mark. **Agents Wanted.** Send Stamp for Circular.
U. S. NOVELTY CO., 105 Maiden Lane, New York.
Please state where you saw advertisement.
Send Money Orders or Registered Letters at our risk

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The Chicago Lumber Co.,
(Successors to Jno. H. Leidigh.) Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
LUMBER AND COAL.
Full Stock, Good Grades, Bottom Prices. Call and see us. Office and yard Cor. Kansas. Ave and 8th St.
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One pound to the rod.
Pat. 1868, and licensed under all patents before it.
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2 Wires with posts 2 rods apart makes a good fence.
Steel Wire, Best and Strongest Steel Barb. Best Paint, Rust Proof.
FREE FROM PATENT LAW SUITS.
The Kelly Wire safe to handle.
THORN WIRE HEDGE CO.,
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Absolutely *Rust Proof.*

CHAMPION HOG RINGER
RINGS AND HOLDER
Only double ring ever invented. The only Ring that will effectually keep HOGS from rooting. No sharp points in the nose.

BROWN'S HOG AND PIG
RINGER AND RINGS
Only Single Ring in the market that closes on the outside of the nose. No sharp points in the nose to keep it sore.
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HAS RECEIVED THE HIGHEST AWARD
Prize Medal and Diploma
AT THE
Centennial Exposition.

Judges' Official Report:
For Excellence of Material, Thoroughness of Construction and Beauty and Perfection in Finish.
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And also all Kinds of Freight, Spring and Express Wagons.
We use the most improved machinery, and under the direction of the most skillful foreman in the U States, employ two hundred men in the manufacture of these wagons. We use the celebrated Wisconsin Hubs and Indiana Spokes and Felloes, and carry large stocks of thoroughly dry first-class wagon timber. Our work is finished in the most substantial manner, with all the latest improvements. Every wagon warranted
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The above Line of Goods are for sale by
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Drain Pipe.

Chimney Flue.

And Pipe Works.
LOCATED NEAR J. P. COLE'S STORE, ON KANSAS AVENUE, TOPEKA.
We are now prepared to furnish a full assortment of
Chimneys, Sewer and Drain Pipe, Well Tubing, Flagging and Building Stone and Trimmings.
TAKE NOTICE.
We Guarantee the Durability of All Goods
We manufacture and deal in. We are also the agents for the State of Kansas for the sale of the MILWAUKEE CEMENT, which we are prepared to show by undeniable authority, as being THE BEST HYDRAULIC CEMENT MADE IN THE UNITED STATES. We can furnish it by the pound, barrel, or car load lots, either in bags or barrels, at the lowest prices. Also constantly on hand English and Portland Cements, Michigan Champion brand, Stoco Plaster, also the genuine Hannibal Bear Creek white lime. Hair and plasterers' materials generally, AT BOTTOM FIGURES, for the best brands manufactured.
CONTRACTS MADE FOR FURNISHING TUBING, AND PUTTING IN BORED WELLS.
Call and see us and we can satisfy you that it is for your interest to patronize us, and use our goods upon the merit of their durability and cheapness. Send for circular and price list.
S. P. SPEAR. H. WILLIS.

THE APRIL FLY.

(APRIL 1st.—A bright warm day. One fly came out, and made himself most objectionable. Happy thought—"Address to an April Fly," after Blake.)

Little fly, whence came you?
Little fly, whence came you?
Go away,
Wait till May,
That's too soon,
Make it June.
Little fly, whence came you?

Little fly, I blame you!
Little fly, I blame you!
Why? Becuz
'Tis your buzz
Near my hair
Makes me swear:
That is why I blame you.

Little fly, I hate you!
Little fly, I hate you!
Now—oh dear!—
On my ear!
Off he goes
To my nose!
Little fly, I hate you!

Little fly, I 'dash'd' you!
Little fly, I 'dash'd' you!
'Dash' was strong.
'Dash' was wrong,
I admit.
Ha!—a hit!
Little fly, I've smash'd you!
(End of the fly and the sonnet.)

HOW SHE GAVE THE CENSUS

When the census-taker rapped at the door of a certain Detroit cottage on Crawford street, the other day, and wondered if the woman would set the dog on him or douse him with dish-water, a great disappointment awaited him. She opened the door softly, sniffed the air to see if he smelled of lightning-rods and then threw it open for him to enter.

"Madam, I am making a canvass of the city," he began.

"Ah! sit down," she replied, and as he began opening his book, she continued: "There are five of us in the family, and we paid $100 down on the place. My husband's name is Peter, his age is forty-two, and he came from a mean family. His father was always having lawsuits about dogs, and his mother was the greatest gossip in Elmira. Have you got that down?"

He grunted assent, and she continued:

"My name is Alvina Sarah, and I was born in ——"

"I do not care to know where you was born, madam," he interrupted.

"Well, I care!" she exclaimed; "it makes a great deal of difference whether I was born in Africa or Boston, and I want it put down. As I was saying, I was born in Boston in 1838. Put down that I came of a good family."

"Madam, you don't understand—you—"

"Don't understand that I came of a good family? I'd like to know of a Boston family which carried their noses higher than the Rogerses! Put down that my father was in the Mexican war."

"You have three children, madam?"

"I haven't any such thing, sir! Put down that my mother was killed by an explosion in a quarry. Her father and mother were—"

"How many children have you, madam?"

"Have you got mother down?"

"No, madam. You see I am taking the census of the city."

"Well," she said, giving him a dangerous look, "I had the typhoid fever at the age of fifteen, and for weeks and weeks I hung on the edge of the grave. I bore up as well as I was able, and—"

"Five in the family—how many children?" He suddenly asked.

"Put down that I bore up!" she commanded. "And that one night when the watchers were asleep I crept out of bed and took a drink of—"

This is foreign to the subject, madam. How old are your children?"

"Haven't you put down that I hung on the edge of the grave?"

"No, madam."

"Aren't you going to?"

"No, madam. You see, I am simply taking the census of Detroit. I desire to ascertain—"

"You can't ascertain it here, sir!" she snapped. "If my sickness, which cost over two hundred dollars, isn't good enough to go in the book, then you don't get a line here!"

"Let me ask you—"

"No use asking for any of our photographs, sir! If you get 'em anywhere and put our pictures in that book we'll make it hot for you! Good-day, sir—good-day!"

He stood on the step, sighing, and she called through the door:

"My grandfather was also bitten to death by an alligator, but I won't give you any of the particulars! You want to walk!"

He passed on, sorrowfully wondering if the next woman's mother was blown off a bridge or carried down the river on a hay-stack.—[Detroit Free Press.

A man who drinks lightly is now called "a Durham," because he is of the "short-horn" breed.

TRADE MARK "VIBRATOR" Reg. March 31, 1874.

THE ORIGINAL & ONLY GENUINE
"Vibrator" Threshers,
WITH IMPROVED
MOUNTED HORSE POWERS,
And Steam Thresher Engines,
Made only by
NICHOLS, SHEPARD & CO.,
BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

THE Matchless Grain-Saving, Time-Saving, and Money-Saving Threshers of this day and generation. Beyond all Rivalry for Rapid Work, Perfect Cleaning, and for Saving Grain from Wastage.

GRAIN Raisers will not Submit to the enormous wastage of Grain & the inferior work done by the other machines, when once posted on the difference.

THE ENTIRE Threshing Expenses (and often 2 to 5 Times that amount) can be made by the Extra Grain SAVED by these Improved Machines.

NO Revolving Shafts Inside the Separator. Entirely free from Beaters, Pickers, Reddles, and all such time-wasting and grain-wasting complications. Perfectly adapted to all Kinds and Conditions of Grain, Wet or Dry, Long or Short, Headed or Bound.

NOT only Vastly Superior for Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye, and like Grains; but the ONLY Successful Thresher in Flax, Timothy, Millet, Clover, and like Seeds. Requires no "attachments" or "rebuilding" to change from Grain to Seeds.

MARVELOUS for Simplicity of Parts, using less than one-half the usual Belts and Gears. Makes no Litterings or Scatterings.

FOUR Sizes of Separators Made, ranging from Six to Twelve Horse size, and two styles of Mounted Horse Powers to match.

STEAM Power Threshers a Specialty. A special size Separator made expressly for Steam Power.

OUR Unrivaled Steam Thresher Engines, with Valuable Improvements and Distinctive Features, far beyond any other make or kind.

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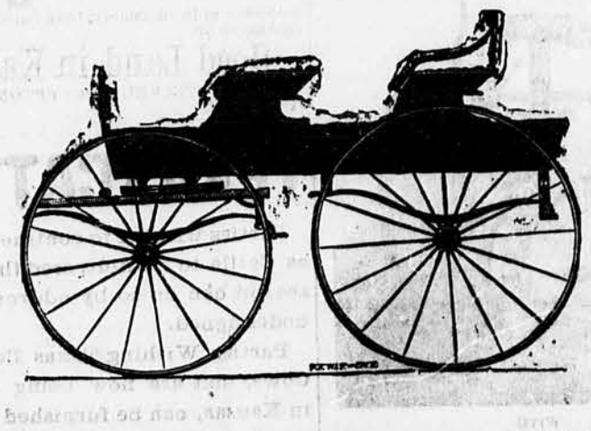

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