

SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRESS.

Cattle and Hogs.—Now when good beef animals are bringing in Chicago market \$5.50 per hundred, at which price there is a good profit in raising and shipping cattle, the farms are covered with hogs that are almost unsalable, and beef steers are very scarce. These extremes are sure to follow each other, and the wise man remembers this, and makes his farming and stock-raising general. In keeping with the past we shall expect to see the country alive for a while to the cattle-business and neglect the pork raising until they have gone to the other extreme, and flooded the market with beef, and allowed the pork supply to become in a measure exhausted.—*Coleman's Rural.*

Stick.—Not a thousand miles from St. Louis is a farmer who has made butter for this market for over twenty-five years. At this specialty he accumulated some eight thousand dollars. He committed one great mistake. Some friends persuaded him to put his money into a manufacturing enterprise, and of course, he lost it. All would have been well enough if he had stuck. Now, he is at it again, is reaping the reward of a renewed constancy. I am in favor of mixed farming, but also of keeping constantly to some one branch of farming as a specialty. Raise corn, wheat, potatoes, keep a few sheep, bees and poultry, and a good orchard and garden, but be a special farmer in cows, or sheep, or mules, or potatoes or wheat, and stick to it. Study it, experiment in it, read everything about it, and in this one line, above all others, become an expert.—*Journal of Agriculture and Farmer.*

Be liberal to your Farms.—Be liberal to your farms and they will be liberal to you. A farm is very much in one respect like a looking-glass—it reflects the character of the owner exactly. If he is man of taste, his buildings, fences and general arrangements of his farm will tell the tale. No effect on his part to disguise his real thoughts or sentiments will avail anything so long as the operations of his farm belie his words.—*North Carolina Farmer.*

Giving Credit.—One of the most discouraging features of agricultural progress is the disinclination among our prominent men to speak favorably of others working in the same field. If a foreigner makes any investigation which once obtains notice in our press, the name is spoken of with respect, and his work is uncritically praised. If an American does good work, the same attention is not paid to it, and due encouragement is not given, under the principle, we must believe, that it is not wise to aid in building up competitors for public favor. We thus find that in quotations from foreign sources, the foreign name is given in order to establish a good-sounding authority for the statement; in quotations from American sources, the fact is stated and often no authority offered. We believe in making the agricultural field attractive to students by always giving due credit for any originality that we perceive, and we trust this example may lead to the general practice of this course, which is but common honesty and fairness. We have a few American investigators, a few agricultural students; and, as public instructor, the press should do its duty in encouraging such as we have, so as to make the way attractive for more.—*Scientific Farmer.*

Poultry.—Six-months-old chickens are now ready to be disposed of. Young cockerels that are not good enough to carry over as breeders, or fit for sale as such, should be fattened and killed. They can in no other way be made to pay for their feeding.

September and October are good months in which to cull your flocks, if you have not already attended to this important matter. You do not want to carry over the winter three-fourths of the chickens you may have raised. Some are deformed, some are "off-colored," others have not matured well, or reached the proportions and weight you desire. Cull them out, and make the most of their sale to the nearest market or butcher for consumption. And so save their feed this winter.

Keep only the choicest of your chicks for next year's breeding. Reserve only the best birds to sell for breeding stock. You can get more money for ten prime, well-plumed clean-limbed, fine-formed, handsome specimens, than you can for forty of the average second or third-rate birds you may chance to have reared. Clean them out. And thus help to avoid the extension of the imperfect blood which may show itself in your yards. By this means alone—to wit, breeding from the choicest and fittest—can we ever approach toward perfection, as a rule.—*Poultry World.*

Wool.—The real value of wool depends on the firmness of the texture and strength of staple, to suit the various demands of the manufacturer. In promoting the growth of wool, much depends on the feeding of the sheep, which should be regular and generous thus insuring a good supply of yolk, without which the wool would not possess elasticity, strength and softness. There is, perhaps, no defect which renders wool, and otherwise good wool too, so absolutely useless for manufacturing, and especially for combing purposes, as tenderness and breechiness. This fault, which causes the staple to be tender, arises from the destructive effects of drought, cold or other climatic causes, which check the growth of the grasses and deprive the sheep of their necessary and regular supply of food. Nothing is so sure to cause a break in wool, and in many sheep a perfect shipping or shedding of the fleece, as want of water.—*Cultivator.*

Dairy.

OLEOMARGARINE.

What it is—What it is Used for—Its Effects.
Oleomargarine is made from the coal-fat of beef animals, by a process and machinery which separates the fat from the tissue. So far it is clean, and, of itself, as clear suet, is unobjectionable; but some claim that dirty grease, and even refuse hog-fat are also used in the process. Manufacturers claim that it is identical with butter, because both are fat and come from the same animal, and are similar in composition. A comparison will show the fallacy of this assertion. Oleomargarine consists exclusively of the three fatty compounds—stearine, oleine and margarine. All animal fats, of which butter and suet are chief representatives, are made up mainly of these three substances, though in varying proportions, and often with additions. Butter is composed of stearine, oleine, margarine, butin, myristin, caprin, caproin, caprylin and butyrin six extra ingredients which are not contained in oleomargarine; and these extra six constitute something like ten per cent of the butter, and the aromatic flavor and other peculiar characteristics of the butter are mainly due to their presence.

It is claimed that the absence of some of the components of butter make the oleomargarine superior in keeping quality to butter. Be this as it may, it does not make butter of oleomargarine.

Butter is a product peculiar to the udder of the cow, and is obtained by separating from the milk, by churning, the fats which compose it. Oleomargarine is formed in other tissues of the animal, is composed of different ingredients, and is separated by heat and processes which produce a different result. Though chalk and marble have nearly the same constituents, yet chalk is not marble, nor is marble chalk—even so oleomargarine is not butter. Oleomargarine is then essentially tallow or other fat prepared by churning it with a little real butter to form a product which has been often sold for butter—now, fortunately, prohibited by law in some states. Oleomargarine quite closely resembles butter in appearance, but it has a peculiar, strong taste—unmistakable after it is once tried—and leaves a sticky, disagreeable sensation in the mouth, similar to that caused by greasy soap; this bad flavor can be tasted for hours after eating it. For cooking purposes it may serve as a substitute for poor butter, and may even be used upon the table by those who are not particular in such matters. It makes a pastry, which, though good enough while hot, is very tough when cold. A very large amount is sold in the markets of the country, for use in cooking and for table use in cheap restaurants and by the poorer classes. The usual price for this "butter," is 15c per pound. Much is also used in cheese factories to take the place of the cream used for butter-making. The product is sold as whole milk cheese, when not prevented by law or the honesty of dealers, and large quantities are shipped abroad as American cheese.

The effects of such a product on the market are great and manifold, as often pointed out in the *American Agriculturist*: its low price seriously affects all the lower grades of butter and cheese; it imposes on the public a sham for a reality; it endangers our foreign markets for good dairy products; and all of these will in turn have other and deleterious effects which others can trace. The remedy is simple. Let every state that has not done so, by law compel its sale under its own name, and let dairymen combat it in the market, by not making either butter or cheese that can be compared to it, but produce only superior articles, and get the better price they are sure to bring.—*American Agriculturist.*

Horticulture.

STRAIGHTENING UP TREES.

In August and September, trees begin to harden their wood, and as the twig is then bent the tree will be inclined. A tree will usually arrange its foliage symmetrically, the shoots that are laggard, this year receiving the most impetus next year, and so filling up vacancies and irregularities. But a stem once hardened in deformity cannot recover without aid. Only a stake stiffer than itself, so applied as to press against the convexity of the bend, while the "leaning off" portion is drawn toward the stake and tied close up to it, will remedy the disfigurement. It is surprising how few of those who attempt to straighten a tree-stem by a stake apply the stake so as to effect their object.

Set it on the side from which the stem leans, and close to the stem. Set it now, just before the wood hardens. Tie it at the bottom top and middle, so that the tree stem will be straight as the straight stake, and so that the wind may not displace it. Add a brace, if necessary, to hold the stem erect after the stake has made it straight (by October the stake may be dispensed with), and if you have got a perpendicular eye in your level head it will be a continual pleasure to look over thereafter at that erect support of the head of foliage. On the other hand crooked stems are, as long as they stand, not only vexatious eye-sores plumbetrically, but monuments of neglect or of want of knowledge on the part of the owner.

A VALUABLE PEACH.

The North Carolina Farmer quotes from the Petersburg *Rural Messenger* a description of what is known in Virginia as the "Hawkin's winter peach."

The fruit does not begin to ripen until the leaves have fallen from the tree in November; is in no way injured by the severe frosts of that season, and hangs on the trees until it assumes a beautiful red cheek. When ripe they may be picked and put away to be carried to market at leisure—say any time in November or early December. The fruit is large (the first important item in a market peach), color whitish, with red cheek, flesh whitish, rich, juicy and pleasant. It will keep far into December without rotting. It can be handled pretty much the same as apples.

Farm Stock.

BREEDING VS. BUYING CATTLE.

True economy on the farm does not differ materially from the true political economy of a nation. The most prosperous nations produce at home all that their resources will permit, and sell all the surplus their industry can produce; or, in other words, they buy only what they must, and sell all they can. So with the farmer, he must study his resources, and purchase only such things as he cannot produce so cheaply at home. All farming operations must now be carried on with a small margin of profit; and he who does not study closely his expenditures, and the product to be expected from them, will find his labor brings only disappointment and loss.

The beef producer finds the price of his cattle, finished for market, but little more than the cost of food and attendance in growing them. He relies principally upon the purchase of store cattle for feeding, "because," he says, "I could not afford to raise steers for the price I pay." This opinion is usually based simply on the price per head he pays in the market, and not upon the quality of the animals.

The considerations in favor of home-breeding are many. The mere price paid for the young cattle cannot decide it. The capacity of the digestive system to digest and assimilate food, together with the form and thrifty condition of the animal, must all be taken into account in determining the real feeding value of a two or three-year-old steer. Lean steers that have made a very slow growth up to two or two and a-half years, will require double the amount of food to put on one hundred pounds live weight that those do that have been thrifty good feeders from calfhood. It not unfrequently costs the whole value of a lean, poorly-kept steer to put it in condition for the market. Such steers are dear at any price. It is owing to the purchase of many such young cattle by feeders that the profits are so often small, or wholly wanting. These young cattle have been kept upon food so deficient in quantity and quality, that the digestive system has remained undeveloped, and this must be developed by the new feeder before the steers can be gotten into a growing and fattening condition. But that stunt from the early feeding can never be fully overcome.

Feeders who provide a warm stable for comfortable and profitable winter feeding, find a difficulty in taming wild steers which have been raised without handling and without shelter. They do not take kindly to confinement in a stable, and often make less progress under this improved system than if fed in the open air. Animals do not relish a change of habits more than men. All these are obstacles to making profit on store steers found in the market. We have heard of a lot of wild Texas steers that submitted to be tied up in a comfortable stable, and fed in a civilized way, making an excellent gain in five months, but this is more frequently reversed.

Now let us sum up some of the advantages of home-bred steers over those purchased in the market.

1st, The farmer can select his breeding stock. He can select the best cows from common stock, both as to form and milking qualities, and a well-selected thoroughbred sire. This will give him grades of excellent feeding quality. He can also make selections of the best calves for raising—at least he should discard all puny ones, and especially mincing eaters. He needs animals of strong appetite and vigorous digestion. These calves are kept for the production of meat, and it is merely a waste of time and food to attempt to fatten a physically-defectively organized calf.

2d, These calves may be raised largely on food which is not otherwise turned to so good an account. It is not necessary to feed them new milk more than two or three weeks, when they may be profitably fed on refuse milk, grass, bran, oil-cake, and grain. It is turning a large amount of food into cash, or saving the expenditure of cash, which is even better.

This generous, early feeding will cause them to mature early, and bring them to an early market.

3d, These calves will be handled and made familiar with the system practiced by the breeder. They will be ready for full feeding from the first to the last day of their lives. There need be no such final fattening period as is the case with market steers, because they are carried forward with good appetites and flesh from the beginning, and with them food will produce its best results. It is not extravagant to say that these home-bred steers, on the average, will be worth double those purchasable at the same age. The system of feeding can only be complete when it starts with the animal at birth, and carries it along under the best system until ready for market. And now that we are supplying a new and more critical market in Europe, we must adopt the system that gives the feeder perfect control of the animal every day of its life.—*National Live-Stock Journal.*

OVER-FEEDING SHOW STOCK.

The number of useful horses sacrificed to forcing and feeding for show and sale appears to be on the increase alike in England and Scotland. A considerable number of promising young cart horses and mares at the Royal Meeting at Bristol were overlaid with beef and fat, to the detriment of usefulness and soundness. Abundant illustration of the evil is seen at every large show. Several of the Bristol contingent were sadly gummy and itchy about their legs; several were puffed and full in their hocks, looking as if they had been strained, and had got both big spavins and thoroughpins; from the same senseless high feeding, several had early developed sidebones.

Cannot symmetry, style, and usefulness be fairly estimated without dangerously overloading the animal with beef and fat? Should it be essential to the successful exhibition of a good horse or bull, that for months he should drink, as many do, two or three gallons of cow's milk daily? The artificial treatment greatly improves the looks of plain, flat-sided, weak-kneed subjects; but it cannot give the essential shape, style and action, and besides the ailments already mentioned, it engenders in horses, as in other animals, liability to anthrax or blood poisoning, of which quarter evil and splenic apoplexy in cattle, are the most familiar examples. Many gross overfed horses suffer from similar conditions; they take what at first appears to be a simple cold; the throat becomes very sore, congestion, rapidly followed by extravasation of blood, occurs throughout the lining membrane of the air passages; treatment in such gross overfed subjects is singularly unsuccessful; and in fifteen or twenty hours the patient dies; suffocated from pulmonary apoplexy. Amongst the young horses got up for town sale, as well as those sacrificed to showing, it is wonderful to observe the amount of fat laid on, not only externally, but around the internal organs. The omentum of a four-year-old cart horse is sometimes overlaid with four or five inches of firm fat. Heart, kidneys, and other organs are proportionally loaded. Amidst the fibres of the heart and other muscles the enfeebling fat is also laid down, interfering with muscular capability. Woe betide the unfortunate animal which, in such a state of obesity, is put to severe exertion. Sudden death may result from the giving way of some organ or vessel weakened by the fatty degeneration, or dangerous disease of the air-passages or laminitis is established; whilst eight or ten months of careful feeding, and regular exercise are required before such an overfed horse is fit for really hard work. Surely the reprehensible fashion of forcing and overfeeding animals intended for work or for breeding, should be held somewhat in check by the consideration of the dangers of such a practice, and by its serious interference with successful breeding!—*North British Agriculturist.*

JUDGING DRAFT HORSES.

We deem this a good time to enter a protest against the prevailing custom of judging draft horses in the show-ring mainly with reference to weight, as one would judge a group of fat oxen prepared for the butcher's stock. In the latter case, the quantity and quality of the meat are the primary considerations; but we fail to see why such a test should be applied to the former. We don't eat horse flesh in this country, consequently mere weight of carcass is of no value except as it gives greater ability to draw a heavy load; and if this weight be made up simply of an accumulation of adipose tissue (fat), it is positive incumbrance rather than a help, and should be judged accordingly.

There can be no question that size is an important feature in a draft horse; but to be of value, the desired weight must be made of other tissues than fat. Bone and muscle must form an important part in making up this weight; and even here we cannot depend upon the tape line nor the scales to make an award. The quality of each is a vital consideration. If the indications are that the bony tissue is of a soft, spongy, porous nature; if the joints are gummy and defective, or the muscles flabby and ill placed; the hoofs flat and brittle, or too much contracted; or if the disposition be sluggish and dull, like that of an ox, no amount of mere weight should be permitted to atone for such serious defects.

A good draft horse must possess strong vital organs, which fact is usually indicated by the form and relative size of the trunk. His joints and legs must be strong and perfect, free from curbs and spavins, the skin lying close and firm to hard and elastic cords, with an entire absence of "beef" upon these parts; the feet should be large, neither flat or mule-shaped, the horn hard and elastic, but not brittle. The bottom of the foot should be examined to see that it possesses the desired concave appearance, and the frog does its work perfectly, because it is in the fact that our heavy draft horses are most notoriously defective. As we have said in a former number of the *Journal*, the principal requisite of a draft horse is good size, made up without a superabundance of fat; but to this must be added docility, soundness, and endurance. Given all the valuable qualities above described in perfection, and then the more of action and style he possesses the better.

He may be very nearly perfect in all other respects, and yet be too small to be classed as a first-classed draft horse. On the other hand, he may weigh a ton, but if the weight be made up mainly of fat, or if he be ill-tempered, unsound, or lacking in endurance, his value is materially lessened. He may possess all the points above enumerated, and yet be so deficient in energy and so heavy and sluggish in his movements, as to come far short of a perfect draft horse.

When called upon to act as a judge in this class, the intelligent horseman will give due prominence to all these points, and will not be deceived by mere measurement or weight; the true test being the comparative adaptation of the animals to perform the work which pertains to the class in which they are shown.—*Live-Stock Journal.*

SYMPTOMS OF INTESTINAL WORMS IN SWINE.

Though these have been already referred to, it may be well to give here a succinct statement of the more prominent ones. There are the general signs of ill-health; a failure to thrive, or even a distinct loss of condition; a scurvy, unthrifty state of the skin; itchiness and frequent rubbing of the surface, especially around the rump; irregular and usually voracious appetite, a tendency to grunt and scream to excess just before feeding time; occasional vomiting; tenderness of the abdomen, and a habit of starting from sleep with a grunt or scream; a hard cough; scouring of undigested matters, alternating with constipation; the passage of an unnatural amount of mucus with the dung; a puffy swelling around the vent; and in many cases symptoms of nervous disorder, such as palpitations (humps), giddiness, and fits. The most unequivocal symptom, however, is the ejection of the worms or their eggs, in the vomited matters or manure.

Prevention.—For the prevention of these parasites much may be done in the way of obviating the introduction of the eggs, or young worms, into the stomach; and first stands out prominently the great need of pure water. The use for drinking purposes of streams or ponds which pass near piggeries, or receive the washings from such places, is to be avoided in all cases. The water of wells sunk in porous soils, through which surface liquids can percolate, is equally dangerous when in the vicinity of hog pens, or accumulations of hog manure. Green food of all kinds grown with manure from hog pens is manifestly open to the same objections, as the young worms will often live in the moist earth and be taken in with the vegetation. Grazing hogs in successive years on the same pasture is liable to produce a concentration of the eggs and embryos of the worms, and the development of a verminous epizootic. Such pastures will be worst during wet weather, when the vegetation is apt to be drawn up by the roots and consumed along with a quantity of the moist earth containing the young worms. The grazing of the hogs should be changed at least every year, and above all, young pigs should never be turned upon fields which have been pastured by older swine the previous year. In the case of the whip worm, the precautions advocated above, for swine, should be extended so as to embrace the human being as well. Hog's dung should not be used upon porous soils in the vicinity of wells used for the supply of the family, nor on gardens nor fields employed for the production of vegetables or fruits to be eaten raw. Conversely, the contents of privies, and faecal dejections of man generally, should be kept apart from streams, ponds, and wells furnishing water to pigs, and from fields from which their food is to be drawn.

Treatment.—In the treatment of intestinal worms, much will depend on the nature of the food. Green food is advantageous in relaxing the bowels and favoring the expulsion of the worms. In winter, roots, potatoes, and apples serve a similar end. A certain amount of grain is usually desirable to sustain the strength; and if this is cooked, or given with butter milk, the effect will be largely the same as if green food were used. It is always a good practice to clear out the bowels by a purgative before giving anything to kill the worms. One or two drachms of jalap may be thrown in the evening meal, and the vermifuge may be given at least an hour before feeding the following morning. Many agents prove fatal to the worms, but perhaps the most generally available is oil of turpentine, which may be given in doses of from one to three teaspoonfuls, according to the size of the animal, and in some bland medium, like oil or milk. Three hours later the dose of jalap may be repeated, after which the worms should come away in large numbers. If no other vermifuge is at hand, a half-pint of powdered pumpkin seeds, mixed in the food, will usually prove effectual. In weak or emaciated subjects, or in those having tenderness of the abdomen, a daily dose of three drachms each of assafetida and powdered arca nut will usually prove satisfactory. As a sequel to this treatment, a course of tonic is desirable, and a daily supply of bone-set will serve a very good purpose.—*Live-Stock Journal.*

Topics for Discussion.

VIEWS OF CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, JR., ON THE RAILROAD QUESTION.

Last week we published the views of Horace White, expressed before the congressional committee, to investigate the cause of "hard times," and below we give the opinions of Mr. Adams, on railroads, before the same committee. Mr. Adams has made the problem of railroad management a study from a statesman's standpoint, for a number of years, and his opinions cannot fail to interest our readers in the present feverish state of that important question. Mr. Hewitt, chairman of the committee, said:

We wanted you here, Mr. Adams, on account of your connection with railway management. We want to find out what can be done by legislation in the management of railroads that would benefit the country. Business is depressed and labor is depressed, and it is alleged that railway management has been one of the causes.

Mr. Adams.—There are two things to take into consideration in connection with railroads—railroad construction and railway management. Excessive construction leads to business depression. Collapse will result from construction, but railway management is the most powerful factor to relieve it. Railway management as an employer of labor, has always kept up high wages. It employs all the hands now that it ever did before, at reduced rates, of course. There has not been a dismissing of hands, as has occurred at factories and mills, since the war. There may be abuses in the management, but I don't think it can be relieved by legislation. We have already had a great deal of bungling legislation calculated to remedy these evils. Prices are not now high. Freight is being carried for half a mill a ton per mile. Our railroad system is founded on competition. The roads are always engaged in a great war among themselves. Competition leads to difficulties, a discrimination against localities and violent fluctuations. The only remedy that could be suggested is to have a commission appointed to investigate carefully the abuses, disagreements and grievances which people suffer, and publicly announce them. Publicity in these cases would do much good. The establishment of a commission might possibly lead to the framing of remedial laws. But present legislation could not cure the evils unless you got the cart before the horse. You must get at the root of the trouble.

Q.—Railroads are the creatures of the state, are they not?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—As a railroad runs through several states, no one state could interfere. Would it be wise for the federal government to assume complete charge of the entire railroad system?

A.—It would not be practicable. About ninety-nine one-hundredths of the commerce between the states is by railroad. If congress attempts to regulate that commerce it has a great deal to do. We have got to profit by English experience. All manner of schemes have been attempted in England and various kinds of legislation, but a recent commission of parliament decided to formally abandon these wild notions. The document of this commission is one of the most instructive pieces of railway literature. The policy of regulating fares and freights and profits the commission decided was unsound. Their policy is "hands off" the railroads, let the managers run the roads any way they see fit, by consolidation or otherwise, but give the largest amount of publicity to the management, so that abuses to society will not be practiced. In Massachusetts we have adopted the English system and find that it is working admirably. A grievance is quickly attended to. A single postal-card from an individual reciting any abuse, receives the same attention that will be given to a long document from a state.

Q.—Could federal legislation relieve the distress of a case like the following: A wire manufacturer in Trenton is competing with a manufacturer in Worcester, Massachusetts, for the Chicago trade. They are both the same distance away, but heavy freight duties in the one case debar one man from entering the market because he can't sell as cheap.

A.—It is certainly an abuse, but it would be impossible to relieve it by legislation. The public can't share the benefits of railway competition without enduring its hardships too. Public enterprise is not equal to private enterprise, and it is questionable if railroads would be so successful if handled by the government. Railroads are in a chaotic state, but the powers of the magnates are diminishing. In those countries where the Government has charge of the roads, say Bavaria and Prussia, the same thing exists. No, I don't consider it wise to favor the watering of stocks, but it is a matter entirely within the control of private enterprise. The managers run the road to make it pay; if it don't pay they will abandon it. Pooling arrangements are only the result of consolidation.

MISCELLANY.

The crop of sorghum in Minnesota this year, it is estimated, will cover 6,000 acres.

The principal tanning materials produced and used in this country are hemlock and oak bark.

An Iowa clergyman has invented a churn which is worked by sitting down and rocking as in a rocking-chair.

The secret of raising young animals is to keep them growing from the day they are born. If they once get stunted it is hard starting them again.

The wool-growers of San Antonio, Texas, and vicinity, have formed an association for the protection of the wool-growing interests of Texas.

There are about one hundred and twenty-five newspapers exclusively devoted to agriculture in general, or some one or more particular branches, in the United States.

The Illinois State Agricultural Department reports 342,632 acres of orchard in the state, and that the produce last year was worth \$3,589,672, or \$10.47 per acre.

Don't kill the toads. They are the gardener's very best friends, from the fact that they are the mortal enemies of insects and worms that deplete on garden vegetables.

American peanuts transplanted to the south of France, grow well. Oil is made from them, which comes back to this country as olive oil. Meanwhile, in Florida, where the nuts grow abundantly, they are fed to hogs.

On every farm in America, where even ten head of cattle are kept, it would prove a good investment to provide water in the yard both for winter and summer use. Do not fail to arrange an aqueduct, pump, cistern, or some means of meeting this want.

The Western Rural says: "Many horses have a habit of kicking posts, and when fed showing a little temper in this way. Three links of a common chain strapped on the leg above the pastern, is a sure preventive, and does not interfere with their rest."

Some persons think they are doing a kindness to a horse by giving him an extra feed just before driving, to make him drive better. A horse thus treated not only drives worse, but is more apt to be hurt by a long and sharp drive when the stomach is overloaded.

Patrons of Husbandry.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master, Samuel E. Adams, of Minnesota; Secretary, O. H. Kelley, Louisville, Kentucky; Treasurer, F. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y. KANSAS STATE GRANGE.—Master: Wm. Sims, Topeka, Secretary: P. B. Maxon Emporia, Lecturer: J. W. Hammett, Plattville. COLORADO STATE GRANGE.—Master: Levi Booth, Denver. Lecturer: J. W. Hammett, Plattville. MISSOURI STATE GRANGE.—Master: H. Eshbaugh, Hanover, Jefferson county. Secretary: A. M. Colfax, 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.

LETTER FROM THE MASTER OF THE STATE GRANGE.

EDITOR FARMER:—As the time for holding the regular annual session of the Kansas State Grange approaches, many inquiries are being made as to the time and place of our next meeting. In answer to all such and for the information of the fraternity generally, I would say, that, by an amendment of our State Constitution, adopted at our last meeting, our next regular annual session will commence on Tuesday the 17th day of December, 1878 AT LAWRENCE—the executive committee having fixed on that place.

In this connection I desire to call the attention of the membership generally and particularly of Masters and Deputies, to section two, article two, state constitution, and trust that due notice of the time and place of meeting for the election of delegates to the State Grange will be given, in accordance with the requirements of said section.

It will be seen by an examination of the section above referred to that Masters, Past Masters and their wives who are Matrons, are alike eligible to the position of delegate to the State Grange.

Our next session will be an important one and it is hoped that the Patrons of the several counties will see to it, that their state dues are promptly paid and that good representative men and women Patrons who understand and appreciate the importance of the objects, aims, principles and purposes of our order, are elected as delegates, and that they are informed as to the wants of the membership in their respective localities.

The question of co-operation in the purchase of supplies and sale of products will, no doubt command a large share of your time and attention at our next session. Now is the time to talk up this as well as other questions, upon which your delegates will be called upon to act.

Every delegate should be informed as to the condition of the Order in the county he represents, and to be able to point out the obstacles, if any, which have stood in the way of success, and to suggest some proper remedy for the evils or defects complained of. In cases results have proven satisfactory, and the organization is flourishing, we should be able to give the causes and conditions which have contributed to bring about this result, that others may profit by them.

It will be borne in mind that within the last twenty months, there has been paid out of the receipts for that time, the expenses of two sessions of the State Grange, together with the ordinary running expenses, including amount paid Lecturers appointed at last session, also an outstanding indebtedness of about \$800, and \$213.84 due from the state

agency at the time it was discontinued. This being the case it can hardly be expected that our Treasurer can meet promptly, the expense of our next session unless our subordinate granges come to the rescue, and pay in full the amount due the state grange for the year ending December 31, 1878. And this request I think, under the circumstances, a very reasonable one, and one too which all will see the importance of and I trust will meet with a hearty response.

The claims and property received from the state agencies are largely in excess of the amount of liabilities assumed and paid by the grange, but, like the real estate owned by the grange, cannot be converted into money, at present, without unreasonable and unnecessary sacrifice.

Knowing, as I do, that many granges have failed to pay the state dues simply because the subject has not been called up, I trust that the above will be sufficient to prompt them to action. Wm. Sims.

THE GRANGE IN CANADA.

The year 1878 saw the first Grange organized in Canada. During this year, eight granges were organized in Quebec; early in 1874 the organization spread into Ontario, where its growth was more rapid and effective. Although a new organization, in existence but for a short time in the United States, and scarcely known among our farmers, yet many of the most prominent and enterprising expressed their determination, upon its introduction, to lend it their support, judging of its adaptation to the wants of the agriculturists here, by giving it a fair trial. On the 2nd of June, 1874, the Dominion Grange was established by 25 delegates from the then existing Granges in Ontario,—15 in number. Many were the expressions of distrust in the course taken, and in the action of those foremost in the movement, accepting what was called by skeptics a humbug calculated to injure rather than benefit; others made very light of the institution, regarding it as a thing of short life and little weight, but these have been the worst disappointed people amongst us, and now look with amazement upon the rapid strides and early development of a strong healthy organization. From a small and not very promising beginning less than five years ago, has grown an organization second to none to no other institution in size and influence in this country, gradually working its way up, growing in the esteem of its members and the respect of the whole people, numbering now 695 Subordinate Granges, 46 Division Granges—composed of five or more Subordinates,—and a membership of over 25,000. Those whose active energy and zeal in the cause led them to take a prominent part in the establishment and support of the order, now look with satisfaction and pride upon the result of their efforts, and although we have not yet reached the height of our expectations nor accomplished all the reforms looked for as the result of this movement, yet enough has been done to fully prove the utility of the Grange, that the elements of success to the farmer are in its principles, and all that remains to do is the proper carrying out of these principles by our members, all taking hold with a will, putting their shoulders to the wheel, remembering that "fortune helps those who help themselves." Steadily and surely a great reform is going on, and so gradual is the growth that we can scarcely realize the fact; a great awakening is apparent among farmers, they are beginning to think and act for themselves. Too much reliance has heretofore been placed upon muscle alone, while others were allowed to do our thinking, but a change has taken place, the Grange is gradually lifting us out of that quagmire of thoughtless indolence, teaching us the necessity of using our brains, and the power there is in united and concerted action. We are mingling more with one another and becoming better acquainted with our neighbors and with ourselves. Through the medium of the Grange we are becoming acquainted with our brother farmers in all parts of the Dominion, as the order is established not only in Ontario, but in Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Manitoba; a general correspondence is going on among us, we are learning each others wants and wishes, and profiting by the knowledge thus gained.

"If we could only work together we could protect ourselves," has for years been the remark of all—every one has at least a dim idea that there is strength in numbers and virtue in co-operation. If we succeed in uniting more closely the destinies of the farmers of the different Provinces, by showing them that the interest of one is the common interest of all, that it is for the general welfare of each and every one that we are working, we will soon accomplish a great and good work. We in Ontario know but little concerning our brother farmers in the Lower Provinces, they but little of us. By means of the Grange, communication is established among us that will be the means of awakening new thoughts and energies, and give us a more extended and enlightened knowledge of our duties and requirements as a class. Important questions of interest can be discussed, and a means thus found for disseminating useful instruction and knowledge.

From every quarter of the Dominion the cry is coming for information regarding the Grange, and everywhere farmers are enlisting under its banners as a sure protection of their interests and mutual preservation. A grand future is before us, a noble institution is firmly planted which calls for the united effort and hearty sympathy of agriculturists,

and with these we will place it among the greatest social, mental and material reform institutions the world has ever known.—Canadian Farmer.

"ALL WORK AND NO PLAY."

The American farmer needs to make his life more cheerful; he needs to govern his industry by such wise means and bounds as will keep him from being a slave; he needs to cast out two-thirds of his fidget and worry, and to court happiness by seeing more in life than a mere humdrum round of days' work. The average American farmer tries to coin all of his time and labor into property, and shrinks from treating himself to any outside pleasure that costs a cent or cuts off from the working days of the year. Frugality and industry are acknowledged blessings to the race, and to give them the go-by for good would be to let the national soup-pot simmer down dry. But even industry can be pushed to excess, turning a man into such a rickety old treadmill that he is unfitted for any of the pleasing graces or amenities of life.

Could the Grange bring about any better reform than to lead its members into making the most of their boasted liberties by so mixing in play with work as to make Jack get over being a dull boy?—Farmer's Friend.

Some of the granges of Wells and adjoining counties of Indiana held a fair last fall, and the success was so much better than was expected, that it has encouraged them to try again this fall on the first four days of October. Place of meeting three miles north-west of Montpelier, Wells Co. No horse racing or gambling of any kind is permitted in or about the grounds.

SPEAKERS FOR THE GRANGE.

Bro. Wm. Dean, of Delaware, has written a letter of protest to the Farmer's Friend that Ben Butler and other noted politicians should be chosen to deliver addresses at Patron's picnics, as they are at one to be held in Pennsylvania the latter part of this month. The editor of the Farmer's Friend thinks that in so doing he has shown a degree of prejudice, if not bigotry "wholly inconsistent with the liberality on which the grange is based." We do not so view the matter. The politicians chosen are not men who will endeavor to impartially instruct their auditors. Even though they do not indulge in any rankly, partisan demagogy, they will slyly shape their speech so that it will secure a favorable reception of their own political hobbies. We don't care much who the politician is, he will not give the Patron farmers information on any political topic that is entirely trustworthy. Most of them are not possessed of such information, and the few that are will not endanger their political prospects by communicating it freely. And yet the chief object in introducing speakers at a picnic is to mingle something that is improving and instructive with that which is entertaining. A politician even though he be not eminent, is the last person in the world to whom we should look for anything of the former sort; and Bro. Dean's protest strikes us as timely and deserving of attention.—Grange Bulletin.

We most decidedly concur with the Bulletin. KANSAS FARMER.

THE GRANGE AN ARMY OF OFFENSE AND DEFENSE.

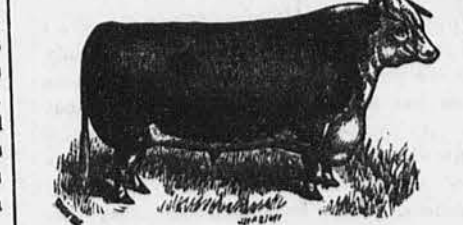
The grange comes in at the right time and in the right place to do the work which has for years stood in need of being done by somebody. Until its organization there was no common authority which agriculture could respect, and no common voice which it could be expected to obey. Now it operates with scarcely less influence over the wide fraternity of farmers than over those who are ready to beseege that fraternity with their selfish and destructive designs. The grange shuts the door in the face of them all, and leaves the farmers at peace with their chosen calling. And it warns off all marauders in every disguise. The fell spirit of the commune is exorcised by its potency. Nothing that possesses even a taint of agrarianism, or free plunder, is tolerated in its sight.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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.

"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.

Breeders' Directory.

T. F. PROWE, Auburn, Shawnee Co., Kansas, breeder of Spanish Merino Sheep. Has 30 bucks for sale; call and see them or write; prices reasonable.

EMERY & SAYRE, Osceola, Clark Co., Iowa, breed recorded Berkshires & Poland Chinas for sale. "Beauties Sure." Pairs not akin. Circulars free.

D. W. IRWIN, Osceola, Iowa, breeder of pure, D. M. Magie, & W. W. Risworth strains of Poland Chinas hogs; write for circular.

BADDELEY, Leavenworth, Kan., breeds Black Cochins & Brown Leghorns. Stock not surpassed in America. Send for descriptive circular and price list.

D. W. 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.

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

BELL & SON, Brighton, Macopin County, Ill., 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 and fashionable families. Young stock for sale cheap. Send for catalogue. Herd of 300 head. Also Berkshires.

ROOK, Iola, Allen Co., Kansas, breeder of Light Brahma Chickens. All Stock warranted first-class and Shipped C. O. D.

W. H. COCHRANE, Emporia, Kan., breeder of Short-Horn Cattle for sale. Correspondence solicited. Planet, 1943 at head of herd.

JOHN W. CARRY, Canton, Ill., breeders and shippers of pure bred Poland-China hogs. This stock took the \$1,000 premium at Canton, in 1871 over 38 competitors.

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 Imported Canada Cotswolds at Moderate Prices. A. address, A. B. MATTHEWS, Kansas City, Mo.

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

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

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

H. H. GRIMSHAW, Paola, Kansas, breeder of Essex Berkshires and Folland China hogs. Stock for sale.

Nurserymen's Directory.

WATSON & DOBBIN, Wholesale and Retail, 100, 000 3 yr. old apple trees for sale, also 100,000 1 yr. old, all of the best growth and varieties, all fenced in Rabbit light; also 50 acres of Hodge Plants in season, prices low to Nurserymen and Dealers. Address, ROBT. WATSON, Lee's Summit, Jackson Co., Mo.

500,000 Apple Stocks, 1,000,000 Orange 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, Lodi, Kansas.

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

Dentists.

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

JAMES G. YOUNG, Attorney-at-Law.

Rooms 10 and 12, Hart's Office Building, West Fourth Street, between Main and Delaware, Kansas City, Mo. Practices in Missouri, Kansas and U. S. Courts. Real Estate & Corporation Law a specialty.

HENTIC & SPERRY, Attorneys at Law,

TOPEKA, KANSAS. Practice in Federal & State Courts

Berkshire Pigs at Auction Prices.

Single Pig \$15, \$25 per pair, \$35 per trio. These pigs are sired by the Improved Prize-Winning Boar, Wade Hampton, and out of sows picked from the best herds in U. S. and warranted to be as good as the best. No trouble to answer correspondence. Address, F. B. HARNISS, New Palestine, Mo.

Shannon Hill Stock Farm

ATCHISON, KANSAS, Thoroughbred Short-Horn Durham Cattle, of Straight Herd Book Pedigree, bred and for sale. Also Berkshire pigs bred from imported and premium stock for sale singly, or in pairs not akin. Persons desiring to visit this farm, by calling on Mr. G. W. Glick, in the city of Atchison, will be conveyed to and from the farm free of charge. Address, GLICK & CARMICHAEL.

Park Nursery

LAWRENCE, KANSAS. 2nd year in the State. Very large and complete stock of ornamental trees, grape vines, &c., &c. Wholesale prices very low, and terms reasonable. Address F. P. PHILLIPS, Lawrence, Kansas.

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.

600 SHEEP!

Owing to the shortage of Range, and increase of Flocks, we offer for sale, delivered Sept. 15th, 600 head of Sheep, most ewes, graded Merinos; age from one to five years old. Our flocks have been in this section of the country five years. For further particulars, enquire of J. M. BRINING, Great Bend Kansas.

SHORT-HORN CATTLE.

L. A. KNAPP, Do- ver, Shawnee Co., Kansas, breeder of Pure Short-Horn Cattle. Farm 15 miles south-west of Topeka, and 12 miles south of Roseville.

The Kansas Farmer.

HUDSON & EWING, Editors & Proprietors, Topeka, Kansas.

FOREST CULTURE ON THE PRAIRIES.

The planting and cultivation of forest trees on the prairies has received frequent attention through the columns of the Kansas Farmer...

Accompanying the report of the commissioners of Forest Park, St. Louis, is a circular to the press, and one also addressed to railroad presidents...

Adorning the home with groves of forest trees, should be among the first cares of the settler on the prairie. He will thus provide comfort for the family and invite the birds to come and build in the branches...

"Can vacant property, held for future sale, be made inviting and enhanced in value by any simpler means than by converting its barren waste into a verdant grove?"

We might amplify, at much greater length the intrinsic value to farms of belts of forest timber, serving as wind-breaks and shelter to stock...

The pecuniary value which judiciously planted and carefully cultivated groves contribute to a farm in a prairie country, can scarcely be estimated.

Planting shade trees in the streets of towns has never received that systematic attention which its importance demands.

THE YELLOW FEVER SCOURGE.

The fearful epidemic in the south still rages with unabated malignity, and appears to be rather on the increase.

Mississippi valley is the home of this desolating plague. Commencing at New Orleans its usual point of attack, the pestilence has crept up the river as far as Cairo.

The cry for help which comes up from the yellow fever district is being nobly responded to, and money and supplies for the sick and destitute are being sent forward from every city and town in the north.

The pestilence has five weeks yet to run, as nothing but frost is likely to stop its blighting career. The thought of the death and misery which will scourge the land during that period is appalling.

HELP ONE ANOTHER.

The Scriptural injunction is, love one another. Where love is, help will not be withheld, but help may spring from motives of pecuniary gain as well as from philanthropic influences or sympathetic impulses.

Do not give your pigs stone coal. A little sulphur, salt and charcoal would be good for them. Can some of our correspondents enlighten our friend on the black teeth phenomenon?

We are indebted to Mr. W. E. Barnes, proprietor of the Vineland, Douglas Co. Nursery, for a basket of as fine pears as we have ever seen.

The organization which has been begun by the Patrons of Husbandry, might be extended and its powers and responsibilities increased, by embracing all the real and personal property of the grange membership in one incorporated company.

It is not our purpose in this article to attempt giving details of such a plan, but only to throw out a suggestion, which, as far as we know, has not been publicly agitated.

be established that the coupons on its bonds are as certain to be paid when they fall due, as those on government bonds, and their will be no lack of capital at its command at four per cent.

BLACK TEETHED PIGS.

EDITORS FARMER:—Will you, or some of your experienced correspondents, inform a new comer through the columns of the FARMER if there is a disease amongst swine known as black teeth.

Parties having either or both of these kinds of wheat for sale would do well to address to Mr. J. S. McClelland, Editor of the Larimer County Express, Fort Collins, Colorado. He wants some.

FULTZ AND CLAWSON WHEAT.

Parties having either or both of these kinds of wheat for sale would do well to address to Mr. J. S. McClelland, Editor of the Larimer County Express, Fort Collins, Colorado. He wants some.

DON'T NOTICE THEM.

Pay no attention to slanders or gossip-mongers. Keep straight on in your course and let their backbitings die the death of neglect.

YELLOW FEVER PREMIUM.

Messrs Lynde, Wright & Co., offer \$25 cash for the best bushel of winter wheat raised in Kansas in 1878, entered and on exhibition at the Kansas City Exposition.

BEAUTIFUL PEARS.

We are indebted to Mr. W. E. Barnes, proprietor of the Vineland, Douglas Co. Nursery, for a basket of as fine pears as we have ever seen.

TICE'S WEATHER PREDICTIONS.

9h to 17h, variable, generally low barometer, with high temperature preceding and accompanying storms, except north of storm centres.

REPEAL OF THE BANKRUPT LAW.

The repeal of the general bankrupt law took effect on the first of this month, and the numbers who rushed in to take advantage of it during the month of August was astonishing.

Tame Grasses.

Under this head we publish in the FARMER this week, a very interesting article by Mr. Jacob Winter, of Leavenworth Kansas.

From Russell County.

Farmers are beginning to shock their corn, it will be a handsome yield per acre. It has been rather dry plowing for several weeks, nevertheless they plow just the same.

Haying season is about over. A few are sowing wheat, but many are waiting till it rains. Grasshoppers have been passing over in a southern direction for the past week in vast numbers.

From Dickinson County.

Threshing is going on rapidly. The yield of wheat and oats is good, except spring wheat, which is a poor crop, corn splendid, also potatoes and vegetables.

Can some one give me some information as to where to go to buy apples? as a few of us have concluded to make a trip into some of the eastern counties for that purpose.

A WORD PERSONAL.

Since the formation of our partnership with Mr. Ewing, in the publication of the FARMER, the first of May last, we have done little upon the editorial work.

The broad prairies are covered with a green and luxuriant growth of grass. This insures good winter stock range, for the late rains have infused new life into the buffalo herbage and guaranteed a supply of grass for the winter.

ANDERSON COUNTY.

The committee consisted of Messrs M. A. Page and A. A. Adams. They made a fine display of fruit, grain, and vegetables.

BARTON COUNTY.

Committee, Messrs. T. D. Phillips, Jos. Gault, and Geo. McClure. Their exhibit consisted of fruit, vegetables, grain, grass, broom-corn, etc.

COWLEY COUNTY.

Committee, Messrs. N. L. Rigby, and E. S. Bliss. Here were on exhibition here fruit and grain, and a "Safety Lamp Combination," a Kansas invention.

DAVIS COUNTY.

This committee consisted of Rev. Dr. Reynolds, Wm. Cutter, Capt Lowe, A. Reubens, Esqr., Major A. D. Richardson, and Hon. John Davis.

EDWARDS COUNTY.

Committee, Messrs. J. A. Walker, Geo. P. Ketchum, G. E. Bidwell, F. C. Blanchard, and W. H. Johnson.

FORD COUNTY.

Committee, Messrs M. Collar, R. G. Cook, C. J. Snyder, Fred Leonard, and Jas. Connor. Here were shown the largest squash, the longest cucumber (54 inches) and the best Alfalfa on the grounds.

LYON COUNTY.

Committee, Messrs Robt. Millikin, J. Gardner, and J. H. Doile. The largest samples of apples, and the best specimens of grapes in the building were shown in this collection.

MIAMI COUNTY.

The exhibition from this county consisted entirely of fruit grown by Messrs, Bishop & Nolan of Osawatimie. This firm is well known over eastern Kansas, as the proprietors of the Bishop Nurseries.

There were three long exhibition halls,

one being used for individual display of the productions of the county, one for the Patrons of Husbandry where separate gran-

ges in the county compete with each other for very liberal premiums, and the third used by the land department of the A., T. & Santa Fe R. R. for the exhibit of the productions of the land along the line of their road.

The display of the A., T. & Santa Fe R. R. was under the direct management and personal oversight of the traveling agent of the road. Mr. E. Haren, assisted by Lyman Cone, Esq., of Burrton, Kansas.

In this exhibit among other articles, there were over 90 samples of wheat raised upon as many different farms, and marked all the way from 24 to 42 bushels per acre. There was also a splendid show of corn, oats, rye, etc.

Whatever may be said of heavy charges on freights on this road, it is but justice to say that the energy, enterprise and push, displayed by the managers of the Land Department is beyond all praise.

The plan of inviting different counties to make an exhibit of their productions in connection with the Douglas county society originated among the officers of the society, and will most certainly be followed by other agricultural societies over the state.

ANDERSON COUNTY.—The committee consisted of Messrs M. A. Page and A. A. Adams. They made a fine display of fruit, grain, and vegetables.

BARTON COUNTY.—Committee, Messrs. T. D. Phillips, Jos. Gault, and Geo. McClure. Their exhibit consisted of fruit, vegetables, grain, grass, broom-corn, etc.

COWLEY COUNTY.—Committee, Messrs. N. L. Rigby, and E. S. Bliss. Here were on exhibition here fruit and grain, and a "Safety Lamp Combination," a Kansas invention.

DAVIS COUNTY.—This committee consisted of Rev. Dr. Reynolds, Wm. Cutter, Capt Lowe, A. Reubens, Esqr., Major A. D. Richardson, and Hon. John Davis. The exhibition of wheat and fruit here was very creditable.

EDWARDS COUNTY.—Committee, Messrs. J. A. Walker, Geo. P. Ketchum, G. E. Bidwell, F. C. Blanchard, and W. H. Johnson. Here were on exhibition wheat, oats, millet, potatoes, onions, timothy, barley, rye, sorghum.

FORD COUNTY.—Committee, Messrs M. Collar, R. G. Cook, C. J. Snyder, Fred Leonard, and Jas. Connor. Here were shown the largest squash, the longest cucumber (54 inches) and the best Alfalfa on the grounds.

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MIAMI COUNTY.—The exhibition from this county consisted entirely of fruit grown by Messrs, Bishop & Nolan of Osawatimie. This firm is well known over eastern Kansas, as the proprietors of the Bishop Nurseries.

This collection of fruit is by far the largest and finest in the hall. The Celestia, a new apple exhibited by this firm ripens with the Maiden's blush. It is a finer grained, larger and better flavored apple than this well-known fall variety. It however is not quite so highly colored, being light yellow. This exhibition was under

the charge of M. K. Nolan, junior partner in the above firm.

PAWNEE COUNTY.—Committee, Hon. R. H. Ballinger, Jerry Toles, J. W. Morris, T. J. Payne, S. G. Seely, and G. E. Hubbard. In this collection there were 9 varieties of wheat, one sample of Mediterranean being marked 51 bushels per acre.

RENO COUNTY.—Committee, Messrs D. D. Olmstead, Peter Shafer, A. M. Switzer, Wm. Astel, Paul Richardson, and A. F. Atwood. Their collection of grain was among the best, and the display of fruit was something remarkable.

RICE COUNTY.—Committee, Hon. Wilson Keyes, Wm. Lape, W. B. Hadlock, Ed. Brown, H. L. Millard, and Wm. English. This collection consisted of grain, plants, vegetables, and specimens of Rice County Stone.

The show in the Grange department beat anything I had ever before seen in that line and made me feel proud that I was a member of this ancient and honorable fraternity.

The show of stock was excellent. Among the short-horns I noticed the herd of W. H. Cundiff of Pleasant Hill, Mo. This herd carried off a number of 1st and 2nd premiums.

Hon. Thos. H. Cavanaugh, Secretary of state is here with his fine herd of Herefords, which of course carried off all the premiums in this class.

Hon. A. E. Smith has a fine herd of Jerseys on exhibition. They also were heavily loaded with blue ribbons.

There were about 80 head of thoroughbred horses on exhibition, making altogether the best display ever before made in the county.

The display in the poultry line was extremely good. The society needs a building for this department. Mr. J. Roe received a goodly number of premiums.

These farmers who did not get their stubble plowing done early are getting "left" as the ground has been too dry for two weeks past to plow.—Great Bend Register.

The town has been crowded with wheat during the past week and no chance to get it away for want of cars. On Monday there were twenty-nine car loads shipped from here and yet the graneries are all full.

Corn cutting is being pushed. The continued dry weather is ruining the fodder.—Garret Plaindealer.

DRY YOUR PEACHES.—Peaches are so abundant in this county, that there is but little sale for them, and many bushels are allowed to go to waste.

The farmers who have threshed their grain, report it as yielding well, except spring wheat, which is a slim crop.

The millet crop is very good, making from two to three tons of hay per acre, some measuring five feet in height.—Hutchinson News.

Some of our farmers are nearly through plowing. A greater acreage of wheat will be sown this fall than usual.

Plowing has been stopped for want of rain. G. W. Friend husked some of his corn which ran over sixty-two bushels to the acre.

What do you say to that, "Dixie"?—Sumner Co. Press.

LIST OF DISTRICT AND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES. Allen County Agricultural and Mechanical Association, Iola, September 17th to 20th.

St. Louis Produce Market. HEMP—Unchanged. FLOUR—Very dull; business almost suspended.

St. Louis Live-Stock Market. HOGS—quiet and weak; light shipping, \$3 30/35; Yorkers and Baltimores, \$3 70/80; packing, \$3 70/80.

Chicago Produce Market. FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged. WHEAT—Receipts and exports, fair demand; No. 2 red winter, \$2 35; No. 3 spring, \$2 35; No. 3 fall, \$2 35.

Chicago Live-Stock Market. The Drovers' Journal this afternoon reports as follows: HOGS—Receipts, 8,500; fat, good Philadelphia, \$4 15/20.

Kansas City Live-Stock Market. Receipts of cattle Sunday and up to present writing 60 cars, principally Texas and Colorado.

Kansas City Produce Market. WHEAT—Receipts, 90,550 bushels; shipments, 62,485; quiet and lower; No. 2, 72c; No. 3, 68c.

Leavenworth Produce Market. WHEAT—No. 3, Extra, 75c; No. 4, 72c; rejected 70c.

Leavenworth Stock Market. Beef Steers at 33 3/4c; cows, 24 3/4c.

Topeka Butcher's Retail Market. BEEF—Sirloin Steak per lb. 12 1/2c; Round " " 10c.

25 Styles of Cards 10c., 10 Best Chromos, 10c., with name; samples 3c. J. B. Husted, Nussus, New York.

60 Chromo and Perfumed Cards, no 3 alike, name in Gold & Gel, 10c. CLINTON BROS., Clintonville, Ct.

60 PERFUMED CARDS, no 4 alike, name in Chromo, Gold and Jet, 10c. DIME CO., Clintonville, Ct.

For Sale. A splendid farm in the Arkansas Valley, 3 1/2 miles south of the city of Newton, 100 acres under cultivation.

WEST JERSEY NURSERIES, WOODBURY, NEW JERSEY. GIBSON & BENNETT. 100,000 Felton's Early Prolific and Reliance Raspberry.

A GIFT WORTHY OF A ROTHSCHILD. IS BROWN'S SHAKESPERIAN ALMANAC NOW READY FOR 1879.

THE COLLEGE FARM offers for sale a choice lot of BERKSHIRE PIGS of the following highly prized families.

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CROP NOTES

The continued dry weather has proved a serious impediment to fall plowing and the result will be a smaller acreage sown to wheat this season than usual.—Montgomery Co. Kansas.

Markets.

(September 9, 1878.) New York Money Market. GOLD—Weak at 100 1/2 @ 101; bid. LOANS—Carrying rates, 3/4 @ 2 per cent; borrowing rates flat.

Topeka Lumber Market. Corrected by Chicago Lumber Co. Joist and Scantling..... \$ 22.50 Rough boards..... \$ 22.50

Topeka Retail Grain Market. Wholesale cash prices by dealers, corrected weekly by W. Edson. WHEAT—Per bu. spring..... 65

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

HOW WE WENT TO PIKE'S PEAK.

BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

Fourteen thousand feet above the level of the sea! Think of it, straight up! Distances in feet are usually computed by the hundred, and it is difficult to stretch the imagination to thousands, especially when they are vertical feet, but once on the summit of Pike's Peak, and looking down, it is easy to believe that thousands intervene between that aerial wilderness and habitable *terra firma*.

The distance from Colorado Springs to the Government Signal Station is eighteen miles, and on a recent August morning one of the gayest parties that ever went a-summering, started from the Colorado Springs Hotel under the escort of Mr. Marsh, Jr., of Marsh & Son, proprietors of the Burro Line. What is a burro? It is an animal that looks either like a stunted mule or an overgrown jack-rabbit, whichever you can best imagine. On its tip toes it stands about eight hands high, and is as sleek as a buffalo robe. Demureness on a monument; stubbornness embodied; faithfulness unrequited; ugliness spiritualized. When fairly seated in the hospitable mountain saddles which they carry, one feels as safe as in a rocking-chair. The burros pick their way over the rugged paths as daintily as a chamois and wear a shoe only two by three inches; but what they lack in proportionate size in their pedal terminations, and all other deficiencies, they make up in ears, Oh, what ears! It is sincerely hoped that the diligent student of illustrated ancient history will recognize in this useful beast the patient ass of old, for such he is, identical with the one on which Mary fled from Bethlehem.

When we turned our backs upon that most delightful of Colorado towns, and entered Bear Creek canon, we numbered six riders and seven burros. There were the bride and groom from Kansas City, Missouri, the artist from Iowa City, Iowa, and the agricultural editor and your obedient servant from Topeka, Kansas, and the guide. The bride and groom were gay because they were just married, we were gay because we had been married so long, and "the quartet" of married folks was particularly gay in comparison with the artist for he was a bachelor; but if he profits by the unsolicited advice he received during those two days, he will not long remain so.

It is the old government trail that leads through Bear Creek canon, and part of the way it is exceedingly "blind," but Mr. Marsh and the burros have made the trip so often that they know every foot of the way, and tread the romantic paths in a business-like manner that soon assures the sight-seer he may safely devote himself to the scenery. If the bride-rein is hung over the pommel and left there during the entire journey, ye burro will go at exactly the same gait and turn to the right and the left just as many times as if his mouth is continually sawed by the bit and the cudgel applied to his back, but we had proof in our party that there is something in a name. Of course each party of tourists names the donkeys to suit itself, and ours followed suit, but none of them are worth recording except the bride's. With her accustomed inspiration she christened him Rarus, and he kept the lead all the way.

The ascent of Bear Creek canon is quite gradual for several miles, and while we were wandering around between its barren looking sides and wondering when we would begin to go straight up, a pilgrim appeared before us leaning on his staff. He stood as motionless as a statue, and Rarus started up the face of a rock to make a detour around him, when the guide called out, "Move about, young man, move about, and let him see you are alive!" Whereupon the pilgrim stepped aside and asked if that was the road to the Peak. Being informed it was, he fell into the rear of our pack animal and trudged on, but it soon began to be whispered among us that he was affected with altitude, a very fashionable complaint in Colorado, and the artist invited him to ride, while he picked up a few botanical specimens. A nearer view and closer acquaintance discovered to us that he was a mere boy from near St. Joseph, Missouri, who had been sick for two weeks with mountain fever, and was then on his way up to the Lake House to "hire." Thenceforth he was known as "Missouri," and if the bridegroom had not been possessed of remarkable walking ability and under the benign influence of the honey-moon, we doubt if "Missouri" would ever have left that canon alive, for after the artist had imbibed a little altitude, he was obliged to mount, and then the groom took his feet out of the stirrups, let the tucks out of his legs, and allowed the burro to walk from under him, saying, "Here, Missouri, take care of this mule for me. I was brought up walking, and it's too much trouble to wait for him." None of us doubted the generosity of the groom, but we felt very sure that he thought it necessary also to help hold Rarus on the track, and it was impossible to get within hailing distance of him on any other burro. "Missouri" took his seat and looked grateful.

By the time we were fairly shut in the canon, all eyes began to lift ominously towards a black cloud that rolled from the mountains down into the depths of the gulch, and turned over and over like a great avalanche, growing darker and heavier as it advanced and was condensed between the rocky walls. Soon it

enveloped us, and water-proofs were called, but that did not dampen our spirits; a mountain storm was a novelty, and we had lived in the nineties for eight weeks. It would doubtless soon roll on out over the plains and scatter with the winds. All sorts of hopeful theories concerning it were indulged in, and perhaps the reality might have been dispersed, scientifically disposed of, as Kansas drouths have been, had not something else claimed our undivided attention just then. Along the opposite side of the canon and up at a dizzy height above our heads, there appeared a faint line, just a streak on the mountain side, reaching higher and higher until it crossed what seemed, from our point of view, to be the end of the canon, hundreds of feet up. It was some moments before any one ventured to ask if that was our trail, and when he did the guide pretended not to hear, for how should he know there were no faint hearts in that party? he told us afterwards that he had taken more than one woman up there who had to be carried down.

We crossed Bear creek, of course, before we began that feat of climbing. The guide tightened our saddle-girths and spoke an encouraging word to the burros. They snuck their steel-pointed hoofs into the gravel path and went up, not like a kite, but safely and surely. It was not on that mountain that we learned to look up, up, up to the vanishing tree-tops on one side, and down, down, down to the gurgling waters on the other. The steep ascent was to carry us over a series of falls in Bear creek, at a place where the canon narrowed to a few feet, and turned at a right angle. The view of the falls and the narrow defile through which we must pass at their head, made a beautiful picture from the trail, and as we turned directly toward them on the face of the mountain that was set across the canon, we had the first glimpse of the plains from a great height, and they seemed to roll away from the mouth of the canon like the billows of the sea.

To make the awfulness more awful, and to illustrate more clearly the fatality of a mis-step, the guide loosened a big stone on the edge of the trail, and sent it crashing down to the bottom of the gorge. Thank fortune we are on a broad Kansas prairie now. It makes lightening play over the soles of one's feet to think of it.

One by one we passed through the gap at the brink of the falling water, and drew a long breath as we entered a lovely grass-covered valley several hundred feet wide, through which the stream meandered and sang as peacefully as if it were not approaching that fearful leap, and above which the mountain tops towered just as high and apparently as far from us as when we left the city two or three hours before. Oh, but we felt safe when in that high-hung vale. Mountains protected it on both sides and dense pines sheltered it. There we first saw, in profusion, the beautiful crimson clarkia which so delights in that pure atmosphere, and there the birds had an abiding place.

Emerging from the valley we confronted Old Baldy, one of the highest mountains in the range, entirely destitute of vegetation a long distance below timber-line, and covered with loose, broken, angular stones. Perhaps the form of Old Baldy is as good a mountain representative as one can find. It is long and irregular, abrupt on one side and sloping on the other. It has three humps on top, the highest at one end and the lowest at the other, and all bald.

Most people are disappointed when they see mountains for the first time, in finding so few that are cone-shaped and regular in outline, particularly when they are called peaks. It does not satisfy one's ideal to see a long, broken, gradually ascending line, and be told that that is the peak. But never mind, they will be high enough, if that is all that is wanted, when they get there.

Again we saw the trail in front and above us, coming back on the other side of a canon which we had to follow to its head before we could cross, running along the precipitous sides of Old Baldy, and disappearing around the dump end. If possible this looked steeper than the other ascent, and more frightful because of the layers of flat stones above it that seemed just ready to slide down and sweep it away; but we went around it without disturbing one, and actually began to go down hill, why, we could not clearly make out, but at the end of a mile it seemed to have been for the sole purpose of taking a fresh start and going up again.

Have I forgotten to say it was raining all this time; well it was, and we did not much care. We had been told repeatedly that it did not rain in Colorado, and we had faith; but now it began to hail, and we had heard of hail storms in the mountains, too; the water began to run in the trail; the streams grew turbid and roared angrily; we put on our last relay of heavy wraps and stopped singing, but took "Excelsior" for our motto and pressed on. No one asked if there was a shelter any place nearer than the Seven Lakes, where we were going to stop for the night, though that was what everybody wanted to know, and the guide, with rare wisdom, said not a word, divining that the knowledge would make us all impatient.

Suddenly the bride exclaimed, "The water is running in a stream from the point of Rarus' ears!" and we turned, in exultation, hoping to find a proof of the phenomena which possessed our individual senses a great part of the time in those deep canons, namely, that the water ran uphill, but to our chagrin

Rarus and all his fellows, had inverted their ears for a water-shed, and true to old tradition the water was running down. No doubt this contrivance of theirs served to save the trail a great deal, for they managed to keep their footing in it and carry their riders, except in one rugged place where the rocks confined the water to a narrow space and washed the loose stones into its channel. There the writer dismounted and was conveyed over in the strong arms to which she long ago trusted her fortunes, but the bride kept her seat, and the groom and the guide supported Rarus on one side and the artist and "Missouri" on the other. He could not have fallen down—there was not room enough, but then he might have got his legs fast among the rolling stones and rushing waters if he had not had the near encouragement of those several hands and saplings.

At the next turn the mountains resounded with the welcome shout, A house! a house! It was like Land, ahoy! to the storm-tossed mariner. Upon being informed that the house and a hundred thousand acres surrounding it on all sides, as well as above and below, belonged to Mr. Jones, we immediately decided to call and pay our respects. Mrs. Jones was a missus quality, and Mr. Jones had been interviewed by the artist and "Missouri" in Colorado Springs the previous evening; so the coast was clear, and we were not tardy in complying with the guide's hearty invitation to enter and make ourselves at home. Our provisions were dry in the tin hampers provided by the Burro Line, and a crackling fire in the chimney place soon gave us warmth and hot coffee. The cabin walls were draped with dripping garments and shoes and boots marshalled on the ample hearth. Most persons know what a picnicking appetite is, but few know the relish of real Rocky Mountain hunger, another hour and the groom said he could have devoured Rarus, ears and all.

While we sat chatting and steaming by the fire, "Missouri" said, wonderingly: "And were you all strangers before this morning?"

"All strangers, 'Missouri.' And who were you, pray, that you should be here alone? Did you run away from home?" we ventured, for something in his face told the story.

"Well, no, not exactly," he answered; "I just walked away, but my folks didn't want me to come."

"You would not care if you were back again just now, I suppose?" suggested the groom.

"No, and I wouldn't have cared forty times since I struck these mountains," said the boy. "I never knew what a good place my father's house was until I got out here and took the fever; if I had, I guess I would have stayed there, though I had never been but ten miles from home in my life, and wanted to see the world awful bad."

In answer to our inquiries why he did not go home now since he had seen the world, and get well, and be contented there, he said, "No, indeed, I'm not going home until next summer. They all would say, 'He hasn't sand enough to last him a year.'" And whether you have ever read Richard Grant White, or not, you would have understood from the honest gleam in that boy's eye what he meant.

"That's because we can't get along at home," he continued, "for if there is anything our family can do, and always did do, it is to get along. But I want to see the world, and I am going to see it and pay for it myself. Father asked me if I wouldn't have some money if I must go, but I told him no, I didn't want any. I had had eighty dollars not long before that, and it may be he thought I had it then, but I hadn't. After my year is up, I'm going home to settle down and farm."

"By-the-way," said the editor, turning to the artist, "I used to know a boy in our town in Ohio by your name, Will, I believe it was, Will C., and he had a sister, let me see, what was her name?"

"Mary, I think," suggested the artist, dryly. "Why, did you know of them?" exclaimed the editor.

"Oh, yes; they were my sister and brother," "So you have been to S.!" "Born there."

And thus, after twenty years or more, two old playfellows met on the Rocky Mountains. We had about finished washing Mr. Jones' dishes when we were startled by hearing the editor ask in a conciliatory tone, "Is your name Jones, sir?" and looking up we saw a tall man in the door, with very wide open eyes and water running from his coat pockets.

"Yes, sir, my name is Jones," he answered promptly, and walked to the fire-place. "My name is Jones, and I am a gentleman; I have been twenty-eight years in the Rocky mountains; I'm a Californy forty niner and I own this park and 100,000 acres of land, I came here a rich man and now I am pauperized, and the tourists have done it all. Twenty-eight years in the Rocky Mountains, and a Californy forty niner, and this park and a hundred thousand acres belongs to me, and I am a gentleman, but instead of a rich man now, I'm a pauper, and the tourists have done it all." Then he began in the middle and unwound it that way, but it always amounted to the same thing, the tourists did it all, and Mr. Jones was a gentleman and a pauper. As to his being a gentleman, we can testify, for he said he could not turn ladies out of doors, and we

never appreciated a shelter in our lives as we did his, for we were hungry and tired and wet, and it covered us; his fire dried and warmed us, and said we were welcome. If the tourists pay toll where it is not due, as he represents, it certainly is not their fault, they do not know to whom it rightfully belongs, and we are sure everybody who follows that trail would willingly pay a small tribute for the privilege of passing through Mr. Jones' delightful park. It is a beautiful meadow covered with rich grass and watered by a crystal stream, surrounded on all sides by the great mountains, and kept in the neatest manner by Mr. Jones; his gravel walks are bordered with minerals of every hue of the rainbow, the buildings are all whitewashed, the fences were new and strong, and the little bridges which spanned the streams were rustic and graceful. The interior of Mr. Jones' cabin, too, showed a great many evidences of taste and skill, and both his chimneys and his gateposts bore his adopted coat of arms designed and executed by himself, a bear and a wolf. Before Mr. Jones' arrival we had discussed the possibility and the prudence of spending the night there, but somehow his presence moved us all to prepare for departure; fortunately the clouds lifted just then, the sun actually shone, and at three o'clock we said good-bye to Mr. Jones and started to the seven lakes.

The sight of "Missouri" shivering in that cold wind induced us to send him back to Mr. Jones to beg a night's lodging, but that gentleman told him the trail was better than that it would be in the morning, and he had better go on if he wanted to reach the Lake House soon, so he overtook us again and rode the groom's burro. Sunshine was never more heartily enjoyed than it was by us the brief time it lasted, but we had not more than opened our hearts to it until another storm rolled down the canon and we were deluged again; by the time we parted from "Missouri," where the trail branched, one leading to the Lake House, and the other to Seven Lakes, we were in about the same condition as before we took refuge with Mr. Jones. We heard him singing the "Sweet Bye and Bye" as he trudged on alone, and we assure you, dear readers, the refrain awoke fond memories in our hearts and grand echoes from the mountains. After a while we looked down on the Lake House and its lone lake from the other side of Old Baldy, which we had almost circumnavigated, and at seven o'clock reached the unfinished hotel belonging to Messrs. King and Welsh. They had put a cook stove in the kitchen only half an hour before our arrival, and had it red hot to welcome us. Nothing else could have been so well appreciated, and we stuck to it like a band of brothers until nine o'clock, devouring, in the meantime, all we had brought with us, without thought of the morrow. Then the pine shavings were gathered to the four corners of the main building which was yet undivided, and in mountain vernacular, "we shook down our blankets and turned in," Kansas City in one corner, the KANSAS FARMER in another the proprietors and the guide and the carpenters in the others, and Iowa upstairs.

The sallies of wit within those walls that night may never be heard there again, but it is probable they may hold more downy beds and finer linen next summer when they are ready for guests, and if ever they entertain a jollier party will the genial hosts please let us know? Next morning we rowed on one of the lakes, a beautiful lake half a mile by a quarter, and sixty feet deep; the bottom is covered with pebbles, and one could count them if he had time; the water is no obstruction to the vision. Water dogs abound in it, but there are few fish. This beautiful place is only one hundred feet below timber line, but it has magnificent scenery, abundant water, good hunting, and is only five miles from the summit of Pike's Peak. The hotel is the largest log house we ever saw, and when finished will contain twenty rooms. All the finishing umber has been sawed by hand from native pine trees, as the situation is inaccessible by lumber wagons. The proprietors contemplate stocking the lakes with fish and the luxuriant pasture surrounding them with milk cows for the hotel. They own 320 acres, and include the lakes in their possessions. To look at the mountains from a distance no one would guess that such a broad and beautiful valley lay between them and so near their tops.

After breakfast we started to the signal station and were three hours and a half in traveling those five stony miles of ascent. Pike's Peak, above timber line, is covered with brick-colored granite broken into fragments of every possible shape and size, and the government trail, we presume, was originally made by smoothing a narrow path through this bed of rocks, but at present it consists of a deep gully so narrow that the burros can with difficulty twist their knees around each other, and the rider must lift up his feet to keep them from being torn. Two miles from the summit the guide left the pack burro and his own and walked behind the others, continually

winding his black snake around their slender legs in order to make them move at all. The trail is so barbarous and there is so little sustenance in the atmosphere at that altitude, that the poor beasts seemed to stop involuntarily.

All the time we heard running water down among the rocks, and occasionally passed a sparkling spring, but no one cares to stop and drink with ice water beating in his face and the mercury down to 37°.

Sergeant Blake told us at the signal station that the hail storm we encountered the day before was the severest he had ever seen in the year during which he has been stationed there. He also told us that he had never known the mercury to be lower than 30° below zero, but that when at the same time old Boreas passed there at the rate of 90 miles an hour, it was ten times colder than the same temperature in Minnesota, and we do not doubt it.

The station itself is a small, flat-roofed house nearly square, with walls two or three feet thick built of the native granite, of course, and lined with felt paper. It is divided into four rooms, one for the operator and instruments, one for the burros, one for a fuel room, and the other we take for granted was a larder. An old-fashioned, ten plate stove about five feet long, with a drum of the same size above it, occupied one end of the small living room, and a well-filled book-case served for company, though during the summer months there has been no lack of that, for we were informed that visitors averaged twenty a day, and on the register we found names from every part of the United States.

Three men are detailed to that station, but they stay there alternately, a month at time, alone.

We were told, in Colorado Springs, that the first man who was stationed there went crazy; his dispatches to Washington became, so strange and incoherent that they sent some one to see what was the matter, and found him insane. The awful solitude and the strange phenomena he witnessed there had unsettled his mind, and probably few people in that isolated situation could look calmly upon balls of fire leaping from the rocks to join the forked lightning overhead, and listen to the roar of the tempest as it gathered its forces together. We are convinced that the summit of Pike's Peak must be the cloud factory for all this western country, for we saw clouds made on the spot out of invisible air, a little feathery nucleus, literally not larger than a man's hand, would suddenly appear suspended over the great crater, and in an instant filmy sprays would circle towards it from all directions, it would rise and grow and spread and before one had time to button up his overcoat it would roll over the ragged edge of that frightful hole and swallow him, the light would go out of the heavens and a dense mist would saturate his very bones. Or, it would glide out the broken side of the crater and float over the plains in a thin and rainless vapor, for when once the clouds become separated from the mountains, in that country, they disperse and vanish. Our guide told us that one man was foolish enough to descend into the old crater, last summer, and had the pleasure of spending a night there because he reached a place from whence he could go neither up nor down; he was finally helped out with ropes. Whether this is really an extinct crater or not we do not know, but it looks like one, and is a hole large enough to hold a good-sized village, steeples and all.

Just as we started to descend, the clouds sank and left the summit bare and awful in its desolation, the editor started to run to the edge to look over, but after leaping from rock to rock for a few hundred feet, he found his wind power exhausted and himself no nearer the jumping off place than before. Except where we circled round the crater there is no edge, the great pinnacle that can be seen seventy-five miles away, sharp and distinct against the sky when no surrounding mountains are visible, is really a vast, almost a level field of rocks. In the midst of this, considerably higher than the crater, which is on one side of the mountain, is the signal station.

We found the two burros browsing along side of the trail just where we left them, for grass grows all the way up until the stones completely cover the soil, and just here the clouds broke in the west over the range and showed us what we went for, the grand panorama of the mountains from above. And here any wise person would cease, words are powerless, mountains are overpowering. You may climb among canons and foothills all you will, but if you want to see mountains you must go on top. Up and down, one beyond another, range beyond range, and forever higher as far as the eye can reach, cliffs and crags cling to their sides, and glisten in the sun like so many sapphires and crystals. Round topped, pine-covered mountains, and narrow, green valleys undulating in the foreground, and were interspersed with jagged peaks and lakelets and brooks, while beyond and

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above rose the distant purple ridge of the divide.

We stopped to look while the curtain was lifted, when suddenly the sound of thunder came up from a valley beneath us, and the bridegroom exclaimed, "Halloo! they are having a thunder storm downstairs, let's go on." And on we went, right into the face of the great white monster that actually rolled up hill to meet us, and looking back we saw another coming from the summit behind us and in a moment more they met and we were circumscribed by forty feet of rocks.

The telegraph follows this part of the trail, and is supported just above the stones, for there are no tramps or children there to molest it, and there, too, we met five burros laden with wood for the signal station; it may interest some hewers of wood to know that all the five have to make four trips to carry up a cord, and it was very light, porous wood that we saw corded up there, too.

At timber line, just before reaching the point where the trail turns to the north, we saw one of the saddest sights of the journey; a grove of several hundred trees and covering a few acres of ground, had all been killed and bleached until they looked like the skeletons of a battalion of old warriors. They were all about the same height and knotted and gnarled as if to give them strength to hold their precarious footing, and they all leaned up to the mountain's breast and stretched their twisted arms in that direction as if they would take hold and climb still higher. Now they are all dead and gray but not one has fallen; they struggled bravely in life and hold the fort even in death.

All along between these and the stone beds, we saw the most beautiful little star-like flowers, both pink and white of the same species, a tiny bell-shaped blue flower in clusters, and a somewhat larger yellow one, they are all moss-like plants and the flower stems are about an inch high.

Lower down the ground was fairly blue with the harebell and the gentian. One of the charming views we had on Pike's Peak was from a bit of road just on the timber line and skirting an immense circular basin, deep and green and entirely surrounded by high mountains rising from it at about the same slope, making a remarkably regular bowl, how many feet it was to the bottom of it we have no idea, but we know everybody leaned a little toward old Pike while over it; we passed out of it through a crack in the rim, and met a party going up who said they had heard us for a long time and knew by the amount of noise that it was the same editor they had seen away up in Estes' Park a week or two before, so you see it takes more than snow or hail and rain to subdue enthusiastic travelers, especially an editor when he gets out doors after three or four years of sanctum work. As we left the back of Pike, the Lake House appeared below us, just under a ledge and through some scattering trees, but will you believe it, we went straight down one hour before we reached it, and there found "Missouri" watching for us with a luncheon of sandwiches, bless his heart! who would have thought it of the boy who "walked" away from home to see the world? We assure you, dear readers, the best wishes of the entire party were left with him and that he may reach home safely next summer, and become the brave and kind-hearted man he now promises, will be their prayer.

When we entered Iron Ute canon we never could tell, it must have been a little gully at first, or a broad depression over the top of the mountain, for we had been looking off without noticing our immediate surroundings for a while, when the guide said, "There are some beautiful falls just down there," and listening we heard the hurrying waters again. Directly we found ourselves on the brink of a waterfall, and looking down into the depth of the grandest and at the same time the most beautiful canon we saw in Colorado. For seven miles from that point to the celebrated Iron Ute Spring at Manitou, we followed the narrow track down its rugged sides, and gazed awestricken at its wonders. We were all tired when we entered it, for riding down is very much harder than riding up hill, but its magnificence rested us and recompensed us for everything; fatigue and cold and rain were all forgotten, and we were under the clouds then, so that we could see, it seemed, to the ends of the earth. A large stream of water descends that canon, and forms a great number of beautiful falls and pools and rapids, indeed, nothing of all the charming things to be seen in the mountains surpasses the water, it is so perfectly clear and pure.

If the reader will bear in mind that the water descends over immense steps, or stairs, and that the trail was a continuous inclined plane, he will have a better idea of the ever-varying scenes which presented themselves to us. For a little while we would be on the margin of a flower-fringed, limpid stream, then it would fall in a cataract to the bottom of a rocky cavern, and leave us high above it on the little shelving path, looking dizzily into the depths and wondering at the towering rocks above.

In the bottom of that canon there were solid blocks of stone without a seam or a crack as large as a small house, and piled one on top of another with marvelous regularity, considering that they had all rolled down from the top, and sometimes in the greatest confusion. In many places they were lying on the steep mountain side apparently ready to slide the rest of the way down, if they were but touched, and once we had to bow our heads to pass under one that overhung the trail and was resting on loose, continually rolling gravel. We could not see why it stayed there, and we are sure that some of these centuries its center of gravity will be upset.

Several times we crossed the stream, sometimes fording it and sometimes on rustic, arched bridges, but always at the foot of a fall, so that we could not see up the canon, and it was not until we had gone two or three miles, that the editor called out, "Can you hold on tight and look back?"

Oh, the grandeur of that scene! Nothing can ever picture it. To know it one must see it, and it would lift up any soul. Two massive pillars of rock stood at the head. High upon either side the mountains rose and melted in the clouds. In the deep crevice between them the shining water ran and leaped in its succession of cascades. Fantastic rocks and grand pines covered the great slopes and gave them an indescribable richness of coloring. Over and over again this panorama was repeated, ever varying and enchanting and awful. Once we saw the trail going up in front of us and disappearing behind a rock. "From that rise," the artist exclaimed, "we will see the plains."

A stronger light seemed to fill the canon beyond it, and we all raised eagerly to catch the first glimpse. Yes, there they lay, stretching away towards Kansas, until the horizon, like the vanishing line of the sea, looked as high in front of us as the mountains were behind. The artist had been to Europe, and he said he never saw anything in the Alps to equal that.

We looked through and over three miles of the canon yet, and the frame that is made for the ocean of level plains was the grandest that can be imagined. We have all seen cloud shadows on a meadow; there we saw hundreds of them. It was one great map of intricate patters of light and shade changing and chasing each other. But we could only look as we hurried on down, for the guide was urging the burros all the time that we might get out of the canon before dark. They seemed to take no measure of time or place, for they would stop when they were almost standing on their heads to crop a thistle from the mountain side, and we clinging to them with all our strength to keep from being pitched over their heads.

Near the mouth of the canon are the finest pine trees that grow in the vicinity of Manitou. Sometimes they covered the whole side of the mountain from the water to the top, with a solid mass of green; the tapering tips were picked out one above another, growing smaller and smaller as they receded and the trees diminished in size.

We do not find the luxuriant ferns there that grow in the wilds of the Alleghanys, but the verdure is very rich and green along the water in the lower part of the valley. The wild grasses and vines, especially the clematis and hop vines, are beautiful, and occasionally we saw a bed of small ferns under the rocks. It was so dark before we reached the carriage drive which extends a mile up the canon, that in several places we could not see the bottom of it, and could only imagine that we would find a lodgment some place if we went over.

As soon as we got down to the bed of the stream we began to see lights among the bushes, and to pass camps and white tents, and with nearly every party there was an urchin who had something to say about Pike's Peak. The new comers came out to watch our strange cavalcade pass. The tired donkeys actually jogged into a trot and took us up the streets of Manitou as if they were feeling their oats, of which they had not had a bite since we started. We dismissed them there with many thanks and took a carriage to Colorado Springs.

When we looked up to Pike's Peak the next morning, nearly twenty miles away, we could not even envy him the sight of that cloudless sunrise he had given us so much.

LETTER FROM WICHITA.

Great inconvenience and annoyance is being experienced here from the inability of the rail road company to furnish a sufficient number of cars to move the wheat promptly. Not only are all of the elevators crowded to full capacity, but every vacant room all over the city has been filled by farmers who could not find sale for their grain on the day they arrived with it. Of course such a condition of affairs is unfortunate, as it is human nature and business custom for buyers to take advantage of such an opportunity to depress prices. It will deprive the farmer of many a dollar which

is sadly needed as a return for his labor and cash expenditure in producing the crop.

The preparations for another crop are actively in progress, and notwithstanding the fact that the low price this year has allowed no profit, there is little or no doubt but that there will be an increased acreage of wheat sown as compared with last year. Occasionally a man is found who appreciates the advantage and necessity for a more diversified product and is giving attention to special crops, and to stock-raising; but the greater number learn but little from experience.

I have seen very choice fruit—peaches, grapes and melons here, and the local market is liberally supplied with them all, indicating that the earlier settlers appreciated the value of the orchard aside from the luxuries it affords to its possessors.

The city of Wichita is decidedly alive with business—more so than any place I have seen for the past five years. Eight elevators are now in operation, and the ninth, rather a small affair, will be receiving the coming week. The elevators at the city mills are now being refitted to adapt them for a forwarding and grain trade, which will add about 40,000 bushels to the aggregate storage capacity of export grain. New bins are also in course of construction at the Wichita Elevator, adding 20,000 bushels to the present capacity of 27,000 bushels. Every merchant is happy in the enjoyment of a lively trade. New dwellings, some of them quite pretentious, are being erected, and several new store houses and extensions are underway.

The prospects for a successful county fair to commence Sept. 24th, were never brighter and the management are hopeful of cleaning up an indebtedness of about \$900 this season. The premium list is liberal and they are proposing a number of novel features which will no doubt "draw" largely.

THE PROSPECT FOR HOGS.

A. D. from Champaign, Ill., gives his opinion through the *Journal of Agriculture* that the low price of hogs this season has discouraged a good many farmers, and many will abandon hog-raising altogether; especially in this case with beginners, who made a start when hogs were worth five and six cents a pound. To raise hogs and sell at two to three cents a pound dampens their ardor, and they at once resolve that there is no money in hogs, and conclude to try some other branch of farming. Now our advice to all such persons is to stick to the hogs, and try to improve on the present method of feeding, and lessen the cost of production as much as possible.

This may be done in various ways. If you have not the best breeds, do not lose and time to stock up with improved animals. The present prices of thoroughbred hogs is within the reach of all, and there is no necessity to keep on raising scrub stock. Provide good pastures of clover or rye, and see to it that the feeding is well and regularly done. We think it a good rule to adopt that hogs should weigh 180 to 200 pounds at six months old, or about a pound a day from birth. If your hogs will not do this, either you have not good stock or your feeding is not of the right order.

Do not keep more hogs than you can care for properly. It is much easier to take care of a small number and keep them thriving, and the gross weight in the end will usually be the greatest, even though the number be much less.

Low prices of hog products increase the consumption, which in turn has a tendency to raise the price. There is a steady increase in the demand from Europe, and, all things considered, we think the outlook very encouraging, and those who stick to the business will surely make money out of hogs.

Many of the farmers in Nemaha county have already commenced cutting their corn.

The editor of the Pottawatomie county *Journal* speaks of a plum patch he has visited in that neighborhood. He says:

"In this 'plum patch,' it is safe to say that 500 bushels could be gathered at the present time, besides many trees that were full have ripened and gone. There are several different varieties; some very large yellow ones. The plums found here are juicy, and of a rich, sweet flavor, and some of the trees are actually bending to the ground with their load of fruit.

The weather is most too dry. . . . Wheat sowing is the topic now. Farmers are about half through sowing and are putting in more acres than ever before. . . . Grasshoppers are rather scarce some to the Cow creek farmers just now, for they are paying them a visit and bringing their numerous family with them. We hope they will not tarry long.—*Rice County Gazette*.

J. M. Brining sold and delivered on the Rattlesnake this week, two hundred head of sheep, three and four years old, at \$2.50 per head. He has eighteen hundred and fifty head yet in his flock, all in splendid condition. Sheep-raising in this country will yet prove a profitable investment.—*Barton County Tribune*.

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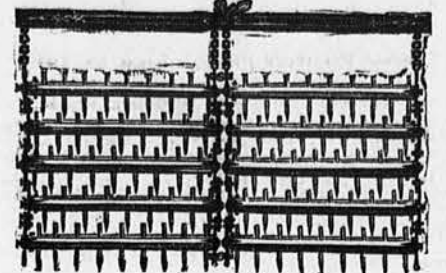
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