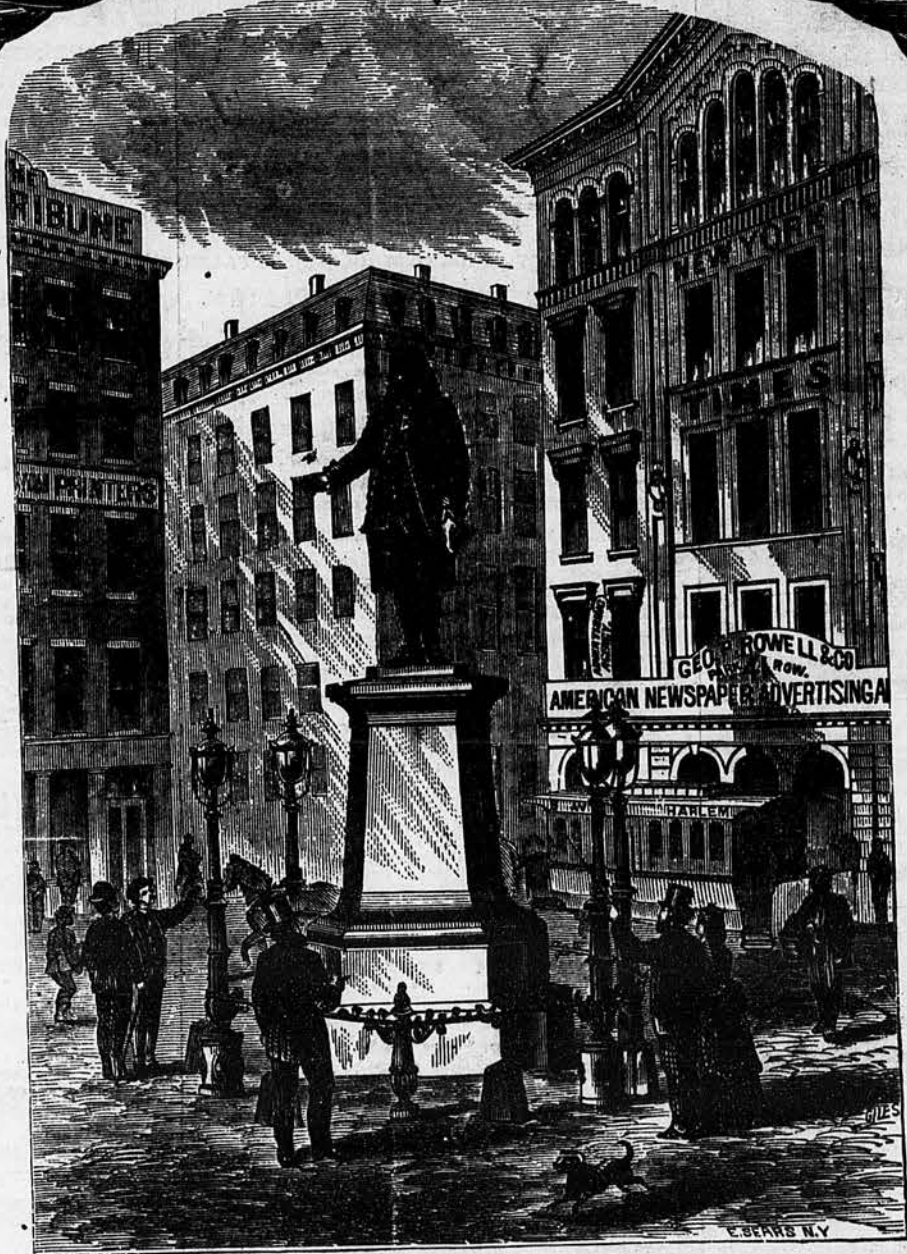


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## The Kansas Farmer

GEORGE T. ANTHONY, Editor.

A. G. CHASE, ASSISTANT EDITOR.  
MISS M. E. MURTFELDT, ENTOMOLOGICAL EDITOR.  
B. S. CHASE, VETERINARY EDITOR.

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#### TIMBER PLANTING, AND HOW TO DO IT: AN ADDRESS, DELIVERED BY DR. JOHN A. WARDER. [REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE KANSAS FARMER.]

At a meeting of the citizens of this place and neighborhood, hastily called together by Mr. S. T. KELSEY, of Pomona, on motion, that gentleman was called to the chair; when he announced the object of the meeting, by introducing Dr. JOHN A. WARDER, of Ohio, who, he said, had been lecturing in Kansas, and who would now offer some remarks upon *Tree Planting on the Prairies.*

The speaker announced that his first introduction to the beautiful lands and hospitable people of Kansas had been a little over two years ago, when he had come to this very town, then a smiling village at the end of the railroad, to attend the meeting of the State Horticultural Society, and to see more of the famous Kansas fruits, which had created such a sensation at the Pomological Congress in Philadelphia. These, however, he had seen in the light of their beauty and perfection, when crowned with the laurels of their triumph in the receipt of the gold medal at that great exhibition. But he had had another object in visiting Ottawa. He had a friend, the chairman of this meeting, with whom he has spent days and nights discussing a theme of the deepest interest to them both, and of the greatest importance to the prosperity and happiness of the country, \* \* \* timber planting; \* \* \* and he had come to Kansas, from his far-off home, to see the progress of Mr. KELSEY's labors in the great work of producing an artificial forest. He had found the small beginnings of trees, planted upon the prairie sod, upon an area of sixty acres, no mean experiment.

The speaker then said he had now again come, not only to see the town growing and thriving, but to watch the corresponding growth and promise of the artificial grove, the planted forest; and that, despite the wintry aspect of Nature, clad in her snowy mantle, he had to-day walked for miles among those young trees upon the College grounds, observing with the deepest interest their growth and condition. He thought that perhaps his hearers, the citizens themselves, did not fully appreciate the importance of this great experiment, which was progressing beside them, and demonstrating truths that would be of the deepest value to all portions of the great West which is just opening out beyond them, now exposed to the winds, but which will have its climatic conditions vastly modified and meliorated by human agency in tree planting. Here the pioneers of civilization must plant trees, as elsewhere they had destroyed them, to make the land habitable. He fully believed this must and could be done, and that the most happy results would follow from extensive, or general, but diffused tree planting, which could not fail to exert the desired effect upon the climatic conditions of the country.

He had been much gratified with what he had seen to-day. Most of the young trees were growing handsomely; some of them had made wonderful

progress; but his friend KELSEY might expect that he would offer some criticisms upon his wide planting. Such had been volunteered at his previous visit, and he would again say that he preferred setting the trees more closely; but he admitted that himself had much to learn in this new industry, and that he willingly placed himself at the feet of the man who had already planted sixty acres of timber on this prairie. He admitted that the plan proposed by Mr. KELSEY, to induce the people of Kansas to plant trees and grow corn between them, for three or four years, was perhaps the best policy. If they would only do it in this way, it was better than not to plant at all. He was the more willing to make concessions, because he had himself proposed a modification of his plan, while among the young trees to-day—where the slower growth of the walnuts was observed, with the alternating cottonwoods and maples towering above them. The suggestion was this: To plant the oaks, walnuts and chestnuts two feet apart in rows twelve feet wide; cultivate for two or three years in corn, planting two rows between the trees; then to set this space with one row of cottonwood or maple, intermediately between the first planting. The whole plantation would then be six by two feet. In two or three years these introduced nurseries would overtake the first planted trees, force them into an upward growth, and make them fine timber trees, with clean, straight stems; after which, they would need to be gradually thinned out.

The lecturer then proceeded to give his views of the best method of proceeding to create an artificial forest; or, as he expressed it—

#### HOW TO DO IT.

Having fully satisfied our own minds, and, it is hoped also that of others, that the planting of timber is *necessary, desirable and profitable*, not only for the general comfort and convenience of the commonwealth, but for the advantage of the planter and his heirs, it will now be well to inquire *how to do it.*

#### SELECTION OF THE LAND.

There are on almost every farm some portions that are more or less broken, and indifferently adapted for cultivated crops. On the most level farms there are knolls and swells, or ravines and swales; but in the hill country there are steep declivities, which are more or less rocky, or at least stony. All such lands may be made to produce good crops of timber, and should be so appropriated, to cover them, and to prevent the necessity for cultivation, or the loss and inconvenience of having them neglected, eye-sores, and briar-patches, wastes secreting vermin, and giving the whole farm an untidy, neglected appearance.

In a champaign country, where the whole surface is arable land, and where there are no waste spots to occupy and embellish with timber growth, any portion of the property may be appropriated to the grove; but here it will be well to make it also a shelter-belt, by planting one or two strips of the



land on the windward side—say the west and north. This strip should be sufficiently wide to protect itself and the rest of the farm, or from four to eight rods. Mr. BRYANT advises a strip of eight rods on two sides of every quarter-section of land. All along your rivers in Kansas, the bluffs and abrupt hills should be planted largely; and they are admirably adapted to the growth of some of the most valuable timber trees.

**PREPARATION.**

The land should be well plowed and harrowed. If new prairie sod, the trench plow will make the best preparation; if old land, any good plowing will answer. Like any other crops, the timber plantations are benefited by a thorough preparation of the soil for the reception of the seeds, cuttings, or young plants. The former, when large nuts, may be planted at once in their permanent stations; but both seed and cuttings are usually grown in nursery rows for one or two years, or until large enough to transplant. If the land be very broken and rocky, this thorough preparation cannot be given to it, and all that can be done is to clean it up, by grubbing and removing the weeds and briars that may be found among the rocks, to clear the way for the trees and to dig the holes for their reception.

**PLANTING.**

In planting the larger trees or nuts, a further preparation is needed, by marking off light furrows with the plow, into which they are dropped either in drills or at the intersection of cross furrows, in hills, as for corn. The seeds may be covered with a light furrow, or by hand with the hoe. If young trees are set out, it will be necessary to dig holes for them with the spade; and in planting them it is desirable to pack the earth very firmly about the roots. This is particularly recommended with young conifers, especially the larch. It is also desirable to plant as early in the Spring as labor can be done, after the soil is dry enough to work pleasantly.

It has been recommended to grow a crop of corn preparatory to setting out the trees; in which case this work may be done in the Fall, planting a tree beside each hill. The stalks, or even the stubbles if cut high, will afford protection to the young plants. Spring planting may also be done in a corn-field, and the corn hills will furnish a guide to the planter, that will bring the trees in line with sufficient accuracy.

In the rocky and stony hill-sides which are appropriated to timber planting, where thorough preparation must be impracticable, it will be necessary to dig holes with the spade and mattock. This is the course usually pursued in most of the extensive plantations in Europe, where labor is cheap; but we prefer the more thorough preparation of the whole field, where practicable, if only on account of the cheaper planting. When the ground is well prepared, the planting of a great many kinds of young trees is a very simple affair. The spade is thrust deeply into the soil, and a cleft is opened, into which the young tree is placed; when the spade is reversed, and again thrust down and drawn toward the plant, compressing the soil against the roots. When we have to do with the more valuable kinds of trees, however, and especially with evergreens and larches, or when setting trees of a larger size, more care is required; the holes must be dug, and the plants set by hand, bringing the earth among the roots and upon them, and then tamping it closely.

When handling the young plants, the workmen should be very careful to keep the roots from becoming dry. This is especially requisite with resinous trees, and with the *magnoliacea*, such as the tulip poplar. With some of the more hardy sorts, like the cottonwood and soft maple, a very primitive process is often employed. The little trees are simply laid along with their roots in the furrow, and covered with the plow, after which the whole land may be rolled. Of course, the trees will not be erect; but this makes little difference, for vigorous

shoots will spring from near the collar, making straight, upright stems the first season, after which the old stems may be removed, or allowed to be smothered and die.

**DISTANCE.**

There has been a great difference of sentiment and practice among those who have discussed this subject, as to the proper distance to set trees in a timber plantation. Many persons have erred by planting too wide, few by setting too closely. Both extremes may seem to follow nature. In the mature forest the trees are widely separated, it is true; but in the young forest they are closely crowded together, and where so crowded the finest timber trees will be the result. When scattered, either in the natural forest, or widely planted in the artificial grove, the trees branch low, and spread out their limbs like apple trees in an orchard. Where fruit is our object, this is well enough; but not when we desire to produce timber. The widely planted trees will require much labor in trimming them into shape, all of which may be avoided by close planting.

A want of practical knowledge on this point prevailed in the councils of some of the Legislatures, when providing for a bounty on timber plantations, in which "the trees should not be more than one rod apart"—a distance sometimes taken for orchard trees in prairie region, with eminently successful results in fruit crops.

Many of the older locust plantations were set at this distance, and more were planted eight feet by eight feet; but the best practice, with almost all tree planting, is to plant closely. Five feet, and five by six, is still recommended by some planters; four by four feet is better, and some advise three by three. Mr. EDWARDS, of Illinois, says he would set larches three by three, as nurses for pines and spruces planted among them every twelve feet.

Hickories, chestnuts, elms, and all such trees as may be used for hoop poles, where they are in demand, can be planted in close drills, thickly; so that in four or five years a crop may be removed, leaving the thinned trees at a greater distance, as they begin to require more space to develop themselves.

Mr. KELSEY recommends planting twelve feet by two in the row, so as to grow corn between the trees; and the nurses may be set as intermediate rows, after taking two or three crops of corn.

**CULTIVATION.**

When planted in arable land, the young trees should be thoroughly cultivated, at least during the early part of the season, after which a little wholesome neglect may be permitted, which will allow the growth of a few weeds, that may prove serviceable as a protection to them during their first Winter. While small, the two-horse or sulky cultivators can be used among the trees; but after the first year the common double-shovel will be needed. Late in the Autumn it may sometimes be well to throw a light furrow with the turning plow against the small plants; this can be of service only the first season, and is intended to protect the trees from heaving by frost. In most soils the hoe will be needed, as well as the plow and cultivator, during the first Summer; but in after years the weeds will have little chance for the mastery, unless where the land is very foul, and the trees unthrifty. In rough, rocky lands, cultivation will be out of the question.

**TRIMMING.**

When the plantation is made thick enough, there will be very little need for trimming the young trees. Nature will effect this sufficiently, by her own process of smothering. It may often happen, however, that some species will produce double leaders, one of which should always be shortened or removed entirely. The side branches will soon die and fall off, when the tops form a canopy overhead. This is not the case with wide planting; if they have room to spread, the trees will be branched, and it often happens that several of these branches will strive for the mastery. When this

occurs, all but one should be shortened, or if small, removed. In selecting the leader among these, it is not necessary that it be upright, but if inclined away from the stem, even if nearly horizontal, the limb will become erect and make a good leader. If a tree here and there appear stunted, it is a good practice to cut it off at the ground in the Winter, and it will be reproduced by a vigorous shoot from the stump. Though often a desirable practice in the lawn or ornamental planting, this plan is not often required, however, in the forest, as all stunted trees will soon fail in the crowded plantation, as the natural thinning occurs.

**THINNING.**

Thinning the young forest is a matter that will ever require the exercise of sound judgment; nor can it be directed by a set of rules, indicating the days and years when it should be done. The object of thick planting is to give the trees an upward growth, without side branches; but when this has been attained, we must watch lest the plants become too crowded, and choke one another. The period when thinning may become necessary will depend upon the variety planted, and on the rapidity of their growth; some will need it sooner than others, but as a general rule, the plantation should be thinned before the trees are much drawn. If in drills closely planted, the supernumeraries must be cut out, taking always the poorer trees, and leaving the stronger with sufficient room for further development for a few years. If the planting has been done in squares, every alternate tree, or where the rows are close, every other row, may be taken away at the first cutting. The thinnings may be left upon the ground to decay, or may be removed if wanted for any economical purpose. In a few years the same process will again be needed, as the trees continue to grow upward, and are in danger of crowding one another. Every alternate tree may now be taken away, which will give the plantation sufficient room to go on growing for another term of years, developing into trees of more useful size and greater value.

Theoretically, the thinning may be done according to the subjoined diagram; but this may be varied in practice, owing to any irregularity of growth, or especial demand for the larger or smaller trees. Thus, at the first thinning of a plantation, made four feet by four, if the plants are of even size, taking every alternate tree in a row—say, all those marked by figure 1; the remaining half, those marked 2 and 3, will stand six feet apart each way, or they may average that distance.



At the second planting, by removing those marked 2 we shall clear out every alternate row, and the remaining half will stand eight feet apart. Pursuing this plan, the next thinning (usually the last) will extend the spaces to twelve feet, at which distance a great variety of trees may remain for a long time.

This diagram shows how the thinning may be done systematically and successively, so as to preserve the proper distances between the trees to allow of their fullest development in the course of their growth. It is called *theoretical*, because we



cannot expect that all will grow evenly alike, and there will necessarily be some deviations from any such precise plan.

Ottawa, Franklin Co., Kan., February 16, 1872.



#### ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

BY C. H. OUSHING.

**EDITOR FARMER:** Will you please answer the following questions through your valuable paper: Would it be an injury in setting out Osage hedge to plant every twenty feet a deciduous tree in the hedge row, say soft maples?

Ornamental trees may be set in hedge rows, if no larger than hedge plants when set, and set at the same time. The trees should also be at considerable distance apart, (say thirty feet), and be trimmed well up, so as to afford the hedge plenty of light. The soft maple is a gross feeder and might starve the hedge plants near it. The Osage itself, with its shiny, deep green leaves, makes a handsome tree, though not large, and plants may be left at regular distances to grow up. If any of our readers have experience in this line, let us hear from them.

Will the Editor of THE FARMER, or some other competent person, state in THE FARMER what would be about the right proportion of Summer, Fall, and Winter apples, in an orchard of one hundred (100) apple trees, and what sorts, tried and sure, should make up the one hundred trees, for Southern Kansas? **THOMAS CHAFER.**  
Sumner City, Sumner County, Kansas, Feb. 6, 1872.

Our correspondent does not state whether he wishes to raise fruit for a near or distant market, or for home use. Very different lists would be given for these different purposes. In THE FARMER for February, 1870, the following list was recommended for a farm orchard for all purposes:

#### FARM ORCHARD OF 100 TREES.

5 White Winter Pearmain;	5 McAfee's Nonsuch;
3 Early June;	*15 New York Pippin;
2 Early Harvest;	*4 Cooper's Early White;
2 Fall Pippin;	5 Jonathan;
2 Bailey's Sweet;	5 Kirby's Red;
3 Swaar;	*5 Lowell;
3 Northern Spy;	*8 Maiden's Blush;
3 Rhode Island Greening;	*15 Rawles' Genet;
5 Rome Beauty;	*15 Winesap.

This is a very good list, but would not answer for special locations and purposes. It is more a family orchard than a market orchard. The great apple market calls for but a few varieties. A half-dozen well chosen apples will produce more money than forty of the best sorts grown. If Mr. C. would grow fruit for market, we judge from his location that he would do well to plant largely of Winter varieties, and if he has a good cellar, of long keepers. Willow Twig should by all means be added to the list—you can hardly plant too many. Maiden's Blush if for near market. Red June, Swaar, Lowell, R. I. Greening, Kirby Red, McAfee, and Genet, may be cut down some.

Another point: On the prairies an orchard may profitably be set very close (say 15x15 feet), and when the limbs touch, take out every other tree—the even numbers in the first row, the odd numbers in the second row, and so on alternately. With this in view, we would plant more than half the orchard with Ben Davis, making every tree that is to come out of this sort, and several besides. It bears very early and always sells quick, and if the public ever do get disgusted with it (and they seem very slow about it), why, make fire-wood of the trees. The Genet and Winesap should be so placed that cultivation and manure may be given—both pay well for them.

SECURE a copy of RBYANT'S Forest Tree Culture.

#### THE TURKEY FOR PROFIT.

It is not every person who can raise turkeys, as some we know have found out; but those who have enough patience, care and thoughtfulness, to succeed well with this, the finest of our domestic birds, will be well rewarded for all the labor bestowed, if they will start a flock of turkeys.

Years ago, it was no uncommon sight to see flocks of these fowls, sometimes numbering two or three hundred, being driven to market as we would hogs; and to-day the rearing of turkeys forms no small part of the profits of many a New England farm.

The first six weeks of a turkey's life are always fraught with dangers and trials; and during this period they require unceasing care and watchfulness; but after this period, but little trouble will be found in rearing them, beyond the depredations of vermin.

The principal difficulties met with before this period are, the disposition of the mother to wander about with her brood in early morning, while the grass is yet wet with dew, and the gapes. If these two difficulties can be met and overcome, turkeys may be as successfully raised as any other poultry.

The profit from a brood of turkeys is very large; and there is no other fowl that will consume so many worms and insects as this.

SCARCELY a week passes, that we do not receive letters from our readers, telling us of their high appreciation of THE FARMER, and the good work it is doing for Western farmers. We ask the cordial cooperation of all our readers, to help us in extending its circulation. See our Club terms on third page.

WHO WANTS A WATCH? Who wants a Library? Our premium list tells you how to get them on easy terms.

#### "TURF NOTES."

BY "HORSEMAN."

In our last issue we noted the loss, by death, of two valuable high bred trotting colts, the property of Messrs. SPRAGUE & AKERS. Again, in this number, we are compelled to chronicle a more unfortunate loss to these enterprising gentlemen, by the death of the well known fast trotting mare, Dutch Girl. She was rarely bred, being sired by the famous race horse, Grey Eagle. She had a public record of 2:20½, obtained in her first appearance upon the trotting course; after which she was purchased by Col. AMASA SPRAGUE, at \$10,000.

THROUGH the courtesy of Mr. L. BRODHEAD, the accomplished manager of the famous Woodburn Stud Farm, of Kentucky, we are placed in receipt of Mr. A. J. ALEXANDER'S catalogues for 1872. In the list of thoroughbreds we recognize scores of illustrious names, who, in their exploits upon the American turf have won an imperishable name. At the head of the Woodburn Stud, and indeed of all others, stands the blind hero, "Lexington." Associated with him in the harem we observe imp. Australian, Asteroid, Planet, and a late acquisition, imp. Glen Athol. Among the brood mares, seventy-eight in number, the following distinguished names appear: Alabama, dam of Red Dick and Dickens; Alice Jones, dam of the hurdle Jonesboro; Banner, dam of Bonita; Bay Leaf, dam of Bayflower, Beacon, Bayswater, Bayonet, Niagara and Preakness, the winner of the "Dinner Party Stake;" Bettie Ward; Bonnet, dam of Pleasureville; Britannia 4th, imported, dam of Madam Dudley; Canary Bird, dam of the great Harry Bassett; Dolly Carter, dam of Joe Daniels; Eagless, dam of Grey Planet, for whom Mr. BELMONT paid \$10,000; Edith, the dam of Stonewall Jackson; Eltham Lass, imported, the dam of Kingfisher; Idlewild; Kate Kayts; Katona, the dam of Metairie; Kitty Clark, dam of Anna Clark and Maiden; Lavender, dam of Helmbold; Lightsome, dam of Salina, who last year placed the fastest mile on record; Lilla, dam of Gen. Duke; Liz. Mardies; Lizzie Morgan, dam of Morgan Scout; Lulu Horton, dam of Killdare; Mildred, dam of Stamp and Monarchist;

Miriam, dam of Magenta, Mamona, Merrill, Marion and Hollywood; My Lady, dam of Onward; Novice, dam of Norfolk and Newry; Varona, the dam of Vauxhall and Foster. Add to these the fashionably bred trotting stallions Woodford Mambrino, Belmont and Harold. At the annual sale of the produce of these notables, which occurs upon the fourth Wednesday in June, we hope Kansas will be represented.

AND now comes the prince of horse literature, employed by the N. Y. Sun, who, in a recent issue, inflicted upon its readers his remarkable intelligence in connection with horse matters. The cheek possessed by a man who can get off such stuff as is contained in the following paragraph, must certainly be frigid and metallic in its composition. Hear him:

WILLIAM H. KETCH speaks in the highest terms of Mr. ROMER'S celebrated stallion Edward Everett, and says he is sure to have the mares prove with foal. Everett is the sire of Joe Elliot, who trotted a mile at six years old in 2:18½. In addition he is the sire of VANDERBILT'S Mountain Boy, Humphrey's colt, Judge Fullerton, the Kilpatrick mare, the Marshall colt, the Packer colt, Mr. Low's colt, and a large number of trotters of note besides. Everett will stand for mares at the Lagrange Farm in Orange county from April. Many of Everett's younger colts are developing extraordinary speed and commanding high prices. Among these are the Stratton mare, half sister to Lottery, and the McGrath colt. Edward Everett was sired by Radick's Hambletonian, dam by imported Margrave.

It necessarily follows that KETCH should speak in the highest terms of Mr. ROMER'S celebrated stallion (Phoebus! what a misnomer!) Edward Everett, when it is reflected that KETCH occupies a position upon the whitewashing staff of Mr. ROMER, similar in rank to that of a dog-rubber upon the staff of an army officer. We will admit that Joe Elliott is a remarkable trotter; but he is not accredited with a 2:18½ record. The trial (a private one) in which Elliott was reported to have accomplished the feat, was only witnessed by a few particular friends, in consequence of which he can lay no claim whatever to the time. Persons conversant with the rulings of the trotting turf "know how it is themselves" in regard to this private time business. And further, as there is no Mr. ROMER, who owns Edward Everett, nor a Redick's Hambletonian, who this Bohemian states is the sire of Everett, all this talk is more "graphic" than intelligent. Shades of "Larkin" or "Marius" be with this knight of the pencil, when again he attempts to write "horse!" A still tongue, &c.

THE Sun again slops over with the following astounding intelligence, to-wit:

Dexter, the property of ROBERT BONNER, Esq., trotted on the Fashion Course, Long Island, in June, 1867, a full mile on the outside of the track in 2:16. This is the fastest mile that ever was trotted in the States. Dexter also trotted a mile and twenty-seven feet at Buffalo, Aug. 14, 1867, in 2 minutes 17¼ seconds.

This item sufficiently indicates that the Sun (a shiner for all), in connection with a turf journal published in the East, is also engaged in the washing of BONNER'S dirty linen. Dexter, in the heat referred to, trotted against Ethan Allen and his running mate, and was won by the team who took it "straight," while blaze and white legs had to content himself with "sugar" in his'n, the bulletin revealing 2:15, 2:16 and 2:19. And again, in consequence of circumstances over which certain parties in the East had no control, Dexter's 2:17¼ at Buffalo, was retired in favor of Goldsmith Maid's 2:17 at Milwaukee, last Fall.

THE National Trotting Congress.—In obedience to the summons issued by the Secretary, Mr. GEO. H. SMITH, of Providence, R. I., the Congress met in annual session at the Burnett House, Cincinnati, February 7th, for the election of officers for the ensuing year. Eighteen Associations, representing ten States, were present and participated in the election, which resulted as follows: Col. AMASA SPRAGUE, of Rhode Island, President; GEO. H. SMITH, of Rhode Island, Secretary; T. J. VAIL, of Connecticut, G. C. HALL, of New York, H. S. RUSSELL, of Massachusetts, C. J. HAMLIN, of N. York, C. W. WOOLEY, of Ohio, Hon. K. C. BARKER, of Michigan, D. A. GAGE, of Illinois, and G. H. BAMAN, of New York, Board of Appeals. The re-election of Col. SPRAGUE is a distinguished honor, and



a fitting acknowledgment of his rare executive ability and former worth. In the choice of Secretary, another equally acceptable could not have been made. Mr. SMITH has been its Secretary since the organization of the Association, and upon all occasions has given ample evidence of his ability to cater for the exigencies of the trotting turf.

**COLT STAKES.**—Now that the rearing of trotters is becoming such a prominent feature in the industrial pursuits of our State, we would suggest to the various stock-growers the propriety of arranging a series of colt stakes. The long list of entries in produce stakes, throughout the East, demonstrates the interest that is being taken by breeders of trotting colts. To those who rear these colts, the trial with the get of other horses is invaluable. It is not only an advertising medium, but a practical way of comparing their speed, breeding and merit. Competition will necessarily place the standard higher each year; and the higher the standard advances, the more valuable the breeds become. Let the gentlemen who have the destiny of our State Fair in charge give this matter a consideration, for they cannot but have awakened to the fact that the entire success of last year's Fair was due to the magnificent displays in the arena.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

**A LETTER FROM A WAYFARER.**

BY U. N. O.

**EDITOR FARMER:** Lawyers like, at times, to read something else than law; physicians occasionally relish other literature than that which treats of physiology and physics; ministers are sometimes regaled by worldly reading matter. It is also to be hoped that editors find some enjoyment in other writings than their own—though neither you nor your readers may find much in this article.

Impressed with the facts stated, it has occurred to my mind that many of the readers of your valuable magazine would like some *light* material, as a *dessert* to the substantial nourishment of your theories and dissertations on fruit-growing, stock-raising, and general farming. I will endeavor, therefore, in a common sense way (and common sense, you know, is very uncommon), to have a pleasant talk with your patrons.

In this communication I will speak briefly of the common, and I may say unwise, disposition of parents who by fortunate circumstances, or as a reward for years of earnest work and economy, are beyond the absolute necessity of working for a living, to rear their children without any instruction or experience in manual labor. Most parents, prompted by motives of genuine love and affection, aim to give their children better advantages in life than they themselves have had; and in their catalogue of advantages they omit those series of bitter experiences and those early years of toil and anxiety which they themselves have passed through, and class those as misfortunes; but fill up their list with ease, luxury, book learning, polished manners, and position in society: adding to this for their boys, perhaps, a profession.

This interest in their children's welfare, and the ambition for the promotion of their condition, is commendable. Let us consider, however, whether the course now generally pursued is wisest and best.

I do not deprecate education. I highly esteem it. I do hold, however, that manual labor is honorable, and that it is a great and grievous mistake to think, teach or practice, that education must necessarily place a man above a trade, and make him rely upon his wits for a livelihood and position, which his hands should help earn.

Parents well-to-do in the world, as the expression is, generally mark out for their children a course of preparation for life something like this—an education, a profession, with money to start them; and then, they think, will follow most naturally, position, honor and wealth. In all their plans they omit some of the great essentials of permanent suc-

cess—namely, habits of industry, familiarity with work, which shall engender a readiness for it, and self-reliance. They leave out these, and are consequently disappointed to finally discover that some poor, self-made man or woman is outstripping their own offspring, whom they have surrounded with such advantages.

One has earned his education, and won his advancement by his own hard work, struggling against the odds of money and friends; and that very experience has been just what he needed, and was, in fact, a blessing in disguise; while the other was provided his education and position in society, and thus, from the inactivity of his innate resources, he became enervated and dependent, and when he is burdened with the duties of a man, he finds that he has only the strength of a child. The parent may have, probably has, toiled and planned untiringly for the wealth he has attained, and the recollection thereof, fraught as it quite likely is with feelings of repugnance and regret, blinds his reason to the fact that it was an experience, in honor and duty, more to be prized and sought than deprecated or shunned.

I pay no deference to the aristocracy of wealth. The only true aristocracy is that of the mind. Money is powerful; riches are the source of great enjoyment; but poverty is no disgrace, unless it is the penalty of sin and improvidence. Let us consider whether, the world over, the men who are most useful, and who approach nearest to a fully developed manhood, are not those who—most of them commencing poor, but all of them appreciating the necessity of work to success—have, in all the stages of their advancement, been industrious; and have by their example illustrated the dignity of labor. A college diploma is not, in itself, a shibboleth to prosperity, and money alone cannot substitute such elements of success as self-reliance and experience provide.

We can see, all around us, practical illustrations of the advantage which habits of industry and willingness to work, give a man in public or ordinary business life over one, however well educated and however rich, whose habits and culture are such as to have left him but a novice and raw recruit in the world's everyday battle.

I remember a story of a man who had been elected to some office, and then requested a judge to qualify him. The judge told him that he could administer the oath of office, but the Almighty alone could qualify him. So with many of the positions of public and business life; a father's money may provide them, but experience and honorable industry alone can properly qualify for them.

The points I wish to make are, that duty to one's self and one's children dictates that he should, for their good and sure prosperity, teach them to respect labor, and see to it that they acquire and continue habits of industry. It is really a *sin* against God and a great wrong to children, to rear them in idleness. "An idler's head is the devil's workshop." Whatever degree of luxury may surround a person from childhood to manhood or womanhood; whatever educational advantages they may enjoy, and however well they may have been improved, they are not yet armed and equipped for a creditable career in life, unless they have also learned how honestly to work, plan and provide for themselves, and have, from actual contact and participation therewith, attained a sympathy with and appreciation of the practical elements of our busy life.

Without these essentials, they are like a man who, having studied military tactics thoroughly, but never taken part in a company, battalion or brigade drill, or had any experience as a soldier, is given command of a regiment and forthwith called into battle. His personal courage may save him from disgrace; but his knowledge of tactics, without experience in the ranks and as a subaltern, does not save him from defeat. Let parents realize these facts, and bring home to their reason the truth that a child is benefited, and not hurt, by being taught—

I may say compelled—to work at something, and been impressed with the duty of honorably employing his time. "A boy should be brought up in such a manner that, when thrown out into the world he will strike, like a cat, *squares* on his feet."

With the uncertain turnings of Fortune's wheel, a man now rich may soon become poor; and in such an event he is blessed indeed if, besides health, pluck and hopefulness, he has a trade or business experience and fitness to work, to fall back upon. Certain inexorable laws of labor and remuneration, merit and reward, must be recognized and obeyed, or in some way a penalty will be demanded.

Earth gets its price for what Earth gives us;  
The beggar is taxed for a corner to die in;  
The priest hath his fee who comes and shrives us,  
We bargain for the graves we lie in;  
At the Devil's booth are all things sold,  
Each ounce of dross costs its ounce of gold;  
For a cap and bells our lives we pay,  
Bubbles we earn with a whole soul's tasking;  
'Tis Heaven alone that is given away,  
'Tis only God may be had for the asking.—Lowell,  
*Leavenworth, Kansas, February 26, 1872.*

**"BOOK FARMING."**

BY JAMES HANWAY.

**EDITOR FARMER:** One of the most common objections made against subscribing for an Agricultural paper is, that there are so many diversified and conflicting opinions on almost every subject written on, that after you have read and studied over them, you know no more than you did before you commenced. The mind, in place of being able to solve the problem, becomes confused and vasculating. This I find to be at least one of the most common objections to what is called "book farming," and the farmer, who, by his education and early habits, still clings with tenacity to the old, venerable notions and sayings of his great grandfathers; who, by the by, are always fortunate to have been born in some highly favored locality, far away over the mountains, or across the great ocean.

These are the class, who are the most difficult to gain access to. Their minds are already crowded with ideas, or notions; and I have thought sometimes it was indeed cruel to disturb them. When the mind is like a *tabula rasa* (sheet of white paper), impressions are readily stamped upon it; but when it becomes filled with grotesque impressions, and they of long duration, it takes more than ordinary effort to displace them. This class of humanity, however, we find always ready to controvert an opinion which they consider erroneous, when advanced in the family circle. They will advance their theory or notion on any given subject, with all the dogmatism which is always accompanied with a mind possessed of few ideas; and they not generally well digested. They cannot perceive the similarity between recording their thoughts on paper, where hundreds become the readers, in place of the units. In one case, the instruction is imparted orally; in the other, the inventive faculties of man have given us the printing press, which has multiplied a thousand-fold the facilities to spread the opinions of men, in the shape of characters which may be read and understood by all.

The advancement of knowledge and scientific truths, at the best, makes but slow progress; why impede its progress and retard its divine mission?

When men of learning and ability first advance a theory, they publish it to the world. It then undergoes a thorough ventilation, through the ordeal of criticism. If in course of time it is recognized as a truth, it gradually spreads among those who are little troubled with abstract questions. At first, it is received with doubts and suspicions; for the human mind is reluctant to receive any ideas contrary to its usual habit of thinking.

Only a few years since, a publication devoted exclusively to Agriculture, was not known. What did he who plowed the ground, and tended the cattle and hogs, want to know what others said about these every day transactions of life? Had he not eyes and capacity to study all the known laws of



vegetable and animal life? Certainly, his experience alone was worth all the books and publications ever known. Theory and speculation—what have they to do with farming? So men reasoned fifty years ago; and still there are some who find comfort and consolation in confining themselves in this narrow and contracted field of observation.

Facts and experience are what we all are in need of; but this should not prevent us from theorizing. Test your theories by experience. Many an important truth first originated in the visionary tabernacle of the brain. If, by accident or chance, you are the lucky recipient of some new fact, some valuable knowledge, which will increase the productions of animal subsistence, do not keep it concealed in your own bosom, but take up your pen, and record the evidence in THE KANSAS FARMER, or some other valuable auxiliary to the spread of useful knowledge; and then others will become benefited, and you will at least feel a gratification of joy that you have lived to cast your mite in the great laboratory of knowledge, to advance the interest of Agriculture.

Perhaps there are not a half-dozen pomologists in the State of Kansas, in making out a list of apples, for our climate, would agree in every particular. Men's tastes are, if you please, strangely diversified. I find one star given to several varieties of apples, to which I should have given two without any hesitation; but yet, with all this difference of individual opinion, he who would accept the whole list, as voted by the members of the Society, cannot go far astray. It is the best that can be done; and it is of great value to the young novice, and the recent immigrant, who contemplates planting out fruit trees. In place of becoming irritated, and putting on an air of dignified disgust, from the varied notions and theories of agricultural writers, we should feel rejoiced; for a moment of serious reflection will convince any thinking man that it is the only possible way to sift the chaff from the wheat—facts from theories—hasty conclusions from immature experiments.

Lane, Franklin Co., Kan., Feb. 20, 1871.

#### CHESTER FARMERS' CLUB.

BY R. E. TAFT.

EDITOR FARMER: The regular meeting of this Club was held at Chester School-house on Monday evening, January 22d; President R. E. GARDINER in the Chair, and R. E. TAFT, Secretary.

Mr. J. E. VOORHES read an essay on "Orchards and Orchard Sites," containing sound advice. He recommended the following, to compose a good family orchard:

*Summer Apples*—Early Harvest, Red June (ripe in July), Sweet Bough and Golden Sweet (ripe July to September).

*Fall Apples*—Maiden's Blush, Fall Wine, Fall Pippin and Rambo (ripe August to September; keep till December). For a late Fall and Early Winter apple, I especially recommend the Golden Russet.

*Winter Apples*—Winesap, Willow Twig, White Winter Pearmain; and for late blooming varieties, the Jonathan, Rawles' Genet, Kansas Keeper and Ben Davis. These varieties, after a practical test, I have found to succeed well in Kansas.

Mr. GARDINER agreed with the essayist in regard to high lands for orchards, and purchasing trees of home nurseries. He had lost heavily by ordering trees of Eastern nurseries. Thought one reason was, that Eastern trees were not adapted to this climate; another, that all the worthless trees of Eastern nurseries were shipped West.

Mr. STARKWEATHER had paid a New York nurseryman forty dollars per hundred for trees, set them out, and half died; had turned the other half out to the rabbits. He bought other trees from a Kansas nursery, and did not lose one.

Mr. DANIELS thought that every farmer should set out an orchard, according to the time and attention he could give to it. Thought that twenty-five

trees, with good care and cultivation, were better than four hundred with the same attention.

Mr. VOORHES said that now, while the ground was frozen, farmers having bearing orchards should mulch heavily with damp hay or straw, as the mulching keeps the frost in the ground till late in the Spring, thereby preventing the trees from starting till after Spring frosts. Also, keep farm stock of every description out of the orchard.

Mr. STARKWEATHER asked the following questions: What time to prune? What to cultivate in orchard? How to protect trees from rabbits? What aged trees to set out? Proper distance apart to set trees?

Mr. VOORHES—Prune any time; best when there is no foliage on the trees. Grow hoed crops in the orchard. Tie corn-stalks around trees. Two-year old trees succeed best with me. Set trees twenty feet apart.

Mr. DESHAYER—Kill rabbits, and rub blood and flesh on trees. Two applications in one Winter will save your trees.

Mr. STARKWEATHER thought it would be a good plan to kill off all the rabbits, and save all this trouble.

Mr. TAFT—The law protects rabbits, when such a plan could be successfully used. He wondered that the Legislature didn't make a law protecting rats, skunks and gophers. Rabbits are a greater nuisance than either of the latter.

Mr. DANIELS would set trees sixteen feet apart, and cut out every other tree when they got too thick.

Mr. BRADFORD did not approve of such a plan. Had set his trees twenty feet apart.

Mr. J. L. VOORHES had found from experience that twenty feet was too close. Would set thirty feet apart after this.

Mr. TAFT preferred an upland northern slope for an orchard site. Would set trees thirty feet apart. When the orchard came to bearing, seed down to orchard grass, and mulch every Winter.

Mr. GASKILL—Is the dwarf pear a success in Kansas?

Mr. DANIELS—It is, if the trees are bought from Kansas nurseries.

The Club then adjourned, to discuss the varieties and flavor of some choice apples on exhibition, from the orchard of Mr. J. C. VOORHES. This venerable horticulturist is noted as a man of great faith. When he came to Kansas, seven years ago, his inquiries were met with the usual answer: Kansas no fruit State. Not at all discouraged, he prepared a small piece of land, and set out two hundred and fifty fruit trees; and for the last four years he has enjoyed the blessing of plenty of fruit, from July to May of each year.

At the next meeting this Club will discuss the subject of Small Fruits.

Chester, Jefferson Co., Kan., Feb. 22, 1872.

#### WHEN TO PLANT FOREST TREE SEED.

BY P. KUHN.

EDITOR FARMER: A great many inquiries are made in this county, Sedgwick, how and when to plant the seeds of forest trees. If you would publish an article on the subject, you will confer a great favor on the settlers here. Send me a dozen or two copies, and I will try and get a subscription list for you, and will send you the money for your copies by return mail.

Newton, Kansas, January 22, 1872.

EDITOR FARMER: Mr. KUHN, of Newton, Kansas, and others, can gather the seed of the black walnut, hickory, oaks, honey locust, coffee bean and box elder, soon as ripe in the Fall, and put out in boxes or beds a few inches deep, mixed and covered with moist, not wet, sand or saw-dust till Spring; then plant in good mellow earth, the nuts two to three inches deep—the smaller seeds one to two inches deep.

Catalpa and ailanthus seed should be gathered in the Fall, and may be kept dry or put in moist

sand till Spring opens, and then planted in mellow, moist soil, one to one and a half inches deep. Soft maple and elm seed should be sowed soon as possible after it ripens, which is early in May. It should be planted quite shallow, in fine, moist soil; and if dry and hot when the plants first come above the ground, they should be shaded for a few days.

Cottonwood and willows are best grown from cuttings ten to twelve inches long, cut in Winter and planted early in Spring. Hedge seed may be soaked for two weeks in running water, or it may be soaked for five or six days in warm water, and then spread out in beds, and mixed and covered with moist sand or saw-dust till it begins to sprout, and then sowed in good mellow soil about one and one-half inches deep. I usually plant about the time the whitethorn is in full bloom.

For further information, I would refer to ARTHUR BRYANT'S new book, entitled, "Forest Trees for Shelter, Ornament and Profit." It is a thoroughly practical book, giving full and reliable directions for the planting and care of almost every kind of tree that is grown in America. It should be in the hands of every Kansas land-owner.

Truly, S. T. KELSEY.

Pomona, Kansas, January 22, 1872.

[NOTE.—The book spoken of by Mr. KELSEY, "Forest Trees for Shelter, Ornament and Profit," by ARTHUR BRYANT, Sen., can be furnished from this office, at publisher's price, \$1.50 per copy; or will be given as a premium to any one who will send us four subscribers to THE FARMER, at \$1.50 each.—ED. FARMER.]

#### THE WEDGE SHAPED HOG.

BY W. W. TIPTON.

EDITOR FARMER: While I have been much pleased with the articles published in your paper, headed, "The Hog: Its Diseases," &c., I must think the writer has made one bad mistake. It will be found in the issue of February 1st, and reads thus: "Taken as a whole, the hog should be wedge-shaped, tapering from behind forward. This is essential." Now, I must confess that were I breeding and raising hogs for profit, in any form, I would never allow a wedge of any shape to be fixed in my ideal of a perfect hog. I have raised hogs by the hundred, and fed them by the thousand; and from personal knowledge, I would always select a hog as I would any other stock. The first thing, in domesticated stock, is the constitution. In order to have this, the animal must have a well developed shoulder.

Had the writer left out this objectionable sentence, he would have left a grand mark, or contour, for the perfect hog. I am satisfied that a few small pet breeders may take their pleasure in breeding entirely for the ham, and hold up the wedge or cone as their ideal of perfection in contour; but I would be very sorry that either this class of breeders, or those of the ground mole shape (all shoulder and no ham), should be the future ideal of perfection in the minds of the pork producers of Kansas.

I would say further, that in crossing breeds I would always select my sows of the larger, and my males from the smaller, of the two breeds, when pork and lard is the object. However, I infer this to be the intended instructions of the writer, from the most excellent crosses he recommends; yet one might be led astray in the remark, that "in the sow we look for a finer contour and more gentleness"—which is the case as to sex in any one breed; but a pure bred Suffolk or Essex boar is much finer and more compact than sows of the larger breeds. This explains the reason for my preference to always select my boars from the smaller breed.

At our Fair last Fall I saw some as fine models of the hog, bred in our county, as I ever saw anywhere. Among others was the Poland-China; and this hog, under the names of the Magie Improved, the China, Berkshire, &c. And now, I venture to say that if any person left there with the wedge-shaped hog as his model, the pen of wind-splitters alone were his ideal of perfection.

Burlington, Coffey Co., Kan., Feb. 14, 1872.



## The Kansas Farmer

### FOREST TREES FOR Shelter, Ornament and Profit

BY  
ARTHUR BRYANT, SEN.

THIS IS THE MOST THOROUGH AND PRACTICAL work ever written upon the subject, and should be in the hands of every Farmer in the State of Kansas. It tells you

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#### REUNION OF SOLDIERS.

The announcement that there was to be a reunion of the soldiers of the late war, at the capital of our State, on the birth anniversary of WASHINGTON, did not awaken pleasing anticipations. "A Reunion of Soldiers!" These were words of intense meaning and resistless thought-awakening power with us. They carried us back to that hardest battle and costliest victory in the experience of every true soldier—the conflict of duty to family and duty to country, and the victory of patriotism over selfishness and sentiment.

They recall the hour of enlistment, the camp of rendezvous, the day of muster, and that sad day of departure for the field of duty, when every drum-beat crushed a cherished hope or smote a loving heart with unutterable anguish. We see again every form and face in the ranks of the first "dress parade;" and remember, too, each vacancy death made in those ranks in the years that followed, whether by the hand of sickness in camp, or the hand of the enemy in a baptism of blood upon the field. Thought rests not until the life-wasting days of camp monotony, the weary track of marches, and all the wild, weird experiences of war are recalled with a vividness scarcely less real than the actual.

Then comes the sickening remembrance that no earthly bugle can assemble our comrades. Too many of them are encamped upon the other side, where our camp-calls cannot reach them. And of the survivors, who served with and had an experience in common with us, few, if any, will be there. Surely, such a reunion, save to the soldiers of Kansas, will be a mockery of pleasure.

We went to Topeka depressed and hopeless of satisfaction, except from a gratified curiosity. When there, the presence of so great a multitude only served to make us more lonely. But time soon dispelled the cloud. There was such a warm heart-greeting, such an expression of manly affection, as comrade met comrade, on street, in hotel—everywhere—as to interest and assure every one who had seen service in the field.

It is to be regretted that arrangements were not made, either by States or armies, to bring together those who had a common interest in the local incidents of the war. There are enough in Kansas from the armies serving between Washington and Richmond; as also of the Tennessee, and other distinctive organizations, to form and maintain an interesting and profitable organization. These organizations would be a basis for a grand reunion of all, that would have system and bring satisfaction to each participant.

The affair was a success, and has made "reunions" a necessity in Kansas. The people of Topeka were unsparing in their liberality and labor to make every one at ease. The ladies will never be forgotten for the entertainment spread for the thousands,

and maintained from commencement to close without apparent diminution in supply or quality.

We have not space for speeches or details. They were good enough in their place; but the feature was the touch of palm to palm and the beat of heart to heart, in a sentiment too pure and sacred for utterance from rostrum or balcony.

The next Soldiers' Reunion is determined for August 10th next, at Lawrence. Every soldier will look forward to it as a sure promise of a good time.

In the last three weeks we have sent out a large number of premiums to agents, including books, spoons, washers and wringers, gold pens, pocket knives, &c., and from many of them we have had no response informing us of their safe arrival. Will parties receiving premiums please acknowledge the receipt of any of these articles, by writing us?

#### OHIO AGRICULTURE—TRIAL OF INSTRUMENTS.

Dr. JOHN A. WARDER, writing from Columbus, February 23d, informs us that the Ohio State Board of Agriculture, of which he is a member, is in session, and already determined location and time of holding Fair. He says:

The State Board of Agriculture has been in session for several days, and has accomplished a great deal of work. The members have revised the premium list and have made a most liberal offer to exhibitors. The Fair, to be held September 2d, has been located at Mansfield, Richland county, in a populous region, accessible by most of the great lines of railway that cross the State.

The trial of earth-workers will be held near Springfield, Clark county, on Tuesday, June 18th, prox., when a thorough testing will be had by putting them into the ground and passing them through the crops of various kinds. This will be continued, by a carefully selected committee, under charge of the Board, until an exhaustive trial is had.

This occasion cannot fail to attract competition from several Western States, and will be largely attended by interested visitors from every part of the Union.

Dr. JOHN A. WARDER, S. T. KELSEY, and every other prominent tree-grower, recommends BRYANT'S Forest Tree Culture, as the best work on the subject in the language.

#### THE FRANKLIN STATUE IN NEW YORK.

We present our readers, on first page, with a cut of the Franklin Statue, recently erected in N. York.

The statue is of bronze, twelve feet in height, and represents FRANKLIN in a full court dress.

There is a movement on foot to place a statue of HORACE GREELEY by the side of FRANKLIN, in Printing House Square.

No words of eulogy are required from us in regard to BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. His life and history are as household words, and his name is embalmed in the hearts of the American people, both as a statesman and a philosopher.

#### "SOUL GRAPES."

That success incurs envy, and envy begets malice, are truths constantly brought to the surface by human action, in all the phases and relations of life. That it is true, as we have assumed, is no less lamentable than undeniable. It is a test of character that few men, and hardly more women, can stand without reproach. How many idols have been set up by individuals and communities, as standards of honor and excellence, who have stood every test but this. Men and women, who have seemed to be the embodiment of justice and the soul of candor, until in an evil hour they found themselves second to a competitor in business success, or a length behind in the race for fame, when envy took possession of them and poisoned the fountain of manhood at its very source.

This result, always painful, is intensified when the victim is one the people have been delighted to honor, and in whose good name, confidence has taken deep root. You, reader, have in your mind now more than one who, in the church, in business, or in politics, have made themselves a fit original for this picture of depravity.

We have one in mind, also, whose misfortunes have awakened these reflections. It is no less a man than N. C. MEEKER, long and favorably known to the country as a clear-headed, honest-hearted man, devoted to the industrial interests of the coun-

try as Agricultural Editor of the New York *Tribune*. Through the *Tribune* he spoke to the million, who at first listened, then believed, and finally trusted in him. By some strange freak, the philanthropy of this good man became mixed with the spirit of speculation, and his conscience confounded with corner lots, to such an extent that he went out from the Agricultural sanctum of the *Tribune*, for new and more profitable fields of labor.

How he went to Colorado, and pitched his tent by the waters of the Platte, and called his new possessions there "Greeley;" how a colony was worked up and brought together from all parts of the East, through confidence in MEEKER and his endorsement by the New York *Tribune*, are facts well known. But the sad experience of that colony, in attempting to raise crops in irrigated alkali beds, is not so well known. Nor has it been published abroad, that "Greeley," as a colony, proved as much of an elephant for MEEKER, as is GREELEY of the *Tribune* as a Presidential candidate for the Democracy.

Well, Mr. MEEKER found the tide of emigration setting no farther than Kansas. His Colorado bubble didn't blow up worth a cent. He got impatient; the milk of his goodness became awfully sour, and the very marrow in his bones rancid. Those who saw him at home last Summer will bear us out in these declarations.

Now let us see how these untoward circumstances have changed the candid, truthful MEEKER.

In a late number of the Greeley *Tribune* he makes the following drive at Kansas. After stating that thousands of barrels of Kansas apples were shipped to Colorado the past season, most of them being "Genetins," he says:

Generally, this is a first-class apple, but poorer apples than these same from Kansas we never tasted. In a barrel a bushel might be eatable, but the rest were no better eating than raw potatoes. They are without color or flavor or character. Made into sauce or pies they spoil good material. Sawdust would make as good sauce, chips as good pies. A barrel of average Michigan apples is worth a car-load of these Kansas swindles.

Oh, unfortunate, fallen MEEKER! when you were Agricultural Editor of the *Tribune*, no one supposed you would ever fall so low as this. You knew when the above lines were written, that not a barrel of these apples grew on Kansas soil. You knew that Kansas did not produce one-fiftieth part of the apples her people consumed. You knew that the apples raised in Kansas grew upon young trees, exceedingly fine, and of unusual size. You knew that neither Michigan or any other State, produced finer, fairer fruit, than Kansas; that these apples of which you complain, grew upon the soil of Missouri, or some State other than Kansas; that the only responsibility or connection Kansas had with them was a purely commercial one. They were bought east of Kansas, and shipped west of it by Kansas dealers.

Verily, *Envy* hath done its work, and *Malice* is now master of MEEKER.

#### THE WEDGE SHAPE.

Elsewhere we publish an interesting letter from W. W. TIPTON, of Coffey county, one of the largest hog breeders in the State; and we might with propriety add, one of the best.

It will be seen that Mr. TIPTON takes exception to the concluding sentence of our remarks, giving our ideas of the form and shape of a perfect boar as given on page 47, issue of February 1st; in which we say, "Taken as a whole, the hog should be wedge shape, tapering from behind forward. This is very essential."

We are glad that Mr. TIPTON has opened the subject, as it gives other breeders an opportunity to present their views; and if our ideas are not sustained by them, we will with pleasure, "acknowledge the hog."

The point that we desired to press in the above article was, that in selecting a type of a breeding animal, we should endeavor to get as much weight behind the ribs as possible; and that a hog, in looking at it sideways, or as we might say, in taking a perspective view, should be wedge shaped. Be



fore that we had laid down rules to insure size, health, &c., and in the concluding sentence, we desired to insure as much of the *best meat* as possible, and the proportion of this class of meat is greater in the wedge shape than in any other.

In the Berkshire and the Essex, two breeds that are universally conceded to afford a larger proportion of net to the gross weight, than any other breeds, and they almost universally taper from behind forward. Having this idea in mind, it occurred to us that if we could fix this habit, this wedge shape, upon the Poland China, Chester Whites, &c., we would develop the most desirable size and form for the Western farmer.

We may add, that for the last two or three years, the Poland-China has gradually been approaching this shape; and a little care in selecting sows from this breed, and boars from the Berkshire or Essex, will give us the best animals for fattening purposes. What say the breeders?

#### RUST IN WHEAT.

The Report of the Department of Agriculture revives an old theory, as follows:

It is at present well established that rust in grain is produced from the spores of a microscopical fungus growing upon the barberry and various rough-leaved plants, alder, &c. These, falling upon the cereals and other grasses, develop very rapidly, and in turn yield the summer spores of a similar character, by which the affection is propagated with inconceivable quickness. The winter spores, which are produced last, form on the first-named plants other fungus growths the next year, and thereby secure the continuance of the rust from season to season. The proper methods of preventing grain from taking this affection, consist, first, in extirpating the barberry and other trees mentioned from the vicinity of the grain fields; next, the grain should be cleaned with the utmost care, so that no seeds of the fungus-bearing plants may be introduced into the field in the sowing, and thus aid in the development of the disease; and finally, no manure should be applied to the grain-fields in which any straws are mixed that have come from rusted plants, and, in fact, straw of this character should be burned as the most effectual method of protection against the spreading of the disease. If used at all as a manure, however, it should be kept for grass lands or fields in which grain is not raised.

#### AN ERROR CORRECTED.

Last Fall, in reporting the State Fair, from causes that we cannot understand we credited Mr. O. W. BILL, of Riley county, with raising a certain specimen of Tappahannock wheat, that was raised by HORACE EELLS, of that county. Not only so, but we have, on one or two occasions since, committed the same error, always speaking of the crop in the highest terms.

It is only quite recently that we learned of our mistake, and we take this opportunity to make the correction, in the hope that we may repair the damage we must have done to Mr. EELLS' feelings. Mr. O. W. BILL is a good farmer, and an excellent judge of stock; but we wish our readers to remember that it was HORACE EELLS that raised ten acres of Tappahannock wheat, averaging  $37\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre.

#### CLOVER SEED.

Few of our farmers, in the extreme West, appreciate the value of a crop of clover seed. In Indiana, Ohio and Michigan, and States farther East, clover seed has become one of their most important crops; and by many farmers it is made the principal reliance for money.

It is about as certain a crop as corn, requires but little labor for its cultivation, and the expense of cutting and threshing is not great.

On the worn-out lands of the East, the average crop is from three and a half to four bushels, while many of the best farmers average five bushels per acre. For the last ten years we do not remember

that the retail price has been below six dollars per bushel, and it is at this writing from seven to eight, making the price that the farmer might reasonably expect to get, from four and one-half to five dollars per bushel.

In addition to the seed, our farmers could have a certainty of two to three tons of excellent hay for every acre raised; as the seed crop does not come until late in the season, and most seasons, with us, the after-math following the seed crop would afford excellent pasturage for the milk cows; although, if seed be the leading feature of the clover crop, it should be pastured very little in the Fall.

With our soil, and under favorable conditions, we believe that we could average from six to eight bushels per acre.

If you want a copy of the new book on Forest Tree Culture, by ARTHUR BRYANT, without cost, send four subscribers and six dollars to THE KANSAS FARMER, and we will send it to you as a premium, free of postage.

#### A GOOD HORSE-POWER.

There is nothing of more value upon a farm, than a good, well arranged apparatus for applying the labor of horses to much of the farm work, such as sawing wood, churning, pumping water, shelling corn, grinding or cutting feed, running the fanning mill, threshing, &c.

Mr. WM. F. JONES, of Easton, Kansas, has recently invented and patented a combined power designed specially for his churn, which we spoke of in a recent number, but suitable also, for all the ordinary farm work above mentioned. It is cheap, durable, and perfect in all its operation, and will meet a long felt want. The churn designed to be operated by this power is large, and suitable for those who keep from a dozen to fifty cows. Mr. J. is himself a farmer, and appreciating the difficulties the farmer labors under for want of cheap and efficient horse-power, set his ingenuity to work, with the above result. We can fully recommend it to the attention of our readers.

BUY YOUR HEDGE PLANTS at the Salt Creek Valley Nursery, Leavenworth, Kansas.

#### THE POULTRY YARD.

With good care and attention, the hens will commence laying steadily the first days of this month; and by the first of March, we would indulge any of them that wanted to set, with a supply of eggs. Pounded bones, sand or gravel, scraps of fresh meat, chopped liver, &c., are the articles of diet that the poultry need, and should be furnished with a liberal hand.

While upon this subject, we would remind our readers that it costs no more to raise a good chicken than a poor one, while some of the improved varieties are worth considerably more for eggs or food, than the common stock of the country.

We do not believe in farmers paying any fancy prices for new and untried species, but at the same time believe that they can afford to pay a fair price to stock their yards with some of the imported breeds.

Among all of the breeds of chickens, there are three varieties that we can confidently recommend: the Brahmas, Houdans and Dorkings; and our preference is in the order these three are named.

The Brahmas have an undoubted superiority over all other breeds, as *Winter* layers; and it is for this we especially value them. Taking the whole year through, we are satisfied that the White Leghorns will lay as many eggs as the Brahmas.

The Houdans are a peculiar looking bird, and the best continuous layers we know of; but they are not especially valuable as *Winter* layers. They are a fair table bird.

The Dorkings are conceded to be the best bird for table use in existence, of the chicken kind. They are not a large chicken, but have a very large proportion of meat to the offal, and the flesh is of excellent flavor.

There is one other fowl that we desire to call

special attention to; and that is the Cayuga duck. For those who have grounds suited to ducks, we know of no fowl that will give better satisfaction than this one; and those who enjoy good eating will seek no farther, after having once tasted Cayuga duck. Aside from this, they are good layers, and very handsome.

Poultry keeping is generally admitted to be very profitable, at least in a small way; and it is an avocation well suited to the women and children on the farm. If they are provided with good stock, we warrant that, in their hands, the poultry will be the means of bringing to the farm-house many articles of comfort, convenience and pleasure.

A COPY OF BRYANT'S Forest Tree Culture sent free upon receipt of \$1.50.

#### A HEDGE LAW.

BY A. G. C.

There is a movement on foot in different parts of the State, as we see by our exchanges, to have a general hedge law passed at this session of the Legislature.

The fence question, viewed in any light, is a vexatious one; but it is one that the farmers of the State must meet fairly and squarely, and the sooner the better.

Heretofore, the question of fences has been fully and freely discussed in our columns, and in other papers of the State; but we doubt if the effect has been other than to confirm the fence and no-fence men still stronger in their own peculiar views.

It is evident that the State, as a State, will have to adopt some line of action upon this subject, and do away entirely with this township and county legislation, which at best is but a "man of straw," and rarely or never accomplished what it intended.

If the question was submitted to a popular vote of the people, whether we should have fences or no fences, we are satisfied that a large majority would vote in favor of fences; and we say this, keeping in mind all that has been said in favor of the no-fence system.

But, believing this to be true, we also know that there is a large minority of our population who earnestly and sincerely believe that the no-fence system is the best; and also, that there are a large number of farmers in the frontier counties who as yet are unable to fence their farms entirely; and both of these classes should have a proper respect paid to their views and wishes.

We are of the opinion that a compromise can be effected upon the proposed hedge law, and that it will not seriously injure any considerable part of our population, but will benefit the thousands of young farmers and poor men who are striving to make a home for themselves upon the treeless prairies and in the beautiful valleys of Kansas.

The law, as we have noticed it in some of the papers, proposes to make a hedge (of Osage Orange, we presume) one year old, a legal fence.

To pass this law, and have it take effect *at once*, would be ruinous to the thousands of farmers who are engaged in stock-raising and dairy farming, and would seriously impair the financial resources of the State; but if this law can be passed and take effect *two or three years hence*, we believe it will meet with no serious opposition, as it would enable the wealthier farmers, and those engaged in stock-raising, to partition off their farms—a consummation devoutly to be wished for by all interested in improved farming; and would also enable the young farmers and new immigrants to start a hedge-row around their farms.

When we consider how cheaply a hedge-row may be started, and how rapidly it grows, as we have said, we do not see that there can be any serious objection to such a law.

Such a law would, undoubtedly, stimulate the planting of hedges, and they in turn would be of vast benefit to the State as an isothermal measure.

BUY YOUR HEDGE PLANTS at the Salt Creek Valley Nursery, Leavenworth, Kansas.



**DOUBTFUL.**

THE KANSAS FARMER says "Very few of our Western farmers consider themselves settled for life. Ninety-nine of every hundred will sell out if they are offered a slight advance upon the cost; and most of them are continually looking out for a purchaser." The cause of this is probably in the fact that farmers at the West are disappointed in their expectations of its advantages.—*New Hampshire Mirror & Farmer.*

We ask the *Mirror & Farmer* if what we have said of the West is not equally true of the East? We think that paper assigns an unfair reason for the migratory habits of our population. Not one in ten thousand of those who sell ever leave the West; and we ascribe their desire to sell out rather to that inward something that controls all of us, to see something better in the future, led on by the goddess Hope.

THE successful farmer is the one that reads—uses his brains as well as his hands. It is poor policy to attempt to get along in this world in any business, without calling to your aid the experience of others in the same business. THE KANSAS FARMER compiles the experience of thousands of farmers during the year, and presents it to its readers in a practical shape. Hence, every good farmer should subscribe at once. See Club terms elsewhere.

**THE PAY IN ADVANCE SYSTEM.**

A notice in an Agricultural exchange, speaking of the above system in regard to newspapers, says:

Payment strictly in advance would, of course, be the plan most convenient for the publisher, but it has been found by experience to cause more dissatisfaction and trouble than the other, and to be more prejudicial to the interests of the newspaper.

The paper states in the same connection that they always send their paper to all subscribers until ordered to stop it.

We think the whole credit system, in regard to newspapers, is wrong, and are surprised that any should keep it up. In the same column that the above appears is "a request" to all to come forward and settle up their accounts. This is almost invariably the case with those papers that do a credit business.

There may be some little excuse for local or county papers, that come in contact with their readers three or four times a year, to credit them a year's subscription; but even then, no paper should be sent to a man a moment after the time for which he has paid has expired, unless he signifies a desire to have it done.

Any other course than this seems to us to involve the dignity of the publisher, and to wrong the subscriber.

**BETTER CROPS.**

There is no fact better established in Agricultural matters than that our crop yields are too small. It seems almost ridiculous that we should be satisfied year after year to raise twenty bushels of wheat per acre, when it has been demonstrated time and again that forty bushels can be raised. It seems ridiculous that we should be satisfied with fifty bushels of corn, when it has been proven that one hundred bushels can be raised. Twenty bushels of wheat, or fifty bushels of corn, over and above what our neighbor raises, makes a profit that no good farmer can afford to lose, and the extra labor that is required to raise this larger crop is very little indeed. But to do it requires some knowledge and foresight, and this is scientific farming. To do it, we must have a radical change in our style of farming. We must give our land better tillage and culture. We must grow less grain and more stock. Instead of growing corn year after year upon the same land, we must grow wheat, clover and rye. On new ground grow corn two years, sow rye the second Fall early, turn under in the Spring, and plant to corn again, seed with wheat in the Fall, and clover the following Spring. Let it stand to clover two years, and it is ready for corn again one season, wheat the next, and again seeded with clover. Every acre of old ground in the State that is now in wheat should be seeded to clover this Spring, and arrangements should also be made to seed to wheat all the old ground that will be planted to

corn this season, or at least, as much of it as can possibly be spared. If our farmers expect to make money out of their farms, they must adopt some such system as this, and follow it up for a series of years.

BUY YOUR HEDGE PLANTS at the Salt Creek Valley Nursery, Leavenworth, Kansas.

**OUR CORRESPONDENTS.**

Z. N., of Anderson county, Kansas, thinks J. H. views the herd law, or night law, from a one side point. He says: "J. H. is one of our most enterprising farmers, and a view of his farm will convince any one of this fact, and the reason the herd law has proved a failure with him, is that he resides in Washington township and owns a homestead in Lincoln township, where the night law is in force, and he has kept a large herd of cattle off his homestead, consequently he was compelled to herd his cattle at night, hence the failure. (?)"

As you know, Mr. Editor, the southern part of this county is destitute of timber, yet possesses as good prairie as the State affords. Unless the settlers can have a night law, it will be impossible for them to remain on their homesteads and support their families.

School District No. 7 has a Lyceum in good running order, but there is some talk of changing it into a Farmers' Club.

Stock is wintering well; feed abundant and low in price, viz: Hay, \$2 per ton; corn, 20 cents; oats, 23 cents, &c.

J. W. BEATY, of Stanton, Kansas, thinks John ENDSLEY gave the true reason, in his letter to THE FARMER, why so many orchards fail to produce satisfactory results, in saying that, "in order to get rid of one of those unmerciful tree-peddlers, he agreed to take certain trees and shrubbery, instead of going to a nurseryman that he was acquainted with and getting his trees fresh from the nursery." I wish to say a word about the Horticultural Society. It recommends two stars for the Red June for both family and market; one for the Early Harvest, or market and garden; one for the Sweet June, for family, and one for market. I have four Red June, one Sweet June, and two Early Harvest trees, all the same age, set at the same time, and all in bearing five or six years. Every year the Sweet June bears more and better fruit than the four Red Junes. The two Early Harvests yield fully as much as the four Red Junes, and is a better cooking and eating apple than the latter. Rawles' Genet and Yellow Bellflower are given two stars for both purposes; while the White Winter Pearmain gets but one. I have four Genets that don't bear as much any season as any one of fourteen of the Pearmain. One bushel of the latter will sell for as much as one and one-fourth or one and one-half of the Genet, in Southern Kansas. The Yellow Bellflower is a good apple, but does not bear as well with me as the Pearmain, and I cannot keep the former later than the middle of January, while the Pearmain is easily kept until the first of May."

W. R., of Solomon, Kansas, writes: "The past season witnessed greater improvements in Dickinson county than any previous year, and the voting population has nearly doubled. All the towns within the bounds of our county have had a healthy growth, and the county seat (Abilene) has made unprecedented progress. The crops last year were exceedingly fine, some crops of wheat yielding forty bushels per acre. I raised last year two excellent crops of Early Rose potatoes on the same ground. The first crop was planted in March, the second crop the last day of July, using for seed some of the first crop. The last crop was dug in October.

"I send you some seeds of a pumpkin that I raised, that gave a remarkable growth of vine, at least. From a single seed there grew a vine with one hundred and six branches, that measured, in the aggregate, 1,368 feet. The pumpkins were very

large, one measuring four feet four inches the short way by six feet six inches the long way. They seem to be a very late variety.

"Winter has been very severe, and vast numbers of Texas cattle have died, as I believe, from habitual constipation. The Texas cattle trade, with its attendant evils, has been a great curse to this county.

"Can you tell me where I can buy a thoroughbred Cotswold Buck?" We are compelled to refer this question to our advertising columns.

N. A. W., of Park City, Kansas, asks the following questions:

"1st. What is the method of cultivating Peanuts?"

"2d. Does cotton grow and yield well enough in this State to make it a staple crop?"

"3d. What is an average yield of onions in this State?"

"4th. What is the best system of raising water for irrigation from a well that is inexhaustible and where the water stands within eight feet of the surface?"

The first question has been repeatedly answered in these columns. Briefly: A rich, loose soil, finely pulverized and deeply plowed. Mark off shallow four feet each way and plant the nuts at each crossing, slightly crushing the shell, and cover about two inches. Plant as early as weather and soil will permit. *Keep down all the weeds*, and plow as far as you can both ways. As the vines bloom, draw the loose earth over them, and follow up this practice as long as they keep in bloom. Harvest before frost.

In regard to the second question, we have heard of some fair crops of cotton being raised, but would not like to risk it as a staple crop.

An average yield of onions is from fifty to seventy-five bushels per acre; have known more than double this to be raised of the Red Weatherfield, the variety we consider best for family or market, of the seed onions.

We doubt the necessity or policy of irrigation in that county (Sedgwick). Would recommend in preference, *thorough draining*. If tile cannot be obtained easily and cheaply, use stone. The only or at least the cheapest system of raising water from such a well, would be by means of a pump, worked by a wind mill.

W. A. RICHEY, Corresponding Secretary Hampden Township (Coffey county) Farmers' Club, writes: "Permit us to inform your numerous readers, that in accordance with a call published in the *Burlington Patriot*, the citizens of this township met at the school house and organized the Hampden Farmers' Club. The following officers were elected: C. TOMLINSON, President; C. W. SCHAUTES, Vice President; J. T. LEST, Recording Secretary; W. A. RICHEY, Corresponding Secretary; A. HOLLAND, Treasurer.

The herd law was discussed and the following resolution adopted unanimously:

*Resolved*, That the Herd Law, now pending in the Legislature, would be detrimental to the interests of Hampden Township, Coffey county, Kansas.

Subject for discussion at next meeting—"Variety and Culture of Potatoes."

U. H. SHOCKLEY, of Topeka, Kansas, gives his plan of planting potatoes, as follows: "I planted Early Rose April 12th, 1870, and the first blooms showed themselves June 7th. These hills I marked and kept separate for my seed of 1871. I cut off all the blossom ends which I didn't use, cut the rest of the potatoe to one eye, (small potatoes were planted whole); plowed very deep; planted in drills one piece every eighteen inches and the drills four feet apart; harrowed as soon as they came through the ground, and at each plowing afterwards drew up the earth with a garden rake. I got the best yield when the whole potatoes were planted."

Mr. S. fails to tell us the yield, but says it was satisfactory, and that he will follow the same plan this season, except that he will plant all potatoes



not larger than a hen's egg, whole, larger ones cut in halves and quarters.

J. W. Dow, Hartford, Lyon county, Kan., writes: "This is the ninth time I have renewed my subscription for the THE KANSAS FARMER, and would now much rather send \$2.00 for THE WEEKLY FARMER; but if it progresses in the future as in the past, I shall yet have the pleasure, I hope, of sending for THE WEEKLY FARMER. My son likes your paper well, and will send you a club as soon as his school is out. Do you keep the books for sale that you offer for premiums?"

We can furnish any book on our premium list a publisher's price, which will be found in the column opposite the name of the book.

We are glad to know that there are some young folks that are interested in THE FARMER. It is to them we must look for the improved farmers.

JOSEPH HENRY, of Saline county, writes: "An experience of twenty years in the Agricultural Societies of Belgium convinces me that the position taken by J. K. HUDSON, in a recent number of THE FARMER, on the subject of awarding Committees, is correct. Such Societies are seldom destroyed by their enemies, but by those who manage them, in appointing incompetent persons to award the premiums."

### European Correspondence.

#### FREE TRADE IN FRANCE.

Want of Transportation—Wool—Mutton—The Cattle Plague—Manure Famine, &c.

PARIS, FRANCE, January 27, 1872.

Neither farmers nor their representative journals have approved of the protective policy of the government, for French agriculturists have never made more money than during the last ten years, since trade has been next to free. The grumbling that has existed in some departments may be condensed under two heads: First, the want of local railways, canals and good high roads, to export produce to the nearest seaport, where good prices may be commanded, as well as a diminution in the present railway tariffs for the carriage of merchandise. The second, which will disappear on the removal of the first cause, is the vexed question of wool. By the increased shipments of wool, from Australia and South America, the price of home-grown wool has declined fifty per cent. But then, there is a remunerative demand for mutton; and sheep of a rapidly growing and easily fattening variety are replacing the losses on wool. For the sake of this one commodity, farmers hesitate to close foreign markets against their butter, pork, poultry, eggs, beef, beet sugar, wine, brandy and oils. The question of grain has never seriously been raised; because, relatively, it is not depended on as an essential source of profit; and further, the country is a large importer. The real protection rural interests require, is that against disorder and extravagance in the administration of national affairs.

The cattle plague is less intense—something between stationary and the beginning of a decline. Since October last, 40,000 head of cattle have died or been slaughtered. The disease has of late appeared around Paris. The drovers are to blame for this calamity, or the authorities that allowed infected stock to pass. During a journey of thirty miles to the city market, one drover, out of a herd of forty beasts, lost by the plague, on the way, nineteen; and, strangest of all, he was permitted to proceed. To this cause a proprietor, who had adopted every precaution to keep off the distemper, attributes the whole of his black cattle, thirty-eight animals, being carried off in the course of ten days. Where the authorities have been most rigorous the plague has been stayed. Sometimes there is great neglect, hesitation to order the killing of suspected beasts, in the belief to spare the treasury, which pays three-fourths of the value of each animal slaughtered. The tribunal of Chartres has condemned two

farmers, for violation of the sanitary regulations, to ten days' imprisonment, fines of 100f. and damages estimated at nearly 2,000f. An agriculturist in the north of France asserts that he has discovered a cure for the plague, so successful that healthy cattle, placed beside unhealthy ones, escape; and those incipiently attacked are saved. The experiments are testified to; but, curiously enough, the mode of treatment is withheld.

Owing to the ravages of the cattle disease, farmers find their stock of manure deficient; and others are substituting sheep for horned cattle, until the plague has thoroughly disappeared. Not a few cultivators are selling off their full-grown horses, to buy younger animals, which will give some work while growing. And lastly, the two National Agricultural Societies of France propose to send a commission to Russia, the nursery of cattle plagues, to study and experiment on the distemper.

[NOTE.—We are compelled to cut this interesting letter short in this issue, for want of room.—ED. FARMER.]



#### TOADS VERSUS INSECTS.

The question of Toads vs. Insects is sure to come up, and perhaps an experiment of mine on the capacity of a toad may be of interest. Dr. T. W. HARRIS remarked to me some twenty years ago, that he supposed the odor of the squash bug (*Cercus tristis*) would protect it from the toad; and to test the matter I offered one to a grave looking Bufo under a cabbage. He seized it eagerly, but spit it out instantly, reared up on his hind legs and put his front feet on top of his head for an instant, as if in pain, and then disappeared across the garden in a series of the greatest leaps I ever saw a toad make. Perhaps the bug bit the biter. Not satisfied with this, I hunted up another old toad, who lived under the piazza, and always sunned himself in one place in the grass, and offered him a fine squash bug, which he took and swallowed, winking in a very satisfied manner. Twenty other fine bugs followed the first, in a few moments, with no difficulty or hesitation in the taking or the swallowing, though from his wriggling and contortions, it appeared their corners did not set well within. The stock of bugs being then exhausted, I found a colony of smooth black larvae on a white birch, each about three-quarters of an inch long, and fed him over a hundred of them. Touching one of them with the end of a straw, it would coil around it, and then when shaken before him, he would seize and swallow it, at first eagerly, but diminished zest as the number increased, until it became necessary to rub the worm against his lips for some time before he could decide about it. He would then take it and sit with his lips ajar for a short time, gathering strength and resolution and then swallow by a desperate effort.

There is no telling what the number or result would have been, as the dinner bell rang as the 101st disappeared, and by the close of the meal he had retired to his den; nor did he appear for four days in his sunning place. It is to be hoped he slept well, but there might have been nightmares.—*Cor. Entomologist & Botanist.*

#### A PLEA FOR THE BUMBLE BEE.

The *Turf, Field and Farm* puts in the following: Boys think it glorious fun to fight bumble bees, but they should not be encouraged in the warfare. Bumble bees, like all the hymenoptera, play an important part in the great field of nature. The veined insects which fly from flower to flower do not injure or destroy the flowers, but make them productive by distributing the pollen. They also rid us of innumerable noxious caterpillars and other

insects, which they convert into wholesome food for their offspring.

The ordinary honey bee performs its work well in the fertilization of white clover, but its proboscis is not long enough to enable it to reach the nectaries of red clover; for the fertilization of the red clover we must rely to a great extent to the bumble bee.

Darwin has called attention to the intimate connection between the number of cats in a given district and the yield of red clover seed. The mice destroy bumble bees, and the cats destroy the mice; therefore, the more cats the more bumble bees, and the more bumble bees the greater is the red clover yield. In order to make red clover grow more abundant in New Zealand than it does, some enterprising gentlemen are talking of importing colonies of bumble bees from England. Our young friends will thus see how earnestly the bumble bee is desired in countries where he works not. Then should we not protect what we have, and which performs such important service in our fragrant meadows? We think so, even if it does interfere with the wild pleasures of careless boyhood.

#### CAUSE OF SMUT.

A scientist, who has given this matter considerable close examination, says that a small pocket microscope will expose to view, in every smutty kernel of grain, a small white worm, of about one sixteenth of an inch in length, which, under the glass, resembles a common grub. He also thinks that while the grain is in the dough state, an egg is deposited therein by a fly, which hatches in a day or two and commences to feed on the grain. The worm, no doubt, after consuming the grain, changes to a fly, to commit the same depredation on the farmer the following Spring, that was committed by its parent. This opens a new field for experimenters. There is, certainly, a plausibility to this statement; and it would be well for farmers to look to the matter, and furnish the agricultural papers of the country the results of their investigations, for it is thus we become wiser, and better prepared to point out remedies for the removal of the numerous pests which attend agricultural pursuits.—*Journal of Agriculture.*

#### EDIBLE INSECTS.

It is probable that famine and starvation, caused by the terrible ravages of armies of locusts, first caused the insect invaders themselves to be eaten. As they were found to be nutritious and not unpalatable, they came in this way to be considered a staple article of diet. The earliest Asiatic or African history informs us of their use as food, and they are thus occasionally mentioned in Grecian annals. The Arabs and Africans now consume them in the greatest quantities. They are gathered from the trees where they alight, or brought down when flying low, by making a dense smoke. They are then roasted with salt in an underground oven, bruised, and put away for use. For the table, they are pulverized, and made into a pudding, or, divested of their heads, wings, and legs, are boiled in water or oil. They resemble in consistence and flavor, the yolks of hard-boiled eggs, and various English travelers agree that they are very good eating.

SOME idea of the injury caused by insects to agricultural products, may be formed from the statement that, from seventy-four tons of Spanish wheat stored in a granary, ten hundred-weight of beetles were screened out in one instance, and in another, thirty-five hundred-weight were removed from one hundred and forty-five tons of American corn. The offender in both cases was a weevil, known as *Colandra orise*.

A correspondent of the *Portland Press* claims that the damages inflicted directly and indirectly by the grasshoppers in Maine this season, must be measured by millions of dollars. There are many square miles of territory where not a bushel of grain will be raised.



**THE BEST WHITEWASH.**

Some friends and subscribers living at Winchester, Kansas, have asked us to publish a recipe for the best whitewash for outside work. We herewith subjoin one, that we think will give satisfaction, and that is but little inferior to most of the cheap paint used through the country. We have added the sand to this wash, without having previously tried it, but it comes indorsed by such excellent authority, that we can recommend the addition to any wash, to our readers.

Here is the recipe: One-half bushel best quicklime; slake with boiling water; add one-half peck salt. Dissolve one pound of glue in hot water; add to the above. Also add three pounds of Spanish whiting, and one-half peck of clean sand. A little indigo should be dissolved in the water, before the lime is slaked; this will cause the wash to be more clear and transparent.

After being prepared, it should be kept in an iron kettle over the fire, and applied to the walls, fences, boards, &c., as hot as possible. One pint of this mixture will cover about one square yard of surface. There is nothing that gives such a tidy appearance to the farm-house and its surroundings, and at the same time remove all the noxious odors, as thoroughly as white-wash, and as a preservation to lumber, it is but little inferior to paint.

The sand should be omitted for inside work.

As MONEY is becoming more plenty among farmers, we would suggest to agents the propriety of making renewed efforts to get up Clubs. Any of our valuable premiums can be secured by a few hours' earnest, persistent work. Send for premium list, if you have not already got one.

SEE the advertisement, elsewhere, of BRYANT'S book on Forest Trees. GEO. T. ANTHONY, Leavenworth, sole agent for this State.

SUPPLY the children with reading matter. It makes home pleasant, and will save hundreds to the farm, that without it, will be swallowed up in the maelstrom of town life, and city dissipation.

**OUR CORNER**

**Book Farming.**—Judge HANWAY favors our readers with an excellent article, under the above title. The subject is one of great importance, and all good farmers recognize it as a duty to call to their aid every element that can in the least contribute to their success. The experience of thousands of our best farmers, as found in the Agricultural books and papers of the day, is one of the most profitable adjuncts to successful farming; and he who uses them not will fall far short of success.

"What One Copy of the Kansas Farmer Did."—The work that THE FARMER is doing for Kansas in the Eastern States is well and faithfully told in the poetry of Mr. STONE that we publish in this number. There are hundreds, nay thousands of the citizens of this State to-day whose experience is that of Mr. STONE, and who have first had their attention drawn to the rich valleys and fertile prairies of this State by a single copy of THE KANSAS FARMER.

**To Correspondents.**—All letters pertaining to the business of THE FARMER in general, or to any of the specific departments, should be addressed to GEO. T. ANTHONY or THE KANSAS FARMER, Leavenworth, Kansas. This will save trouble and confusion. Also, do not put any matter pertaining to subscription upon the same sheet of paper with that relating to any other subject.

**Our Veterinary Department.**—This has been in operation nearly two years, and we have yet to hear the first complaint concerning it. It is desired by the Editor of this department, however, to hear from any cases when the remedies proposed have failed. In this way the department can be made of still greater value to our readers. Will those who have sought advice and adopted it, report the result with the particulars concerning it.

**Timber Planting.**—It is unnecessary to call the attention of our readers to the paper by Dr. JOHN A. WARDER, under the above title. Timber planting is soon to become one of the most important industries of the State, and the paper alluded to is almost a book itself, in the vast amount of information it gives upon the subject of planting and cultivating forest trees.

**Correspondence.**—We devote more than the ordi-

nary space, in this issue, to articles from our correspondents, from the fact that they are all valuable and interesting; and also, to the fact that they are accumulating upon our table so rapidly, that we are compelled to make room for others.

**Notes by a Wayfarer.**—We commence the publication of a series of articles under the above title, written by one of our most prominent citizens. They will be found entertaining and instructive.

**G. W. W. Yates,** the druggist of Lawrence, probably manufactures and sells more and better *Condition Powders* than any firm in the West. See his advertisement.

**BOOKS AND PAPERS.**

**Scribner for March.**—We have repeatedly called the attention of our readers to this publication, feeling that we were fulfilling an absolute duty in so doing. In solid worth, current literature and general interesting reading matter, there is, in our opinion, no similar publication in the country to equal it.

There are few publications of the kind but what well-grounded objections can be raised against, but after reading *Scribner* for two years, we are free to confess that we have not found a line or word that we would have changed.

The number before us contains, among other interesting matter, an article entitled "The Chesapeake Peninsula," illustrated, by GEO. ALFRED TOWNSEND, written in his best style, the engravings bringing out prominent and familiar scenes with a life-like vividness. Also, an extract from BAYARD TAYLOR'S book, entitled "The Heart of Arabia," abounding in excellent engravings, and the pen pictures drawn as only BAYARD TAYLOR can. The remainder of the 166 pages is filled to repletion with choice articles suited to the different members of the family. Subscription price, \$4 per annum. Send to SCRIBNER & Co., 654 Broadway, N. Y.

**The American Historical Record and Repertory of Notes and Queries;** BENSON J. LOSSING, Editor; CHASE & TOWN, Publishers, Philadelphia, Pa.

We have received the initial number of the above Magazine, and if its successors are as interesting as this one, it will become one of the most valuable publications of the day. As its name indicates, it is designed to be a complete mirror of historical events, arranged and brought out only as B. J. LOSSING can.

Those who have read Mr. LOSSING'S writings will need no recommendation from us, to procure this work; and to those who have not, we only need to say that it is gotten up in magazine style, with an elegant frontispiece, and filled to repletion with articles both witty and wise, well suited to family reading. It is published monthly, at \$3.00 per annum.

**Industrial Monthly;** volume 3, number 2; 176 Broadway, N. Y. We are in receipt of the above number of this excellent monthly, and gladly place it upon our exchange list. It contains thirty pages of reading matter, devoted entirely to the Mechanic Arts and Sciences, and should be in the hands of every man following a trade. It is copiously illustrated with engravings of tools, machines, &c., &c. Price, \$1.50 per annum.

**Catalogues Received.**—We have received a very full and complete catalogue of fruit and ornamental trees, also orchard tools, from that popular nurseryman, W. F. HEIKES, of Dayton, Ohio. This catalogue is designed for nurserymen only, and contains prices in full.

**Star Nurseries;** HARGIS & SOMMER, Quincy, Ill. Wholesale price list and catalogue of nursery stock, &c. Prices given seem to us very low.

**Blue Mound Nurseries;** Mound City, Kansas. H. A. COOK, Proprietor, offers nursery stock at retail.

**R. H. ALLEN & Co.,** New York. A neat 62-page catalogue of seeds and grain for the farm and garden, giving full descriptions of habits and culture of the same. Send stamp for copy.

**Wire Trellis.**—Having had inquiries about wire trellis for vineyards, we insert the following table furnished by Ludlow, Taylor & Co. See advertisement.

SIZE OF WIRE.	WEIGHT OF 100 YARDS.	NO. OF LBS. PER MILE.	NO. OF YARDS PER BUNDLE 68 LBS.	LENGTH OF 100 LBS. IN YARDS.	BREAK WITH DIRECT STRAIN OF LBS.	NO. OF POUNDS PER ACRE.
9	18.36	323	342	609	1560	986
10	14.97	264	420	747	1280	807
11	11.95	211	529	939	1000	645
12	9.24	163	700	1244	800	499
13	7.05	124	893	1519	568	377
14	5.51	97	1142	2031	456	296

No. 12 is the size most commonly used.

**DED RUST PROOF OATS \$2 A BUSHEL;** Orchard Grass \$3.50 a bushel. Send three cent postage stamp and my complete Priced Lists of all kinds of Grass Seeds, Field Seeds, Garden Seeds, Flower and Tree Seeds, Agricultural Implements, Machinery, Guanos, Chemicals, Live Stock, &c., will be forwarded you. These Priced Lists contain much valuable information as to time and quantity to plant, &c. MARK W. JOHNSON, Seedsman, mari-24-145 P. O. Box 220, Atlanta, Ga.

**LEAVENWORTH, ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO MARKET REPORTS.**

[CORRECTED TO FEBRUARY 25TH, 1873.]

	Leavenworth.	St. Louis.	Chicago.
Apples, per bbl.....	\$3 00a4 00	\$3 00a5 00	\$3 50a5 00
Bran, sacked, cwt.....	55a 65	90a 95	
Buckwheat, per bu.....	50a 75	80a 85	
Barley, Spring.....		60a 75	57a 60
Butter, per lb.....	18a 20	12a 20	15a 20
Country Cheese.....	12½a15		
Corn, in ear.....	23a 30	41a 45	
Corn Meal.....	75a 90	1 25a1 35	
Dried Apples, per lb.....	8a 8½	7a 8	
Dried Peaches, per lb.....	10a 12½	6a 7	
Eggs, per doz.....	15a 20	22a 24	27a 28
Feathers, live geese.....	65	60a 62½	
<b>GAIN</b>			
Prairie Chickens.....	2 50a3 00	2 00a2 50	5 00a5 50
Quail, per dozen.....	1 00a1 10	1 00a1 15	1 25a1 50
Squirrel, per dozen.....		0 60a0 75	
Rabbits, per dozen.....		0 65a0 75	
Buffalo, per lb.....	4a 5	6a 7	
Deer, per lb.....		5a 7	
Venison, Saddle, per lb.....		9a 11½	
Turkeys, Wild, each.....	1 00a1 75	1 25a1 75	1 25a1 75
Hay, Prairie, loose, ton.....	5 50a6 00	10 00	9 00a10 00
Hay, Timothy, baled.....		20 00a24 00	18 50a15 00
Hemp, undressed, ton.....		100 00a140	
Hemp, dressed.....		210 00a215	
Hides, Green Salted, lb.....	9½	10a 10½	10½a11½
Hides, Flint.....	18a 19	20	19a 20
Lard, Choice.....	7a 7½	8½a 8½	
Potatoes.....	75a 80	1 00a1 25	95a1 10
<b>POULTRY.</b>			
Chickens, per doz.....	2 75a3 25	3 00a3 50	1 75a2 75
Ducks.....	3 00a3 50	3 25a4 00	3 00a3 50
Geese.....	5 50a7 50	6 00a9 00	
<b>SEEDS.</b>			
Clover.....	7 00a7 50	6 00a7 00	6 50a7 50
Timothy.....	3 25a3 50	3 50a4 00	3 00
Blue Grass.....	3 00a4 00		
Osage Orange.....	10 00a14 00		
Orchard Grass.....	8 00		
English Blue Grass.....	4 00		
Red Top.....	2 50		
Millet.....	1 00		
Hungarian.....	1 00		
Broom Corn.....	75a1 50		
Flax.....	1 25a1 50		
Hemp.....	1 50		
Castor Beans.....	1 25a1 50	1 50a1 55	
Tallow.....	6a 7	8½	
Wool, Tub Washed.....	75a 80	80a 85	80a 75
Wool, Fleece Washed.....	80a 80	45a 55	50a 55
Wool, Unwashed.....	38a 42	46a 49	30a 45

**FORTNIGHTLY RESUME OF THE MARKETS.**

**MONETARY.**

Since our last report, Gold has advanced from one to one and one-half per cent. We quote \$1.10@1.10½.

In most of the large cities of the West, money has become easier, but there is no notable change in discounts or rates of interest, accommodations on good business paper being received at 8@10 per cent.

**COMMERCIAL.**

By a reference to the table above, several changes will be noted in the prices of farm produce, mostly in favor of our farmers. Clover and Timothy seed has come down from fifty to seventy-five cents per bushel, while Wool has advanced, and unless a large number of Eastern mills stop work for sixty or ninety days (which they are talking of doing), we look for a still further advance. The N. Y. *Economist* quotes tub-washed Wool in Boston at 95 cents, which could be bought the day before at 90 cents per pound, and says that there will be another advance to-morrow. It further says: "The state of the Wool market is frightful, and manufacturers who have not bought any Wool lately, are fearfully amazed at the quotations." The *Economist* is of the opinion that Wool will go to \$1.25 per pound before it stops.

As we predicted in our last issue, Potatoes have declined ten to fifteen cents per bushel, and if the weather remains warm, we expect a still farther decline in the next two weeks. Had we Potatoes to sell, we should market as soon as possible.

With the immediate prospect for better shipping facilities, there is an improved feeling in the Grain market, but with no quotable advance in prices, except for No. 2 white Wheat, which was quoted at the beginning of this month at \$1.72, is now quoted at \$1.80. No. 2 white is an extra quality of plump, sound, full weight grain, unmixed with any other variety.

The same quality in the Leavenworth market would bring to-day about \$1.60@1.65, and this price would leave no shippers' margin between this point and St. Louis. Lower grades are quoted here at \$1.45@1.55.

**CORN**—Is in increased supply in all the markets, but prices are held steady at 28@30c. in Leavenworth, and 40@45c. in St. Louis.

**OATS, BARLEY, AND RYE**—Unchanged.

**CATTLE**—Have declined slightly, or rather the standard has been advanced. As, for example, the price that was paid two weeks ago for 1,200 pound Cattle, is now paid only for 1,400 pound Cattle. In St. Louis we quote \$3.75@4.25 for fair feeding Cattle; \$4.75@5.50 for good shipping grades.

In this market we have heard of but few transactions. One embracing a lot of 185 head, ranging now at 1,075@1,350 lbs., mostly young, smooth Cattle were sold, to be delivered May 1st, at 5 cents. Fair butchers' Cattle are sold here at \$3.50@3.75.

**HOGS**—Maintain about the same price in the St. Louis market as through the packing season. There is a good shipping demand for fair to good grades, and we quote prices at \$4.20@4.75 live weights. In Leavenworth, \$3.50@4.00 for fair to good butchering grades.



## Literary Department.

## WHAT ONE COPY OF THE KANSAS FARMER DID

BY L. A. STONE.

A "way down" Eastern farmer, who tilled a little piece of land—hard, rough and stony—and held it by a lease; Who, though he toiled in earnest, with scarce a holiday, Was often sorely troubled his honest debts to pay; Received a KANSAS FARMER (that paper's wont to roam), Which spoke of KANSAS prairies, where all may have a home.

He had heard before of Kansas: How famine there had been, And clouds of vile grasshoppers, devouring all things green, And springs and brooks were wanting, and drouth was wont to be,

And miles and miles of country without a single tree; While hordes of starving Indians roamed o'er those Western Plains, Destroying settlers' houses and knocking out their brains.

He looked the paper over, surprised at what it said— It spoke of groves of timber—he read, and thought, and read; And of exhaustless coal-beds; corn grown like forest trees, With ears far out of reach, and melons, hops and peas; Great yields of hemp and barley, and wheat and oats and rye, The pounds and bushels given; the figures took his eye.

Such apples, pears and peaches, no other State could show; And California only could better vineyards grow; While bounteous, endless pastures, made by no human care, And richest natural meadows extended everywhere. He stopped, and with loud thinking, he laid the paper by: "I don't believe such stories, and 'tain't no use to try!

"Them 'way out Western deserts! What do those people mean

By sayin' they're the best lands a feller ever seen? With meadows slick 's a barn floor, with not a stun to throw; Where hay 's jest for the takin'—it's all humbug, I know! Let those believe 't who want to; but es' for me, I say I'll think on 't for a spell—guess, till another day!"

Our farmer, worn and weary, betook himself to rest. He thought about those people who'd gone away out West, To quarter-section homesteads, that Uncle Sam would give To every one who'd go there, and make a home, and live. But while he lay there thinking the darkness fled away, And Sol, for no man waiting, brought in another day.

"Well, well," he said, on rising, "that paper spollt my sleep: It's either truth or falsehood; it ain't the thing to keep. I'll take it round the neighbors, that they may read it too, And if they say 't's a humbug, then I'll know what to do." He tolled as late and early as he before had done; His little corn seemed smaller, the rocks seem'd two to one.

But soon the farmer's pasture—there comes a rainy day— And with his Kansas paper our farmer takes his way To one, his nearest neighbor; they talk things up and down, Then started off together, and sought the nearest town. They found there much excitement; some all their goods had sold, A colony was forming, great Kansas news they told:

The wondrous growth of cities from those returned they hear. The settlement of counties within a single year; The climate, too, so lovely—it invalids restored; And competence to any, would business there afford. The churches also flourished, the common schools were free, And Normal Schools, and Collegés, and University.

These neighbors talked together, and while within their burned Desires for something better, they to their homes returned. They thought of education—of school and college bills; Their children and their purses, and their rough granite hills. They got the "Kansas fever," eschewed their poverty, Turned crops and goods to money, and joined the colony.

The days not many, traveling from countries old to new, The glorious Western prairies lie open to their view; They saw, and said, delighted, "God might" (who could for bid?)

"Have made a better country, but surely never did!" Through nicest towns and cities they often passed along; And farms of bounteous plenty would oft inspire the song:

"Ho! ho! for the Kansas prairies!  
Wide rolling as the sea;  
The land of farms and dairies—  
Make there the home for me!"

With all our farmers rested: they've taken homesteads now Some, shops and stores have opened; they follow still the plow.

Their lands, their homes, their horses, their thrift, economy. Their swine, their sheep and cattle, if you would like to see Go down to Woodson county, for they have settled there; Or travel over Kansas, and find them everywhere. Leavenworth County, Kan., February, 1872.

## FOREIGN NOTES.

By JAMES VICK, in the "Rural Home."

The social distinctions of England are more rigid and unreasonable, it appeared to me, than in any other country of Europe. There are the *poor*, *mid*

*de*, *professional*, and *aristocratic* classes, and each of these subdivided into three or more sections, or substratums. Commencing at the bottom, the *poor* class is composed of beggars, paupers, laborers, and the lower or less skillful mechanics, and perhaps the smaller shop keepers, hucksters, &c. The *middle* classes embrace the better class of mechanics, merchants and manufacturers; and this class seemed to be more subdivided, by reason of wealth, intelligence, &c, than any other. The *professional* class counts the doctors, lawyers, ministers, gentlemen of means and leisure, officers of the army and navy, &c. The *aristocracy* forms the top of the social pyramid, embracing all with rank and title. High up and above all, alone, stands the Queen of the British Empire. These different classes and divisions do not mingle socially, and the effect is in some respects, I think, injurious to all. On my first visit to London, I observed a sign on one of the churches—"Day school for the middle classes." This, I suppose, might be called a *class* if not a *classical* school. I cannot but think this system works badly in the schools, generally, but I observed its effects particularly in the Sabbath School. There may be pleasant Sabbath Schools in England, but I did not find them, though I took some pains to do so. Even in the most successful churches, such as SPURGEON'S, they are but gloomy dens, without convenience or comfort. In nearly all the schools, the seats provided are long, narrow benches without a particle of paint, such as were common in country school-houses half a century ago. When the children rise to sing, from one to half-a dozen of these benches are sure to fall over.

I spoke of SPURGEON. I heard this celebrated preacher, in some respects under favorable circumstances, for I became acquainted with a leading member of the church, and secured good seats. When the preacher made his appearance, and commenced at once to read the hymn, I was disappointed. He did not look like the pictures I had seen of him. There was a large frame, but little flesh; a limp in the walk, and a feebleness of voice that betokened a worn-out man. The sermon was plain, fresh, forcible, but had I heard the same in any country church in America I would not have been astonished, or thought the preacher unusually brilliant. A long time since, Mr. SPURGEON commenced publishing his morning sermon in tract form, and this he said was the one-thousandth sermon since the commencement of their publication. I had heard much said of the congregational singing at this church, but it was ridiculously poor—a mere hum. The large congregation of about five thousand, should have made the tabernacle ring, but there was no organ or other instrument to lead the people, and the chorister had but a weak voice, so that he could not lead or control the audience, and there were all kinds of time and humming noises, and nothing like good, hearty congregational singing.

I learned that Mr. SPURGEON had preached only once before for three months, having been laid up with the gout. I remembered then some very silly remarks he had made on the temperance question, and which are no doubt familiar to many. So much did I see the evils of intemperance in England, that I have no doubt in my own mind, that if the Rev. Mr. SPURGEON, and every minister in England, some fine day, should be banished from the country, and the liquor and beer with them, never to return, it would be a blessed day for old England. I fear intemperance is doing more mischief than these ministers are doing good, and yet very few seem to know or care anything about the matter. Indeed, it is very strange what notions, good and otherwise reasonable people seem to have about drink. They think stout or ale as necessary to healthful existence as food.

Here I enjoyed what I had longed for ever since leaving home—strawberries—not a few on a plate, but a run of the strawberry bed, and half an acre bed at that. England was always supposed to be a great fruit country, but fruit is not eaten there as freely as with us. Indeed I did not see any fruit at

all remarkable except gooseberries, and they were splendid. You do not see any large dishes of strawberries served as with us, and covered with cream. Half-a-dozen, if not very large, will be put on a plate, each one having its stem attached, and you can take up the berry by the stem and eat it gradually. This is a great aggravation to any one fond of strawberries. This is not from any stinginess or disregard to your wishes or wants, but there seems to be the general idea that fruit is unhealthy, and the people have visions of cholera constantly before them. On inquiry of a friend who had visited America and had seen us eat strawberries in Rochester, why they did not use more fruit, especially strawberries, he declared they would all die if they consumed fruit as Americans do. That it was necessary for them to be very careful or they would be "upset." Now, said he, in England, if a child wants strawberries, the mother will give it to me, but before it can have two there must be a grave consultation between father and mother as to its safety; but no prudent parent will allow a child to eat three without medical advice. This may be slightly exaggerated, but there is a real dread of the results of a free use of fruit. Whether the climate is at fault or the habits of the people, I do not know.

Prescriptions for Sick or Injured Animals, Free.  
BY A PROFESSIONAL VETERINARIAN.

The readers of THE FARMER, who have sick or injured Horses or Cattle, can have the advice of a Professional Veterinarian of great experience, through this Department, gratis, by sending an account of the complaint they desire advice upon. No questions will be answered by mail.—EDITOR FARMER.]

## Black Leg.

EDITOR FARMER: Please tell us, through THE FARMER, whether there is any cure for the black leg in cattle; and oblige J. B. F.

ANSWER.—No time for cure. Prevention—This is the important matter to be attended to. On the first appearance of this disease, give each young animal above one year old a good brisk purge. For this purpose, use a half-pound of epsom salts in two bottles of water, sweetened with molasses; and add a teaspoonful of ginger.

## Wound.

EDITOR FARMER: My horse's fore leg became swollen, from the hoof upward about six inches. In about a week it broke, between the joint and the hoof, about one inch above the hoof. Since that time it has broken all round the leg, as if it had been cut with a knife. It discharges a great deal of offensive matter. I can find no snag, nor anything, in fact, to cause the wound. The horse has no use of his leg, and lies down most of the time. He has been so more than a month. What is the matter, and what shall I do for him? W. B. N.

ANSWER.—What the immediate cause of the swelled leg was, I am unable to determine; but its present condition indicates debility, and the following treatment will probably cure him. In the first place, get a half-ounce of carbolic acid; put it into a half-pint of water, and bathe the sore with it once a day for three or four days. At the same time, bathe the swollen limb several times a day with hot water—as hot as the horse can bear it. It would be well to bandage the leg loosely above and below the sore. Give plenty of good feed, and give the following medicines: Powdered sulphate of iron, three ounces; powdered gentian root, three ounces. Mix, and divide into twenty-five powders, and give one powder night and morning in his food. And it would be well to add five grains of powdered Spanish fly to the evening powder, for a few nights only.



## THE APIARY.

## THE HONEY EXTRACTOR &amp; EXTRACTED HONEY

BY NOAH CAMERON.

EDITOR FARMER: Since the introduction of the movable frame, twenty years ago, there has been nothing worthy of note added to advance bee culture, until the invention of the extractor; and this machine, so simple in construction, and on a well known principle of motion (centrifugal force), it seems strange that it was not thought of sooner. But the need for such an invention was not felt until lately, and even now, some are so skeptical that they only regard it as an experiment.

When it became known that it took a considerable amount of honey and time for the bees to build comb, it was supposed that if they could be supplied with empty comb, a larger amount of honey might be secured; but the most sanguine never dreamed of what bees could do as honey-carriers, until the experiment was tried. When we first heard that bees could store fifteen to twenty pounds per day during a good honey harvest, we thought it a "fish story;" but last season, one man reported fifty-three pounds in one day, and it is yet an open question how much honey can be secured from a stock of bees. Mr. HOSMER is certain that he can secure one thousand pounds from each stock this year.

It was thought the invention of the movable frame would revolutionize bee-keeping. It was a step in the right direction, a wonderful discovery, without which we never should have had the extractor. But as great an invention as the movable comb hive was, and as long as it has been before the public, there are not many bee-keepers who make any use of them. We lay this to the fact, that there are so many men in the country watching for an opportunity to appropriate property that does not belong to them, when they can do it without much risk.

As soon as the frame hive was brought out by Mr. LANGSTROTH, scores of those worthless vagabonds (knowing nothing of bees or bee culture, or how hives should be made) hastily constructed some kind of a frame, rushed to the patent office, and secured patents on some worthless traps, and perambulated the country, imposing their worthless trash upon the unsuspecting and uninformed, until many bee-keepers became disgusted with the mere mention of a frame hive.

But now comes the honey extractor, which, by the way, is the handmaid of the frame hive; but it is destined to immortalize it. Box hives will now have to go under. They will soon be numbered with the things that were. But next will come that worthless gang of patent venders. There will be patent honey extractors without number. We hope no bee-keeper will be swindled by paying any body for a right to use one.

Honey extractors may be made in many different ways; but in all of them it is by a horizontal revolution of the comb and centrifugal force that the honey is extracted. The two machines most urged upon the attention of bee-keepers, are Mr. Peabody's and Gray & Winder's. About the only difference between the two is, that the one runs by gearing and the other is turned by a handle on top. Both have revolving cases, and the honey runs down through a funnel-shaped hole in the center of the bottom, into a pail. There is no doubt that both of them will work very well in extracting honey; but they are open to some objections. One is, in getting everything smeared with honey in removing, emptying and returning the pail, as the honey is dropping all the time from the machine. Another objection is, that the honey has got to be strained, to get out the particles of comb, before it can be bottled or barreled for market.

The machine that we like best, is one that has a stationary case and a revolving frame inside to hold the combs, and space enough below the frame to hold the honey, with a faucet to draw off the honey. Then, after the honey is a few inches deep, you can

commence to draw off clear honey, ready for bottling or barreling, as all the particles of comb rise to the top; or you can extract till your machine is full, and then draw off several hundred weight at once (for a resting-spell).

Another advantage of a machine of this kind is, that it runs much easier, there being nothing to revolve but a skeleton wire frame, that holds two combs of honey, and it gets lighter every revolution. And it can be made considerably cheaper, which is an important item during hard times. We are not aware that it has yet been tested as to what amount of honey could be emptied with an extractor in one day. From what little experience we have had, we would judge that from one to two tons would not be beyond the capacity of a single machine; but it would take several hands to get the combs ready. If they were mostly capped over, one machine would extract faster than a dozen hands could get the combs out of the hives, uncap and return.

It might be well to mention a few of the reasons why there can be so much more surplus honey secured with the extractor. It is a well known fact, now, that when you depend on getting box or comb honey, it takes a large portion of the bees to build the comb; and it is a slow process. They cannot build it half as fast as the balance of the bees would fill it; and this taken in connection with the fact that good honey harvests are of short duration, we see how liable they will be to fail to lay up much surplus box honey. With the use of the extractor the whole force of the hive are at liberty to gather honey; which they will do at an astonishing rate, if it is to be had. Where a honey harvest is not of more than eight or ten days' duration, you will seldom get any box honey, unless there were empty combs in the boxes. But with the extractor, a large amount could be secured—probably more than you could get in box honey during the best of seasons.

But some are anxious to know what to do with extracted honey. People are afraid of it. They think it some manufactured stuff. Dealers say that there is no demand for it, and it don't sell. There is no doubt but extracted honey will have to sell at a lower figure than box honey, for several reasons. One is, that there is a class of people who will pay more for looks than utility. Another is, that there will be so much more of extracted honey on the market. But we are satisfied that apiarians can, with a little exertion, secure a market for their own honey, without any fears on the part of their customers, that they were being imposed upon with adulterated stuff. But if box honey could be secured in as large quantities as extracted, we think it would be a difficult matter to dispose of it at anything like the present prices. It might be as big an elephant on the hands of bee-keepers as the extracted; and owing to the smashing ability of railroads, it could not be shipped to any distant market with safety. We think there will be no danger of the market failing for extracted honey; but it may have to be put at a price that will bring it in competition with our higher priced syrups. It can be sold at the same price as the first-class syrups, and more money made than in raising box honey at fifty cents per pound.

In reality, extracted honey is the best. In many respects it has the advantage over box honey. In the first place, you have no wax to buy—you get more honey for the money. You don't have to eat wax, which is indigestible, unhealthy and poisonous. It is easier handled, and there is less waste from leakage. It can be shipped anywhere, and kept any length of time, retaining its flavor better than box honey; and notwithstanding it being more profitable for the consumer, it can be afforded at less than half what box honey can. We think as soon as it becomes generally known that pure honey, out of the comb, can be had, there will be no trouble about a market.

Since the introduction of the honey extractor, a new era has dawned in bee culture, and it is bound to rank with the leading industries of the country. The year 1873 will witness unprecedented progress in this new departure. Old theories, practices, hives, traps and fogies, will be left in the rear

Lawrence, Kansas, February 26, 1872.

## "WHERE THE LAUGH COMES IN."

"A little Nonsense, now and then,  
Is relished by the wisest men."

ROMANTIC death—A young lady drowned in tears.

Can anybody tell how old Olive Logan is?—*Albany Argus*. Certainly, she is as well as usual, thank you.—*Chicago Post*.

No people under heaven can excel the Americans in the manly art of sitting on a bench and seeing eighteen men play ball.

AN old lady is collecting all the political papers she can lay her hands on, to make soap of. She says they are a "despotic site better than ashes—they are almost clear lie."

HORACE GREELEY wrote: "Women now manage most of the public libraries in Massachusetts," and the compositor read it: "Women now worry most of their babies by mastication."

JOSH BILLINGS says: "There are lots of folks in this world who, rather than not find fault at all, wouldn't hesitate to tell an angleworm that his tail was altogether tew long for his body."

A London merchant advertises for a clerk who could "bear confinement." He received an answer from a lady of uncertain age, who said she had never tried it, but thought she could bear confinement first-rate.

At a social party, where humorous definitions was one of the games of the evening, the question was put, "What is religion?" "Religion," replied one of the party, more famous as a man of business than of wit, "is an insurance against fire in another world, for which honesty is the best policy."

A LATE *Chicago Post* says: "Our lynx-eyed assistants report this morning that 1,743 people slipped down yesterday on the perfidious sidewalks. Of these 1,140 were men, 403 women, and 200 miscellaneous. The table shows that over 300 landed on their elbows; the others sat down. Of the entire number, 1,742 of them swore—131 audibly."

AN Episcopal clergyman meeting Barnum, the showman, the other day, after inquiring for his health, physical and spiritual, said, "Barnum, I always liked you. You are a good fellow, and trust we shall meet in heaven." "Oh!" said the imper turbable showman, with a twinkle in his eye, "I have no doubt we shall—if you are there."

DURING a parade of the Ninth regiment, of which James Fisk, Jr., was Colonel, an Irishman asked a bystander: "Shure, mister, wud yez tell me who that gentleman, all covered over wid lace and tinsel, is?" "Why, Pat, how long have you been over, not to know Jim Fisk, Gould's partner? They have been so closely connected that it is hard to tell one from the other." "Not know one from the other, is it? Shure don't you know that all that glitters is not Gould?"

THE editor of the *Elmira Advertiser* has poor luck buying medicine. He says: I went to a drug-store early one morning for a dose of morphine for a sick friend. The night-clerk objected to giving it to me without a prescription, evidently fearing that I might destroy myself. "Pshaw," said I, "do I look like a man who would kill himself?" Gazing at me steadily for half a moment, he replied: "I don't know. Seems to me, if I looked like you, I should be greatly tempted to kill myself."

THE cabman is a great institution in London, and notwithstanding his extortions, a general favorite. Everybody jokes with him, and his wit is proverbial. One day it was raining very hard, and Cabby set down his fare at the George and Blue Boar, in Holborn. "Are you wet, Cabby?" asked the fare. "Outside, your honor," said Cabby, with a leer, as he squeezed the water from his ample capes, "but inside I'm werry dry."

DEACON S— was an austere man, who followed oystering, and was of the hard shell persuasion. The deacon "allus made it a pint" to tell his customers that the money which he got for "isters" did not belong to him. "The good Father made the isters," said the deacon, "and the money is His'n; I'm only a stooart." They do say the deacon had a way of getting about ten cents more on a hundred by his peculiar method of doing business for somebody else. One Sunday morning the old fellow was tearing round from house to house, with a suspicious bit of currency in his hand. Some one had given him a bad fifty cent note, and he "wasn't going till that ar was fixed up." "Why, deacon," said one of his customers whom he had tackled about it, "what's the odds? what need you care? 'tisn't yours, you know; you are only a steward; it isn't your loss." The deacon shifted his shoulders, walked to the door, unshipped his quid, and said: "Yaas, that's so; but if you think that I'm a goin' to stand by, and see the Lord cheated out of fifty cents, you're mistaken. I don't foster no such feelin'."



THE deceased Col. FISK's love of fun he retained to the last. Lying wounded to death on Saturday evening at the Grand Central Hotel, Jay Gould, having just heard the news, came hurriedly and sympathetically, to his bedside saying: "How is it with you, my dear boy?" FISK replied with a smile: "Well, I rather guess, GOULD, that I myself am going this time where the woodbine twineth. I think, old fellow, you'll have to run the Erie alone here after. I don't care if I do slip off; it won't be the first time I've been where the New York Courts had no jurisdiction."

**SPECIAL NOTICES.**

**F. S. Kellogg.**—Attention is called to the new advertisement of F. S. KELLOGG. This house is again open for business, and is now permanently located in their new substantial building, No. 65 Lake street, Chicago. They call particular attention to Comstock's Seed Sower, Cultivator, Weeder, and Strawberry Cutter, all combined in one machine. Full information will be furnished by correspondence.

**Seed Sweet Potatoes.**

MY POTATOES BEING SAVED IN DRY SAND, IN A furnace-heated house, will keep better, and furnish one-half more sprouts, than those put up in the usual manner. **\$2.50 per Bushel; \$8 per Barrel.** Varieties—Yellow and Red Nansmond and Bermuda. Plants for sale in their season. Also, Early Rose Potatoes. Address **C. H. CUSHING,** febl- Postoffice Box 38, Leavenworth, Kansas.

**EGGS FOR HATCHING.**

**McGILL & BROTHER,** IMPORTERS BREEDERS AND SHIPPERS OF CHOICE Fancy Poultry. Will spare a few settings of eggs from their Light and Dark Brahmans, Partridge Cochins, English Gray Dorkins, Golden Spangled Polish, W. F. Black Spanish and White Leghorn Fowls, and Aylesbury Ducks. For Circular giving particulars, send stamp to **GEO. E. MCGILL,** Jan15-6m Box 388 Leavenworth, Kansas.

**Pilot Knob Nursery,**

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS.

**GOOD STOCK FOR SPRING OF 1872.**

LEADING VARIETIES OF APPLES, ONE, TWO AND three years old, including Cooper's Early White; Pear, Plum, Cherry; Cohcord and other standard Grapes, Eumelan, Martha, Agawam, Goethe and other Rogers' Hybrids; also, Arnold's Autochon, Cornucopia, Brant and Othello, &c., &c. Small Fruits in variety, Linneus Rhubarb, Asparagus, Roses, Shrubs, Evergreens and Greenhouse Plants. Prices low, for cash in hand. [dec-6m] **D. C. HAWTHORN.**

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LAWRENCE,.....KANSAS,

Corner New Hampshire and Pinokney Streets.

CONVENIENT TO THE BUSINESS PORTION OF THE City. The traveling public can be assured of the best of treatment. Good rooms, clean beds, and the table supplied with the best the market affords. Terms, \$2.00 per day. oc-1f **A. E. SKINNER, Proprietor.**

**Evergreen & European Larch Seedlings.**

**12 MILLION EUROPEAN LARCH SEEDLINGS;**  
**3,000,000 Evergreen Seedlings;**  
**3,000,000 Small Transplanted Evergreens;**  
**200,000 Transplanted Larches;**  
**200,000 Seedling and Transplanted Mountain Ash.**  
The above are all grown from seeds on our own grounds, and are better and cheaper than imported stock. European Larch, Evergreen and Forest Trees. Send for Catalogue. aug-8m **ROBT. DOUGLAS & SONS, Waukegan, Ill.**

**Peerless Potatoes—\$5.00 per Barrel.**

CHOICE VARIETIES OF SEED Wheat, Corn, Oats and Potatoes. Save freights and buy of the producer. J. K. HUDSON, dec-9t Box 108, Kansas City, Mo.

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Illustrated Catalogue and Price List Free. **CAIRO BOX & BASKET CO.,** febl-2t Cairo, Illinois.

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ITALIAN BEES AND QUEENS, BEE HIVES, WITH Comb Guide, sure to secure the combs straight in the Hive. Honey Extractor cheaper than Eastern patent machines. Alsike Clover Seed, the great honey and hay plant; and Seeds of other honey plants. Bee Books and Papers. Send for Circular and Price List. Address **NOAH CAMERON, Lawrence, Kansas.** febl5-tf

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IMMENSE STOCK, BEST KINDS, MOSTLY WHITE Brazilian, Premium Potatoes, Eight to the bushel, suitable for the table year around. Southern Queen, very fine, early, Nansmond, well known. Plants, in their season, all at market rates. **ABNER ALLEN, St. George, Kansas.** febl5-St-149

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A FEW CHOICE COLONIES IN DIAMOND & AMERICAN Movable Comb Hives, delivered at express office at this place for \$18 each. (no-6) **W. I. BROKAW, Rolla, Mo.**

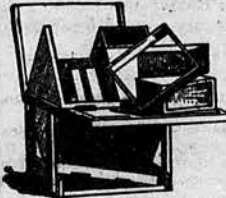
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FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS AND Plants, Forest Trees, Seedlings, Hedge Plants, &c. No Agents employed. Good, fresh, reliable Stock, true to name and of the best varieties, at wholesale or retail, cheap for cash. Call on or address **S. T. KELLEY,** Pomona, Franklin County, Kansas. sep-1y Price List on application.



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State where you saw this reference. Apply to **W. I. BROKAW, Nurseryman and Fruit Grower,** Lock Box 7, Rolla, Phelps Co., Mo. nov-6m



FOR 1872.

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