

Spirit of the Agricultural Press.

—A flock of hens will pay for themselves before they are one year old, if they are rightly cared for. You can then sell them, if you choose, for a good price and raise another lot, but it is not advisable to do so, as the second year is the most profitable, but do not keep them after they are two years old, for after that age they do not pay so well.

Do not keep mongrels, for they will not pay as well as thoroughbreds. One cross between two pure breeds will make good fowls, but do not go any farther than that, if you do they will be very poor hens to keep for profit. The best cross that I know of is to use a White Leghorn cock on Light Brahma hens; I say White Leghorn, because that cross will produce a uniform color; there will be no parti-colored feathers, which is an advantage in preparing poultry for the market. If you can give your fowls a large range, keep the pure White Leghorns; that is my advice; they will produce more eggs than the larger breeds, that is in number, and as eggs are sold by the dozen, you will gain by so doing. The Plymouth Rocks are a noble breed; they make good layers and good mothers; they lay large eggs and a good number of them; they will lay more weight of hens than the Leghorns. They are a handsome fowl when dressed for the market, but you can make any breed pay if you take care of them.—E. A. H., in *Massachusetts Ploughman*.

—Good, well-bred Shorthorn bulls are a necessity to those who would rear beef profitably. If quantity of milk be the end aimed at, it can be most economically secured by the introduction of good Ayrshire bulls. The cheap and economic production of butter of best quality must be sought through the introduction of high-bred Jersey bulls. We know many farmers in this section who, by the small outlay invested in a Jersey bull a few years since, have more than doubled the value of their dairy cattle. It is not unusual for a good half-blood Jersey cow to sell for \$75 to \$100, and it will not pay to raise cows for market worth \$10 to \$20, when it is just as easy to raise them worth from \$50 to \$100. Begin now, and let no progressive farmer during the year 1879 breed his cows to any other than a thorough bred bull of some of the improved breeds.

These remarks apply with equal force to all other classes of stock—to hogs, sheep and horses—as well as to cattle. The pressure of the times makes this improvement in our live stock an economic necessity.—*Southern Live Stock Journal*.

—The past fifteen years of high prices have been delusive to many; have built up wrong ideas as to real values, so that now, when the relapse has come, and, as usual in such cases, prices have gone a little to the other extreme, many are discouraged, disappointed, and it is to be feared, will allow the improvement made in their stock during that time to be in a measure lost. They cannot sit down and wait for better times. Stock will not maintain an improved condition without continued care. The march towards its primitive condition commences as soon as left to depend on itself. Every enterprising farmer, or stock grower, will continue on in the same course, with the same efforts to improve their stock as when realizing high prices.

Now is the time for thousands of farmers all over our country to commence the introduction of improved blood into their flocks and herds. It can be done at a price which in a few years will repay them beyond their expectation.—*Farmers Review*.

—Last year the sale of new land amounted to the enormous quantity of 14,000,000 acres at least. Statistics show that of the new arrivals about 80,000 went to the new states and territories. This, however, does not by any means show the entire influx into the west and south, for the sales of the government, railroad and Texas public lands, show that at least 600,000 people took up their residence in the new parts of the west and southwest during the calendar year 1878. Of this 600,000, it is evident that at least 520,000 of the new settlers were from the older states of the Union, and that the population of the east has been diminished in 1878 by that number of people.

We learn that the heaviest migration took place from New England, the middle states and Virginia. The settlers have generally been people of intelligence and some small means, and largely men of families. They have gone out to break the virgin soil and make themselves an independence. The regions to which they have principally gone are Texas, Kansas, Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota and California, in order named, but some have gone to Florida, Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, New Mexico and the regions beyond the Rocky mountains. Nebraska gained 100,000 of these new settlers during 1878. Minnesota gained about 50,000, Kansas probably 150,000, the Arkansas valley, Kansas, 55,000, and that state 120,000, Dakota about 100,000, Texas about 200,000. The Florida movement was small.—*Prairie Farmer*.

Silk Culture—A New Source of Wealth to the United States.

BY PROF. RILEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

(ABSTRACT.)

On account of the paper and in order to economize the time of the association, Prof. Riley presented the arguments without the details.

The paper is largely statistical, giving tables of exports and imports of raw and manufactured silks for the last half century, and bringing out clearly the steady growth of the silk manufacturing industry in this country, especial

during the last decade, under the protective import duties on manufactured goods. The author starts out with the axiom that the establishment of any such wealth producing industry, as that of silk culture and manufacture, as an integral part of our productive resources, is well deserving the attention of the people and legislators. Just as the American Philosophical Society, little more than a century since, gave great impetus to, and fairly established silk industry in Pennsylvania—established it so firmly that, had it not been for the revolution, it would undoubtedly have continued to grow from that day on, so there is no reason why the American Association for the advancement of science should not be partly instrumental in re-establishing that industry on a broader and more permanent basis. The author rapidly sketches the history of silk culture the world over, and especially in the United States, showing how from 1740 to 1790 hundreds of silk growers in the southern, middle and New England states, and especially about Mansfield, Conn., were successful, and how the industry has flourished under the stimulus, at times of state aid. He traces the causes of failure in the past, and the point is strongly brought out that they were all transient, not permanent ones.

Speaking of silk culture, Peter Delabogis, in an address published in the very first volume of the agricultural transactions, of the state of New York, 1801, said:

"Gentlemen, you have in your hands all the means for success and for enriching yourselves with the culture of silk. It remains with you to compare and judge our many attempts in it, and discover wherein they have been defective."

Professor Riley points out wherein the first attempts "have been defective," and have consequently failed. Every writer who has given the subject thorough consideration has been of the opinion that there are no obstacles in the way of silk culture in this country.

Mr. A. S. Lillie, in an admirable review of the silk industry in the United States, from 1766 to 1874, drawn largely from personal reminiscences says: "The production of silk in this country, which in 1828, amounted in Mansfield alone, to three thousand two hundred pounds and which ceased entirely in 1844, has since been revived in California, meeting there with modified success. There is no reason why it should not be again extended throughout the United States. Since the introduction of Mulberry seed by Dr. Aspinwall, in 1766, the history of this culture has been pregnant with encouragement, and only a fortuitous conjunction of misfortunes checked it."

Speaking of the attempts of Mr. Trevoist in California, which is conceded to be, by climate, eminently adapted to the growth of the Mulberry, and the raising of the worms, Mr. Riley attributes much of the want of permanent success which followed the efforts made at St. Bernardino, to the extravagant statements and excessive enthusiasm, verging on fanaticism, which characterized all of Mr. Trevoist's writings and utterances. Had he been as prone to report failure as well as to magnify success, there would not have been a re-activeness, which was as unnatural as was the over enthusiasm of Mr. Trevoist's little work. The California Silk growers manual was better calculated to produce Multicaulis fever than to stimulate silk industry. The exaggerated pictures and statements annul what little value it did possess, and earn for its author the name of "Hagneur," which has been applied to him in France.

Speaking of Mr. E. V. De Boissiere at Silville, Franklin county, Kansas, Mr. Riley expresses the highest appreciation of the intelligent attempts of that co-operative silk colony. Mr. Crozier who has charge of the silk establishment has found that the sale of the eggs was more profitable than the reeling and manufacture of the silk. He is now making every effort to encourage silk culture and industry in Kansas, his adopted country. Mr. Riley sincerely thanks Mr. Crozier for the very interesting documents which he sent him. Their views coincide almost entirely. Mr. Riley mentions the accounts that have recently been published of the success attending the efforts of Mr. Lowery of Huntsville, Alabama, who is reported to have successfully raised and spun and utilized the silk, and who is said to contemplate establishing an industrial academy for silk culture. Investigation shows that the few cocoons reeled by one of Mr. Lowery's daughters are of an inferior Syrian race, that the silk-worms were fed on lettuce and osage orange, and that the silk which was carded and spun, is simply interesting as a curiosity but not as an article of commerce.

The most valuable portion of the paper is that which points out the present prospect of silk culture and the way in which it may be established, in his report for 1877 to the president of the United States, the commissioner of agriculture gives tabular estimates of the value of many different products which we now import from foreign countries, and which may be produced at home, and this shows that over \$236,000,000 not including additional expenses for freight and commissions, are paid annually for imports all of which would and could be saved to the people. The item of silk alone foots up to over \$23,000,000.

In his commendable efforts to increase the productive capacity of the country by the encouragement of neglected industries, silk culture has not been overlooked by Commissioner La Due, and Prof. Riley expresses his gratification, that his connection to the department will enable him, with the commissioners co-operation to do something for the permanent establishment of this industry, which he has followed with interest since the publication of his article on silk culture in his fourth Missouri Entomological report (1871). Mr. Riley shows that the time is ripe for systematic, intelligent effort in the line of silk industry. The old argument

TO BE CONTINUED

Farm Stock.

Some Cattle-Feeding Experience.

The following bit of experience with cattle, by a Champaign Co. (Ills.) farmer, may serve to teach two or three lessons. This farmer sold a car-load of steers of fair quality, in Chicago, in December 10th last, they averaging 1,480 lbs., and selling for \$4.12½ per cwt. This was equal to about \$3.70 at his home; and allowing for usual shrinkage, these cattle would have a home weight of about 1,530 lbs. On the 1st of last April they averaged 1,040 lbs., and were estimated to have cost \$3.75 per hundred, nearly all of them having been purchased. It will be seen that there was an average gain of 475 lbs. This was made on grass, in summer; but about 200 lbs. increase was made after corn husking had commenced, and this mainly by allowing the cattle to run in the fields after the husking was done, to pick up what was left, and turning after them a lot of "stockers." They also had good grass in the fall; but in addition to this, some corn was fed to them at times, when one field of stalks had been pretty well gleaned before another was ready, but the aggregate of this was not large.

This is one of the very many illustrations of the fact that good gains can be made under a very cheap system of feeding, and of the fact that, even with prevailing low prices, there is some profit in handling fair cattle. This farmer received at least twenty dollars each for what these steers had eaten, and his care of them since the 1st of April.

This little experience also well illustrates the loss those farmers experience who raise corn largely with little or no live-stock on their farms. Besides the corn left by the huskers—and this is no inconsiderable amount—there is a large quantity of good fodder in the leaves and stalks, especially when this is utilized early in such a fall as the past one. The man who looks simply to the ears of the corn as the only part of the crop worth saving, makes a serious mistake.—*National Live-Stock Journal*.

The Most Profitable Horse to Raise.

In these hard times, when the prices of nearly everything are so depressed, and farmers are looking around to see what they can do that will make them any money, any suggestions will undoubtedly be appreciated.

There is one thing that has evidently been seriously overlooked by the generality of farmers. Large, compactly made, well formed horses, if active are in good demand at prices almost as large as they would ever bring in the best of times. This shows clearly that there is a great lacking in the supply of this class of horses. We would therefore advise the farmers to turn their attention to breeding a class of large strong and active horses that will be far more serviceable upon the farm than those now usually bred and will sell readily at good paying prices whenever placed upon the market. Such horses can be successfully bred from the common small mares of the country, by the use of the best types of the Percheron-Norman Stallions, that are being imported from France quite largely, and upon careful trial have proved to be the most popular and successful cross ever made for the production of a first class general purpose and draft horse. Several hundred of these stallions have been imported and spread over nearly all of the northern part of the United States, so they are within the reach of a large number of horse raisers. All who are breeding from them are highly pleased and report it a most lucrative branch of farming. The most farseeing and progressive farmers are adopting this method, and there is certainly nothing that gives greater assurance of good returns than breeding to the best breeds of Percheron-Norman stallions that can be found.—*Western Rural*.

Crushed Grain for Horses.

Oats are justly advocated as the grain above all others adapted to horses—and it is true, that for young horses, and those used on the road, there is probably nothing equal to oats, but they ought to be crushed or bruised and not ground. In fact, I think all grains are better fed in this way, and it seems strange that there are no good American oat crushers. They seem to me simple affairs—as I have seen them in English stables. A wheel of perhaps 18 inches diameter, made strong, and having a perfectly flat periphery, of steel, I presume, like a steel tire, having a face about 3 inches wide, is turned so as to bear evenly against a smaller one of say 8 inches or less in diameter, having a similar face. These two wheels are geared to turn together, and the oats are slowly fed in by a hopper. Good oats, when crushed, are nearly round and as big as a silver 3-cent piece, and the husks are quite inconspicuous; poor ones show more husk than grain, and retain more nearly the form of the uncrushed oat. Barley may be crushed equally well with oats, although harder; and corn, when too green to grind, might well be thus treated. If grain be swallowed whole it is not easily digested, but if crushed, or broken even, it is likely to be "Coarse meal," that is, the corn-meal usually sold for feeding in many Eastern towns, simply because it can be cheaply produced, is better than whole corn, because it is broken and some portion of it is tolerably fine, but all the flinty part is in large solid pieces, which do not adhere to cut hay, do not soak quickly, and are slow of digestion. When new corn is crushed, although it is not comminuted into meal, its integrity is destroyed and is easily digested, because it readily absorbs water or the juice of the stomach.—*American Agriculturist*.

Draft Horses.

The Belgians and the French are not at all agreed as to what constitutes a good draught horse; both parties apparently lose sight of the class of work the animal is required to perform. The strong, but light and quick trotting horse of railway cars and parcel's carts, is evidently what captives the French tastes; on the other hand the Belgians say, we do not deny the attributes required for horses for such work, but for the ordinary cart or wagon horse, slowness, volume, calmness, and uniformity of movement, are essential. Some years ago the busses of Paris were drawn by Bretonne horses; to these succeeded the petty and swift Percheron; to-day, the vehicles are yoked by the largest Percherons obtainable. It is worthy of note; that at the late International Horse Show, the Belgian stallions that were not honored with prizes were at once purchased by French breeders. It is no secret that a horse working at a walking pace will execute more work—four times as much according to some authorities—than a horse which works in trotting. Fournier's tables prove that a horse moving at work at the rate of 3,200 metres per hour will possess more staying power, more work, than one with a movement six times in excess. Resistance increases with rapidity. Every one knows how rough starts and jerks injure horses. Koppe maintained, that a single excessive effort used a horse more than six months of ordinary work. The French commence to devote more attention to the breeding and rearing of horses for the cavalry; when destined for the light divisions of the latter, they ought to take a leaf out of the books of Bavarian agriculturists, whose horses combine the two-fold advantage of excellence for draught and the saddle.—*French Letter in American Farmer*.

Hog Cholera.

Dr. A. C. Williams, of Douglas county, Illinois, gives his experience with hog cholera in the *Country Gentleman*. The doctor says:

"I have two ideas I wish to present, and one is, that no food or remedy will cure cholera, nor does the hog's being in good health afford immunity always. I have seen 100 hogs, fat and healthy, ready for market, fed at night and next morning 15 or 20 were dead, when the epidemic was prevalent in the neighborhood. From all the information I can gather, I am satisfied that western farmers will not be able to cope with this disease till they give up their prejudices against root crops, and feed their hogs more roots and less corn; and when fattening, if we must feed corn, let it be sugar corn, of which as much can be raised per acre, by planting the Evergreen or Mammoth, as of the ordinary varieties. Many, I am aware, will ridicule this idea, but those who have tried it, and understand the "reason why," know it is ground well taken.

The other idea I wish to refer to is that we are too prone to call anything cholera which ails a hog. Shots become constipated, look dull and unhealthy; nothing is done for them, and the responsibility is shifted by saying "it's cholera." Shots become wormy, and their bowels get very loose in consequence of it; or else they become constipated, and again "it's cholera." Now this mistake is being made all over the land, and more money is lost by it than from any other cause, I do believe. Hogs die when they get the cholera, and they die fast and numerously. I have lost of late two lots of shots with what I thought, and every old farmer said, was cholera, but I woke up at last, and began to say it was not cholera. I began on the third lot for worms and constipation, and not one died, and yet they were just as bad as those that died. People said cholera was on my farm, and all hogs I undertook to raise would die with it, and now, that they have got well (including a sow worth \$50 any day,) and also a neighbor's hog, similarly ailing, and cured by my plan; now, I say men come to me from all over the country, and tell me they understand I can and do cure cholera, and ask what I will take for the recipe. They would try and do with some medicine, but are anxious for the recipe. I answer that I can tell them something worth \$50 to them or any man laboring under the same misapprehension. I say that I cannot cure cholera; that no man, as a rule, in the present state of our knowledge can cure cholera; that when they banish from their minds the idea of curing cholera, together with the idea that every sick hog has cholera, then they are ready to begin to raise hogs.

Upon questioning these seekers for a hog cholera cure, I find in many cases that their hogs are ailing as my own are sometimes, and whether in the end they are disappointed in not finding cholera cure, even though they succeed in finding that their hogs have got it, and got it well. I cannot say. If I think a hog has worms I give him in bran, turpentine once a day till I get worms or see he has none: I also give him a condition powder, which is also anthelmintic, and also is a tonic, an appetizer and laxative. I also furnish them with charcoal, plenty of ashes and salt, and last but not least, an occasional meal of rotten wood. The latter, if confined, they relish. Do not wait when a hog gets sick till he will not eat. One cannot well dose a hog that is too sick to eat. Begin before they get so far gone. As soon as you see they are not well, find out what the matter is, and do not cry "cholera." For constipation, with all its debilitating consequences (which is usually designated as "pig cholera"), I use the condition powder above referred to, which is as follows: Black antimony, ¼ lb.; rosin, ¼ lb.; saltpetre, ¼ lb.; coppers, ¼ lb.; madder, ¼ lb.; sulphur, ¼ lb.; rhubarb, ¼ lb. Mix well, and give a tablespoonful to a grown hog once or twice a day until the dung softens, or worms start.

Dairy.

Milking.

In milking do not seize the teat between the thumb and forefinger and draw down until the end slips from the grasp of the digits. Do not grasp, with the hand pressing the nails into the teat, with a squeeze and a pull. Grasp the teat with the thumb partly upwards, and the fingers in their natural position when closed, next the udder, and closing the fingers in succession, force the milk downward, with a gentle pull on the udder. So proceed alternately with each hand, going farther and farther up into the udder as the flow ceases, until you have all the milk drawn. Thus you may milk easily for yourself and the cow; in fact, the cow soon comes to like the manipulation. If a few simple rules founded upon common sense were observed in milking, instead of kicking cows and holding up of the milk, we should soon find our cows gentle to handle, and much vexation would be spared to the milkers. It should, however, be remembered that in milking cows gentleness is a cardinal virtue.—*Pioneer Farmer*.

The Perfection of Dairying.

From *Land and Water*, published in England, we reproduce an article on the practice of the Aylesbury Dairy Company, which might be fitly characterized by the above title. There is no doubt that all dairy management should be as scrupulously clean as that of this London milk company, to obtain the best results and the largest profits. Ill health, dirt and poverty are as closely allied as cause and effect, and the difference between dairy products is the difference between filth and cleanliness, health and sickness, profit and loss. There is but one road to the abolition of these evils, *E Pluribus Unum* in farming—many in one—or the "union-of farmers for the good of the farmers," to remodel an old Whig rallying maxim for the occasion. The following is the article from *Land and Water*:

"The Aylesbury Dairy Company, limited, commenced, some thirteen years since, and has, during that time, step by step, organized the most complete system of arrangements ever contemplated in this country or elsewhere, forcing a perfect state of purity with regard to their milk, which, as we shall presently see, enables them to supply it to their customers not only pure in quality, but entirely free from the contaminating influences which, under ordinary circumstances, milk is always exposed to.

"Twice during the twenty-four hours—at night and early in the morning—milk is received fresh from the cow from the numerous farms in almost all parts of England with whom the company contract. These are periodically inspected by an engineer and medical officer in the employ of the company, the duty of the latter being to inquire into the health of the people engaged on the different farms, and that of the former to see that the sanitary arrangements are properly carried out, to carefully examine the source from whence the water is supplied, and to make a plan of each farm, which is kept at the head office. Cases have been found where the whole of the drains went into the streams from which the water supply was taken, but before any milk is received by the company all this has to be altered.

"Not only are the cows, the drainage, and water supply of the sixty odd farms which engage to send milk under the strictest supervision, but also the laborers and their families. Every possible sanitary precaution is taken, and in the event of any illness breaking out on the farm, no milk is, under any circumstances, allowed to be sent until after the medical officer has made his report and pronounced it free from infection.

"If our readers were to visit the numerous railway stations of this metropolis at a late hour of the evening or near midnight, they would see quantities of milk cans arriving from all parts. These cans, on reaching London, are at once taken to St. Petersburg-place, where a scene of great activity prevails all through the night. The milk in each can is first tested, a sample being taken, and is then got ready for the morning delivery—again tested, and sealed up, and by 5:30 A. M., all the carts have left the premises for their rounds, which comprise some 13,000 calls daily, and up to the present, no matter how bad the weather, this hour has been punctually adhered to. The same thing takes place at 1 P. M., when the milk received from the country in the morning is sent out for the afternoon delivery.

"One curiosity to be met with in the company's stables, seldom seen by Londoners, is a number of Spanish mules in splendid condition; these are used as well as horses for the milk carts, and, strange to say, none of them show any vicious propensities. A very important matter is the cleansing of the cans, and this is effected in a most perfect manner by steam, which is forced into them, and completely removes any impurities. All the water used in the establishment is boiled, and there is a 3,000 gallon tank always kept filled.

"This method of using steam and boiling water not only cleanses the cans better, but also prevents the milk from becoming contaminated, which has frequently happened when the pails have been carelessly washed with impure water.

"Not content with receiving the milk perfectly pure from the country, the company go much further and carefully guard it from any impurities while in their hands in London. To accomplish this, they have built houses for all their workpeople, so that both married men and single have to live on the premises."

FEBRUARY 19, 1919.

Literary Items.

NO. VIII.

There are many expressions in common use which are not as generally understood as they ought to be.

"THE DIE IS CAST, ETC."

We give three expressions in common use which derive their origin from the life of Julius Caesar.

When Caesar left the province of Gaul, which was allotted to him, to enter Italy, he hesitated for awhile on the danger of the undertaking, at last with a sudden impulse he cried out, "the die is cast," and immediately crossed the river Rubicon which was the dividing line between Gaul and Italy.

This act plunged the Roman Republic into a civil war, the magnitude of which has seldom been equalled in the annals of history.

Some time previous to the assassination of Julius Caesar, a soothsayer forewarned him of a great danger which was threatened on "the Ides of March."

When the day arrived and he was going to the Senate house, he called to the soothsayer and said, laughing, "The Ides of March have come," to which the soothsayer answered softly, "Yes, but they are not gone."

On that day Caesar was assassinated by Brutus and his followers.

From this circumstance, which is related by Plutarch, the remark which is often used when we are speaking of the overthrow or defeat of our political opponents, the "Ides of March will be upon them," originated.

TARPEIAN ROCK.

This expression is not as common as some others, but it has an historical interest.

Manlius Capitolinus, who once saved the Roman Capital, was sentenced to be cast down the Tarpeian Rocks, for attempting to destroy the balance of power in the government by inflaming the populace.

From this historical incident originated the expression used by political speakers, of casting their opponents down the moral Tarpeian Rocks.

For example, St. Just, in the French Assembly, in his defense of Robespierre, declared "that if it was the Tarpeian Rock upon which he stood, he would express his sentiments in support of so great a patriot as Robespierre!"

One hour after this sentence was uttered, Robespierre and St. Just fell by the ax of the executioner.

JANUS-FACED.

Politicians who are not overcharged with modesty, frequently charge their opponents with being Janus-faced.

This expression has also an historical basis. Plutarch, in the life of Numa, says, the first month, January, is so named from Janus.

He is represented with two faces, as having altered the former state of the world, and given a new turn to life.

There was a temple at Rome which bears his name, with two gates of war. It was the custom of the people to open the gates in time of war and shut them in time of peace.

PANDORA'S BOX.

When evils multiply on society, it is not an uncommon expression to say, "It seems as if Pandora's box was opened."

Pandora, according to heathen mythology, was the first female that ever lived. The gods clothed her with every necessary gift, but Jupiter gave her a box to present to the man who married her.

Her husband, upon opening the box which she presented him, saw issue therefrom a multitude of evils which continue to afflict the human race.

Hope, however, remained at the bottom, which alone renders troubles and sorrow less painful in life.

OSTRACISM.

By giving a short account of the ostracism of the Greeks, will fully explain to the readers the sense in which it is used by writers and speakers of our day.

The Ostracism, according to Plutarch, was conducted in the following manner: Every citizen took a piece of a broken pot or a shell, on which he wrote the name of the person he wanted to have banished, and carried it to a part of the market place that was enclosed with wooden rails.

The magistrate then counted the number of the shells, and if it amounted not to six thousand the ostracism stood for nothing; if it did, they sorted the shells and the person whose name was found on the greatest number was declared an exile for ten years, but with permission to enjoy his estate.

Ostracism was not a punishment for crimes and misdemeanors, but to humble and lessen excessive influence and power.

It was a mild gratification of envy, for by this means whoever was offended at the growing greatness of another, discharged his spleen, not in anything cruel or inhuman, but only in voting a ten years' banishment.

bonding of counties, townships and corporations to build up private corporations, and prostituting the taxing power of the state with all the pains and penalties attached to the collection of unpaid taxes, is prostituting the sovereign powers of taxation to the vilest and most oppressive uses.

The powers of taxation have always been watched by all civilized people with the greatest jealousy. In all kingly governments every new tax is criticised and examined carefully before being passed, and the forcing of unconstitutional taxation has always been the signal for revolt and the overthrow of the parties that attempted it.

It was unconstitutional taxation that brought Charles the 1st to the scaffold and finally drove the Stuarts from the throne of England. It was a like cause that precipitated the French Revolution, stimulated by the example that we had shown them in freeing the American nation from the tyranny of England.

And what was the cause that led to those convulsions of society and nations? The very reason you advance in your able argument—taxation without representation. It never was intended that the taxing power should be exercised so as to burden posterity with a load of debt that they never can rid themselves of, and thus make them bondsmen and slaves to a crew of bondholders that, like the devil-fish, will suck the life blood and manhood out of both the present and coming generations.

There can be no law passed that is in direct conflict with the constitution of the United States, and no state has power to enforce a statute that is in conflict with that instrument. The usual argument brought forward to sustain bonded indebtedness is that majorities vote them, and hence that minorities have no rights that majorities are bound to respect.

This is altogether wrong. This is not a primitive democratic government ruled by majorities, but a limited republic governed by a written constitution and laws in accordance with that constitution.

When that constitution was adopted certain rights were retained and strictly provided for, among which were life, liberty, and the right of the citizen to be protected in his property.

"Private property shall not be taken for public purposes without just compensation."—U. S. Constitution. With this provision against encroachments on the right of the private citizen to control his personal property, by what authority does the collector dare to sell the property and homesteads of those who did not vote for those bonds to be issued, but either opposed them or took no part in the contest?

Again, those who voted those bonds have moved away and new citizens have come in, are they to be bound by the acts of former majorities? and can not they agree, from the same standpoint, that if a majority had a right to impose an illegal tax, a majority still retains the right to vote it down, if they see proper?

This majority rule is nothing more nor less than mob law. No majority can legally deprive a minority of their constitutional rights. The argument will be set forth that these bonds (mind I do not mean national bonds in referring to bonds in this article) were issued and sold to innocent parties having faith they would be paid. But it is a maxim in law that fraud vitiates all contracts, and an obligation is not valid unless there is something to show there has been value received.

Now the question lies in a nutshell: If those bonds are just, they should be honorably paid; if they are fraudulent and unconstitutional they should be squarely repudiated. No compromise with frauds. Any attempt to take them before the courts as at present constituted, will only result in defeat, and paying out vast sums for lawyers' fees, but will not afford relief.

This argument in favor of innocent purchasers must be taken with a great deal of allowance. For instance, what were those bonds sold for? Has the purchaser of a fraudulent bond any more right to be protected by the courts as an innocent purchaser, than the purchaser of a stolen horse, or the buyer of real estate with a cloud on the title? Don't that cloud or lien remain there until removed, no matter how many hands the title may have passed through?

But has not this evil progressed far enough? Why don't the legislature take some steps to prevent the evil spreading further? or, are the railroads master of the situation? If it is legal to build railroads by taxation, why not build grist-mills, hotels, turnpike roads, etc.?

Now quite a large amount of those railroad taxes are vile frauds, and there are few counties in the west that are not burdened with them. Fifty-six counties in Missouri have organized to resist, by every legal means, the further payment of taxes on bonds when they were fraudulently obtained and no value received by the counties. They have already held two meetings, and I would advise calling a convention of all those similarly situated, to be held some time this spring, to consider the propriety of a combined movement in resisting those frauds.

I know of counties in Iowa that have been paying taxes for over twenty years, levied to pay interest on railroad bonds, that were issued to build railroads that never were built, and in some cases never commenced. I have had my own homestead sold out for a bogus railroad tax that the officers of the company were indicted by the grand jury for obtaining money under false pretences. I then learned that there was no use in applying to courts, as the judges were placed in a delicate position and could hardly be expected to decide against a railroad company whose free pass or retainer they might have in their pocket.

This evil must be met by a combined effort. There is no earthly use in any county, city or township fighting this alone. By a combined movement they will command the attention and respect of the courts. Were all those inter-

ested in this movement of resisting fraudulent taxation to hold a convention in St. Louis next spring, it might result in much good. Missouri is already organized, and if Iowa, Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, or, in fact, all the northwest, take proper hold of this question, it would be surprising the amount of strength it would develop.

Any persons wishing any further information in respect to the Missouri convention, will obtain it by addressing M. L. Douden, Edina, Knox county, Missouri. This organization is to resist fraudulent taxation, or the payment of bonds when no value has been received.

Now enough as to fraudulent railroad bonds. In a future article I will give my views in respect to mortgages and the means of escape from the devil-fish of usury that is sucking the life and energy out of the farmers and industrial classes of the west. With much respect, I remain ever the friend of justice and equal rights.

SAMUEL SINNETTE, Muscatine, Iowa.

Patrons of Husbandry.

NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master, Samuel E. Adams, of Minnesota; Secretary, O. H. Kelley, Louisville, Kentucky; Treasurer, F. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y.

KANSAS STATE GRANGE.—Master, Wm. Sims, Topeka; Secretary, P. B. Maxson, Emporia; Treasurer, W. P. Popenoe, Topeka.

COLORADO STATE GRANGE.—Master, Levi Booth, Denver; Lecturer, J. W. Hammett, Platteville.

MISSOURI STATE GRANGE.—Master, H. Eschbaugh, Hanover, Jefferson county; Secretary, A. M. Coffey, Knob Noster.

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

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

Secure a Grange Home.

When it is taken into consideration that there are hundreds of granges that are yet meeting in school-houses and other places of a similar character, it is not to be wondered at that so many become wearied even with well doing? Every subordinate grange should have a hall, that is, a home of its own.

The transient way of living, which too many granges follow, conveys the impression to those outside the gates, that the order is but a transient affair and will soon cease to exist. This is quite a natural conclusion.

We doubt if there is a grange in the state that cannot buy at least half an acre of land at some central point within the jurisdiction of the grange upon which to erect a hall. The land is the first thing to be purchased. Three acres would be better than half an acre. Early next spring let a day be set apart for planting an osage hedge around the lot, and for the setting of a sufficient number of shade and evergreen trees to make it an inviting place.

With the ground paid for, and the trees and shrubbery planted, the idea of the permanency of the grange would find a resting place in the minds of the neighbors who are not now members, and they would cease their talk respecting the dying out of the grange, for such an investment would convey the impression of permanency better than any other way.

The land purchased and seeded to bluegrass and planted, the trees would grow while the plans for building a suitable hall could be perfected and the funds needed for its erection could be raised. There is nothing to hinder any grange from bringing about so desirable a state of things but the lack of unity of effort.

Such an effort on the part of the members of the grange will infuse new life into it. It will fraternize the entire neighborhood, attach members to the grange and to one another, and have a most healthful influence on the children, who will see that there is something besides drudgery in the farmer's vocation—that there are social and intellectual pleasures to be derived by the members of the order.—Cincinnati Grange Bulletin.

The Influence of the Grange.

Occasionally we are asked by a desponding member: "Is our order doing any good in the world?" To such we reply: "Go into a township that is blessed with a live, working grange; note the increased social ties of that neighborhood; the improved system of farming; the brighter, better, and attractive homes; the many instances of dispensing that charity that feels for the wants and relieves the distress by our sisters and brothers; the advancement in temperance, morality, and religion, and in all good works that 'develop a higher and better manhood and womanhood.'"

The silent forces started by our order in the hearts and brains of the farmers of our land will be perpetual in their work in shaping the lives and destinies of our members, of our class, and our nation. Few realize the great amount of good that has been brought about by our order in all the thousands of localities where its light has been permitted to shine.—Farmer's Friend.

The Granges Moving for Lower Salaries. A granger in the Pennsylvania legislature has moved the following resolutions, looking to economy in public expenditures by paring down salaries of officers to correspond with ante bellum times:

"WHEREAS, The necessities of the country during the decade following the commencement of the rebellion produced an excessive advance of the currency, and a consequent advance of prices, particularly in such articles as are estimated necessities of life; and

"WHEREAS, It was deemed expedient during such period to largely increase both salaries and

fees of public officers and employes to correspond with the enhanced compensation of private individuals, as well as in view of the increased cost of living; and

"WHEREAS, The financial crisis of 1873, together with the preparations necessary to specie payments, have had the effect of reducing and restoring the statu quo ante bellum, as regards business in general, both equity and justice requires that public servants should partake with the laborers and taxpayers of the shrinkage of values which has caused such wide-spread disaster and ruin to every sphere of life; therefore

"Resolved, That a special committee, to consist of five members, be appointed, with instructions to prepare and report to the house, at as early a day as practicable, a bill reducing the salaries, fees and compensation of all public agents and employes of the government to the rates fixed by law prior to the 4th of March, A. D. 1861, except where constitutional objections intervene."

Advertisements.

Our readers, in replying to advertisements in the Farmer, will do us a favor if they will state in their letters to advertisers that they saw the advertisement in the Kansas Farmer.

Auctioneer.

I take this method of informing the Public at large that I am located at Topeka, and ready at all times to attend

PUBLIC SALES, Stock Sales a Speciality

and am prepared to give all Sales entrusted to me, the widest and most conspicuous advertising, both through Papers of extensive circulation and by Circulars and Posters. I have had large experience and know my business I unhesitatingly guarantee all terms of employment me full satisfaction. My terms are reasonable. Call on me at the FARMER office or address me at Topeka.

H. G. EVANS.

WE BUILD THE STRONGEST Wind Mill in the World, For Farm Pumping, Irrigation, Drainage, Grinding and all Power purposes, from 1 to 20 Horse Power. Circulars free. ECLIPSE WIND MILL COMPANY, Beloit, Wisconsin.

WANTED Several tenants for farms in Osage and help to cultivate from two to three hundred acres of land, and milk from twenty to fifty cows. For particulars enquire of T. J. PETER, Osage City, Kansas.

WATER! WATER! FARMERS ATTENTION

Having added to my deep well drilling machine, an auger and light drilling machine, I am now prepared to bore and drill wells, such as you need, and furnish pump and wind mill, putting them in position, ready for use if required. NO WATER, NO PAY. Have had 14 years' experience, have put down over 300 wells, from 20 to 200 feet deep, securing water in every case; contracts taken at the most reasonable rates; if you want water, give me a contract and you shall have it as it is only a question of time and money. Address C. B. SWAN, Box 592 Topeka, Kansas, or call on Spear & Willis, Carbonated Stone and Pipe Works, Kansas Avenue, Topeka.

CONCORD GRAPE VINES.

1st Class, 2 years old, \$10 per thousand. 2nd Class, 2 years old, \$10 per thousand. Address G. F. ESPENLAUB, Rosedale, Kan.

HOUGHTON GOOSEBERRIES. \$15.00 per Thousand.

C. BISHIR, Prop'r, Hutchinson Nursery, Hutchinson, Kansas.

Lee's Summit and Belton Nurseries.

Wholesale and Retail, 100,000 2 yr. old apple trees for spring and fall of 1878, also 150,000 1 yr. old, all of the best grades and varieties, fenced in rabbit light. We took the Blue Ribbon and Diploma for the best display of nursery grown fruit trees at the Kansas City Exposition, 1878. We have also 50 acres of Hedge Plants for spring prices low to Nurserymen and Dealers. Address ROBT. WATSON, Lee's Summit, Jackson Co., Mo.

Nursery Stock.

General assortment. Stock first-class. Lowest rates. Apple trees and Orange plants in large quantities. Special rates by the car load. Send for Price Lists to E. F. CADWALLADER, Miami County Nurseries, Louisville, Kansas.

Jerusalem Artichokes.

As food for Hogs, nothing better or cheaper can be found. From 1,000 to 1,500 bushels to the acre are easily raised. Circulars giving full information sent free. JOHN C. HENNESSEY, La Salle, La Salle Co., Ills. P. O. Box 122.

Shannon Hill Stock Farm.

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

English Berkshire Pigs.

Recorded with the Lord Liverpool Stock, at reasonable figures. Also Pure White Leghorn Chickens. Everything warranted first-class, and shipped. B. H. CROMWELL, Westport, Jackson County, Mo.

Durham Park Herds

ALBERT CRANE, BREEDER OF Short-Horn Cattle AND Berkshire Pigs, Durham Park, Marion Co., Kansas. Catalogues free. The largest and best herds in the west. Over 200 head of cattle, and a like number of pigs. PRICES LOW. Address letters to DURHAM PARK, Marion County, Kansas.

Breeders' Directory.

L. A. KNAPP, Dover, Shawnee Co., Kas., breeder of Pure Short-Horn Cattle, and Berkshire Pigs.

C. S. EICHHOLTZ, Breeder of Short-Horns, Berkshires and Bronze Turkeys, Wichita, Kansas.

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

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

Q. BADDERS, Leavenworth Kan., Breeds Black Cochins & Brown Leghorns. Stock not surpassed in America. Send for descriptive Circular and price list.

J. FRY, Dover, Shawnee Co., Kansas, breeder of the best strains of Imported English Berkshire Hogs. A few choice Pigs for sale. Prices Low. Correspondence solicited.

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

SAMUEL JEWETT, Merino stock farm, Independence, Mo., breeder of Spanish Merino sheep, rams constantly on hand at reasonable prices. Call and see them or write for particulars.

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

HALL BROS., Ann Arbor, Mich., make a specialty of breeding the choicest strains of Poland-China Suffolk, Essex and Berkshire Pigs. Present prices 1/2 less than last card rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. A few splendid pigs, jills and boars now ready.

Physician.

MRS. DEBORA K. LONGSHORE, M. D., late of Philadelphia, Pa., Office and residence on Topeka Avenue, first door south of Tenth St., West Side.

Dentist.

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

Nurserymen's Directory.

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

HENTIC & SPERRY, Attorneys at Law,

TOPEKA, KANSAS. Practice in Federal & State Courts.

Merino Sheep For Sale.

For Sale, 150 choice Merino Ewes from a flock of more than 30 years standing. Address WM. M. GENTRY, Sedalia, Mo.

GEO. M. CHASE, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, BREEDER OF

Thoroughbred English Berkshire Pigs.

—ALSO— Dark Brahms and White Leghorn Chickens. None but first-class stock shipped.

BERKSHIRE PIGS AT THE

COLLEGE FARM.

A grand lot 6 to 7 months old, of highly prized Sal-lis, Bridge, and Lady Leonidas families, and the get of such noted boars as British Sovereign II, 533, Cardiff's Surprise 1965, and others. These pigs we offer at very low prices. Also a few

ESSEX PIGS

of the choicest blood. We also offer for sale a middle aged polled GALLOWAY bull, and two JERSEY bulls at surprisingly low prices. Address E. M. SHELTON, Superintendent Farm, Manhattan, Kansas.

RIVERSIDE HERD NO. 1.

(Established 1868.)



I am now offering for sale a choice lot of No. 1.

Poland China and Berkshire Pigs,

(recorded stock) at reasonable figures. Parties wishing to purchase will call on or address me. All Pigs warranted FIRST-CLASS, and shipped on receipt of price. J. V. RANDOLPH, Emporia, Lyon Co., Kan.

M. W. DUNHAM'S

OAKLAND STUD OF PERCHERON--NORMAN HORSES.

WINNERS OF THE Grand Prizes in Europe and America, Awarded Grand Medals by the French Government, and also Grand Medal Diplomas and Special Report at the CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION, '76

The largest and most complete establishment of the kind in America.

Since 1872

It has been Replenished by ONE HUNDRED & SIXTY-SIX IMPORTED MARES AND STALLIONS.

My Catalogue, with history and breed, sent free.

M. W. DUNHAM,

Wayne, DePage Co., Ill



THE KANSAS FARMER.

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

An Insult to Kansas.

Smedley Darlington, of West Chester, Pa., publishes a communication in the Topeka Commonwealth of the 11th inst., that ought to bring a flush of indignation to the brow of every man in Kansas.

This attorney of the usurers volunteers to read Kansas people a lecture, while administering reprimands and threats, upbraiding the taxed people with dishonesty, while sneeringly suggesting the necessity of building school houses in the unsettled and new counties to teach the children that "stealing is a sin." The men whom Smedley Darlington has assisted to steal millions from Kansas, under a thin veil of law forms, have need of some wholesome lessons on the sin of usury and theft, more than the children of Kansas. He says, "during the last five years I have leased your farmers nearly two millions of money, and bought five millions of your municipal bonds." A benefactor to be sure, to our farmers who have been tempted to mortgage their farms for one third of their value on obligations to pay interest half yearly at the rate of ten and twelve per cent, in the majority of instances, on those loans, besides a heavy bonus which found its way into the accommodating negotiator's pocket! "Bought five millions of your municipal bonds," says this attorney. Bought them at what discount, Mr. Darlington? Bonds drawing 10 per cent! and we are sneeringly told that "much more capital is still needed to bring into cultivation your prairies, to build railroads into counties, now comparatively worthless without them, and to dot your hill-sides with school houses, to teach your children that stealing is a sin, whether committed by individuals or municipalities." And what has Kansas farmers to show for all these millions of bonds which this high-shouldered moralist flings in their faces, but taxes which grind every cent they can rake and scrape from the abundance of produce they raise on their fertile prairies? Far better would it have been for them had there never been a single bond, state or municipal issued. All they have gathered and can gather by the hardest of toil, has gone, and is still going, to pay the half yearly interest at 10 per cent, to the men who bought these bonds and mortgages at a discount, with paper at a discount. Half the farmers whom Mr. Darlington so obligingly accommodated with two millions of dollars, hold their farms at the mercy of creditors, unable to pay the mortgages, and barely the interest, and tax which is assessed to pay interest on another layer of bonds in the shape of municipal indebtedness. Are the people of Kansas to be called thieves by an artful attorney, who under the manipulation of law forms, draws from their pockets every cent they can raise to fill the coffers of men in the east, who never loaned them anything like the amount of money the face of their bonds and mortgages call for? The people of Kansas do not need any more money to build railroads. If the millionaire clients of Mr. Darlington, want to invest in railroads let them come here and do it, on the merits of the railroads, and not send smooth tongued attorneys here to wheedle and bribe county and town officers into issuing more bonds to build railroads to be given away to stock-gamblers as those already built in every state, by state and municipal money, have been. It is time that Kansas tell these people that their money is not wanted at 8 and 10 per cent, that the wild prairies without railroads or school houses will yield the settler far larger profit than all the millions that Mr. Darlington can send here at usurious interest. Paying 10 per cent interest is not the way to sustain credit but a sure way to ruin it. Kansas credit is injured by this system of usury. Look across the line at your neighboring state of Maryland which pays but 6 per cent, and her bonds have always been quoted at a premium. High interest and low credit go hand in hand the world over. The products of Kansas in a few years, will be sufficient to buy the entire Keystone state, rich as it is, if Mr. Darlington's clients are not allowed to absorb it all to pay 10 per cent interest on bonds and mortgages which cost them not nearly their face value, many of which have been negotiated under circumstances which attach to them the gravest suspicion of fraud. Let our legislature go boldly forward and cut down the rate of interest to be paid, to five per cent in place of six, as proposed, and forbid any more county and municipal borrowing, to be paid by the next set of settlers who come in. The industrious thousands who are being ridden to death by taxes had no part or lot in creating the swindling obligations which are fastened onto the property of this state. We don't need any more of your 10 per cent favors, Mr. Darlington. Like the meat which the children of Israel clamored for in the wilderness, your money is purging and vomiting people to death.

Health of Kansas Stock.

Readers of the Kansas Farmer, residing in distant states have, doubtless, noticed the uniformity of the reports by our numerous correspondents, of the general good health and thrifty condition of the stock of this state. This is not remarkable when the geographical position of the state is considered, in connection with its topography and the parallels of latitude it occupies. The rolling surface of the prairies affords the most perfect drainage, making it a natural impossibility for surplus water to lie on or under the surface, to stagnate and create malaria from decaying vegetation. The surface soil

is rich and porous through which superfluous water sinks and circulates above the hard strata, composing the subsoil, finding its way to the springs and rivulets which flow through the numerous ravines between the swells. No swampy or marshy tracts are found within the broad expanse of the state, and seldom fogs are witnessed. The currents of air which are in constant circulation at the altitude which the state occupies above ocean level, passing as they do, from any direction that the winds may blow, over wide areas of land, nearly a thousand miles from the nearest large expanse of water, insures ever a pure, healthful and bracing atmosphere. A pure atmosphere and dry, fertile soil, are the prime necessities of, and contain all the required constituents of nutritious and most wholesome pastures.

The life, health and vigor of all animal existence, depends entirely upon the food which creates it. Hence, it follows, that by the very laws of life itself, all animals must possess health and vigor which draw their sustenance from the soil and breathe the atmosphere of Kansas.

Sheep and cattle in every part of the state are pronounced, invariably, to be in a most healthy and thrifty condition, where even the rudest shelter is afforded them from the storms and cold of winter. Sheep men who have brought their flocks into the state, report them in excellent condition, the animals having experienced little or no injurious effects from the change. Their fleeces are heavy and of good quality; and the short-horn finds a home most congenial to his rapid development and growth in flesh and fat.

After the prairie grass is destroyed by the plowshare of civilization, the cultivated grasses take possession of the soil and grow as luxuriantly as did the wild pastures, coming in earlier in spring and continuing to afford good grazing in the fall long after the prairie grass is deadened by frost. Drouth which parched the state when its prairies lay a primitive wilderness, has disappeared from the eastern and cultivated portions, within the last four years, and vegetation here within that period has not been more affected by summer drouths than in the same latitudes in the Atlantic States, if, indeed, so much. These numerous natural advantages, taken in connection with the fact, that scarcely an acre of the broad area of the state—an area embraced within 400 miles in length by 200 in breadth—that does not, in its natural state, afford an abundance of rich pasture, the mind is enabled to realize in a partial manner the tremendous capacity of Kansas as a stock growing country; stock not confined to any particular class, but embracing the whole catalogue of farm animals. Year after year as the seasons roll, nature spreads her treasures of rich pastures, covering with a green carpet valley and hill, of square miles that are numbered by thousands, waiting for the industry and enterprise of man to convert this wealth of verdure into cattle, horses, sheep and hogs; cheese, butter, eggs and poultry; while all the fruits, vegetables and grains of the temperate zone produce bountifully under the hand of cultivation.

Agricultural Fairs.

Throughout the country the notes of preparation are heard from agricultural societies, for the agricultural exhibitions and cattle shows which are to take place during the approaching summer and autumn. We are gratified to find that a more decided opposition than has ever before been manifested is being everywhere expressed, to the gambling and horse trot feature which came so near bringing half the agricultural exhibitions in the country to grief, last year. The sooner the jockey is divorced from agriculture the better it will be for agriculture. Let the decision of every Agricultural Society be that no more tempting premiums be offered for fast trotting. If a farmer has a good goer let him have an opportunity to exhibit the speed of his favorite, by the offer of the moderate premium of \$10, but let there be no more \$100 and \$500 premiums, with purses for "sweepstakes" and best "two in three," and "first and second money." These phrases smack of the gamblers' and the jockey's dialect, and should no more be met with in the catalogues of Agricultural Fairs. Offer the highest prizes for the best thoroughbred stock of all kinds, the finest carriage horses not under a certain size, the best farm machinery, dairy, fruit and other produce; in short give the prizes to the men and women who do the most to advance agriculture.

The theory that the people require side shows and horse racing, gambling, balloons and other circus wonders to "draw" gate money, is a mistake. And when all these things are mustered to make up a show that will "draw," the agricultural part of the exhibition is scarcely noticeable. An exhibition in the prize ring between a couple of pugilists would draw equally if not superior to the trot, and show handsomely in gate receipts. All the bruisers and pick pockets in the country would attend and pay 50 cents to the gatekeeper and the fair would prove a "grand financial success." But would the interests of agriculture be advanced by such a show? Neither are the interests of the farmer promoted by the horse trot exhibits which have demoralized and debauched the majority of the Agricultural Fairs in the country. If Agricultural Fairs are located with judgment and let it be known among stock men, farmers and manufacturers and dealers in agricultural machinery, that the fair is purely of an agricultural character, without side shows and gambling devices to call the attention of the visitors from the objects which properly compose an Agricultural Fair, there will be good attendance if the weather will permit—of course, wet weather will spoil any out-door exhibition. Of what use to farmers are the little nag

which the jockeys run and trot at the fairs, and raised to carry off about all the money that is made as entrance and gate fees? Such horses are of little or no practical value on the farm. That is not the kind of stock the farmer is advised to breed to supply the demand for horses which is increasing in this and foreign countries, but large horses of the Percheron-Norman class possessing strength, action and style, and not the ewe-necked, small animals that can trot like the wind, but can't trot only.

Let the Agricultural Fair of the future be an Agricultural fair in fact, as well as in name, where farmers may go with the certainty of learning something that will be useful to them in their business; and where stock men and agricultural machinery will find appreciative and interested spectators, with no side shows and horse racing to draw the attention of visitors from the legitimate objects of the exhibition, then FEAR NO FAILURE; but if the "horse trot" and "speed ring" are clung to as the great central feature of the future Agricultural Fairs, it requires no prophet to predict its speedy downfall. Horse racing and gambling will play out any institution or person that patronizes them.

Fertilizers.

We had hoped to be able to give our readers in this issue of the FARMER the paper read by Dr. Chas. Reynolds, at the Manhattan Institute, on Fertilizers. Indeed the Dr., before preparing it, promised us a copy. But he writes that the subject grew so large that it is altogether too bulky for a single article, and he fears that it is hardly the thing for a series of papers.

We regret this decision and are sure that the old readers of the FARMER will regret it also. We learn that this paper was rich in references to Sir Humphrey Davy, Bousingault, Gilbert, Johnson, Colwell and other agricultural chemists, and that it proved that all plants must feed upon the chemical elements they are known to possess; and if our soil is deficient in any necessary element it is vain to look for full crops.

The Kansas soil, the writer said, is rich in all the elements of plant life save three—potassium, phosphorus and nitrogen, and that the last named is furnished, in part, by the air, through the leaves. But, he continued, only in part, and therefore must be given in some degree through the soil, either by an application of nitrogenized salts, through ammoniacal manures or by plowing in of plants which are known to possess it in large degree, and no plant stores up in its stems, and roots such large quantities of nitrogen as red clover.

He scouted the idea of a farmer teaming his barn-yard manure a long distance, a mile or more, when he could impart to his soil the same requisite elements, by plowing under the roots of red clover after the hay had been removed. Nor did he see any sense in the farmer spending money for commercial nitrogenized fertilizers if he would take good care of those which his barn yard furnished. He had much to say of potash as a food for the root crops and for certain other plants and pointed out several practical ways in which it could be procured and easily given to the soil.

The Chincha Islands, he said, are nearly exhausted of their guano and the Guanape Islands which now supply the world, while they are by no means as rich in nitrogen, abound in phosphates. But why spend money for either? Save and keep dry the droppings of your hen-coops, and as far as possible, save and keep from deterioration the liquid discharges of your stock, and you have an abundance of the same elements which the guanocs of commerce furnish.

If you discover that your soil is still deficient in the phosphates, and in lime, pulverize the rocks which abound on your lands and scatter the dust on the surface of your tillable land, after plowing. Try this faithfully, he said, and I opine you will have no lack of phosphoric acid, lime and magnesia. There exists nearly every where in Kansas an abundance of these elements, but they may not always be found in a condition for assimilation.

This is but a meagre outline of a paper which took nearly forty minutes to read and which was listened to with the closest attention.

A Distillery at Topeka.

We see by some of the local papers that a distillery will soon be completed at Topeka. The papers laud the enterprise as bringing capital to the city, employing labor and making a market for farmers' corn. No journal could rejoice more than the FARMER in the success of an enterprise that employs laboring men or creates a market for the produce of the farm, if the articles manufactured are useful or beneficial to society, but converting good corn into whiskey, whiskey into drunkards, drunkards into paupers and criminals, are misfortunes for Topeka or any other community, of no slight magnitude. The corn had better not be in the cribs or be burned as fuel than to be used in building up a wholesale drunkard factory. Along with the "enterprise" and "capital" used in building distilleries, additional enterprise will be required to erect saloons, gambling dens and houses of prostitution, those necessary adjuncts of the manufacture and use of whiskey.

To Correspondents.

Correspondents who favor us with "farm letters" will place us under still further obligations by being careful to mention their post office. We often receive inquiries from the east wishing to learn the post office of correspondents whose letters appear in the FARMER, and excite a great deal of interest throughout the older states where the Kansas FARMER has a large circulation, and is eagerly sought after for information regarding Kansas.

The Investigation of the Late Senatorial Election in Kansas.

It cannot be other than a humiliation to every citizen of Kansas, that charges of bribery, fraud and corruption should follow the election of a United States Senator, to an extent warranting a legislative investigation. Those of us who have lived in Kansas and loved it as our home for the past twelve or fifteen years, have known what it was to listen to the taunts and sneers and jeers of the public press, and people all over the country speaking of Kansas as the "rotten Commonwealth."

Dispute as we may, show by a hundred facts that no pioneer state of the Union ever preserved its commercial credit under such difficulties, and that our educational, charitable and public institutions are in advance of many older states—show that the grand endowments of our institutions have been jealously guarded and that no people are as intelligent and honorable as any like number in any state, it does not remove the old blot—the "rotten Commonwealth." Our political history has been one of personal contests, rather than partizan ones. The Republican party being always overwhelmingly in the majority no account has been taken by it of the opposition organizations. The struggle for place and political power has been simply between candidates within the Republican party. The step between the use of patronage to maintain political place and the use of money is very slight. For a successful candidate to place competent and worthy men who have been his friends in positions of honor and profit, is one thing. To promise offices of every kind to persons in consideration of a vote, is another and very different thing. To pay money or to pay office, or both ought to disgrace and unseat any man elected by the people or their representatives.

In the House, by reference to our published proceedings it will be seen, that resolutions have been adopted which provide for the appointment of a committee to investigate the election of Senator John J. Ingalls. We confess that we are altogether unable to see the reason for opposing this investigation. A majority of the members of both Houses have said that there were good and sufficient reasons for believing Senator Ingalls, through his friends, had used corrupt means to secure his election. It is due to the people of Kansas, any one of whom has just as much interest in knowing whether the Senator secured his election by corruption and bribery as the members of the legislature have.

It is not only due to the people that this investigation be made, but it is just and right for Mr. Ingalls' sake, if he is free from the corruption imputed to him, that those who have slandered and injured him be brought to justice. If Senator Ingalls is blameless he should court the fullest investigation. If he is guilty of bribery, to secure his election let him, for the good name of Kansas, be disgracefully taken from his seat as a Senator. We have no sympathy with the namby pamby sentiment so freely talked by the Senators friends "that an investigation will reflect on Kansas;" injure the influence of Senator Ingalls," and much else of an apologetic character. If Senator Ingalls' enemies cannot prove their case as they claim they can it will make him ten fold stronger with the people of Kansas and the members of the United States Senate. There is a sickly whine that goes up from the bread and butter brigade of every party when an officer has degraded himself that says: "Let us cover this up with the mantle of charity and silence, let us bring no disgrace upon our party." What the mass of the people of Kansas want and what they have a right to demand is, that the man who occupies the high and honorable place of U. S. Senator shall not secure it by corrupt means. We hope every member of the present legislature whether he voted for Senator Ingalls or not will remember that the people expect him to treat this matter, not as a partizan one or as an enemy of the Senator, but as a representative. Men who are capable of sitting in either house of legislature ought to have the courage, the independence and the ability to do their duty without regard to how they voted in the late contest. The way to prevent Senators from buying votes is to send, if possible, the first one convicted of doing so to the Kansas Penitentiary, and along with him the members who sold their honor and disgraced their constituents and their state. One such example of stern justice in Kansas would make the purchase of another seat impossible.

A Splendid Combination.

The American Young Folks and the Kansas Farmer One Year for \$2.00

THE AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS has been pronounced by thousands of parents and school teachers, to be the best Boys and Girls paper in the country. It is published regularly every month, sent to any post office address for 50 cents. THE FARMER and YOUNG FOLKS will both be sent to any address for \$2.00. Give the Boys and Girls a paper. It will add interest and variety to their studies.

THE KANSAS MONTHLY—The January number of this magazine treats, as its name implies, mainly of matters pertaining to the young state of Kansas. The schools and other institutions, including the press of Kansas, with an account of the unrivaled progress which the state has made in population and wealth, with the prospects of Kansas in the immediate future, occupy a large portion of the Monthly. Accompanying this number of the Magazine is a handsome colored map of the state.

The Kansas Monthly is published at Lawrence Kas., by J. S. Boughton, at \$1.50 per year.

Editorial Notes of the Kansas Legislature of 1879.

Wednesday, Feb. 5th; 1879.

The senate and house met at 3 p. m. Quorum present in both houses. Numerous bills, resolutions and petitions presented in both houses and referred to appropriate committees. Representative hall was, by resolution, given to Gen. Carey to deliver a temperance address on Wednesday night. Much miscellaneous routine work was done in both houses.

Thursday, Feb. 6th.

The senate adheres to the old rule of having a morning and afternoon session. The house has but one regular session each day, commencing at 1 p. m., devoting morning to committee work. In the house the afternoon was almost altogether taken up in debating the resolutions of investigation.

Mr. Clapp, rising to a question of privilege, offered the following:

WHEREAS, It is charged that during the progress of the late senatorial election, acts of bribery and corruption were resorted to, to influence the votes of members of this house for U. S. Senator; and

WHEREAS, It is also charged that offers were made to pay large sums of money for votes for senator, and that in some cases those corrupt offers were made by members of this house, and

WHEREAS, The honor of the state, the integrity of this house, and the character of the senator of the United States, demand that a full and impartial investigation should be had of all the facts and circumstances connected with the aforesaid charges; therefore

Resolved, That a committee of five members be appointed, whose duty it shall be to investigate all charges of bribery and corruption connected with the late senatorial election, and all charges of corruption in office made against the recently elected senator, to the end that the innocent may be vindicated and all acts of bribery punished. And said committee shall have power to employ a clerk, to administer oaths, and to send for persons and papers.

The discussion was heated between the friends of Mr. Ingalls, who vehemently opposed the investigation, and those demanding it. Mr. Clapp supported the resolutions and urged their passage. He was seconded by Mr. Eggers, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Callan, Mr. Stumbaugh, Mr. Hamilton, and others. Those speaking upon the opposition were Mr. Legate, Mr. Manning, Mr. Biddle, Mr. Smith, Mr. Ballard, Mr. Wait of Pawnee, Mr. Eckles, Mr. Clarke of Montgomery, and others. A number of motions and amendments to defeat the passage of the resolutions were made, but failed, the resolutions to investigate passing by a vote of yeas 68, nays 56.

In the senate the following resolutions, offered by Senator Myers, produced a spirited discussion:

WHEREAS, It appears that the commission heretofore appointed to revise the general statutes of the state, have drawn from the treasury the sum of \$5,500, being the entire amount appropriated to pay the salaries of the members and clerk of said commission; and

WHEREAS, The said commission has wholly failed to perform the duties prescribed by the law authorizing their appointment, and have rendered no service to the state entitling them to the compensation aforesaid, therefore

Resolved, That the members of said commission and the clerk be and they are hereby requested to pay back into the state treasury the amounts drawn by them respectively.

Resolved, That the secretary of the senate be and he is hereby directed to forward to each member of said commission a copy of these resolutions.

The resolutions were adopted. The general feeling regarding the committee on revision is that they have not done the work expected of them. This being the most important subject for the consideration of the present legislature, more than half of the session has elapsed without any part of the statutes being in shape for their action.

Senator Buchan offered the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, It has been publicly alleged that corrupt measures and improper and unlawful means were employed to influence the votes of members of the legislature in the late senatorial election, and

WHEREAS, The good name of the state and the honor and integrity of the several candidates in said election demand that a full, fair and impartial investigation be had of said charges. Therefore be it

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the president of the senate, whose duty it shall be to investigate all such charges; which committee shall be authorized to employ a clerk, to send for persons and papers, and to administer oaths; and said committee shall make a full and complete report of their doings under this resolution.

By a vote of 21 to 13 the resolutions were adopted.

In the house, during the afternoon, concurrent resolution 20, memorializing congress to repeal the limited silver coinage law of congress, and for the repeal of the national banking law, was taken up for consideration, and

Mr. Hamilton, of Marshall, addressed the house in favor of the resolution.

The president of the senate, on Friday morning, announced the following committee on investigation: Messrs. Buchan, chairman; Johnston, Gillpatrick, Pyburn and Williams.

The speaker of the house announced the following as the special committee on investigation, as provided for in the resolution of Mr. Clapp. Mr. Clapp having asked to be excused from serving on the committee, he was not placed upon it. Mr. Randolph, chairman, Messrs. Callan, Hall, Heartsorne and Keller.

The session of Monday was nearly altogether consumed in the house in discussing points of order and resolutions and amendments intended to defeat the investigation measure adopted on Wednesday preceding. There was much speech making and little work. In the house twenty-nine bills were introduced. H. B. 226, by Mr. Biddle, provides for the appointment by the Governor, of three Railroad Commissioners, prescribing their duties, etc. The Committee on Elections reported on the contested case of

Literary and Domestic.

Edited by MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

A Parting.

Five years ago the writer undertook the pleasant task of selecting each week something that she thought would interest and perhaps benefit some of the readers of the Kansas Farmer...

The correspondence and acquaintance with Kansas women, which has grown out of this work, has been more than ample recompense for the time and labor expended and has filled my heart, as it must have filled any one's, with an appreciation of and a warm sympathy with their efforts.

Kansas women doubtless have many attributes in common with women of other and older states, but the letters that have come to the Farmer office all through the scorching years of drouth and grasshoppers testify that they lack gloriously in one, thing which seems peculiar to woman of some states, if it is allowable to judge of them as a class by the letters they write to an agricultural newspaper.

Such letters were never received from Kansas women, yet, where from the Atlantic to the Pacific, can the state be found within whose borders in the past five years, such long continued suffering has been borne by women, as in Kansas. Through it all they were courageous and hopeful, their letters almost without exception were filled with words of encouragement and suggestions for others, even those who worked hardest and longest and under the greatest difficulties, sent instead of cries of despair, helpful hints from their frontier experience that made life easier for the new-comer.

Brighter days have come to Kansas, and Kansas women, like Kansas men, have faith that they have come to stay. All have received abundant reward for their long struggle and patient trust.

With the pleasant remembrances, then, and abundant good wishes for their future welfare and happiness, the readers of this corner are resigned to the tender mercies and more experienced taste of the editors and proprietors of the Farmer. In "A Parting" from good friends there is always regret, but this does not partake of sadness because it is not a good-bye. We are all Kansas women, and with others the writer will be happy to sometimes contribute to the Farmer.

The Story of a Hand.

By Mrs. M. W. Hudson.

CHAPTER II.

"It was just such a day as this," began the friend who was relating reminiscences of his trip to the mountains, "the air was pure and exhilarating, and so clear that the most distant peaks and ridges were cut sharp like a fine engraving on steel, with distinct lights and shades."

I afterwards spent many days in the mountains when every view reminded me of Bierstadt's pictures, rich, melting hues seemed spread over everything, clouds of luminous vapor hung from the pinnacles and were suspended above the canons, roscate reflections melted into the cerulean tinted atmosphere as softly as rainbow hues blend together, making a scene as rich in coloring as it was grand in conception, but I learned that the view I beheld my first day out in a mountain stage coach was most rare. I was so absorbed with the fulfillment of my hopes and the importance of seeing all that could be seen by one pair of eyes, that it did not impress my mind especially at first, that after passing one or two stations where miners and prospectors and tourists had dropped out, I was left alone with a young lady, when it did I supposed she would drop out next.

But after a while, when I began to feel the cravings of the inner man, as the most enthusiastic sight-seer will, my thoughts came down from the peaks, and I began to wonder and moralize about this pretty, defenceless girl being in the wilderness alone.

Being a bachelor I had my own notions, of course, concerning the training of children and the liberties that should be allowed young ladies, or rather the liberties which should be denied them, for they assume all that any mortal could, so far as my observation goes, and the more I observed her the more certain I became that if American girl's rights were restricted as travelers abroad tell us European maidens are, it would be better for them. And although she

was a pretty girl and sat decorously quiet in her corner, my feeling toward her was ill-natured. She had no business to be there, I said to myself, yet it was not the duty of a bachelor to inform her that it was unwise to undertake such a journey alone. Indeed she did wrong to inflict such thoughts by her very presence on a bachelor who had risked all his boardings for a six year's salary on a good time alone. I determinedly said I would not burden my mind with her, if she wanted to travel the same way I did, I could not prevent it, but she should take care of herself. You know of old that I am hard-headed as well as hard-hearted, else I would not have resisted all these years the charms of the gentler sex, and as night came on and she began to look anxiously out over the precipices at the road side, I secretly rejoiced at her discomfiture and reclined comfortably on two seats.

It grew dark faster than I expected it to, and at last I too began to wonder that we did not arrive at my destination for the night, a rude mountain hotel which the driver had told me he usually reached before nightfall. Suddenly the coach stood still, and I stepped out to see if there was anything wrong and why we were so far behind time. I learned that we were on the brow of a short, steep descent, and the driver had taken the precaution to alight and look over the harness before risking it in the dusk. "Two miles more," he said "would take us to the tavern, but it was a perilous bit of road, the worst on his route, and he did not much like to be caught there in the night, especially with a cargo of women folks."

However, the only thing to do was to push on, and I concluded to ride outside the remainder of the way and see the worst of it.

I secretly enjoyed the apprehensions our conversation must have caused the young lady passenger, for it was carried on in a low tone and I knew she had not heard a word of it, and did not know that we were only half an hour behind time after all; half an hour after sunset makes a great deal of difference in the mountains, and I did not care if she thought we had lost our way and were about to pitch headlong into the abyss. It would have been a very ordinary thing for her to ask what was the matter but I congratulated myself that my freezing silence had given her such a realizing sense of the fact that she ought to be at home, that she said nothing.

It will be inferred, since I reached the little inn safely, that the stage coach and my fellow traveler did also. A human habitation and a light and the odors of supper have a very reassuring influence on a man's nerves, and doubtless on woman's too, for I must say that girl alighted from the coach with the most independent air imaginable, and marched straightway to the open door near which we halted, with not even a questioning glance toward me or the driver. A wild-looking boy who probably first saw the light amid the pine hills of Arkansas, was told to bring in her one heavy satchel, and she carried the lesser and inevitable items of a woman's baggage herself.

I followed a little hurriedly, feeling curious in spite of myself to know what she would say and to learn what explanation, if any, she would offer concerning her loneliness. Just as she stepped into the light that shone through the door, a man sprang to his feet within the cabin and came forward to greet her. In an instant I forgave her and repented my bearishness. I saw through it all, she had only taken a day's journey from one of the big hotels to meet a brother, perhaps, who was interested in a mine. I might just as well have had a pleasant ride with her as not, instead of gloomily moralizing all the evening; some of you fellow bachelors can sympathize with my self-disgust. But hold! the complexities of a woman's will and wanderings are not so easily read, the page of femininity is a puzzle after all; the girl actually tossed her head and refused to recognize him. Then the man was not her brother and she had not come to meet him! I might have known as much if I had looked in his face, I had only noticed in the glare of the light behind him, that he had a modern look and the bearing of a gentleman. As the young lady passed him and left him facing me, I saw that he was a square-faced, yellow-eyed, bristly-haired, dogged-looking fellow, who would only pass for a gentleman when his face was invisible. His general appearance differed so greatly from his physiognomy that it occurred to me the only good use he could be put to was to pose in a shadow pantomime where respectable-looking legs were needed, and dissolving views of gentlemen in retreat were given. He passed on out into the darkness, as if the repulse was so unexpected that he could not collect his wits immediately, but in a moment turned and re-entered. After having seen his face I did not need any further mark of his identity for future reference, but as he came in again I saw also that he had but one hand.

The young lady was ushered into the guest chamber, a little room divided from the main apartment which served as bar-room, dining-room, baggage-room, parlor, etc., by a rough board partition. The rest of us, namely, the landlord, the stranger, the driver and myself, sat down to await the dishing of the bacon and eggs.

During the short time thus given me to think, my feelings underwent a second revulsion towards the girl, for I could not help remarking to myself that she exhibited a dignity and a determination of character that would carry her through almost any place, and I must have smiled then as I did ever after when I thought of that proud toss of her head. It was adorned, I cannot say covered, with a brown straw turban hat, in the front of which was the outspread wing of a blue bird, and somehow, ever since then, I never see a turban hat with a wing in it

without feeling an interest in the face beneath it. It is singular, too, how rare the faces are that can be well set off by that style of hat; I have seen a heavy face, widest below the ears, surmounted by a turban hat, that looked like a toy on the head of an Amazon and I have seen precisely the same piece of millinery when it looked like a grenadier's hat on a mummy. Yes, it is seldom one sees a face so peculiarly adapted to a turban hat, or, if you prefer, to which a turban hat is so peculiarly adapted, as that one; neither too round nor too piquant, but both delicate and bright and slightly mischievous.

Well, you will think this is a strange way for an unsusceptible bachelor's thoughts to ramble, where was I? Oh, yes waiting for supper. The girl came out at a request from the stout landlady, looking as fresh as green peas; it is wonderful how a woman can metamorphose herself with a paper of pins and a knot or two of ribbon. She maintained her quiet and independent manner, asking no questions except at what time the coach would leave in the morning, and volunteering no information about her destiny. She was certainly as inexorable as ever, but I really found myself shuddering once or twice at the thought of her being there if I had not been there too. The stranger entirely ignored his welcoming overtures, and as no one but myself was witness, he was not obliged to make any explanation regarding them. Possibly he thought I did not see the performance, but whether he did or not he was determined not to acknowledge, even by a look, that I had that advantage over him.

Before the meal was finished I would have given twenty-five dollars if I had been polite to that girl during the day, so that I might at least have appeared to befriend her that evening, but I had willfully and stubbornly refused to notice her under circumstances which would certainly have warranted common conversation and demanded common civilities between a bachelor and strange young lady if ever any do, and now I could only hold my peace. I felt sure that a word from me at that late hour would be answered by the same pretty toss. There was nothing to do but to let her appear friendless. That she felt very unhappy about it I could not make out, and that was doubtless one cause of my uneasiness.

She retired immediately after supper, and while the hostess washed the dishes and 'made down' our beds, we sat out in the dewless night. The stranger was silent, I talked some with the landlord about the mines and the routes, but I must say my mind was persistently drawn away from the recent all-absorbing idea of seeing the mountains, and by an imprudent young girl who was nothing to me, it was too provoking—or it would have been a few hours before, for some unaccountable reason I had begun to feel as much interest in that same foolish girl as in the Grand Canon and the Snowy Range.

I slept uneasily that night and dreamed of inaccessible mountain peaks, and yawning chasms, and one-handed giants carrying off helpless girls in whom I was strangely interested but powerless to help. I was awake a great many times too, but I never heard a sound except the nibbling of mice. I always glanced toward the stranger's corner, but never discovered a motion, and the room was lighted by the moon all night so that I could have seen any moving object plainly, and was consequently much surprised upon arising in the morning to learn that the occupant of that corner was gone. When he left I could not understand, for I thought I had but half slept at any time. At the first opportunity I questioned the landlord concerning him and found out that he was traveling alone and had started before daylight in order to reach a mine in which he was interested, that day. There was nothing very strange about that, plenty of people traveled alone and on foot in that region, and doubtless he had good reasons enough for taking such an early start, but somehow I could not help connecting his disappearance with the rebuff he got from the young lady the evening before, and I concluded the same thought was in her mind at breakfast, for she looked often and anxiously, I thought, towards the door, but no one came in and there was no vacant place at the table.

I felt sure she was more uncomfortable because of his unexplained departure than she was in his presence the night before, but what was I to do? My situation was really becoming desperate, I was pursuing a course that would surely prevent her from trusting me at any time if I continued it much longer.

I must say something though at the risk of being misconstrued after my long silence. I must find out where she was going. I must help her if she needed help, though let me tell you my plans were laid for three week's mountain travel, and that was the limit of my holiday.

I had intended to leave the stage road at that point and take a shorter trail that led to the mine where I had a friend, and, unfortunately, I had said so at supper the night before, so that now I could not keep on without offering some explanation, though I had firmly made up my mind to go on as far as she did. Accordingly, I approached the young lady, and with as good a grace as possible, apologized for my rudeness, and told her that as there were no other passengers to accompany her in the coach, I hoped she would allow me to see her safely to the next station, which was a more important one and from whence she would probably have company if she was going further.

Of course, she hesitated, and said she thought she did not need any escort, as the stage would certainly reach there before night. But she did not refuse and I assured her that it would not take me much of my route, and even that I had decided it was preferable.

She did not offer any explanation or information concerning herself or her destiny, but she

looked up gratefully and instead of tossing her head, said, gently, "You are very kind, sir."

That was enough, I knew she understood my wish to befriend her and was really glad to have company.

We soon departed and you would not have thought we were the same two who traveled together the day before. I did not tell her exactly why I had so suddenly decided to go her way, nor that I would willingly make a detour from my original plan to the Gulf of Mexico or the Polar Seas, and that I secretly hoped from thence she would consent to follow me 'to the ends of the earth,' but I was sorely tempted to. It all came over me so suddenly, you see. I'll have to own up, there's nothing like it, when a fellow meets his destiny he's all gone.

We were soon up where we could almost constantly overlook mountain tops, and grand views opened before us in every direction, mountains whose outlines were soft and billowy lay one above another to the left of us, and rolled away to the southward where they were surmounted by a few craggy peaks and irregular ridges. Sometimes the road would overhang a canon whose depths looked like a terribly magnified turnpike, broken rocks of every shape and as large as houses, had fallen from the mountain sides and were piled in grand confusion below. In some places the fall had been so recent that the face of the mountain was yet scarred and barren, just as the rocks weighing hundreds of tons, scraped it, and one could almost feel the convulsion that shook the hills as the tremendous masses went down. But where time had covered the tracks of the stony avalanche with tall trees and tender grasses, graceful vines and lesser flowers, one had a feeling of safety, or of less danger, and my companion would exclaim at the beauty and magnificence, but the many changings and turnings of the panorama left no time for conversation, the mountains from such a point of view are all absorbing, unless, well, unless one has something else very important on his mind.

I believe I have read that no mortal can walk the streets of London on a foggy day and be oblivious to their wetness and blackness and heaviness, except he be in love, neither, I think can he travel in the Rocky Mountains and be indifferent to their grandeur, unless he is afflicted with some such serious malady. I saw the mountains, yet they did not satisfy me as I had felt they would, but my feeling of resentment toward the disturbing cause was all gone, and more than once when I glanced at her and discovered her gazing off into the interminable space, as oblivious of me as I must have appeared of her twenty-four hours before, a feeling of disappointment possessed me that I could not shake off until her brown eyes came back and the warm blood ran to her cheeks as if in apology for having left me alone. Then she would arouse herself and talk of the road and the distance and the time and the scenery, but only to fall into another reverie. Whether it was of the past or of something in anticipation I could not tell, but I hoped the former. I have been through enough the last twenty-five years to make me charitable and willing to let "by-gones be by-gones." I could trust myself, I thought, to counteract anything that was over, but if there was a something or somebody in prospective, that might be harder, but I was ready for a gallant fight.

You know how a fellow feels when he is indulging in some selfish pleasure, something that he knows ought to be shared with somebody else, or that would be doubled in value if someone else participated in it. Well, there was not a mile of that road in which I did not reserve some point, or nook, or distant view to be fully enjoyed when she should not only sit by my side, but when she would be with me in thought and spirit, in short, when I should possess her for my very own.

Sudden, was it! yes, it was, but I tell you it was unadulterated, and though it was intoxicating to be so near her and watch the flash of thought in her face, the hours were long and I was impatient to get on and learn more of her and be able to assume a somewhat different relation to her. When she did speak of the scenery it was with the finest appreciation, and when she was not blinded by one of those far-away moods, nothing escaped her, but after a while we rode almost in silence. We had ridden perhaps half an hour without exchanging a word or a look, she looking at the mountains but evidently seeing something quite beyond them, and I looking at them but seeing only her, when at a sharp turn in the road the coach swayed to one side and the prospect from her window must have been of a perpendicular descent of a thousand feet or more. She clapped her hands to her eyes as if to shut out the dizzy sight, and fell forward into my arms. By the time the coach righted itself I saw she had fainted, and called to the driver to stop; he jumped down and brought a cup of water from a little stream, and a few drops of it in her face brought a long sigh, and she slowly revived, but the fright had given her such a shock that she was obliged to recline on pillows made of my overcoat and luggage, and at times I had to fan her.

I spent three months in a doctor's office when I was young, and how I wanted to test my skill by examining that girl's pulse, you can never imagine, but I resisted, I knew she had trusted me to protect her and I gave her only such attentions as she seemed to need, but they did not help her much and the afternoon was long and anxious to me. I could not help connecting my fortune in being allowed to accompany her with the one-handed boor who accosted her the night before, though I had concluded he might be only an ignoramus with the kindest intentions and if it had not been for the remembered toss of the head I should not have suspected them of ever having met before, but somehow that im-

pressed me as the result of repeated provocations, and one moment I found myself metaphorically cutting him to pieces for his impertinence, and the next thanking him for making it possible for me to attend her in this unforeseen dilemma.

My emotions were conflicting that day, I assure you, my friends, they almost overcome me now when I recall them, and I don't know but you will have to excuse me from finishing this narrative until another day.

"Not a bit of it, old fellow," exclaimed one of his listeners, a school-fellow who has been married these dozen years, "You can't escape that way, out with it, tell us when you are going to marry her, and let us congratulate you."

"Well," continued our bachelor friend, looking a little embarrassed, as was natural under the circumstances, "just as the sun went down, we saw camp-fires on the side of a mountain away the other side of an unbridged and apparently bottomless gulf, for in the twilight which comes very early in those deep crevasses we could see nothing. The driver told us that was our stopping place, and after winding around the head of a canon and climbing a short, steep bit of road cut right in the face of the solid rock we came suddenly into the midst of crackling fires and cheery voices; twisted and gnarled-looking pine trees clung to their resting place as if animate with the knowledge that they could not stand upright at this height, and added to the weirdness of the scene, they were really as grotesque as trees, as the variously clad and decorated miners were as men.

When we stopped the miners closed around us, all eager for news and to see the arrivals. In the flickering firelight I could not have distinguished my best friend, they all looked alike and not more than half human, but as they saw a lady inside most of them fell back a little and the joking and laughter ceased. My companion had made a great effort to help herself but she was yet weak and nervous, so that I had to assist her, and the moment her foot touched the ground she fainted dead away again. In the confusion and excitement and the emotion that shook me as I supported her, I let some big fellow with a red handkerchief tied around his neck, pick her up and carry her into a tent which was pitched close by. I answered a few questions concerning her, but I presume they thought I was rather surly about it and soon left me.

I knew from experience that she would come out of the fainting fit, and so, doubtless, did he. I thought if he was her friend, as I took it for granted he was, brother or something, but I felt devilish anxious about her, and stood around an unconsciously long time waiting for some one to come out and tell me something about her. I stamped back and forth a few paces among the camp fires, impatient at being dropped so unceremoniously, until I reflected no one but the fainting girl herself knew that I was entitled to any consideration, and that until she recovered to inform them I could not expect any message from her, and while I was trying to decide whether to possess my soul in patience, or call out at the tent and make some one come forth, for I could hear voices inside, the same big miner came out hastily and started off at a quick pace toward the cabin which served as hotel. I hailed him and he turned about, peering at me through the uncertain light, but as soon as he saw me fairly, he said, "Oh, beg pardon, it's you, I was going to look for you, my wife tells she is under —"

His wife! His wife! You will have to guess at the rest of it, I did, that is all I heard, I did not faint too, but I tell you old boy," slapping his listener tremendously on the back, "I came nearer to it than I ever did before or ever want to again."

"Oh, that is cruel," I protested, "to disappoint us so."

"If it is cruel to you, what do you think it was to me," he rejoined, "but I had a drop of balm the next morning; misery loves company, you know, and I was not at all surprised to find my hero of the lone hand lounging around the camp. He soon discovered and came to me, and as soon as possible without being overheard asked me if I could favor him with an introduction to the young lady with whom I traveled the day before, but if you at all appreciate my feelings you understand that I could not do that. Indeed, I was going to leave on the stage in a short time. I told him, probably before there would be any opportunity to present him, and excused myself. Then perhaps I could tell him her name, he persisted, his stupid face lighting up at the thought of having the field to himself.

Oh, yes, I could do that with pleasure, 'her name is Mrs. Brook, wife of Lieutenant Brook, of the surveying party, who met her here.' Tableau, a sudden jerking out of the polite attitude, eyes open, face flaming, and a twitching of the mouth which finally stammered, 'M-M-Mrs. B-B-Brook—I thought—I mean—m-much obliged, good morning, sir.'

I laughed till I ached, and then swore till I was mad all over, the idea that that presumptuous, shallow, boorish—but then there is no use talking about it. I tell you it was a serious thing with me, and I am a confirmed bachelor, now, sure. I suppose there is no law to compel pretty girls to wear a placard announcing that they are supplied with husbands, if they are, but there ought to be, it's a terrible blow to a fellow's feelings to be deceived so, and so late in life."

We haven't seen anything in the Kansas Farmer about that paper donning a new dress. Perhaps we overlooked it, or perhaps its proprietors were too modest to say anything about it; but it has a bran new suit, nevertheless, or our eyes are badly mistaken. It is a bright looking sheet, anyhow, and an honor to the state.—Marion County Record.

Farm Letters.

Chapin, Ia. Perhaps a few lines from this part of the country will be of some interest to the readers of the FARMER. The people of Kansas think it has been cold there, but what would they think if the thermometer would stand at 27° below zero. That has been the case here this winter. The corn crop was good for this country, the average being about 35 bushels per acre, worth 18 cents. The average of wheat was about 10 bushels, worth from 25 to 45c. I commenced reading the FARMER with the January number, and I have been very much interested in it; I find it a much better paper than I expected. I wish to leave here and locate in a warmer climate. Will some one please tell me what land is worth in the neighborhood of Smith and Phillips counties? Also describe the lay of the land. I would like to settle near a county seat. S. O. G.

KANSAS.

Hart's Mills, Chautauqua County.

Jan. 25.—Six weeks of sleighing. Peaches killed. Roads fearfully muddy. Streams all up causing joy to the millers and ducks. Schools poorly attended on account of snow and cold. Bluegrass grows finely here. The best time to get a "catch" of it is in the fall. The ground for it must be finely pulverized and packed so the roots of the young grass are very tender. The prospect for wheat is the poorest since settlement of county. Cause, dry fall and late sowing. Not much corn, but as this is a stock county the wheat crop counts but little with us. Our wealth lies in the large droves of cattle that roam over our prairies, eating Uncle Sam's grass in the summer and making a market for our corn and hay in the winter. Next to cattle comes our sheep, they are very prolific, and free from disease. Next comes the hogs, they seem to have grown to be too prolific. We will have to pray for more "cholera" (not in Kansas though) or else quit raising hogs. The big millet is extensively sown here. It does better on the prairie than corn. Very little oats are sown here. White navy beans never fail, if planted between the 15th and 20th of June on finely worked land. W. W. A.

From Ellis County.

Jan.—22.—It is very pleasant weather and has been the past week. The snow has disappeared, and the frost is out of the ground. Today we have started the plows and everything looks cheerful, except, taxes are outrageous high. I fear it will retard settlement. My taxes are one-third more on a little personal property here than they were on a good, well improved farm, including all personal property, in New York. Many back east are awaiting the result of our western adventure. I wish the state and especially Ellis county settled, but the facts will go to them. Another great obstacle to settlement is the high tariff on railroads. It takes from the farmer's produce so that there is very scant daily wages left. I hope that the "assembled wisdom," at Topeka, will take the matter in hand. Also, the tax law should be so amended, that it be incumbent upon treasurers to post notices of assessments and taxes in every voting precinct, and that we have township collectors. If the representative from Ellis county should get his eye on this, I hope he will make a note of it, and oblige many of his friends. Will you do it Mr. Eggers? JOSEPH FULLER.

From Neosho County.

Jan. 27.—As you desire me to write to the FARMER, I will give a fair but short sketch of this place since my settlement in 1866, just three years before the whites obtained lawful possession of said country, and in the beginning I would say my wife and I sold a well improved little farm in Illinois to come to Kansas. I was over fifty and my wife forty years of age. We found a location here on what we whites called Elm creek, a beautiful country. We are living on the same place now, and we stand in our doorway and look at the trains running on the L. & G. railroad, just one mile west, and at the trains running on the M., K. & T. railroad, three miles east, and the white school-house one mile southeast, built without bonds. Our district, township and county is out of debt. We have a flourishing depot town two miles distant, on the L. & G. railroad, Earlton, with young and energetic men to divide our business there, and the best of all we have a strong Good Templar Lodge there. In the next letter I will give you some account of what we went through to accomplish all this, the price of land, etc. DANIEL PENTZER.

From Reno County.

Jan. 25th.—Snow all gone and frost out of the ground sufficiently to admit of starting the plow. Our best farmers follow with the harrow when plowing in the winter or when the ground is wet, otherwise the soil is apt to become lumpy and interfere with after culture, during the season. Wheat just begins to start growing, and the fields generally look promising. The few 'hoppers' of last fall confine their depredations mostly to the edges of fields, where they are less annoyed by wind. There will be some loss on potatoes by reason of the unusual severity of the winter.

The present promise of an early spring reminds us that it will be well to mulch peach and other fruit trees to prevent the premature starting of fruit buds. Last year a spring frost injured many buds in this vicinity when this precaution was not taken. No prevailing disease among farm-stock, but the winter has been very severe on animals unprovided with shelter. Variety of food, plenty of water, and sufficient shelter from bad storms, are the three essential requisites for the successful management of cows and farm-stock generally. Were these three things provided, animals would rarely sicken, or die except when in the butcher's hands. The slight uneasiness about the Indians is dying out, but the settlers south and west are on the alert, and will give any possible future marauders a warm reception. E. PRATT.

From Montgomery County.

Jan. 15th.—I came from Canada in September, 1876, with the intention of making me a home in the far west, and after traveling for a few months through Missouri and Kansas, I found the place to suit. It is away down south here in Montgomery county, and I feel very thankful that my lot is cast in so pleasant a place. The climate here is very genial, the soil good and generally level or rolling, with here and there a high mound that is underlaid with coal, and affording plenty of rock for farm use, and at the same time supplying a fine pasture for stock, especially sheep, of which I intend to put on a stock soon, for I cannot see why they

may not be grown with profit, although there is none in the place. The stock grown here are mostly Short-horn cattle, Berkshire and Poland-China hogs, and horses and mules of all kinds.

There was very little wheat sown here last fall on account of the dry weather, but it generally looks well. Wheat and corn light; oats good; plenty of fruit but no potatoes; stock of all kinds healthy and looking well; prices very low, taxes high, and people grumbling. We have had the coldest weather here there has been for years. It has lasted for about six weeks, but it is growing warmer. The weather is now quite spring-like.

Please tell me if the Osage Ceded Lands have lately been offered for homesteading. R. J. V.

Osage Ceded Lands are not open to homesteaders. Persons desiring information about United States Lands, can obtain the most reliable information by addressing a letter or postal card to the U. S. land office at Topeka, Kansas. From Jewell County.

We raised extra good crops here the past season. Wheat ranged from 15 to 45 bushels per acre, corn 25 to 75 bushel, and other crops in the same proportion. Fall grain looks promising for an abundant harvest the coming season. There is more fall grain sown than ever before in this county. The weather has been very cold with some snow, for the four past weeks, but it has moderated, the snow is disappearing and those farmers who are not through husking corn begin to smile thinking they can soon finish their last fall's work. Stock is wintering finely with plenty of corn at 12c. per bushel. The price of land ranges from \$3.00 to \$20.00 per acre, according to locality and improvements. D. J. MORTER.

From Crawford County.

Sleet commenced to fall on the evening of the 12th of December, continued all night and next day. Snow fell in a few days some five or six inches deep. The cold was intense. It kept very cold until January 17th when it commenced to get warmer. Snow and ice about all gone. Streams high, and appearance of rain.

The best way we have found to protect our trees from rabbits is to wrap them with strips of old calico, about two inches wide. Commencing at the bottom, turn one end of the strip up, go round once and over the end, which holds it fast, continue until high enough; then draw the other end through the last round and you are done, take off in the spring and they are ready for another year, it does not scratch the hands like grass. Paper is good, but have to have twine to tie with.

Currents need shade, and almost anything that will shade from the noon-day sun will answer. The north side of a fence, under large trees, but the way we do is to cut brush and lay over them thickly, with a few stakes to hold it in place. It can be lifted off to hoe or mulch, and then put back. I don't think the wind broke "Louisiana" currants off but the rabbits, as they will cut them as smooth as you could with a knife. I think Kansas is capable of raising all our common fruit in abundance if properly set out and taken care of. Just let the women undertake it and it will be done. We washed all our trees with lye in the spring, and they shine and look so healthy. Nothing makes a home more pleasant than plenty of trees around, and that is what we want, a home, not merely a place to stay in. If anyone has Amber sugar cane seed for sale, please let us know through the FARMER. I know several that want to get some. AMERICAN GIRL.

Crawford county, Kansas. Mound Valley, Labette County.

Feb. 4th.—The ice and snow have gradually wasted away, a few rainy and wintry days, and now we are having nice, pleasant weather. The heavy sleet broke down a great many fruit and ornamental trees, and for several weeks our out door surroundings were gloomy enough, and we almost imagined ourself set back 1000 miles towards the north pole. Some very cold days, temperature reached 8° below zero, but now we are at home again in our own southern Kansas, with no visible marks of the great storm, except our poor broken trees. Stock that have been properly cared for are doing well. No disease of any kind. The snow left the wheat looking fresh and green, and with a favorable hereafter it may produce a full crop, notwithstanding the dry fall. J. B. C.

Our correspondent, J. B. C., forgets when he requests proof of a negative, on the chess question, that such is never required. The affirmation must be proven to the satisfaction of the court and jury. The presumption is that a horse was created a horse until proof is furnished that it originated from some other animal. Nor could hypothesists and appearances be received as evidence, as both are very descriptive.

From Saline County.

Jan. 30.—Wheat in this part of the country is just about half as promising as last year at this time. The early sown wheat is good, but the late sown didn't all come up last fall, but it is coming up now as the snow disappears. The weather hasn't been prepossessing recently. It commenced raining yesterday and kept up a drizzle all day. At night it commenced sleeting, and this morning the ground is covered with a middling heavy snow, and still snowing. The corn through here has not all been gathered on account of cold weather and snow-storms. The farmers through this part of the country have been plowing for spring crops, but the snow has stopped them again.

Stock is doing well here this winter. No cholera among hogs in this part of the country. A great many chickens and turkeys died through here with cholera. Will some of the readers of the FARMER please give me, through its columns, a remedy for the disease? I see, through the columns of the FARMER, that one of your correspondents raised one hundred tons of green or sixteen tons of dry pearl millet per acre. I don't see how it could all grow on one acre. I think it must have grown like good, cultivated corn-stalks. I am taking the Kansas FARMER, and I like it well. I see a great many things in it that interest me very much. L. DONMEYER, JR.

The best preventive of cholera is to follow the advice given from time to time in the FARMER, for feeding and care of fowls, and if cholera makes its appearance among them, knock on the head at once all that show symptoms of the disease, and bury them immediately.

Advertisements.

In answering an advertisement found in these columns, our readers will confer on us a favor by stating that they saw the advertisement in the Kansas Farmer.

57 A DAY to agents canvassing for the Fireside Visitor, Terms and Outfit Free. Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

60 Chromo, Perfumed, Snowflake, and Lace Cards, name on all 10c. (Same Authors, Inc. LYMAN & CO., Clintonville, Ct.)

60 Chromo and Perfumed Cards, no. 3 alike, name in Gold and Get, 10c. CLINTON BROS., Clintonville, Conn.

25 of the PRETTIEST CARDS you ever saw, with name 10c postpaid. GEO. I. REED & CO., Nassau, New York.

A BARGAIN.

I have several second hand Pianos which I will sell very low for cash, or will take in exchange a good new milk cow, a good family horse, or both. Address J. L. SHELDON, Lock Box, A Topeka, Kas.

A Good Farm to Rent

of 140 acres, near Carbondale, a good market, 70 acres under plow. Want \$150 cash. Will sell on easy terms and long time. Will take Topeka property for farm or rent. H. K. WINANS, Topeka, Kansas.

An Experienced Cheese Maker.

I want a situation as cheese maker, will rent a factory, or wish information for the location of a factory. H. C. FOX, Topeka, Kansas.

KANSAS HOME NURSERIES offer the largest assortment of HOME GROWN Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Vines, Roses, Orange Quinces, also choice new and rare varieties of Apples and Peaches, will deliver and offer trees in Topeka during the season. A. H. & H. C. GRISEA, Lawrence, Kansas.

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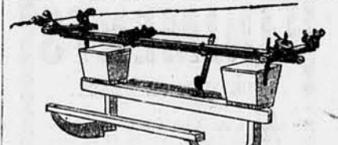
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The Center Movement we have GREATLY IMPROVED, removing every objection that has ever been brought against it, it being, as at present constructed, SIMPLE, DURABLE, and EFFECTIVE in every particular.

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Our earliest experiments with Check Rowers, beginning in 1869, were with wire, dragged sideways to the machine, and we know the difficulties to contend with in making a satisfactory Check Rower in that way. We know the liability of the wire to catch on obstructions and break; we know the shifting position of the wire in its passage to the machine, and consequent displacement of the check; and we know the difficulties of managing it at the ends, etc. OF WIRE CHECK ROWER. We now can say HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY OVERCOME IN OUR WIRE CHECK ROWER. The following are some of the ADVANTAGES OF ADVANTAGES OF THE HAWORTH'S WIRE CHECK ROWER. THE WIRE is as easy to handle as a ROPE. NO KINKING OR TANGLING. NO SIDE-DRAFT. It requires but about 5 lbs. tension. NO DOUBLE ANCHOR ARRANGEMENT at the ends, like making down a horse-potter, but a SIMPLE PIN IS USED. Does not require a DOUBLE STROKE to make ONE DROP. Does not have to overcome the resistance of a STEEL SPRING in addition to moving the SEED SLIDES—making it labor to make a drop. NO STEEL SPRING to break or lose their tension. Can be UNCOUPLED at EACH END, and taken off or added on for point rows. Is turned at the end without taking off the wire. NO DRAGGING over CLOSERS or OBSTRUCTIONS, thereby avoiding a great strain on the wire. NO OBSTRUCTIONS affect the WIRE, for it is laid over straight by the machine. NO BREAKING or LOCKING of the steel coupling possible. NO one, able to drive straight enough to make corn rows, can fail to do good work, as there is no double trailing anchor arrangement to square and range at the ends. We use nothing but the BEST ANNEALED DRUMMER STEEL WIRE, manufactured expressly for the Check Rower. Unequaled Durability Guaranteed.

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The operator does not have to get off the machine to throw the WIRE off at the end of the field.

Will work on any planter, as now made. It is very easy to work and understand. Is durable in all its parts.

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