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THE KANSAS FARMER.

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Literary Items No. 16.

We will give in this number the origin of many interesting names and expressions, which are in common use. They are worthy of remembrance.

"Praise God from whom all Blessings flow" This well known and much admired doxology was composed by Bishop Kent, sometime in the 17th century. It has been said by James Montgomery, the poet, that it is amongst the most perfect composition in the English language, and has been more unanimously adopted and used than any similar production, except the Lord's prayer.

"KNOW THYSELF."

This is an ancient maxim—one which was regarded with so much respect and veneration by the Philosophers of those days, that it was inscribed on the temple of Apollo, at Delphos. It is a maxim still in general use, but it is doubtful if the lessons taught by this precept are more fully lived up to than they were at the time Greece was the seat of learning.

ALPHA AND OMEGA.

The ancient Greek's signified the beginning and the end of all things by the words Alpha and Omega, they being the first and last letters of the alphabet.

STYLE OF WRITING.

The art of writing is very ancient. Among what people it first originated is unknown. Every nation of which we have any knowledge practice the art of writing. The materials and instruments then in use were very rude and unwieldy in comparison with those now in use. In early times letters or characters were cut on a tablet of stone. Sometimes lead or brass was used. Unbaked clay in the shape of tiles, received impressions more readily, which afterwards were burned with fire.

The instrument employed in making the letters on these tablets was a small pointed piece of iron, or some other hard substance, called by the Romans a "style," hence a persons manner of composition was figuratively termed his "style of writing."

The use of the word style continues, though the instrument from which it was derived has long since passed away.

PAPER.

The word paper is derived from the bark of a reed which grew along the river Nile, in Egypt. This was manufactured into sheets or rolls of paper, called papyrus, or papyr.

PARCHMENT.

This receives its name from the city of Pergamos. The art of making paper was brought to great perfection about two hundred years before Christ. It was then called Pergamena, which in English has changed into parchment. Important documents were always written on parchment, but of late years it has gone out of general use.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME "BOOK."

The common name of book is a term of Danish origin. It will very readily be seen in what way it has been adopted when we consider that in Denmark, a long time prior to the discovery of printing, it was their practice to keep records of all events, letters, almanacs etc., by engraving them on wood, and because beech was the most commonly employed for these purposes, from the Danish name of that tree, which is "bog." From this circumstance all the northern European have borrowed the name of book.

DOOMSDAY BOOK.

This book is one of the oldest and most interesting and valuable works of the period of William the conqueror. The original copy of this book is kept on the English exchequer, and is a prize of great value. It was compiled by the commissioners of William the conqueror. It is a tax book, and a sort of census record, and it contains an account of the several baronies, knight's fees, plow lands, number of families, men, soldiers, husbandmen, servants and cattle. It contains an estimate of how much meadow, pasture, woods, commons, marsh lands etc., every one possessed. It is in two volumes, each country or shire is described, with the list of lords of the soil—that is the King and some of the Nobles.

THE ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY.

After Phillip Macceton, was assassinated, while the preparations were going on for the over-



"FROM ALL THE GOOD, CHOOSE THE BEST."
THE NEW ADJUSTABLE FORCE-FEED SUPERIOR GRAIN DRILL AND GRASS SEED SOWER.

throw of the Persian dynasty. Alexander his son, though a mere youth at the time, was selected as his successor. The Macedonian campaign was commenced for the conquest of Egypt and Persia. The Persian Empire was conquered, from the Helospont to the Indies, an exploit not surpassed by any military leader of ancient or modern time. The Macedonian generals, after the death of Alexander, divided up the empire.

Ptolemy, a natural son of King Phillip, became kings of Egypt. At the siege of Rhodes the citizens paid him divine honors, and gave him the title of Soter (the Savior). By that designation—Ptolemy Soter—he is distinguished from the succeeding kings of the Macedonian dynasty of Egypt. He established the seat of government and named it Alexandria.

He commenced the celebrated Alexandrian museum, which was completed by his son Ptolemy Philadelphus. This library comprised four hundred thousand volumes.

In the course of time another building was established, containing three hundred thousand.

Alexander became the intellectual metropolis of the world; it has been claimed, says Prof. Draper, that this museum was the birth place of modern science.

The library in the museum was destroyed during the siege of Alexandria, by Julius Caesar. JAS. HANWAY.
Lane, Kansas.

Making a Home in Kansas.

I see in your paper of May 21st, a communication from "E. M. B.," Morris county, Kansas, giving his experience in "Making a Home in Kansas," with the request that if others had done better, such testimony he thought would be interesting to the readers of the FARMER. I was much interested in the article, and thought our experience might prove as interesting to some of our eastern friends as the article referred to. Though I do not claim we have done better, yet I think we have done equally as well, and thought I would venture to mention a few of the obstacles one can overcome in Kansas by hard work and perseverance. Don't be afraid of the work, that is one thing to remember.

We arrived here the last of June, two years ago, with a good work team, consisting of three animals, two wagons, (one light one-horse wagon), and nine in the family to feed and clothe—the eldest fourteen, and very little money. We came to Cloud, as we had dear friends here, hardly expecting to find vacant land, but after a few days spent in looking around, were fortunate in finding 320 acres joining, which was entirely vacant.

The first thing, of course, was to secure the land, then procure a breaking-plow and begin opening a farm. The second week in July found my husband treading the weary round of a half-mile strip of ground, and not being used to farming, found it very hard work, but still kept going until thirty-seven acres were broken. He then commenced quarrying stone for a house; this, too, was new work for a "city gentleman," but he was bound to win, and he did.

We now have a very good house, not a "dug-out" either, which we moved into the first fall;

have a timber-beat which consists of three rows of cottonwoods and box-elder, all around our small shrubbery; have out about 80 apple trees, 600 peach trees, 12 cherry, 10 crab and 10 plum trees, beside 3,000 cottonwood, box-elder and walnut trees; a pasture hedged in, and a quarter of a mile of hedge by the orchards of small fruit. We have 50 raspberry bushes, 200 strawberry bushes, 150 grape and 1,000 cherry plants. These last 1,000 I set, so I know all about them. We also have 70 acres of ground broken, and all in crop this year.

We have done all this besides breaking 27 acres for others, and last year renting 30 acres. We have 10 acres of rented ground this year, and husband is as busy as a bee, breaking away from home, to pay for an extra team we were obliged to get this summer on account of having so much work to do. And all this while I have been raising chickens, ducks and pigs to beat everything; only have not had good success with the ducks. We have now 100 little chicks, 16 little ducks and 14 pigs. We have paid very little money for our trees. The pigs we paid for in work, and all the work we hired on the house cost \$30. Husband has become quite a good stone mason by doing so much work himself on the cellar, which, by-the-way, is the admiration of every one who visits us.

Now the secret of getting so much done, is hard work, and we all bear our share of it.

I think if some of our city friends should visit us, they would scarce recognize in our seven brown, sturdy, healthy boys and girls, the pale, sickly ones who left for Kansas two years ago the 26th of this month, and if more of them should come here, and not be afraid of browning their hands with toil, they would be healthier and happier.

Our Kansas home is "not for sale." We do not pay \$100 a year rent, as formerly. Mrs. J. Sulphur Springs, Kansas.

A Reply to V. B. L., of May 28.

Wherein I will give my experience in garden troubles and their remedies.

Five years ago I came in possession of the house and lot I now occupy, containing one acre, one half in cultivation. Early in the spring I commenced active work for a good kitchen garden. The ground seemed alive with every kind of known insect, crawling, creeping and flying.

The first fifty cabbages were cut down in three days by the cut worms. I set out fifty more and hunted for the "varmints" morning, noon and night, every evening making all sorts of traps for their destruction, such as laying chips for them to crawl under, punching round holes for them to fall into, and making a circle of wood ashes around each plant, &c. I found that eternal vigilance is not only the price of Liberty, but also of garden sass.

After much tribulation with the animated part of my garden soil, a friend came to the rescue. Oh! horror of horrors it was! "Fill your garden with chickens." Chickens! Heavens! Why! only the morning before I had rushed tearing mad down through the garden with arms and hair flying like a lost animated wind mill, just because one, only one, hen had dared to tread on that sacred soil. My Garden And now right here was a good honest friend

grinning at my consternation and seriously advising me to put in a dozen hens to save it.

Well, this was the situation: the garden and three of us, and but one could have it, the worms, the hens, or myself. I could not afford to keep it. It took too much time. So I voted with the hens, and the hens got it.

Now, said my friend, all hens are alike, but not one in the same qualities of mind or pursuit. They vary in their instincts like dogs. There is the setter dog, and there is the pointer; there are game fowls and dogs that die game there is the fat and lazy house dog and the fat British hen, both living on the production of others—a species of tramp that live to destroy—then there is the ever moving, ever acting, always going little rat terrier, incessantly hunting vermin, also the little active breeds of hens, that never rest from early dawn till the sun goes down. They hunt the vermin that give us so much grief. The game, the bantam, and the light Leghorn will do unmeasured good in a garden, if they have not learned bad tricks and are properly cared for.

White Leghorns are my choice with one small game hen, as a mother. The game make the best of mother, for, in defense of her brood she will "lick" anything from a rat to a bull dog, and they know enough to come in when it rains.

I sent \$5 to a breeder for a trio of Leghorns, and then commenced the supposed difficult feat of raising both hens and garden in one inclosure, and from that time till this I have had from ten to forty hens and chicks running at will in a garden, at all times of the year, with full instructions to help themselves to what they liked best; and I say emphatically, it is a success. Couldn't keep garden without them. Twenty-five cents will pay for all the damage ever done. And for the last three years no insect but the little black tramp fly ever troubles me. Don't ever think of cut worms.

Now, how do you keep them from eating the peas, cabbage and tomatoes? I say they are not disposed to do so unless taught by other hens, or are driven to it. For good, for perfect success, observe the following rules.

- (1) Start with a fresh supply of chicks that have never leained to eat vegetables, and never allow them to associate with any that have. "Evil communications corrupt good manners."
- (2) Always keep a variety of grain near the roost. In the morning a starved hen will not select her diet.
- (3) In the winter feed meat scraps, to cultivate a love for animal food.
- (4) Always keep fresh water handy, and in the same place. A white Leghorn will not eat tomatoes except driven to it by thirst.
- (5) It is advisable that grass should be between the garden and roost.
- (6) If a hen gets the depraved appetite for garden vegetables any time in the year, kill and eat at once, before she teaches others. Like egg eating, it is a bad habit only.

If the above is observed, you may chop up cabbage and sprinkle with meal, and your hens will not eat it if worms can be found. As to scratching, they will not scratch to hurt, unless your beds are—wormy. They like to travel too well.
E. A. PECK,
Sycamore, Ill.

A Trip Among the Farms.

Having just returned from a trip in Riley, Dickinson, Davis and Wabaunsee counties, I thought I might give your readers a few items of interest.

Leaving Wamego I traveled up the Kansas river to Manhattan, where I found the people taking a holiday by attending Anderson & Co.'s circus, this being on the 5th of May. Thence I went north up the beautiful Blue river, where I found the farmers busily engaged in planting corn. Small grain looking very well considering the dry weather we had during the fore part of spring.

Arriving at Randolph, situated on the Blue, at the mouth of Fracy creek, I found the people of that town engaged in building and improving their town to a considerable extent. The people of that locality are deeply interested in the extension of the narrow-gauge railroad, also the Blue Valley & Northern railroad, which was being talked up with considerable interest.

Leaving the Blue, I traveled up Fancy creek to the western part of Riley county, and returned through the county by way of Riley Center. There I found some of the farmers plowing up fall grain and planting to corn. These being on the high lands, some of the farmers claim that the dry weather this spring was the cause of the failure of crops, and others think that it was the dry weather in the fall which prevented getting the plowing done in season.

I then came down Wild-Cat creek and crossed over into Eureka valley, (which is a fine one) thence up the Kansas river to Junction City. The crop prospects are not as flattering as last year in this locality, yet they are fair.

I then traveled through the Golden Belt or wheat region, in Dickinson county, where I found the wheat prospects quite poor, farmers not expecting more than half a crop. Corn nearly all up and looking well. In parts of the county I saw them planting their wheat fields to corn, without plowing up what little wheat there was in the ground.

I then traversed Turkey, Lyon, Humboldt and McDowell creeks, on my return, where I found the prospects more pleasing, though not as flattering as last year. Corn looks better than small grain. Throughout the whole route traversed, I do not think I saw any better prospects than in Pottawatomie and Wabaunsee counties. Wheat is looking better here than in any other locality I passed through.

The fruit crop is seriously injured in all of the above named counties, and a great many of the peach trees killed, mostly on high land, and where they were not protected by timber.

C. M. R.

Wamego, Kansas.

"From All The Good Choose The Best."

The new adjustable force feed "Superior" grain drill and grass seed sower manufactured by Thomas, Ludlow & Rodgers of Springfield, Ohio, who have recently established a Branch House at Kansas City, Mo. This drill is well made, of first class material, nicely finished, has every single good feature of any other, besides several valuable improvements possessed by no other Drill in the world. The wheels are high, its adjustment perfect, and it will distribute the grain more evenly and accurately than any other. Try it and be convinced. Get your dealer to order for you and don't be put off with another. Send for illustrated catalogue—address, Thomas, Ludlow & Rodgers, Branch House, Kansas City, Mo. A. G. Brandner, Manager.

Ellsworth, Ellsworth County.

May 30th.—Your valuable paper comes to us regularly, is read with interest, and is of great practical value to us as Kansas farmers. Your paper ought to be in the hands of every farmer in the state, especially new beginners, and I take pleasure in telling my friends so, and also in distributing the FARMER among them, whenever opportunity offers. We take an interest in reading the report of crops from different parts of the state.

Wheat with us looks as though it would yield an average crop. Corn looks well; about all planted; part is cultivated twice. Oats and barley bid fair to make good crops.

We are much interested in all articles touching on the state and prosperity of the grange, and hope to see the farmers of Kansas use it as a "mighty power for good." Although never having had any experience in the workings of the grange, yet I think as a means of inducing farmers to associate more together, to discuss topics relating to the farm economy, and as a means of waking farmers up to the necessity of electing practical farmers to fill state and national offices, the grange is the best medium ever devised. We also read with much interest (as no doubt all Kansas farmers do) the discussions of the proposed regulation by law of railroad, freight and tariff rates.
FARMER SMITH.

Farm Stock.

Short-Horns Against Pells.

It is no longer a question whether the improved breeds of foreign cattle are better cattle and more profitable to the raiser, the feeder, the dairyman, and all parties interested in them, than the mongrel breed we call Natives, but there seems to be a question which of the various breeds that have been and are now being introduced into this country, are best adapted to our various wants, and we have the friends of the Short-horns, the Herefords, the Holsteins, the Devons, the Ayrshires, the Polled cattle of Scotland, known as the Angus, Galloway, etc., and even the little Jersey (that are certainly superior to goats), all claiming that their favorites are the cattle of others the most profitable.

Now there is no question but that all of the above breeds are good cattle, and for some of the various locations and uses of the citizens of our wide-spread and greatly diversified domain, some one of the different breeds above mentioned may be superior to either of the others, but they are distinct breeds, each having their characteristics and peculiarities, that have made them valuable in the locations where they have existed, and that will make them valuable in locations where they are to exist in the future.

Experience has proven that the majestic Short-horn, or bulky Hereford, taken to high mountain ranges where they are pinched with hunger and cold, dwarf and cease to be profitable, and cattle reared, used and adapted to such ranges are not constructed to compete with either of the above breeds where they have good treatment.

Now can we, by mixing the blood of the different breeds, and making what our British friends call cross-breeds, produce an animal better adapted to the wants of the people of Kansas? Such a course has been strongly intimated in several articles that have appeared in the FARMER, during the last few months, recommending the use of Polled bulls to an extent that will produce a race of hornless cattle.

Now this is not entirely an untried experiment, and would it not be well to examine and see the results of the experiment already made, and compare loss and gain before we launch into this enterprise?

In the year 1793, Charles Colling, in an arrangement with his neighbor, Col. O'Callaghan, bred his Short-horn bull Bolingbroke to two Galway heifers. One produced a bull-calf, and by their arrangement was Colling's property, who named him Son of Bolingbroke. During the winter he was a yearling, Colling bred his old Short-horn cow, Joanna, to him, and the produce was another bull calf, named Grandson of Bolingbroke, and during the winter he was a yearling, Colling bred his grand old cow, Phoenix, the dam of Favorite, who had failed to breed for several years, to him, and the produce was a cow calf that was named Lady, and she was said to have been a good one, seven-eighths Short-horn and one-eighth Galway. This heifer he raised, and when matured, bred her successfully to his best bulls, and reared several calves from her. Her first calf was a bull called Washington, and Colling bred him to two or three of his cows, but got nothing of any particular value, and with this exception never bred any of the bull calves of Lady, or her descendants, to any of his thoroughbred cows, but continued to breed her heifers and her heifer descendants to his good bulls until 1810, when he sold out his entire herd, and quit breeding. This Lady family he catalogued to themselves, and by way of distinction called them the "Alloys." This Lady was one-eighth Galway, her daughters one-sixteenth, their descendants less, and so on for the fourteen years he kept her, and one would suppose, to all intents and purposes they would have been the equal of thoroughbreds, but what does history say of them, in 1810, at Colling's sale? They were good feeders, had good carcasses, were in fine condition, made a good appearance, but were no milkers, and sold for good prices, but not near as much, individually, as some of his other families.

As the advice has been given that it would be of advantage to cross Short-horns with these Polled bulls, let us see what a standard authority says of them: Short-horns, in quantity, are the greatest milkers of any breed whatever, excepting the Holsteins, and that Galways are not good milkers.

Now, if in their purity they are not good milkers, and sixteen years' grading up with one of the greatest milking breeds, and they are still no milkers, there is little to hope for in the dairy interest by the experiment; and experiments in England show that they are not the equal of Short-horns, and some other breeds in monthly gains, when fed for beef, and in grandeur and beauty there is no comparison between them. Now we are asked to sacrifice all these excellencies, for what? Simply to get an idiotic-shaped, muley head that will ship better, and no certainty of getting even that, for if there was ever a polled produce in Colling's experiment, I have never seen it stated.

Meriden, Kansas.

J. W. HUBER.

If our correspondent's special pleading proves anything, it proves too much. When he sets up the claim of a dairy cow for the Short-horn, no argument is required to refute the pretension. The Short-horn is essentially a beef-producing animal. If the west was as much of a dairy as a beef-raising country, Short-horns would be in very little demand. It is no argument in favor of a cow that she gives a large quantity of milk, if it is poor in quality. The Short-horn, as a dairy animal, can well afford to leave the field clear to other breeds, and

stand on its record as a beef-producer. There is no conflict between the Short-horn and the Polled cattle as to dairying qualities. The question is purely one of beef.

The hornless animal has many advantages for shipping, also for stabling and feeding in yards and small enclosures. The horns of cattle are a great objection in carrying, on account of the injury they inflict on one another. As a beef-producer, the Polled ox carried away the first prize at the Paris Exposition.

The experiments made many years ago by one man, in crossing the Polled cattle on the Short-horn, will have but little weight in determining the value of hornless cattle to western feeders and shippers. Are they destined to prove as good beef-producing animals, either as grades or pure-bred, as the Short-horn? An answer to this question is what the beef interest of the west is waiting anxiously for a solution of. Scoring at their "idiotic-shaped, muley heads" will not elevate to a prouder eminence the superior qualities of the Short-horn. The hind-quarters, rib and loins are the parts on trial. The contestants for prizes in this trial do not enter the arena head foremost, but tail foremost.

How to Prevent Hogs Becoming Diseased.

The causes of diseases among swine, and the best remedies, are unsolved problems in the estimation even of multitudes who have bred hogs for a quarter of a century.

But a majority of our people will continue to try experiments. Nearly every man of large experience in fattening this class of stock, who has not a favorite medicine of his own, will try every remedy proposed by any man professing to be a veterinary surgeon. This is not surprising, when we read in many of our papers that during 1878 25 per cent. of the hog crop of that year was lost by hog cholera.

So far as we can learn by careful inquiry, there is, at present, but little of this disease prevailing. Will the readers, therefore, allow us to give all who either rear or fatten swine a little simple advice? It may not do them or their animals much good, but it will do them no harm, and it may be of great value to their young stock. At all events, the trial will not be expensive. As a postulate, we affirm the trite old aphorism, "An ounce of preventive is better than a pound of cure."

Keep your hogs in good, clean fields; give them access to pure water—even though you should be compelled to dig a deep well for that purpose; a good pump and suitable troughs, cleansed every week, will cost but little and will always prove a valuable outlay. Provide, also, in the driest part of the field a good shelter, both from sun and rain. A few rails properly arranged two or three feet from the ground, covered with a stack of straw, or coarse prairie grass, will be an attractive place for the entire drove.

In troughs, near by their resting-places, two or three times each week, place a composition of salt, soda, red pepper and ginger. To four parts of the first two articles, add one part of the latter. Our common red peppers will do very well; they should, however, be well pulverized and all the ingredients thoroughly mixed. Most healthy animals will readily devour salt. To obtain it they will also take the alkali and the stimulant. The compound will not injure bird, beast, fish or man. It is not offered as a patent remedy, but simply as a preventive of the injurious effects of the foul gases and the pestiferous filth in which hogs have been allowed to wallow. Continue their usual summer feed, whether clover, bran, meal or corn.—*Drovers' Journal.*

Horticulture.

The Quince.

Quince culture is receiving more attention than formerly. The high price and ready sale of this fruit doubtless inciting horticulturists to increase their attention to its propagation.

W. W. Meech of Vineland N. J. gives his mode of propagating the Quince, in the NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

The quince first attracted notice in the city of Cydon in Crete or Candia, hence its botanical name, *Cydonia*. There are several varieties, some of which are only used as ornamental shrubs, and some are only valued as stocks for dwarfing pears. The principal varieties of value for eating are the apple-shaped, embracing the well known orange quince; the pear-shaped inferior in quality to the others; the Portugal, a shy bearer of excellent quality; and a large seedling variety much boasted of in these days of great things.

My experience thus far is in favor of the orange quince. It is hardy, grows rapidly, and bears abundantly. I have now twenty-two trees that were propagated from cuttings only five years ago, that yielded three bushels of very fine fruit last season. The largest of them weighed ten ounces, and thirty-three filled a peck measure heaped as long as they would lie on. The best of the trees bore to maturity forty-seven, and would have had more but for a vigorous thinning out when quite small. The price of quinces for a number of years has been from \$2 to \$4 a bushel, and scarce at that. If they were cultivated and cared for with the attention of other fruits, I think they would be found among the most profitable crops.

Propagation by cutting is easy, and comparatively sure. The cuttings should be cut from the trees before the buds begin to start in the spring. I prefer February or March. Take well ripened wood of one and two years growth, the older being the choice of the two, and insert

in the soil about a foot deep to secure them against drought, leaving three or four inches above the surface for the development of buds. Sticks of half an inch diameter will be found to send out the most vigorous shoots. I had from a cutting one-third of an inch in diameter, a growth in 1878, of three branches measuring respectively 3 feet, 4 feet, and 4 feet 8 inches. About 2 feet is a fair average for the growth the first year.

My method of culture is to set the standard trees in quincunx rows, about eight or ten feet apart, by which method I gain one row in nine over the method of setting in squares, and yet keep the desired distance. In preparing the ground, I dig a hole a foot and a half deep, about three feet across, and farther if any roots are long. I then fill in a few inches of rich earth, on which I set the young tree, covering the roots carefully with more rich soil, and near the surface put a liberal mulch for the double purpose of preventing drought, and enriching the ground. Managed in this way my trees uniformly live, and make a vigorous growth. A little salt is grateful to the quince tree, and adds to its vigor.

Protecting Grapes From Insects.

The Secretary of the Ohio State Horticultural Society recommends covering the clusters of grapes to protect them from rot, and insects.

"Covering the fruit by slipping a paper bag over each cluster after the berries are formed, and letting remain till ripe, is found a complete protection from rot, and also from insects and birds. The bags are those in common use by grocers, the size six by nine inches, and costing about \$2.00 per 1000. They are fastened around the stem of the clusters with two pins—of course allowing space for the fruit to grow. One gentleman near Cincinnati saves from 5000 to 7000 clusters per year in this way, largely of Catawbas, and finds the quality very superior. The cost, including labor, he estimates at only one-third of a cent per cluster."

Girdling the Grape-Vine.

The girdling of a grape-vine has a very marked influence on the fruit; it causes it to grow much larger, to ripen sooner, and makes it a better flavor. Girdling consists of taking a rim of bark about one-fourth or one-sixth of an inch wide from the trunk or branches of the vine. Some recommend taking this rim of bark from the main stem, others from the side canes. As many may not understand the operation or effect it has upon the vine, it may save the life of many a vine if we examine and see how it grows. A vine does not grow as may appear at first sight, from the bottom upward, but from the top downward. The roots take from the soil what moisture the plant needs; also the mineral matter. This food cannot be used by the plant unless there is water in the soil to hold it in solution, as it may be in a liquid form to be taken up by the roots. This crude or undigested food or sap is carried to the leaves, not through the bark, but through the entire wood of the vine. When it reaches the leaves it comes in contact with the carbon absorbed from the atmosphere by the leaves; here it is digested, and is now ready to be used by the vine in making new growth in what is called the cambium region, and is deposited in the form of cells just beneath the bark, so that all growth is made from the downward flow of sap, and not from the upward.

If a vine is girdled by raking away a rim of bark, a break is made, so that the sap as it descends cannot pass over this gap, and all growth must take place above where the bark has been removed. If the main trunk is girdled, that portion below the girdle must go without receiving any support from the rest of the vine until the wound can be healed over and complete circulation renewed. All this time the roots have furnished crude sap for the part of the vine above the girdle, and have received nothing in return. This cannot help weaken the roots, and if followed up it must entirely kill the vine. This gap may heal over (as it probably will if not done too late), when the circulation will be restored once more; but there has been a strain on the roots, and they must be somewhat exhausted. If only girdled once the vine may not be permanently injured; but if followed up it must be weakened, and the moment its vital forces begin to lag will die of some form step in and hasten the work of destruction. If instead of girdling the main trunk a side shoot is taken (taking care to leave some untouched), the injury may not be enough to be felt by the main roots, and the vine will not be injured to any extent. After a vine is girdled, the crude sap is taken up the same as before and is digested by the leaves. This prepared sap descends as far as the place where the rim of bark has been removed, and can go no further. The result is, the branch is crowded with food that must be made use of, the fruit has more than the usual amount of nourishment supplied it, which causes it to develop faster, grow larger and makes it of better flavor. If a single branch be tried the effect of girdling can be distinctly seen; the cane girdled will show ripe fruit, while that on the remainder of the vine will hardly have begun coloring. I think the best results from girdling will be obtained if done in the following manner:

As soon as the fruit is half grown, take a rim of bark from the side canes (leaving part ungirdled to supply nourishment to the roots, and to keep the vine in a healthy condition), near the main trunk. The rim of bark should not be over one-fourth of an inch wide. This will make the fruit grow nearly as fast again as on canes that have not been girdled. The vine at this season is growing very vigorously and

will heal over the wound made by taking away this rim of bark in a short time. As soon as the natural circulation is restored the fruit will seem to have stopped growing, and that on the rest of the vine will partly catch up with it, but if soon as the circulation is restored another break is made by taking away another rim of bark, just above where the first one was taken the fruit will ripen fully two or three weeks earlier than on the rest of the vine. The first girdling caused the fruit to increase in size nearly as fast again as it did on the canes that had not been girdled. The wound healed over in a few weeks and the berries seemed to come to a stand-still. I removed another rim of bark just above where the first one was taken, and it was astonishing how quickly the berries began coloring. They were larger than those on canes not girdled, of better flavor and ripened fully in fifteen days sooner. If any one will take the pains to grow new canes each year to girdle the next and cut away the canes girdled the year before as soon as they have produced one crop of fruit I see no reason why girdling should not be practiced and would even recommend it, as the fruit will ripen so much earlier that it will be in no danger of injury from early frosts, which in this latitude often destroy the crop. But do not girdle the main trunk, only the side branches, and grow new canes each year to girdle the next.

If instead of this the main trunk is girdled, the vine will become weakened, and in a short time will be ruined.—*Cor., Scientific Farmer.*

The Mongolian in the Orchard.

Prof. Shelton, of the State Agricultural College, in the *Industrialist* says of the Japanese Persimmon, or Kaki, which fruit is being "cracked up" by some nurserymen, that unless we are greatly mistaken this much-puffed fruit belongs to the great class of horticultural humbugs, of which the "Russian apples," *Morus multicaulis*, and the "white willow" may be called typical species. We say this after having had a good deal of experience with the tree and its fruit in the land of the Rising Sun. What can be wanted of the persimmon in a country that can grow apples is one of those vast mysteries which we never expect to see solved, except by the nimble tongued tree peddler. Why, an American would consider himself the victim of a practical joke, if he should be tempted to eat one of them! If picked before it is "dead ripe," its astringency will suggest the possibility of its puckering up the mouth of a cast iron cauldron: when ripe it is, without a leathery, tolerably firm skin; within, a little, sweetish, rapid fluid, some pulp, a half dozen flat, hard seeds, and many strings of woolly fiber drawn through all. The pawpaw or the lowly mandrakes are fruits fit for the gods in comparison with the Kaki.

Our advice to farmers and fruit growers is, to severely let this foreigner alone. Let the nurserymen and tree peddlers make the "fortunes" that are to be made in the cultivation of this tree. But if you feel tempted to try the kaki, resist it for this once, and set out instead a few orange trees. These are much more hardy than the kaki, the tree is quite as handsome, and the fruit is about as good.

Apiary.

What Came of One Hive.

In a memorial to Congress relative to the coming census of the United States, the Superintendent of the census of 1860, Mr. Kennedy, gives the following statistics as an illustration of the stupendous results from a single hive of bees transported to the Pacific coast less than thirty years ago. From the single colony of San Diego, California, in 1876, there was shipped the astounding figure of 1,250,000 lbs. In 1877 there were in that county 23,000 colonies of bees, and in one day, September 6, 1879 there were shipped from that port 78 barrels, 1,053 cases and 18 tons; and that from and including July 17 to November, 10, 1878, less than four months that one county exported over 1,000 barrels, 14,544 cases and nearly 20 tons. He who would strike out (from the census report) the item of honey, could not have known, so great has the interest in this product become, that many people in California have from 500 to 1,000 hives, and that over 100 people in one county have each more than 100 colonies of bees. According to the London *News* of January 18, there arrived in November, at Liverpool, 80 tons of honey, the product of the bees of one individual; and that a Mr. Hodge, in the first week of January last, landed 100 tons at a London wharf, the product of California. The annual product of honey has grown to 25,000,000 lbs. annually.—*Michigan Homestead.*

Bees on the Wing.

When a swarm leaves for the woods they are off before you fairly know it. They drift away from the hive in a wide spread and apparently aimless concourse, then suddenly gather up their forces, and away they go a humming, flying vortex of bees, the queen apparently in the centre and the mass revolving about her as a pivot, over orchards and meadows, across creeks and swamps, or woods and deep valleys, straight for the appointed tree, slow at first, so that you can keep up with them but presently with a speed that would tire a fox-hound. In this flight the individual bees do not move in right lines, or straight forward like a flock of birds, but round like chaff in a whirlwind; unitedly they form a whirling revolving, nebulous mass fifteen or twenty feet across, that goes as straight as a projectile to its mark. They are not partially as

to the kind of tree,—pine, hemlock, elm, birch, maple, hickory,—any tree with a good cavity high up or low down. A swarm of mine ran away from the new patent hive I gave them, and took up their quarters in the hollow trunk of an old apple-tree across an adjoining field. The entrance was a mouse-hole near the ground. Another swarm in the neighborhood deserted their keeper and went into the cornice of an old house that stood amid evergreens in the rear of a large mansion. But there is no accounting for the taste of bees, as Samson found when he discovered the swarm in the carcass (or more probably the skeleton) of the lion he had slain.—*John Burroughs in Scribner's May.*

Apiary.

To Break up Sitting Hens.

at this time in the year, when for a month to come a majority of the flock have laid out their spring litters and become naturally "broody," is a task to the poultry raiser who keeps large numbers of fowls.

There is frequently much unnecessary trouble caused at this period, and under these circumstances, yet through the inattention of the soul keeper himself who neglects to watch for this natural inclination of his hens and pullets, after they have so laid out their early litter of eggs. And there are also many cruel methods resorted to, by inexperienced persons, to put a stop to this, in attempts to compel hens to go laying again.

The broody or "hatching fever" is a natural thing. All hens and pullets (that are not what are termed "non-sitters") incline to go to nest at some time in the year, with a desire to rear young ones. As a general method, we have no doubt it is quite as well if all hens thus inclined are, permitted to sit once in the season. They are better off for this indulgence, in the end.

But if for any reason we prefer to break them up, let it be done humanely and effectively. And this may be accomplished without abuse, or by plunging them in a cold water bath, tying them to stakes, half smothering them in a darkened barrel—and that kind of nonsense—which is rarely of any avail.

Watch your laying fowls every day now. The first indication invariably that you will observe—when a fowl is beginning to get broody—is that she remains upon her laying nest after her companions have, as usual, gone to roost at night.

As soon as you make this discovery, remove her at once from the nest and place her in an open-lathed coop by herself, out of doors. Feed her upon light food—dry grain is best—give her clean water to drink, and leave her there. If you have a spare cockerel, put him into the coop after a day or two's delay, and you can thus drive away the "sitting fever" in a week nine times in ten, without fussing or further trouble.

All that is needed is to catch your broody hen the first night that she lingers on her nest and follow the course above suggested. Keep her confined upon the ground, in an open coop for a week, and she will forget her heat and shortly commence to lay again. If you leave her squatting on the nest three or four days and nights, she will not so easily be broken up of course.

"Yankee Cheses" Abroad.

The Swiss cheese-makers, it appears are looking with jealous eyes upon their American competitors. The *Thurgauer Zeitung* reports a lecture by Director Schatmann in which attention is attracted to the "cheap and excellent quasi-English cheeses—American Stiltons, American Cheddars and American Gostlers,—and the inference drawn that it cannot be long before the European markets which exhaust such large quantities of Gruyere and Emmenthaler will be flooded with "American Gruyere and Yankee Emmenthaler." The explanation furnished in regard to the success of American cheese abroad is that both the Gruyere and the valley of the Emme have sent their contingent of emigrants to the United States and these famous Swiss cheeses are readily produced by the old factors in their new home with the advantage of cheap cows, admirable grass lands and mechanical improvements. The export of Swiss Cheeses to Italy, where they are largely consumed, says the *Continental Gazette*, is made extremely burdensome by the high frontier duties and the heavy city taxes, and the present turn of things economical does not promise well for the future of the import in Germany, where there is now scarcely any pretty inn in which *schweizerkase* cannot be obtained.—*N. Y. World.*

Competition in freight rates on cattle filled the New York market to overflowing last week. Prices went down and dealers lost large sums. Then prices went down in the western fields and farmers are feeling the effects of this rush to catch the advantage of a spurt in low freights. The temporary tumble in rates did no one good but all harm. Local freight being high, the large towns along the trunk lines and their branches cannot be used as distributive points. Manufacturing districts, especially were dairying is carried on are excellent beef markets, but high rates exclude importation. Citizens must live on the refuse of the dairy or feeders of cattle, but a slight distance away must be so heavily discounted in reaching these points as to hazard all profits. Competition to one point and monopoly to many points do not prosper either railroad companies, dealers, or farmers, because the majority of consumers are not reached, and cattle not evenly distributed.—*Farmers Friend.*

Literary and Domestic

In the Lane

The daisies star the summer grass. And with the dancing daisies...

Lost

BY M. W. K.

CHAPTER I.

"Father don't you think it's time Ellen was home?" said anxious looking Mrs. Doane, as she peered out through the thick falling snow...

It was then a feeble village whose cognomen was all that there was hopeful about it; with its few houses scattered here and there as though they were an eruption...

CHAPTER II.

"It's snowing, Oh! it's snowing, girls," said merry Bessie Moreton the same November forenoon, as she skipped into the room clapping her hands...

exercise in the open air. In accordance with his advice he had herded cattle, driven ox teams, and at last in building a cabin on some land he wished to pre-empt, discovered a taste and talent for carpenter's tools...

Advertisements section containing various notices, legal notices, and business ads including 'The Mason & Hamlin Organ Co.', 'Ross & McClintock', and 'The Kansas Monthly'.

Every Man Under his own Fig-Tree.

"Every man in all our broad land, North and South, can sit under his own vine and fig-tree provided common sense is shown in fig-culture," says G. F. Needham, Washington, D. C., in a paper entitled "Fig-Culture at the North a Success."

With us it is a deciduous shrub, which can be propagated by cutting as easily as the currant. It fruits when very young, and different varieties bear white, black, brown, green, blue &c., fruit which vary in size from a hickory nut to a Bartlett pear.

In the spring (at the time of corn planting) throw up one or more ridges eight feet wide and sixteen inches high in the centre. Stake off on the top of this distances ten feet apart. At these stakes dig holes at right angles to the ridges, say two feet long and ten inches wide.

In the autumn, before danger from severe frost prepare the trees for winter quarters by cutting the roots growing lengthwise of the ridges with a sharp spade, not disturbing the original roots that were planted.

Should the soil be too rich it will be necessary to root prune the trees at the time of laying down. This is done by cutting off with a sharp spade a portion of the original roots.

The method is as follows for drying the fruit: The fruit is put into baskets, which are dipped for two minutes in strong potash lye and then into clear water.

After years of cultivating the fig in Ohio, General Worthington says: "It is quick grown, suits our climate admirably, is easily protected, is a sure bearer and very prolific."

Osage City, Osage County.

June 2nd. Up till within a few days we have been having it very dry and the farmers were getting some discouraged, but we have just had a very heavy rain which wet the ground much deeper than it has been for months past.

The new comers are all putting out large orchards and a great variety of small fruit, which will help the looks of our county very much.

Several new comers from Iowa are trying flax, believing that this climate is as well adapted to this kind of produce as any other, and we do not see why it should not be.

Farmers are taking more pains in improving their stock and poultry. Our stock for some years past has been "scrub stock" and on the decrease, but now nothing but a nice animal will sell at a fair price.

Building is considerably on the increase in Osage City.

In conclusion we will say that the nice rains we are having causes every farmer to wear a smile on his face and a look of content and satisfaction at the bright prospect of a bountiful harvest this fall.

Indian Creek, Elk County.

May 19th. Believing that Kansas should strive to build up home institutions, I herewith add my mite in favor of the KANSAS FARMER.

I have been living here since the spring of 1870 and have seen some great changes. Elk county is improving rapidly. Its farmers are energetic and thrifty, and their improvements are of a substantial character.

Winter wheat looks first rate, heading out well and promising more than an average crop. Corn nearly all planted, and much of it has been plowed the second time.

There will be but little fruit here this summer. Some cherries and small fruits. And here I would like to say that I am more than ever convinced that we should invariably buy of home nurseries; last summer I sent a small order east for some fine fruit trees.

The L. L. & G. railroad company is at work, building through the south part of the county with township aid.

Wakefield, Clay County.

May 21st.—Wheat has been much injured by the dry weather, but, on the whole, all crops promise well, so far.

Corn never looked more promising at this season. The area planted is fully one-third more than last year. Oats also good. Rye almost a failure. Barley, but little sown.

From Brown County.

I take great interest in reading the FARMER, especially the contributions of fellow farmers giving their experience on the farm, and the general outlook in their section.

We have had a dry, cool spring, excellent for working the ground. But lately it has been too dry, for small grain. Indeed chinch bug became lively, but a thoroughly soaking shower on last Friday evening, set things right again.

Fall wheat is short and rather thin on the ground. The fall wheat which was sown on oats ground or barley ground, is the best.

Prairie grass made a remarkably vigorous growth, considering the dry spring, and hence cattle fattened up quickly.

Some time ago I saw some advice in the FARMER on raising potatoes, to which I feel constrained to add some remarks.

Agents Wanted.

Here is a good opportunity for farmers and others out of employment to make big wages.

Over 110,000 sold. Is used in any tub. Is easy to operate. Washes clean—no hand rubbing necessary.

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Agents Wanted.

take the big stirring plow and hitch in one horse; throw dirt as much to the potatoes as you can without covering up. Follow with the hoe and draw up the dirt wherever the plow did not do it well enough.

Another suggestion: Our correspondent says cover with boards young plants that are transplanted. My wife has a method which beats this, viz: Take old cans or cups, like oyster cans, and put one inverted firmly over each plant.

Farlinville, Linn County.

June 2d.—It has been, on the whole, a tolerable dry spring, too dry for small grain, but very favorable for planting and tending corn. Straw will be short. We have plenty of rain at present; ground in good condition.

Corn is worth from 35 to 40 cents; cows, \$25 per head. Other stock are high for these times.

Linn county is going ahead in improvements on a sure basis. Farmers appear to be sanguine of good crops, and talk as though hard times were of the past.

We are having considerable immigration; mostly men of small means. I think the best of the government land is taken. Land, both improved and raw, can be bought reasonable.

Perry, Jefferson County.

Been pretty dry, until Thursday night, we had a good rain. Corn growing, though very cool since the rain. Wheat not much more than half as good as last year, and not as much sown.

FOR SALE.—SOME FINE—Shepherd Dogs and Pups.

CHAMPION HORSE HAY FORKS. JAMES C. CURRY, Beason, Ill.

CHALLENGE FEED MILLS, to be run by water, wind, steam or horse power. CHALLENGE WIND MILLS for pumping water and all farm purposes.

Lilly's Patent BUTTER WORKER.

Is now acknowledged to be the only complete and effective self-feeding machine in the market, mixing the salt and imitating hand-work to perfection.

Strayed or Stolen!

From near Twin Mound, one black 2 year old mare medium size; one black 1 year old colt; small amount of white hair on one hind foot.

SOLDIERS! War of 1812. War of Mexico. War of the Rebellion.

All kinds of bounty and pension claims promptly attended to. Ten years experience. I never give up and I never fail.

CALKIN'S NOVELTY CLOTHES WASHER. Our Latest & Best. PRICE, \$6.00.

Over 110,000 sold. Is used in any tub. Is easy to operate. Washes clean—no hand rubbing necessary.

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THE "AULTMAN-TAYLOR" The Standard Thresher of the Vibrator Class.

THE LEADING FARM ENGINE

Lightest Running, SIMPLEST AND MOST DURABLE

Horse Power IN USE.

We furnish either the regular "AULTMAN-TAYLOR" Farm-engine or the "AULTMAN-TAYLOR" Traction (self-propelling) Engine, as may be desired.

We recommend all our goods as being at present the standard of excellence for the world in Threshing Machinery. A full warranty placed on everything we sell.

At a very small additional expense, we furnish our Aultman Clover-hulling Attachment, making every "Aultman-Taylor" Thresher the best clover-huller in use.

NO DELAYS TRIFLING EXPENSE

GRAIN-SAVING! MONEY-MAKING! TIME-SAVING!

MADE ONLY BY The Aultman & Taylor Company, Mansfield, O.

ILLUSTRATED Pamphlets, describing our goods, sent free if you write to The Aultman & Taylor Company, Mansfield, Ohio.

N. B.—Sir Josiah Reynolds, the painter, once said he would paint FAULTY as a boy climbing a high fence, having an open gate right at his side. Had the great artist lived to this day, he would have painted folly as a thrasher buying any other class of thrashing machinery, when he could get "AULTMAN-TAYLOR" goods.

The above goods, and Extras or Repairs for same, for sale by

Trumbull, Reynolds & Allen, General Western Agents, KANSAS CITY, MO.

"THE TIGER" Self-Operating Rake.

THE STANDARD RAKE OF AMERICA.

The best Rake ever put upon the market, both for the superiority of its work, its unequalled construction and durability, and the variety of work to which it can be applied.

It is the only Rake that has ever been in actual use for three seasons, and proved itself strong enough to stand the tests of a Horse-Dump Hay Rake.

Received Medal of highest honor at Centennial, Philadelphia, 1876. Two Medals at Paris Exposition, 1875. Three Gold, seven Silver, and eleven Bronze Medals at Field Trials.

THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST. SEND FOR CIRCULARS AND TESTIMONIALS.

J. W. STODDARD & CO., Dayton, O., Sole Mfrs. Moline Plow Co., Kansas City, Mo., General agents for Missouri and Kansas.

"Prairie Chief."

OUR NEW BREAKER, which we style the "PRAIRIE CHIEF" It combines more good and desirable qualities than any other Breaker.

Prairie Chief Breaker

It is also made to attach to the CANTON SULKY PLOW in such a manner that there can be no trouble as they will always fit. This feature alone is of great importance.

TRUMBULL, REYNOLDS & ALLEN, GENERAL AGENTS, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

New Lumber Yard, JOHN W. GRIFFITH, Dealer in Lumber, Shingles, Lath, Doors,

Sash, Blinds, Mouldings, &c., cheaper than the cheapest. All those contemplating building should not fail to examine my stock and prices.

Office and yard near corner of 8th, Kan. Ave., Topeka, Inducing cost of your improvements.

CANTON SULKY PLOW

The Plow at all times will run perfectly level. The horses are attached directly to the end of the beam; the land and depth are gauged by a clevis at the end of the beam.

It can be used in ALL CONDITIONS OF SOIL. It will successfully plow in ground that is so foul with down grain or weeds that it cannot be worked by any ordinary plow.

Parlin & Orendorff, Mfrs, Canton, Ill.