

# THE KANSAS FARMER

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## THE KANSAS FARMER.

HUDSON & EWING, Editors and Proprietors  
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### Literary Items.—No. 30.

We have borrowed many terms which are in common use, from the ancients. Perhaps a few examples may afford some interest to my young readers:

#### GODDESS OF LIBERTY.

The Romans erected a temple to the goddess *Libertas*. She is represented as a woman clothed in a light dress, holding a rod in one hand and a cap in the other. These were signs of independence in those days, as the rod was used by the magistrate in the manumission of slaves, and the latter was worn by slaves who were soon to be set at liberty.

Liberty is personified at the present day in like manner. During the First French Revolution, at the close of the last century, an actress was procured from the theatrical stage, adorned with fine garments, and taken to the church of Notre Dame, and crowned as the Goddess of Liberty.

The cap of liberty erected on a staff, is recognized in most countries as an emblem of liberty. In the United States we frequently see this ancient representation of liberty in many of our popular books, and on coins.

Many religious sects, from time to time, have endeavored to discard what they call heathenish superstitions, from public use; but so engrained in the human mind are many of these ancient usages and customs, that all efforts have been unavailing. The fact is, in all ages of the world, the eyes must have argument as well as the understanding. The former is certainly the most potent and most readily received by the multitude.

#### ATHENAEUM.

Many of our literary societies, which are held in winter in our towns and villages, are called *Athenaeum*. This term is also borrowed from the place in Athens which was considered sacred to *Minerva*, where poets, philosophers, and orators generally declaimed and repeated their compositions.

#### GORDIAN KNOT.

This expression is used at the present day to express that which is intricate or difficult to comprehend and necessary to be removed by evidence.

The origin of this famous Gordian Knot, is interesting and instructive. An oracle had been given to the Phygians that they should give the crown to the first man they met going to the Temple of Jupiter in a chariot. The knot in the harness of Gordius was made in such an intricate manner that there was no finding where it began or ended. From this circumstance originated the report that the empire of Asia was promised by the oracle to him who could untie the Gordian knot. Alexander, in his expedition to Asia, passed by Gordium, and he wished to inspire his soldiers with courage and confidence in him, and his enemies that he was born to conquer Asia, he cut the knot with his sword, and claimed that the oracle was fulfilled. From this incident in the life of Alexander the Great, has originated the expression of cutting the Gordian knot.

#### FLORAL HALL.

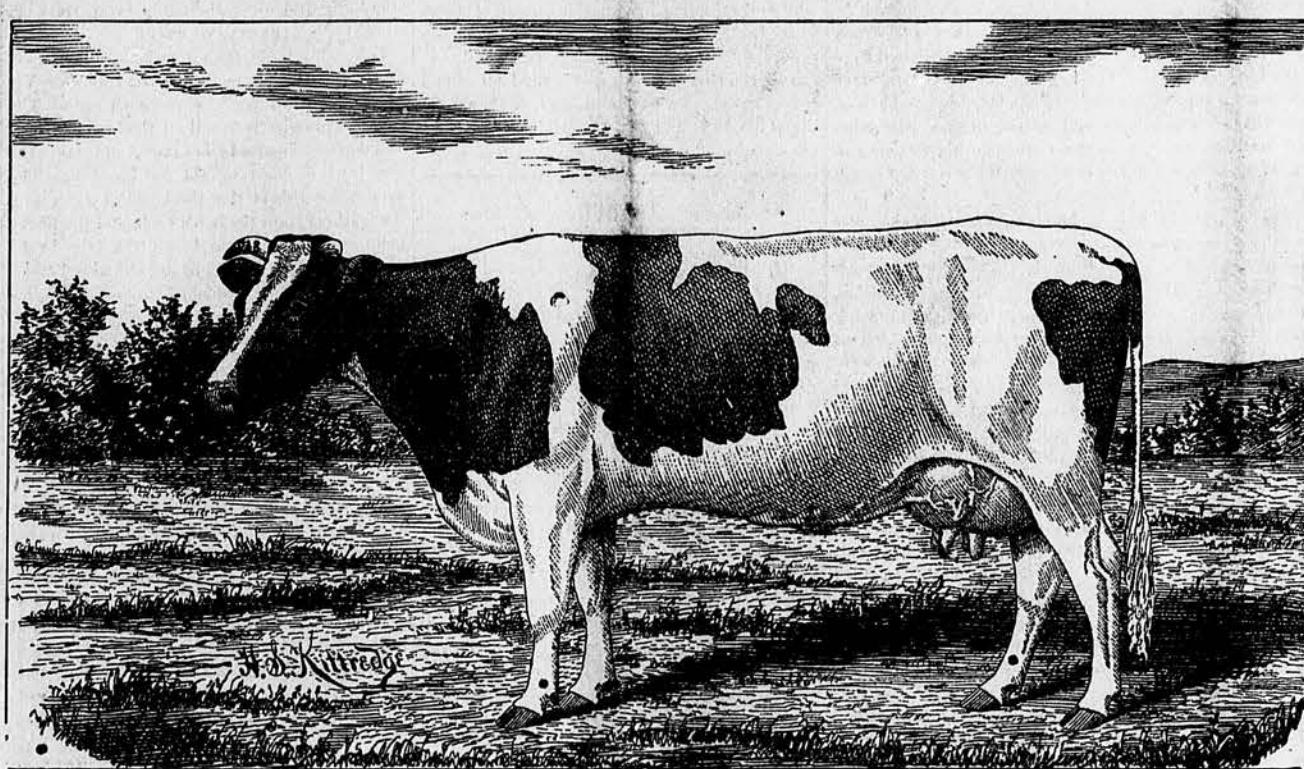
At our county and state fairs there is a place which has been erected for the exhibition of flowers and garden products, and known by the name of *Floral Hall*. This term is also borrowed from the ancients. Flora was the Roman goddess of flowers and gardens. They had a temple raised to her honor in the city of Rome. She was represented as crowned with flowers, and holding in her hand the horn of plenty. Festivals or games were annually celebrated in honor of her at Rome. We honor her name by exhibiting the choice products of our gardens, orchards and vineyards.

#### LACONIC.

The Lacedemonians are justly celebrated for their heroism and valor, their love of liberty, and aversion to sloth and idleness. In their mode of living they were frugal and economical, shunning everything that may be considered luxury. In the education of their youth, their discipline was austere. Manly exercise and games were instituted to harden the body and adapt it to the warlike character of the age. They are also remarkable for the honor and reverence they paid to old age.

The epithet *laconic* is taken from the manner in which the inhabitants expressed their ideas—short and to the point. Laconia was one of the names by which this country was known to the ancients.

JAS. HANWAY.



### Advance In Dairy Products.

Among the products to feel the depressed condition of prices, nothing has suffered more severely than dairy produce during the last three years, and it is only recently that the market for butter and cheese has shown signs of reviving. The following quotations for butter and cheese, with the accompanying comments from a commercial paper, illustrates the remarkable revival which has taken place in this product of the farm:

#### BUTTER.

Dairy products are no longer an exception to the upward tendency of the market. All through the summer unprecedentedly low prices for butter and cheese prevailed. Even when grain began to advance dairy products continued dull and low. The low prices stimulated foreign demand. Heretofore only the common grades of butter had been sent abroad, but exporters have the past season handled the best classes of goods. Europeans have found a liking for our good butter and have increased their orders. On the other hand the season has not been favorable in our dairy sections for the growth of pasture and the low prices made dairymen careless about keeping up their products, so that as the season is closing a light supply of butter and cheese and a heavy demand combine to send up prices with the prospect that there will be no material break until next season's make comes into the market. Those who have fine dairies of butter on hand we think can confidently expect pretty strong prices. In this market as high as 23 cents is paid for fresh tubs and 20 cents for the best dairies, tubs and firkins together. Contracts have been made for fresh butter for the next few weeks at still higher than present prices. Cheese sold at the Little Falls market on Monday at over 14 cents per pound. That is equal to 35 cents for butter and must draw milk from butter to cheese in sections where the facilities for cheese-making are at hand. This would seem to leave no room for doubt in regard to the future strong position of the butter market.

#### CHEESE.

Cheese has had the most favorable advance during the past six weeks that we have ever known. For a considerable portion of the summer 5 cents was an outside price in New York, but now 14 cents, or nearly three times as much, is more freely paid than 5 cents was a few weeks ago. We have heard of no sales yet in this market, at over 12 cents, but of course the price will soon advance in proportion to rates in other markets.

### Dressing the Porkers.

The *Drovers' Journal* gives a description of the process of handling hogs at a large packing-house. Speaking of the packing-house of Messrs. Armour & Co., situated near the Union stock yards, Chicago, the *Journal* says:

"This house is one of the largest if not the largest in the world, its capacity being about 5,000 or 6,000 daily. It has a large building adjoining the main packing-house for live hogs. A runway some hundreds of feet long connects the upper story of this building with

the stockyards, so that all the hogs purchased in the yards for this house are driven over this passage to the hog house named. The hogs are driven in a close pen, where the slaughtering process is begun; a clutch is put around one of the hind legs of a hog in this pen; a lever is pulled and the hog is instantly strung up at a convenient point for sticking. This is done quickly and the hog hanging by a small wheel on an iron rail starts for the scalding box. There are all the time fifteen or twenty hogs on this rail at the same time, so that they are well bled by the time they reach the scalding trough. A simple contrivance loosens the clutch and the hog drops into the scalding-box. At the lower end of this box he is instantly thrown out onto the end of the scraping-bench by a simple contrivance, and here he is put through the newly invented scraping-machine there has been in operation in this house since about the 1st of June last, and we are informed that it is the first machine of the kind that has been put in use anywhere. It has a somewhat complex appearance, being made up of cog wheels and drum wheels of different sizes, and set so as to run in all kinds of directions; the drum wheels are all armed with iron scrapers; these wheels are so set as to bring their scrapers in contact with every part of the hog before it gets through the machine, and before the hog comes out it is very well scraped. A few patches of hair of course have to be taken off by hand, but so far as we could see, the new scraping machine is an assured success. This machine scrapes ten hogs per minute, or 6,000 hogs in ten hours. Messrs. Amour & Co. are putting in a new machine of this kind having some improvement that experience has suggested. It is expected that this new machine will work considerably faster than the one now in operation. These machines are so constructed that they adjust themselves readily to hogs of all the different sizes just as they come along. The hogs from the scraping-bench are taken up again by a hook attached to a wheel that works on a rail, and they are thus, in the easiest manner possible, moved to the gutters and then to a bench, where the leaf lard is all taken out of each hog, and thence to a set of hands where the heads are taken off, when they are ready to go to the hanging room, where each hog is split in two to facilitate the cooling process.

"It must be said that the improvement in the manner of slaughtering hogs and packing as we see it carried on at the present day, is inconceivably great as compared with the old foggy system of fifty or sixty years ago.—*Drover's Journal*.

A synopsis of their proceedings is published in the *Prairie Farmer*.

The president in calling the meeting to order complimented the members upon the present prosperous condition of the short-horn interests and the good work the association had done. In his address, referring to the growth of the

If we desire to improve the form of a fruit tree and get rid of some of the superfluous wood, we should prune in winter; but if we desire fruit and a perfectly healed stump, we should prune from the 15th of June to the 20th of July. The fruit buds form after this, and the operation of suddenly cutting off its growth produces buds, while the winter or early spring pruning will produce only wood.

Do not let your lambs breed the first year, but give a little extra care the first winter.

### Holstens.

The Holstein Cow, "Porcelain-jje," whose portrait we present, was imported from Holland by Messrs. Smiths & Powell of Syracuse, New York. She has given sixty-five pounds of milk in a day as a four year old, and 1,810 pounds in a month at five years old.

This remarkable cow is but a sample of this wonderful breed of milkers. Many of the animals of this breed have records between 80 and 90 pounds of milk in a day, and Messrs. Smiths & Powell write us their two year old heifer, Netherland Queen has given as high as 58 pounds 12 oz. of milk in a day, and 1,670 lbs 9 oz in one month; 7,239 lbs 9 oz in 5 months, and has given almost 10,000 lbs in 7 months. Other animals of this herd have given from 40 to 50 pounds of milk in a day and upwards, as two year olds. This firm has just imported two cows with records of 76 lbs of milk in a day. Kansas farmers and dairymen would find it greatly to their advantage to look into the merits of this breed of animals. They are certainly increasing in favor and are destined to take the lead as a milking breed with a frame suitable for carrying beef if desired.

### Beware of All Cheap Town Lots!

Within the last three weeks a scheme has been developed and pushed forward here by a party from Cincinnati, which savors strongly of a swindle, whatever may have been the motive or intentions of said party.

M. J. Maxwell, a young man of, for ought we know, good reputation and character heretofore, came to this city a few weeks ago to carry out a matter which he had conceived in Cincinnati, and in furtherance of the plan bought forty acres of land near Alma, in the county of Waubaunsee, adjoining this county, formed what was styled the "Kansas Land Company," divided the forty acres up into "town lots," and began an extensive system of advertising by means of circulars, etc., offering the said lots at \$2 each to eastern parties, accounting for the cheapness by stating that only alternate lots were sold, and the remainder thereby made more valuable to the owner.

Abundant references were given, the scheme looked plausible, and letters began pouring in containing money orders, etc., and the "Kansas Land Company" seemed to be a success.

Investigation, however, has revealed the fact that no such town as South Alma is platted or ever has been, and no such plat on file; that the ground is inaccessible as a town site, that the names given as references were used without authority, and the whole thing a delusion and a snare calculated to "take in" eastern parties with more money than discretion.

Mr. Harry Licht, clerk of the district court for Waubaunsee county, was one of the references given, but Mr. Licht has this to say of the scheme:

"South Alma is a myth and a snare—beware. None of those references mentioned in the *Globe Democrat* are with consent so far as I can learn—at least this is the case with me."

And other references say the same thing.

Mr. Maxwell departed for Cincinnati a few days since, leaving one Mr. Freshman here as "clerk" to receive the mails, money, etc. But the scheme is so evidently a fraud, and so nearly like the "North Denver" swindle in which case the P. O. department forbade the mail matter to be delivered, that Capt. King, postmaster at this place, has wisely ordered no registered letters to be delivered to or money orders cashed for this "Kansas Land Company."—*Topeka Daily Capital*.

A correspondent is troubled with the neighboring village cows breaking into his enclosure and pasturing on his young wheat. The cattle owners have a right to turn their cattle out at large in the absence of a herd law, but they have no right in a neighbor's wheat field, if the field is properly fenced. Take the stock up and proceed as directed in the *Kansas Farmer*, under the head of "How to Post a Stray." The shortest way, and probably the best, under the circumstances, is for him to run a single strand of barbed wire, about three feet from the ground, inside his hedge, around the tempting wheat lot, and no hungry cow will get through.

The *Farmer* was offered as a premium to agricultural societies, and those who complied with the conditions received copies. The officers of the societies can answer the question. If they ordered the *Farmer* to competitors the paper is sent.

**Farm Stock.****The Horse.—Ailments to Which He Is Liable as Cold Weather Sets In.**

It is quite important now, to watch the condition, not only of the working horses, but also of those in pasture, such as are allowed to remain out in storms and in the night time. If the horse have a heavy coat, as many horses have at this time of the year, it is of the utmost importance to drive them moderately, as they are liable to sweat easily, and if allowed to stand in a draught of air will be very liable to take cold. Horses with extra heavy coats are very liable to be soft, and in such a condition take cold very easily. Many horsemen and some veterinarians, advise clipping the coat in such a case, reasoning that by lessening the warm covering, the perspiration will pass off promptly, thus keeping up the vigor of the horse, preventing taking cold.

Horses found to be perspiring easily, especially if they seem to be at all disturbed in their breathing, should not be pushed. To hurry a horse in this condition is quite likely to fasten lung difficulty upon him. You will observe this by the quickened breathing, after the horse is put into his stall, especially if the weather is cool, he is very likely to have a chill. This is a congestive stage, the blood leaving the surface and concentrating upon the lungs, bronchial tubes or throat, or upon all three at once. This should be guarded against by rubbing the surface dry as soon as the horse comes off his drive, on no account allowing him to stand for one moment in a draught of cold air. Rub him dry and blanket him well, observing carefully whether or not he stands with his back humped up, and whether he eats vibrations or not. If he stands in the position named and leaves his feed untouched, then you have reason to anticipate trouble. Reaction will come off and you are liable to have a case of acute inflammation of the throat, bronchia or lungs, and to determine which, being able at the same time to institute a safe plan of treatment a competent veterinary surgeon should be called.

There are other difficulties that are liable to set in at this season of the year. Thus, the feeding of new grain generally disturbs digestion. A degree of internal irritation and disturbance sets in, and in a corresponding degree the skin and kidneys, important outlets for refuse matter become inefficient and refuse to act as in health. Impurities enter the circulation, the animal becomes dull in spirits, the heart acts in a disturbed manner, the return of the venous blood from the extremities to the heart is impeded. The legs swell, the hindmost first, mainly because these are farthest from the source of power. This swelling comes from tardy and inefficient action of the heart, the blood thereby being allowed to remain too long in the extreme vessel, filters through into the adjacent cellular tissue. In this way horses get their swelled legs. Bandaging, rubbing, or brisk exercise causes the swelling to abate, either of the means named promoting the absorption of the infiltration fluid, and its return into the circulation. The mere abatement of the swelling need not be taken as evidence of relief of the system from the general vitiated state. It is no evidence of this unless the disappearance of the swelling be accompanied by renewed action on the part of the kidneys, liver and bowels.

The lungs are liable to receive effusion in the same way that the limbs are, the thinner portion of the blood passing through the coats of the blood vessels into the air cells of the lower lobes of the lungs. This impedes the free access of air into the chest, causing the breathing to be quicker than in health and the horse with this infiltration is from necessity, short winded. It is important that this condition be not confounded with congestion, inflammation, or hepatization of the lungs, because there is neither similarity in the condition nor in the treatment required. In proportion to the extent of the encroachment upon the air spaces, will the breathing be quickened, for the single reason that the healthy surface, that through which the necessary change is wrought upon the blood, is diminished, and is doubly drawn upon to secure the change referred to.

Now the treatment proper in such a case is entirely different from that required in the other conditions referred to. The horse should be treated with tonics and an invigorating diet, at the same time receiving out door exercise that the absorption and throwing off of the accumulated fluid may be encouraged. Here again it is manifest that the usefulness, and in fact the health and life of a horse may be thrown away, if he happens to fall into the hands of a man deficient in knowledge and skill.—*Farm and Live Stock Journal.*

**Points of Excellence in Sheep.**

The Illinois Wool-Growers' Association, at its last meeting, adopted the following reports on points of excellence governing long-wools and Merino sheep:

For the guidance of judges of long-wool sheep, at fairs, the following essential points should largely influence committees in making awards:

- 1—Constitution.
- 2—Wool, quality and quantity.
- 3—Lustre and uniformity of fleece.
- 4—Covering of head, legs, belly, etc.
- 5—Carcass, best distribution of mutton in the most valuable portions of carcass.
- 6—Care and management as indicated by healthy breeding condition.

The standard of excellence of the American Cotswold Association is recommended for the guidance of committees judging Cotswold sheep, with the substitution of the word wool for hair, on the covering of the ear.

Committee on "points of excellence" of American Merinos, submitted the following:

Points of excellence of Merino sheep, one hundred denoting perfection:

Blood. Thoroughbred—i. e., purely bred, from one or more of the direct importations of Merino sheep, from Spain, prior to the year 1812, without the admixture of any other blood.

Constitution. Indicated by form of body; deep and large breast cavity, broad back, heavy quarters, with muscular development forming spacious abdomen. Skin thick, but soft, of fine texture, and pink color; extensive nostril, brilliant eyes, healthful countenance and good size, age considered.

Size. In fair condition, with fleece of twelve months' growth, full-grown rams should weigh not less than 165 pounds, and ewes not less than 120 pounds.

General appearance.

Good carriage, bold style, elastic movement, showing in particular parts as well as general outline, symmetry of form.

Form—Body.—Throughout, heavy bones, well proportioned in length, smooth joints, ribs, starting horizontally from backbone, and well rounded to the breast-bone, which should be wide, strong and prominent in front; strong backbone, straight and well proportioned as to the length. Heavy, muscular quarters, deep through and squarely formed behind and before, with shoulders well set on, neither projecting sharply above the backbone, nor standing so wide and flat as to incur liability to slip shoulders.

Folds and Wrinkles.—Folds on the ram should be larger than on the ewe. Large and pendulous folds from the chin or jaws, succeeding each other down the neck to the brisket, ending with large folds or "apron," and extending up the sides of the neck, but lighter if at all extending over top of neck two or three behind the fore-leg or shoulder, and on front of hind leg, hanging well down across the flank, two or more on rear of hind leg, or quarters, extending upward toward the tail, with one or two or around the tail, giving the animal a square appearance on the hind quarters, and straight down as may be from end of tail to hock joints and hind feet. In addition to folds, small wrinkles over the body and belly are desirable, as forming compactness of fleece, but not large enough to be apparent on the surface of grown fleece, or to cause a jar in its quality, thus leaving the body of the fleece even in quality and free from the jar of large folds over the body.

Head—Wide between the ears, and between the eyes, and across the nose; short from top of head to tip of nose; face straight; eyes clear and prominent; ears thick, medium size, and, together with the face, nose and lips, white, covered with soft fur or downy wool. Ewes should give no appearance of horns; while upon rams the horns should be clear in color, symmetrically curved, without tendency to press upon the sides of the head or to extreme expansion.

Next—Medium length, good bone and muscular development, and, especially with the rams, heavier toward the shoulders, well set high up, and rising from that point to the back of the head.

Legs and Feet—Legs medium, or short in length, straight and well set apart forward and back, heavy bone, smooth joints, with large muscular developments of the fore-arm; thick, heavy thighs, wide down to hock joints, and from knee joints downward covered with short wool, or the soft, fuzzy covering peculiar to the ears and face; hoofs well-shaped and of clear color.

Fleece—Covering—Tendency to hair and bare upon any part of the sheep is to be avoided. Evenness of fleece in length, quality, density, lustre, crimp, trueness, strength and elasticity, covering the entire body, belly and legs to the knees; head well covered forward, squarely to a line in front of the eyes; well filled between the eyes and ears or horns, and well upon the cheeks; muzzle clear, with small opening up to and around the eyes. Scrotum of rams covered with wool, free from tendency to hair.

Quality—Medium, but such as is known in our markets as fine daleine and fine clothing wool, distinctly better in quality, lustre, crimp and elasticity, than the wools of same length grown upon the common grade sheep.

Density—Shown by the compactness of the fleece, throughout which should open free but close, showing very little of the skin at any point, even at the extremities.

Length—At one year's growth not less than two and one-half inches, and as near as may be uniform in length to the extremities of the fleece.

Oil—Evenly distributed; soft and flowing freely from skin to surface; medium in quantity.

**Pleuro-Pneumonia.**

N. N. Paren, M. D., V. S., said of the above-named disease in his address before the American Agricultural Congress, assembled at Rochester, N. Y. :

"Among horned cattle the contagion pleuro-pneumonia has, during the past year, thanks to the British government, received a forced consideration by our government, and some headway has been made towards its extinction; but, as yet, no laws have been made by congress for the purpose of preventing its spread from one state to another, or over the whole United States.

This disease has been in our country a considerable number of years. If proper means had been adopted at the time of its incipiency, we should never have seen it again, except by new importation; and until proper measures are taken, or until congress enacts laws in relation to trade and traffic between the states of the union, we shall continue to suffer from it. One of the greatest sources of the spread of this disease is the unrestricted trade and traffic in cat-

tle. Were proper precautions adopted in this direction, within certain limits, and within each state, and a thorough stamping-out process inaugurated, we should soon cease to hear of the contagious pleuro-pneumonia. The invasion of a district or country by pleuro-pneumonia contagious is insidious. The disease commonly escapes observation as it steals into a farm or country, and is consequently perhaps more destructive than any other known epizootic disease.

Wherever the diseased animals have been slaughtered early, as in some European countries, the disease has not spread; but where months have elapsed before measures have been adopted, it has insinuated itself into many parts of the country, and has proved most destructive.

"I feel constrained to repeat that the immense losses among live stock in this country is greatly to be accounted for in the absence of a sufficient number of men who have been thoroughly and scientifically educated in this branch of medical science. That the great multitude of intelligent farmers and live-stock owners in America should be obliged to contend with quacks and charlatans of the lowest description, while all other civilized nations (some of them as far back as a hundred years ago) have been provided by their governments with amply endowed veterinary colleges, is beyond all sound reasoning—is, in fact, nothing less than a national disgrace, and justly merits the derision of other nations."

**Apiary.****Moving Bees.**

The following essay was read at the National Bee-Keepers' Convention held at Chicago last month, and published in the *American Bee Journal*.

"The subject of moving bees is very important, though it has been overlooked or neglected by nearly all the writers on bee-culture. Quite often we desire to move our bees a few feet or rods, and as it is the nature of bees after they have once marked the locality of the hive to return to that particular spot, even after the hive is moved away, it becomes necessary to adopt some plan that will prevent them from returning to the place from which the hive was moved and cause them to mark the new locality of the hive. Strong colonies moved a short distance at night or during a cold spell in winter have often been so weakened by the loss of bees returning to the old location that they became an easy prey to robber bees or the ravages of the bee-moth larva.

Bees may be moved without loss if proper precautions are taken. I would recommend the following plan, which with me has been successful: Select a warm, bright day, when the bees are active; puff a little smoke into the entrance of the hive, and if the bees are on the wing, or in the field, give them time to return; thirty minutes will usually suffice; keep the bees from going out of the hive by smoking them at intervals; have a box ready large enough to cover the top of the hive; if it is a movable-frame one, remove the top; if a box or gum, invert it and place the empty box on the top, into which the bees will ascend, and proceed to knock or drum on the hive 10 to 20 minutes, or until the bees with the queen have passed up in the box; then carefully put the box, containing the bees, on or near the spot where the hive stood, raise it a little in front so that the bees on the wing can pass in; then move the hive where it is to remain permanently, and proceed to hive the bees in the old hive, as you would a new swarm. Bees moved in that manner will mark the locality of the hive.

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Bees can be moved without loss if proper precautions are taken. I would recommend the following plan, which with me has been successful:

If the bees are moved a foot or even two feet a day without loss, but it confuses them; yet, that might be the best plan if they are only to be moved a few feet.

When bees are moved a mile or more, it is not necessary to take the foregoing precautions, but care should be taken to have all the bees in the hive; if any should be on the wing, use a little smoke and give them time to enter the hive before closing it up. If the hive has movable-frames, wire cloth can be tacked over the entrance; if a box or log hive it should be inverted, and coarse cloth, such as coffee sacks are made of, should be tacked over the bottom, (now the top) of the hive securely, so that no bees can pass out. If in a movable-frame hive upward ventilation should be given, by tacking wire cloth over spaces in the honey board, or auger holes made near the top of the hive. The number of bees and condition of the bees can pass in; then move the hive where it is to remain permanently, and proceed to hive the bees in the old hive, as you would a new swarm. Bees moved in that manner will mark the locality of the hive.

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When bees are moved a mile or more, it is not necessary to take the foregoing precautions, but care should be taken to have all the bees in the hive; if any should be on the wing, use a little smoke and give them time to enter the hive before closing it up. If the hive has movable-frames, wire cloth can be tacked over the entrance; if a box or log hive it should be inverted, and coarse cloth, such as coffee sacks are made of, should be tacked over the bottom, (now the top) of the hive securely, so that no bees can pass out. If in a movable-frame hive upward ventilation should be given, by tacking wire cloth over spaces in the honey board, or auger holes made near the top of the hive. The number of bees and condition of the bees can pass in; then move the hive where it is to remain permanently, and proceed to hive the bees in the old hive, as you would a new swarm. Bees moved in that manner will mark the locality of the hive.

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**Prosperous Times.**

Just now it is beginning to be fashionable for all classes of papers to blow loudly about the returning prosperous times. We warn farmers not to be deceived by this cry of better times. While their condition may be improving slightly, that of the middle men and mercantile classes will improve in a far greater ratio; and the profits to the two latter classes will be derived mainly from the products of farmers. We are loud in self-praise of our ability to feed the world and even undersell producers in Europe in their own markets. On this subject a cotemporary very truly says:

"The pre-eminent position taken by this country of late, on account of its capacity to feed the world—including the very horses that are driven to the plow upon Scotch and English farms—is startling to the farmers in foreign countries, and for the past year or two the tones of discontent are loud and oft repeated. Our bullocks, our sheep and our swine are now hung upon English hooks at lower prices than it costs to produce English meats upon English and Scotch farms. It does not follow that our own farmers are getting for cattle upon the hoof what they ought to get. On the contrary we know they are not getting a reasonable price for rearing and feeding steers. Even with corn at twenty to twenty-five cents many feeders have been ruined, yet they have bought from the farmers at low figures. And as for swine the prices have been ruinous, driving many swine breeders and feeders out of the business."

"Yet politicians and bankers will persist in declaring that if farmers are not getting rich it is because they buy too much machinery and are not saving enough in their habits. They do not stop for a moment to consider that the reason we are able to compete with English farmers, bringing ruin upon them by utterly demoralizing their prices, is that our farms are turning off grains, bullocks and swine, at prices fully thirty-three per cent. below what they can afford, paying taxes, help, etc., and living cheaply the while. In the matter of dairy, too, prices have so receded that many have been driven out of the business from sheer inability to make the ends meet. While prices have been thus depressed, large exports have been made, and while our own stock-raisers and dairymen have been unable to get living prices for their products, thousands of farmers on the other side have been rendered bankrupt through having to compete with our own low-down ruinous prices."

This is an anomalous condition of affairs, in which abundance makes both producer and consumer poor. Somebody surely profits by this bountiful supply of the earth's products, and that somebody is the middleman; the handlers, the transporters and shippers of this immense volume of produce. Those men are enabled to sell millions of products in Europe at prices which bankrupt the farmers there, because by transportation monopolies and purchasing rings in this country the price of farm produce has been systematically forced down, until the effect has been equally disastrous to the producers in this country and the farmers in Europe. If farmers do not move steadily on in their purpose to make themselves master of the situation, the system which has been so successfully practiced by these monopolies, in controlling all the farm produce in the country, and forcing it down to prices so low that they can afford to undersell the producers of Europe and make large profits on its transportation and storage, the practice will become a firmly established system of business, in which every farm in the country will be made to pay tribute to the middle class, amounting to the difference between the bare cost of production and the price obtained for it from the distant consumer. The lower they can force the price paid American farmers, the greater command they obtain of the foreign markets; and the larger the quantities they are enabled to sell abroad, the greater their aggregate gains. If they can afford to undersell foreign producers they can force them out of their own market. Immense capital, supported by the unbridled power of the transportation companies of this country, working for the achievement of a well defined purpose, is fast perfecting a system, which if not checked, will place the whole farming interest of the country completely within its grasp. If farmers would escape this impending power to tax them without law, and at a rate only limited by their ability to pay and live in the most economical way, they must combine, and devote more thought and more discussion to the problem which most deeply concerns their future welfare.

In planting an orchard it is expected to last a life time, therefore it should receive the most careful attention. The situation and soil are of prime importance. Low places where cold air settles and causes frost and mildew should be avoided, and those elevated and high places selected which are free from these evils.

The English are reputed to make better beef than we do on this side,—not because the muscle of the well bred English ox is any different from the well bred American ox, but because long continued trials have proven that tender, high flavored, juicy meats can be made from roots and oil-cake, and that they cannot be made from dry corn, nor any other one sort of grain feed.

**Patrons of Husbandry.**

**NATIONAL GRANGE**—Master: Samuel B. Adams, of Michigan; W. W. Jones, Indiana; W. C. Jackson, D. C.; T. G. Thompson, P. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—Henry James, of Indiana; D. W. Aiken, of South Carolina; S. H. Ellis, of Ohio.

**KANSAS STATE GRANGE**—Master: Wm. Sims, Topeka, Shawnee county; Secretary: P. B. Maxson, Emporia, Lyon county; Treasurer: W. P. Popeno, Topeka; Lecturer: J. H. Martin, Mount Creek, Miami county.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—W. H. Jones, Holton, Jackson county; Levi Dumbauld, Hartford, Lyon county; J. S. Payne, Cadmus, Linn county.

**COUNTY DEPUTIES**—J. T. Stevens, Lawrence, Douglas county; T. B. Tracy, Beatty, Marion county; R. T. Tolson, Dodge, Beloit county; E. F. M. Miller, Lincoln county; A. J. Post, Wichita, Sedgewick county; A. P. Reardon, Jefferson Co., Post Office, Dimond, Leavenworth county; S. W. Day, Ottawa, Franklin County; G. A. Hovey, Belleville, Republic County; J. E. Barrett, Greenleaf, Washington County; W. W. Jones, Topeka, Shawnee County; J. McComas, Holton, Jackson county; Charles Disbrow, Clay County, Clay county; Frank B. Smith, Rush Center, Rush county; G. M. Summerville, McPherson, McPherson county.

J. S. Payn, Cadmus, Linn county; Charles Wyeth, Minneapolis, Ottawa county; F. M. Wierman, Milford, Morris county; John Andrews, Huron, Atchison county; George Backer, Marion county; Wm. W. Williams, Pawhuska, Marion county; R. E. Ewalt, Great Bend, Barton county; C. S. Worley, Eureka, Greenwood county; James McCormick, Burnt Oak, Jewell county; L. M. Ernest, Garnett, Anderson county; D. P. Clark, Kirwin, Phillips county; George F. Sander, county; James Faulkner, Iola, Allen county; W. J. Ellis, El Dorado, Miami county; George Amy, Glenville, Bourbon county; W. D. Covington, Smith county; P. O. Kirwin; J. H. Chandler, Rose, Woodson county; E. F. Williams, Erie, Neosho county; J. W. Vanordal, Winfield, Cowley county; George W. Jack, Olath, Johnson county; W. J. Campbell, Red Stone, Lakin, Norton county; R. W. Jackson, Osage county; L. S. Fleck, Bunker Hill, Russell county; J. K. Miller, Sterling, Rice county; W. D. Rippine, Severance, Doniphan county; Arthur Sharp, Girard, Crawford county; P. B. Maxson, Emporia, Lyon county; A. M. Switzer, Hutchinson, Reno county; S. N. Wood, Cottonwood Falls, Chase county; G. S. Kneeland, Keene, Wabaunsee county.

**TO OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE GRANGES.**

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

**Co-Operation in England.**

From the address of Geo. J. Holyoake, the well-known English advocate of co-operation, delivered at Cooper Union, New York, we make a special interest to Patrons.

**HOW THE SYSTEM WORKED AT FIRST IN ENGLAND.**

However, we established our stores, and we sold at market prices to as many members as we could persuade to buy from us, and the difference between the expenses of taking the store and paying for the humble services of the store-keeper and for the material we sold, became profit, and that profit we divided among all who purchased in proportion to their purchases. For twenty-five years co-operation was regarded as a new industry, and the hopes of thousands of people were excited by it. But all these stores died out, their prosperity fluctuated, and ultimately people said co-operation was extinct.

Then it was discovered that instead of dividing the profit, the people subscribing the capital should be paid five per cent. interest, and the profits should be given to those who made the purchases. From that time co-operation began to grow again, until it has now become in Europe, in England especially, a power of such manifest significance that statesmen of both parties and all persons who speculate about the progress of society are interested in it. I might read you letters from the chief persons you know as representing political parties in England, if there were time, showing that they of both sides concede that in co-operation, as we have developed it, is the only perceptible possibility of an ultimate union between capital and labor.

What I want to draw your attention to are these points: We began by selling at the market prices. We didn't undersell the shop-keeper; we were not guilty of the shabbiness of trying to undersell our neighbor, but began by treating others as we desired to be treated ourselves, so that no one in London can go into a shop and say, "I can get these things cheaper at the civil service store, or the co-operative store," making the shopkeeper appear a daily imposter. We refused to do this; we never sold except at the highest market rates; and among shopkeepers in England there are many who owe their fortunes to our adoption of this policy, which has enabled them to keep up their prices. Then we said we would go on the principle of paying our way and have no debts, and neither give credit nor expect it. If a man offered us credit we respected him, but if he tried to force it upon us we had no more to say to him. Our ambition was to owe no man anything. We knew that in England all the workingmen are indebted to somebody. If their wives were plump, their children comely, we knew that the very flesh upon their bones was owned by the butcher, or the baker, in the neighborhood. It was a greater humiliation than that, even, to think that a man should be content to be under obligation to others for the condition in which his family lived. I believe there are middle classes of gentlemen, or even richer people, who consent to owe money and that is very humiliating, too. But we wished to call into existence a class of men to whom debt should be dishonorable, and we did it. We gave fair weight and honest measure in our stores, and we did more: we bound ourselves that if we knew of any circumstance in regard to any article sold which ought to be known to the purchaser—any circumstance affecting its quality which he ought to know before he bought it—we bound ourselves to declare it to him.

That is a very wholesome rule, and I dare say you would be glad to get it carried out in New York. We did it, and we did more. We said that we would sell pure food. That was a very difficult thing, and cost us twelve years of labor to persuade the members of our stores to buy through one agency—to create a great buying power whereby we could go into the market if we would, whereby we could train buyers, or even buy buyers. For you know that to be able to buy food with judgment is a gift of nature. I never knew but one man who had coffee in his blood, and but one man who had tea in his blood, who knew instinctively what to buy. Such men have a priceless faculty. As workingmen we had no people who could buy; we had to buy buyers, to train buyers to buy pure food, and now we have nearly six hundred societies who take their provisions through the hands of one society. These buyers of ours go into Scotland, Ireland, Holland, and all over Europe. They come to America; we have one in this city. We have them in various parts of America, and we have two vessels constantly

coming to this country and carrying away the produce we purchase. We have spent a lot of money in experimenting upon opening the mouth of the river at New Orleans, so that we can get the produce of the Mississippi valley out that way to England, and are prepared to spend millions on it if there is any chance of success.

**THE CREATION OF CAPITAL.**

So we have, as you see, created capital. Some of the workingmen who started this movement had tried everything—temperance, Chartism, trade-unionism, and even tried co-operation, and failed in everything. These men were inspired to begin again, and they did it, and they created this capital. Now we come into the markets of the world with twenty-five millions of ready money, and take no credit, and want none, so that the smallest store in any village in England has the very best provisions, better than gentlemen can command in London.

We have had to do something else; we had to educate the taste of the poor. When we offered pure flour, why, the women would not take it. They had never seen it before; they didn't like it; it was not made white by ingredients mixed with it for that purpose. When we offered them pure coffee they thought we were going to poison them. They had never seen it, and the aroma they never knew. And so we had to educate the taste of the common people. I told my friend, the Rev. Mr. Newton, that you had no common people. "No," he says, "but I think there are a few uncommon people here." We educated the taste of the ordinary common people by supplying them with pure food. They have now on their tables better food than the gentlemen of England, because the latter have no organization such as we have which takes care to get pure food.

You see, therefore, this corporation made promises and kept them, and trained the people in this art. We have also made trade honest, and what is more than making it honest—it is one thing to accomplish that, but it is a very different thing and more difficult to make honesty pay. A great many people agree that honesty is the best policy, but they are afraid to try it. We did try it, and in the end we found it the most profitable investment we ever made. These stores now make money, because they are to be trusted; because we have fulfilled our promises, and made honesty possible in business and a profitable policy.

**Why Support the Grange?**

Many farmers wish to do good in the cause of agriculture (so they say) who do not look upon the grange favorably. They will pay five or six times as much to become Masons or Odd Fellows, and much more for dues, when the grange is all, morally and socially, that they are leaving out the advantage gained by admitting our wives and daughters, and the direct instruction in our daily labor on the farm. Farmers, wake up! be in earnest; work patiently and diligently, and let us learn our business, and take care of it. "United we stand," etc. I say be earnest, working grangers. Read grange literature and practice what you preach! It will pay largely. A day or two since I met an old granger and asked him how his grange prospered. "They are about dead," was his answer. He was master, and said he had done his best to keep them alive. I asked him if they took and read grange papers. "No," said he, "they did not." I said the *Farmer* was a good paper. "Well," said he, with a broad grin, "I always thought if a man hadn't brains enough to run his agricultural business, papers would do no good." I said within myself, no wonder they failed if such an old fogey is their ruling spirit. Does he need to be a granger? He is land-poor and his sons take to other callings as soon as they are old enough. Readers, stick to the grange. Do not hang on, but put your shoulder to the work. Push it on, and you will love it.—*Indiana Farmer*.

**Building Up the Granges.**

The suggestions in the following resolutions passed by the Dominion Grange, Ontario, Canada, might possibly be acted upon with profit in some parts of our own country:

*Resolved*, That in view of the weak state of granges in some sections, and the desire of Dominion Grange to disseminate the principles and build up the order throughout the country, that a certain sum be allowed division granges to pay expenses of lecturers, to be apportioned as follows: Any division grange setting apart a certain amount of funds to be used for this purpose, will have the same supplemented by an equal amount by Dominion Grange, provided Dominion Grange will not allow more than \$25 to any one division, this to be used to defray expenses of lecturers to visit subordinate divisions in the division.

*Resolved*, That in case division granges do not take advantage of this, that subordinate granges, setting apart any sum, upon application will receive the consideration of the committee, applications to be made for lecturers to secretary of Dominion Grange, stating the amount set apart and the party desired to work in that particular division from which application is made.

Wherever the granges have organized mutual fire insurance associations, under the law of 1877 of Ohio, they have been eminently successful. Successful not only in the number of policies issued and the amount of property insured, but also in the few risks which have been reported.

The reason is plain. The largest association has not overstepped the point of safe investment, and being rigorously restricted to farm property, the liabilities become proportionately decreased. The amount saved to each individual patron may not be large, but in the aggregate is immense, and the patron may feel assured that his assurance is safe, and that in the absence of big salaries he is liable only for his pro rata of actual losses.—*Grange Bulletin*.

**Advertisements.****Breeders' Directory.**

G. B. BOTHWELL, Breckenridge, Mo., breeder of Spanish or Improve American Merino sheep of Hammond stock, noted for hardness and heavy fleece. 200 rams for sale.

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

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

JOSIAH FRY, Dover, Shawnee county, Kansas, Breeder of the best strains of Imported English Berkshire Hogs. A choice lot of pigs from 2 to 8 months old for sale. Prices to suit the times. Correspondence solicited.

R. W. 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.

H. ALL BROS., Ann Arbor, Mich., make a specialty of breeding the choicest strains of Poland-Ch. Suffolk, Essex and Berkshire Pigs. Special prices 25% less than last card rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. A few splendid pigs, jills and boars now ready.

LAWRENCE, Kansas.

LEE'S SUMMIT AND BELTON NURSERIES, Fruit Trees of the best, and cheapest. Apple Trees and Hedge Plants a specialty. Address ROBERT WATSON, Lee's Summit, Jackson Co., Mo.

M. LAMMI COUNTY NURSERIES, 11th year, large stock, good assortments stock first class, Osage hedge plants and Apple trees at lowest rates by car load. Wholesale and retail price lists sent free on application. E. F. CADWALLADER, Louisburg, Ks.

**Physician.**

MRS. DEBORAH K. LONGSHORE, M. D., Office M. west side of Harrison St., 1st door south of Sixth St.

HENRI LANNE, M. D., Physician, Surgeon and Oculist, Topeka, Kansas. Office in City Building, corner Kansas Avenue and Seventh streets.

**Dentist.**

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

TEETH extracted without pain, by Nitrous Oxide gas, or laughing gas, at DR. STULTS Dental Rooms, over Funk's Clothing Store, Topeka, Kansas.

**HOOGSTAD & PAYNE.****HOOGSTAD & PAYNE.**

## THE KANSAS FARMER.

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

TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE.	
One Copy, Weekly, for one year,	2.00
One Copy, Weekly, for six months,	1.00
One Copy, Weekly, for three months,	.50
Three copies, Weekly, for one year,	5.00
Five Copies, Weekly, for one year,	8.00
Ten Copies, Weekly, for one year,	15.00

## RATES OF ADVERTISING.

One insertion, per line (nonpareil) 20 cents.	
One month,	15 "
Three months,	12 "
One year,	10 "

The greatest care is used to prevent swindling humbug occurring space in these advertising columns. Advertisements of lotteries, whisky bitters, and quack doctors are not received. We accept advertisements only for cash, cannot give space and take pay in trade of any kind. This is business, and it is a just and equitable rule adhered to in the publication of THE FARMER.

## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A notification will be sent you one week in advance of the time your subscription expires, stating the fact, and requesting you to continue the same by forwarding your renewal subscription. No subscription is continued longer than it is paid for. This rule is general and applied to all our subscribers. The cash in advance principle is the only safe business rule we can sustain itself. Our readers will please to understand when their paper is discontinued that it is in obedience to a general business rule, which is strictly adhered to and in no wise personal. A journal to be outspoken and useful to its readers, must be peculiarly independent, and the above rules are such as experience among the best publishers have been found essential to permanent success.

## THE OLD RELIABLE.

## The Kansas Farmer for 1880.

The Kansas FARMER for 1880 will be the most useful Farm and Family Agricultural Journal ever made in the west. We have perfected arrangements for contributions for the FARMER upon every topic of interest to farmers, from the best writers in the west. From every county in Kansas we shall have farm letters, giving the latest farm news regarding fruit, grain, vegetables, stock and markets. The FARMER has for sixteen years been a faithful, earnest friend and co-worker with and for the farmers of Kansas. It neither stoops to pander to prejudices for support nor does it fail to speak plainly and honestly for what it deems to be just and right concerning the rights and interests of agriculture. No department of the farm is neglected, and the reading for the mothers and daughters has always been carefully looked after. The FARMER is not a partisan, political paper; it is an agricultural journal and not a political one. Men of all shades of political opinion are among its friends and supporters.

The publication of the strays of the whole state under the stray laws passed in 1866, continue to be published in the FARMER. The FARMER being designated by law as the official paper for the publication of the strays, this feature alone makes the paper worth its subscription price to every farmer in Kansas.

## OUR HARD-PAN CLUB OFFER.

To secure a good, large list of subscribers in every community, we have determined to reduce the club rates to the old "hard-pan figures," although we give our readers, in improvements and labor, the advantage of between \$2,000 and \$3,000 per year to us of additional cost.

## OUR CLUB OFFER

is: Ten subscribers, to one or more post-offices, for one year, (fifty-two weeks) for \$10, and an extra copy to the club agent. All names to be sent at one time. Money by registered letter, post-office order, or draft, at our risk. Any person can act as agent who will secure the names and forward the money. Sample copies and club list will be sent free to assist any person who will try to raise a club.

We ask our friends in every county, at every post-office, to give the FARMER the benefit of their active help. There are thousands of new citizens who are farming in the west for the first time, and to such the FARMER, containing as it does the practical experience of the oldest and best farmers, fruit growers and stock breeders, is just what they want and will be worth many times its cost to them. Bring it to their notice and we shall continue to make the paper worthy the most earnest support of its many friends throughout the west.

## Honesty vs. Dishonesty.

Co-operation is becoming one of the most popular questions of political economy, and is receiving a great deal of attention from the public press throughout this country. In Great Britain the theory has been reduced to practice and considerable progress has been made in business on co-operative principles. It strikes us that the principle might be readily adopted by the mass of business men in protecting themselves against, and in putting down and stamping out, a large amount of flagrant dishonesty which stalks abroad in the light of day and preys on its victims in the very market place. Co-operative unions should be formed by the business men of every community, which by means of committees should examine and report the causes of delay or refusal of parties to adjust their accounts and pay their bills, and a record kept open for the use of members from which all such information as is so sorely needed very often by business men to save them from being victimized by calculating sharpers, could be obtained. Such a fraternity among traders would very often prove invaluable to men who find themselves in straitened circumstances, when no dishonest motives could be attributed to them, while the deliberate rascals would be speedily found out and the honest portion of the community warned against their machinations. This class would be treated in the beginning as they are now served in the end, but not until they have robbed and swindled a number of victims, and their crimes be-

come matters of public notoriety from their very magnitude and multitude.

The class of dishonest customers who run in debt on every opportunity and pay nothing they can avoid are the greatest loss, expense and hindrance to business which it has to contend with. If honesty would combine and co-operate against dishonesty the latter would soon be driven out from decent society. No injustice need be done any one by such a union, and a vast amount of good could be promoted and saving accomplished in purifying trade by eliminating these barnacles from it.

## Smaller Cheeses Demanded.

Two reforms are necessary among cheese-makers to popularize their cheese and create a large home consumption. Smaller cheeses are demanded; a cheese weighing eight to ten pounds, and a rich, whole cream article. Such cheeses would cure well and consequently keep well. A whole cheese of this size would often be purchased by a housekeeper, and proving to be rich and good, would be eaten as a part of the daily food of the family; hence an increased consumption would be followed by an extensive home demand, and a market for cheese would spring up at the very door of the factory which would be worth much more to the dairymen who pursue this branch of the dairy business, than any foreign market that is likely to be found. A prime article must be produced to create a taste in the American public for cheese, and the size must be reduced to meet home demands. Occasionally a grocery-man will cut a prime cheese, and in a few hours the whole cheese is taken by his customers. The rule is, however, that an indifferent article is found on his counter and a week will elapse in working it off. These mammoth poor cheeses which are retailed by the slice and single pound in our groceries, will never create a taste that will lead to the consumption of large quantities of cheese in this country. The old-time farm-house cheese weighing seven to ten pounds, was more popular than the modern factory mammoth, if the farmer's wife understood her business and put honest materials into her cheese-tub. Skim cheeses were not popular in those days, and their popularity has not grown a whit since. The old adage that you can't eat your cake and have it, applies with much force to the cheese business. Dairymen cannot use their cream for butter and create a popular demand for their poor skim-cheese.

## More Debt and Taxation Proposed.

Under the pleasing garb of increased educational facilities the Board of Education of Topeka, ask its citizens to saddle a new bonded debt on their and their children's property, of \$32,000 in addition to the \$92,000 school debt already resting its incubus upon the business and future prosperity of the city. If Boards of Education as generally composed, were allowed full swing, there are but few cities or counties in this and some other states, that would not be taxed out of existence under the pretext and delusion of giving the children an education.

It is alleged by the Board of Education of Topeka that the large increase of children requires more school room. Let them arrange the schools to meet this emergency as was done in a neighboring city, by dividing the pupils into two classes, one portion to attend school in the forenoon, and the other half to attend the afternoon session. This plan relieves the crowded school rooms, the teachers can work with more dispatch and double the advantage, and the pupils in three hours will learn more than in the crowded six. If this plan is adopted the present school facilities of Topeka, or any other growing town which has to contend with a similar difficulty, will be virtually doubled, and a heavy bonded debt be avoided, and a future grinding tax that would go far towards checking the future prosperity and increase of population of the city be avoided.

serve the man, who has to carry the load, lay brick and stone, saw wood, drive a team or delve on the streets with pick and shovel, all of which is honorable, useful, indispensable employment, by which a respectable living is made, and virtuous citizens grow and thrive? Three-fourths of his education is necessarily laid by like lumber in a garret, a diploma, medal or heirloom to point to with pride, but it never buys him a pound of sugar or a bushel of corn.

Unless the man or woman who has been pushed through this higher education by the state has influential friends with capital to set up the young graduate in business, he or she must beg for a clerkship or school to teach, etc., and how many thousands to-day are plodding that dreary round of teaching, or clerking, whose very souls chafe against, to them, this irksome business. If four or five years of the youth of these young men and women had been expended in acquiring useful trades and educating their hands to work, which under the circumstances has been wasted going through a system of illy contrived state education, they would be prosperous and happy, with a good business, and employment congenial to their tastes.

From this disagreeable picture, which every practical man must acknowledge to be true, let us turn to what might be, and what ought to be, a better and less expensive system of common schools. The boy or girl who can write a fair genteel hand and read well, which implies correct spelling and a comprehension of what is being read, stands at the open threshold of all knowledge. If they have a hunger and thirst for science or any of the higher branches of knowledge, and mental capacity to acquire them, they are sure to become students. The facilities are within easy reach; but there is not one in a hundred of the public school children of the day, who can write a decent hand, (their teachers cannot do it) spell correctly or read "smarter, cream and veneer."

Our elaborate system of public school education is not practical for the mass of the people, therefore much of it becomes virtually useless to them; and those who can avail themselves of the full benefits which the system provides and contemplates, have abundant means to pay for it. They don't need the state to educate them. Now let the pruning knife, directed by common sense, be put into our expensive system of public schools, at the point where the millions are able to reach, and cut away all the superfluous branches, which a comparatively few alone enjoy. Limit the school years from six or seven years to fifteen or sixteen years of age for the pupils. Let the few branches taught be those which are used in the business of every day life by the multitude, and let those be taught thoroughly—no veneering and sham should be tolerated.

Dredging out the channel of the "Father of Waters" from the Gulf to the interior, promises other great advantages in addition to those embraced in unimpeded navigation. Millions of acres of now waste land of incomparable fertility, and lying in the most productive climate in the northern hemisphere, would be given to cultivation, and the breeding beds of malarial poison be dried up and converted into fertile fields. By lowering the bottom of the river, which is the fundamental principle of the jetty system, the productive land, reclaimed to agriculture, would alone create wealth enough in a few years to return to the country the entire cost of the work of improving the river.

forming shoals which in turn force the volume of water against opposite banks, new channels are formed, and the river from this cause is ever changing its course.

By contracting the stream to less than a mile in width, and confining it in a comparatively straight course by the same simple system, which has changed the shallowest bar at its mouth into a navigable channel for the largest ocean steamers, the strong, deep current, formed by contracting the river and confining it to one unchangeable channel, would carry all its muddy sediment down to the Gulf, and at the same time, by the moving weight of so great a volume of water, scour the bottom deeper and deeper, until the rock was reached. The theory of this principle in controlling rivers has been proven in practice so far as it has been tried, at the mouth of the Mississippi, and also in other rivers of Europe. There is no reason to doubt the practicability of utilizing the Mississippi by applying it to this broad river, so far as the navigation of ocean ships is required.

Preparing the Mississippi for the transportation of farm produce and other heavy merchandise, strongly appeals to the agricultural interest of the Atlantic and seaboard states of the east, as a means by which to avert the glut of western produce from their markets; and it would seem that self-interest would prompt them to urge the opening of the Mississippi to ocean navigation. The commission which was appointed at the last session of congress to examine this subject, will doubtless report favorably to the next session, and in the meantime the state legislatures, especially of the west, should be urged by their constituents to take the necessary steps to promote the object, and instruct their members of congress to adopt a plan, or at least take measures for that purpose.

The west as yet is only in its infancy, but already finds itself hampered for want of free intercourse with the world. It has a waterway provided by nature affording sufficient power to supply all its wants, lacking only the engineering skill of man to place it in the proper condition to meet every demand of interior navigation. Let the great agricultural interest of the country direct its concentrated efforts to the advancement of this work of providing a medium for transportation which will ever remain free as the rivers which flow from their mountain torrents to the sea.

Dredging out the channel of the "Father of Waters" from the Gulf to the interior, promises other great advantages in addition to those embraced in unimpeded navigation. Millions of acres of now waste land of incomparable fertility, and lying in the most productive climate in the northern hemisphere, would be given to cultivation, and the breeding beds of malarial poison be dried up and converted into fertile fields. By lowering the bottom of the river, which is the fundamental principle of the jetty system, the productive land, reclaimed to agriculture, would alone create wealth enough in a few years to return to the country the entire cost of the work of improving the river.

## Breed From Pure Stock.—No. 1.

It is a known fact that cattle and hogs make dollars faster than anything else in this country, (that is good stock of either) and it is strange what one or two crosses with thoroughbred stock on our common stock will make.

We hear of bull calves, with two or three crosses, selling for \$25, or \$30, to use in herds.

This is one great mistake, for there is no certainty of what kind of calves you will get from such a bull; neither are they grading up their cattle fast enough. And right here let me say that hereafter I hope that in making out the premium lists for cattle at our different fairs, that they would compel those showing grade better to show pedigrees with not less than four crosses from thoroughbred bulls, making fifteen-sixteenths of whatever breed they should be. And as to hogs I should want them to be of pure blood of the different breeds.

What our farmers want is to look more after the kind of stock than to number. There is a growing demand for beef to ship to Europe, and they want good beef. We see by the market that the prices for good and poor beef are getting wider and wider apart; so it is to our interest to improve our stock, for beef is the main standby in this western country.

But some say feed is cheap in Kansas. So it is; but it takes just as much time and trouble to take care of a poor animal as a good one, and with ordinary care a good one is much more profitable than a poor one; and one that does not take care of his stock had better go out of the business. How pitiable it looks to see a lot of poor, half-starved cattle in the latter part of winter, beside the worry and vexation it causes the owner, if he is even lucky enough to get them through the winter.

Short-horns are my choice of cattle. Take them for beauty, style and profit, both as to beef and milk, there is certainly no breed that surpasses them. They have stood the test for a number of years both in England and this country. They do admirably in Kansas. As a rule, they are very fine milkers; this I know to a certainty. They give more milk than our native cattle and make more and better butter.

Go to their herds and see their calves; which is proof enough of my statement. Some will say, Oh, they will be worth no more than our common cattle in a few years. This is a great mistake. There will always be as much difference between Short-horns and native cattle as there is between native cattle and Texas steers; and there is just as much difference in handling them.

In conclusion, I would say use nothing but thoroughbred males on your stock. Buy at home of reliable men, by all means. Grade up

your stock. It will be money in your pockets in the long run if it does cost a little in the start.

M. W.

## Preparing Cuttings.

Before cold weather comes on, cuttings of gooseberry, currant, grape vine, cottonwood, willow—in fact anything that will grow from cuttings—should be prepared for spring. In case of vine cuttings, make them of short jointed wood, three eyes long. All others may be cut to a uniform length of about eight inches. Tie them in neat bunches of twenty-five or fifty, not tightly, placing the butts all one way. Stand them on their bottoms in a row and cover with earth, throwing it off them until a sharp ridge is formed. Thus they may stand until planting time in the spring, when they may be placed in nursery rows, the cuttings six inches apart in the row, and kept clean. At the end of one or at most two years, they will be ready for transplanting where they are finally to stand. Thus prepared, we have had them nicely calloused by spring, and in some instances roots were ready to be formed.

In planting, the operator must be governed by the nature of the shoot. Grape cuttings should be set so that only one eye is above ground. Set other cuttings so that two eyes will appear above ground. In planting it is absolutely necessary that the earth should be quite firm about the lower part of the cutting. For this, as one reason, it is usual to set them somewhat slanting. Another advantage in favor of planting cuttings slantwise, is that they are supposed to root more freely than when planted vertically, and for the reason that thus a greater surface is exposed to the heat near the surface of the earth.

Chew Jackson's best Sweet Navy tobacco.

## Sheep Wanted.

The subscriber desires to secure from some party a flock of from 500 to 1,000 sheep to keep on shares. Have plenty of feed, shelter and water.

J. A. BLACKBURN,

Great Bend, Barton Co., Kansas.

The above party I know to be reliable and thoroughly acquainted with the care and breeding of sheep. He has had large experience in the business east and west.

J. K. HUDSON, Topeka, Kansas.

Fifty cents will buy the Marsh Ague Cure—liquid or pills. It cures the worst cases of Tertian, or Third Day Ague, and all forms of chills and fever. Never known to fail. Try it. For sale by all druggists.

Bilious persons should avoid the use of coffee and nervous persons the use of tea. An agreeable and healthful substitute is found in Cocoa. Walter Baker & Co.'s Chocolate and Cocoa preparations are highly recommended by the medical faculty, and are sold by all grocers.

For Catarrhal and Throat Disorders "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are renowned and marvelously effective, giving immediate relief in most cases.

Health—the poor man's riches, the rich man's bliss—is found in AYER'S MEDICINES, after a fruitless search among other remedies. A word to the wise is sufficient.

For diarrhoea, dysentery, bloody-flux, cramps in stomach, and colic, whether affecting adults, children or infants, Dr. Pierce's Compound Extract of Smart-Weed is a sovereign remedy. It is compounded from the best brandy, Jamaica ginger, smart-weed, or water-pepper, anodyne, soothing and healing gums. For colds, rheumatism, neuralgic affections, and to break up fevers and inflammatory attacks it is invaluable and should be kept in every household. Fifty cents by druggists.

Consumers desiring the very best Chocolate or Cocoa should purchase that prepared by Walter Baker & Co. Established in 1780. Walter Baker's Chocolate has no superior, and its standard is always maintained. All grocer's sell it.

The attention of sheep growers is called to Little's Chemical Fluid Non-poisonous Sheep Dip. Very effective, and very cheap. Try it on your sheep and dogs.

## What Compound Oxygen is Doing.

A lady officer of St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Norfolk, Va., writes: "My improvement is wonderful, though slow. I have gained in flesh, and they say that I appear twenty years younger. With most grateful thanks, and the wish that I could spread the reputation of your wonderful agent, I am, etc." All information sent free. Drs. STARKEY & PALEN, 1112 Girard street, Philadelphia, Pa.

## What a Lady Says.

I am sure no Cooking Stove that ever was made has given so great satisfaction as the

## The Greatest Blessing.

A simple, pure, harmless remedy, that cures every time, and prevents disease by keeping the blood pure, stomach regular, kidneys and liver active, is the greatest blessing ever conferred upon man. Hop Bitters is that remedy, and its proprietors are being blessed by thousands who have been saved and cured by it. Will you try it? See another column.

## Given Up By Doctors.

"Is it possible that Mr. Godfrey is up and at work, and cured by so simple a remedy?"

"I assure you it is true that he is entirely cured, and with nothing but Hop Bitters; and only ten days ago his doctors gave him up and said he must die!"

"Well-a-day! That is remarkable! I will go this day and get some for my poor George—I know hops are good."

## Water Supply.

A drouth like the one now prevailing, brings the question of water supply vividly to the attention of every man of a family. Cisterns fail and will not do. Everybody needs a good well, and with the employment of Brockett's Well Auger and Drills, he can have one made in the quickest possible time. Any live man will find it a most profitable investment to buy one of these augurs and put down some of the hundreds of wells which are needed in every county. Catalogues and prices will be sent free by addressing C. A. BROCKETT & CO., Kansas City, Mo.

## To Suffering Woman!

Dr. Livingston's Abdominal Support, a sure cure for anteversion, retroversion, retroflexion and prolapsus. Send for illustrated descriptive circulars on uterine diseases and complications. The only comfortable and effective support ever designed for these diseases. Ovulates all difficulties and dispenses with all private examinations. Address Dr. C. E. Livingston, 215 Superior street, Toledo, O.

## Louisville Cement.

The popularity of this superior brand of Cement is too well known to need comment. We merely desire to call the attention of dealers to the fact that the Louisville Association have an agency at Kansas City, from which place dealers throughout this section can have their orders filled promptly, in car lots, at manufacturers' lowest prices. We also make but slight additional charge in job lots, and have special low freight rates in lots of twenty-five barrels and upwards. We also handle at wholesales Michigan, Iowa and New York Plaster Paris, Hannibal Lime, Fire Clay, etc.; also manufacture Drain Pipe—all sizes—Chimney Flues, Well Tubing, etc. Quotations furnished with pleasure. Address C. A. BROCKETT, Agent, Kansas City, Mo.

**THE SECRET KEY TO HEALTH.**—The Science of Life or Self-Preservation, 300 pages. Price, only \$1. Contains fifty valuable prescriptions, either one of which is worth more than ten times the price of the book. Illustrated sample sent on receipt of 6 cents for postage. Address Dr. W. H. Parker, 4 Bulfinch street, Boston, Mass.

Cash paid for choice butter at Ripley's.

## 8 and 9

Eight and nine per cent. interest on farm loans in Shawnee county.

Ten per cent. on city property. All good bonds bought at sight.

For ready money and low interest, call on A. PRESCOTT & CO.

## A Loosing Joke.

A prominent physician of Pittsburgh said jokingly to a lady patient who was complaining of her continued ill health and of his inability to cure her, "Try Hop Bitters!" The lady took it in earnest and used the Bitters, from which she obtained permanent health. She now laughs at the doctor for his joke, but he is not so well pleased with it, and it cost him a good patient.

**RESCRIPTION FREE**  
For the speedy cure of Seminal Weakness, Loss of Manhood, and all disorders brought on by indiscretions or excess. Any Druggist has the ingredients. Address DAVIDSON & CO., 75 Nassau St., N. Y.

## Markets.

Topeka Leather Market. Corrected weekly by H. D. Clark, Dealer in Hides, Furs, Tallow and Leather.

HIDES—Green.....\$1.50  
Green, damaged.....0.64  
Green, kip and calf.....0.65  
Bull hide.....0.65  
Dry flint prime.....1.10  
Dry Salted, prime.....1.10  
Dry damaged.....5.00  
TALLOW.....0.05

Topeka Retail Grain Market. Wholesale cash prices by T. A. Beck & Bro.

WHEAT—Per bu. spring.....\$1.45  
" Fall No. 2.....1.05  
" Fall No. 3.....1.95  
" Fall No. 4.....0.85  
CORN—Per bu. ....0.25  
" White Old.....0.25  
" Yellow.....0.25  
OATS—Per bu. ....0.25  
RYE—Per bu. ....0.30  
BARLEY—Per bu. ....0.30  
FLOUR—Per 100 lbs.....20.40  
" No. 2.....3.50  
" No. 3.....3.00  
" Rye.....2.00  
CORN MEAL.....0.90  
COIN CHOP.....0.70  
EVAN'S FLOUR.....0.80  
CORN & OATS.....0.90  
BRAN.....0.50  
SHORT.....0.60

## Topeka Produce Market.

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

APPLES—Per bushel.....1.00/2.00  
BEANS—Per bu.—White Navy.....2.00  
" Medium.....1.75  
" Castor.....1.50  
CORN—Per bu. ....1.25  
" White Old.....1.25  
OATS—Per bu. ....1.25  
RYE—Per bu. ....1.25  
BARLEY—Per bu. ....1.25  
FLOUR—Per 100 lbs.....20.40  
" No. 2.....3.50  
" No. 3.....3.00  
" Rye.....2.00  
CORN MEAL.....0.90  
COIN CHOP.....0.70  
EVAN'S FLOUR.....0.80  
CORN & OATS.....0.90  
BRAN.....0.50  
SHORT.....0.60

CHICKENS—Per lb.—Fresh.....1.50  
EGGS—Per doz.—Fresh.....1.00  
HOMINY—Per lb. ....5.25/6.50  
HONEY—Per lb. ....2.00  
POTATOES—Per bu. ....50¢/60¢  
SWEET POTATOES.....60¢/75¢  
POULTRY—Chickens, Live, per doz. ....1.25/1.75  
" Turkeys.....0.90  
" Geese.....0.90  
ONIONS—Per bu. ....0.25  
CABBAGE—Per dozen.....40¢/50¢  
CHICKENS—Spring.....1.50/2.00

## Topeka Butchers' Retail Market.

BEEF—Sirloin Steak per lb. ....	12¢
" Ribs.....	10
" Fore Quarter Dressed, per lb.....	10
" Hind.....	12
" By the carcass.....	12
MUTTON—Chops per lb. ....	12¢
" Roast.....	12
PORK.....	8¢/10
	10¢/12

## New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, November 17, 1879.

GOVERNMENTS—Quiet and a shade weaker.

BAB SILVER—\$1 15 1/4.

RAILROAD BONDS—Active, and higher prices were paid for most of the issues dealt in.

STATE SECURITIES—Dull.

STOCKS—The stock market was irregular in the early dealings, but in the main firm and higher.

A grand bear demonstration, visible by the effort of leading operators who had recently marketed stock, was made during the afternoon, amid the flurry and excitement attendant upon a disposition to realize and the pressure of long stock, many blocks being sold out on stop orders. There was a general decline of 1/2 to 1 1/2 per cent., the coal shares and Erie leading in the downward movement. The leader in the attack was undoubtedly Gould, but others were not far behind him, and the break in prices was therefore very rapid. It is understood to be Gould's plan to obtain if possible large lines of stocks at low figures and then go in for a general bull movement, in which his Union Pacific is to be conspicuous. The scarcity was applied to the money market to assist in the bear movement. Toward the close a buoyant feeling prevailed, and under the brisk purchases a recovery of 1/2 to 1 1/2 per cent. ensued, with Erie and coal shares and some of the Southwestern stocks most prominent in the dealings.

MONEY—62 1/2 per cent. per annum; 1 1/8 per cent. per diem; closing at 7 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—5 1/2 to 7 percent.

STERLING—\$4 88; higher; sixty days, \$4 80 1/4; eight, \$4 83 1/4.

## GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Coupons of 1881.....105 1/2

New 4 1/2's (registered).....102 1/2

Coupons sales.....105 1/2@105 1/2

New 4 1/2's (registered).....108 1/2@108 1/2

Coupons.....109 1/2

Current 8's.....123

Address C. A. BROCKETT & CO., Kansas City, Mo.

DRUGGISTS—See above.

**Literary and Domestic.****The Canary at Church.**

BY MRS. M. A. DENISON.

They were singing good old London  
As the evening cool and sweet,  
Dripped with purple shadows  
Down the city street.

Round every churchly window  
The lusty ivy clung;  
The red, faint sunshines flickered  
Its matchless leaves among.

The dim nave, with its arches  
And clustered pillars rare,  
Had echoed to the cadence  
Of the pale rector's prayer.

And now through tender silence  
The thrilling flute notes rang  
And sweet us Angel's voices  
The rare old tune they sang.

When sudden, lo! appearing  
On carving quail and old  
Like fair estray from heaven,  
Fluttered a speck of gold,

On to the lectern flying,  
Up to the Bishop's chair,  
With clear notes soaring, chanting  
His wondrous vespers there.

Full roiled the singing voices;  
Yet sweeter, richer, higher,  
God's silver-throated chorister  
Outsang the trained choir.

**Schools of Cookery and Cooking Clubs.**

A Farmer's Wife gives her opinion on cooking through *The Housekeeper*.

That a wide spread interest in the improvement of the national cuisine has been aroused in our country is evident from many things. Schools of cookery are doing good work in our larger cities. Cooking clubs are becoming a fashionable amusement. The leading newspapers now discuss a new dish, or a new and novel mode of preparing an old one, with almost as much eagerness as they impart a state secret or a bit of gossip. To be able to cook well is actually beginning to be considered an elegant accomplishment. So far, so good. Now let us examine a little into the value of these schools and clubs as a means of genuine improvement to our western cooking. We will take the New York cooking school as an example, since it is undoubtedly the best in the country and is doing invaluable service in teaching both by precept and example, the poorer as well as the richer citizens of New York how and what to cook. That its superintendent, Miss Juliet Corson, is doing most excellent work cannot be denied. She is indeed doing the work of a genuine philanthropist in her study into the saving of expense in the preparation of food, and in her articles on digestion, the economic value of food, relation between diet and health, etc. Her fifteen and twenty-five cent dinners, too, are perfect, no doubt, in their adaptation to the wants of those who need to live economically in New York City, where markets are good, storerooms small, and there is great variety to choose from at all seasons of the year. They do not altogether apply to western markets or western homes either as to prices or material. The cooking in farm houses and country villages will never be reformed by these refinements of the culinary art. We have in the west as a general thing, plenty of milk, eggs, butter, pork, the commoner vegetables and beef. What we want to know is how to use these to advantage, that is, how to prepare in a simple way, a pleasing variety of food capable of nourishing at the same time children and able-bodied men, who do men's work every day. It is absolutely essential that the methods should not be elaborate or complicated. No matter how perfect they are otherwise, if they absorb much time, the woman who does her own work will necessarily reject them. She never will broil a steak, though you preach to her of its superior excellence forever, if she has to go through such an intricate process as that prescribed by the celebrated South Kensington school of cookery.

When, indeed, is the farmer's wife to find time to "carefully prepare a pat of green butter by chopping together with a knife butter and parsley?" Who will keep her in lemons that she may "squeeze a few drops on the steak just before serving?" And what farmer in the state of Iowa, would eat it, after all her trouble, if she "immersed it in olive oil before putting it on the breiler?" If she can be taught to broil a steak more quickly than she can fry one, she will do so; not otherwise. Just so about soups, vegetables and the art of seasoning. We must combine simplicity and expedition in all our processes, or they will never be adopted in the majority of homes. Beef, *a la mode*, though delicious when properly prepared, will never constitute a part of any farmer's dinner whose wife is cook, house-maid and nurse. Juilienne soup is also extremely fine, but will never come into common use for every day meals.

And here is where our reform must begin, to effect any permanent or general revolution in our imperfect modes of cooking. We must commence with the *articles of food in common use on common tables*. Tell the woman who does not complain so much of lack of time, that a nutritious palatable soup is the easiest and most satisfying dinner she can prepare for her brood of hungry children and equally hungry husband, and she will listen eagerly. Teach her to broil a steak in less time than to fry; that it will go half as far again towards appeasing eager appetites, and your cause is won thus far. She will never fry it again. Make out a bill of fare for different days that will include an appetizing variety of ways for using her milk, butter, eggs, beef, and pork, with plain directions for their preparation, and she will follow it gladly, if she once comes to appreciate the fact that

few herbs, easily raised, quickly gathered, and simply used will make her soups, her meats, her vegetables even, more delicious, she will give her husband no peace until she has one corner of her garden devoted to their cultivation.

As to the cooking clubs—they are better than idleness for fine ladies. They show indeed, the dawning in their minds of a proper appreciation of the importance of the art they are trifling with, but you will not apt to find among their members those who really practice this art at home, and who therefore are most in need of thorough and practical instruction. Their chief value, it seems to me, lies in the fact that a wholesome public opinion is being shaped in regard to the needed reform in the art of cooking.

**Fashionable Kerchiefs.**

Among endless quaint and charming conceits revived from antiquity, is seen the delicate lawn kerchief. The kerchief of the present day is simply worn outside of the high corsage for ornamental purposes, which that of old times revealed the neck through a misty cloud. These dainty kerchiefs are made of fine linen cambric, or gaudy linen lawn, India mull, dotted bobbinet and batiste, and are trimmed around with lace and fastened at the throat with a lace-pin or a bunch of love-knots of long-looped narrow satin ribbons of one or several colors. These are the simplest. More extravagant kerchiefs are exquisitely embroidered and trimmed with lace, set on slightly full over a fringe of pearl beads and lousy silk fringe. Other styles are made of *point d'esprit* of an ivory tint edged with saw-teeth scallops, or creamy batiste embroidered on the edge with shaded colored floss floral designs.

The surplice cut waist is seen again and made pointed nearly to the waist, is filled in with soft plentings of lace or a made-up chemise of costly lace. Spanish lace scarfs are also laid carelessly about the neck and are just caught together at the throat by a lace-pin or pendant suspended from a velvet ribbon; the ends of the scarf are tucked in at the lower fastening of the waist. The Talleyrand cravat is talked of, but its enormous size and general unbecomingness will prevent its becoming too popular. Made of white batiste this cravat is folded or pleated into a band which is completed by two large bows and ends simply hemstitched.

**Christmas Presents.**

Christmas is drawing near and perhaps a few hints about making presents would not come amiss.

For father, a warm pair of gloves, or a pair of wool wristlets would be nice. One skein of Balmoral yarn will make two or three pair of wristlets, and it is cheap too, only 12 cents a skein. The boys will also want some wristlets. They are so nice and warm to wear to school. Then for mother if she is fond of flowers, a year's subscription of some floral magazine would be acceptable, or a beautiful picture all framed to hang up in her bed room.

For an older sister a set of toilet mats made of white Java canvas and worked with scarlet and black, or blue and corn colored zephyr, would be handsome, or a pair of picture frames made of card board.

For the little folks some new story books and some new games would make them happy for a long time. Or for one who goes to school a pen-wiper made in the following manner would do. Take a piece of fine leather and cut it in the shape of a gauntlet glove, line it with blue flannel, leaving one or both sides of the gauntlet open, and put in two or three pieces nicely worked with buttonhole stitch. Sew the fingers together with buttonhole stitch on the right side with bright silk, and notch the gauntlet all around.

For the cousins who have not long been keeping house, one or two chair tidies would be appropriate, and for her baby, nothing would be better than to knit it a couple of pairs of stockings. One pair could be red and brown and the other blue and black.

For your aunt who is always losing her spectacles a case to keep them in would be just the thing, made out of card board bound with some bright colored ribbon and finished with cord and tassel so she can hang it near her work table.

For cousin Charlie, who generally has a cigar in his mouth, a cigar case made of silver perforated card board bound with maroon blue ribbon and worked with blue zephyr, would be sure to please him. A book of poetry or travels will always be nice.

The evenings are now so long that one can knit a pair of mittens in a short time, and where there is a large family of children, mittens are always required. While mother and sister are knitting or preparing things for Christmas, some one of the family ought to read aloud. It will make the evenings pass off pleasantly. Any of Dickens' works would be interesting to the children, while Tennyson's Enoch Arden is a beautiful thing to read. Or, on a cold winter's night, when you are all seated around the table, the fire burning brightly, a pan of popcorn and the plate of rosy checked apples setting on a side table, what is better than to listen to some one reading Snow-Bound by Whittier.

But here, I have commenced to ramble on about books instead of talking about Christmas. My letter is getting too long so I shall have to wait until another time.

**BRAMBLEBUSH.****Roast Ducks.**

Choose ducks with plump bellies and thick, yellowish feet. They should be trussed with feet on, which should be scalded, and the

skin peeled off, and then turned up close to the legs. Run a skewer through the middle of each leg, after having drawn them as close as possible to the body. Cut off the heads and necks, and the pinions at the first joint. Bring these close to the sides, twist the feet around, and twist them at the back of the bird. After the duck is stuffed, both ends should be secured with string, so as to keep in the seasoning.

To insure ducks being tender, never dress them the same day they are killed; and if the weather permits, they should hang a day or two. Make a stuffing of sage and onion, sufficient for one duck, and leave the other unseasoned, as the flavor is not liked by everybody. Put them into a quick oven, and keep them well basted the whole of the time they are cooking. A few minutes before serving, dredge them lightly with flour, to make them froth and look plump; send to the table hot and quickly, with a good brown gravy poured round, but not over, the ducks, and a little of the same in a tureen. When in season, green peas should invariably accompany this dish.

Full-grown ducks should be roasted from three-quarters to one hour; ducklings from twenty-five to thirty-five minutes.

Ducklings are trussed and roasted in the same manner, and served with the same sauces and accompaniments. When in season, serve apple sauce.

**Cloaks.**

The dolman and variations of it are the most popular styles for outside wraps. Their elegance consists chiefly in their decorations and linings, the latter in the most fashionable garments being quilted satin of cardinal or old gold shade. A sumptuous one of matelasse made very long, was trimmed with a ruching of narrow satin ribbon, chenille fringe and masses of jet, a deep collar of the jet finished the neck.

The lining was quilted cardinal satin. Another of *sicilienne* had three rows of plaited French lace around the bottom, and a jabot of the same down the front. Under the sleeve-portions were rows of chenille fringes six inches deep, while the [sleeves] were one mass of passementerie with jet pendants. The wrap was moderately short.

The more expensive outside garments are made of silk, satin de Lyon, *Sicilienne*, *matelasse*, rep-beaver and *Armure* cloth. Great quantities of passementerie embroidered with jet, chenille crimped fringe, jet fringe and fur are used. A brown *Sicilienne* paletot was finished with bands of seal-skin. The effect was rich and elegant, and one could hardly realize that this "plain" garment was as costly as the bejeweled ones until the price ticket was glanced at. It revealed \$1,500 as the cost of this not very pretentious garment.

**MILLINERY.**

The flaring and very much indented bonnet, are no longer to be seen. The "Cottage" shape and variations of it are most popular. Black velvet has, in a great measure, been superseded by black satin for hat material and when trimmed elaborately with jet, makes a most elegant head covering. Flowers are not at all used, but birds, in greater or less quantities, appear on every hat. Sometimes it is the head and breast of a large bird, sometimes a head and wing; again, there are clusters of from three to six small humming birds. Whatever else is lacking there must be at least one bird, or a fraction thereof, to give the bonnet style.

Turbans are often used to match the costume, and trimmed with plumes and the inevitable delegate from the natural history department. One turban composed wholly of variegated wings and trimmed on one side with a large English starling, was odd and by no means unpretty. Another, with the crown of Persian cashmere, had a rim of old gold satin, with bird and feather to correspond.

**The Proper Diet for Children.**

Here is another case of disease of the cornea. This baby is twenty months old. There is a white spot over the center of this little girl's pupil. It is soft-looking, and I therefore know that it is recent. The child has nasal catarrh. It was weaned when six months old, and it is now just cutting its eye-teeth. The mother says it is being fed with whatever there is upon the table; and that it receives a little tea and coffee, and that it is allowed to suck pieces of meat, all of which is wrong. Do not allow it among your patients, gentlemen. If the good Lord had wished us to eat meat at the age of twenty months, he would have given us a full set of teeth ready for use at that time.

Dr. Leaming, of this city, whom you should all know, has for some years had charge of an asylum in which large numbers of children are received and cared for, and he does not allow one of them to have anything except milk, and substances which can be dissolved in milk, until they are seven years of age. I think your professor of materia medica is equally emphatic upon this question, and 'tow your professor of ophthalmology comes to you and beseeches of you to use all possible influence in the direction of having children reared upon milk alone. Not upon tea, not upon coffee, not upon meat, not upon sweetcake and puddings, but upon milk. Every physician will, under rare circumstances, prescribe beef juice for infants, very much as brandy is prescribed upon rare occasions for small children, and I shall not quarrel with them upon that point. But I have a decided opinion that, under ordinary circumstances, no child should have anything except milk and farinaceous food until it has been provided with teeth with which to prepare other articles of diet for the stomach. Follow nature in your practice in ophthalmics as well as in every other kind of disease. I will engage, if this mother who is anxious for her child, will

listen to what I say about feeding it hereafter with milk, barley, farina, corn starch, hominy, with perhaps a small quantity of sugar, that the teething will be easier, the bowels will be more regular, and the disease of the cornea will be less liable to occur.—Dr. D. B. St. John Roosa, in *New York Medical Record*.

**The Beet Sugar Business.**

From present movements in the raising and manufacture of beets and beet sugar in the eastern states, it seems probable that the business will grow into one of great importance in the near future. The *American Agriculturist* gives the following collated facts of the extent of the beet sugar interest in central Europe, the climate being similar to that of the United States:

"While we are struggling to reach a satisfactory development of the manufacture of beet sugar, are writing, talking, and disputing on the possibility of growing beets and producing sugar from them, in Europe the manufacture reached the enormous amount of 1,550,000 tons in 1863, and the crop of the present year is estimated to exceed it by 60,000 tons. In Germany the beet root tax was paid in 1873 upon 4,622,900 tons of roots, and the average yield of sugar from this was 12 per cent. In France also the manufacture is taxed, so that we should possess an advantage in our favor in the freedom from this charge."

**Dairy Maxims.**

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* lays down the following primary rules which should never be lost sight of by farmers who expect to profit from their cows:

"The butter-producer should keep cows specially adapted to butter-making. He should feed generously, have his cows come in early, and milk until as near calving as possible. No unruly or vicious cows should be kept. Dogs or brutal men should not be allowed near the stock. He should endeavor to produce the largest possible yield of butter per cow. He should adopt a standard and keep no cows which fail to come up to that mark. He should raise heifers only from his best cows. And they should be properly fed while growing, for if they are stunted it matters little of what breed they are. The butter should be of a quality to find a ready sale and at the highest price. If the butter buyer finds fault with the quality and declines to give the highest price, then there is failure somewhere; it must be looked after."

Crockery with gilt bands or flowers should not be wiped. It should be washed quickly, rinsed and drained until dry.

**Buckwheat Cakes.**

To a quart of buttermilk add sufficient buckwheat to make a stiff batter; to this add two eggs, a gill of yeast, and half a teaspoonful of salt. Beat all well together and let it rise until morning. Then, to a cupful of sweet milk add a teaspoonful of soda, and with it thin the batter sufficiently for baking.

**Orange Snow.**

The juice of four large oranges and one lemon; the grated rind of an orange and half a lemon. Soak a package of gelatin in a coffee cup of cold water; when dissolved add the grated rind and a coffee cup of white sugar. Cover and let stand an hour; then pour on two and a half coffee cups of boiling water; strain through flannel; when cold whip in the beaten whites of three eggs; turn into a mould and set on ice.

**To Take Rust Out of Steel.**

Place the article in a bowl containing kerosene oil, or wrap it in a soft cloth well saturated with kerosene; let it remain twenty-four hours or longer; then scour the rusty spots with brick dust. If badly rusted, use salt, wet with hot vinegar; after scouring, rinse every particle of brick dust or salt off with boiling hot water; dry thoroughly; then polish off with a clean flannel cloth and a little sweet oil.—*New York Post*.

**Another Furniture Polish.**

Put half an ounce of shellac, the same amount of gumlac, and a quarter of an ounce of gum sandarac into a pint of spirits of wine all in a stone bottle, near the fire, shaking it very often. As soon as the gums are dissolved it is ready for use. Then take a roller of woolen rags—soft old broadcloth will do it nicely—put a little of the polish on it, also a few drops of the linseed oil. Rub the surface to be polished with this, going round and round over a small space at a time, until it begins to be quite smooth. Then finish by a second rubbing with spirits of wine and more of the polish. Furniture thus treated will have a brilliant lustre equal to new.

**Give the Children Milk.**

Dr. Burt, of Chicago, claims that the exemption of nursing infants from scarlatina, (which is allowed by all writers on the subject) is due to the fact that they are kept on milk diet, and he has tested his theory in forty cases of children who remained in houses where the atmosphere was loaded with scarlatina poison given off by persons suffering with the disease, and the test did not fail in a single case. From half a pint to a pint, at each meal of milk, is prescribed when there is exposure to the disease, according to the age of the child, and more may be taken if the child likes it. The milk should be kept out of the sickroom; lest it act as a carrier of the poison contagion the same as water is known to do.

**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*.

\$66 a week in your own town. Terms and \$50 outfit free. Address H. HALLETT & CO., Portland, M.

\$77 a month and expenses guaranteed to outfit free. Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

\$77 a week, \$12 a day at home easily made. \$72 Costly outfit free. TRUE & CO., Augusta, Me.

18 Eject! New Style Chromo Cards with name 10 postpaid. GEO. J. REED & CO., Nassau, N. Y.

\$55,66 Agents Profit per Week. Will prove it or forfeit. \$4 outfit free. E. G. RIDEOUT & CO., 212 Fulton St., N. Y.

**ORGAN BEATTY PIANO**  
NEW ORGANS \$125.00. Grand, Tenor, Bebe, 22 ten. 25 Walnut Case, worn 12 years. Stand & Book \$100. New Pianos, Stand, Cover & Book. \$125 to \$250. Before you buy be sure to write us. Illustrated Newspaper sent FREE. Address DANL. F. BEATTY, Washington, New Jersey.

**SUCCESS IN WALL STREET**  
Recently established by careful investigation in Active Stock Market. We Buy, Sell and Carry all active stocks \$0, \$5, \$10 and upwards on margin 1 to 12 per cent.

## Some Old Theories Exploded.

An old maxim which I was taught to believe and respect is "Never hoe potatoes after they are in blossom." This practice I have found to be an error, more honored in the breach than in the observance, particularly in weedy ground, and have often cultivated with plow and hoe two and three weeks after blooming with material benefit. In fact a liberal sprinkling of grass and weeds by exhausting the moisture and thus robbing the young tubers of their greatest need, will make more small potatoes, than all the new sets caused by a dozen hoeings after blossoming ever could. Keep them clean if you plow and hoe till digging time, and then never let the potatoes see daylight any longer than you can avoid. Put them in a dark cellar in a bin that will give free circulation of air. Keep at a low temperature, and they will neither rot nor sprout, but will get better every day.

Now another wise saying, "Never let winter wheat joint in the fall, it won't come up if cut down after jointing." Now is this a fact? I think not. I saw by the papers that many farmers in Michigan had plowed up their wheat fields and resown them because they had grown so rank as to joint, and yet your correspondent from McPherson says his wheat was cut down by hail after heading out, and then tilled out and made 6 bushels to the acre. Fully as much as many fields made that did not get haled down. Again, on the farm of the Sharon Land Company, Fargo, D. T., Mr. Shaffe, the superintendent, stated that 400 acres, spring wheat, were cut down and destroyed just as it was beginning to head out, and in forty-one days thereafter harvested 14 bushels of good wheat, to the acre. One of my personal friends was in the field operating binders and testifies to the fact. Again, Mr. Alfred Gray has expressed his disbelief in the jointing theory. Now can't we have some facts? While there is some possible danger in fall wheat getting too near maturity, yet as one swallow does not make a summer, neither does a few jointed stems make a wheat field too ripe.

Snow on the ground and sharp freezing this first day of November, 1879.

E. A. PECK.

Sycamore, Ill.

## Keeping Winter Apples.

If apples are worth raising they are worth some care and labor to keep them. Every farmer who raises apples may have this fruit in use during the whole year. The harvest apple, the early strawberry and the Carolina June come into service in the first half of July, and from that time till the first of January we have a supply of apples without much care. To furnish good fruit for the remaining six months requires some knowledge of the nature of apples, and a timely application of that knowledge. The first step is to select the best keeping varieties in our possession, and having done this, prepare barrels, or boxes of a convenient size to store the spring stock. The fresh fallen leaves furnish the best packing material, and in the country they can be had for the gathering, in any forest. If leaves are not convenient, finely cut straw is a good substitute. Carefully select your apples, rejecting all that are bruised, or in any way defective. Place a layer of leaves or cut straw in the bottom of the barrel or box—on this set a layer of apples side by side, and so proceed with alternately a layer of apples and packing. Head the barrel, or if it be a box, nail a tight cover on it, and the fruit is ready for storing. Each variety should be marked on the cover of the package so that its contents may be known before opening.

A dry cellar is a good storage room, but apples thus packed will keep equally well in any dry, cool place. Freezing will not materially injure them. A spare mow in the barn, where they can be covered with straw is a good storage room.—*Indiana Farmer.*

## Our Exports of Fruit.

We are not only slowly increasing the production of oranges and bananas, and beginning to cure our own raisins and figs, and grow our own almonds and olives, but are enlarging our shipments of common fruits. Compare the figures of the fiscal year closed last June, with those of the previous year:

Apples dried.....	1679.	1878.
Apples, green or ripe.....	\$96,794	\$260,085
980,455	380,261	
Other fruit, green, ripe or dried.....	552,415	296,310
Fruit preserved or canned.....	389,718	435,450
Total.....	\$1,916,379	\$1,378,106

The sale of dried fruit may be immensely increased, and with recent improvements in driers the trade should grow with great rapidity. Home-raised fruits of equal value are unattainable by the working people of Europe, because beyond their means. Increase of price is the only bar to indefinite extension of trade.

The above statistics of the export trade in fruits have been collated by the *Tribune*, which contain much significance, and invite careful study by all who are about planting out orchards. Three-fourths of all the apples raised in the country have been heretofore virtually lost for the want of proper means for saving them. Green fruit is one of the most perishable products, and is very bulky and expensive to get to market. The improvements in drying have been so great that a large crop of fruit of good quality may be prepared in a manner that it is easily, cheaply and safely shipped to Europe, where a market is opening which promises to take all that this country can supply.

A correspondent of *The London Agricultural Gazette* says: "Cross a pure-bred Galloway with what you like, nine times out of ten the progeny will be hornless, and in other respects resemble the Galloway more than its other parent, which is a certain proof of the breed being old and long established."

## THE STRAY LIST.

## HOW TO POST A STRAY

BY AN ACT of the Legislature, approved Feb 27, 1866, section 1, when the appraised value of a stray or strays exceeds ten dollars, the County Clerk is required, within ten days after receiving a certified description and appraisement to swear by his hand and affix his official seal, a copy of the same, the day on which they were taken up, their pres<sup>t</sup> value, and the name and residence of the taker up, THE KANSAS FARMER, together with the sum of fifty cents each animal contained in said notice.

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

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

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

No persons, except citizens and householders, can take up a strayed animal.

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

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

If such stray is not proven up at the expiration of ten days, the taker-up shall go before any Justice of the Peace of the township, and file an affidavit stating that such stray was taken up on his premises, that he has not driven nor caused to be driven there, that he has not received any compensation for the same, and that the animal has not been altered, also he shall give a full description of the same and its cash value. He shall also give a bond to the state of double the value of such stray.

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

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

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

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

At the end of a year after a stray is taken up, the Justice of the Peace shall cause to be given to the taker up, a paper to advertise such stray, summons to be served by the taker up; said appraiser, or two of them shall in all respects describe and truly value said stray, and make a sworn return of the same to the Justice.

Justice to pay the expenses of determining the cost of keeping, and the benefits the taker up may have had, and report the same on their appraisal.

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

Any person who shall sell or dispose of a stray, or take the same out of the state before the title is vested in him, shall be liable to a fine of \$100.

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## Farm Letters.

LAWRENCE, Pottawatomie Co., Nov. 13.—In looking over the agricultural condition of this county I have to say that the winter wheat prospects never was finer at this season of the year. The weather has been all that could have been desired. I sowed a small quantity of wheat received from the department at Washington, sowed as late as the 20th of October, which is up, and growing very finely. Weather still warm and very wet. Some fruit men have fears that the extended warm weather will swell the fruit buds so that there will be danger of winter killing. The corn crop is now well in; not so large as last year perhaps; will not average more than 35 bushels to the acre. J. A. PANEE.

SULPHUR SPRINGS, Cloud Co., Nov. 10.—We in this part of Kansas are still able to eat our rations of "good old-fashioned corn bread" and butter were it not so dear, being 20 cents per pound at present; but pork is still cheap, only \$2.60 per hundred, and makes a very good substitute, so we get along pretty well. The weather has been quite wintry for the past few days, but just now there is prospect of a heavy thunder shower from the southeast.

Wheat looks well in this vicinity, some, however, of the earliest sown is jointed, which makes the prospect rather slim for a good crop. This part of Cloud county is on tip-toe over the new railroad expected through soon from Clyde to Minneapolis. We live in hopes of a nearer grain market at no distant day.

Our farmers are beginning to look about them in regard to sheep raising. There are very few sheep in this vicinity, and some think the surest and safest investment will be in buying sheep. We think of getting a small flock too, and believe one can, by following, and heeding, the many useful hints and suggestions laid down in your excellent paper meet with success in sheep raising here, as well as in other parts of Kansas. We have abundance of good hay and plenty of pure water for any kind of stock, which is in our favor.

The FARMER is always a welcome visitor at our house, even the little nine year old takes a great interest in reading it, thinks he will learn how to raise pigs by reading all about them in the paper. MRS. J.

CEDAR POINT, Chase Co., Nov. 8.—The long drought has been interrupted by rain at intervals the most of the day. In all, six inches of rain has fallen since daylight, the most that has fallen at one time since July 8th, when we had 21 inches. Since then we have had two or three light showers up to October 10, when we had 5 inches, and none since then till to-day. I have kept a record of rainfall for the last 15 years in Kansas; the last five in this county, and the present season is the driest in the entire period.

Crops of all kinds are very short in this valley (Cottonwood). Wheat only averaging 7 to 8 bushels per acre through the western part of the county; corn 25 to 30; oats almost a failure; spring wheat an entire failure, and potatoes (Irish) ditto; sweet potatoes a fair crop, but few raised. Wild hay a better crop than might be expected such a season. I learn that wheat and corn are better in the eastern part of the county. Early sown fall wheat was a grand failure here, owing to lack of moisture in the ground to bring it up or keep it alive, and it was also damaged by native G. Hoppers. Some has been sown over, and the rest looks very spotted. Later sown wheat came up with the rain of October 10th, and looks well. No larger bread sow than last fall, but if it should winter well, the average next harvest may be larger than last, as a large amount of wheat land was plowed up last spring and planted to corn.

Owing to absence of frost through September fall pasture has lasted longer than usual, and stock are still on the range and look well.

In my next I will give the fruit prospects of this county a passing review. J. W. BYRAM.

MILLWOOD, Oct. 3.—Recent rains have been favorable to the lately sown wheat. The rule this year throughout this section has been late sowing, and you make a mistake whenever you advise early sowing to those sections where the fly has put in an appearance. In the commencement of wheat raising in this state (fall wheat) 1870-74, we had no fly and early sowing gave good returns, in this section, which may be said to be pre-eminently a wheat soil; to wit: 30 to 40 bushels, but with 1875 the fly made its appearance and the yield has been dwindling ever since. A few farmers noticed as early as 1877 that the latest sown wheat was the best, and in 1878 those farmers delayed sowing fully ten days; and this year there was no wheat sown scarcely until after September 15th, while there will be a good many acres sown after this writing. In those localities not infested with the fly, early sowing, viz: August 25th to September 5th will, as a rule, give the best returns; but where the fly now is, or may hereafter come, he must be starved out by late sowing, or wheat growing entirely suspended for a series of years, as it was in the Genesee Valley forty or fifty years ago.

I have received several letters asking further information in relation to the "Early Amber Sugar Cane," and the "Dunmore Potato." The Amber Cane, in my judgment, is the greatest acquisition in a small way, that we have had. It can be counted on to make 125 to 140 gallons of very thick molasses (12 to 13 lbs per gallon) that will yield 5 pounds of good sugar to each gallon, or more. This is a settled fact and the sooner our people, interested in small crops, recognize and act upon it the better. It requires no costly apparatus nor expensive chemicals.

The Dunmore Potato proves to be the best in point of yield and quality of any late potato that I have ever raised, and I have tried most of the leading varieties from the old Leopard, Pink Eye, and Western Red, down to the Neashamuck, Russet, Peach Blow, Brownell's Beauty, et al omnes genus. If it stores well as I think it will it is the coming potato. A. G. CHASE.

Our correspondent is right about early sowing, where that worst enemy of the wheat crop, fly, exists to any extent. We know of no remedy against its ravages but a rich, well prepared seed bed, and putting the seed in the ground about the appearance of the first frost. Wheat that is well put in, the ground having been previously properly prepared, by the middle of September in the latitude in which the greater part of Kansas lies, will yield a good crop, if the season is at all favorable. Any time from the first to the 20th of September cannot be pronounced late sowing in the latitude south of thirty-nine and a half degrees.—ED.

NEOSHOO, Woodson Co., Nov. 11.—We are in receipt of your valuable paper, which we like

very much. We also like our adopted county. We have been here eight years. This county is better adapted for stock raising than grain, but corn does well where properly taken care of. Our upland prairie will grow anything when a good farmer has the use of it. We have some fine orchards in this county. Fruit trees grow very fast with a little care. Fruit of all kinds was a failure this year to some extent, in this part. We have a patch of clover and timothy, the admiration of all who see it. We have cut two crops from it this year and it is green now. Cattle do well in Woodson county. We have plenty of grass and water. Sheep do well also; would do better if they could have roots and oil-cake to eat in winter. Corn is not so heavy a crop as last year, the summer was rather dry. Sugar cane is a splendid crop here. Oats do well here, will yield 90 bushels to the acre in a good season. Not much wheat grown in this country.

Then again, I want to know why as a class are we so neglectful of our farming tools? In a late two days ride in our county, I counted five threshers, four reapers or mowers, seven harvesters, together with wagons, plows and drags uncountable, all out and exposed to the weather. Here was a capital representing in the aggregate ten thousand dollars! Ten thousand dollars all in one county, and wearing out faster with exposure than if in actual, careful use! Some one please tell me if all this waste is really necessary.

Now let me tell you, Mr. Editor, and farmer friends, two things I do know; 1st, That a good

paper like the FARMER will pay for itself many times over in a year, and that one year's perusal will cure two-thirds of the old chronic cases of grumble; and 2d, I know from experience that ten bushels of corn sold and proceeds laid out in 2x4 and board strips, with two days' work of man and team, will make a shod large enough and strong enough to cover all the wagons, ploughs and farm machinery that is generally owned by the common farmer.

Now, reader, if you have not done so, subscribe for the FARMER and build you a wagon-shed, and if both don't pay, why, then, go back on

ENOCH.

NEWTON, Harvey Co., Nov. 13.—A few items on the weather, business, prices, future prospects, &c., may not be out of place at this time. We are having at present a spell of damp, rainy weather, which inspires the farmers with new zeal and hope regarding the future wheat crop, as the recent rains have settled the ground and put it in shape to protect the roots of the wheat from severe freezing or a dry windy spring.

All branches of business are very dull at present, owing to two principal causes, viz: First, the dull, rainy weather; the farmer refuses to venture from home any distance, and run the risk of getting wet and drawing a load through a muddy, slippery road, and when on getting to market finds the prices down, with groceries and nails on the rise. Wheat was down last week to 60 cents per bushel, consequently very little on the market since. Pork commands a fair price, \$2.75, but no demand. But the future outlook is good for an immense crop of wheat next year, and better prices are hoped and looked for by spring, and to that end our farmers are diligently working.

We appreciate "American Girl's" communication very much; hope she will come again with her store of experience and observation.

GEO. S. FUNK.

MACYVILLE, Cloud Co., Nov. 15.—I noticed in the last week's FARMER a piecemeal about two crops of berries. A phenomena of way down east which prompted me to give one more credit mark to Kansas. My raspberry bushes bore two crops this year. The last crop I picked the last of September and the first of October, so you see I had raspberries three different months this year. "Hurrah for Kansas!"

I don't want it understood I raised two crops for market, for I only had about enough for two or three pies of both crops. My bushes were set out last fall, so you see the reason for so small crops. I have about one-fourth acre of raspberries, one-fourth acre strawberries. I also have blackberries, gooseberries, currants, grapes, apple-trees, peach, plum, pears, cherries, crab, etc., etc., all looking splendidly and growing finely. I have only about three acres in fruit yet, and the ground was only broke one year ago last May: plowed up in July following, and then plowed very deep in October again, and commenced right away setting out my fruit trees and small fruits. I only had one apple tree out of over forty to die, and other kinds in proportion. By the way, I will say, I moved on to this raw patch one year ago last April and made all of my improvements since.

We have just had a splendid two days rain which soaked the ground well, and started my gooseberry bushes to leafing out. Winter wheat looks well, and more acres sown in Cloud county than was ever sown before in any one fall. This has been an off year for farmers around here. Corn poor, potatoes poorer, wheat poorest, and hogs selling for only \$2.60, but nevertheless I can't help exclaiming, "Hurrah for Kansas!"

Good night for this time, and if I write again, I will tell you something about raising potatoes. PEDRO.

LE ROY, Coffee Co. Nov. 14.—Our section of the county has been replenished with nice rains and beautiful weather for the season of the year. Things are brightening up, that is business in general. These rains have spruced up the wheat crop nicely. The corn crop is yielding more than the farmers thought of harvesting. I will get from my 10 acres planted late, about 50 bushels per acre. Potatoes are a very light crop. Turnips are quite good, selling at 25 cts. per bushel. I threshed 50 bushels of wheat from 8 bushels sowing. It was the Fultz wheat, on thin stalks at that, and sowed broadcast.

The St. Louis, Kansas and Arizona Railroad is being built through our town, thence to Eureka— to the far west.

I am going out to see how our neighbor farmers are feeling about enlisting again in support of the KANSAS FARMER for another year to come. Nothing like keeping the "noble medium" moving. I am a subscriber for both the FARMER and Capital this year. Just wait a few days till I get around and see what can be done for the two papers that every one should have in his family to peruse and derive a vast amount of information from. Please send me some sample copies of the KANSAS FARMER.

H. R. B.

AGNES CITY, Lyon Co., Nov. 12.—This is one of the most busy times for the farmers. Husking corn is the rush. Corn is light compared with what was supposed that we would have before the dry weather set in, and cut the crop short. I will say one-half, and yet some corn that was planted early is a fair crop. I would advise early planting, every time. The oat crop was very light. The fall wheat is looking as well as I ever saw it in this month. There was a larger acreage sown than usual. The pork crop is rather larger than was anticipated, and is bringing something nearer a living price than last season—from \$2.60 to \$3 gross. Cattle are doing well. Three-year-old steers are worth \$34 to \$38; two-year-olds, \$22 to \$28; yearlings, \$14 to \$18; calves, \$6 to \$12. High grade calves are bringing more than scrub yearlings, showing that it does pay to secure the best of full-blood bulls for breeding.

E. C. EDWARDS.

MYRTLE, Phillips Co., Nov. 10.—Here are a few things Enoch wants to know. Perhaps living so far west will be some excuse for ignorance. But will you, or some of your readers, explain why farmers as a class grumble so much at hard times, and always feel so very poor with a two-thirds crop of wheat, and that worth from 80 cents to \$1, with a full crop of corn, worth here from 25 cents to 30 cents, with full pens of hogs and pork on the rise, meat cattle, fat, and team in good order? Yet the average farmer feels poor, and you approach him (ever so gently) on the subject of your favorite agricultural paper, and he immediately begins to talk hard times and grumbles. "Crops poor don't fetch nothing." Large family; hard

work enough to get clothes," and so on ad nauseum. Some one please tell me why is this? That is easily answered. He don't take the FARMER and learn how to grow rich. He will always be poor in thought and poor in pocket who doesn't read and study his business by all the light he can obtain.—ED.]

Then, again, I want to know why as a class are we so neglectful of our farming tools? In a late two days ride in our county, I counted five threshers, four reapers or mowers, seven harvesters, together with wagons, plows and drags uncountable, all out and exposed to the weather. Here was a capital representing in the aggregate ten thousand dollars!

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ENOCH.

Going south from Parsons, Kansas, our route led down towards the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and through the charming Indian Territory, just below Chetopa, Kansas.

Beautiful Indian Territory, inexhaustible in its variety of resources, with its mines, forests and prairies; its mountains, cañons and canyons; its valleys, dales and streams; the brightest skies; the grandest sunsets, the softest twilight and the most brilliant moon; the glittering stars; the fairest coves; the most fragrant flowers; home of the wild horse, deer, elk, bear, turkey, grouse and birds of song. Broad winding streams, clear as the fabled mirror in the halls of the fairies, wind along the green prairies, stretching in airy undulations away to the horizon. The hills are still with their rounded hillocks, fixed and motionless for ever. No other country on the globe equals these wonderful lands of the red man. With a lingering look at them we crossed the Red River and entered Denison, the "Gate to Texas," a city of 10,000 population, situated in the richest portion of Texas, through the grain and cotton growing districts, and the wonderful sheep and cattle ranches. What wonderful marks of progress we saw! Our earnest advice to those going to Texas, is to be sure and take the route through the Beautiful Indian Territory, and enter the Gate City, Denison; see that you go by way of the Great Missouri River; it is the shortest and easiest route.

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