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Varieties of Trees to Plant as Indicated by the Native Forest Growths.

As remarked at the commencement, the state may, for the adoption of varieties, be divided into four belts, as follows: All east of the west line of Shawnee county may constitute the first, or eastern belt; the territory between the west line of Shawnee county and the east line of Saline county, the second belt; the territory between the east line of Saline county and the west line of Ellis county, the third belt; and all west of this line to Colorado, the fourth belt. While it is often difficult to determine exactly where one belt ends and the next commences, yet the timber from the Missouri line, on the east, to that of Colorado, on the west, is so graduated in quantity, quality and varieties, the number of varieties narrowing and becoming less, or rather a few varieties largely predominating as we go from east to west, that the location of the belt lines may vary a few miles either way of those designated, and still be substantially correct.

In the eastern belt, the native forests are composed principally of the following varieties, and they respectively predominate in the order named:

FIRST BELT.

White and yellow cottonwoods, elms, walnut, soft maple, white and other oaks, willows, box elder, hickories, pecan, coffee bran, basswood or linn, honey locust, ashes, red cedar, sugar or hard maple.

The forests abound with red-bud, pawpaw, wild plum, wild cherry, crab apple, hazel-brush, etc., etc.

While all or nearly all of said varieties may appear in the second, and even in the third belt, with very few exceptions the following varieties take the lead so largely that the others are lost sight of:

SECOND BELT.

Cottonwoods, yellow and white (the latter predominating) elms, box elder, walnut, coffee bean, soft maple, willows, oaks, hickories, red cedar.

THIRD BELT.

Cottonwoods, coffee bean, box elder, elms, soft maple, willows.

FOURTH BELT.

Except in a few localities, only now and then a lonely cottonwood can be seen along the water-courses.

The red cedar is the only evergreen which is a native of Kansas, and the only one that locusts will not destroy. For ornamental planting, the pines and spruces do well. The native trees above named, except in some of the timbered counties on the eastern border, are mostly confined to the valleys skirting the water-courses.

We know of no variety for forest planting, not named in the above, that we would be willing to recommend, except the osage orange.—*Report State Board of Agriculture.*

Fuel for Southwestern Kansas.

On these treeless plains in southwestern Kansas, usually known as the Arkansas valley, the question of fuel is one of the utmost importance.

In the first place our climate is so mild and the winter season so short that there is not nearly so much fuel required as in some other more northern and eastern climes.

From April to October there is usually no fuel required except for cooking and household purposes. Throughout April and October there are but very few days but that the fires needed in the kitchen in any ordinary farm house, are quite sufficient for comfort.

From the first of November to the first of April, there are many days and even weeks when fire is uncomfortable. There are not a few days in each of the winter months when it is quite comfortable to sit in the house during the middle of the day with windows and doors open. Hence there is not so much fuel needed here as in some other climes.

Of course wood is out of the question at present, and coal therefore is our main standby. As yet no coal has been discovered in the Arkansas valley, therefore we depend upon shipments from the Osage coal region and from Colorado. This is expensive on account of high freights. Osage coal is laid down to the consumer at Sterling, which is about the center of the state, at about six dollars and fifty cents per ton. Colorado coal, which is in some respects

a better coal, costs from seven to nine dollars. Pennsylvania hard coal can be laid here at eleven dollars per ton.

An ordinary well arranged farm house, will require from six to twelve tons per year of soft coal. This, it will be seen, is quite an item of expense.

But there are other and more economical ways of managing fuel in this country and it becomes necessary to study these ways. It has been proved by actual experiment that one thousand bushels of corn will furnish cobs enough to run a farm kitchen stove the year round—that two thousand bushels will furnish ample fuel for both a cooking and heating stove. In an average season twenty-five acres will produce one thousand bushels of corn. The average farmer can raise this amount. Many can raise more. So much for the yearly crop of cobs. Many farmers still waste this fuel. Some still haul their surplus corn to market, cobs and all, because they think they cannot afford to buy a corn-sheller. This is a great waste. It is like selling corn at a discount and throwing the cobs into the bargain; and then they pay a premium on coal, and team it from five to twenty miles. The price of two ton of coal would purchase the best hand-sheller in the market. The cobs from eight or nine acres of corn are equivalent to at least two ton of coal. A person can easily calculate how long it would take to save enough money, by burning cobs, to purchase a corn-sheller. The work of shelling needn't be counted. It can usually be done at odd spells and the time will not be missed. Where one farmer cannot afford to own a sheller two or three can own one in company, and by exchanging work can shell their corn without any hired help.

Exclusive wheat farming will not pay in this part of Kansas. It requires too much machinery and there is too much cash outlay in securing the crop.

A farmer can gather his corn crop without any cash outlay. He can do it within himself. He has so much time to do it in. In fact, he could gather corn the greater portion of an ordinary winter. He can plow all his corn ground in the winter. He can thus manage from twenty-five to fifty acres of corn—according to the amount of help he may have within his own family. I do not advocate exclusive corn-raising. Besides the corn, he ought to be able to cultivate from twenty-five to fifty acres in a variety crop—wheat, oats, Irish and sweet potatoes, etc. But corn must ultimately become the staple crop in this portion of the Arkansas valley. It always will pay here to feed corn to stock. It is a great mistake to turn under all this prairie sod. Every farm of one hundred and sixty acres must have not less than sixty acres in grass, which should be hedged in at once, with cottonwood, or willow, or some other rapid growing tree. I advocate cottonwood because it is so easily raised. And the trimmings from such a fence would very soon supply the farm with summer fuel. And I advocate corn-raising also for the fuel it affords—and stock to feed the surplus corn instead of selling it at a low price.

Corn has never been an entire failure here since the settlement of this country, (the grass-hopper year excepted). In case of a failure the stalks can be utilized for fuel. Those who have time to gather and prepare them find it a great saving to burn cornstalks for fuel. There are many families now using them in their common coal stoves, and with very little coal to burn with them in extra cold snaps, the expense of fuel is materially lessened.

We have not yet reached the proper facilities for utilizing the farm waste. There could no doubt be furnaces constructed to burn cornstalks much more conveniently than burning them in the common cooking-stove. Some Kansas genius should go to work and invent such a furnace.

We have not done with this subject. We propose to show in another article how every farmer can raise his own fire-wood.—*J. B. Schlichter.*

Preserving Fruit.

The KANSAS FARMER appreciating the importance of guarding against the possibility of mistakes in so important a branch of business as planting an apple orchard, has often impressed the important fact upon its readers, that the orchards of the future may, by judicious selection of proper varieties, be made the most valuable part of the farm. There is a great market for our best evaporated fruits opening in the Old World, and by this mode of preservation, the entire crop can be saved and sold at a profit, without fear of low prices, caused by over-stocked markets, as must always

be the result with green fruits when the crop is abundant. A Delaware fruit preserver by the evaporating process furnishes some valuable information on the subject in an article published in the *Ohio Farmer*.

The fruit season for 1879 is over, and the results will astonish the world. They really astonish those most conversant with the subject, both as to price and the quantity. Last year at this season, sun-dried peaches sold at 7 to 8 cents per pound. This year, all country dealers will offer 3 1/2 cents for unpared, and 5 cents for pared! Two and a half or three cents for dried apples! At this writing, evaporated peaches are selling at wholesale at 30 to 35 cents for pared; no offers yet for unpared, but they will be seen to bring half the price of the pared! Evaporating fruit, from being a specialty on the Delaware peninsula, is spreading itself over the state. Six or eight of the evaporators of the peninsula were moved last year, after the peach season was over, into New York state and run on apples until in January. Apples were in abundance at from 12 to 25 cents per bushel. Quite a number of evaporators went South and West, where fruit was abundant and cheap. The profits were entirely satisfactory in every case so far as we have learned.

As it is a business in which the whole fruit growing portions of our country are interested, we will not withhold the facts. The average expense of paring peaches and putting them on trays, is 10 cents for day work and 15 cents for night work, per basket of 5 pecks, which will average, rejecting the earlier varieties as unsuitable for evaporation, 3 1/2 pounds of evaporated fruit to the basket. Three evaporators, or even more, may be run by three men, night and day. These three evaporators will handle, at not a high estimate, 480 baskets daily. The expenses and avails will foot up about as follows for six days work.

2,400 baskets peaches at 30 cents per basket.....	\$ 720
Paring and putting on trays 2,400 baskets at 12 c.....	288
3 cords of wood or 2 tons of coal.....	12
3 hands, \$1 each, per day.....	18
Packages, labels, and packing 1 1/2 c per pound.....	120
Total expenses exclusive of machinery.....	\$1,164
AVAILS.	
2,400 baskets peaches, 3 1/2 lbs per basket.....	8,400 lbs
2,400 lbs, say 25 c per pound.....	\$2,100
Deduct expenses.....	1,164
Profits of 3 machines one week.....	\$ 936

We have allowed margin on all but the products of evaporated fruit to each basket. Some varieties of fruit will yield only 3 pounds, others will go 4 pounds. The average will be 3 1/2 pounds per basket. Without entering into an exact calculation we can say the profits on evaporated apples is quite equal to that of peaches. The enterprise is only fairly inaugurated. The markets of the world are only beginning to open.

But just here we must enter our protest against a practice which, to say the least, counteracts one of the chief recommendations of evaporated fruit. We allude to the practice of bleaching with sulphur or chlorine. Nothing can be more unreasonable and foolish than this practice, if we use no stronger terms in condemning it. The evaporated fruit unbleached with sulphurous acid or chlorine, contained from 5 to 15 per cent more of grape sugar than the sun-dried. It was universally acceptable. Its color was more natural when soaked out for use, and its flavor much finer. The bleaching process counteracts, by introducing an unpalatable acid—the sulphurous—the chemical action of the evaporating process, and makes it necessary to use more sugar to bring it to the proper flavor.

And we hesitate not to say that fruit bleached to an unnatural sulphury, sickly whiteness, can never be restored to the same richness and delicacy of flavor that it would have possessed had it been evaporated without bleaching. It increases also the cost of the fruit, unnecessarily, and is exceedingly detrimental to all who inhale the terribly poisonous fumes of the sulphurous acid as it fills the whole building, often, and can be smelled even to the center of the street in passing the establishment. Why is sulphur used? All fruit evaporators reject its introduction. But we are driven to it by the demands of the market. It says we must have fruit with its sickly-white color, even though it lays the foundation for incurable disease in the hundreds of thousands of needy operatives in their factories. Let there be a gathering of all interested in evaporated fruit, either as producers or vendors, to condemn as it should be, this unwise and injurious practice, before there comes a reaction against evaporated fruit, on this account.

We are personally interested in having our peninsula staple, evaporated peaches, as well as the apples of other localities (with our own) over our wide country, presented to the markets

of the world in their most attractive and healthful condition; hence this earnest protest against what we regard as an unnecessary and injurious departure.

New Process in Ham Curing.

The packers it seems, from the *St. Louis Republican*, are inventing new processes in salting and smoking meat, which not only economises expense but improves the meat.

In the usual way of curing hams in pickle, each ham has to be handled in turning it in the pickle cask, the brine has to be handled by dippers and buckets, and several minutes' time required to secure the head in the cask. The new plan is to arrange a number of large stationary casks in rows along a series of supply pipes and drains connecting with a well of brine, the pickle being pumped from the well into the supply pipes to run into the casks, and emptied from the casks by drainage from the bottom, as may be desired. In these casks is secured an upright pole, with wings radiating from each other at right angles and extending close to the staves of the cask. Between these arms are laid the hams, about seventy-five in a cask. The pickle is then pumped in, and an open bar-work head put on by means of two thumb screws requiring a few turns. When turning the hams the head is quickly removed to let the hams float in the pickle, an iron bar is run through the pole in the cask, and one man pulls the bar around, causing the pole and wings to turn with it. In this rotary motion each ham is forced to slide over and turn around another, and thus to present new surfaces in varied positions. It is claimed that by this new method there is no loss from imperfectly cured hams, the pickling being better because it can be equalized and graded easily. It requires only one-third of the time necessary formerly, besides enabling one man to do the work of one hundred men in curing hams.

The improvement in smoking is as follows: Smoke is created in an oven outside the smokehouse and passed through under ground pipes into the smokehouse, a frame building, where it rises from the floor to the top, encountering two opposite currents of air drawn from the outside. These currents cause the smoke to form into a rapidly revolving horizontal column which passes among the hams. The smoke is not warm, and there is no heat to melt the hams, or hot air to blacken them. The hams, under this process, are smoked in twenty-four to thirty-six hours, and come out with a rich, reddish bronze hue and unshriveled. Formerly it required from eight to fourteen days to smoke hams and there were risks of loss by fire and shrinkage because of the fire being placed openly under the hams. The first lot of hams cured and smoked under the new process were placed upon the market this week, and that it is claimed that the quality of the meat and demand for the ham is something more than ordinary.

Communications.

HAMBURGH, Woodson Co. Dec. 1.—When I like a man I don't take me a great while to, in some way, let him know it, and when I like a paper I am not afraid to tell the editor, as well as my friends, that such is the case.

I am not a very old member of the KANSAS FARMER family, but my fidelity to the cause which it so nobly espouses can not easily be excelled. Quite often has it been my design to write you, but when I considered how many thousands would read the communication and how little they would be benefited thereby, I shrunk from the thought quickly.

This county is not often heard from through the columns of your valuable paper, and I suppose is one of the most obscure of Kansas counties. Nevertheless we have many good and well-to-do citizens whose homes are free from incumbrance and whose lives are happily spent with their families. We are free from that terrible burden which the voting of railroad bonds naturally binds upon the farmer. Three times has the question of "bonds or no bonds" been brought before the voters of Woodson, and as often has it been defeated. Those who opposed it in every instance the most bitterly, are solid, sound-thinking, far-seeing farmers as Kansas can boast of, and not of the floating population that is generally so enthusiastic on such occasions.

Some townships in our county are so fortunate as to have all debts paid and have money in the treasury.

The subject of bonds and bonded indebtedness might, as here hinted at, be dwelt on more particularly by the writer in a future communication if agreeable to the FARMER.

J. C. HAMM.

[If farmers were not generally deeply imbued with the spirit which animates the "solid, sound-thinking, far-seeing farmers" of Woodson

county, they might find cause for future congratulation. Ed.]

OSBORNE, Osborne Co., Dec. 2.—We have had most delightful weather all the fall—an abundance of rain and warm enough for wheat to grow. The season could not be more favorable for fall grain, and those farmers who kept their drills moving through the dry weather in September wear a broader grin, now, than those who, like myself, stopped two weeks. Still the late sown wheat may come out all right, and if it does there will be more promises to trust the Lord more fully hereafter. M. MOHLER.

UNIONTOWN, Bourbon Co., Nov. 23.—In the FARMER of November 5th, I noticed an article recommending higher feeding and better care for cattle during the winter, which is good advice, and if we would all follow it, there would be many dollars added yearly to our incomes. And not only should we feed better, but we must pay more attention to improvement in the stock we do keep, or we cannot compete with the Texas, Colorado or Montana stock, where unlimited numbers can be kept, therefore we must make up in quality what we lack in number, and if we use nothing but thoroughbred bulls, there will always be a good profit in it, as a first-rate grade steer will always command a first-rate price and leave a good margin for profit after all expenses are deducted, while a scrub will leave no profit, and what to me is almost as bad, no satisfaction. To me it is one of the greatest pleasures I have in farming, to feed and attend to stock in which I can feel some pride in knowing they will go to market as first-class.

Now as to the most economical method of feeding and handling stock in the west, there is a great diversity of opinion, and if the readers of the FARMER, who make a business of raising stock, would each contribute their ideas and methods, what a vast amount of knowledge we would get thereby, and I am satisfied our profits might be increased ten to twenty per cent. If we would all do our duty in this matter, I am willing to give my method in wintering my stock, and hope many others will do the same.

In this county we have no herd law, and have plenty of outside range for our stock in the summer, therefore we can keep all the stock that we can winter. A good quarter section well farmed will keep about one hundred head of cattle and necessary teams to carry on the farm, and the waste among the cattle will feed thirty to forty hogs, provided there is a clover pasture for them (the hogs) to run in during the summer. Of course to feed that amount of stock corn must be the principal crop, say one hundred acres, forty acres to some kind of meadow, the balance to orchard, garden, calf and hog pasture, etc.

In the first place, I try not to waste any of the feed by its being trodden under foot, by providing plenty of racks or pens to feed in. I try to keep the calves growing all winter, as they are the foundation of successful stock raising, and I find that plenty of corn and prairie hay will do it, but should prefer some kind of winter pasture.

To the cows and yearlings I give, once a day, a good feed of shock corn, and the balance of the time prairie hay. The corn for this purpose I raise as follows: I plant with the planter about twenty inches between hills, drilling would be better, but it is so much more trouble to cut that it hardly pays, and by planting so thick the ears and stalks are small and there is very little waste.

I feed the two-year-old steers about all the shock corn they will eat up clean, which is about one peck each per day, and they improve in flesh and make a good growth during the winter, and if they have a good range during the spring and summer, by July and August are in a good condition to ship direct to market, or to sell to eastern feeders who want to make a bunch of top cattle. You see, in wintering, I consider corn is king.

Such is my method, but I should like to learn a better one, and no doubt can if each correspondent will give us his experience. E.

(Though the following note was addressed to us as private, we trust that we will be pardoned for making it public, hoping that others will be tempted to follow so good an example, and get up clubs for the FARMER. We make it a point to answer all questions put by our readers which are legitimately in "our line." Sometimes we are requested to give legal opinions, and answers to purely local matters: This we are not prepared to do in all cases. We give the fullest information possible to all inquiring subscribers, or submit them for answers to our readers.)

I want to make a suggestion to you, and no doubt you will think it rather presumption, (I am sure I do), and that is: Would not a small space of your most excellent paper (no flattery designed) devoted to answering questions, the question to be answered editorially, if convenient, or submitted to the readers for answer, be an improvement? I suppose you have no idea how often there are subjects arising on the farm that we would like to have explained, but under present circumstances have no way of getting an intelligent answer.

We are starting a farmers' club, and hope thereby to get much information and a good deal of social enjoyment during the coming winter. If it prove successful you may hear more of it in the future.

Will you please send some specimen numbers of the FARMER, and in return I will try to send you a good list of subscribers. In fact, no family can afford to be without the FARMER, especially since the price has been reduced so low. E.

Farm Stock.

Breeding From Pure Stock.—No. 2.

In my former article I stated that there was more money in cattle and hogs than any other farm product. So there is, but cattle should be divided into three classes, viz: dairying, fine-stock, and raising or feeding steers. The latter is the one we should chiefly depend on in this country.

In looking over the country I see that as soon as people get a little means ahead, they are invested in Short-horns, and some buy one or two thoroughbred cows, expecting to soon get rich off of them, but after getting two or three calves on hand and expecting to sell at fancy prices, they are apt to be badly disappointed, and not being prepared to take care of them, they are apt to go out of the business, disgusted with fine stock, when perhaps it was like a great many other speculations, such as the American people are apt to rush into; or, perhaps, the stock was palmed off on them by some sharper. And right here let me say again, buy of responsible men and men that understand their business.

It is but few men that are really what we might term successful breeders. Even if a man should have a fine herd to begin with, he has to understand his business to improve them or even to keep his herd as good as it was when he commenced, for one or two bad crosses does incalculable damage. For instance, you have seen a man with a fine lot of hogs, and in a very few years they are no better than his neighbors. You ask him what is the matter with his hogs? He says, "Why, they have run out!" It was injudicious crossing. I claim a man should only take one branch of the stock business and follow it thoroughly. Make it practical, or, in other words, make it pay. We build too many air castles to be prosperous.

Then, I say, the beef portion or grading up our cattle, is what the general farmer in the west, where feed is so cheap, is interested in. Some will say it costs too much to buy a good animal to breed from. To such I would just say: try it and see. Others will say, I have not enough cows to pay to keep such an animal, and cannot afford to pay two or three dollars in order to get a calf from a thoroughbred bull. The calf will not bring enough more to pay for the trouble and expense. If it is a heifer you do not want to sell it, and if it does not look as well as you expected, the stock is there.

As to the steers, let us see: I suppose you have seen statements enough in regard to the price between native and nice grade steers, but I shall allude to it, however. A full blood steer at three and one-half years, well cared for, will weigh two thousand pounds, and sell in Chicago for seven cents, making \$140, whereas a native at the same age, and fed with it, will weigh only fourteen hundred pounds, and sell at four cents, making \$56, a difference of \$84 in favor of good blood. To those doubting my statement, I would say, look at the cattle markets of good and poor cattle. Good native steers are worth 4 cents; Texas, two cents—half the difference per pound and nearly a third difference in weight. M. W.

Carbondale, Kansas.

English Capital Invested In American Cattle-Raising.

The unexampled growth of the traffic in cattle and fresh beef between this country and England very naturally directed attention to the subject of cattle-raising here, and led to investigations which have induced several English capitalists to put money into an enterprise having for its object the breeding and feeding of cattle on our western plains. Some months ago we understood that an organization of this kind had been effected, and that Mr. B. B. Groom, of Kentucky—at one time one of the foremost breeders of short-horns in the United States—had become associated with this company and was to be entrusted with its management. Since then little has been heard of the enterprise until quite recently, when the first half-yearly report of the directors appeared. As anything pertaining to the progress of the cattle business in the west is not devoid of interest to our readers, we give a few facts in regard to this enterprise taken from an English journal.

Since the 30th of June last, and up to the date of the report, about \$26,000 had been sent from England to the manager to purchase cattle, and carry out the undertaking. The secretary—Mr. Geo. Child, who is also a large shareholder—came over to confirm Mr. Groom's purchases and make all further necessary arrangements for the success of the business.

Among the purchases of cattle made are one hundred and three thoroughbred bulls, 2,000 heifers, and 2,000 steers. The secretary has written to the company that the enterprise is progressing very satisfactorily; that the prospects are better than have been represented for its success. It is estimated that the profits from the first year's business will not be less than \$35,000.

This is not the only instance, however, which has come under our observation in which capital has been invested in the same direction, and it is not improbable that more of our English and Canadian cousins will invest liberally in the same way. Hon. David Christie, ex-speaker of the Canadian Parliament, has, we learn, purchased a large tract of land in Kansas and invested a considerable sum in cattle-raising there. He is a noted breeder of short-horns in Canada, has a large experience in the business, and will doubtless make it pay.—American Stockman.

Time of Calving, and Yield of Milk.

We have given our experience, in previous numbers of the Journal, on this question, showing that when cows come in in winter or late in fall they yield more milk before drying than when they come in in April or May. We have found a difference of a thousand pounds on the same cow; and this has occurred so often, that we regard early calving as the true policy. We see, from a German paper, that the same experience has occurred there. In Northern Germany it is generally arranged that cows shall calve from November to February, believing that the largest yield of milk is thus obtained. In Holland the practice has been to have them come in during March and April. A German experimenter, in order to test the facts in this matter, kept a careful record of the milk obtained from 142 cows of about the same age and condition. One day in each week he had the milk of each cow weighed separately, and calculated the weekly yield on this basis. Until the beginning of March the cows were kept in their sheds, and then, to the beginning of November, were in pasture. The result showed clearly that, after the month of February, a constant decrease in the yield of milk, and in the duration of lactation, occurred, in direct proportion to the lateness of the date when the cows calved. He found also that the quality of the milk was inferior in the later calved cows. This latter point might have been owing to the difference in cows. But dairymen would do well to consider this matter as to the time of calving, and test it on the same cows. We explain the larger yield of milk by the general fact, that cows coming in late in the fall are fed well through the winter to keep up their yield of milk, and then the grass again increases it, so as to give a longer season and a larger yield of milk.—Nat. Live-Stock Journal.

Cure for Black-Leg.

An old English herder hands us the following receipt as a cure for that fatal disease among calves, "black-leg." The medicine, it will be seen, is to be given as a drench, a heroic process which is not so popular as in former times:

One-half pint spirits turpentine, one-half pint lard or olive oil, one-fourth pint gunpowder; ingredients to be well mixed; dose for a yearling calf; given at once as a drench.

Of this disease the American Agriculturist says: This disease, which is so prevalent in spring and fall, and is so sudden in its attacks that it is nearly always fatal, affects only those calves which are well fed and in good condition. When the young animals are to all appearance thriving, the owner is apt to be satisfied and thinks all is well with them; but in reality it is then that watchfulness should be exercised, or at least some precaution should be used. Over-feeding is productive of more disease than scanty feeding, and when calves are known to be in a luxurious pasture, it will be wise to give them an occasional purgative of an antiseptic character. Sulphite of soda is an excellent alternative, and may be given in one dram doses with some epsom salts at intervals of a few days; once a week, for instance, will benefit as a preventive of this disease.

Poultry.

Poultry on the Farm.

The question of poultry-keeping was recently discussed by the Huntington, Kansas, Farmers' Club, and the following from the report of the same is furnished in the Chicago Tribune:

BEST BREEDS FOR THE FARMER.

The best breed for the farmer is a mixed breed, or a cross between the common stock and some of the distinct breeds, or what poultrymen call fancy. The object of this is to prevent in-and-in breeding, as that tends to degenerate our barnyard fowls at a rapid rate. All of the fancy breeds, except small Game and Brahmas, were commended, and the only objection to the last named was from a bad habit in sitting and not making good mothers.

One farmer had been in the habit of making a new cross annually by the purchase of a setting of eggs from some well defined breed, and he has become well satisfied that this is the best course to be pursued, as it is certain to give him good, healthy chicks and plenty of eggs. Six years ago he started with a lot of common fowls, and his first effort at improvement was the large breed of Game chicks. The hens proved first-rate layers, excellent mothers, and ready to give battle to any stranger, cat or dog, that dared to invade the poultry domain. Among his best layers are four hens of that cross. The Dominiques and other large breeds have taken turns, and will no doubt continue to do so. After supplying a family of five persons, his sales of eggs have been, from sixty to eighty dollars a year.

THE FEEDING OF POULTRY.

It was decided that the best plan to feed, with the view of eggs and a due regard to economy, was to give dry corn—that is, have a supply of corn at all times, within reach of the poultry. The next step is to feed meal and bran or shorts once or twice a day. This feed is placed on a suitable dish or trough, and then boiling water is poured on it—stirring it up at the same time, and allowing the chickens to take it warm. Sometimes it is thus fed morning and night, but more commonly once a day. During cold weather this warm feed is considered indispensable.

Old mortar or lime should be kept in the house during the winter, when the hens cannot

have access to the ground. Offal and crumbs from the kitchen, hog-livers at killing time, lard scraps and young calves that are killed for their hides—known as deacons—all of these should be fed to them freely. Hot whey on meal, or, which is better, bran and meal mixed, is recommended for chickens and summer feed for the hens.

Another important matter of feed is to allow the poultry the range of the garden and the farm. If fed in the manner set forth, it was claimed there will be little disposition to scratch up the beds; but they need a place to roll in the dirt, and that should be spaded up and raked fine for this purpose. That a lot of ill-fed hens will do damage in the garden is quite certain; but, when properly fed, and a good warm sunny place provided for rolling in the dirt, they will prove useful in feeding on bugs and worms of all kinds and, at the same time, this feed is useful to aid them in laying.

TURKEYS AND DUCKS.

Turkeys and ducks are not popular with the ordinary farmer. The turkey has such a decided disposition not only to ramble over the home farm, but to encroach upon their neighbors, that he is no favorite. Only one member of the club spoke in their favor, and he with some reserve. If the turkeys are penned about the house, it may be possible to hold them in check and to keep them within bounds.

The duck question was quietly disposed of, only one member keeping them, while several had of late taken off the heads of their respective flocks and consigned them to the tomb of Thanksgiving and the holidays. Ducks are charged with being enormous feeders and only moderate layers on our prairie farms, when depending upon well water for their liquid.

GUINEA HENS.

One member keeps large numbers of these, and he stoutly maintains that they were profitable; that they were good layers, with little disposition to sit, but when they concluded to do so, made a remarkable success, bringing off full litters of chicks. He also claimed that their flesh was good to eat, quite equal to chicken. While the club was aware of the fact of the member's success, as stated, they were not so thoroughly convinced of the profit and pleasure to be derived from the guineas as to either make an order for eggs or the birds for future fowl display.

POULTRY HOUSE.

There was no disagreement in regard to this subject, that a large shed, open at one end, rather dark in the interior, being closely boarded and without windows, was the best kind of a poultry house. One member had used a side-hill cellar, or rather the cellar to a small side-hill barn, for some years, with the most satisfactory results. It was warm in the winter and cool in summer. The walls were of stone laid up without mortar, but with the earth banked up against them on three sides.

The back part of the room had no light except that from the front entrance, and in that part the hens preferred to have their nests. He preferred the close, warm shed to all fancy houses he had seen.

That was the unanimous verdict of the club, that these small, well lighted poultry houses are not the thing for the farmer who is ambitious to have eggs with his breakfast ham, and yellow-legged chickens for dinner, but, on the contrary, the shed is not only the cheapest, but the best for the purpose. Hens prefer a nest in some dark corner, and not in the sunlight.

LARGE FLOCKS.

One member said that a small flock of chickens, say twenty, always remain in health, while large flocks become diseased. This was not assented to as a fact, and several members stated that they found that one or two hundred are not more liable to disease than the small flocks. That fowls in large numbers in confinement do not keep in good health, is well understood, unless fed daily with animal food. At the same time, large flocks on the farm, when they have a good range and can have a good supply of insects, keep in good health. It is, therefore, not a question of numbers so much as a question of suitable food. The same law that governs animals is also the law that governs poultry—a law of supply of the natural food of beast or fowl.

When the fowl fancier can obtain from two to four dollars a dozen for eggs, he can afford to go to the market for beef to feed his hens; this increases the reputation of his hens as good layers, and by increasing the number of eggs adds to his profit. But let these same pampered hens be put on the farm and fed as the farmers' chickens usually are fed, there would be a vast difference, and it is just this difference that people overlook when they complain that A. B. of the suburban town of Bunkum, has grossly cheated them in sending out half-breeds or inferior fowls. It is the feed, after all, that has most to do in filling the egg basket, and in making the fat, yellow-legged poultry.

OF THE PROFITS.

Can a ton of poultry be produced at the same cost as that of a ton of pork? The reply to this was in the affirmative, and some few inclined to the opinion that the poultry could be produced at the least cost—that is, on small farms. It is not probable that poultry could be made as cheap as pork on the large stock farm, where the pigs and beef are fed in the same lot; but as a part of our system of mixed husbandry, poultry has not had that share of attention which it is deserving.

Miscellaneous.

Hints to Bee-Keepers.

Three years ago I determined to make bee-keeping a specialty, and have made it a careful

study. I have carefully noted the wants of the bee-keeper, the ups and downs, the prevailing ignorance, and the wholesale swindling by patent bee-hive men. I desire particularly to call your attention to this bee-hive swindle. For two or three years past, our country has been over-run by patent bee-hive men. They have been among us like the western grasshopper, trying to devour everything in sight. The beginner and the ignorant have been duped by these wily tongue gentry, and hundreds of dollars have been taken from the country for bee-hives and fixtures that were worthless.

Kentucky is twenty-five years behind in bee-culture. Her people are many of them entirely ignorant of all the modern improvements, and here is where they are caught. Many of them are desirous of making improvement, and in looking out for a hive to begin with, most invariably choose the most complicated.

There is only one way to stop this swindle and overcome the prevailing ignorance. It is well known that where bee periodicals circulate, the patent vendor vacates; the two cannot live together. Let it be our aim to encourage their circulation. I do not wish to convey the idea that I oppose patents. It is to the swindlers I allude, men who are claiming patents where none exist.

I might mention many things, but space forbids, I will simply say this, that every good feature about the hive is free from patents; when the Langstroth patent expired, and the patent on Clark's bevel edge frame, the whole thing went overboard. All the patent features I have seen since then only lessen the value of the hive. A simple box with movable frames to lift out at the top, with necessary arrangement for surplus honey, is the best hive. Remember success depends entirely upon you, not upon a hive; choose whatever frame you like, Langstroth, Quinby, American or Gallup, and never have but one size. Don't allow any one to persuade you to use the drop-bottom slide-frame back-door thing with moth traps, draws and glass, you don't want it; let it alone if you want to avoid trouble.—John F. Bean, in American Bee-Journal.

Osage Orange Culture.

In regard to the cultivation of this most valuable hedge, many discoveries and improvements have been made since its introduction into this part of the country, which secures it the reputation of being the most economical and substantial plant ever used for hedging. It is a native of Texas, and is found in its natural growth near the banks of the Red river. It can, however, be cultivated advantageously in all parts of the United States.

Prepare the ground thoroughly, by plowing or spading, and pulverizing it finely with the harrow or rake. To sprout the seed, put it in a vessel and cover with warm, not hot water. Keep the vessel in a warm place, and change the water once a day. Let the seed soak from five to ten days, after which pour off the water and cover the vessel with a damp cloth. Keep in a warm room, and stir the seed occasionally. In about one week more they will begin to sprout, and are ready for planting. Some people freeze the seed before planting; but this is considered entirely unnecessary, in fact useless, as good seed can be made to vegetate in from ten to fifteen days, without any such process. There are a little over eleven thousand seed in a pound, and it is safe to suppose that a pound will produce at least five thousand plants, if properly managed.

The seed should be sown in the spring, either in April or May, in drills, eighteen or twenty inches apart, with twelve good seeds to the foot in the drills. If the season should prove dry, they will want watering freely. The young plants usually make their appearance in two to six weeks, depending on the quantity of rain or watering they have had. In case weeds grow freely, it will be absolutely necessary to hand-weed the rows before the plants will show themselves, as they are very delicate and tender, until they get three or four inches high, thereby requiring careful culture and a clear entrance into light. Notwithstanding all this, they will become as hard as the locust in a few days. The rows will now require to be cleaned once or twice a month with the cultivator and hoe, according to the weediness of the ground. This course ought to be continued until the plants are large enough to shade the ground, thereby keeping down the weeds. The plants will make an average growth of three feet the first season, while some will not be a foot, and others will reach the extraordinary height of six and seven feet, in rich soil.

There seems to be a great diversity of opinion as to the best manner of setting plants for the hedge. Some put a double row, six inches apart, and the plants one foot apart, in the rows, setting them alternately; but those who have had the most experience prefer the single row, thus: * * * * * The hedge is more easily trimmed and trained to the proper shape. They should be placed the distance of six to eight inches apart, as they will then lose their nature as a tree, and become a healthy vigorous shrub. The experience of some, however, has led them to adopt the plan of setting exactly seven and one-fifth inches apart, or twenty-seven plants to the rod, which require just eight thousand eight hundred plants per mile.

Before the plants are set in the hedge, they should be cut back to within an inch of the ground, so as to be only this height when the setting is completed. In order to make a thick base, it will be necessary to cut back the first three years' growth, leaving from eight to twelve inches only of that season's growth. This course

Growing European Demand For American Butter.

The Pall Mall Gazette says the demand for American butter in this country is growing every day, and the trade seems likely to assume very large proportions. The New York butter dealers connected with the export trade say that a larger number of tubs or packages of butter have changed hands in the market lately than have ever been sold before, the amount paid to American shippers of the article in one week being about \$500,000. This butter is bought by agents for dealers in England and on the continent. The reasons given by butter dealers for the magnitude of the traffic are two: First, butter has not been shipped from the United States to Europe and Great Britain so steadily this summer as last summer. Therefore dealers in New York have had to enlarge their storing capacity; and some dealers have had 50,000 or 60,000 packages of butter on hand at one time. Some is spring, some summer, and some is "fall" butter. Enormous ice-houses have been made by covering the top floor of the warehouse with galvanized iron, sealed with gutters to carry off water, and then this surface has been packed with tons of ice. The two floors below have been finished after the manner of ice-houses, and have, instead of a common flooring, a sort of an open work structure, by means of which the atmosphere, kept at a temperature of 40 degrees, might circulate. In this way June butter is kept through August in as good a state as when it came to New York in the former month. The second reason why the sales of late have been enormously large is that domestic butter in England—that is, the butter produced mainly in Ireland and Scotland—has been thrust upon the English markets in a way unprecedented. The domestic producers have formerly held their butter until winter prices came; but since American butter has been largely sent to English markets the home producers found the market broken down in the autumn and winter by American products. This year, according to American butter sellers, the Irish and Scotch butter producers have hurried their packages to market to anticipate better prices than winter has brought.

How Limburger Cheese Is Made.

The process in its first stages does not differ from the usual way, except that a lower temperature is kept while the curd is forming, the animal heat alone in summer being often high enough. Great care is taken to use pure milk, free from taint or filth, and cleanliness is requisite in every stage of the making. Upon the curd being formed, it is slowly and carefully cut into squares, pieces the size of dice, low temperature and careful handling being necessary to avoid breaking the butter globules, upon which the richness of the cheese depends. It is slightly scalded and stirred, most of the whey drawn off, and without being salted, dipped into perforated wooden boxes or molds, about five inches square, and left to drain without any pressure being applied. In a few hours the packages are carried into the curing cellar and placed edgewise on shelves, like brick to dry. Every day thereafter they are rolled in salt, and replaced when they have absorbed enough salt. They are turned almost every day, and the slimy moisture which exudes is rubbed with the hand evenly over the surface, which serves the double purpose of keeping the cheeses moist and to close all tracks' into which they lay their eggs. This outside moisture decomposes while the cheese ripens, and being mostly composed of albumen, like fresh meat, eggs, &c., the same results follow the decomposition, and in this case the limburger odor is developed, which never forsakes it, and sticks closer than a brother to all who touch or eat it. After eight or ten weeks it is packed in paper and tinfoil, and is ready for market—in consistency, contents and nourishment the richest cheese that can be made, but, to the uninitiated, a malicious and premeditated outrage upon the organs of smell.

The Homestead Law.

EDS. KANSAS FARMER.—There is a circulating report in our neighborhood that there is no law compelling homesteaders to advertise four weeks previous to making final proof. Please state the facts of the case. Jewell City, Jewell Co., Kan., Nov. 25, 1878.

Other parties may wish to be informed on the subject and we give the law below.

AN ACT to provide additional regulations for homestead and pre-emption entries of public lands.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That before final proof shall be submitted by any person claiming to enter agricultural lands under the laws providing for pre-emption or homestead entries, such person shall file with the register of the proper land office a notice of his or her intention to make such proof, stating therein the description of lands to be entered, and the names of the witnesses by whom the necessary facts will be established.

Upon the filing of such notice, the register shall publish a notice, that such application has been made once a week for the period of thirty days, in a newspaper to be by him designated as published nearest to such land, and he shall also post such notice in some conspicuous place in his office for the same period. Such notice shall contain the names of the witnesses as stated in the application. At the expiration of said period of thirty days, the claimant shall be entitled to make proof in the manner heretofore provided by law. The Secretary of the Interior shall make all necessary rules for giving effect to the foregoing provisions. Approved March 3, 1879.

My Experience With Clover.

On the 17th day of April, 1878, I sowed one-half bushel of red clover seed on five acres of ground that had been previously (March 15th) sown to barley. In due time it came up nicely and in the fall I pastured it some but I discovered that I had sown too little seed on that amount of land. Last spring it came on nicely and was good feed on the 30th of April, but after the hail storm passed over there was not a stalk left, but in a few days it began to come on again, and from the middle of May to the last of August, I kept two cows and three horses picketed on it continually. I am quite sure the yield of milk from the cows was from ten to twenty per cent. more than on wild grass; and I never had my horses do as well since I have been in Kansas, and what somewhat surprises me, the horses never showed any signs of what I expected to see late in the summer. The drought in August seemed to deter its growth so that I took the stock off, but think if it had been as thick as it ought to have been I would have had plenty of pasture, even in the dry season. I intend to sow one-half bushel timothy seed on the same ground in the spring and will report the result in due time. I sowed two acres of clover last spring, and it came up nicely, but the dry weather and the grasshoppers completely used it up. The hoppers seemed to like it exceedingly well. We had quite a number of the pests here this last summer. I think in the last part of June and the first part of July they were equal to one cow pasturage on my pasture. I am decidedly in favor of clover for pasture. Will have more as soon as my hedges will turn stock. A. S. EASTLICK. Lake View, McPherson Co., Kansas.

Effect of Large Cities Upon Agriculture.

Mr. Mechi, the agriculturist, deprecates the agricultural loss involved in river-pollution, and recalls the words of Liebig: "The sewers of Rome engulfed in the course of centuries the prosperity of the Roman farmer; and, when the fields of the latter would no longer yield the means of feeding her population, the same sewer devoured the wealth of Sicily, Sardinia, and the fertile lands on the coast of Africa." He adds: "Large towns, like bottomless pits, gradually swallow up the conditions of fertility of the greatest countries." Mr. Mechi estimates that it takes the annual produce of 20,000 acres to feed London one day. Potatoes intended to be kept for late spring sales should be frequently examined and all sprouts removed; for as soon as a potato begins to sprout it loses its solidity dryness and quality.

Political Economy.

The learned works on the science of political economy, like works on all other sciences have to be re-written from time to time, as new facts come forward to modify old ones. Some curious results have been found to follow in Canada from the import duties on garden produce from the United States. The Canadians at one time produced little of these, because, said they, "where is the use when Americans can raise these things cheaper than we can?" So they enacted import duties, and the result was that they fell into competing among themselves, and the Toronto Globe says, never in all Canadian history was the market so glutted with all kinds of vegetables, and, as a consequence have prices ruled so low. Precisely has been the experience in the United States. Heavy foreign houses crushed out home competition and controlled the markets, keeping prices high; but as soon as they were kept off, home firms competed with one another, until prices fell below what they were in olden times. And yet this is not what we learned of "political economy" in our younger day.—Gardener's Monthly.

A Mammoth Plow.

A truly mammoth plow has been recently made by Deere & Co., Moline, Ill., for the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad. It is calculated to cut a ditch 30 inches wide and two feet deep, and is attached to a platform car of a construction train by means of timbers framed and extending out, so that the plow cuts its ditch a sufficient distance from the track. It requires the full power of the locomotive to draw it through the soil, which is a black muck surface and hard clay subsoil. Three furrows, of 8 inches each in depth, are required to complete the ditch, one mile of ditch, 2 feet deep and 3 feet wide is made every four hours. The plow weighs 1,700 lbs., and thus does the work of 1,000 men. The beam is made of swamp oak, the toughest kind of timber, and is 14 by 8 inches in its dimensions and of proportionate length. No handles are used, the plow being regulated in the manner already named. The land side is a piece of bar iron 8 inches wide and 1 1/2 inches thick. It is larger than merchant iron is made, and was especially forged for this job. The share is of the best cast steel, 1/2 inch thick by 9 inches in width. This is also of extra large size, and was rolled to order in Pittsburg. The top of the mould-board stands 36 inches from the ground, or the base of the plow. It is made of the best cast steel, with iron lining securely bolted to the back. The plow is rigged out with an immense gauge-wheel and standing cutter, and as it stands is undoubtedly the largest and strongest plow ever made. It is said that its performance is entirely satisfactory to the railroad company. In view of the success of this plow it seems safe to predict that before long ditching by traction engine or horse power will be accomplished so cheaply and effectually that millions of acres of rich western lands too level to be self-draining will be reclaimed by this means at small expense.—Farm and Fireside.

Patrons of Husbandry.

NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master: Samuel E. Adams, of Minnesota; Secretary: Wm. M. Ireland, Washington, D. C.; Treasurer: F. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Henley James, of Indiana; D. W. Alken, of South Carolina; S. H. Ellis, of Ohio. KANSAS STATE GRANGE.—Master: Wm. Sims, Topeka, Shawnee county; Secretary: F. B. Maxson, Emporia, Lyon county; Treasurer: W. P. Popenoe, Topeka; Lecturer: J. H. Martin, Mound 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. Tyers, Beaty, Marshall county; E. B. Powell, Augusta, Butler county; C. F. Morse, Milo, Lincoln county; A. J. Pope, 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. Cone, Topeka, Shawnee county; J. McComas, Holton, Jackson county; Charles Distrow, Clay Centre, Clay county; Frank Smith, Rush Centre, Rush county; G. M. Summerville, McPherson, McPherson county; J. S. Payn, Cadmus, Linn county; Charles Wyeth, Minneapolis, Ottawa county; F. M. Wierman, Milldred, Morris county; John Andrews, Huron, Atchison county; George F. Jackson, Fredonia, Wilson county; D. C. Spurgeon, Leroy, Coffey county; James W. Williams, Peabody, Marion county; R. T. Ewalt, Great Bend, Barton county; J. S. Worley, Eureka, Geary county; S. F. Fleck, Bunker Hill, Russell county; J. K. Miller, Sterling, Rice county; W. D. Rippline, Severance, Doniphan county; Arthur Sharp, Girard, Crawford county; P. B. Maxson, Emporia, Lyon county; A. M. Switzer, Hutchinson, Reno county; S. M. Wood, Cowdell, Wabasha county; G. S. Kneeland, Keene, Wabasha 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 for Dues, No. 1; Secretary's Receipts, and 3d. Orders on Treasurer. The set will be sent to any address, postage paid for \$1.00. We solicit from Patrons, communications regarding the Order. Notices of New Elections, Feasts, Installations and a description of all subjects of general or special interest to Patrons.

What Shall Be Done?

[Extracts from the annual address of the worthy master of the National Grange, delivered before that body at its late meeting in Canandaigua, New York.] Although our grange press has never been so ably or wisely edited as at the present time, although our state grange newspapers never labored so earnestly as now, yet the field is cultivated only in patches, and the weeds of undisturbed ignorance, and the nettles of baseless suspicion grow altogether too rank and cover too much ground. What shall be done?

If the pulpits were vacated, and the ministers were withdrawn from their congregations, a relapse into heathenism would surely follow. If political harangues were discontinued, and politicians ceased to ply their vocation, party spirit would soon become extinct. So, if our granges are destitute of the services of fervent, skillful, upright lecturers, enthusiasm ceases, and the organization dies out.

This is well illustrated by the condition of the order in those states where their donations and accumulations were saved, so that their masters and lecturers are paid sufficient salaries to enable them to visit and lecture in the interests of this society throughout their respective jurisdictions. Here the order thrives; their revenues are well kept up, and their state agencies do a remunerative business. Here, "Line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little," have been, and are now constantly repeated. They act upon the motto, "Keep it before the people."

On the other hand, in those states where loans were effected, where their means were absorbed in doubtful business enterprises, where their lecture system was abandoned, the order languishes, and the subordinate granges cease to assemble, fearing their members will be held individually liable for the debts of their state grange, or still meeting, ignore their state grange and petition to the national grange for permission to pay their dues direct into the national treasury.

What shall be done? And in this connection it may be proper to add that the unrepresented states need looking after. It would seem of more importance than a session of the national grange, because our constitution, our digest, and our established rules meet all the ordinary requirements of our members and the summary amendment submitted at the last session did not elicit ratification.

It must be obvious that if we desire the existence of this body in point of fact, the states as far as possible should be reclaimed, and restored to the fold, otherwise our reputation as a national organization is false and our potency for national weal is lost. As this republic would dwindle into insignificance when confined to a few states, so would this body amount to but little as a national organization if a half dozen states only were represented. Those that are whole need no physician. The weak, bleeding, maimed, and blind, and the cold and cold demands our attention. Selfishness must be overcome, and all, as patriots and philanthropists, must labor for the common cause, for the common good, for the common whole. "We cherish the belief that sectionalism is and of right should be dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes, we shall recognize no north, no south, no east, no west."

All are but parts of one united whole, Whose body is the grange, and love the soul. Texas and Maine, Oregon and Florida, are all bound together by the ties of agriculture, and it is the grand mission of this order to rivet indissolubly this tie by faith, by hope, by charity, by fidelity, and by perseverance. But state granges are formed and supported by subordinate granges. The very existence of

the order depends upon vigorous, healthy granges everywhere, and it has become self-evident that in most of the states they require more fostering care, more encouragement, more strength. Perhaps in the more populous states little national aid is necessary; but in those states where material interests have been regarded of paramount importance, and little or no account has been made of social, moral, or intellectual advancement, and in the smaller and weaker states, a moderate sum might be judiciously expended. To appropriate money for this purpose would be of little avail unless the state authorities rendered all the assistance possible in funds, time and labor, and unless the missionaries employed were inspired in their work, and gave little heed to scrip or purse.

I firmly believe the states would co-operate in this laudable endeavor, and that successful lecturers could be found to enlist in this revival, whom vain glory or cupidity would not sway—lecturers who would be "honest with the brethren, faithful to their pledge, and diligent in their work."

The present condition of the order is neither surprising nor discouraging—it is simply the result of natural laws. The membership is composed of non-associative material. The farmer's vocation of itself tends to isolation, which has become part of his very life, and from which this generation will never fully recover.

Nevertheless, the order is an educator of its faithful inmates. It brings the husbandman into contact with others. Each learns from the experience and knowledge of others. Each section has interests in common with those of other parts of our country. The true patron exerts a salutary influence on those outside the gates, and confidence slowly but gradually takes root. A decade has accomplished much, but the next decade of years will effect still greater results.

Waste Power.

Just consider the immense power of twenty millions of agriculturists in this country and the magnificent work that would be done if all this power were properly directed. But, alas! it is not diverted from its legitimate purposes and turned into channels where it is either lost or made to serve other interests?

Other classes utilize their power, as witness to the fact that they have possession of all the positions of honor and profit within the gift of the people, and the opulence of the cities is theirs. The farmers outnumbering all others, and with no natural disability, allow the lawyers, doctors and merchants to carry away all the prizes and submit to an inferior rank in the social scale for themselves and children. Why is all this wealth of power permitted to run to waste? Why not make it turn the wheels that will elevate farmers both financially and intellectually?

Farmers have organized societies called granges where they can meet to gather and co-operate for the purpose of building up their interests and improving themselves, but if other classes are to be believed they are making so little headway, they will never make any feature of their Order a success; their undertaking being in all respects a failure. Those who have labored and taken an interest in the farmers' cause know this is not true; but they are ready to confess that too little has been done. Think of it! How much might be done to improve the condition and standing of the farming class if they would but use the immense power that is now running to waste through indifference, or worse still, used in the service of politicians? Any class better have no power at all than permit it to be used against themselves, as farmers do. A great deal has been done through the instrumentality of the grange to enlighten and stimulate this class but nothing at all commensurate with their ability to do, or the necessity that is urging them.—Dirigo Rural.

Farmers, Patrons—Read! Ponder!

"They hold a dark caucus while workingmen sleep— They spread their vile nets where the gold dust is deep. They measure this beautiful land by their power, And tax us till we want enters in at our door, Oh, dire are the evils that loom up ahead, Filling our hearts with a dread boding fear, Tuning up voices that muddle men's brains, While Shylocks are reaping their harvest of gains."

The lines quoted above express a true conception of the venturesome misdeeds, in a business way, of monopolists, political demagogues and wild cat speculators, who are opposed to the grange and all other organizations that co-operate for mutual protection. Now is it possible that farmers and Patrons must be continually reminded of such sterling truisms that should long ago have become axiomatic with them? Read the lines o'er and o'er again until it is impossible to erase them from memory dear; then, perhaps you will fully realize the mountains of truth in their meaning.

"They hold a dark caucus while workingmen sleep," etc., should tingle in the ears of every farmer and mechanic who is alive to his own inherent rights and interests, and arouse him to repel the threatened warfare upon those inherent rights and interests by this "dark caucus" of indolent, speculative vipers in farming and industrial communities. In view of this fact, and when we contemplate the grand success and noble purposes of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, insuring, as it does, such exalted and beneficial results, and in its practical workings the most just and legitimate, we wonder at any lack of zeal or flagging interests in its members—we mean those members who leisurely saunter into the meetings of the granges, and perform the work of the meeting in a listless, perfunctory manner, and then move to adjourn as early as is unreasonably practicable. If such Patrons would only fathom the true meaning of our quoted lines, we would have exalted hopes for increased activity in grange work everywhere.—Grange Advocate.

Advertisements.

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

Shannon Hill Stock Farm

Thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle and Berkshire Pigs, bred and for sale. Only first-class animals allowed to leave the farm. Address G. W. GLICK, Atchison, Kansas.

POULTRY BREEDERS TAKE NOTICE.

I have a few choice Plymouth Rock and Brown Leghorn fowls for sale at reasonable figures if applied for soon. Address Mound City Poultry Yards, Mound City, Kansas.

Durham Park Herds

ALBERT CRANE, BREEDER OF

Short-Horn Cattle

Berkshire Pigs,

Durham Park, Marion Co., Kansas. Catalogues free. The largest and best herds in the west. Over 200 head of cattle, and a like number of pigs. Prices Low. Address letters to DURHAM PARK, Marion County, Kansas.

HOGS.

Southern Kansas Swine Farm. THOROUGHbred POLAND-CHINAS and BERKSHIRE Pigs and Hogs for sale. The very best of each breed. Early maturity, large growth, and fine style are marked features of our hogs. Terms reasonable. Correspondence solicited. RANDOLPH & PAYNE, Emporia, Kansas.

Holstein Cattle.

The largest importers and breeders of Holstein Cattle in America. Also large importers and breeders of Clydesdale horses, and breeders of Hambletonian horses of the most approved strains. Send for catalogue. Prices reasonable. SMITHS & POWELL, Syracuse, New York.

FOR SALE.

Native Bees in Quinby beehives. Mrs. E. D. VAN WINKLE, Pleasant Ridge, Leav. County, Kansas.

THE Weekly Capital

THE DOLLAR FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Published at Topeka, Kansas, by HUDSON & EWING. The Weekly Capital, published at Topeka, Kansas, is sent postage paid one year for one dollar. It contains latest general telegraphic news, news from the principal cities of the state, and contributed and selected news from every county in Kansas, the decisions of the Supreme Court, proceedings of State meetings, conventions and such general literary miscellany and local intelligence from the State Capital as to make it desirable in every family. Send One Dollar by registered letter or post-office order, and receive the paper one year.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

From and after January 1st, 1880, the Capital will be enlarged to a 32 column paper. Subscriptions taken any time for one year, and the paper discontinued at the end of the time for which it is paid. Sample copy sent free to any applicant. In sending names to the Weekly Capital mention the name of this paper and write address plainly. Address HUDSON & EWING, Topeka, Kansas.

M. W. DUNHAM

Has Just Imported 36 Head

FOR HIS OAKLAWN STUD OF

PERCHERON-NORMAN HORSES.

Largest and most complete establishment of the kind in the world.

More than 200 Stallions & Mares,

Imported from best stud stables of France.

Winners of First Prizes in Europe and America. Awarded First Prizes and Gold Medals at the Universal Exposition at Paris, 1878. First Prizes and Grand Medals at Centennial Exhibition, 1876.

The public appreciation of its merits is indicated by the great demand for stock from every part of the country. During the past twelve months, the provinces of New Brunswick, Canada, and the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, Louisiana, Colorado, California, Nevada, and Oregon and Utah; Washington and Idaho Territories have drawn supplies from its stables.

100 page Catalogue—finest thing of the kind ever issued. 25 pictures of stallions and mares, sent free on application. M. W. DUNHAM, Wayne, DuPage Co., Ill.

47-N. B. All imported and pure native bred animals recorded in Percheron-Norman Stud Book

Successors

Advertisement for horses

Breeders' Directory.

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

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

C. S. EICHLTZ, Breeder of Short-Horns, Berkshire and Bronze Turkeys, Wichita, Kansas.

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

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

Nurserymen's Directory.

THE KANSAS HOME NURSERIES offer a superior and Large Variety of trees for Western Planters, all the standard and choice varieties of Apples, Peaches, Cherries, Pears, Plums and Quinces. Small Fruits, Vines, Shrubs, and Ornamental Trees. No. 1 Apple Seedlings. Prices to all applicants. Send stamp for samples. A. H. & H. C. GRIESE, Lawrence, Kansas.

L. E. SUMMIT and BELTON NURSERIES, Fruit Trees of the best, and cheapest. Apple Trees, Hedge Plants a specialty. Address ROBT. WATSON, Lee's Summit, Jackson Co., Mo.

A. WHITCOMB, Florist, Lawrence, Kansas. Catalogue of Greenhouse and Budding Plants sent free.

MIAMI 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, Kas.

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MRS. DEBORA K. LONGSHORE, M. D. Office west side of Harrison St., 1st door south of 54th St.

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. STULTZ Dental Rooms, over Funk's Clothing Store, Topeka, Kansas.

Queen Anne and photo cards, illuminated and perfumed, in case 10c Globe Co., Northford, Ct.

WOOL-GROWERS

Can rely upon immunity from contagious disease in their flocks after use of LADD'S TUBACCO SHEEP WASH. GUARANTEED an immediate cure for scab and prevention of infection by that terror to flock-masters. GUARANTEED to more than repay the cost of application by increased growth of wool. GUARANTEED to improve the texture of the fleece instead of injury to it as is the result of the use of other compounds. GUARANTEED to destroy vermin on the animal and prevent a return. GUARANTEED to be the most effective, cheap and safe remedy ever offered to American Wool-growers. No stockmaster should be without it. I have the most undoubted testimonials corroborative of above. Send for circular and address orders to W. M. LADD, 21 N. Main St., St. Louis, Mo.

THE CENTRAL KANSAS

BREEDERS ASSOCIATION,

Offer FOR SALE,

As good Short-Horn Cattle, Berkshire and Poland China swine as can be found in the West. All orders should be sent to the Secretary of the Association. The Executive Committee of the Society will take such orders, and see that Selections are made that cannot fail to give satisfaction to the purchasers. Secretary Kansas Central Breeders Association, Manhattan, Kansas.

American Berkshire

RECORD.

Notice is hereby given that entries in Volume IV of the Record will close December 1, 1878. For entry blanks or further information address PHIL M. SPRINGER, Sec., Court House Square, Springfield, Ill.

Kansas Pacific

Railway.

Lands! Lands!

KANSAS TO THE FRONT!

The Leading Wheat State in the Union in 1878, and the Fourth Corn State—The Great Kansas Harvest of 1878 was sold for the Golden Belt of the West.

The celebrated Grain Belt of country, in the limestone section of Central Kansas, traversed by the Kansas Pacific.

The following statements are taken from the report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture for 1878:

WHEAT! Kansas rises from the Elevator of the West. In 1878, the FIRST WHEAT STATE in the Union in 1878, producing 26,518,958 bushels winter wheat, and 5,796,493 bushels spring wheat; total, 32,315,451

Bushels Wheat, with only one-eighth of the state under cultivation. The organized counties lying in the Golden Wheat Belt of the Kansas Pacific produced 13,325,324 bushels, or over 41 per cent. and including unreported counties, fully 14,000,000 bushels, or 45 per cent. of the entire yield of wheat in the state, averaging 24 bushels to the acre, while the average for the state was 17 bushels per acre.

CORN! Kansas, the Fourth Corn State in the Union in 1878, produced 69,971 bushels of corn, of which the Golden Grain Belt counties produced 27,399,055 bushels, or 39 per cent., nearly one-third of the entire yield of the state, with an equally grand showing in all other departments of agriculture.

The foregoing facts show conclusively why "Buckeye of the West" is the name of the State in the past forty years; and why it is the "Buckeye of the West" in population during the past forty years.

caused acreage of wheat in the "Golden Belt" to the "Golden Belt."

A FARM FOR EVERYBODY.—62,500 farms—5,000,000 acres—for sale by Kansas Pacific—the Best land in America. at from \$2 to \$6 per acre—one-quarter off for cash, or on 6 or 12 years credit at 7 per cent. interest. It don't take much money to buy a farm on the Kansas Pacific: \$25 to \$50 will secure 80 acres on credit, or \$120 to \$360 in cash will buy it outright.

Send to S. J. Gilmore, Land Commissioner, Salina, Kas., for the "Kansas Pacific Homestead," a publication that tells about Lands, Homesteads, Pre-emption, Soil, Products, Climate, Stock Raising, Schools, Wages, Land Explorers' Tickets, Rates, etc. It is mailed free to all applicants.

Read all you can gather about Kansas, and when you decide to start, be sure and start right by locating along the KANSAS PACIFIC RAILWAY.

T. F. OAKES, Gen'l Superintendant.

THE KANSAS FARMER.

HUDSON & EWING, Editors & Proprietors, Topeka, Kansas. TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE. One Copy, Weekly, for one year, 1.50...

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...

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...

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. 15 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.

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.

The Country School.

The newer and better social and business education which is being urged by thousands of earnest advocates of reform for our country schools, might be largely adopted with advantage in cities and towns. A writer on the subject, in the Husbandman, very truly remarks, on the course of instruction in country schools: "Not only are the management and instruction of country schools usually at fault, but the course of study is very poorly chosen. Boys and girls in the country who are able to attend school for short and intermittent periods, and who generally become farmers, or farmers' wives, should follow a different course at school from that employed in grammar schools in the city. It should be much more concentrated and to the point. Most of the time is usually necessarily spent in teaching the pupils reading, writing and spelling, with a smattering of arithmetic, geography and grammar. Natural philosophy, one of the most useful of all sciences to the farmer, is never attempted, and the little that is known of agricultural science is unredeemed of. Horace Greeley recognized this deficiency and proposed a most excellent plan for making it up, which I wish might be adopted in all country schools. It is substantially that the reading book which is used and studied by country pupils more than any other, be made up, not as it is, of entertaining stories and literary selections, but of pithy, well written abstracts of the useful sciences and arts, made vivid by apt illustrations." A large amount of useful information would

doubtless be imparted to the children, which is lost under the present systems, with books arranged with the single purpose in view, of teaching correct pronunciation of words and manner of reading. The elocution of reading appears to be the main, if not almost the entire, object aimed at by the school-men of the period, in the preparation of the long lists of graded "readers" furnished by these rhetorical gentlemen, who pursue the business of school-book making. To read well is one of the most useful as well as graceful accomplishments, and without detriment to this important feature, the matter of which the text-books are made up, might much better for the pupils, embrace subjects of useful information, such as the philosopher of the Tribune suggests.

There is another reform which is particularly desirable in the country schools which is a greater interest by the parents, and a more cordial co-operation with and encouragement of the teacher. He or she would put more heart in the work and the pupils would reëmbre their interest and studiousness, if a committee of parents should take interest in the school sufficient to visit it once a week. In place of a board of three trustees, with the entire thankless, unrequited duty of the supervision of the school placed upon their shoulders, all of the patrons of the school should constitute the school board, as visitors at least, and be divided up into committees of five or more, each committee having its visiting day appointed. One of these committees could very profitably spend a day or a part of a day each week in visiting the school, and the duty would not devolve on the same persons more than once or twice in a session, while any of the patrons would feel at liberty to visit the school on any visiting day as spectators. These visits should not interfere with the routine lessons, but allow the regular course to be pursued, and the process of educating their children would pass in review under the scrutinizing eye of the solicitous parents. Doubtless under such a supervision, many a careless habit would be weeded out and many a useful reform adopted.

A system of visiting schools faithfully carried out, would soon become of deep interest to the pupils who would feel encouraged to know that so much public regard was had for their welfare, and every good teacher would feel that his ambition to conscientiously perform the duty of instructor, was properly appreciated.

Our schools cost large sums of money. They are expensive institutions, as well as useful, and it is the part of prudent business management to get the most that can be made of every investment. We feel certain that with the cordial co-operation of the parents in the manner above indicated, in the work of school education, that the benefit derived from the common school would be doubled, while many valuable reforms would be suggested and introduced into our system of public schools, when brought under the scrutinizing eyes of the practical business men and women who are interested in the welfare of the children.

In regard to a class of text books "made up of well written abstracts of the useful sciences and arts, made vivid with illustrations," when it is remembered with what tenacity the mind of the child grasps and retains what it finds of interest in these first books and lessons, it is not difficult to conceive the store of useful knowledge that might be imparted by text books filled with valuable information which would profit the pupil as knowledge to be used in the future, while practicing the art of correct reading, and growing familiar with the use of language and the meaning and application of words.

Reception of President Fairchild.

The newly elected President of the State Agricultural College, Prof. Geo. T. Fairchild, was welcomed to the field of his future labors as the head of the Agricultural College of this state, by the faculty and students of the college, the citizens of Manhattan and numerous invited guests, on Friday evening, 27th of November. We regret exceedingly that circumstances which we could not control, prevented us of availing ourselves of the invitation kindly tendered by Prof. Ward, to be present at the President's reception, and enjoy the festivities and hospitalities of the occasion. For the following account and incidents attending the very cordial and pleasant reception of the President we are indebted to The Industrialist.

Hon. T. C. Henry, of the Board of Regents welcomed the new president in a brief address which so forcibly and clearly presents the present status of the college, and the aims of the Regents and Faculty that we make room for a portion of his remarks:

This College, we consider, is designed to aid those who seek its assistance in securing an education adapted, in some degree at least, to the wants and needs of the student, as he steps out into the world to begin his life-work. We intend, therefore, so far as our facilities permit, to provide the youth of our commonwealth with a practical education.

The general educational policy of the college is shaped as it will probably remain for some time,—its present distinctive characteristics, in the main, be preserved. I am glad to be able to say, also, that the financial condition of the college was never better. The embarrassments arising from much financial mismanagement in the past is nearly overcome; and not far in the future the rigid economy made necessary in consequence can be supplanted by more liberal provision for the growing wants of the institution.

The increased attendance of pupils, together with their relative higher grade and advancement, add greatly to the gratification of the Regents. Certainly there has never been a more

auspicious moment in the history of the Kansas State Agricultural College than now.

To these students before me, I wish to say, that the necessity of securing a practical knowledge of the laws and forces of nature were never so urgent before. The increased intelligence of the world has created a multitude of wants which a thousand arts are taxed to supply. And not an important art exists but is directly based upon some fact which science has discovered. Steam and electricity, for instance, are made to animate so many marvelous forms of machinery, unless we know something, at least, of the laws and forces of nature, there is danger, almost, of our being supplanted and superseded by them.

A generation or two ago, man, as a piece of natural mechanism, could defy competition, however ignorant he might be. But now this country has few places for the unskilled laborer. Unless we know how to control or direct nature's forces, but small headway is possible. He will make more of life's opportunities for whom sunshine or cold, wind or storm, each as they come, are made by him to carry out his purposes and his work. The muscle of a single arm is but a puny weapon in the great battle of life; but that arm, directing the labor of an engine of steam, is a power greater than Archimedes dreamed of.

This state is and always will be preëminently an agricultural state; and its certain future wealth and greatness must depend upon its agricultural development. This college can be made a prominent factor to aid in that development; and it must be. Established as it now is, with a Faculty earnest, experienced and competent as it has; and now that we are about to place the executive control in the hands of a gentleman whose fame is national, resting upon a reputation for already doing all which this institution can possibly require,—I close, happy in the confidence that we are inaugurating a career of usefulness for this college which will continue to last and to grow until its influence is paramount in shaping for good the destiny of the grand young commonwealth which we proudly call the State of Kansas.

Prof. Ward made the welcoming address on the part of the Faculty, in the course of which he said:

"We congratulate you upon the auspicious circumstances under which you assume the administration of this College. The pioneer work has been done. The policy of this institution is fixed, and generally accepted. Under the vigorous administration of your predecessor, it has attained a character, an individuality, everywhere recognized. But the foundations only are laid; the superstructure is yet to be reared; and this is the work now before us. The present large attendance of students, the rapidly increasing interest in the institution, the improved condition of its finances, all augur a prosperous future, and furnish cause for mutual congratulations."

Mr. Noble A. Richardson, made the welcome speech on behalf of the students, full of the warm glow of youth and the electric sympathy of young hearts.

President Fairchild was much touched by the warm reception he received, and expressed himself very feelingly in his reply. To have a part in the growth of this great people he said, through aiding in its education was no mean privilege. This privilege he had not undervalued, in deciding to join in this good work. He believed the scope of the work to be, to a great extent, settled by the experience of the past ten years in this College, and the more than twenty years trial in the college from which he came. While we admire the great universities grown up through past ages to develop intellect among the people, we need not be their imitators. However noble their work and excellent their methods, ours must be different. We are in no sense a rival of the University at Lawrence, unless in the energy of our faithfulness to the cause of education, and in our care for the good will of the people we both seek to serve. In these respects we are friends, and able to strive hand in hand.

Our work is rather to supplement the work of the University; to afford to a large portion of our youth, who must find their way of doing good to man through shop and counting-room, the training of hand and brain together which fits for highest accomplishment. It is to develop Yankee gumption into wisdom by adding discipline and information, without overlooking that general dexterity of hand which may develop into skill. It is to make the man and the woman of ability in practical affairs.

Our course lies between the well-worn ruts of skill and mental discipline, into either of which we are likely to slip to the great loss of the world. Skill is the result of habitual routine under good direction; but it does not insure a genuine manhood. The narrowest intelligence can be coupled with the highest skill in some particular direction. So the broadest of culture may lack that directness of purpose which bring most of results. We are to so unite culture and skill as to insure the highest possible ability in all the ordinary duties of life.

We may hope to contrive for such a union as need not interfere with a natural development of both mind and body. The effort is to cost us something. You students have called yourselves soldiers in the fight that conquers ignorance and narrow-mindedness. So the people will find that such an institution, if it is to be worth having, costs something. It is an investment that brings returns in the far future.

But what are these returns? Evidently, such training will pay in giving greater productiveness to the people's work. Men will raise more, manufacture more, handle more, for their increased ability. But they will also learn to spend more wisely. To accumulate is only half

the task: to use aright is quite as important. "To make two blades of grass grow where but one grew before," is noble; but only when the two blades can be put to use in giving more of beef and bread and butter, so that more and better people may thrive upon the earth.

Having concluded the speech making, after a chorus by Prof. Platt's advanced singing class, the President and his family, the invited guests, the Faculty and their wives, wended their way to the dining hall. The tables had been arranged in the form of a double cross, and glowed with golden oranges, crimson apples, rich jellies, bright confections, and snowy cakes. As soon as the company were seated, Regent Henry presiding, a bevy of bright young ladies—the class in Household Economy—entered, bearing in their hands plates of smoking oysters, cups of fragrant coffee, and cold meat in profusion.

In the meantime, the students, in the chapel building, were partaking of a generous collation provided by the Faculty.

Altogether the reception of the new President has proved a happy episode in the State Agricultural College, and we trust a favorable omen for the future harmony and usefulness of that peculiarly farmer's institution.

Capital Grange No. 16.

The 12th anniversary of the Order was celebrated by the above Grange in their usual manner, by an open meeting, with exercises appropriate to the occasion, viz: short speeches, essays, basket dinner, and in other ways socially and sensibly enjoying the occasion. The meeting was presided over by Bro. W. P. Popenoe, the first master of the grange who in a neat speech stated the object of the meeting. He was followed by Bro. J. G. Otis who read the Patron's "Declaration of Principles," which was listened to with close attention. This was followed by choice selection of grange music by the grange choir, accompanied by Sister Lucy Popenoe on the organ; then followed the dinner which was abundant in quantity, superior in quality, great in variety, elegantly cooked, tastefully arranged, and was greatly enjoyed by grangers and gentiles, patrons and publicans.

An address was then delivered by Bro. S. H. Downs, upon the "Benefits of the Order," which was sound and sensible.

This was followed by the Address delivered by Dr. Reynolds, of Fort Riley, former president of the Riley county agricultural society, and a life-long farmer.

Hon. Wm. Sims, Master of the State Grange, having just returned from attendance at the late session of the National Grange, being called for made a few timely remarks on the necessity of a more thorough organization among farmers. During the course of his remarks he mentioned incidentally the fact that there was a strong probability that within the next year the 6th degree would be conferred in subordinate granges. It will be remembered that the KANSAS FARMER was the first paper in the United States to advocate editorially this change in our organic law.

Bro. Wm. Ayers, Master of Silver Lake Grange next entertained the audience with a short discourse on the social features of the order which was well received.

Delegations were in attendance from every Grange in the county, and a happy, pleasant time was had. Long may Capital Grange live to celebrate anniversaries.

The Cottonwood Declared a Tree.

A decision of the Interior Department at Washington which we published two weeks ago virtually pronounced the cottonwood a weed. It might be termed a tree in common parlance, but it could not be classed under the head of, or catalogued as a timber tree, in the opinion of the Interior Department. The Secretary, or some of his presiding officers, seems to have changed his mind on the subject. Possibly the universal remonstrance from the west against the favorite tree of the plains being tacitly classed as one of the gigantic weeds of that part of Uncle Sam's domain, caused the Secretary or his advisers to reconsider their hasty decision, and conclude, that though the cottonwood might not be a desirable timber tree for the purpose of ship building, nevertheless it is entitled to rank among timber trees for all purposes contemplated by the timber culture law. Consequently the former decision has been reversed, and a press dispatch of December 5th from Washington announces that "the Secretary of the Interior to-day decided that the benefits of the timber culture law may be secured by planting cottonwood trees. This decision reverses the former ruling of the Department."

The American Poland-China Record.

The first volume of this new stock book has been on our table some time, but proper acknowledgment of receipt of same to Eugene E. Holmes, Asst Secretary, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has been overlooked. The organization for the purpose of bringing out this work was effected in January, 1878, at Cedar Rapids, with W. P. Sisson as President, J. C. Traer, Treasurer. The executive committee having charge of the compilation, J. C. Traer, Jno. Gillman and S. A. Knapp, have evidently performed a large amount of work in compiling this initial volume containing three hundred pages and eight hundred pedigrees. The origin of the breed is discussed, but no new light is thrown on the subject. The breed is too new to possess as perfect a type as some of the older English breeds, but the proper course has been adopted to shape this popular breed of western origin to

exactly what the requirements of the country demand, if it be found lacking in any essential particular in this respect: On this point the authors remark:

"Occasionally a person affirms that the Poland-China is not a distinct breed of swine. To remove any honest doubt, it is only necessary to consider the length of time required to establish a breed of hogs. Here is an animal that has been bred in line and in general type for forty generations; it is doubtful whether Short-horns or Jerseys, or any of the improved breeds of cattle can demonstrate as strong a claim to purity. We admit that the records in many cases have been kept too carelessly, but not more so than those of other pure bred swine."

The price of the Vol. is \$3. Volume II is promised to be issued by June.

New Method of Representing Music.

We are in receipt of a book of music written in the new method, obtained from Black & Waters, Publishers, 70 State street, Chicago. The arrangement is for Piano or organ enabling any one to play without former knowledge of music, he publishers claim, who give the following explanation of this new process:

The tune is written in colored letters and numerals to correspond with a colored key guide, which is colored in octaves. The notes of the tune are found on the instrument by means of the corresponding letter or numeral on the guide, which is placed at the back of the keys—Green C is the middle C of the instrument. The figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, represent the sharps and flats, thus obviating the great difficulty experienced by students. It is intended for those who wish to play, but have no opportunity to go through the long course of study necessary to reading music, as originally represented.

Physical Geography.

Last week we published in the FARMER the initial article on the above subject, by C. W. Johnson, whose interesting labors in the field of science fairly entitles him to the distinction of Professor, if that title were not worn by so many shallow pretenders, that we doubt not men of real merit, who have explored unknown fields of science, feel more like discarding the cheap bauble than wearing it. The series of articles promised the FARMER, by Mr. Johnson, will doubtless be anticipated with pleasure. His papers published on the Hog Cholera, some months since, in the Kansas FARMER, proved their author to be an untiring student and searcher after the philosophical truths of nature, mere glimpses of which have yet been revealed to man. We anticipate much that is new and interesting in the science of meteorology, and Physical Geography will be presented by Mr. Johnson in those forthcoming essays.

The Grain Producing Power of the United States.

An article written for Macmillan's Magazine, an English publication, by L. B. Sidway, of Chicago, contains the following aggregation of the grain lands of the United States. It will be seen by the comparison between the present cultivated land and that to be brought under the plow, our enormous capabilities for food production:

In the states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, there are 220,000,000 acres of land, from which if we deduct 70,000,000 as uncultivable for different reasons, there remain 150,000,000 acres, of which 90,000,000 are at present under cultivation, and 60,000,000 more may be cultivated profitably.

Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska contain 160,000,000 acres, 40,000,000 of which are to be reckoned as good for grazing only, while of the remaining 120,000,000 it is believed that 90,000,000 acres are adapted to profitable cultivation. Only 12,000,000 are now cultivated, however, leaving 78,000,000 acres of uncultivated land of good quality, ready for immediate use. Besides this, there are in the territories of Dakota, Montana and Wyoming large tracts of fertile prairie, very productive in wheat and small grain; but for obvious reasons no extensive settlements have yet been made upon them. The precise area of really fertile land in these territories it is difficult to ascertain.

Texas contains 180,000,000 acres, the most of which is at present used for grazing. Much of it will be devoted to cotton and other southern productions, but it may be estimated that Texas will furnish 60,000,000 acres of good grain land, besides the cotton and grazing land. Indian territory, directly north of Texas, contains about 50,000,000 acres, most of it good and much of it superior land. It is safe to estimate that it contains at least 30,000,000 acres of grain lands, to come into cultivation whenever the present Indian occupants give way to the whites.

The state of Texas and the northern territories are estimated to furnish for grain growing fully 150,000,000 acres. California grain lands do not lie in a body, and it is difficult to determine the number of acres. But the yield is at all times enormous. Oregon's wheat lands are limited as yet, but they are rapidly increasing in area. The Pacific slope is expected to steadily increase its supply of wheat.

In the ten states already named east of the Rocky Mountains, there are 107,000,000 acres in grain cultivation and 138,000,000 yet to be added. To these are to be added the 90,000,000 acres of grain land in Texas and the Indian territory, probably 60,000,000 more in Dakota, Wyoming and Montana; making a total of 288,000,000 acres of grain land to be added, as an aggregate, to the 107,000,000 acres now in cultivation in the great grain and provision

Literary and Domestic.

A Little Longer.

BY CLIO STANLEY.

Yet a little longer labor,
Till, for day is not yet done;
For the rest that you are longing,
You must wait for set of sun.

Yet a little longer labor,
Sow the seed in many a field;
Somewhere still a golden harvest
Waits its ripened grain to yield.

Yet a little longer labor,
Stay with patience at the gate;
Angels will undo the portal,
If you labor while you wait.

Yet a little longer labor,
You must take of grief your share;
Yet your Father will not give you
Greater than your strength can bear.

Yet a little longer labor,
Thro' the mists of by-gone years,
For the happy moments gathered,
All too short the time appears.

Yet a little longer labor;
Day by day, and year by year,
Nearer, by our hearts' devotions,
Will the golden gates appear.

Nearer, by our prayers, the praise;
Nearer, by our songs, the sun;
If we falter while we say them,
Something will be left undone.

Yet a little—and the longest
Day of all our life is done;
The long journey is accomplished,
And heaven's glory is begun!

Dan Harrison and the Widow.

A TROOPER'S STORY.

In the Twelfth New York Infantry there was a private soldier, who was certainly a man of much oddities. Seen at one time you would say that Dan Harrison had blue eyes. Five minutes afterward you would make oath that they were black.

Dan also had wonderful control over his voice. He could mimic the voice of any man in the brigade. He could bark like a dog, bray like a mule, whistle like a bird, and was the wonder of the camp.

There were yet other reasons why Dan was considered greater than a menagerie. He could drop one shoulder three inches lower than the other. He could walk as if one leg was shorter than the other. He could work his ears like a horse. He could cramp his hands until they seemed to have been drawn all out of shape by rheumatism. He could make it appear that he had a squint in either eye, and he could raise his eye-brows clear up into his hair. He was a farmer's son, genial, brave and good-hearted, and he was never tired of doing something to amuse us.

Soon after Heintzleman made his reconnaissance, from in front of Alexandria down towards Centreville, he sent for Dan Harrison, and the result of the interview was that Dan was engaged by the government as a spy. His curious physical structure and his natural coolness and bravery fitted him for such dangerous work, and I may say here that for three years he was accounted the most successful and daring spy in the service.

One lonely, rainy night in the beginning of 1862, Dan Harrison set out to work his way into the confederate intrenchments around Centreville, charged to see everything that could be seen and hear everything that might be turned to value to the federal cause.

The spy left the federal outposts and headed directly for Centreville. He met with no adventure that night, laid in the woods all the next day, or advanced under cover of them, and at dark again took the highway. He knew that danger lurked in every fence corner for one who skulked along, and he therefore put a bold face on the matter and walked briskly forward, passing quite a number of negroes and several white men without being disturbed. Just then many slaves were trying to reach the federal lines, and this fact got Dan into trouble.

About 9 o'clock, as he stepped briskly along, a patrol consisting of three men, sprang from the bushes and confronted him, supposing him at first to be a negro, when, finding that he was a white man, the leader of the patrol began asking leading questions and insisting upon prompt replies. For some reason Dan thought best to change his plans. Dropping his left shoulder and humping up his back, he replied to their questions in a whining, drawing voice, in imitation of a half-wit.

"Laid for a nigger and captured a fool!" growled the leader, as Dan began to ask silly questions and dance around.

"What do ye live?" asked one of the others.

"In—ze—moon," drawled Dan, laughing as loud as he could.

"How did you get down here?"

"On—a—string—ha! ha! ha!" And he jumped around and chuckled as if he had got off a good joke.

"Well, I suppose we'd better give him a kick and let him go," remarked the leader. "He's no nigger, don't know enough to be a soldier, and we'd better hurry him along."

"I don't know about that!" remarked the third man, who had all along been silent. "I don't know of any fool in this neighborhood, and we shouldn't let this chap go until we have a closer look at him. Here, you infernal idiot, do you know any one around here?"

"Missus Brown—Missus Brown!" replied Dan, using the first name that came in his way.

"Well, it's only a step down thar," said the man, "and if she knows him it's all right."

So there was a Mrs. Brown close at hand? No one could have been more surprised than the spy, and he feared that he had gotten himself into a bad scrape. There was no chance for him but to go along, and go he did, amusing the men for a quarter of a mile with strange antics and silly talk. Mrs. Brown was a widow, living in a comfortable though small farm house, and Dan was marched straight up to her door. She was a woman about fifty years of age, with a kind face and motherly ways.

"Widder Brown," began the leader of the party, as he put his hand on the spy, "we captured this fool down the road thar. He acts and talks like a fool, but we want to make sure he isn't tricking us. He says he knows you. If you know him that's all we want."

"Missus Brown know Tommy," chuckled Dan, as he boldly entered the house and sat down and took the family cat on his lap.

The widow's vanity was a bit flattered in the first place that she had been called upon to identify a stranger, and in the next place she would lose prestige if she failed to do so.

"Mebbe I know him—mebbe I don't," she replied, as she looked around for her spectacles. "Somehow or other I allus know all the fools going, and most of 'em come around here for vittels. Now, then, I'll look at him."

She put on her spectacles, took the candle in hand, and Dan was scrutinized for a long minute. "He looked up into her face and grinned and chuckled, though his heart was in his mouth."

"She don't know him!" whispered one of the men.

The widow overheard it, and now she was on her mettle. Walking slowly across the room to put down the candle and her spectacles, she turned and said:

"Yes, he's a fool, and you are bigger fools for stopping him!"

"Then you know him?" asked the leader. "I rather think so! His name is Tommy and he lives somewhere around Fairfax. He's been here more'n a dozen times."

"Didn't propose matrimony, did he?" asked one of the men.

"No!" she snapped, "but if he had he'd have stood a better chance than white men who hide in fence corners to capture niggers!"

So saying she slammed the door on them and went away. She sat down at the table and looked across to Dan, and presently mused:

"Yes, he's a fool, and these men had no business hauling him around, no matter whether I know him or not. I guess he's hungry and tired, and I'll give him something to eat and send him to bed."

Dan "played the fool" to perfection, and when he had eaten, the woman had a real motherly interest in him. She guided him upstairs, showed him the bed he was to occupy, and then went down with the light, saying:

"Fools can see in the dark as well as by daylight, and you might set the house on fire!"

The spy was out of the scrape in one sense, and yet he was in trouble. If he wanted to reach and pass the confederate outposts before day-break. If he remained in the house all night he would encounter people next day who might want him more fully identified. But how was he to leave?

The chamber was a half-story affair, all in one room, and a window at either end. One of these would let the spy out. He crept across the floor and tried the sash of one. It was old and shaky, and yet he worked at it a long time and gave up in despair. The sashes were not nailed, but so warped that to get them up or down or out would make noise enough to arouse everybody about the house. The sash in the other window could be raised, but Dan's fingers had scarcely touched it when two or three dogs, which seemed to be kennelled directly below, commenced a furious barking. Escape by that way was out of it.

After a moment's thought Dan decided to wait until the house grew quiet, and then descend the stairs and go out by the front door. He might have to wait an hour or more, and he therefore threw himself on the bed. He had scarcely got settled when he heard a commotion down stairs and the heavy tread of a man. Creeping out of bed and putting his ear to the floor he soon made out that the woman's son had returned home after a considerable absence within the confederate lines.

Dan listened for a long time, catching words enough to keep run of the conversation, and when he heard both moving across the floor he slipped into bed again. It was well he did so. The stair door opened, a light appeared, and as mother and son ascended, she said:

"Of course he's a fool! Do you think I've got so old that I can't tell an idiot when I see him?"

"Well, these are suspicious times," muttered the son in reply, and both advanced to the bed.

Dan seemed to be fast asleep. One hand, all cramped up, was on the quilt in plain sight, and he had his face screwed up until the lonesome look was enough to have melted a heart of stone.

"There! don't he look like a fool?" whispered the mother.

"He may be one, but it won't do any hurt to let the patrol take him into our outposts," answered the son, and both descended the stairs.

Dan must get out of that. Not by way of the window, but down stairs and out of the front door. The patrol could not be far off, and he had no time to spare. Hastily reumming his garments, he softly descended the stairs. While waiting at the door he heard the son go out, and after two or three minutes he softly opened the door.

No one was in the room. Tip-toeing across it he opened the front door and stepped out, but

only to stand face to face with the son, a young man of about twenty-five and of good muscular development. For what seemed a long minute they looked into each other's faces. Then the confederate said:

"Throw up your hands, Mister Yank—the game is played!"

"I just came to bid you good-night!" coolly answered Dan, and he gathered and made a rush.

The confederate did not follow, because he realized that Dan was running directly for the approaching patrol. He was under full headway when he met them, or saw that he was going to run into them, and swerved aside.

"Shoot that Yankee—kill him! Kill him!" shouted the confederate at the house, and the patrol opened fire in response.

Dan was not ever thirty feet away, and the gloom of the night saved him from being riddled. One bullet struck him in the left arm, just above the elbow, inflicting a painful wound, but the others went wild, and he soon distanced pursuit. Dan did not get into Centreville that time, but he was there a month later.—Noah's N. Y. Sunday Times.

Gifts for Christmas.

How often do we hear the question, "What shall I make for Christmas? I would like so much to give a present to papa and mamma, to Jennie and Willie; but I am only a little girl, and what can I do?" Now, dear young readers, do not be discouraged because you have not yet arrived at manhood or womanhood. You can make over so many pretty things, which will be doubly valuable to papa and mamma, brother and sister, because your nimble fingers, aided by your ingenuity have made them. Shall we help you by suggesting a few little gifts which you can easily make?

Just think how pleased grandmother or grandfather would be to have a nice "spectacle-case," made by his or her little grand-daughter. A "shaving-paper case" is such a nice present for father or for brother John (if his beard is growing). Remember, dears, that these gifts, into which love, thought and patience are wrought with innumerable fine touches, will be worth a great deal to the friends who love you, and this reflection will reward you for your trouble.

I will give a few directions as to how to make the articles mentioned. First, the SHAVING-CASE.

For a pattern take a grape-leaf, lay it on cardboard, draw around its edges with pencil, and cut the paper in the same shape. Buy half a dozen sheets of tissue paper, red, blue, white, green and yellow; fold them over four or eight times, according to size; lay your cardboard pattern on them, and cut the shape round with sharp scissors. Make the cover of the same form, in green silk, cloth or Japanese canvas. Overcast the edge, or bind it with ribbon, and imitate the veins of the leaf with long stitches of green sewing silk. The tissue paper grape leaves (upon which the razor is to be wiped) are inserted between the outside leaf-covers. There must be a loop of ribbon at the stem end of the leaf, to hang it up by.

SAND-BAG CASES. A useful footstool for grandmamma, especially in sickness, or when she drives out on a cold day, is a bag, twelve inches square, filled with sand. This can be heated in the oven, and will retain its warmth for hours. Make it of strong, unbleached sheeting. Then make a slip-cover of bright-colored rep or merino, bordered with fringe or a ruffling of the same; or, you may embroider a canvas cover, if you please. One side of this case should be left open, so that the bag of sand (or salt) can easily be slipped out when it is to be heated, and secured in its place again by means of loops and buttons.

GLOVE PEN-WIPER. Cut a paper pattern of a tiny glove and of a little gauntlet-cuff to correspond. Cut the glove out in thick cloth, and the gauntlet-cuff in thinner, and line the latter with bright silk. Stitch the cuff to the glove, with silk of the same color as the lining, and also make three rows of stitches on the back of the glove, to imitate those in real gloves. Lastly, cut over three or four pieces of cloth like the gauntlet; or, hand or point the edges with scissors, and fasten them to the glove in under the gauntlet, to form the pen-wiper.

WORK CASES. The materials for these cases are—a piece of yellow or gray Japanese canvas, twelve inches long and seven broad; a bit of silk of the same size and color, for lining; and six skeins of worsted, of any shade which you happen to fancy. Work a border down both sides of the canvas, and across one end, leaving space to turn the edge of the material neatly in. This border may be as simple as you please. Four rows of cross-stitch in blue or cherry will answer for little girls not versed in embroidery. When the border is done, baste on the lining, turn the edges neatly in, and sew over and over. Then turn the lower third of this lined strip up, to form a bag, and sew the edges together firmly. The embroidered end folds over to form a flap like a pocket-book, and must have two small buttons and loops to fasten it down.

OPEN-WORK BRACKETS, MADE FROM CIGAR BOXES.

Here is a Christmas gift for the boys to make. All the materials needed are paper patterns of the forms to be used (which can be obtained from almost any carved open-work bracket), a sharp pen-knife and a cigar box. The paper patterns must be pasted or gummed to the wood, so that the lines may be closely followed by the knife, leaving the desired open-work shapes. Then the paper can be soaked off with a damp sponge. If the bracket is only meant to hold

light articles, the parts can be glued together merely; but it is better still to use the small brads which you will find in the sides of the cigar box. When it is done, rub it with boiled linseed oil, or, if you prefer, coat with shellac varnish.

Boys with sharp knives and a fair amount of good taste and ingenuity can make very nice presents out of smoothed cocoa-nut shells. Three quarter shells, supported on legs of rustic work, and pierced with a few small holes at the bottom, make very pretty flower-pots; water-pails with wire handles, baskets with twisted grape-vine handles, card receivers on rustic standards, all are very pretty. With sister's aid, bright silk or satin secured to the inside of the shell, an projecting a few inches beyond the opening, may be shirred with a drawing string at the top, forming a pretty work-bag. These cocoa-nut shell articles should be oiled or have a coating of shellac varnish.

Greenhouse and Window Plants.

Chrysanthemums, after they have flowered, should be cut down, and the pots put in the cellar, and have a rest, being left without water, unless there is danger of becoming "killing dry."

Hanging plants are more apt than others to suffer from dryness. To water them perfectly, plunge the basket into a bucket of water, and let the earth become thoroughly soaked through. Return them to their places, after all dripping has ceased.

Bulbs in pots are to be brought out of the cellar for early bloom, when the plants are well rooted.

Ivies are among the most attractive of room plants, and easy to manage. It will improve their condition greatly, to go over them once a week, with a sponge or soft cloth, and wash the dust from the leaves. The operation takes much less time than one would suppose, and it allows the scale insect, the worst enemy of the ivy, to be seen on its first appearance and removed by the use of an old tooth-brush.

The temperature of the room for plants to do well, should range between 70 degrees for day time, and 55 degrees for night. Rooms are kept too warm for both plants and human inmates. Provide some method of evaporating water in the room, to moisten the air.

When sweeping is being done, the plants ought to be covered with a cloth or newspaper, to keep off the dust. Otherwise the freshness and beauty of the foliage will soon be lost. The sponging of the smooth and thick-leaved plants, will add to their health and beauty.

A few winters ago, a doctor complained to us that his plants were in a bad way, they not only did not grow, but by dropping their leaves, were actually diminishing in size, in spite of the fact that he "watered them regularly every day." At his request we went to see the plants; they were at a cool window in his office, in porcelain, and other glazed and very handsome pots, and the earth in each was in a state of mud. Probably about as many plants, in rooms, are killed by excess of water as by the lack of it. Glazed pots especially should be so drained that all excess of water will pass off, and the potting soil should be so "open" that it will not retain water to excess. A little observation will show when a plant needs water, and it should be given, not by any rule, but according to the requirements of the plant.—American Agriculturist.

Oatmeal.

Oatmeal, now found on almost every gentleman's breakfast table, was a few years ago used exclusively by the Scotch and the Irish. Dr. Johnson, who, in his hatred of the Scotch, lost no opportunity of saying a bitter word against them, defined oats as in Scotland food for Scotchmen, but in England food for horses.

"Yes," answered an indignant Scotchman, "where can you find such men as in Scotland, or such horses as in England?"

We have heard of a shrewd old Scotch mother, who used to make her family eat oatmeal first, saying, "The bairn who eats the most porritch, will get the most meat after it." But the bairn who gained the prize always found himself too full to enjoy the meat.

It is mentioned in a most charming book, "The Life and Letters of Lord Macaulay," that Carlyle, catching a sight of Macaulay's face in repose, remarked, "Well, any one can see that you are an honest, good sort of a fellow, made out of oatmeal."

If oatmeal can "make" such men as Walter Scott, Dr. Chalmers, and Lord Macaulay, we may well heap high the porritch dish, and bribe our children to eat of it. One thing we do know, that it is far better for the blood and brain than cake, confections, and the scores of delicacies on which many pale little pets are fed by their foolishly fond mothers.

"The Queen's Own," a regiment of almost giants, recruited from the Scottish Highlands, are, as Carlyle said of Macaulay, "made of oatmeal." So boys who want height, and breadth, and muscle, and girls who want rosy cheeks and physical vigor, should turn from hot bread and other indigestibles, to this "food for Scotchmen and horses."

COFFEE-POT.—A carelessly kept coffee-pot will impart a rank flavor to the strongest infusion of the best Java. Wash the coffee-pot thoroughly every day, and twice a week boil borax and water in it for fifteen minutes.

BED BUGS.—A lady has found the following remedy for the prevention of bed bugs. After cleaning the bedstead thoroughly, rub it over with hog's lard. The lard should be rubbed on with a woolen cloth. Bugs will not infest such a bedstead for a whole season. The reason of this is the antipathy of insects for grease of any kind.

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THE OPINIONS OF THE NEWSPAPERS.

Eighteen hundred newspapers between western Pennsylvania and the California coast have given the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS favorable notices, many of them of the most flattering character.

HOW CAN YOU MAKE SO LARGE A PAPER FOR SO LITTLE MONEY?

This question is often asked. We answer because we do all our own work, attend to all the details of our business personally, and do not offer large expensive premiums for which subscribers have to pay. We expect to have a hundred thousand subscribers for this paper, because we give the largest and best paper that can be made for the money; and because every family can afford to pay fifty cents to provide a useful paper for their boys and girls.

PARENTS AND SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The teachers of public schools who are studying the wants of boys and girls become good judges of what is needed by them. The most observing parents and teachers agree as to the importance and value of placing good, wholesome reading, in the hands of our youths, not found in school books. The young mind needs variety, and it not furnished it of a good quality, it seeks the cheap-time novel, or the flashy story paper filled with the most debasing, vicious and harmful reading that the young imagination can be fed on. The absolutely wicked influence upon our boys and girls of these papers and books, that make heroes and heroines out of characters we would not permit inside our homes, cannot be estimated.

Parents and teachers have an interest in introducing into the schools and their homes a paper like the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS, that is pure and elevating in tone, that amuses, instructs and entertains without resorting to sensational and harmful reading. Every boy and girl who reads the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS will be stronger and better for its company. Over ten thousand teachers and as many parents have written us kind words of encouragement and support.

WHAT COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS SAY OF THE AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS.

- From J. H. Simmons, Supt., Norton Co., Kan: "Such a paper as this I can cheerfully recommend to the young, and trust it may have a large circulation throughout the entire state."
From T. J. Brant, Supt., Fremont Co., Iowa: "I wish it would be read in all the schools."
From Mrs. Mary L. Carpenter, Supt., Winnebago Co., Ill: "I will be pleased to keep the numbers on file in my office where it will be seen by teachers."
From R. C. Connor Supt., Marquette Co., Wis: "It meets with satisfaction in every instance."
From J. W. Mack, Supt., Grant Co., Oregon: "I think its general circulation would be a great advantage to our children."
From A. T. Briggs, Supt., Lincoln Co., Kan: "I have seen but few equals to it as a youths' paper."
From R. G. Ward, Supt., Chautauque Co., Kan: "I am truly glad you have been able to establish the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS on a permanent basis. Just such publications are needed to crowd the pernicious literature so freely read by our youth out of the market. If I could I would be glad to make every family in this county a Christmas present of a year's subscription to it."
From J. D. Robb, Supt., of Washington Co., Oregon: "I hope you will succeed in introducing it into every district in the land."
From J. H. Pate, Supt., Ohio Co., Ind: "I will try to introduce it into every school in our county."
From J. D. Shearer, Supt., Wayne Co., Ky: "I will do all in my power to extend its circulation."
From W. L. Chalfant, Supt., Barton Co., Kan: "My children are delighted with its spicy and instructive columns."
From Theo. Courier, Supt., Perry Co., Ind: "I have always held that the township trustees should furnish each school with just such a paper as yours. There is a want in every school that could be filled by a good paper."
From Dr. J. T. Force, Supt., Perry Co., Minn: "It is well calculated to improve and interest children, and I would be glad to see it in the hands of every scholar."
From T. S. Snell, Supt., Ida Co., Iowa: "I will gladly get you all the subscribers I can."

(What County School Superintendents say of the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS.)

From F. E. Skahan, Supt., Calumet Co., Wis.: "I believe the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS will be of great benefit to school boys and girls."
From John Carney, Supt., Jennings Co., Ind.: "My children are delighted with it."
From J. R. K. McCollum, Supt., Washington Co., Pa.: "It can be used profitably in our schools every day in the week, and in Sunday Schools as well."
From F. K. Madhams, Supt., Coffey Co., Kan.: "I am satisfied of its merits and would be glad to see it in reach of all the little folks in the county, and the older ones would be benefited by its perusal."
From W. H. Chamberlain, Supt., Jefferson Co., Neb.: "I think your paper first rate, and your effort to introduce it into schools, right."
From D. D. Parsons, Supt., Jefferson Co., Wis.: "I have been looking for a suitable paper for my boy, and I must say the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS is all that I could wish."

D. Wilcox, Pine county, Minn.; H. C. Garvin, Wilmington, O.; E. A. Courter, Murray county, Minn.; M. Rice, Madisonville, Ky.; and hundreds of others.

OPINIONS OF SCHOOL TEACHERS.

From among thousands of complimentary opinions of school teachers, now on file, in our office, we give herewith a few which indicate the general tone of all.

MICHIGAN.

I am convinced it is a very valuable paper for the young and can heartily recommend it.—Homer E. Gordon, Cass City, Mich.
I think it the best paper of the kind I ever read.—Wm. O. Myers, Gifford, Mich.
I think one copy would convince any family of its merits.—L. B. Miller, Constantine, Mich.
I regard it with much favor and will assist you all in securing subscribers.—John Makelline, Melvin, Mich.
The paper is just what we need.—Edith M. Cole, South Ann, Mich.
I am convinced it is a useful and valuable paper for the young and heartily recommend it to all.—Hiram E. Gordon, Principal, Cass City, Mich.

KENTUCKY.

I will do what I can for your good paper in this county.—Wm. M. Holland, Birmingham, Ky.
I think it a pure, interesting, instructive and very cheap paper.—W. W. Tate, Pastor M. E. Church, Ives, Ky.
I consider your offer generous and will gladly distribute any papers.—H. P. More, Ky.

MINNESOTA.

I thank you many times for your kind offer.—Daisy Smith, Pine Island, Minn.
I think your paper excellent and wish you the success you deserve. I shall canvass this district.—L. F. Berthe, Pilot Mound, Minn.
Am very much pleased with your paper and think a club can readily be gotten up here. Please send some sample copies.—Amelia O. Russel, Rose Creek, Minn.
I have examined your paper and think it a very good paper for the young. We accepted your liberal offer. Please send a few copies for distribution.—W. R. Geddis, Little Cobb, Minn.
I am highly pleased with your paper, and would take pleasure in distributing as many copies as you see fit to send.—H. E. Gifford, Ottowa, Minn.
I think your paper very suitable for a prize and worthy of being read by both teachers and pupils.—Lillian Hall, Alden Minn.

NEBRASKA.

It would be both useful and entertaining in a family of children.—C. H. Cury, Eagle, Neb.
I like the tone of the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS better than any youth's paper I have seen for a long time.—Chas. W. Fort, Geneva, Neb.
I am very much pleased with your paper as seen through the copy I have had to examine, and one of two persons I have spoken to who are regular readers of it are highly pleased. If you will send a few copies I will pass them around with a good word for you. On behalf of the school as a whole, (myself included) allow me to return our thanks for your offer while we accept the same.—J. D. Chamberlain, David City, Neb.
I have examined your paper and pronounce it par excellence. Just what is needed in every household.—J. W. Swan, Fairmont, Neb.
Think it is a good paper for school children.—M. M. Childs, Spring Bank, Neb.
I am more than pleased with it.—Marian Tabor, Ponca, Neb.
I like your paper very much.—Nancy Satta, Homestead, Neb.
I think your paper will be gladly received in this neighborhood.—J. M. Salice, Sickle Mills, Neb.
I will gladly distribute as many copies of your paper as you see fit to. It is the best young folks paper I ever read, for the price you publish it, or at any price.—Maggie J. McLennan, Varna, Neb.
I consider your paper excellent and your purpose grand! Will gladly circulate copies and aid you otherwise.—W. O. Robinson, Principal, Red Cloud, Neb.
I have read your paper and need not add from me to my scholars and they are greatly pleased with it.—Edward Gale, Ssoux, Neb.

IOWA.

It is worthy of liberal patronage as it furnishes the young with useful, instructive and entertaining reading cheap. May it be a success.—A. Schrist, Ioka, Ioa.
It is what our boys and girls need.—A. M. Rowell, Agency City, Ioa.
The teachers unite with the children in praising the YOUNG FOLKS, all are enthusiastic about it.—Horace M. Towner, Prescott, Ioa.
A splendid paper to interest the young.—Joanna Kennedy, Big Mound, Ioa.
It is neat in typography and rich in matter.—Geo. A. Johnston, Portlandville, Ioa.
I believe it is just the journal that ought to be introduced into our schools.—Sam'l Madden, Germansville, Ioa.
I am a superior paper destined to have a wide circulation.—M. M. Sammer, Pleasant Valley, Ioa.
I am ready to do all I can for the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS.—H. B. Jones, Brownville, Ioa.
It is just the thing for scholars. A great variety of topics makes it the more interesting.—T. J. Andrews, Delta, Ioa.
A valuable journal for young folks.—W. O. Robinson, Kellogg, Ioa.

MISSOURI.

It merits patronage and I wish it success.—Bentley Carter, Fort Lyon, Mo.
I am very much pleased with it as a literary journal and all the more for its being a western publication.—W. S. Smallwood, Wilnot Bay, Mo.
I pronounce it most excellent. It should be in every family where there are children.—M. T. Pugh.
After examination I believe it to be just the thing wanted. I read from it to my pupils and they agreed to save their apple and candy money and send for it.—J. F. M. Mail, Waynesville, Mo.
We will do all in our power to introduce it among the young folks in our county. It is not excelled by any similar publication.—T. E. Johnston, New Haven, Mo.
Your paper will be highly appreciated.—Alfred Mitchell, New Madrid, Mo.
I must say that I have never seen a paper I liked better for children. It is brimful of sparkling pieces suited to pupils and will greatly aid me in teaching. I will do anything in my power to enhance its merits.—M. Blackwell, Caplin, Mo.
Its matter is admirably adapted to the tastes and wants of the young. The best paper for the price I have ever seen.—J. Jay Berry, Papinville, Mo.

I consider it a splendid instructor for the young.—H. M. Kindig, Marks, Mo.
I am much pleased with it.—G. F. Patrick, Myers, Mo.
I have most heartily recommended the paper to the pupils of school. It should be in the hands of every youth of the country. It would help to counteract the influence of many books and papers that are vastly destructive of the morals of children. May success crown your efforts.—Jno. D. Brown, Platte City, Mo.
There is nothing more appropriate for prizes in schools than such a paper as yours. I trust the day will soon come when they will displace trashy publications which are poisoning children's minds.—B. W. Huysett, Holla, Mo.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The best paper for school children I ever met with.—Peter Grist, Bernaduan, Pa.
I don't hesitate to pronounce it excellent.—C. Kade, White Ash, Pa.
Our pupils are very much animated over the little paper and your noble offer to send it free to the best one. We think it will be a great assistant in the rhetoric class.—F. P. Wolf, Manorville, Pa.
It seems to have the true spirit of the west.—Emma Sayers, Cranberry, Pa.

INDIANA.

We'll all teachers and pupils, thank your spicy little paper the best for the money we ever saw.—Jennie E. Belch, Principal, Whiteville Ind.
It is all you claim it to be.—Chas. Bove, Steam Corner, Ind.
Our pupils are delighted with it.—J. N. Wolfington, Mulberry, Ind.
The paper is quite a treat.—S. D. Ramsayer, Mt. Middleton, Ind.
It supplies a long felt want in our schools.—L. E. Knox, Franklin, Ind.
The children are all pleased with it.—Mollie Dickson, Knightsville, Ind.

CALIFORNIA.

I wish you success in your effort to furnish the young good reading.—J. H. O'Neal, Principal, Fort Jones, Cal.
The scholars are very much pleased with your paper, and I think it the very best that has come under my notice.—F. F. Love, Loomis, Cal.
A very much needed and excellent paper for the young.—Belle M. Duncan, San Felipe, Cal.
Our pupils will get a large club for your excellent paper in our school.—Jama' J. Pullen, Roseville, Cal.

OHIO.

It is the best paper for children I have ever seen.—Mary J. O'Neal, Emeryville, O.
It is just what we want for schools.—C. A. Westenberg, Olmsted, O.
The paper we want is the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS.—C. H. Monro, High, Ohio.
I find it an excellent companion for the school room.—S. A. Steadman, Galena, O.

ILLINOIS.

It should be in the hands of every boy and girl.—Bennet James, Mitchell, Ill.
It electrified the pupils in my room.—John P. Steels, Murphysboro, Ill.
I hope that many of my pupils will subscribe for it.—E. B. Elton, Danway, Ill.

OREGON.

Your paper I deem worthy of the hearty support of every school in our country.—I. E. Crew, Summerville, Oregon.

COLORADO.

I am going to offer it as a prize.—Emma Hollingsworth, Silverton, Col.

KANSAS.

I have offered three copies as prizes in my school.—C. H. Lowrie, Detroit, Kan.
I like your paper very much and would like to do something for it.—S. A. Olive, Lawrence, Kan.
My school is greatly pleased with it.—Mrs. L. J. Campbell, Big Springs, Kan.
Pupils are well pleased with its smiling face and cheap terms.—J. Y. Justus, Clear Dale, Kan.
Your paper is such I can cheerfully recommend.—J. H. Simmons, Norton, Kan.
It is just the paper that ought to be taken here. We need something cheap in this country and yours is the best paper for the money I ever heard of.—Ada D. Bray, Louise, Kan.
If you will send me a copy or two I will distribute them in my school and think I can find some subscribers for you.—Addie Butler, Ottawa, Kan.
Pupils are very much and will try and send you as many subscribers as I can. I shall commence immediately to get your paper introduced in this place.—Hooker C. Young, Noble, Kan.
I think I will be able to send you the names of several subscribers before long.—Albert Curtis, Neilsburg, Kan.
I gave your paper, as a prize, to the best in department, which was gladly received.—J. B. Mullen, Peach Creek, Kan.
We had a very close ballot as to who was entitled to your very interesting publication, the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS, as it has been an object of interest in my school for the last few weeks. Would be obliged if you would favor the successful candidate with your paper.—W. H. Yanschock, Waco, Kan.
The AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS is an excellent paper for children. It creates in them a love for reading that no other paper does. Every boy and girl ought to take it.—J. H. Queen, Valley Falls, Kan.
I will expect you to send the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS which I like very much, to Lilly Ott, our prize scholar.—W. J. Hull, Gardner, Kan.
Please send me ten copies AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS for distribution among ten families of my district that are likely to become subscribers to your valuable paper for young folks. Yours truly.—P. W. Bahl, Fredonia, Kan.
I think your paper is very interesting and instructive.—Ella Goodell, Rossville, Kan.
Your paper is just what is needed in every family where there are children. It is unique.—Mary F. Hurd, Cottonwood Falls, Kan.
Considering quantity, quality and price, no boy or girl in Kansas should fail to take the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS.—H. W. Sandusky, Sherman City, Kas.
For price and quality the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS cannot be surpassed. A copy should be in every home.—Jennie L. Allen, Alfred Kas.
I think the AMERICAN YOUNG FOLKS, for the price, the best paper for children I have ever read. One feature, I think deserves special commendation, that is, it is free from those exciting and sensational stories which generally characterize papers for the young. I hope that it will receive the patronage it merits.—Mrs. M. E. Banick, Alfred, Kan.

THE STRAY LIST.

HOW TO POST A STRAY

BY AN ACT of the Legislature, approved Feb 27, 1866, section 1, when the 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 forward by mail a complete description of the stray or strays, the day on which they were taken up, their value, and the name and residence of the taker up, with the value of the same, to the sum of fifty cents each animal contained in said notice.

How to post a stray, the fees 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.

If an animal liable to be taken, shall come upon the premises of any person, and the householder, driver or owner, notified in writing of the fact, any other citizen and householder may take up the same.

Any person taking up a stray, 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 a stray is not proven up at the expiration of ten days, the taker-up shall go before any Justice of the Peace of the county, and file an affidavit stating that such stray was taken up on the premises, that he did not drive the same to be driven there, that he has advertised it for ten days, that the marks and brands have not been altered, also that he will give a full description of the same and its 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 a 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, and if he does so, he shall receive the same back of 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 charges and costs.

If the owner of a stray fails to prove ownership within seven 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 issue a decree, directing all costs of taking up, appraising and appraisement to be served by the taker up, said appraiser, or two of them shall in all respects be the same and truly and make a sworn return of the same to the Justice.

They shall also determine the cost of keeping, and the benefits the taker-up may have had, and report the same on their appraisement.

In all cases where the title vests in the taker-up, he shall pay to the County Clerk, for recording each certificate of appraisement, and for forwarding the same to the Justice of the Peace, for each animal valued at more than ten dollars, fifty cents.

The Justice of the Peace shall receive the sum of thirty-five cents for making out and recording each certificate of appraisement, including the oath administered to the appraiser, whether such certificate contains a greater or lesser number of animals, and forty cents for each certified copy of all proceedings pertaining to such stray or strays. Provided that the fees charged by such Justice of the Peace in any one case shall not be greater than one dollar and fifty cents.

Any person who shall sell or dispose of a stray, or take the same out of the state before the title shall have vested in him shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall forfeit double the value of such stray, and be subject to a fine of twenty dollars.

Fees as follows: For taker-up, for horse, mule or ass, \$1.00; for cow, \$1.00; for head of cattle, \$1.00; for County Clerk, for recording each certificate \$1.00; for forwarding Kansas Farmer for publication as above mentioned, for each animal valued at more than ten dollars, \$1.00.

The Justice of the Peace shall receive the sum of thirty-five cents for making out and recording each certificate of appraisement, including the oath administered to the appraiser, whether such certificate contains a greater or lesser number of animals, and forty cents for each certified copy of all proceedings pertaining to such stray or strays. Provided that the fees charged by such Justice of the Peace in any one case shall not be greater than one dollar and fifty cents.

Any person who shall sell or dispose of a stray, or take the same out of the state before the title shall have vested in him shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall forfeit double the value of such stray, and be subject to a fine of twenty dollars.

Strays for the week ending Dec 10. Allen County—T. S. Stover, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by E. P. Faddis, Elm tp, November 1, 1879, one red steer about one year old, scar on left hip, white in the face and on the belly, some white on the left side, white spot on rump, left in hind. Valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up by G. L. Heil, Cottage Grove tp, one yearling steer, white face, some white on body, left in hind. Valued at \$12.

STEER—By the same, one red yearling steer, some white on the body and hip. Valued at \$12.

FOAL—Taken up by William Culbertson, Marmaton tp, one bay horse seven years old, 15 hands high, black legs, collar and saddle marks. Valued at \$8.

Anderson County—Jas. J. Houston, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by John B. Lemon, Rich tp, November 15, 1879, one red yearling steer with under half crop in right ear, no other marks or brands, valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up by Sylvester Davall, Rich tp, November 18, 1879, one pale red cow about 7 years old, some white in face and on the breast and flanks and bush of tail white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up by Simpson Lake, Reeder tp, November 10, 1879, one two year old steer, dark red with white stripe in face and across the shoulders, line back, white spot on the hips, brand L on the right hip and an unknown brand on the left hip, no other marks or brands, valued at \$20.

STEER—Also, one yearling steer, dark red with round head and neck, white spot on the top of shoulders and back, no other marks or brands, and valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up by Truman Lake, Reeder tp, November 10, 1879, one yearling steer, dark red, round around head and neck, white spot on top of shoulders, also on the back, valued at \$12.

GELDING COLT—Taken up by J. B. Tipton of Reeder tp, November 17, 1879, one bay gelding colt 2 years old, left hind foot white up to pastern joint, some white hair in forehead, no other marks or brands, valued at \$40.

MARE—Taken up by C. Wittcup of Putnam tp, November 1, 1879, one iron mare pony with white spot in forehead, no marks or brands.

HORSE—Taken up by C. A. Whitel of Indian Creek tp, November 4, 1879, one black horse, right hind foot and pastern joint white and a few white hairs on the left, star in forehead, 15 1/2 hands high and supposed to be four years old, no other marks or brands, valued at \$20.

MARE—Taken up by August Stahl of Rich tp, one 4 year old bay mare with white stripe on nose, star in forehead, 15 1/2 hands high and hind legs white half way to knees and with \$20.

COLT—Also, one two year old bay colt about 12 hands high star in forehead, left hind foot white and valued at \$25.

Shawnee County—J. Lee Knight, Clerk. STEER—Taken up November 12, 1879, by J. A. Groshong of Soldier tp, one red and white spotted yearling steer, marked with two numbers in right ear, branded on left hip with letter H. Valued at \$12.

HORSE—Taken up November 15, 1879, by B. W. Baird of Dover tp, one bay half pony horse 5 years old, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up November 7, 1879, by S. W. Groshong of Soldier tp, one red and white spotted two year old steer marked with two numbers in right ear and crop of left, broad well shaped horns and branded with letter S on left, valued at \$20.

STEER—Taken up November 17, 1879, by J. W. Coberly of Monmouth tp, one light roan steer, one year old past, valued at \$12.

ALLEY—Taken up November 21, 1879, by Noah Graves of Rossville tp, one bay alley two years old about 14 1/2 hands high with white spot in forehead, branded with letter N on left shoulder, no other marks or brands, valued at \$40.

Strays for the week ending December 3. Atchison County—Chas. H. Krebs, Clerk. PONY—Taken up by James Caughlin, Grasshopper tp, Kansas P. O., Nov. 1879, one bay horse pony, collar marks, few white hairs on forehead, both hind feet white across the heels, about 12 hands high, 10 years old, valued at \$20.

COLT—Taken up by Robert Hillier, Grasshopper tp, Muscotah P. O., Nov. 4, 1879, one bay horse colt, few white hairs on forehead, 3 years old. Valued at \$20.

COLT—Taken up by T. B. Tomlinson, Lancaster tp, Huron P. O., Nov. 11, 1879, one iron gray horse colt, right hind foot white, some white on left hind foot, dark mane and tail, about 2 years old. Valued at \$15.

MULE—Taken up by William Porter, Grasshopper tp, Muscotah P. O., Nov. 3, 1879, one black mare mule, 2 years old. Valued at \$20.

COLT—Taken up by H. A. Mewis, Grasshopper tp, Huron P. O., Nov. 10, 1879, one iron grey colt about 1 year old, valued at \$20.

STEER—Taken up by K. W. Ferguson of Star tp, Nov. 4, 1879, one light roan steer 3 years old, branded on left horn C 1 and branded on right hip not legible. Valued at \$12.

Crawford County—A. S. Johnson, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by Douglas Vance, Sherman tp, on or about the 1st of November, 1879, one dark roan steer, some red on the tip of the ears, no marks or brands. Valued at \$14.

Douglas County—B. F. Diggs, Clerk. HORSE—Taken up on November 3, 1879, by Edward Field of Jackson Iron grey horse, 2 years old, star in face. Valued at \$15.

Franklin County—Geo. D. Stinebaugh, Clerk. MARE—Taken up by M. T. Spaulding, Richmond tp, one bay mare, 16 1/2 hands high, right hip knocked down, 2 years old. Valued at \$25.

MARE—Taken up by Joseph Payne, Ottawa, October 23, one bay mare, 3 years old, 15 hands high. Valued at \$70.

Jackson County—J. G. Porterfield, Clerk. HORSE—Taken up by R. Guthrie, Cedar tp, October 9, one brown horse, both hind feet white, white strip in face, knees sprung in both fore legs and hipped in right hip, 14 1/2 hands high, 14 years old. Valued at \$15.

FILLY—Taken up by J. H. Campbell, Jefferson tp, Nov. 1, one black filly, white star in forehead, white spot on one of both hind feet white to about the pastern joint, no other marks nor brands visible, 2 years old. Valued at \$40.

MARE—Taken up by John G. Taylor, G. tp, Nov. 1, one bay filly, black mane, silver marked left, star in forehead, black legs, a small scar in front of and above the right hind fetlock, over 15 hands high, no other marks nor brands perceptible, 3 years old. Valued at \$20.

COLT—Taken up by Joseph Phillis, Grant tp, Nov. 2, one sorrel mare colt, white strip in face, left hind foot white, 2 years old. Valued at \$40.

COLT—Also one black yearling colt, white hairs in forehead and nostrils. Valued at \$25.

COLT—Also iron gray horse colt, white spot in forehead. Valued at \$25.

COLT—Also one light bay yearling horse, no marks. Valued at \$25.

COLT—Also one light bay yearling horse, 4 white feet, white spot on nose. Valued at \$25.

STEER—Taken up by Perry Yoakum of Douglas tp, Nov. 1, 1879, one dark red yearling steer, white under belly, bush of tail white, and white in the forehead, branded with letter H on left hip. Valued at \$12.50.

STEER—Taken up by Henry Breckinridge of Grant tp, Nov. 9, 1879, one red and white spotted yearling steer, white under belly, no other marks perceptible, three years old. Valued at \$20.

COW—Taken up by Anna B. Grob of Jefferson tp, Nov. 8, 1879, one red cow, white under belly, roan face, end of tail white, no ear marks or brands, 6 years old. Valued at \$12.50.

COW—Also, one large white cow, white under belly, white face, no ear marks or brands, 3 years old. Valued at \$12.50.

HORSE—Taken up Nov. 7, 1879, by Frank H. Chase of Douglas tp, one brown 7 year old horse, 16 hands high, old saddle marks on back. Valued at \$40.

MARE—Taken up Nov. 4, 1879, by Robert Page of Cedar tp, one bay mare, small star in forehead, fourteen and one-half hands high, the right eye weak, 2 years old. Valued at \$40.

MARE—Taken up by Charles Jackson of Soldier tp, Nov. 15, 1879, one sorrel filly, a white strip in the face, no other marks or brands, 2 years old. Valued at \$12.

FILLY—Taken up Nov. 3, 1879, by Leonard Johnson of Soldier tp, one light bay filly, star in forehead, both hind feet white up to the pastern joint, no other marks or brands visible, 3 years old. Valued at \$20.

Jewell County—W. M. Allen, Clerk. PONY—Taken up by Ezra Taylor of Vicksburg tp, Nov. 1, 1879, one roan horse pony about eleven or twelve years old, blue face, white feet, left hip branded with letter H. Valued at \$20.

Jefferson County—J. N. Insley, Clerk. COLT—Taken up by A. B. Ousebrier, Nov. 12, 1879, one dark iron grey two year old horse colt, right hind foot white, some white on left fore foot, height about 14 hands. Valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up by W. E. Miller, Nov. 4, 1879, one pale red yearling steer, marked with two numbers in right ear, white running down below right side, white spot on left side white belly and white stripe in forehead in form of letter T with an indistinguishable brand on left hip. Taken up in Osawatomie tp.

COW—Taken up by Wm. Tucker, Rural tp, Nov. 1, one red and white cow, 4 years old, marked with crop of left ear and underbit in the same.

CALF—Also a suckling heifer calf with the cow, of same color, but without ear-marks or brand on the forehead.

COLT—Taken up by Wm. R. Johnson, Rural tp, Nov. 7, one bay mare colt, 3 years old, marked with a little white on each hind foot.

STEER—Taken up by Eugene Hoeler, Delaware tp, Nov. 1, one white steer, 1 year old, silt in right ear. Valued at \$14.

Johnson County—J. Martin, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by S. C. Ashback, living 4 miles south of Monticello, one dark red yearling steer.

COW—Taken up by John Brady, living 2 miles southwest of Monticello, one pale red cow with white on belly, about 7 years old, valued at \$20. Taken up Oct. 8, 1879.

Kingman County—Charles Bickman, Clerk. HORSE—Taken up by John F. Goldsborough Vinita tp, one horse about 6 years old, bay color, about 14 hands high; saddle and harness marks, right hind foot and left fore foot white, no other marks or brands visible.

Leavenworth County—J. W. Niehaus, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by Chas. Bastian, Sherman tp, Nov. 7, one white yearling steer, crop from left ear.

HEIFER—Also one yearling heifer, red and white spotted, crop from left ear. Both strays valued at \$25.

Linn County—J. W. Flora, Clerk. HORSE—Taken up by J. J. McCormack, Potot tp, August 30, 1879, one dark iron grey horse, gelding, 14 1/2 hands high, lump on back, harness marks, right hind foot and left fore foot white, valued at \$15.

MULE—Taken up by Charles Japhet, Stanton tp, August 7, 1879, one light bay mare mule 5 or 6 years old. Valued at \$20.

MARE—Taken up by Wade Hampton, Liberty tp, October 8, 1879, one brown mare, star in forehead, white on the nose, both hind feet white, 3 years old. Valued at \$40.

MULE—Also, one brown mare mule, one year old. Valued at \$20.

MARE—Taken up by E. P. Vanaman, Potot tp, September 27, 1879, one dark bay mare, white spot in forehead, about 15 1/2 hands high, black mane and tail, 3 years old. Valued at \$20.

HEIFER—Taken up by B. F. Gibbs, Blue Mound tp, November 11, 1879, one pale red heifer, some white spots, white on belly, white half crop of tail, white on the underside of the right ear, one year old. Valued at \$12.

COW—Taken up by E. C. Kenison, Mount City tp, November 17, 1879, one red and white cow, end of tail cut, both ears marked, 12 years old. Valued at \$12.

COW—Also, one red and white cow, star in forehead, 7 yrs old. Valued at \$15.

COW—Taken up by G. L. Williamson, Liberty tp, November 14, 1879, one bright red cow, some white back of fore legs, crop of left ear, horn bored twice, 6 or 7 years old. Valued at \$15.

COW—Also, one dark red cow, white belly, tail and feet star in forehead, small fork in right ear, the other ear star in forehead, 8 or 9 years old. Valued at \$18.

FILLY—Taken up by S. Mackey, Valley tp, November 17, 1879, one chestnut sorrel filly, black mane and tail, white spot in forehead and end of nose, 3 years old. Valued at \$20.

COW—Taken up by Isaac Pocompre, Valley tp, November 15, 1879, one deep red cow, bush of tail off, branded P on right shoulder and J on right hip, smooth white horns, 6 years old. Valued at \$25.

STEER—Taken up by W. E. McIntire, Stanton tp, November 6, 1879, one white mottled steer, bluish neck, head and ears, 1 year old. Valued at \$12.

HEIFER—Taken up by Thomas Lane, Centerville tp, November 1, 1879, one red and white heifer, 2 years old. Valued at \$14.

STEER—Taken up by Thomas Hardenbrook, Centerville tp, one 2 year old red steer, a little white on belly, branded on right hip not distinguishable. Valued at \$15.

Labette County—L. C. Howard, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by Lewis Dyer, Neosho tp, November 4, 1879, one large red and white spotted steer, 2 years old last spring, under bit on both ears, crop of the right ear. Valued at \$20.

Miami County—B. J. Sheridan, Clerk. MARE—Taken up by Milor Baxted, Sugar Creek tp, one dark iron grey mare, about 5 or 6 years old, gilt mark on right side with rope, about 15 hands high, white spots in forehead, white spot behind left ear, white spot on bridge of neck from collar mark, had on a piece of old left side, weight from 900 to 950. Valued at \$20.

MARE—Taken up by T. W. Dickson, one dark bay mare, a little white on right hind foot, small star in forehead, saddle and harness marks, right hind foot and left fore foot all around. Valued at \$40.

MARE—Taken up by Ruth Nichols, Middle Creek tp, Sept. 13, one dark brown mare, 2 years old, white marks in forehead, no other marks nor brands.

MULE—Taken up by Wm. Houghton, Paola tp, one brown mare mule, mainly nose, age 3 years, no marks nor brands perceptible. Valued at \$25.

Neosho County—C. F. Stauber, Clerk. PONY—Taken up by P. Conehan of Chetopa tp, Neosho county, one bay horse pony, about 13 1/2 hands high, about 8 years old, left hind foot white, few white hairs over left nostril, collar marks on withers, shod all round and branded on left and right hip knocked down. Valued at \$15.

COLT—Taken up by Sarah Paddo, Chetopa tp, one sorrel mare colt, about 14 hands high, two years old, left hind foot white, large spot in forehead. Valued at \$20.

Nemaha County—Joshua Mitchell, Clerk. MARE—Taken up by D. C. Hagar, Wetmore Village, Wetmore tp, one sorrel mare, from 12 to 16 years old, some white in forehead, white spot behind left ear, white spot on bridge of neck from collar mark, had on a piece of old left side, weight from 900 to 950. Valued at \$20.

MARE—Also one bay mare from 10 to 12 years old, small white strip on nose, small white spot in forehead, some white hair on right hind leg, rear grained, at though done by a picket rope, had on a head halter with strap hanging down, weight from 900 to 950 pounds. Valued at \$40. The above animals were taken up Oct. 26, 1879.

Biley County—W. Bargoynne, Clerk. HORSE—Taken up by A. J. Carpenter, Madson tp, Oct. 27, 1879, one chestnut sorrel horse, about 8 years old, hind legs white, one white fore leg, white stripe in face six inches long, saddle marks on back, and shoes on fore feet, leather halter on. Valued at \$60.

MORSE—Also, one light chestnut sorrel horse 10 years old, both hind legs white, one white fore leg, white stripe in face, no other marks or brands. Valued at \$40.

COLT—Taken up by Samuel McNeese, Ogden tp, Oct. 29, 1879, one cow and heifer calf, color of cow red and white spotted, no marks or brands; color of calf dark red. Valued at \$25.

HEIFER—Taken up November 3, 1879, by August Cyren, Jackson tp, one steer, 1 year old, white. Valued at \$15.

HORSE—Taken up November 4, 1879, in Jackson tp, by Charles T. Lueddgen, one unbroken horse, 4 years old, bay color, has a dim brand on left shoulder resembling letter M or N. Valued at \$40.

STEER—Also taken up same date by same person, one red and white spotted steer, 1 year old. Valued at \$15.

Russell County—J. A. Poff, Clerk. PONY—Taken up by Thomas Weavelling, Center tp, November 7, 1879, one mouse colored yearling, one white hind foot, star in forehead; no brands. Valued at \$25.

Shawnee County—J. Lee Knight, Clerk. MARE—Taken up by David C. Sarver, Dover tp, November 10, 1879, one sorrel mare, 15 1/2 hands high, hind feet white, dark mane and tail, star in forehead, white stripe on

end of nose, four years old. Valued at \$20.

MULE—Taken up by Thomas Jones, of Dover tp, Nov. 17, 1879, one bright bay horse mule, 12 1/2 hands high, one year old. Valued at \$25.

COW—Taken up by D. H. Thomas of Tecumseh tp, Nov. 1, 1879, one light straw colored roan cow, about three years old, medium size. Valued at \$18.

PONY—Taken up by Samuel Y. Roberts, of Tecumseh tp, Nov. 3, 1879, one bright bay horse pony, about three years old, star in forehead, little white on right fore foot, also the white on left hind foot, about 12 hands high. Valued at \$20.

COW—Taken up by R. J. Hubbard, of Monmouth tp, Nov. 4, 1879, one cow, mostly red, with some white on legs, and under part of body, supposed to be five years old, branded on right horn with the letters "E. A. C." Valued at \$20.

COW—Taken up by Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller, of Mission tp, Nov. 3, 1879, one red cow, with some white spots in forehead, and white spot on each flank, seven years old. Valued at \$20.

COW—Taken up by J. W. Smith, of Silver Lake tp, Nov. 7, 1879, one dark red cow 2 years old, white legs, and star in face, no marks or brands, with calf about six months old, red and white spotted. Valued at \$25.

COLT—Taken up by Wm. H. Sheldon, of Silver Lake tp, Nov. 7, 1879, one black gelding colt two years old, white star in face. Valued at \$20.

HEIFER—Taken up by Mary Conaghan of Silver Lake tp, Nov. 10, 1879, one heifer two years old, red with white spots. Valued at \$15.

PONY—Taken up Nov. 3, 1879, by David Bartram, Soldier tp, one bay horse pony 9 years old, star in forehead, white on left hind right hind foot, branded on left side with letter S inside figure, and figure 7 on left hind part of hip letter S on left hip, and letters A T 6 C on the right side. Valued at \$20.

COLT—Also, one roan mare colt, a white star in forehead, and a small blaze in the face, hind foot white and some white on left fore foot; no other marks perceptible. Valued at \$20.

MARE—Taken up Nov. 1, 1879, by H. H. Wallace of Mission tp, one roan mare 3 years old, about 13 hand high; no other marks or brands visible. Valued at \$25.

PONY—Also, one roan horse pony 4 years old, white face and hind legs white; no other marks or brands visible. Valued at \$20.

PONY—Also, one small gray horse pony 4 years old. Valued at \$20.

HEIFER—Taken up November 8, 1879, by W. R. Kuykendall of Mission tp, one light roan heifer, two years old, with both tail, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

COLT—Taken up November 10, 1879, by Martin Brown of Williamsport tp, one two year old horse colt, light bay, medium size, no marks or brands. Valued at \$20.

MARE—Taken up November 12, 1879, by J. C. Purl, Williamsport tp, one two year old iron grey mare, mane and tail nearly black, white nose, right hind foot and leg white half way to hock, half the upper eye lash of right eye torn off, about 14 1/2 hands high. Valued at \$30.

Summer County—S. B. Douglas, Clerk. MARE—Taken up by W. A. Burford, Belle Plaine tp, October 3, 1879, one iron gray mare colt. Valued at \$15.

MULE—Taken up by W. A. Burford, Belle Plaine tp, October 3, 1879, one dark brown mule, two years old. Valued at \$15.

Trego County—Geo. Pinkham, Clerk. HORSE—Taken up by Hugh Caskey, Ogallah tp, Oct. 28, 1879, one light brown horse, about 8 years old, five feet high dim brand on left shoulder, looks like an 8, dim brand on left fore leg below knee, white spot in forehead. Valued at \$50.

Wabassone County—T. N. Watts, Clerk. MULE—Taken up by Owen Strick, Mission Creek tp, on Oct. 17, 1879, one light iron gray mare mule, 13 1/2 hands high, branded T on left shoulder, supposed to be four years old. Valued at \$20.

MULE—Also, by the same at the same time, one cream colored mare mule, 13 1/2 hands high, branded T on left shoulder, supposed to be four years old. Valued at \$20.

MARE—Taken up by E. K. Krapp, Farmer tp, Nov. 1, 1879, one clay bank gelding male, branded W on right shoulder. Valued at \$20.

PONY—Also, one bay mare pony, star in forehead, branded M (W inverted) on the right shoulder. Valued at \$35.

Woodson County—I. H. Holloway, Clerk. STEER—Taken up by James Finch, Neosho Falls tp, Oct. 28, 1879, one red and white steer, one year old; no marks or brands. Valued at \$12.

STEER—Taken up by Eli Boyer of Perry tp, November 18, 1879, one light roan steer, marked with an underbit in each ear. Valued at \$15.

FILLY—Taken up by John L. Green of Center tp, November 18, 1879, one red and white filly, 3 years old, with an underbit in each ear, valued at \$15.

STEER—Taken up by John L. Green of Center tp, November 18, 1879, one red and white steer, marked with an underbit in each ear, valued at \$15.

THE BEST OF ALL LINIMENTS FOR MAN OR BEAST.

When a medicine has infallibly done what you want, it is a medicine for more than a third of a century; when it has reached every part of the world; when numerous families everywhere consider it the only safe reliance in case of pain or accident, it is pretty sure to call such a medicine

THE BEST OF ITS KIND.

Farm Letters.

Rock, Cowley Co.—The people of our county have every reason to be proud and thankful for their present prosperous condition and bright future prospects.

The fall season has been very favorable to the sowing and rolling of wheat, an unusually large acreage being seeded, which could not possibly look more promising.

This county is entering upon a new era—the advent of railroads—which has caused quite an impetus in stock raising, and real estate has advanced rapidly in price and is still on an upward tendency.

This county now contains several large flocks of sheep, and new parties are entering the field of sheep husbandry. The business, so far, has been lucrative, our county being especially adapted to the business of stock-raising.

The Cowley, Sumner & Ft. Smith railroad is now in operation from Newton to Winfield, a distance of sixty-five miles, and is to be completed to the line of the Indian Territory in the next few weeks.

WALNUT CITY, Rush Co., Nov. 24.—The recent rains have been very favorable to all people here—merchants as well as farmers.

It is reported here that some of the cattle have the black-leg. One of my neighbors lost two and another three young cattle.

It is to be hoped that the consolidating of the railroads of this state will be of some benefit to this valley, as it is certain that one of the roads north or south of us, must control the trade of this beautiful valley in the near future.

WILSON, Russell Co., Nov. 29.—The late rains have moistened the ground and started the wheat drill with many of our farmers who were compelled to stop the preparation for sowing wheat, on account of dry weather.

I received the third quarterly report of the state board of agriculture, which is full of very interesting information for the Kansas farmers. Kansas may truly boast of the best agricultural reports issued in the United States.

Most of the farmers are prepared for cold weather. Teams may be seen every day hauling coal from the mines, some coming twenty and thirty miles from places remote from railroads and coal mines.

Russian immigration is lively this fall, most of them coming with plenty of money. Stock is healthy and people ditto.

HAYS CITY, Ellis Co., Dec. 1.—Your ever welcome paper makes its regular appearance, and is read and appreciated by the different members of the family.

There are about fifteen thousand acres of wheat sown in the county; not as much as there would have been had it not been so dry that the ground could not be plowed.

The oat and barley crop has not been very successful as yet, and this year was almost a failure.

The corn crop this year was not heavy but was of good quality. It has heretofore been nearly ruined by worms that have eaten the silk from the end of the ear, and prevented the ear from being well filled.

Insect-eating birds are increasing and I noticed the cornfields were alive with them this summer.

SHIBBOLETH, Decatur Co. Nov. 23.—According to promise I will give a small sketch of north-western Kansas. The early sown wheat looks well, but late wheat is not very good on account of dry weather.

There was a large acreage of wheat sown in this county this fall. Hardly a farmer has less than ten acres in wheat.

DANIEL BOUGHMAN.

LINCOLN, Dickinson Co. Dec. 1.—We had very poor crops this year owing to drought and chinch bugs. Fall wheat yielded from 3 to 15 bushels per acre; spring, from 3 to 6; corn, from 20 to 45.

I planted a grove of cottonwoods last spring of 9,500, and I do not think I lost 100. They grown from 6 to 10 feet high this summer.

[Your letter is full of interest and not too long. Ed.]

CONCORDIA, Cloud Co. Dec. 3.—We have a good corn crop, averaging forty bushels per acre. Wheat, very poor crop; potatoes, one-half crop; rye, two-thirds crop.

Corn is selling at 20c; wheat, 60c to 80c; rye, 50c; potatoes, 50c to 75c.

I see a letter written by Sam'l Stoner, and published in the FARMER. He has invented a new cattle-rack. Mr. Stoner, fire away, and give us the benefit of your invention.

STAFFORD, Stafford Co., Dec. 2.—Stafford, likely her sister counties, has suffered severely by drouth the past season. Wheat was almost an entire failure; hundreds of acres were not harvested, and as the farmers strained every nerve to put in as many acres as possible, they have felt the loss severely, but are not discouraged.

I like your paper. It is just what farmers need. Will try to get as many subscribers for it as I can.

GRANGE, Ellsworth Co., Nov. 30.—Thus far we have had a remarkably pleasant fall, even for Kansas. Our first frost was Oct. 22d; our first snow, one-half inch, was Nov. 27th.

The old Powers' ranch is rapidly being converted into a first-class stock farm. It is owned by the Messrs. Millets. This fall they have built a large and elegant house, are fencing about five hundred acres, and building sheds for their extensive herd of thoroughbred and grade cattle.

Stock of all kinds is healthy. Wheat is nearly all sold. Nurserymen have sold more fruit trees in this county than ever before.

NICODEMUS, Graham Co., Dec. 2nd.—As this is a very new county, not organized yet, consequently we all feel hard up. We have not raised any crop but sod corn; it was very fair. There has a good deal of wheat been sown for so young a place. It looks well.

SHIBBOLETH, Decatur Co. Nov. 23.—According to promise I will give a small sketch of north-western Kansas. The early sown wheat looks well, but late wheat is not very good on account of dry weather.

These sheep are sold on account of the poor health of the owner. They are coarse woolled sheep crossed with full blooded Merino and Cotswold. Sheep ranch 12 miles northwest of Topeka.

[Answer to our correspondent's queries: Strays taken up in unorganized counties must

be advertised the same as in counties that are organized. Send the notice to county clerk, "under whose jurisdiction" you are.

GRANGE, Pottawatomie Co. Nov. 23.—We are having wet weather for some time past, and fall grain is entering winter in excellent condition.

It feels like a ball of fire rolling up and down the chest, a common expression among sufferers from indigestion. Then use Tarrant's Seltzer Aperient.

Advertisements.



The Purest and Best Medicine ever made. A combination of Hops, Racks, Mandrakes, and Sassafras, with all the best and most curative properties of all the roots and herbs ever used.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

Advertisement for Tarrant's Seltzer Aperient, describing its benefits for various ailments like indigestion, headache, and general weakness.

60 new styles chromo and floral cards in case 10c. 80 agents' samples 10c; Stevens Bros, Northford, Ct.

STAYED. A large, fat, white milch cow, with red nose, ears and three red feet. Please deliver or leave word at No. 83, 10th Ave., Topeka.

PHOTOGRAPH VISITING CARDS. Send 10c for circular and 80 samples. Seavy Bros, Northford, Ct.

\$25 REWARD. Strayed or stolen from the pasture, June 18th, one chestnut sorrel horse, about 15 1/2 hands high, has brand on left hip, the letter (Z) rather dim, mane and tail rather heavy but not long.

Advertisement for a hand-cranked sawing machine, highlighting its ease of use and portability.

Our latest improved sawing machine cuts off a 2-foot log in 2 minutes. A \$100 PRESENT will be given to two men who can saw as much in the old way, as one man can with this machine.

CAUTION.—We are stopping all infringements upon our patents, and have sued W. W. Bestwick and Farmers' Manufacturing Co., for making machines like ours.

4,000 Sheep for Sale. These sheep are sold on account of the poor health of the owner. They are coarse woolled sheep crossed with full blooded Merino and Cotswold.

Answer to our correspondent's queries: Strays taken up in unorganized counties must be advertised the same as in counties that are organized.

Advertisement for THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, a weekly paper for young people, featuring serialized stories, current events, and practical advice.

Advertisement for THE COOLEY CREAMER, highlighting its quality and the success of its butter in various exhibitions.

Advertisement for WATCHES! CLOCKS! JEWELRY! SILVER-PLATED WARE!! from JAMES DOUGLASS.

Advertisement for Victor Standard Scales, emphasizing their accuracy and durability.

Advertisement for Beautiful Indian Territory, describing the scenic beauty and agricultural potential of the region.

Advertisement for TOPEKA Carbonated Stone and Pipe Works, listing various products like pavements, cements, and chimneys.

Advertisement for a wanted individual, offering a reward for information leading to their recovery.

Advertisement for THE Weekly Capital, The Dollar Family Newspaper, published at Topeka, Kansas, with a subscription offer.