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THE KANSAS FARMER.

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Topeka, Kansas.

Butter and Cheese.

In the last year, spent in part among the stock growers, and butter and cheese makers in Kansas, I have learned of some people; facts that may be of use to others. There are some men who have become rich, by letting stock grow upon the prairies; and yet, three-fourths of the farmers cannot now and never could afford to allow the loss, by feed wasted, cattle lost by exposure to storms, and last but not least, making no use of milk but to raise the calves. Most men want to make all they can from what they own, and the experience of some of our most successful stock raisers, proves that it is more profitable to feed calves than to let them run with the cows. I find that the largest and best wintered yearlings were hand raised calves. It is said that a calf needs all the milk that its mother gives, but any one knows that the oil or butter taken from milk in the form of cream is but a small part of its nutriment, and is easily replaced by something of much less money value. Some of the best cattle men tell me that they can show the largest yearlings and beef cattle grown from calves that they early taught to eat other food than milk.

Many say, "It is of no use to make butter, we can't get anything for it." If the dairy business is profitable any where, it ought to be in Kansas, in close communication with the best markets in the world. The southern—the hardest of all to supply, because butter must be of the best, in keeping qualities, in order to reach consumers in eatable condition. And the western market, where large quantities of butter and cheese are called for; the mountain mining districts are to have a large population, which must be fed from the products of Kansas and Nebraska, adjoining; or from some where else. I know of parties in this state who have for the last two years, received net, thirty cents per pound for butter sent to grocery men in Colorado.

But we can't make good butter in Kansas, in hot weather. Even the best of cellars and milk houses do not exclude the hot winds and dust. So say our best butter makers; and true it is that for six of the best months for the dairyman, but little solid butter is made.

Now I want to give a few well proved facts, and at the same time answer some of the questions, repeatedly asked by those who are seeking the best ways to make money from their cows. There are in this state many cheese factories; milk is delivered to the factory but once a day, the night's milking being skimmed and mixed with the morning's milk. Some of the best cheese makers prefer to have a part of the cream taken off provided the milk can be kept fresh and sweet. By using the Cooley process for setting the night's milk, this can be done, and nearly as much and just as good cheese made, and the person owning the cows has the cream from one-half his milk for butter, leaving the milk perfectly fresh. In using the Cooley creamer, the milk as soon as drawn from the cows, is entirely submerged in water, so that no condition of weather can have any effect upon it, and no change takes place in either milk or cream, except their separation, while the milk can remain under the water, and a proper handling of the cream, gives solid butter, that can be packed and kept or sent to any market. Other advantages in favor of this creamer are, its cheapness as a milk house, the great saving of labor in handling the milk, the increased quantity of butter one can make, by always securing all the cream there is in the milk; and to the stock raiser, the more than doubled value of sweet skim milk over sour milk for feeding. While ice or flowing water is preferable for using it, with well and common pump, better results can be obtained than by any other system of handling milk.

I am not alone in the belief that in Eastern and Central Kansas the farmers will generally, as now in many sections and counties, turn their attention largely to dairying, and that the time will soon come, when wild ranges and prairie hay, will give place to blue grass pastures, and timothy and clover for winter feed, and yet I have never seen better cheese and butter, than that made at one of our Kansas factories, and on a few Kansas farms.

There are several patent humbugs called churns peddled through the country, and sold under a warrant to give wonderful results. If people would take the trouble to read the advertisements of reputable dealers in dairy

utensils, or notice what articles are used by dairymen of note, who give the results of their experiments in our agricultural papers, they could soon save enough money to take the KANSAS FARMER for a life time.

I append to this already long article, an extract from an address of Hon. Hiram Smith, of Wisconsin, (one of the best dairymen in the United States,) to the Wisconsin Dairymen's Association. Certainly our people would get large returns for a little money spent in improved dairy appliances and can give to the production of butter that they need not sell for six or ten cents per pound. J. H. S.

MAKING BUTTER IN WISCONSIN.

My method of making butter, in brief, is as follows: As soon as convenient after milking commences, the butter maker begins to carry milk into the butter room, and strains into Cooley cans, and immediately submerges them in tanks, in which water is running, and as soon as the milk becomes as cold as the water, the water pipe is removed and sufficient ice is added to reduce the temperature to 45 degrees. This tank is then closed until just before the next milking, when the can is taken out and the milk drawn off and the cream added to a previous supply of cream, and the milk can refilled and submerged again. In other words, the cream taken from Monday night's skimming should be added to Tuesday morning's skimming, and the whole cream thoroughly stirred; and in cool weather, the temperature raised to 62 degrees, and kept in about the same condition until Wednesday morning. By this time the cream has ripened and become slightly thickened, with a little acid perceptible. When it is in right condition to churn, the temperature should be, when churning, 60 degrees in warm weather, and 62 degrees in cold weather. Coloring matter added just before churning. Practice will determine the amount, as it will depend on the season and on the kind of feed used. The churn should be one that agitates the cream uniformly, so that the butter will all come at the same time, which can be more simply done by a revolving churn—the "Rectangular," or "Square Box" (I use the Rectangular) with no useless impediment inside. As soon as the cream breaks into small pellets of butter, the size of wheat kernels, the churning proper is done; add a pail or two of cold brine then make a few revolutions of the churn, draw off the buttermilk and add brine to wash off the buttermilk, when allowed to drain a few minutes add salt, one ounce to the pound of butter, make a few revolutions of the churn and the butter comes together, free from buttermilk, and evenly salted. It is then taken out of the churn and placed on a level butter worker, slightly worked, and then covered with a cloth and allowed to stand three or four hours, when it is re-worked just sufficient to pack nicely, which should always be done before it becomes hard with the cold, or soft with the heat, and the package kept in a cool place until the butter is eaten or sold. Good healthy milk treated as above, will in all cases produce first-class butter irrespective of the weather, good to eat when new, and will keep the best of any method of which I am acquainted.

A Very Radical Reformer.

I was pleased with your reply to the farmers' club that wanted to get their papers free of cost, and I wish to add that no people or class can ever achieve success or command respect so long as they persist in holding out the hand of a pauper. I hold the mendicant's hat in utter contempt, and consider the beggar a twin brother of the communist. The individual, the class, the community, the nation, that is eternally whining to get something for nothing, and always looking for help from some one to carry their burdens, without any idea of rendering a just equivalent or fair compensation, are not of the kind of material to conquer success, to make prosperous communities of, or to people a great and powerful country with. They are of the same pedigree that flows in the blood of the Lazzaroni of Italy, the alms-takers of Ireland, the work-house-men of England, and the migratory tramps of America. They are all universal shirkers and breeders of every form of dishonesty and vice. They are all affected with a moral disease that is fearfully contagious, and that should be stamped out with as much vigor as pleuro pneumonia.

I know that the above is severe on a few good people who have yielded to the silent forces that are insidiously working through all classes of society, sapping the very foundations of American character; a moral leprosy that seems to pervade all classes, and is continually cropping out where least—it ought to be. Even

our church cannot exist without its host of beggars who continually take as a tender no equivalent in the relief of widows and orphans, of the helpless sick, or aged poor, only a higher steeple, a Brussels carpet, or velvet cushioned pews.

A large number of homes, to-day, are only asylums where paupers are raised; sons and daughters are reared to manhood and womanhood with no idea of life but to draw on the "old man" for what he can give. The mother toils a drudge in the kitchen, and wears the commonest clothes, that the daughter's dainty white hands and rich plumage shall mark her as of "fast trotting stock, with no dray-horse blood in her veins." The father toils early and late, through heat and cold, to find food and raiment, meerschaum pipes and cigars, to a man-grown baby son, who attends a high school qualifying himself to be a "What is it?" Such children grow up with hearts filled with selfishness, always asking what others can be made to do for themselves, and never what they might do in return.

The idea of getting something for nothing seems to take root and grow with wonderful vigor in ever part of this gloriously free country. Every man who with hard working industry and prudent economy makes an appearance of prosperity, is assailed at every turn, not only by the squalid poverty of indolence and vice, but by the sweet voice and jeweled hand of lovely women, who want something for their crowd that their crowd don't want to pay for. It is high time that they all were met with proper spirit and treated as mendicants, and a sign nailed out like the old fruit-grower's who was much pestered by his many city cousins, "Everything to sell but nothing to give."

Now the moral of the above is that a spring cannot furnish an outflow greater than its inflow, and where one gets for nothing another must surely pay double, and an editor who gives chronos must give less news, and an editor who has a large free list must impoverish his paid list, and give those who do pay less value than he otherwise could. And, friend Editor, perhaps I am an exception to the rule, but it grieves me much to see the price of the KANSAS FARMER continuously being reduced, in fact I had much rather see it up to four dollars with four dollars' worth in it, than to see the price down to fifty cents, and know as I do of several farm papers that are subsidized and run in the exclusive interest of some agricultural machine manufacturers.

No wonder that farmers' interests are dragging in the dirt at the tail end of the great procession of progress, when they are willing to be satisfied with the crumbs and pennies that other and sharper professions toss them at the wayside. Every other profession and trade has its publications well edited and well supported, devoted to the exclusive interest to which they are attached. They bring forward every new discovery and invention, and fight for their side against the encroachments and trespasses of every other interest. And how do the professions, trades and commerce support their papers? Let us see: *The Scientific American*, for inventors, \$4; *Railway Age*, \$4; *Journal of Commerce*, \$4; medical and law papers, any number at \$4 per annum each; the *Rod and Gun*, and the *Field and Stream*, devoted to hunting and fishing, each \$4 per annum. And yet a good farm paper is expected at \$1.50 with a chromo thrown in, and the country is full of agricultural hash and rehash, cold victuals warmed over, at fifty cents a year to subscribers, and a premium of a tin pan, a jack-knife, and a pair of scales. Out upon such nonsense! Go to the printer to buy a paper, to the hardware store for the other truck, and let the farmer consider that the same laws of trade govern the printer that does the tailor—fifty cents buys a pair of overalls, five dollars a pair of French cassimere pants, fifty cents gets fifty cents' worth and no more.

The farmers of a great state like Kansas should have a first-class home paper devoted exclusively to their interest, with the best talent and brains at the head of every department, that money can buy, and no advertisement should be presented in it (except short business cards of interest to farmers). It should be free from the influence of every other interest, so as to be able at all times to speak the plain, square truth, without the fear of the loss of a favor or a cent, and every department—stock, fruit and grain, should have a man for each, especially qualified by rare talents, brain power, education and experience, to investigate and seek out truthful information and actual facts; to gather together the substance of all knowledge—the facts, and place them together, in the order of their relation to each other, and make a useful

science of what is now a jumble of confused contradictions. And in addition there should be a legislative department, presided over by one of the shrewdest and sharpest men in the state, who should look after all legislative action in any manner affecting the interest of the Kansas farmer in any part of the state, one sharp enough to know when corporate money is tickling representatives' hands, one capable of instructing and directing the farmers in their legislative rights and how and where to get them.

To get the best efforts of such men, takes money, and one dollar a year will not buy it. Information and knowledge are not to be measured in bulk like cord-wood, but are valuable in proportion to their usefulness and rarity; and when farmers wake up to the fact, and are willing to pay a good price for a good paper, then will farming as a profession step forward in the ranks of the world where it belongs, and be accorded the first place. E. A. PECK. Sycamore, Illinois.

A Plan for Detecting Stolen Horses.

It seems to me that now, when the farming community is agitated in devising safeguards against horse thieves, is a good time to present a plan I have long had in my mind, by which, at a very trifling cost, a horse from any part of the state can be located at a glance. The plan is as follows:

Let the school districts organize into societies, with the sheriff of the county as central chairman. Now in order to know where any horse may belong that is in question, there must be a mark or brand on the horse, and the following method will be found to simplify the matter, while it will be absolutely infallible. In the possession of each member of the society, a card after the following diagram will be placed:

a.	b.	c.
a. Doniphan	a. Jackson	a. Sumner
b. Atchison	b. Shawnee	b. Cowley
c. Jefferson	c. Osage	c. Wabasha
d. Wyandotte	d. Butler	d. Edwards
e. Johnson	e. Franklin	e. Ottawa
f. Miami	f. Harper	f. Lincoln
g. Linn	g. Kingman	g. Cloud
h. etc.	h. etc.	h. etc.

Now the three columns of twenty-six letters will give eighty-eight counties, and, if necessary, we can add two other columns. In putting on the brand the first letter indicates the column, and the second the name of the county. For instance, the brand a. a. would at once locate the horse in Doniphan county, while a. b. would be Atchison, b. a. Jackson, and b. b. Shawnee county, so that any one in possession of the tablet or card, could tell by the brand in what county any horse belonged. Then let each county organization have their school districts tabulated in the same manner, and you see how easy it is to trace a horse. For instance, I see a horse here marked d. c. I communicate to the sheriff of Lincoln county, and he refers to his school district tablet and communicates with the district. Each district, of course, would have some letter, figure, or mark, to come after the county brand, so that the three letters or figures would be all that would be necessary to trace to the school district or township.

If a general organization throughout the state would be brought about and this plan adopted, I think a great many horse thieves would come to grief. A brand on the hoof would probably be the best, as it would in no wise disfigure the animal. N. MILLIKEN. Topeka, Kansas.

Timber Culture.

ED. FARMER: Mr. Bishir, of Hutchinson, in your issue of the 24th ult., takes exceptions to some things found in my article on forestry, which you published on the 10th ult. The first seems to set up the experiments of S. T. Kelsey, as conducted for the A. T. & S. F. railroad, as a school in forestry. While I would not undervalue these experiments, allow me to say they are not such a school as I had in my mind when writing the words he quotes. Schools of forestry have been in operation in Europe more than a hundred years, with increasing usefulness. Let us have one or more such institutions out here on the plains, when a wide range of knowledge would be carefully gathered by experiment and otherwise, relating to everything the soil produces, especially trees, which we so much need. After such an institution had been in operation a few years, Mr. Bishir and myself need not differ about the distance apart to plant our trees, as we now do—we would have authority on the subject. He now guesses that it is best in all cases to plant each sort by itself, and I guess it may do

in certain cases to intersperse the slow growers for a second crop with the rapid growers. A proper experimental school would soon determine for all which way was best.

Again, Mr. Bishir objects to my advice as to timber and climate, and thinks the way I recommend would not comply with the timber culture law. He should first carefully read that law before he undertakes to expound it through so powerful a medium as the KANSAS FARMER. It requires a certain number of trees to the acre, and does not prescribe their distance apart nor their location, therefore I must still maintain that "four rows around a quarter section twelve feet apart will cover the necessary ten acres," (to be planted on a timber claim), and that "sixteen inches apart in the row will give the necessary number of trees." I choose twelve feet apart for my rows on account of the ease, rapidity and efficiency of culture at this distance, which may be chiefly done with a span of horses and an ordinary plow turning a light, thin furrow, and completely turning under, occasionally, all weeds that may appear. This, virtually, is the summer fallowing of the east that puts the ground in such excellent condition for winter wheat. This course is found to be equally efficient in promoting the growth of trees; less room would require some other and I think less efficient mode of culture.

And lastly, Mr. Bishir objects to my discarding the white willow. Few men have done more than myself to introduce and disseminate this tree, a work of which I feel proud, for when it succeeds it has no equal for making a quick and efficient windbreak, but the statements in my article in question, are for the 99th meridian of west longitude, where this willow does not succeed. Mr. Bishir is about 1° 24' further east, and I am glad to hear it does so well there. This information will induce me to keep it on trial, with the hope that time may work changes in its favor.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, allow me to thank you for your hearty endorsement of my article without being asked even to publish it; this you may print in its defense. And, with your permission, I would like to admonish Mr. Bishir to be more careful about his indiscriminate recommendation of the Lombardy poplar, and his endorsement of the white willow up to or past the 100th meridian. MARTIN ALLEN. Hays City, Kansas.

Protecting Apple Trees Against Rabbits.

ED. FARMER: I herewith give your readers a perfect protection for apple, pear, and other fruit trees, against their worst enemy, the rabbit. I have an apple orchard of 2,500 trees, so had too many to protect by wrapping. I tried about everything I ever heard of, and many new things. I tried the much recommended blood, grease, liver, meat, etc., but in a bad season such things would only keep them off about a week, when the thing had to be done over, let the weather be what it might. I lost hundreds of trees and a great amount of patience. I then thought I could put on something poisonous, which would kill them if they ate it. I made a mixture of various things and put in arsenic. This did very well, but would not stay on the tree more than one winter. It finally occurred to me that common white lead and oil paint would be both poisonous and durable. I tried it, about six years ago, and have not lost a tree by rabbits since. If well applied, it is a perfect protection. If the trees are very small it should be applied as often as it becomes much spread by the growth of the tree, say once in one or two years; but as the trees get a little larger, once in two or three years is often enough. It is now three years since I made my last application, and no damage done.

One year since I commenced using paint, the rabbits were so thick that they entirely ruined my blackberry patch (one-half acre) lying contiguous to my apple orchard, yet they did not meddle with the latter. After they had destroyed the berry patch, I put out a few pieces of sweet apple with a little strychnine in them, and went out the next morning to see the result. I gathered twenty-five dead rabbits from a few rods of ground.

Some might fear that the paint would injure the trees, but it will not. On the contrary, it is a great benefit. It protects from sun-scald, and to some extent from borers. I have tried it on thousands of trees. I know it is safe and sure. It may be applied at any time. J. L. COWELL. Grand Haven, Kansas.

Plow Shoes at Skinner's, "212."

Farm Stock.

Diseased Sheep.

A communication from W. I. Walters, published in the FARMER, states that all sheep in Lyon county were doing well, but acknowledges that he is young in the business. I having had about thirty-five years experience in sheep, have never yet learned that it was necessary to wash or dip healthy sheep in tobacco juice. Now I do not believe that if a flock of sheep are all right there is any necessity for it, nor any necessity of a sheep being lame that is free and clear from the foot rot. And I would inquire why it is that there is so many sheep in this part of the country dipped, if they are all right? I have seen the ravages of the disease called 'scab' among sheep, know that it can be checked, and kept back by using tobacco and other remedies, and that the disease is very contagious. I knew one man that got rid of his flock in the month of June in consequence of disease, in the state of New York, purchasing again the last of October and kept his late purchase upon the same premises. About the first of May the disease began to show upon the new flock. I have known sheep by being driven over the road two or three weeks after a flock of foot rot sheep had been driven along, to take that disease. I have long been satisfied that sheep are most profitable stock that a farmer can keep, but when they become diseased with any of these contagious diseases, the sooner disposed of and got out of the way and a healthy flock in their place, the better for the owner. I located here with the expectation of keeping sheep, but while I see the ravages of the above named disease trifled with, I have no anxiety to own or have many sheep in this section at present. Mr. Walters gave a recipe for the scours that I gave him something over one year ago. This is flour boiled in a bag and give the water to drink. This must be used with care, especially with young lambs, giving a little at a time, and watching the effects. For old sheep it is nourishing and produces the desired effect, and if a sheep refuses to eat or drink, after pouring a quart or so of the remedy down in doses of about one pint once in three or four hours, give them about one pint three times a day until about the fourth day, then they will commence to eat. I have lost but few sheep with this treatment; have used it for horses and cattle, and it has never failed when used in time.

S. P. CADY.

How Important is Pedigree?

The above question came into my mind after reading the article by Mr. M. W. Waltire, in the FARMER of March 3. Mr. W. says, "I want a good animal with a good pedigree." If the person engaged in breeding is one who follows the pursuit with the intent to obtain animals for the purpose of perpetuating any particular breed of animals, then pedigree is as to that man of the very first importance. That is if he is a breeder of breeding animals, he wants to breed from none but "a good animal with a good pedigree." But if he is of the great mass of Kansas farmers, breeding horses for use on the farm, or breeding calves or pigs for beef or pork, pedigree is of no consequence to him. If the animal is a good one, and able to transmit to his offspring his good qualities, the common farmer cares to look no further. While it is true that the thoroughbred, as a rule, stamps his offspring with his own peculiar characteristics, and that the grade does not, in the same degree, possess this power, yet every farmer has seen exceptions to the rule. We have seen thoroughbreds whose offspring were poor, weedy stuff; and we have seen grades whose offspring possessed uniform excellence. One of the most valuable sires of general purpose horses I ever knew was a half bred Percheron. I once owned a four-cross Short-horn whose calves were of uniform excellence—a long way better than those of a thoroughbred I used directly following him. The true test of the sire is the character of his get. A show of twenty good three year old colts and fillies is worth more as a recommendation to a horse than a pedigree headed by "Longfellow" and running through an unbroken line of royal dams to "Godolphin Arabian." And the certificate shown in a car load of nice, smooth steers, weighing fourteen hundred pounds at thirty months old, the get of one bull, is worth more to recommend him as a sire to the common farmer, than a pedigree running straight to the famous old "Matchew" cow.

A. A. STEWART.

Sheep in Lyon County.

I see in your last issue an article headed "Sheep Statistics." I am not a correspondent, as this is my first article to your paper, but as I see no correspondence from our county, I take the liberty to give the required information, as far as I know, commencing with my name first: F. Dumbauld, C. D. Hand, Snediker Bros., White, Hess Bros., Hawkins, Plumb, Starr, Graffinstain. These flocks aggregate about eight thousand head. There are others in this county, but I do not know their names. I should think we had upwards of ten thousand sheep in this county, mostly grade Merinos. We have but very few sheep here, comparatively. This county is well adapted to sheep husbandry, and if we could convert one-half of the crop that grows on our prairies into wool and mutton, we would soon quit complaining of hard times. Flock owners are very much elated over the prospects of the price of wool this season.

I may, in some future article, give a short

sketch of my experience in the sheep business in Kansas.

We have just passed through a few days of very bad weather; quite cold, and about two inches of snow—all gone now except where it was drifted. We fear it has injured the fruit. Wheat looks well. Oats mostly sowed. Considerable plowing done for corn. Stock is wintering well. F. DUMBAULD. Hartford, Kansas.

We hope Mr. Dumbauld will give us his experience of sheep-raising in Kansas. The experience of others is what those about to enter on the business, most desire.

My Experience With Sheep.

I started in the sheep business last spring. I shipped two hundred that I bought at Cameron Junction, to Wichita, the 4th of March, 1879. I stored them the first week in May, averaging six pounds to the fleece. They have run on buffalo and blue joint range all summer, and went into winter fat as sheep could. In September I drove three hundred from Springfield, Missouri. They are a mixture of Cotswold, Southdown and Merino. When I got home with them, they were very much cut down in flesh, occasioned by the long drive, and I was afraid I would lose a good many. I was also afraid of scab among them, and dipped them in tobacco juice about the middle of October, but the tobacco juice proved to be too weak, for the scab made its appearance about the 15th of December. I watched those the scab made its appearance on, and applied coal oil, which kept the disease in check so that I will lose but very little wool. Every day I could, I kept the sheep on the range. About the 1st of December, I commenced giving them five bushels of shelled corn, scattered on the buffalo grass on the prairie. By scattering it shelled, all the sheep get an equal portion. In the evening we scattered out three good shocks of corn fodder. When the weather was too bad to have them on the range, we gave them hay in connection with the five bushels of corn and fodder, and with the exception of the three or four that died in October and November, I have not lost a sheep, and the flock is doing well.

A. J. GRANGER. Marshall, Kansas.

Death of a Celebrated Cow.

I received a letter a few days ago stating that Belle Roan, a very profitable cow was dead. She was calved Nov. 15, 1863, was bred by Wm. Mathews, Atna, Licking county, Ohio; was sired by Starlight, 2d, 2259, and ran back to imported Blossom on her dam's side. As I said, she was calved in '63 and has been a regular breeder ever since she was three years old, until her death, her calves selling for \$100 to \$200 at weaning time, and one, the Third Duke of Malakoff, sold in this state for \$500 at three years old, and \$400 was offered for one of her heifer calves, and refused.

My father went to Ohio and purchased Belle of Mr. Mathews in 1864 and kept her until his sale in 1876, when she brought nearly as much as he paid for her.

This is an illustration of what a cow can do, although some have done much better. Belle would have been 17 years old if she had lived until the 15th of next November.

It was acknowledged long ago that short-horns are wonderful beef producing animals, but I will give some weights of good sized ones. The short-horn cow Cicely's (that was a successful show animal in England,) her live weight was 2,137 pounds, and net weight 1,674 pounds. Mr. Brayton Harris of Queenbury, Warren county, N. Y., dressed a steer February 12, that weighed 2,906 pounds gross, and 1,850 pounds net. I suppose most of you have seen the account of the cattle at the fat stock show at Chicago, although this was not an exhibition of the largest cattle, but all the 'important qualities combined' to produce the best beef animals. The largest are apt to be too coarse for good beef animals. Some have an idea that they must have a large boned animal in order to weigh well. This may be necessary in all animals used for labor, but when it comes to producing meat, we only want enough bone to carry the meat. An animal with a small bone fattens more readily and there is less bone to the quantity of meat, besides a large boned animal is slower maturing.

M. WALTIRE.

Poultry.

Poultry Essays.

On account of the number of Essays on Poultry Raising in Kansas, we have been unable to decide which is entitled to the prize offered by Mr. Marsh within the time specified, April 1st, and he requests that the time be extended to May 1st, but no competing essays will be entered for the prize after the 31st day of March, ultimo.

Poultry.

The raising of poultry with us, until the last three years was only considered, as a "necessity evil," merely allowed, for the sake of home necessities and consumption. It was not looked upon as a "paying institution," therefore no one gave them much care; "the children might look up the eggs," and this was about all we heard of. Moving from town to our own farm house; the first question that arises in any new enterprise, is: Can we make it pay? the next, How can we best succeed?

In poultry raising, as well as the higher animals of the farm, care should be taken to get and keep the best breed, for the purpose de-

signed. If we seek to raise, only fancy fowls, we must secure pairs or eggs of the best of that variety, and make that "our specialty." If we desire to furnish nice market chickens for table use, we must keep such as will readily pass in market, and will, to our honor, mark A No. 1; and if otherwise, we care less for the fowl and more for the eggs produced, then it will pay to select the best layers of any variety we may choose.

Some say, keep every kind of fowl, but I believe that one variety is better than a number of varieties on the same farm. Some say the old common fowl is the best layer, if so, I fail to know it. Some object to white fowls, for they argue that they are more likely to be caught by hawks and other thieves; however this may be, it has never been my idea, derived from observation, that a pure white fowl has a lighter colored meat, and the fairest skin—of that peculiar yellow tint, so desirable by market purchasers.

The object of raising fowls with me of late, has been, to supply the best for market and table use, and perhaps a little of my limited experience may be to the "point in question." I care for my fowls while small chicks by placing them near the house, ever having the coop face the east so as to get the morning sun, so vitalizing to nature; then I feed early, and often, moving the coop every few days, for cleanliness. Care should also be taken that fowls have clean nests. I put wood ashes in my boxes under the hay or straw and change often. I first see that my fowls have a warm, comfortable house for winter, then, that it is kept clean; then that they have plenty of suitable food and clean water, the latter, I see that they have it warmed in winter, and cool in summer, and that it is given the first thing in the morning; my fowls expect it, and come for it. I also see that they have the varied material to aid in producing the much coveted winter eggs, as oats, sorghum seed, sand, old mortar, or slacked lime, egg shells, &c., besides corn, and I am always well paid with eggs to use and sell every winter, since I learned to consider my fowls as a "paying institution."

With regard to the diseases of fowls; as cholera, &c., I have made it somewhat a study, as we used to lose quite a number every year, and I now believe it was more from neglect in regard to cleanliness and the proper vegetable food necessary, especially in winter.

I am trying to act on the maxim "an ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure." It seemed that my fowls, affected, were cold and stupid from loss of vitality; crown, etc., losing the bright red, looking pale, sometimes almost colorless. I experimented with red pepper tea, for their drink,—it affected them favorably. I think now I have a better way. I raise in my garden long rows of red peppers so as to have plenty for my fowls, and the colder the weather the oftener I give them. Sometimes I give just the seed with mashed potato, at other times I take cabbage leaves and stump, with cold boiled potato, a piece of fresh meat and a few peppers, and often an onion or two, and chop them fine, and keep it renewed every few days in cold weather. I never throw away my green cabbage leaves but keep them fresh in the cellar for my fowls as a preventive of disease. This with a good bath of wood ashes into which I sprinkle a little sulphur has enabled me to succeed in raising, and keeping healthy, all my fowls, as we have lost none from disease for the last two years.

I ever make it a rule to kill, first, the dark ones, then the poorer white ones, so as by spring I have left only the very best to raise from. I have learned many good things in this direction from "correspondence in the FARMER," which I am trying to carry out in practice. I fully endorse an article in the number for February 25, on "Poultry Brevities," particularly, the last clause.

One in the FARMER, has well said, "eternal vigilance is the price we must pay;" and so it is with everything if we would "make it pay." At some future time, I will, with our Editor's permission, give in figures how well I make it pay this year. Mrs. J. PALMER. Willow Glen, Meriden, Kas.

We would like to have those figures. Statistics are the "truth tellers" after all.—[Ed.]

Fine Poultry.

From one of our Manhattan exchanges, which gives a report of the Manhattan & Blue Valley Pet Stock Association, held on the 21st of February last at that place, we clip the following:

"F. E. Marsh, breeder of Light and Dark Brahmas, was on hand with thirteen of his fine, large, beautiful fowls. He commenced breeding the above varieties about three years ago, and has been so successful that 'Marsh Brahmas' is a household word and the breed a general favorite. During the first year, Mr. Marsh's sales of eggs and chickens ran up to fifty dollars. The next season he purchased eggs from Todd, one of the most noted breeders in the United States, at a considerable expense, and during the third year his sales were more than three times those of the first. He has now on hand orders the filling of which will keep him busy for some time. Mr. Marsh is strictly upright in dealing with his patrons, and will vouch for the Brahma as a superior fowl. His chickens have also taken all the premiums at fairs whenever shown. He is secretary of the association, which was organized mainly through his hard work."

Mr. Marsh advertises his poultry in the FARMER, and is the gentleman who has offered a premium for the best essay on poultry that is written by a lady and handed into the KANSAS FARMER for publication, during the month of March. We have received quite a large number of excellent essays written by Kansas ladies, mostly farmers' wives, which give much valuable information on the subject of poultry-

raising on the farm. It will require several weeks for their publication. We will announce the winner of the prize as soon as we are able to decide that important question.

Apiary.

A House for Bees.

I would like to ask some bee culturists a few questions about bees. As yet I do not know of a colony of bees in the east end of this county.

Will not bees do well by building a room for them in a loft, say over a hog pen large enough so that they need never ('hardly ever') swarm? Do any of them know of this method having been tried?

I remember when a boy way down in New York an old gentleman kept bees in this manner, and when he wanted honey would go and cut from the comb such a sized piece as he required, close the door and all would be well within the hive. His bees in this room did not swarm for several years.

Will bees do well only on the natural flowers of Central Kansas?

If this plan will answer, why be to the trouble of having colonies? W. S. GILES.

Bees will do little or no good in a house as above suggested. The instinct of the insect is opposed to this principle. We have not space or time to present the numerous objections to our correspondent's plan of a house. The only way by which bees can be kept to afford their owner either pleasure or profit is in movable frame hives. Natural flowers are the best food for bees, and the only source from which their supplies are obtained if pure honey of superior quality is desired. A sheltered situation near water and timber is preferable for bees, and where such locations are found in Central Kansas, bees ought to do reasonably well. High winds and a dry region are not the best locations for bees, but there is a great deal of good bee pasture on the prairies, especially the autumn flowers. We advise our correspondent to purchase a work on bees, which we can forward him for a dollar that will teach him all about the little workers and how to manage them for profit.

Bee Notes for April.

In most locations bees will be placed upon their summer stands during the present month. At this season of the year great care should be taken to give the bees every advantage and encouragement to increase in numbers. After they have had an opportunity to fly freely, the hives should be examined and thoroughly cleaned. A good way to do this is to start with a clean, empty hive, and place it upon the stand of the first hive to be examined, having the one containing the bees directly in the rear; lift the combs from the old hive and place them in the new one. After cleaning the hive from which the bees have been taken, pass to the next, and transfer from that into the first hive, and so on through the yard. When handling the hives, be sure that each colony has a laying queen, and plenty of honey. Let there be only a sufficient number of combs for the bees to occupy. Carefully open the hives in the morning, when the bees are compactly clustered, and remove those combs not occupied by the bees. This will allow those inexperienced to decide the proper number of combs to leave. The combs that are thus removed from the hives should be cared for, and kept in a dry place where mice or rats will not have access to them. If any colonies should be found queenless, unite such with the lightest stocks that have good queens. After the bees have had an opportunity to fly for a day or two, the presence of a queen may usually be determined by the presence of eggs in the combs in the center of the cluster. When the number of frames is limited, have a good, close fitting division board at the side of the combs to diminish the space which the bees must keep warm. Contract the entrance to the hives, and be sure that all upward ventilation is prevented. All this should be done in the middle of the day when it is warm. Care must be taken not to expose combs, or in any other manner to induce robbing. After bees are put in proper shape do not make the mistake of opening the hive too often until the season is sufficiently advanced. Handling bees too early, to stimulate breeding, often results greatly to their injury. As the season grows warmer, and the bees increase in numbers, combs may be added.—L. C. Root, in American Agriculturist.

Miscellaneous.

Labette County.

Labette County is spoken of by Kansas travelers as the best county in the state for these several reasons:

1st. It is traversed from north to south by the famous Neosho river which furnishes an unlimited amount of water power, and its banks are lined with dense old forests which will furnish abundance of timber for all purposes and for all time to come.

Coal can be found most any where in the county, and sells at 9 cents per bushel delivered, so the fuel question is settled.

Water is abundant and generally of the purest quality. Numerous springs abound throughout the county, pouring out their sparkling crystal waters unceasingly.

The M., K. & T. railroad runs north and south through the county, and the St. Louis & San Francisco, east and west, running directly through the center of the county.

The soil of Labette may be divided into four

kinds or qualities: the white limestone, the black limestone, the red and the grey sandy gravelly; all are good except the grey gravelly which is very poor. But very little of this is found in the county.

Health is enjoyed here by every one, and sickness is almost unknown. Beautiful rolling prairie can still be bought here for \$5.00 an acre. EUGENE WRIGHT. Altamont, Kas.

Hedge From Seed.

I beg to differ with "Subscriber's Son" in regard to hedge grown from seed. The best part of my hedge is what was from seed sown in the hedge row. The way I did, I soaked the seed for three weeks in lukewarm water, changing the water every day; then I mixed the seed with dry earth enough to separate them and sowed in a furrow made by leaning the plow on the land side and covered with the hoe. There is not an opening large enough for a small pig to pass through. I sowed pretty thick, and thinned out the next year, leaving 8 inches between each plant. I raised the plants out of the ground with a long narrow spade, and now my hedge is 5 years old and looks well. I trim it every year two or three times. It turned stock last year. G. W. C. Leslie, Reno Co., Kas.

German Millet.

Ed. FARMER: I see in your paper Childs & Winks wish some information in regard to sowing German millet. I had a very good crop last year on sod and old ground. I drilled part, harrowed a part, and harrowed and rolled a part. The drilled was the best. I also approve of rolling. I had thirty acres last year; shall sow fifty acres or more this year and drill it all. J. A. G. Hutchinson, Kansas.

WAKEFIELD, Clay Co.—Clay county is not over a dozen years old, and yet it is far ahead in grain raising and stock raising of all the surrounding counties, some men having in as high as three thousand acres in wheat. This county is as well watered and timbered as any county in the state.

The farmers are looking a little blue about the dry weather, and prophecyers are profuse in their predictions on the coming season. Wheat is wanting rain badly although it is not dying. The cold weather we had here awhile back, was very hard on the wheat and oats.

I was very much pleased with Bro. Stoner's letter to the FARMER. His pet grainary I tried last year. It is needless to say it is a success in every respect. If any of the readers of the FARMER doubt this, let them try it for themselves. Any man can tell how to build a grainary, but to tell how to build a grainary for nothing is what we want in Kansas where lumber is so high. YOUNG RUSTIC.

NEWTON, Harvey Co., March 23.—Wheat is looking quite well considering the weather. Oats are being put in the ground rapidly and some farmers are plowing for corn.

The dry weather and good roads have been excellent for marketing grain and hogs. Farmers, generally, held back for higher prices until recently, but prices remain about the same as early in winter: Wheat, 90c; oats, 25c to 30c; corn, 18c to 20c; butter, 20c to 25c; eggs, 7c.

It seems from the appearance of our implement dealers warehouses, that somebody expects a large harvest this season; who it will be time will demonstrate—whether "farmer or dealer." It is really wonderful, when we consider what a great amount of agricultural machinery is shipped to and used in this county, with its comparatively sparse population.

The fruit is badly injured by the late cold snap—that of the 13th to the 15th inst. Peaches are not all killed yet, but to what extent cannot be determined. GEO. S. FUNK.

KIRWIN, Phillips Co., March 30.—Having come to this place lately, by wagon, from Pottawatomie county, I will give a few notes by the way, about wheat.

Near Wamego there is a large amount of wheat sown, and most of it is looking very well. After leaving Wamego, but little is seen until Clay county is reached, where there is a good deal of wheat, and it looks very promising. The southern part of Cloud county also has fine wheat and large fields of it. In Mitchell county, on the Solomon, wheat looks badly, some fields evidently "gone back." In Smith county, some few fields, where it is not too sandy, looking a little better, but generally nearly or quite dead.

Our route is on the Solomon, so of course we cannot speak of the promise of the wheat crop on the upland, which in all probability is better, as the valley or bottom is, rather sandy, and likely to dry out worse. Here in Phillips county, famous for its fine wheat and large crops in the past, wheat is nearly or quite dead; many fields will be plowed up for corn; some have been sown to spring wheat. Farmers here have put in a large amount of spring wheat; mostly Grass wheat, or perhaps Odessa. Some claim they are the same.

It is fearfully dry, but farmers are hopeful, thinking we shall have rain soon. It has been very windy the last few days, and the way the dust gets into things, is grievous for the women. At another time I will speak of the impropriety of coming out so far west, and leaving cheaper lands in Shawnee, Osage, Wabaunsee and Pottawatomie counties. D. S. A.

BRONCHITIS.—Throat diseases often commence with a cold, cough, or unusual exertion of the voice. These incipient symptoms are allayed by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches," which if neglected often result in a chronic disease of the throat.

Patrons of Husbandry.

Hard on the Monopolies.

Having been a subscriber and reader of your valuable paper for some months, I wish to express to you my commendation for the able manner in which you have conducted it, and also for the satisfaction it has given me to read your articles on the monopolies, railroads, pools, and especially in regard to the course of our legislators. Your article recommending the farmers of Kansas to pool their votes this coming fall, and vote for only good, stalwart farmers for the state legislature, should be read and re-read by every hard-working farmer in the state.

What do the lawyers, pettifoggers and shysters who swarm in our towns and county seats, care for the "dear farmers," as they call them, only to get their votes, and then, when elected, turn around and enact laws to grind them to powder, or sell out to the grasping millionaires. Why cannot the farmers, for once in their lives, pool their votes this fall, and vote for men who they know are favorable to the cause of agriculture, and opposed to the monopolist? Why are we ashamed to step out from the two great political parties that are rotten to the core, and vote for men of our own calling? It is because we lack independence; it is because we vote for party instead of men; it is because we allow a few ringleaders in every county (who make believe that the salvation of our country depends upon supporting the two great political parties), to lead us around by the nose, like a lamb to the slaughter. I hope you may long live to battle for the freedom of mankind, and may your blows become harder against the oppressors of human liberty.

Now I will give you a few items concerning crops in our county: The acreage of fall wheat sown last fall, was double that of the year before. The early sown on old ground has suffered a little from the dry winter, but the late sown and sod wheat is all right at this time, and promises a good yield if we get rain even by the middle of April, and that is something remarkable when it is understood we have had no rain since November. No ground in the world retains the moisture so well as the soil in Kansas.

Bye promises a good crop. I would recommend it to be sown largely in the new counties, as it does well for winter pasture, early feed, and withstands the dry weather. Farmers in this vicinity are sowing spring wheat and oats.

The farmers of this county are intelligent, industrious and wide awake. Our county is mostly prairie, but has some nice streams running through it, which have a fair amount of timber, such as oak, ash, box elder, elm, walnut, etc. Land is raising in value rapidly, and the near future will place Rooks county among the leading counties in the state. Our county has no railroad debt hanging over it, and I predict there never will be. Thank God, the immigrant will be able to find one county in Kansas where the people strenuously oppose bonding their county.

In some future article I would like to reply to some of your correspondents. I think a great deal of information can be gained from the experiences of farmers from different parts of the state, as recorded in your paper. I must publicly thank Prof. Samuel Lilly, of Gosport, Indiana, for his handsome present of a large package of catalpa seed. A. B. M. Stockton, Rooks Co., Kansas.

Our correspondent's righteous indignation against extortion and monopoly, may get the better of his discretion. The old political organizations may not be the patterns of purity and virtue, but a distinctive farmers' party is not possible just yet awhile, whatever the future may bring forth. Large bodies of raw recruits cannot defeat a small but well drilled army, neither can a farmers' party be organized to beat the old parties; but what is possible and very easy to accomplish, farmers can nominate their best men by consulting together and agreeing in time upon their men, and then by dint of numbers, nominating them at the primaries. Let them publicly announce the names of those they have agreed upon, and allow the public to become familiar with their determination before the conventions assemble, and they can very readily fill the legislative hall next winter with the very best and ablest farmers in the state. And why not make a farmer governor of their state? There is no necessity for farming new parties, which is a hazardous business. The want is a new class of representative men, not new parties. It is the material which makes the party that gives it tone and character.

Farmers as Law Makers.

Keep it before the farmers, that unless they attend to their own interests no one else will do it for them. That unless they elect farmers to make their laws, they will not be such laws as will protect the farming interest against the powerful organizations that combine to fleece them and get rich from our hard earnings. It is often said that it is necessary to have lawyers in the legislature in order that the laws may be properly framed, as farmers are not competent. What a pity! Why, I could name fifty farmers within my knowledge, that could frame a law strong as steel, and still so plain as to explain it. Lawyers cannot be expected to make just such laws as the farmers want. It might ruin their business. They are often money lenders, bankers, or connected with them, or the railroad monopolies, consequently we can expect nothing from them that will al-

leviate our condition in regard to unequal taxation, or examine rates of transportation for our stock and produce. Farmers must organize. Wagon makers, agricultural implement makers, sewing machine makers, and in fact all the trades, not excluding even the railroads; also laborers in the different branches, organize to increase their wealth or ameliorate their condition. Farmers look on wondering what it is all about, when the fact is, it is to draw the dollars out of their pockets. Brother farmers, can't you see? D. S. Wamego, Kas.

Drive Wells.

The men who are fighting the drive well extortion appear to be sanguine of success. A member of one of the associations which have been formed for mutual protection under the caption of "Citizen" writes from North Topeka to the Daily Capital. Co-operation among farmers will win every time. "Mr. Craig has given his side on drive wells, hence the other. The writer has known Mr. Craig personally for the past ten years, and the following will convince the public that he is an extortionist, which he cannot deny. For a number of years Mr. Craig collected a royalty on a so-called patent point used in driven wells. I covered hundreds of points with wire gauze for Mr. Craig, for which he charged from ten to fifteen dollars each, that cost seventy-five cents; now he charges one dollar or more per foot for driving wells, which gives him a net profit of from twenty to twenty-five dollars on each point, and yet he comes out and calls it a mere pittance. The public is aware, no doubt, that Mr. Craig's patent on his point was sustained by U. S. district courts, just as Mr. Greene's patent has been. About one year ago the United States supreme court set aside the patent on the point which Mr. Craig claimed and had collected a large amount of money on; and it is only a question of time when Mr. Greene's patent will be served the same by our highest courts. That "snide association" (so dreaded by Mr. Craig) is composed of our best and wealthiest citizens, with thousands of dollars in our societies' treasuries. The test case spoken of, now pending in Iowa courts before Judges McCrary and Miller, will only be carried to higher courts if they sustain past decisions. The evidence now in possession of our societies that has not been before the courts will defeat the Greene patent forever. Pump owners are requested to join some of the associations and not be humbugged out of their money. Patentees are weakening and have quit suing on account of the coming defeat."

Preparing Seed Corn.

Ed. FARMER: Allow me to give to the readers of your valuable paper a description of a simple device for taking the top and butt kernels off the ear of corn before shelling it for seed. Take a piece of dry oak or hickory two inches thick and four inches wide and two feet long. Bore three holes in it near the center—a two-inch, an inch and a-half, and an inch and one-quarter, leaving a space of two inches between each hole; then cut notches in the upper edge of the holes like saw-teeth, and it is ready for use. Put it on a box or basket and take an ear of corn, put the end in one of the holes, turn it right and left until the corn is rubbed off as far as you need it. Turn the other end and repeat the same operation; it is ready for the sheller. It saves rubbing your hands on the corn until sore, and is done twice as fast. STRANGER.

JEWELL CITY, Jewell Co., March 15.—The fruit buds do not seem to be injured, and we have a splendid prospect for a coming peach crop. The winter wheat is injured some by dry weather, but think if we could have some good rains the crop would come out all right yet. We have been having some snow during the last few days, which will help the wheat crop to some extent.

Our farmers are making preparations for putting out a large spring crop, and are anxiously waiting for spring to appear. Considerable immigration is coming in this winter, and much inquiry is being made for farms to rent, and not half of the applicants can be accommodated.

Our farmers are making preparations for widening out their farms in the way of turning over the new sod and putting out new groves of timber, orchards and small fruits.

Our people are discussing the new constitutional amendment, and temperance orators are making speeches all over this county, and the people are being waked up on this subject. I know of townships in this part of the state that will not give ten votes against the prohibition amendment.

Real estate is still advancing, and land is now selling from five to fifteen dollars an acre; ten dollars will capture the most farmers.

Our people are turning their attention from wood to coal for fuel, as coal can now be had from two to seven dollars per ton. Corn for fuel is speedily passing out of date, and will be fed to hogs hereafter.

Stock of all kinds is looking well, and thousands of steers are being fatted this winter in this country. Mr. Fogle, of Maish creek, has fifty head of the fattest steers I have ever seen in any state, proving that the Kansas climate is second to no other for healthy stock and easy feeding. J. S. F.

It is true that farmers, as a rule, rarely enjoy garden products in perfection. They give all their attention to the heavy crops, whereas they might add much to their own and family enjoyment by cultivating a small garden close to the house, where the women can easily lend a hand at odd intervals. Tomatoes, egg plants, radishes, cucumbers and the small table vegetables, are all wholesome, toothsome and desirable. It is none too early to commence to lay out a nice little lot of land for this purpose.

Advertisements.

E. D. STOCKING, BROKER, 176 Broadway, New York City. Specialty, exchange of Kansas farm and wild lands for...

J. R. Swallow & Co., REAL ESTATE AND LOAN AGENTS, 75 SIXTH AVENUE EAST, TOPEKA, KANSAS.

Real estate bought, sold, and exchanged; property rented; rents and all other collections made; Taxes paid; titles examined and abstracts furnished. Correspondence solicited.

IMPROVED FARMS. City property, improved and unimproved. Can accommodate the man with large or small means.

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At 8 and 9 per cent., For Annum.

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Acknowledged by all farmers who have used it to be THE BEST AND ONLY PERFECTLY SUCCESSFUL Wire Check Rower. Will plant the entire row...

TOPEKA Carbonated Stone and Pipe Works, Manufacturer Wholesale and Retail Dealer in PAVEMENTS CEMENTS, Chimney Flues. LIME, PLASTER and HAIR. Factory and Office on Kansas Ave., between 2d and 3d Streets.

M. A. Spear, P.O. Box 170 RIVERSIDE FARM HERD OF POLANDS, Established in 1868.

I have in my herd the now that took first money and sweepstakes, and the now and best that took first money in their class at Kansas City Exposition in 1878, and the now, best and best that took first premium and sweepstakes over all at the meeting of the Iowa County Agricultural Society in 1878. These pigs are all of my own breeding, and are competent for record. I send out nothing but first-class pigs. All stock warranted, and shipped at order on receipt of money. J. V. RANDOLPH, Emporia, Kas.

BEIGH CLASS POULTRY, G. S. GILBERT, Emporia, Kas. (NEAR ANDALZA.) Breeder & Shipper. EGGS FOR HATCHING In Season. Send for Illustrated Catalogue, Free.

HAS. D. STEARNS, Litchfield, Ill. Shipper of pure bred Berkshire Swine, High class land and Water Fowls, and Fancy Pigeons. EGGS from L. and D. Brahmas, Buff Cochins, P. Rocks, W. and B. Leghorns, S. Hamburgs, G. L. Leghorns, and Almond Tumbler Pigeons.

Send for Circular and Prices.

Eggs, Eggs.

From pure Light and Dark Brahmas. Write to F. E. MARSH, Manhattan, Kas.

Mound City Poultry Yards, Mound City, Kas. Breeder and shipper of pure bred Light Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks and Brown Leghorns. Am now booking orders for eggs as follows: Light Brahmas, \$3.00, Plymouth Rocks, \$2.00 and Brown Leghorns, \$1.50 for 10 eggs. Chicks for sale after July 4th. Address, S. L. IVES.

Eggs for Hatching. L. & D. Brahmas, Buff Cochins, Plymouth Rocks, Brown & W. Leghorns, Pekin and Aylesbury ducks' eggs warranted fresh and true to name. A few tricos each of the above fowls for sale. All of the best and most fashionable strains. I also raise and offer for sale 8 Varieties of New Seedling Potatoes.

All of the best; hardy, prolific and good keepers: Alpha, Rula, Burbank's, Snowflake, Early Ohio, Genesee County, King and Improved Peerless. J. DONOVAN, Fairmount, Kansas. Write for prices, etc.

MAKE HENS LAY. An English Veterinary Surgeon and Chemist, now traveling in this country, says that most of the Horse and Cattle Diseases are caused by the use of the old-fashioned dan's Condition Powders. He says that Sheridan's Condition Powders, being one teaspoonful to one pint food. Sold everywhere, or sent by mail for eight cents stamps. J. B. JOHNSON & CO., Bangor, Me.

WOOL-GROWERS Can rely upon immunity from contagious disease in their flocks after use of LADD'S TOBACCO 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 flock-master 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.

Bee Hives, Italian Bees Eclipse, New American, Langstroth and Simplicity hives complete or ready to nail. Full colonies of Italian Bees in good movable comb hives. Honey Extractors, Bellows Smokers, Bee Books, &c. Descriptive circulars sent free. Address F. A. SNELL, Millidgeville, Carroll Co., Ill.

To Bee-keepers. Many of our subscribers are lovers of Honey and will keep bees enough to supply their own tables at least if they know how. We have made arrangements to furnish all such persons the 32 page monthly Bee-keeper's Magazine at only \$1 a year (formerly \$1.50) or the Kansas Farmer and Magazine for \$2.50. Also all bee books and articles used in Bee-keeping at very low prices. The Magazine gives beginners just such information as the must have to make the business successful and profitable. Send the money direct to us and we will see that your orders are promptly filled. For Prices of Extractors, Hives, Smokers, Uncapping knives, etc. Address, Publisher of the KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

JAMES A. BAYLES, Lees Summit, Jackson County, Mo., Has the largest and best Nursery Establishment in the West. Correspondence promptly answered.

Berkshires for Sale. I have a few choice pigs to spare. All eligible to record and as good as those in the state. W. P. POPENOE, Topeka.

HOGS. THOROUGH-BRED 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 & RANDOLPH, Emporia, Kansas.

Southern Kansas Swine Farm. THOROUGH-BRED 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 & RANDOLPH, Emporia, Kansas.

BERKSHIRES AT THE COLLEGE FARM. 50 Jersey Cattle

We offer for sale a few litters of very choice pigs of the get of such noted sires as imported Mischmet 1873, G. H. Bias 2627, a son of Lord Liverpool, and others. "Sallies," "St. Bridges" and "Miss Smiths" in the herd. Pigs ready to ship now. Also SHORT-HORNS, (Young Mares), of both sexes. E. M. SHEELTON, Supt. Farm, Manhattan, Kansas.

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.

THOROUGH-BRED DURHAMS FOR SALE C EAP. One bull 3 years old, kind and gentle to handle. No better in the state. Has been shown twice a year and never failed of winning a prize 1 yearling, 2 bull calves, cows, heifers, and cow calves. Address VINTON ALLEN, Brown's Grove, Pawnee Co., Kas.

Breeders' Directory.

BLUE VALLEY HERD.—Walter M. Morgan, Hereford Cattle and Cotswold Sheep, Irving, Marshall county, Kansas. Choice Young Bulls For Sale.

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

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

OSHA 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.

FOR SALE. Scotch and black & tan ratter pups, \$10 each; shepherd pups, \$15 to \$25; also pointers and setters. These are lowest prices. All imported stock. A. C. WADELL, Topeka.

MILLER BROS., Junction City, Kansas, breeders of Record Poland China Swine for Butler county Ohio, strains; also Plymouth Rock and Brown Leghorn Fowls. Eggs, \$1.50 per 13. Descriptive Circular and Price List free.

Nurserymen's Directory. J. E. SUMMIT and BELTON NURSERY, Fruit Trees of the best, and cheapest. Apple Trees and 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 NURSERY, 11th year, large stock, good assortment; stock first class. Osage hedge plants and Apple trees at lowest rates of car load. Wholesale and retail price lists sent free on application. E. F. CAWWALLADEE, Louisburg, Kas.

Dentist. A. H. THOMPSON, D. D. S., Operative and Surgeon, Dentist, No. 129 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.

M. W. DUNHAM Has Just Imported 36 Head FOR HIS OAKLAWN STUD OF PERCHERON-NORMAN HORSES.

Another Importation WILL ARRIVE ABOUT MARCH FIRST.

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, 1875. First Prizes and Grand Medals at international Exhibition, 1876.

The public appreciation of their 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 stable.

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.

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

Stock for Sale. 81 HEAD OF CATTLE FOR SALE. 38 yearlings, 30 two year olds (this spring) and 12 cows, 50 of the yearlings and 10 of the 2 year olds are steers. Price of yearlings \$12.50, two year olds, \$16.50; cows, \$22. Also, 300 head of Arkansas sheep—250 ewes and 50 wethers; 150 lambs, and 50 to 75 more ewes to have lambs. No sheep over 5 years old. A good many of the yearlings and this year's lambs are grade Cotswold, price twelve hundred dollars for the lot, before they are clipped; after they are clipped \$2.00 per head all round, lambs included. I will sell on contract 100 to 1,000 of Arkansas sheep delivered here or bunched in Arkansas. I will buy, bunch or deliver Ark cattle on contract. Address, with stamp enclosed, A. HAMILTON, Everett P. O., Woodson County, Kas. Reference, any of the county officers or business men of Woodson county, Kas.

PUBLIC SALE OF OVER 50 Jersey Cattle

Union Stock Yards, Indianapolis, Ind., Wednesday, April 14, 1880.

At this sale, we will offer without reserve, over 50 choice brood sows of different breeds. The Jerseys consist of some of the very best animals in the United States.

6 FINE IMPORTED COWS. We do not hesitate to say we consider this herd equal to any and inferior to no herd of Jerseys ever offered at public sale in America. In their pedigrees will be found the blood of the most noted Jersey in the world. Among the number will be the entire herd that we won so many prizes on in Ohio, in 1879, at State and Tri-State Fairs. Also, some very choice stock just imported from the island of Jersey, among which is the noted young cow, Buttercup 2d, that made over 11 lbs of butter in 7 days, at 2 years old, winner of a number of prizes at the late fair; also, an imported bull calf at foot; imported Brown Gypsy, that has a butter record of 14 lbs. for 7 days, and 22 qts. of milk per day; Sylvia 2d, grand-daughter of Rhode 99 that won Centennial Prize of \$250; that milks over 20 qts., and has made over 3 lbs of butter per day. Numerous others nearly as good. Also, will be found some very choice young bulls old enough for service, and some grand young bull calves, some imported. Females of all ages, cows and heifers in calf, etc. etc.

Terms of sale cash or four months time at 8 per cent. interest. Catalogues will be ready by March 1, 1880 and sent to all applicants. Parties wishing family cows should not fail to attend the sale. Address all communications to G. M. HOOVER, Manager, Willow Grove Farm, Richmond, Ind. J. F. MILLER, Proprietor.

THE KANSAS FARMER.

E. E. EWING, Editor & Proprietor, Topeka, Kansas.

TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE. One Copy, Weekly, for one year, \$1.50. One Copy, Weekly, for six months, \$1.00. One Copy, Weekly, for three months, .50.

TO SUBSCRIBERS. Subscribers should very carefully notice the label stamped upon the margin of their papers. All those marked "X" expire with the next issue.

Our Readers.

The KANSAS FARMER is somewhat crowded this week with advertisements, in fact they press heavily on, and occupy a portion of the space usually dedicated to, what in common parlance is generally designated "reading matter."

But to return to the point. We are compelled to raise a money crop because our new beginners on the virgin prairie declare they are not able—many of them—to subscribe for a paper which would assist them more than they wot of, and others stoutly protest that they are able to pay only a dollar and a half to a dollar in clubs of ten or more a year.

Now that we have taken our readers into our confidence, we feel sure that they will be satisfied and not withhold those good offices so kindly bestowed on the "Old Reliable" in the past, but rather commend it as a true Kansan, fertile in expedients and prolific in resources in the presence of difficulties.

Plans for the Season's Work.

Has every farmer who reads these pages a well defined plan for his season's business? If he has not he should as quickly mature one as possible. Make a rough memorandum sketch of the season's operations and work as near to the laid-out plan as circumstances and the changes of the seasons will permit.

The plans of a farm which embrace only a twelvemonth or the season of active labor among the crops, is but a temporary expedient, but much better than none at all.

Great mercantile and manufacturing enterprises are built up by years of close attention to one general system, laid down by the founders of these houses.

pletion. The same general principle applies to farming. An improved strain of stock, which will give the most profit on feed and care bestowed, cannot be perfected in much less than ten years. His swine, his cattle, sheep, horses, and all the smaller fry, will, if the plan laid down be a wise one, increase in profitableness each succeeding year.

The beautifying of the farm should extend in a widening circle from the dwelling to the remotest bounds of the place. The profit returned by those improvements should always exceed their cost, and they will always do so if good judgment combined with economy directs the hand which makes them.

Nature has presented every prairie farm a certain amount of beauty. A beautiful Eden or an unsightly ranch with a grim, repulsive novel, surrounded by weather-beaten fences and sheds, with scathed and blackened patches dotting the prairie's primitive green.

The Way It Works.

The Indiana Farmer tells the following story: "The eastern papers tell of a farmer way up in New Hampshire, who put up a large quantity of ice, but thinking himself too poor to take a paper, knew nothing about the price of the article."

They all lose more or less, if not in ice, in other products of the farm, because they fail to know the condition of the markets. When we were in the farming business, there occurred one of those sharp rises in corn. A neighbor who "didn't take a paper," had a crib of fine corn for sale. Three or four days after the advance we went over and priced his corn.

Scribner for April.

The leading magazines of the country, like Scribner, are quick to detect the drift of the sentiment and demands of the times, and are working into their contents, and serving up among their monthly bills of fare, chapters on

rural life and the farm. The sixth paper, by E. P. Roe, or small fruits, appears in the present number of Scribner, which is set off and intensified in interest by numerous illustrations that lend a double charm to the subject, which is treated in that deliberate, leisurely style which is one of the chief pleasures of magazine reading.

The cultivation of a more esthetic taste on the farm is demanding a higher order of literature than the sensation serial, which, when it has grown to the proportions of a volume, suddenly dissolves like a cloud bank, leaving nothing behind but a yearning void. It is an encouraging sign that this fog literature is losing its charm for the more intelligent class of both town and country, and the improving taste relishes such papers as Mr. Roe has been furnishing Scribner.

The leisure life of the country offers a boundless field for magazine literature when that need is discovered and the writers competent to supply it are sought out. Scribner is prospecting and evidently opening the way into this future Eldorado of literature.

The April number completes Vol. 19 of the magazine, and is replete with the usual variety which has brought Scribner so prominently to the front among its class of periodicals of the time.

Catalogues Received.

W. L. Smith, Anrona, Illinois, catalogue of green house and hot house plants. L. T. Tappin & Sons, Loveland Station, Ohio, catalogue of rare plants.

Edward B. Weston, Highland Park, Illinois, catalogue of thoroughbred poultry. Edward Gilbert, Southwick, Mass, price list of perennial plants, orchids, shrubs, rare ferns, etc.

Robert Douglas & Sons, W. Legan, Illinois, wholesale catalogue of evergreen and ornamental tree seedlings.

Premium list of the Missouri Agricultural Association. Fair to be held in Minneapolis, Sept. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, 1880. Charles H. Clarke, Secretary.

Blymer Manufacturing Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, 21st annual edition of the Standard Book.

H. N. Smith, Salisbury, Mass, price list of seeds for 1880.

E. J. Black, Ereman, Ohio, catalogue of new and rare fruits. W. H. Reid, Rochester, New York, seed catalogue and key to success in the garden.

A Small Lamp Lighteth a Large Room. A few days ago we paid \$6.50 freight on a lot of merchandise, from St. Louis to Kansas City, a distance of nearly 300 miles.

Kidd's Combination Live-Stock Sale. Mr. Kidd will hold his annual combination sale of thoroughbred stock at the stock-yards, Kansas City, May 5th, 6th and 7th next.

Mr. J. S. McGrath, correspondent from Beol, "wonders" why Douglas & Son, Waukegan, Ill., forest tree and nursery stock growers, do not advertise in the FARMER. By reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that these gentlemen anticipated his excellent advice.

Farm Accounts.

I noticed a sensible and pertinent article in the FARMER, some time ago, on the subject of farm accounts, written by H. C. St. Clair, of Belle Plaine, Sumner county. Seeing nothing on the subject since, and knowing how careless most of us farmers are in regard to this matter, I thought I would call up the subject again, for by constant agitation of this idea, farmers perhaps will see the wisdom and adopt the plan of reducing their whole business to a showing in dollars and cents.

prosperity is increasing or diminishing, but they cannot tell just how. Some branches of farming are known to be profitable under certain management, because they have tried it and seen others try it until they are convinced, while there are other branches of farming the profit or loss of which is wrapped in doubt.

The best way I find to solve the problem, when I see a certain field to grain, is to charge the field with the labor employed in putting the crop in and taking it off at what the labor is worth; also with the seed at its market value, and interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum on labor, seed and land—the land to be rated at the cash value. When the crop is stored, I credit the field with what I take off, at its market value, and balance the account with the profit or loss, as the case may be.

The household comes in for its share of reckoning, and in addition to these separate accounts, a general farm account is kept, to which all the debits are charged and all the credits are given, for we must bear in mind as we go along, that the individual accounts of fields, cattle, etc., do not show all the expense. There are general expenses, such as taxes, repairs, etc., to be charged to this account, and must be reckoned in the expense of carrying on your business as a farmer.

Farm accounts kept in this way necessitate a yearly invoice of farm property. January 1st is the usual time for such business, but I prefer March 1st, as that is the time in this state to list it for taxation. It makes it handy when the assessor comes around.

For persons who have not begun these accounts, and wish to, I would recommend that they assume the purchase (on paper) of their farms, cattle, hogs, horses, in fact the whole farming paraphernalia that they find themselves in possession of, at its cash value, and start farming anew, as it were, and keep an account of it.

Queries Answered.

J. Duncan: Your animal is suffering from a disease called mange, itch, or scabies, which is very common, and is caused by a small insect called acari, a kind of mite, an animalcule which enters and breeds in great numbers in the skin of animals. To cure this disease take fine sand, rub the parts affected to remove the covering of these insects and leave them exposed to the action of the medicine. Then wash the parts well with good soap and water; then brush the animal with a common horse brush; after which dry the animal carefully, that is completely; then anoint the parts most affected with an ointment made as follows: Powdered sulphur, 1 oz.; hogs lard, 2 oz.; mix. Give your horse chopped feed wetted a little, or bran mixed with oats. Take of sulphuret of antimony, 3 drachms; sulphur in flour, 3 drachms; sulphate of soda 1/2 oz.; mix and give at one dose, repeating every other night for one week, or until the horse's appetite returns.

Mr. G. W. Potter: Your description of the symptoms of the disease affecting your stock, is too meagre and incomplete to make my decision as to the nature of the ailment given in your inquiry. Respondents must take more time, and be more particular in their inquiries, to give a full, plain, but complete description of all the symptoms and circumstances attending each case, if they would secure any satisfactory answer to their inquiries.

Weather Report.

Weather report for March. Highest temperature, 78; lowest, 4; mean, for month, 40-1. Total rainfall and melted snow, 0.63 of an inch. No. of days on which rain or snow fell, 4. Depth of snow-fall during month, 6 inches. Thunder storms, dates of, 24-26. Mirage, 21. Weather warm and pleasant. We need rain very much.

Farmers very busy sowing, and plowing for corn. Creswell, Marion Co., Kas.

LARNED, Pawnee Co., March 29.—Still no rain, but plenty of wind, which keeps the atmosphere clear of everything except dust. I think that is one cause of our good health. Our wheat in this section is about gone by the board, especially the early wheat that was strong and vigorous. The May and Odessa seem to have stood the drought and the last freeze better than the other varieties. I attribute the cause of the failure of the large strong wheat to the fact that it had grown more during the warm spells of February and was more tender. Mine was doing splendidly up to Friday, March 27th. Saturday turned cold, and towards noon commenced, but the wind kept all the flat, smooth land perfectly bare, and by night my water tanks was frozen as hard as they have been any time this winter. The cold, piercing winds from the north continued until near morning. I think my stock suffered more than at any time during the season, and I don't think there is more than one-eighth of our wheat on this place that will recover. Our south place is better but badly hurt. I see a great many later plants that were not as well put in are looking well and growing finely. Grass is also coming on well. Sheep get good picking in many places and are all looking well. Few flock-masters have fed more than one peck of corn per hundred head, and no hay except during storms. A few flocks changing hands at high figures. Most of them are showing snob for want of proper attention in the proper season—in the fall.

GLEN ELDER, Mitchell Co., March 27.—Fall wheat is damaged some by the dry weather, but I think the root of it is safe yet. We were blessed with a nice rain on the 24th, and that will help our wheat. There

will not be much oats sown on account of seed being scarce. There is a good bit of broom-corn raised here. It is a sure crop and does very well on sod. We are beginning to realize the need of timber for shelter from the heavy winds that sweep over our fields and fill the air with dust, besides drying up all moisture from the surface of the ground. Now I do not claim to "know it all," nor even half, but I do think that if the farmers would become more interested in tree-planting and hedge-raising, we would not feel the wind half as much.

I am very much interested in the articles on forest culture and hedge growing that appear in the FARMER from time to time. I think the orange would be the most suitable for hedge. If we want to plant forest trees we should plant them in a grove or body. Don't be afraid of getting too many planted, but plant until you think you have enough, and then plant a lot more. Plant cottonwood, walnut, maple, box-elder, and every other kind that you can get, that is suited to be cultivated. Let us plant lots of peach trees for they will pay us well.

WEATHER REPORT FOR MARCH, 1880.

From Observations Taken at Lawrence, Kansas, by Prof. F. H. Snow, of the Kansas State University.

The meteorological conditions of the month were highly favorable to the wheat fields and the fruit orchards. The buds of early peaches and pears were somewhat damaged by the low temperature of the 11th, but other fruits are apparently uninjured. A noteworthy feature of the weather was the violent wind of the 27th, which filled the air to a considerable height with extremely fine dust particles, obscuring the sun after 10 a. m. as by a fog and giving a strange unearthly hue to the dim transmitted light.

Mean temperature—42.38 deg., which is 0.62 deg. above the average March temperature of the 12 preceding years. The highest temperature was 79 deg., on the 26th, the lowest was 25 deg., on the 14th; monthly range, 76.5 deg. Mean temperature at 7 a. m., 35.24 deg.; at 2 p. m., 51.90 deg.; at 9 p. m., 41.19 deg. Rainfall, including melted snow, 2.03 inches, which is 0.33 inch below the March average. Rain or snow fell on five days. The entire depth of snow was 3 inches. There were two thunder showers.

Mean cloudiness, 41.94 per cent. of the sky, the month being 6.53 percent. clearer than usual. No. of clear days, 16, (entirely clear, 4); half-clear, 6; cloudy 9 (entirely cloudy, 2). Mean at 7 a. m., 50.96 per cent.; at 2 p. m., 52.58 per cent.; at 9 p. m., 31.29 per cent. Wind.—Nw., 31 times; no., 17 times; s., 13 times; se., 12 times; sw., 12 times; w., 3 times, e., 2 times w. twice. The entire distance traveled by the wind was 15,841 miles, which gives a mean daily velocity of 446.48 miles and a mean hourly velocity of 18.6 miles. The highest velocity was 70 miles, from 3 to 5 a. m., on the 27th. The highest daily velocity on our record was on the 5th, 11.21 inches.

Mean height of barometer—29.133 in.; at 7 a. m., 29.154 in.; at 2 p. m., 26.108 in.; at 9 p. m., 19.136 in.; maximum 29.591 in. on the 14th; minimum, 28.478 in. on the 26th; monthly range 1.113 inches. Relative Humidity.—Monthly mean, 63.4; at 7 a. m., 74.8; at 2 p. m., 46.3; at 9 p. m., 69.1; greatest, 100, on the 11th; least, 14.5, on the 14th. There was one fog.

The following table gives a comparison with March of former years:

Table with columns: Year, Mean temperature, Maximum temperature, Minimum temperature, Rainfall in inches, Mean cloudiness, Mean humidity. Rows for years 1865-1880.

* below zero.

Important to Book Agents.

Dr. Morrison's long looked for object teaching Stock Doctor and Live-Stock Encyclopedia, with 1,000 pages, 400 illustrations and two charts, is announced by N. D. Thompson & Co., publishers, at St. Louis, Mo. It covers the subjects of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Swine and Poultry, in health and disease, and is a work of great practical character and value as to be in great demand. A rare chance for agents.

Sells Brothers' Millionaire Confederation of Stupendous Railroad Shows.

That able, influential and reliable newspaper, the Denver (Col.) Daily Tribune says: "In every respect, the Sells Brothers fulfill the promises of their advertisements," and the Red Cloud (Neb.) Chief adds: "Its managers allow no gambling on the grounds, and people can attend the show without the fear of being fleeced by sharpers." That's the kind of talk that will win, every time, in this community, and fill the vast tents of the greatest of shows to overflowing, when it opens at Topeka, on Tuesday, April 20th.

There are few indeed with so little of the circus fever in them that they would not go a long ways just to see the champion bareback equestrian hero of the world, James Robinson, ride, and yet, renowned as he is, he but forms one feature in the colossal exhibition with which he is so honorably associated, and which, besides a complete collection of the rarest wild beasts and birds, and a circus of supreme, classic and refined merit, contains a \$200,000 herd of Elephants, the largest ever seen in

Farm Letters.

BELOIT, Mitchell Co.—I have been a reader of your paper since Jan. 1st. Am much pleased with it and wish every farmer in the state read it. If we farmers could realize that our agricultural journals are the only papers entirely devoted to our interests, we surely would support them better. The winter here has been pleasant and very dry. Fall wheat badly injured. Stock wintering fine. Times good; fall wheat 90c to \$1.00; corn, 20c; hogs, \$3.50 per cwt. Mitchell county has caught the sheep fever and will soon rank as one of the heavy wool growing counties of Kansas. My object in writing this communication is to direct your correspondent, T. W. Hey, where he may obtain one year old catalpa trees, at \$1.00 per hundred; postpaid by mail, and a great variety of other forest trees at same rates, and wonder why the parties don't advertise their stock in the FARMER. Robert Douglass & Son, Waukegan, Ill. are growing millions of forest trees adapted to soil and climate of Kansas and Nebraska, and hope they will see the propriety of advertising their stock in the FARMER that the thousands of its patrons may know where they may get their trees started as it is cheaper and safer than for the average farmer to try to propagate them from the seed. I am glad to note the interest manifested to grow timber, it augurs well for the future of Kansas. J. S. McGRATH.

WINFIELD, Cowley Co.—The last few days have been very windy, blowing almost continually. On the evening of March 24th, our town was considerably damaged by a cyclone which blew down several houses, sheds, out buildings, etc. No one was seriously injured; the loss was about \$10,000. We have not had a good rain since last December, consequently the ground is getting very dry. Wheat is looking good; the acreage sown in this county is very large this year. Farmers are busy putting their spring crops in. There will be a large corn crop planted this year. Gov. St. John was here recently and addressed the people on the temperance question. A large crowd was in attendance; hurrah for the amendment; let every true and honest farmer vote for it. Wheat is worth 85 to 90c per bushel; oats, 25c; hogs \$3.25 to \$3.35 per hundred. Stock of all kinds is looking well. We have plenty of feed in this county for stock till grass comes. The FARMER is a welcome visitor and should be in the hands of every farmer in Kansas. F. T. BEEKEY.

CENTRALIA, Nemaha Co.—We are having very nice weather and the farmers are improving it. The ground is very dry, the fall wheat and rye have suffered some from drought. We need rain badly, but live in hope, as it is raining some today, March 24. Stock looks rather worse this spring than common on account of the bad hay fed during the winter. We had very heavy rains with wind last fall, in consequence of which there was but little good hay in the county. Our prospect for fruit is not flattering, especially for peaches, which have suffered from the recent cold. During February the weather was very warm and pleasant, even to the middle of March, when it turned cold and nipped the fast swelling buds. Corn is worth 27 to 28c per bushel, with a good supply on hand; potatoes 80c and scarce; butter 20c per pound; eggs 6c per dozen. A. L. S.

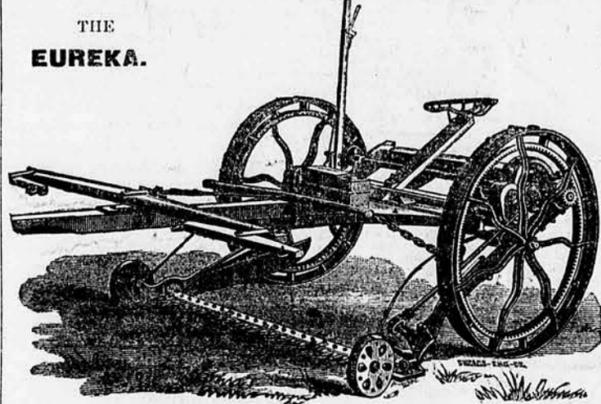
EMERYVA, Lyon Co., March 27.—In answer to F. W. Baker about planting black locust, I would say don't plant it. Many of us planted black locust in this county twenty years ago, and they have been a source of vexation; the borers destroy them and the sprouts are hard to get rid of. My experience with the Lombardy poplar is similar to L. W. Bryan's. They are generally short-lived; but one can well afford to plant a few rows for present use, as they grow quickly and make a good wind-break if set close together. I have one fine tree that is twenty-two years old still healthy. I have some allants that were set out in 1859. They are of no account. They grow very slow after the first two years, and I look upon mine as a nuisance that I would be glad to get rid of. In raising walnut groves I would plant pretty thickly, and at two or three years old cut all off close to the ground. If any one doubts the propriety of this way of doing, try a few and you will be convinced. Cut in winter or early spring. We had a booming rain here last night; too wet for plowing for a number of days. All kinds of stock in fair condition and all healthy. Not fifty acres of wheat in our township. Corn is the main crop and that is nearly all fed in the township. Farmers generally prospering and hopeful of the future. OLIVER PHILLIPS.

JEWELL CITY, Jewell Co.—We had a nice shower of rain on the 24th of March which made many glad hearts with the farmers. Our wheat was somewhat injured by the dry weather, but most of it looks green since the rain. I consider the Red May the best winter wheat we have; taking it one year with another. Spring wheat most all sown at this time. Our anticipations were great that we would have plenty of peaches this year, but the late cold weather we had grounded all our hopes, as it killed most all the fruit buds. I would say to the farmers, plant more trees around your buildings, set out more groves, plant plenty of fruit trees, and I will assure you you will never regret it in the years to come. It will not only be a blessing to you while you live, but a comfort to your children; buy your trees as near home as you can, get them from a reliable nursery, take them up one day and set them out the next, if possible. The best plan I think, is to wait till after the March winds are over, and the buds begin to swell; then, if the ground is not wet enough, use the more water in planting. Mr. Editor, a word about your valuable paper, the KANSAS FARMER, I think it is the best farm paper published for the farmers of Kansas. I like to see farmers exchange their thoughts. I have only taken it one year. The articles on hedges and fruit tree borers have been worth several times the price of the paper. I have been trying to get up a club for several weeks, but have failed to get the number required, for the reason that I can't get them wakened up to their best interests, but will do what I can to spread its circulation, among my brother farmers. May it continue to spread till every farmer in Kansas, shall have a copy of it in his own household. Stock of kinds doing well. R. J. SPENCE.

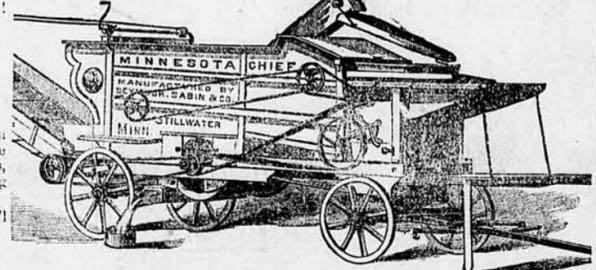
HARVEYVILLE, Wabaunsee Co.—The late cold weather killed peaches and a large per cent. of the cherries. The prospect for other fruit is good; the dry cold weather injured the wheat to a considerable extent, but the late rains have changed the looks of it in the last few days. Farmers are busy sowing oats. Very little spring wheat being sown, as the cost always overruns the profit in this section. Now that there is a railroad being built through the county it has a tendency to induce immigrants to settle here. There is more new houses to be seen going up on the prairie than usual; real estate is advancing in price and there never has been so great a demand for work horses and mules as at this time; in fact, everything that the farmer has to sell can be sold at remunerative prices: wheat, \$1.00; corn, 25c; oats, 20c; potatoes, \$1.00; butter, 20c; hogs, \$3.50, and fat cows &c. Now is the time for all who want cheap land in this county to invest as we expect from the condition of the ground at this time to have a fair crop this year, and with our shipping facilities and nearness to market, and increase of population to see the price of land go up as it never has before. SEPHUR.

MOSELEY, BELL & CO., KANSAS CITY, MO. FARM MACHINERY FORWARDING AGENTS AND SEEDSMEN.

General Agents for the sale of the EUREKA MOWER and BAKER GRAIN DRILL. Wholesale Dealers in all kinds of GARDEN and FIELD SEEDS. Catalogues by mail on application. Prompt attention to small orders as well as large ones. Descriptive Pamphlets and prices of Mower and Drill furnished both Dealer and Farmer in answer to inquiries. Eastern Manufacturers wishing to reship machines at KANSAS CITY, will please address us at 1194 UNION AVENUE.

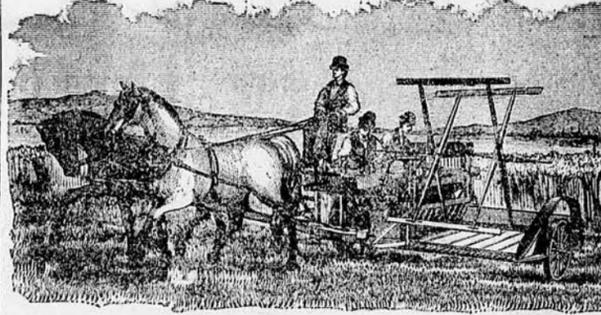


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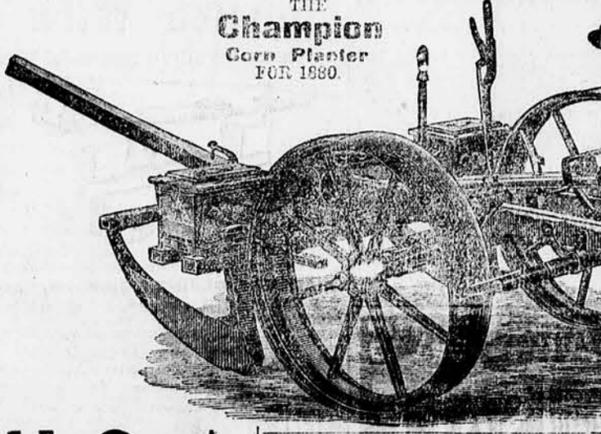
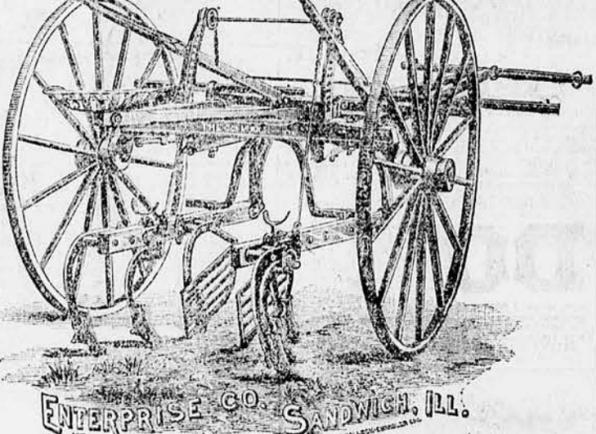
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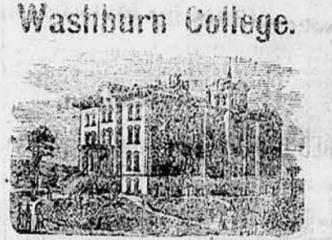
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