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THE KANSAS FARMER.

E. E. EWING, Editor and Proprietor,
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Now let us see what the hosts of warm friends of the "Old Reliable," the KANSAS FARMER, can do towards extending more widely its circulation. We offer them all the profit over bare cost in the hope that they will be able to put the paper into a thousand farm homes in every county in the state, that has been organized four years.

The premium offers will remain open for competition until February 1st, 1881, when the Special Premiums will be awarded and paid.

As soon as 25 names of subscribers have been sent in by an agent he will be paid \$5.00, or that amount may be retained in the agents' hands, remitting us \$20.00.

Send for Club Lists.

No subscriptions for less than one year can be received at club rates, but present subscribers whose time has not expired can renew through agents and have the renewal to commence at the expiration of present subscriptions.

Address all communications for the KANSAS FARMER to

E. E. EWING,
Editor and Publisher,
TOPEKA, KANSAS.

Correspondence.

Life and Growth of Plants.—No. 3.

BY L. J. TEMPLIN.

When the organs are all in the same flower, the pollen is often thrown onto the pistil by a springing motion of the stamens. Sometimes the anther suddenly bursts, scattering the pollen to a considerable distance around. In many cases the anthers are raised above the stigma, so the fertilizing dust is carried to, or falls on, the stigma by gravity. In monocious and dioecious flowers, the pollen is dependent on the agency of winds and insects for conveyance from one flower to another. All such flowers contain nectar that attracts insects which in wandering from flower to flower carry the pollen on their bodies and deposit it on the stigma of the pistillated flowers of the same species.

The provisions of nature for the accomplishment of these purposes indicate an intelligent designing mind operating in and through nature that differs both in nature and degree from what we recognize as the blind forces of nature. Evolution can in no wise explain in any satisfactory manner, this wise adaptation of means to the desired ends.

Cross fertilization seems to be one important end accomplished by the arrangement of the different organs in different flowers; and even in many perfect flowers there appears to be an antipathy to self-fertilization, as many of these are more frequently fertilized by pollen brought by insect agency from other flowers, than by their own pollen.

This method of fertilization has been turned to practical account in the art of horticulture, in the production of crosses and hybrids, as it has been found that pollen, of some kinds at least, may be kept for weeks, and even months, and conveyed a long distance and yet prove efficient in fertilizing flowers to which it is applied. When the ovule has received the fertilizing influence of the pollen an embryo is formed and a perfect seed developed from which an independent plant may be developed.

Three things are essential to the germination of seeds—moisture, a certain degree of heat, and oxygen of the air, and to these we might, perhaps, properly add the chemical rays of sunlight. Moisture is essential for the solution of the various food substances of the seed, that they may be made available to the awakening germ. Warmth is also necessary to the performance of these functions, but the degree of heat essential to the germination of seeds, varies with almost every species of plant. Certain arctic or alpine plants will germinate in water at the freezing point, while many tropical plants require the heat of the torrid regions to start the germ into life. Oxygen is also essential to this process. It seems that during the process of germination the seed absorbs oxygen, which combining with the carbon of the seed, forms carbonic acid, which is exhaled as in the breathing of animals; but when the plant has started and produced green leaves, this process is reversed.

The combination of oxygen and carbon develops heat and raises the temperature of the seed. Modern research has proved that the actinic or chemical rays of sunlight are important to the germination of many seeds. These rays will penetrate the soil to the depth of several inches, while the luminous and calorific rays are intercepted and cut off. The employment of violet colored glass, which permits the actinic rays to pass through but intercepts the other rays, has been found to greatly aid the germination of many kinds of seeds. When the conditions are favorable, the starch of the seed, which cannot be directly appropriated by the embryonic plant, is converted into sugar, which is a suitable pabulum for the infant germ.

On the first awakening of the germ to active life, by some mysterious process a small portion of the starch or other matter immediately contiguous to it is changed into a peculiar substance called diastase, the most important property of which is to convert starch, an unavailable form of plant food, into sugar, a form in which it is easily appropriated by the plantlet.

The young plant is dependent on the store of food laid up in the seed, by the parent plant, till by the development of green leaves it is able to elaborate its own food from the soil and atmosphere.

Much the larger portion of the bulk of every vegetable is carbon, which is chiefly obtained from the atmosphere in the form of carbonic acid. This gas consists of one equivalent of oxygen and one of carbon. It is in-

haled by the leaves and is then analyzed, the carbon being appropriated to the building up of the plant structure, and the oxygen being exhaled by the leaf. The other ingredients of plants consist of nitrogen, hydrogen, and a number of mineral acids, alkalies and salts, most if not all of which are taken up in a soluble form by the roots. The water containing these elements in solution enters through the pores of the roots and is carried upward to the leaves, where the chief part of it is exhaled in invisible vapor. The remainder now become somewhat thickened by the loss of so large a portion of water, flows downward along the stem depositing its freight of nutrient matter in the different parts of the plant according to their various demands.

Various theories have been put forth to account for the circulation of the sap in plants. Heat, electricity and capillary attraction have each been offered as the cause of the process; but none of these will account for it for the reason that none of them singly nor all of them combined can cause the sap to flow through a dead tree or branch. Some other and higher power is required to produce this result. No mere chemical law will account for it; no chemical process can produce it. It is only under the influence of that subtle, mysterious power, the vital principle, that these functions can be performed.

Kansas.

I am exceedingly surprised, on the arrival of quite a number of our eastern friends setting themselves down among us for the purpose of making a livelihood, to see their hopes have been blasted. It appears they have come among us for the purpose of bettering their condition. Some few of them were well-to-do men before they came here. That class have come here not to better their condition personally, but to better the condition of their children, in the way of procuring homes for them. Then there is a large class of single men that have come here because they wanted homes, knowing they could not pay for them in the east as land is worth fifty dollars an acre and upward; and it would employ the greater portion of their physical lives to pay for a dozen acres of farm land, which, when paid for, would not make a farm of any reasonable size. Then there is a goodly number that were land tenants there, and they have paid exorbitant rents for a small piece of land to farm, and trying for quite a number of years to better their condition, have at that length of time concluded to abandon their eastern situation, where tyrants have oppressed them, they emigrate, some to what was once known as the Great American Desert, now known, as some are pleased to call it, as "Drouthy Kansas." Now these people have heard all about Kansas long before they came here, from the fact their friends have been coming here among the first settlers, and then our eastern friends, have sent back tons of letters to them, and they also have the opportunity of reading our western papers, and they ought to gain something of a knowledge of this country. Nevertheless, they come, and will come, as long as there is a foot of government land to be taken.

Men and women should not come here thinking they are going to enjoy all the privileges they enjoyed when leaving the east, privileges, that it has taken double and threble the time, and hard labor to accomplish, that it will here. We want men and women that are willing to come here, put their shoulders to the wheels of labor and move them forward, never looking back till they have climbed the summit of fortune, then Kansas, "Drouthy Kansas," will blossom as the rose.

If the young men of this country had to wade through what their fathers and grandfathers did in the east to make a farm, they would do well to talk about hardships. The clearing up of the forests of the east has taken a life time, then the stumps and stones are left to contend with. Men of the east have often been refused a bushel of corn for a hard day of chopping, and burning piles of timber. A poor farmer could not even have a few beans to make a soup of, and if he was lucky enough to be the possessor of a few potatoes he had frequently to eat them without salt. Men resorted to all the means in their power, to keep the breath of life from becoming extinct. Some carried a bushel of corn from three to five miles through the timber, through wind-falls, and over logs to get to a little corn-cracker, that would crack one kernel, and when that was done bounce another quite willingly. Others resorted to a spring pole with a heavy pes-

tle hung to it. The corn was put into a trough made out a log close by; they stood there and churned it. That is the way they obtained a little corn meal.

In the first settlements of the east men had to take their shot guns to church to keep from being killed by Indians. They chopped down the forests in winter time, and to keep their cow—if they were lucky enough to have one—from starving, subsisted her on the buds of the fallen timber. They had no pastures and natural meadows as we have in the west. They had nothing to help themselves with. The earth was darkened from the sun with the dense growth of heavy timber. It took most of the winter to chop the wood for their moaster fire-places. The husband kept warm out of doors chopping wood to keep the better-half, and the children, and they had lots of them, from freezing.

The above is a few of the many hardships our sires underwent for the sake of living on God's green earth a little longer. Now readers of the FARMER, what is, and what was, are two entirely different things. The what is, is Kansas, ranking among, and inferior to none, of the states in the union. In the first place, let me say to the readers of the FARMER, stick to your claims and deeded lands. We have got a country here that will stand more dry weather than any place on the earth, and we consequently can and do raise more grain, with less rain, than any country in the world. Stick to your claims. Do not entertain the idea that this high land is not of good quality. Does there not grow as big grass on the high lands of Kansas as any other state? If this is the case, and it emphatically is, then Kansas high lands are at par in quality with other states.

People with limited means come here with a great many mistaken ideas. You must not think of making much ready money the first five or seven years. If you succeed in paying for a 160 acres of land, get a quantity of it in a good state of cultivation, a small orchard of the different fruits growing, you have done remarkably well. You could not make that in the east, and if you have accomplished it in the west, in the above time, you ought to be contented and let well enough alone.

Kansas has as fine stock of all the different kinds, and natural facilities, and is further advanced as a country for the time she has been settled, than any state in the union. Look at our schools and institutions of learning, for the time she has been settled, then tell me Kansas does not compare favorably with any of the states. We have got the bottom, the sunshine; we have the brains, for we have men here from all parts of the world to make of Kansas a paradise good enough for any man, be he a black one or a white one.

Let me say in behalf of Kansas frontiersmen, (for I know there are some good resolute sons of toil out here, from the numerous letters they write for the FARMER,) hold your grip, and stay where you are. Plant all the groves you can and the larger the better; get heavy teams as fast as you can pay for them, plow your ground deep, plow all of your stubble under of whatever nature it may be, and if you do not make a success of farming, by being industrious and economical then tell me I am a false prophet and deceiver.

HENRY BUTLER.

140 miles southwest from Topeka.

Without Varnish.

A great many farmers in Kansas, and in fact all the western states, are poor; a great many more who really cannot be called poor are fearfully hard up. It would be incorrect to say that all this impecuniosity, this chronic hard-up-ness, is due to any one cause, but I am satisfied a very important factor in it is that they practice on the idea that starving a young, growing animal and subjecting it to cold and storms, gives a hardier constitution, or, as commonly expressed, "makes it tough." It is not only cruel, but one of the most preposterous, absurdly ridiculous and unprofitable ideas that ever had possession of the minds of an intelligent, reading, thinking people. It is on all too many farms a prime factor in keeping the noses of their owners to the grindstone, and compelling them to forever be hewers of wood and drawers of water, whose children in too many instances grow up to be ignorant boor-for want of means and opportunity to attend schools, owing to the supposed need of their staying at home to help tend the "crap," which is to pay taxes, buy "terbacker for the ole man, a caliker gown and some snuff for the ole woman," with possibly some inexpensive store clothes for the boys. This idea seems to

have its firmest grip in the minds of those who pay considerable attention to raising colts. They argue that if well fed and stabled a colt will grow up to be a soft, weedy, unsound horse, without hardiness or endurance. Such has undoubtedly been the result in the comparatively few cases where colts have been kept without exercise in warm, poorly ventilated stables, and fed on highly stimulating grains, such as corn, but where one dollar has been lost from such treatment, one hundred dollars are squandered in trying to "toughen" farm animals and save grain at the same time—a fine illustration of the old fashioned economy that saves at the spigot and wastes at the bung-hole.

Fellow farmers, the starving, freezing process never made a good horse, a good steer, or cow, nor a good hog, nor a good sheep, and it never will! Give your young animals good feed, plenty of it, and in as great variety as possible; give them good shelter from the marrow-freezing east winds and the stinging blizzards from the north; stable them in stormy, cold weather, if possible; if not, provide shedding of some kind for every one; if even this cannot be done in a considerable degree, weather-board the colts, calves, lambs, and pigs, on their inside, with the material that grows on every farm, viz: corn, or corn and oats, and millet or hungarian will not hurt them. At all events, don't be too stingy with the grain, and the stock will winter in many times better condition and be a thousand times less liable to have those terrors to shiftless farmers—"hollow-horn," "wolf-in-the-tail," or "mully-grubs."

Along with generous feeding, they need auddant exercise in the free, fresh, pure air of heaven, and it is not simply desirable but an absolute necessity to a healthy, robust development in all young animals, and especially colts. It does not answer that they be led out for water or even exercise at regular intervals, but as has been truly said, "he needs and must have the opportunity to romp and play—a stirring up of spirit that causes him to extend his muscles to the utraost, to expand his lungs to their very depths, and to send the blood coursing through his veins with fiery vigor. All these are essential to a healthy development, and nowhere can it be attained but in the freedom of the field."

A certain period of every creature's life is allotted to growth, and if during that period only a scanty supply of nourishment is furnished, such a large proportion of it is required to keep up the animal heat during severe weather that a stunted, scrawny, dwarfed brute is the inevitable result, and no amount of after care can make it what it ought to have been.

Right now, in December, 1880, is a good time to turn over a new leaf; fix up more and better shedding; batten up more of those cracks. Begin, to-day, to add 25 to 75 percent more to the grain ration, and if you haven't grain to do that and keep your young stock, trade off some of the least desirable and get more feed. Don't rely wholly on corn, even if you have it; put some oats with it and have both ground, or if possible, crushed in your own farm mill; use them freely; being generous by no means implies wastefulness. It will pay; pay in an easier conscience, in better stock, that brings better prices, and that means more money to build a better house, buy better clothes, and to build better churches and school houses where the coming generation may attain knowledge, which is the next best thing to power, and power rightly used will enable us to right some of the wrongs on which we like to expatiate, and which it is claimed members of all other occupations and professions are leagued together to weigh us down with.

George Washington is accused of saying that agriculture is the noblest pursuit of man, but I say such a statement is the merest bosh unless the agriculture is pursued in a less ignoble way than it is on our farms where the pig-headed owner toughens his young animals by the refrigerative-starving process. It is successful to about the same extent as was the Dutchman's gun that would shoot a rod and kick a half a mile!

F. D. CONYAN.

Pomona, Kansas, Dec. 13th.

Will the secretary of the meeting held at Junction City, Oct. 12th, for the purpose of organizing a Wool Growers' Association, make a report of that meeting, giving names of delegates, and counties they represented.

P. S. PECK.

By referring to the letter of Walter Brown & Co., published on the first page of the KANSAS FARMER, on the 15th inst., it will be seen that they explain and modify their statement made in their circular.

Patrons of Husbandry.

NATIONAL GRANGE.—Master: J. J. Woodman, of Michigan; Secretary: Wm. M. Ireland, Washington, D. C.; Treasurer: F. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Hon. James, of Indiana; D. W. Aiken, of South Carolina; W. G. Wayne, of New York.

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

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

COUNTY DEPUTIES.—J. T. Stevens, Lawrence, Douglas county; T. B. Tyers, Beatty, Marshall county; E. R. Powell, Augusta, Butler county; C. F. Morse, Milo, Lincoln county; J. J. Pope, Wichita, Sedgwick county; A. P. Reardon, Jefferson Co., Post Office, Diamond, Leavenworth county; S. W. Day, Ottawa, Franklin county; G. A. Hovey, Belleville, Republic county; J. E. Barrett, Greenleaf, Washington county; W. W. Cone, Topeka, Shawnee county; J. McComas, Holton, Jackson county; Charles Disbrow, Clay Centre, Clay county; Frank B. Smith, Rush Centre, Rush county; G. M. Summerville, McPherson, McPherson county; J. S. Payne, Cadmus, Linn county; Charles Wyeth, Minneapolis, Ottawa county; J. Wieman, Milldred, Morris county; John A. Huron, Atchison county; George F. Jackson, Fredonia, Wilson county; D. C. Spurgeon, Leroy, Coffey county; James W. Williams, Peabody, Marion county; R. T. Ewalt, Great Bend, Barton county; C. S. Worley, Eureka, Greenwood county; James McCormick, Burr Oak, Jewell county; L. M. Earnest, Garnett, Anderson county; D. P. Clark, Kirwin, Phillips county; George Fell, Lawrence, Pawnee county; A. Huff, Salt City, Sumner county; James Faulkner, Iola, Allen county; W. J. Ellis, Miami county; George Amy, Glenwood, Bourbon county; W. D. Covington, Smith county; P. O. Kirwin, J. H. Chandler, Ross, Woodson county; E. F. Williams, Erie, Neosho county; J. O. Vanorsdal, Winfield, Cowley county; George W. Black, Olathe, Johnson county; W. J. Campbell, Red Stone, Cloud county; John Rehrig, Fairfax, Osage county; I. S. Fleck, Bunker Hill, Russell county; J. K. Miller, Sterling, Rice county; W. D. Rippline, Severance, Doniphan county; Arthur Sharp, Girard, Crawford county; P. B. Maxson, Emporia, Lyon county; A. M. Switzer, Hutchinson, Reno county; S. N. Wood, Cottonwood Falls, Chase county; G. S. Kneeland, Keeno, Wabanssee county.

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

Notice of Meeting of the State Grange.

The annual meeting of the State Grange of Kansas, will meet at Olathe, Johnson county, Tuesday, December 21st, 1880, at 10 o'clock a. m.

By order of Executive Committee.
W. H. JONES, Chairman.

Industrial Corporations—The Railways.

The following matter, pertaining to the relation of railroad interests to government, is extracted from an address by the president-elect, James A. Garfield, delivered before the literary society of Hudson College, July 2d, 1873, and printed under the head, "The Future of the Republic, Its Dangers and Hopes."

There is another class of dangers, unlike any we have yet considered—dangers engendered by civilization itself, and made formidable by the very forces which man is employing as the most effective means of bettering his condition and advancing civilization. I select the railway problem as an example of this class. I can do but little more than to state the question and to call your attention to its daily increasing magnitude.

We are so involved in the events and movements of society, that we do not stop to realize—what is undeniably true—that, during the last forty years, all modern societies have entered upon a period of change, more marked, more pervading, more radical than any that has occurred during the last three hundred years. In saying this, I do not forget our own political and military history, nor the French Revolution in 1793. The changes now taking place have been wrought and are now being wrought, mainly, almost wholly, by a single mechanical contrivance, the steam-locomotive. Imagine, if you can, what would happen if tomorrow morning the regular locomotive, and its corollary, the telegraph, were blotted from the earth. At first thought it would seem impossible to get on at all with the feeble substitutes we should be compelled to adopt in place of these great forces. To what humble proportions mankind would be compelled to scale down the great enterprises they are now pushing forward, with such ease! But were this calamity to happen, we should simply be placed where we were forty-three years ago.

There are many persons in this audience who will remember the day when Andrew Jackson, after four weeks of toilsome travel from his home in Tennessee, reached Washington and took his first oath of office as president of the United States. On that day the railway locomotive did not exist. During that year Henry Clay was struggling to make his name immortal by linking it with the then vast project of building a national road—a turnpike—from the national capital to the banks of the Mississippi.

In the autumn of that very year, George Stephenson ran his first experimental locomotive, the "Rocket," from Manchester to Liverpool and back. The rumble of its wheels, redoubled a million times, is echoing to-day on every continent.

In 1870 there were about 120,000 miles of railroad on the two hemispheres, constructed at a cost of little less than \$100,000 per mile, and representing nearly twelve thousand million dollars of invested capital.

A parliamentary commission found that during the year 1866 the railway cars of Great Britain carried an average of 850,000 passengers per day; and during that year the work done by their 8,125 locomotives would have required for its performance three and a half millions of men.

What have our people done for our locomotive, and what has it done for us? To the United States with its vast territorial areas, the railroad was a vital necessity.

Talleyrand once said to the first Napoleon that "The United States was a giant without bones." Since that time our gristle has been rapidly hardening. Sixty-seven thousand miles of iron track is a tolerable skeleton, even for a giant. When this new power appeared, our people everywhere felt the necessity of set-

ting it to work; and individuals, cities, states and the nation lavished their resources, without stint, to make a pathway for it. Fortunes were sunk under almost every mile of our earlier roads, in the effort to capture and utilize this new power. If the state did not head the subscription for a new road, it usually came to the rescue before the work was completed.

The lands given by the states and by the national government to aid in the construction of railroads reach an aggregate of nearly 250,000,000 acres—a territory equal to nine times the area of Ohio. With these vast resources we have made paths for the steam giant; and to-day, nearly a quarter of a million of our business and working men are in its immediate service. Such a power naturally attracts to its enterprises the brightest and strongest intellects. It would be difficult to find, in any other profession, so large a proportion of men possessed of a high order of business ability as those who construct, manage and operate our railroads.

The American people have done much for the locomotive, and it has done much for them. We have already seen that it has greatly reduced, if not wholly destroyed, the danger that the government will fall to pieces by its own weight. The railroad has not only brought our people and their industries together, but it has carried civilization into the wilderness, has built up states and territories, which but for its power would have remained deserts for a century to come. "Abroad and at home," as Mr. Adams tersely declares, "it has equally nationalized people, and cosmopolitized nations." It has played a most important part in the recent movement for the unification and preservation of nations.

It enabled us to do what the old military science had pronounced impossible, to conquer a revolted population of eleven millions, occupying a territory one-fifth as large as the continent of Europe. In Mr. Adams' able essay on the railway system, he has pointed out some of the remarkable achievements of the railroad, in our recent history. For example a single railroad track enabled Sherman to maintain 80,000 fighting men, three hundred miles beyond his base of supplies. Another line, in a space of seven days brought a reinforcement of two fully equipped army corps around a circuit of thirteen hundred miles, to strengthen an army at a threatened point. He calls attention to the still more striking fact that for ten years past, with fifteen hundred millions of our indebtedness abroad, an enormous debt at home, unparalleled public expenditures, and a depreciated paper currency—in defiance of all past experience, we have been steadily conquering our difficulties, have escaped the predicted collapse, and are promptly meeting our engagements; because through energetic railroad development, the country has been producing real wealth as no country has produced it before. Finally, he sums up the case by declaring that the locomotive "has dragged the country through its difficulties in spite of itself."

It is unnecessary to particularize further; for whether there be peace or war, society can not exist in its present order without the railroad.

I have noticed briefly what society has done for the locomotive, and what it has done for society. Let us now inquire what it is likely to do to society.

The national constitution and the constitutions of most of the states, were formed before the locomotive existed, and of course no special provisions were made for its control. Are our institutions strong enough to stand the shock and strain of this new force?

A government made for the kingdom of Lilliput might fail to handle the force of Brobdingnag.

It can not have escaped your attention that all forces of society, new and old, are now acting with unusual vigor in all departments of life. They crowd your college course with new studies each year. They challenge you with new and imperious demands.

Your culture must be more thorough, and the scope and amount of your knowledge far greater than the graduate of forty years ago required to keep abreast of the age.

Much more knowledge and culture are now required for every profession. A recent English writer of great thoughtfulness and power, has said that "the demands of our civilization are too great for the stamina and endurance of our people; that our race is overweighed and appears likely to be drugged into degeneracy by demands that exceeds its powers."

But interesting and important as that reflection is, in relation to individual life, the rapid development of our material interests raises another question even more momentous. May it not be true that the new forces are also overweighing the strength of our social and political institutions?

The editor of the *Nation* declares the simple truth when in a recent issue he says: "The locomotive is coming in contact with the framework of our institutions. In this country of simple government, the most powerful centralizing force which civilization has yet produced, must within the next score years, assume its relations to that political machinery which is to control and regulate it." The railway problem would have been much easier of solution if its difficulties had been understood in the beginning. But we have waited until the child has become a giant. We attempted to mount a columbiad on a carriage whose strength was only sufficient to stand the recoil of a twelve-pound shot.

uation with a piece of legal machinery known as the private corporation.

In discussing this theme we must not make an indiscriminate attack upon corporations. The corporation, limited to its proper uses, is one of the most valuable of the many useful creations of law. One class of corporations has played a most important and conspicuous part in securing the liberties of mankind. It was the municipal corporations—the free cities and chartered towns—that preserved and developed the spirit of freedom during the darkness of the middle ages, and powerfully aided in the overthrow of the feudal system. The charters of London and of the lesser cities and towns of England made the most effective resistance to the tyranny of Charles the Second, and the judicial savagery of Jeffries. The spirit of the free town and the chartered colony taught our own fathers how to win their independence. The New England township was the political unit which formed the basis of most of our states.

This class of corporations have been most useful, and almost always safe, because they have been kept constantly within the control of the community for whose benefit they were created. The state has never surrendered the power of amending their charters.

The early English law writers classified all corporations into public and private; calling those of a municipal character public or quasi public, and all others private corporations. The latter class, at that time, and indeed long afterward, consisted chiefly of such organizations as hospitals, colleges, and other charities supported by private benefactions. The ownership of the property, not the object of the corporation, was made the basis of classification. If the property was owned wholly by the state or the municipality, the corporation was public; if owned wholly or partly by individual citizens, the corporation was private. From this distinction have arisen the legal difficulties attending any attempt, on the part of the community, to control the great business corporations.

Under the name of private corporations, organizations have grown up, not for the perpetuation of any great charity, like a college or hospital, not to enable a company of citizens more conveniently to carry on a private industry; but a class of corporations unknown to the early law writers has arisen, and to them have been committed the vast powers of the railroad and the telegraph, the great investments by which modern communities live, move and have their being.

Since the dawn of history, the great thoroughfares have belonged to the people—have been known as the king's highways or the public highways, and have been opened to the free use of all, on payment of a small, uniform tax or toll to keep them in repair. But now the most perfect, and by far the most important roads known to mankind, are owned and managed as private property, by a comparatively small number of private citizens.

In all its uses, the railroad is the most public of all our roads; and in all the objects to which its works relates, the railway corporation is as public as any organization can be. But, in the start, it was labeled a private corporation; and, as far as its legal status is concerned, it is now grouped with eleemosynary institutions and private charities, and enjoys similar immunities and exemptions. It remains to be seen how long the community will suffer itself to be the victim of an abstract definition.

It will be readily conceded that a corporation is strictly and really private, when it is authorized to carry on such a business as a private citizen may carry on. But when the state has delegated to a corporation the sovereign right of eminent domain, the right to take from the private citizen, without his consent, a portion of his real estate, to build its structure across farm, garden and lawn, into and through, over or under the blocks, squares, streets, churches and dwellings of incorporated cities and towns, across navigable rivers, and over and along public highways, it requires a stretch of the common imagination and much refinement and subtlety of the law to maintain the old fiction that such an organization is not a public corporation.

Advertisements.

KANSAS
The ATCHISON, TOPEKA and SANTA FE R. R. CO. have now for sale
TWO MILLION ACRES
ARKANSAS VALLEY
Choice Farming and Grazing Lands, specially adapted to Wheat Growing, Stock Raising, and Dairying, located in the favored latitude of the world, free from extremes of heat and cold; also short winters, pure water, rich soil; in
SOUTHWEST KANSAS
FOR FULL PARTICULARS, ADDRESS
A. S. JOHNSON,
Land Commissioner A. T. & S. F. R. R. Co.,
Topeka, Kansas.

LANDS
A KEY THAT WILL WINK AT ANY WATCH AND NOT WEAR OUT.
SOLD BY WASHINGTON, D. C., BY MAIL 25 CENTS. CINCINNATI, OHIO, BY MAIL 25 CENTS. ST. LOUIS, MO., BY MAIL 25 CENTS.

TUTT'S PILLS!
SYMPTOMS OF A TORPID LIVER.
Loss of Appetite, Nausea, bowels costive, Pain in the Head, with a dull sensation in the back part, Pain under the shoulder-blade, fullness after eating, with a disposition to exertion of body or mind, Irritability of temper, Low spirits, Loss of memory, with a feeling of having neglected some duty, weariness, Dizziness, Fluctuating at the Heart, Dots before the eyes, Yellow Skin, Headache, Restlessness at night, Highly colored Urine.

A Noted Divine says:
Dr. TUTT.—Dear Sir: For ten years I have been a martyr to Dyspepsia, Constipation and Piles. Last Spring your Pills were recommended; I used them. I am now a well man, have good appetite, digestion, regular, quiet stools, piles gone, and have gained forty pounds flesh. They are worth their weight in gold.
Rev. R. L. SIMPSON, Louisville, Ky.
They increase the Appetite, and cause the body to Take on Flesh, thus the system is nourished, and by their Tonic Action on the Digestive Organs, Regular Stools are produced. Price 25 cents. 35 Murray St., N. Y.

TUTT'S HAIR DYE.
GRAY HAIR ON WHISKERS changed to a Glossy BLACK by a single application of this DYE. It imparts a Natural Color, acts Instantaneously. Sold by Druggists, or sent by express on receipt of \$1.
Office, 35 Murray St., New York.

THE SORGO HANDBOOK
A Treatise on Sorgo and Imphee Canes, and the Minnesota Early Amber Sugar Cane. The **EDITION FOR 1880** is now ready, and will be sent free on application. We can furnish the PURE CANE SEED of the best variety.
W. E. MYER & ANNE CUTTING CO.,
Cincinnati, O.
Care: Machinery, Steam Engines, Circular Saw Mills, Grain Mills, Church and School Bells, &c.

A. PRESCOTT & CO.,
TOPEKA, KANSAS.
[Have on hand]

\$100,000 TO LOAN
In Shawnee and adjoining Counties on good Farm security
At 8 and 9 per cent.,
Per Annum.

BOSTWICK'S GIANT RIDING SAW MACHINE
This Wonderful Improved Saw Machine is warranted to saw a two-foot log in three minutes, and more cord wood or logs of any size in a day than two men can chop or saw the old way.
Free Estimates and Testimonials sent on request.
AGENTS WANTED.—Illustrated circular and terms free. Address **FAIRBANKS MANUFACTURING CO.,** 278 Elm Street, Cincinnati, O.

PERPETUAL Sorghum Evaporator.
\$15. \$20. \$25.
CHEAP AND DURABLE.
Send for Circulars. Address the only Manufacturers,
CHAPMAN & CO., Madison, Ind.

AGENTS WANTED
To Sell the Favorite
CAKE AND BAKING PAN.
WILL SELL ON SIGHT TO EVERY HOUSEKEEPER.
The success of our pans proves it to be the best selling article in the market. One agent made \$120 in 2 weeks, another \$50 in 10 days, another \$41 in 3 days. Binding and Freight Free to Agents. Send for circulars to nearest address. **SHEPARD & CO.,** Cincinnati, O., or St. Louis, Mo.

KANSAS Loan & Trust company
TOPEKA, KANSAS.
The Oldest and Largest Institution of the Kind in the State.

LOANS MADE
Upon well Improved Farms and City Property at the LOWEST RATE. Money always on hand. No tedious waiting for papers to go east. Four Millions Loaned in the State. Send in your application with full description of property.
T. B. SWEET, President.
GEO. M. NOBLE, Secretary.

VICTOR STANDARD SCALES, ALSO **VICTOR SELF-GOVERNING WIND MILLS.**
Every SCALE and every MILL warranted equal to any in the market. Buy the best. It is always the cheapest. For prices, address **W. M. MOLINE, MOLINE SCALE CO., ILLINOIS.**

Breeders' Directory.

ELM RUN HERD.—M. & W. W. Waltaire, Carbon- dale, Osage Co., Kansas, Breeders of Thoroughbred Short-Horn Cattle and Chester White Pigs. Stock for sale.
E. T. FROWE, breeder of Thoroughbred Spanish E. Merino Sheep, (Hammond Stock). Bucks for sale. Post Office, Auburn, Shawnee Co., Kansas.

BLUE VALLEY HERD.—Walter M. Morgan, breeder of thoroughbred Hereford Cattle and Cotswold Sheep, Irving, Marshall county, Kan. High grade Bulls and thoroughbred Rams for sale at reasonable prices. Correspondence solicited.
HALL BROS., Ann Arbor, Mich., make a specialty of breeding the choicest strains of Poland-China Suffolks, Essex and Berkshire Pigs. Present prices less than last card rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. A few splendid pigs, jilts and boars now ready.

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. WADDELL,** Topeka.

Nurserymen's Directory.

KANSAS HOME NURSERY
offer for sale Home grown Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Vines, Shrubs, &c., of varieties suited to the west. The largest stock of Apple Seedlings.
A. H. & H. C. GRIESE, Lawrence, Kansas.
M. MIAMI COUNTY NURSERY—18th year, 160 acres stock first-class, shipping facilities good. The bulk of the stock offered for fall and spring of '80-81, consists of 10 million osage hedge plants; 250,000 apple seedlings; 1,000,000 one root grades; 500,000 year apple trees, and 10,000 wild goose plum trees. We have also a good assortment of cherry and peach trees, ornamental stock, grape vines, and small fruits. Personal inspection of stocks requested. Send for price lists. Address **E. F. CADWALLADER,** Louisville, Ky.

Dentist.

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

HOGS.

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

RIVERSIDE FARM HERD OF POLANDS.
Established in 1868.

I have in my herd the sow that took first money and sweetstakes, and the sow and her under six months took first premium at Kansas City Exposition in 1878, and the sow, boar and litter that took first premium and sweetstakes over all at the meeting of the Lyon County Agricultural Society in 1879. 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 as ordered on receipt of money.
J. V. RANDOLPH, Emporia, Kan.

NOEGANT

E. DILLON & CO.
The Oldest and Most Extensive IMPORTERS AND BREEDERS OF
Norman French Horses
In the United States. Old Louis Napoleon, the first imported Norman stallion brought to Illinois, at the head of our stud, for many years. Have made eleven importations direct from France, and have been awarded over two thousand prizes on our Norman stock.
NEW IMPORTATION
Of 29 choice Normans arrived in July, 1880, the largest importation of Norman stallions, three years old and over, ever made to this country. A number of them are government-approved stallions, and the winners of 11 prizes at leading fairs in France. One of them was awarded a prize at the Paris Exposition (or World's Fair) in 1878. Two others were the winners of first prizes at Le Mans, France, in 1880. For one of these stallions we paid the highest price ever paid by American buyers for a Norman Stallion in France, and for this lot of stallions we paid the highest average price. We have now on hand 140 head of choice stallions and mares, for sale on as reasonable terms as the same quality of stock can be had for anywhere in the United States.
Illustrated catalogue of stock sent free on application.
All imported and native full-blood animals entered for registry in the National Registry of Norman Horses.
E. DILLON & CO., Bloomington, McLean Co., Ill.

126 PERCHERON-NORMAN HORSES
IMPORTED IN 12 MONTHS,

M. W. DUNHAM, Wayne, DuPage County, Illinois,
25 MORE ARE ON THE WAY,
Being MORE than the TOTAL IMPORTATIONS of ANY OTHER MAN or FIRM during their entire business career. 100 page Catalogue, 41 Illustrations, free on application.
KANSAS.

If you want Taxes paid, or Real Estate bought or sold, anywhere in Kansas, or to loan money on good improved property at good rate of interest, correspond with J. R. Swallow & Co., Real Estate and Loan Agents, Topeka, Kansas.

Manhood Restored.
A victim of early imprudence, causing nervous debility, premature decay, etc., having tried in vain every known remedy, has discovered a simple means of self-cure, which he will send free to his fellow-sufferers. Address **J. H. REEVES,** 48 Chatham st., N. Y.

THE KANSAS FARMER.

E. E. EWING, Editor and 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

The greatest care is used to prevent swindling humbugs securing space in these advertising columns. Advertisements of lotteries, whiskey, and quack doctors are not received.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers should very carefully notice the label stamped upon the margin of their papers. All those marked "52" expire with the next issue.

CLUBS! CLUBS!!

Look at our offer for clubs. The greatest offer to club agents ever made. Cash and no trade in articles at high prices for work.

No Special Authority is needed for a person to form clubs. All that is necessary is to secure the names and remit the money.

In Giving Address, be careful to give the full name of individuals, the Postoffice, County and State, and do not write on the same piece of paper that communications for the FARMER are written on.

Club Lists with necessary instruction sent to those who contemplate getting up clubs.

Post Office Addresses.

When parties write to the FARMER on any subject whatever, they should give the county and post office both. Some of the new post offices are not put down in the post office directory, and when the county is not mentioned, the post office clerks do not know where to send papers or letters.

The Speakership.

As the day draws near for the meeting of the legislature of Kansas, the speakership grows more prominent. We have heard three gentlemen named, and if not the only candidates in the field, are at present the most prominent.

Capt. J. E. Johnson, of Topeka, was among the first named in the field, and being a resident of the capital, is a general favorite with Topekiens. The captain is a very estimable gentleman, an old citizen, and member of the law firm of Peck, Ryan & Johnson.

J. D. Snoddy, Esq., of Linn county, is one of the ablest lawyers in the state, has figured extensively in political life in Kansas, and is well known throughout the state. He is a man of much force and will power.

The third candidate for the honors of presiding officer, is Hon. O. S. Munsell, of Morris county, who, with his son, owns and conducts a large stock and grain farm near Council Grove. Mr. Munsell has been a citizen of Kansas four years, and is not so well known in public life here as in Illinois, whence he immigrated to this state to engage in farming and stock raising.

From a number of favorable notices by the press in relation to Mr. Munsell's candidacy for Speaker, we select the following from the Northwestern Christian Advocate, published at Chicago:

"Dr. O. S. Munsell, formerly President of the Illinois Wesleyan University, is engaged successfully in business near Council Grove, Kansas, where lives also our ancient friend Rev. Henderson Ritchie. Dr. Munsell has been plumply elected to the Kansas House of Representatives. We see that his name is mentioned strongly for Speaker of the House. News of his election would be very gratifying to many. The burghers would do well to put him in the chair. He will preside finely and do credit to everybody concerned. Give him the gavel."

It will be seen from the foregoing sketch that the three most conspicuous candidates for

speaker are men of ability, learning, and all well qualified to assume the responsibility of the office. The next question in importance is what elements would the election of either apparently represent, among the political questions which most excite public interest? There are three of these questions which occupy the foreground, and which may be summarized as the temperance question, the railroad question, and the farmers' question.

Mr. Snoddy, being the least objectionable to the liquor interest, as not having been a pronounced prohibitionist, and although the choice might prove it was one "between the devil and the deep sea," that party will be likely to gravitate toward him. The men conspicuously known as the most active and energetic agents in railroad interest, are warmly espousing the candidacy of Mr. Johnson; besides his incidental business relationship to the corporations and his location would naturally give him their preference.

We do not know that either of these gentlemen, who are of equal sterling integrity, could be biased a hair's breadth from what they conceived to be the strict line of justice in favor of, or derogatory to, any public interest, but it being human nature when left free to make its own selection, to choose that which it finds itself in sympathy with, the selection of speaker cannot fail to divide on the lines we have indicated.

The following is the list of members who are engaged in farming, with their post office and county address. A few of the members we have been unable to ascertain the business of, which may swell the list of farmers somewhat. While the House is well represented by farmers, the Senate will be found correspondingly meager, there being but 8 farmers to 16 lawyers and 14 of other pursuits not reported.

The following is the list of representatives who are wholly or principally employed in agriculture and stock raising: J. W. Cox, Ellinore, Allen Co.; Geo. W. Glick, Atchison; F. E. Cloyes, Atchison; J. Potter, Mt. Pleasant, Atchison Co.; D. W. Houston, Garnett, Anderson Co.; Wiley Bollinger, Mill Creek, Bourbon Co.; O. Straught, Bourbon Co.; Thos. Cochran, Ft. Scott, Bourbon Co.; G. A. Sears, Little Walnut, Butler Co.; W. A. Hagan, Farmersburg, Chautauque Co.; J. S. Doolittle, Cottonwood Falls, Chase Co.; V. L. Browning, Sherman City, Cherokee Co.; C. R. Webber, Crestline, Cherokee Co.; H. R. Hubbard, Boston Mills, Cherokee Co.; J. W. Jones, Burlington, Coffey Co.; John Giese, Burlington, Coffey Co.; C. S. Wellington, Mt. Carroll, Crawford Co.; W. B. Cochran, Cherokee, Crawford Co.; D. B. Stein, Oberlin, Decatur Co.; C. H. Lebold, Abilene, Dickinson Co.; Geo. V. Hageman, Brenner, Doniphan Co.; Joseph Davis, Wathena, Doniphan Co.; R. A. Steele, Clinton, Douglas Co.; C. H. Kirkpatrick, Kinsley, Edwards Co.; M. Allen, Hays City, Ellis Co.; G. I. Watkins, Whiting, Jackson Co.; W. H. Wilson, Smithland, Jackson Co.; Edwin Snyder, Oskaloosa, Jefferson Co.; J. M. Puderbaugh, Osawkie, Jefferson Co.; J. B. Swartz, Cherry Vale, Labette Co.; T. J. Calvin, Chetopa, Labette Co.; J. M. Marvin, Kickapoo, Leavenworth Co.; M. C. Harris, Maria, Leavenworth Co.; V. M. Divelbliss, Reno, Leavenworth Co.; Henry Carpenter, Blooming Grove, Linn Co.; G. W. Kelly, Beattie, Marshall Co.; S. W. Hazen, Frankfort, Marshall Co.; J. W. Waring, Marion Center, Marion Co.; J. M. Vannordstrand, Wheatland, McPherson Co.; J. W. Games, Paola, Miami Co.; Henderson Rice, Oswatomie, Miami Co.; R. P. Blain, Lemar, Ottawa Co.; H. F. Robbins, Blaine, Pottawatomie Co.; J. H. Lawson, Hutchinson, Reno Co.; W. P. Peake, Belleville, Republic Co.; N. Green, Stockdale, Riley Co.; Alexander Moore and J. H. Norris, Independence, Montgomery Co.; J. P. Rood, Fawn Creek, Montgomery Co.; O. S. Munsell, Council Grove, Morris Co.; N. N. Benson, Oneida, Nemaha Co.; A. W. Craft, Capioma, Nemaha Co.; Albert Graves, Norton, Norton Co.; A. W. Gowan, Osborn, Osborne Co.; H. McMaster, Olivet, Osage Co.; Ira S. Fleck, Bunker Hill, Russell Co.; N. Peterson, Saline, Saline Co.; F. M. Doffemyer, Wichita, Sedgewick Co.; J. A. Rossman, Twelve Mile, Smith Co.; A. E. Mayhew, Wellington, Sumner Co.; O. M. Osborn, Koloko, Washington Co.; O. H. Benson, Palmer, Washington Co.; J. L. McCrumb, Newberry, Wabasha county; J. Z. Sexton, Fredonia, Wilson Co.; T. F. Dodd, Altoona, Wilson Co.

The following are members from unorganized counties, who are farmers and stockraisers: J. L. Walton, Houston, Graham Co.; A. Newby, Buckner, Hodgman Co.; S. G. Babcock, Kingman, Kingman Co.; Horace Gates, Ness City, Ness Co.; A. B. Montgomery, Stock-

ton, Rooks Co.; Jno. Hargrave, LaCross, Rush Co.; J. C. Tousley, Livingston, Stafford Co. SENATORS.

Of the forty members constituting the Kansas senate, sixteen are lawyers, eight farmers, and the balance representing other branches of business, not heard from.

Topeka Alliance No. 37

Will meet at Odd Fellow's Hall in the City of Topeka, on Thursday December 23d at 2 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, enrolling new members and transacting other business that may come before the meeting. All farmers are cordially invited to attend and enroll their names as members of the Alliance. No initiation fee to pay.

L. A. MULHOLLAND, GEO. LUDDINGTON, H. H. WALLACE, and others, Charter Members.

Advertisers

Who have weekly locals in connection with their advertisements, will please send us a new sheet of locals, the package containing the unpublished notices having been accidentally destroyed.

"Bright-eyes," the young Ponca Indian maiden whose sketch of Indian life is to appear in the January St. Nicholas, writes as follows to the editor of that magazine:

"It seems so hard to make white people believe that we Indians are human beings of like passions and affections with themselves; that it is as hard for us to be good as it is for them.—harder, for we are ignorant,—and we feel as badly when we fail as they do. That is the reason I have written my story as I have. * * * It would be so much better for my people if the white people had a more thorough knowledge of them, because we have felt deeply the results of their ignorance of us."

There are two members elect to the legislature whose names are so nearly alike as to be likely to cause some confusion. The member from Greenwood county is named W. F. Osborn, and the member from Washington county is named O. M. Osborn. The latter's name has been spelled in the published lists, Osborn, also.

The American Stockman of November 25th, thinks if Chicago has a chance and isn't hurried she will yet become a live-stock market. Thursday 58,635 hogs and 7,487 cattle were received there, and Friday the hog market opened strong and active.

Communications.

Brother Farmers of Kansas.

Do you feel too poor this hard year to take the "Old Reliable"? Look here a moment, drink 2 oz. of coffee less each week, save its cost and pay for 52 numbers of the FARMER. Instead of chewing and smoking 30 cents worth of tobacco per week use only 27 cents worth and you have your paper every week for a year. Use your muscle long enough to shell one load of corn, take it to the mill and your 20 bushel load will feed your horses or hogs enough longer, so that the corn saved will pay for the FARMER, and horse and hog both will do enough better to pay you.

In fact, Brother Farmer, no matter how hard the times, let us economize in our eating, our drinking, our chewing, even our clothes, but let us not do without our farm paper. It is money at 200 per cent. Our wives like it, our children are interested in it and every few weeks we strike something in it that pays us "big." It is large money on the credit side of the farm. Then let us forget hard times long enough to send our own subscription and also gladden our editor's heart and pen with one or two more from among our neighbors whom we have made believe as our own belief that the KANSAS FARMER is the best and cheapest paper the Kansas farmer can take.

E. W. P.

Myrtle Farm, Nov. 17th.

Many thanks to friend P. for his wholesome advice. Our friends need not economize unless they choose to be able to take the FARMER. We will warrant that every farmer who reads it one year attentively and practices its teaching, will make at least \$10 more out of his labor, stock, etc., than he would if he does not read and follow the advice of the FARMER.

The State of Kansas.

I have been in this state nearly a month, and have been in twenty-one counties. I am free to admit that I am surprised at the amount of good dirt there is in the state, although I had read almost everything that had come within reach of me that was ever printed concerning Kansas, still I never dreamed that it was as good a state as it is. The absence of timber, the bracing breezes, and the liability to drouths, are thought to be serious drawbacks to this country, but I am inclined to think they are only bugbears to scare the timid.

I encountered the worst sand storm, on yesterday afternoon, that has visited this section of the state since last spring, and I do not dread them worse than snow storms.

I shall not urge any one to come to Kansas, nor shall I blow up any particular part of the state, but will say that I have found good soil almost everywhere that I have been, so I think the lay of the land, the difference in climate,

and the distance to markets, are the main things to consider in locating in your state.

As to leaving the east for this country, I think that men of small means (say \$500 to \$2,500) could hardly fail to do well in any part of the state east of the 100th degree of latitude. Poor men that are willing to work can do well here again next spring, and those that wish to can secure themselves homes a few miles west of here, provided they are willing to endure the privations of frontier life, and that is no worse than many of the poor have to endure in all the eastern states.

I have found the people civil and accommodating to travelers, though there are exceptions. ROBT. S. COOK.

Larned, Kansas.

ED. FARMER: I am glad to see you are taking so bold a stand in respect to the Farmers Alliance movement. It is the last and best resource of the farmers, and all those agricultural papers that are boldly advocating the movement should be liberally supported by the farmers. Why don't you enlarge your paper? Surely the farmers of Kansas can support a larger paper; and they should bear in mind that a battery, no matter how effective it may be, is useless without ammunition. The farmers must be educated and inspired with self respect before they can secure an honest representation and equal rights. The press is the best means of educating them, and the Alliance the best school they can enter. Let them give you more support and you give them a larger paper. Let the farmers support their own press first, and place more confidence in those they know to be friends, than in a crew of tricky politicians who only use them to ride into office. Now is the time to assert their manhood and prove their ability for self government. Yours, for the Alliance, SAMUEL LINNETT.

Muscatine, Iowa.

NEWTON, Harvey Co., Dec. 11.—We organized a County Alliance to-day, and expect soon to have the county aroused and alliances in good working order all over the county. The farmers are in earnest and will and must have their demands considered by the law makers of the land. (There is a way where there is a will, it is said.)

Now I am quite sure the farmers are willing to have the freight lowered on our railroads so that we may live and yet not ruin the railroad companies. The farmer is the supporter of all classes, and still some corporations are not willing to allow him his own living after his working hard to raise food and raiment for them and himself. We hope the day is not far distant when the farmer will be justly rewarded for all his toil and care. C. T. BARTON, Sec'y Harvey Co. Alliance.

ROY, Sumner Co., Dec. 6.—We are having most remarkable weather here. One week before Thanksgiving day we were visited with a fall of snow some two inches in depth; this was followed by such a visit from Jack Frost that it sent the mercury in the thermometer down to 12 degrees below zero. The ground was frozen to a depth of six inches; but the weather moderated for a few days; the snow and frost disappeared, and plows were running in the fields, when again the soft, gentle breeze blowing from the south suddenly changed, with a howl, and a fierce wind is blowing from the northwest that uncovers the stacks and sheds; and night is made hideous by a terrific northwester. Certainly the [winter has opened up early, and is this not a pretty sure sign that it will be a severe one? Many are the frozen limbs that have been brought in from the timber by the wood haulers, and the suffering has already been considerable in this settlement, and yet so full of hope for the future is every heart that scarcely a murmur has been heard.

Although wheat is not looking as well as last year at this time, yet I think it is less liable to be thrown out of the ground by the frost, as there is more moisture in the soil and more care has been given to wheat this season than heretofore. The corn crop has been pretty much all gathered in this section. The yield is very light.

I see some inquiries in a late number of the FARMER about alfalfa clover. If the little experience that I have had with the plant is of any value, the readers of the FARMER are welcome to it. About the middle of last April I purchased a small package of seed and sowed it on well pulverized soil that had been in cultivation only one season. After laying in the ground some three weeks previous to a heavy rainfall, it then made its appearance above ground, growing two inches in height, when the web-worm made its appearance and stripped it of its leaves three times, leaving nothing but the bare clover stem. Each time it put forth new branches and new leaves, and survived the depredations of the worm and several very dry spells. When frost came it stood some ten inches high. Some of the most vigorous plants had bloom and fully developed seed. Some calves that were running around, ate this clover off close to the ground, and seemed to have a relish for it equal to wheat. Now, whenever the weather softens, the speed with which it commences to grow is astonishing. I am satisfied that in this alfalfa we will find a clover that will make pasture for any kind of stock, and will do well in southern Kansas. I will experiment with it more largely the coming summer, and give che readers of your paper the result.

Wellington market reports the following: Wheat, 65 to 75c; corn, 25 to 30c; hogs, \$3.25 to \$3.75; potatoes, \$1; apples, 75c to \$1; butter, 20c. F. E. MOSS.

Read This.

Every farmer needs Purdy's Fruit Recorder to teach him how to grow small fruits and all kinds of garden plants; and he also wants a package of small fruit or berry plants of choice varieties and that he is sure will be just what are promised. Purdy in this branch of business is the standard authority of the United States. What he sends out may be relied upon to be genuine. In ordering give No. of package desired, and the plants in that package will be sent you.

Free Plants to Subscribers.

Having made arrangements to club the KANSAS FARMER with Purdy's Fruit Recorder and Cottage Gardener, we announce that we will furnish both for \$2 00 and will give as a price to each yearly subscriber under this clubbing arrangement any of the following numbers he or she may select; postage prepaid on plants and papers—plants to be sent in open spells through the winter or in early spring:

- 1. Six plants each of the two new famous seedling strawberries, Longfellow and Warren.
2. Twelve plants of either of the following new choice strawberries: Sharpless, Miner's, Great Prolific, Glendale and Cowen's Seedling; or, to accommodate those who want an assortment, six each of two kinds, or four each of three kinds, or three each of four kinds, each sort properly labeled.
3. Three plants of the famous new black rasp berry, the Tyler, the earliest and most productive large black cap sort grown; or three plants of the Gregg, the most prolific and largest late black cap grown; or two plants of each.
4. Six plants of the hardest and most prolific red raspberry grown—Thwaack, Turner or Brandywine; or two of each.
5. Six plants of the hardest and most prolific blackberry—Taylor's Prolific and Snyder; or three of each.
6. Two strong grapevines of any of the following: Concord, Hartford, Ives, Isabella, Catawba, or Rogers' 4 or 15 or 19; or one vine of the Worden's Seedling—similar to the Concord every way, but two weeks earlier.
7. Two strong, well rooted Roses—most beautiful and hardy sorts.
8. One Hallsena Honeysuckle—the most beautiful sort grown having a mass of flowers, white and yellow, for six to eight weeks in the spring, and filling the air with its delicious perfume and holding its green foliage until spring, thus making it a splendid screen.
9. One pound of the Grange potato—one of the most productive and finest sorts grown.
10. Ten papers choicest Flower Seed, that all responsible seedmen charge \$1 00 for.
11. One back bound volume of "Purdy's Fruit Recorder."
12. "Purdy's (64-page) Small Fruit Instructor," which tells how to plant and grow all kinds of small fruits' plans for drying houses, hot beds and green houses, illustrated with valuable drawings on nearly every page.

The "Fruit Recorder and Cottage Gardener" is a 16 page monthly paper, exclusively confined to the subjects of fruits, flowers and vegetables, and is edited and managed by A. M. Purdy, a life long, practical grower.

Thus for the sum of \$2 00, you get this valuable fruit and flower paper; with the KANSAS FARMER, and one of the above numbers, post paid. The price number must be ordered at the same time the papers are subscribed for. A specimen copy of the "Recorder" may be obtained by addressing A. M. Purdy, Palmyra, N. Y., and a free specimen copy of the KANSAS FARMER, can be obtained by addressing KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

E. E. EWING, Proprietor.

P. S. Club agents can make use of the above offer in securing names for their clubs, and the FARMER will be credited to their lists.

The farmers have the power in their own hands, if they will use it to protect themselves. But so long as they are blinded by partisan bigotry, so long as they listen to false alarms, and divide and neutralize their strength in sham fights over imaginary issues, gotten up by the professionals to order, they will continue to be made the dupes of avarice and the sport of demagogues.

We venture the assertion that there is not a district or county in Pennsylvania to-day, in which the farmers have cast aside their partisan prejudice and united upon a representative farmer as their candidate for congress or the state legislature.

If farmers really want protection in their rights they must have a fair proportion of farmers on guard, and this they will never get except by concerted action and unselfish cooperation. The professional party leaders will never give up their hold on the people without a desperate struggle, and agriculturists will remand the dupes of these partisan leaders to the day of doom, unless they arise in their might and assert their manhood.—Farmer's Friend.

This year's wheat crop of the big Dalrymple farm in Dakota foots up 432,000 bushels—about 900 car loads, or forty-five train loads of twenty cars per train. This immense crop will go to the seaboard by way of the lakes, through Canada and the Erie canal, and is expected to net sixty cents per bushel at the farm.

150 Bushels of corn per acre, at a cost of 9 cents per bushel. Read advertisement elsewhere.

Aprons of the new revision of the New Testament, now on the eve of publication in this country and in Europe, Scribner's Monthly will contain three articles: one of these by Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D., on "The Bible Society and the New Revision," in which the record of the society on this whole subject is traced with some care; the second by Professor George P. Fisher, of Yale College, showing "How the New Testament Has Come Down to Us," and the third a review of the revision itself, in which the excellence and thoroughness of the work of the American scholars will be pointed out. The first appears in the January number.

Wm. H. Pullen, Fowlerville, Mich., says:—I have not rested better for months than I did last night. The "Only Lung Pad" has helped me wonderfully.—[See adv.]

Farm Letters.

MT. CARMEL, Crawford Co., 160 miles south-east of Topeka, Dec. 9.—The weather here has been very cold for the last three or four weeks.

This, the west part of Crawford county, has improved very much the last year. New buildings are going up in all directions.

PARKERVILLE, Morris Co., 50 miles south-west of Topeka, Dec. 9.—Weather very cold and dry for a few weeks past.

Cattle and hogs free from disease with us. Horses are generally suffering slightly from the effects of epizootic; some serious cases when put to hard work and too much exercise.

FERWICK, Republic Co., 100 miles northwest from Topeka, Dec. 1.—We have been having some quite sharp winter weather lately.

I think the main bulk of fat hogs in our vicinity have gone to market; number of stock hogs on hand less.

I notice many of the horses, in this vicinity, have something similar to epizootic in a mild form.

I raised some 4 1/2-pound sweet potatoes and thought I had done well, but the 12-pounders that I read of leaves me so far in the shade that I am nearly obscured from vision.

There has been many cases of whooping-cough and diphtheria, some proving fatal among children, otherwise the general health of the county is good.

There have been two livery stables burned in Clyde lately, together with 23 head of horses in the first and 17 in the second.

Fruit trees have grown well the past summer. I think the prospect is fair for a peach crop the coming year.

I like my combined Stoner feed mangers and hog sheds, and from appearances I judge the hogs like it better than I do.

I have heard so much complaint among farmers of hog buyers cheating them on weight of hogs, etc., that I sometimes think that it might be good policy for the coming legislature to pass a law to have a tester of weights, and take away all false balances and fine the false weighers.

The ground is frozen about six inches deep, and I recollect of a similar beginning for win-

ter over twenty years since. Some few filled their ice houses, as they happened to be at leisure.

I heard a letter read a few days since, written by one who left this vicinity the past fall, going east in search of better times.

Our country is still improving, and there seems to be more desire among farmers, of late, to invest in cattle and the finer grades of hogs.

READ THIS!

THE BEST OFFER EVER MADE. Must Be Accepted Within Sixty Days.

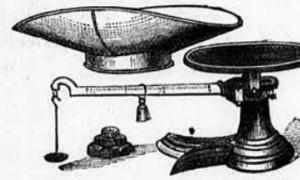
One of the Best of Newspapers One Year for Nothing.

And a Splendid Family Scale, Weighing from 1-2 Ounce to 240 Pounds, for Half Price.



Believing there is not a family in the country who would not like one of these convenient Scales, if they could be obtained at a low price, we have made arrangements with the Manufacturers, so that for the next 60 days we can furnish one of these Scales and the KANSAS FARMER for one year, for \$7.00, being one-half the usual price of the Scale alone.

A smaller scale exactly suited to the kitchen, the pantry and farm dairy, weighing 1/2 of an ounce to 25 pounds, is nicely finished and fully warranted to weigh exact, will be furnished, if preferred, with a copy of the KANSAS FARMER for one year for \$4.00.



A Cough, Cold, or Sore Throat should be stopped. Neglect frequently results in an incurable Lung Disease or Consumption.

There have been two livery stables burned in Clyde lately, together with 23 head of horses in the first and 17 in the second.

I have suffered from a kidney difficulty for the past ten years, accompanied with nervous spasms. Physicians gave me but temporary relief, but after using three and one-half bottles of Warner's Safe Kidney and Liver Cure, my nervous spasms were entirely relieved.

Notice. Prof. Tice's Almanac for 1881 is out. Besides the usual Almanac Matter, it contains the Forecasts of the Weather; their wonderful Verifications in 1880; how to Guard Against Lightning; When it is Unsafe to Enter Deep Wells, Mines, &c., how to Bake and Roast; Cause of Blight in Fruit Trees, and much other valuable matter.

For sample copy and terms to the trade, send 20 cents to THOMPSON, TICE & LILLINGSTON, Publishers, 520 Pine Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Mothers! Mothers!! Mothers!!!

Are you disturbed at night and crying of your rest by a sick child suffering and broken with the excruciating pain of cutting teeth? If so go at once and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP.

15 Stop Organs \$58.

Beatty's Organs with 4 full sets of Reeds, 15 Stops, Stool, Book and Music, are now offered for \$58. New and beautiful styles as low as \$36, and up to \$1,000; 2 to 32 Stops. Pianos from \$125 to \$1,000.

An endless variety of New Styles are now being offered for the holiday season. Read Mr. Beatty's new advertisement, and send to Washington, N. J., for his latest Illustrated Catalogue just issued with a beautiful steel plate engraving sent free to all who apply.

Wool Growers.

Ship your Wool to W. M. Price & Co., St. Louis, Mo. They do an exclusive commission business and receive more wool than any Commission House in St. Louis.

An Old Doctor's Advice.

It was this: "Trust in God and keep your bowels open." For this purpose many an old doctor has advised the habitually constive to take Kidney Wort—for no other remedy so effectually overcomes this condition, and that without the distress and griping which other medicines cause.

8 and 9

Eight and nine per cent. interest on farm loans in Shawnee county. Ten per cent. on city property. All good bonds bought at sight.

CANVASSERS Make from \$25 to \$50 per week selling goods for E. G. RIDGOUT & CO., 10 Barclay Street, New York. Send for Catalogue and terms.

Markets.

TOPEKA MARKETS.

Table listing various market prices including Grocers retail price list, Produce, Butchers' Retail, Hide and Tallow, and Foultry and Game.

Wool Market.

Table listing wool market prices for Chicago and St. Louis.

1880 BEATTY'S 1881. HOLIDAY GREETING. SOLD DIRECT TO THE PUBLIC. ONE PRICE TO ALL.



BEATTY CABINET ORGANS. CHURCH, CHAPEL & PARLOR. BEATTY PIANO-FORTES. GRAND SQUARE & UPRIGHT. Best and sweetest toned instruments in the World.

About Cloaks, Dolmans and Walking Jackets.

Telling Reductions in our READY MADE GARMENTS. The Whole Department to be Closed by the first of January. CLOAKS. DOLMANS. CLOAKS AND ULSTERS. Ladies' Walking Jackets.

Strayed or Stolen. One Brown Mare, native stock, 14 hands high, five years old, left forward hoof white, two slight saddle marks.

Wanted, at Once. A middle aged man to occupy a good farmhouse and act in the capacity of Herdman and Shepherd.

TEXAS! The Southwestern Immigration Company. It is the purpose of this Company to supply the need of a State Bureau of Immigration.

FARMS TO RENT. R. Harrison has during the past summer, improved 300 acres of farms, of fine land, on White Water, Butler Co., 15 miles SE of Newton.

TOPEKA MARKETS.

Produce. Grocers retail price list, corrected weekly by W. W. Manspecker. Country produce quoted at buying prices.

ILLUSTRATED FLORAL GUIDE.

For 1881 is an Elegant Book of 120 Pages. One Colored Flower Plate, and 600 Illustrations, with Descriptions of the best Flowers and Vegetables and Directions for growing.

SEED CATALOGUE.

My Annual Catalogue of Vegetable and Flower Seeds for 1881, rich in engravings from photographs of the originals, will be sent FREE to all who apply.

150 BUSHELS OF CORN at a Cost OF 9 CENTS PER BUSHEL.

Small Fruits and Vegetables. THE INDIANA FARMER COMPANY, Indianapolis, have just published a pamphlet giving actual experiments in the growth of Corn, Small Fruits, and Vegetables.

SAWING MADE EASY.

A boy 16 years old can saw off a 3-foot log in two minutes. Our new portable Monarch Lightning Sawing Machine rivals all others.

W. W. MANSPEAKER. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCER.

227 Kansas Avenue, Topeka. The largest Grocery House in the State. Goods Shipped to any Point. We buy for Cash; buy in large quantities; own the block we occupy, and have no rents to pay, which enable us to sell goods VERY CHEAP.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE to sell the best Family Knitting Machine ever invented.

THE Poultry World (Monthly) and The American Poultry Yard, (Weekly). Both publications are exclusively devoted to Poultry. Published by H. H. STODDARD, Hartford, Conn.

40 Clydesdale Stallions AND MARES—MOSTLY IMPORTED.

60 Hambletonian Stallions AND MARES OF THE FINEST BREEDING.

HOLSTEIN CATTLE. With largest milk records in America.

Separate Catalogues of each class of stock with milk record of cows. Denote which is wanted. SMITH & POWELL, Syracuse, N. Y.

Literary and Domestic

Memory.

The gate is gone, and briars grow
Along the unfrequented way
Which leads beneath a bright row
Of aged poplars, in a ditch.

Those silent walls the secret keep,
Conferred to their faithful ears
By those whose ashes softly sleep
Beneath the dust of other years!

Allured by foreign lays and themes,
Resistless came the wish to roam—
Enchantment filled my youthful dreams,
I could not hear the songs of home!

I could not see a form that lay
Upon the threshold I had crossed—
Two shadows passed the sill that day,
And one remained where mine was lost!

Alone, half asleep, opened the door
And asked him what he wanted; but the prince
Did not understand the monk's Russian; any better
than he had that of the coachman.

the frail body of man in a diseased condition.
These plants are aromatic, stimulant, diaphoretic,
diuretic, anodyne, astringent and carminative.

A Story of the Prince of Wales.
This happened during one of the prince's
visits to the capital of the Czars.

The center of the dress waist is the newest
place to set a bouquet.
Neither very light nor very dark fur is in
favor for trimming walking suits.

The weather of the future—What Terrible
Jupiter is going to present us.
The two most eminent and audacious prognosticators
of the age, Mr. Tice, of St. Louis,

Decorations in outline are worked in chenille
on momic cloth and felt for table and mantle
covers.
Lace pins representing a vine branch in colored
gold with ruby berries are pretty as well as
new.

Such is the perversion of the present generation,
however, that even these oracular utterances
of disaster will probably give it no concern.

Tested English Recipes.
WESTERFIELD WHITE SOUP.—Break the
bone of a knuckle of veal in one or two places
and put it on to stew in three quarts of cold
water to five pounds of meat.

A very pretty new bonnet has its crown
embroidered with orange blossoms, embroidered

in tinted silk, and its brim fringed with orange
blossoms and crystal pendants.
The matron of the Louise Home in Wash-
ington is going to marry Bishop Pinckney, who
is thirty-four years older than she. His first
wife was twenty years his senior.

Food for Thought.
Never judge by appearances. A steady coast
may cover a heart in full bloom.
The gout may be said to be a beacon on the
rock of luxury to warn us against it.

Baked Batter Pudding.—Three eggs well
beaten, one teaspoon sugar, two cups sour cream,
one teaspoon saleratus, a little salt, and flour to
make a batter; bake in a quick oven. Eat
with sugar and cream.—Housekeeper.

German porcelain ornaments for dessert
services, represent fruit with great faithfulness.
The "restored" Venus di Milo has received
more attention than any other lady in Boston.

Decorations in outline are worked in chenille
on momic cloth and felt for table and mantle
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For Sale Cheap for Cash.
A first-class Two-horse TREAD MILL POWER
suitable for farm use, has been used but little and kept
household in good repair, made by O. K. Dierdrick &
Co., of Albany, N. Y. We intend utilizing water-power.

General Subscription Agent
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est club rates for single subscribers received at any
time for any amount. Address: Box 152, P. O., Topeka
Kas., or call on above at Court House. Lists and rates
furnished free.

BEFORE BUYING OR RENTING AN
ORGAN
Send for our LATEST ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE (32pp.,
40c), with newest styles, at \$1 and upward, or \$1.50 per
quarter, and up. Sent free. MASON & HAMLEN ORGAN
CO., 154 Tremont St., BOSTON; 46 East 14th St., NEW
YORK; 149 Wabasha Ave., CHICAGO.

CHEAPEST HOUSE IN AMERICA. 1st-class instru-
ments, all new, for cash or installments wanted 6
years. Illustrated catalogues free. Agents wanted.
T. LEEDS WATERS, Agt., 28 West 14th St., New York

THE COLLEGE OF THE
SISTERS OF BETHANY,
Topeka, Kas.,
FOR
GIRLS AND YOUNG LADIES
Exclusively.

J. A. McLAUGHLIN.
Manufacturer of and Dealer in
Breuch and Muzzle Loading Guns,
Ammunition, Pistols, Fishing Tackle, Pocket Cutlery
Sporting Goods, etc. Oriental Powder Company Agency.

HOPE FOR THE DEAF
Garmore's Artificial Ear Drums
PERFECTLY RESTORE THE HEARING
Always in position, best fitting to others. All
conversations and even whispers heard distinctly. We
refer to those using them. Send for descriptive circular.

The Cincinnati Weekly Times.
THE BANNER WEEKLY OF THE WEST.
An eight-page paper only ONE DOLLAR a year, and a mag-
nificent engraving "two feet wide and almost three feet
long" free, and postage paid to every subscriber. Address:
WEEKLY TIMES, Cincinnati, O.

SEEDS! FRESH and
PURE!
They are home-grown and the best.
Try them. Hand-drawn and illustrated
Garden Manual, mailed free. BE SURE TO
send for this before ordering.
Market Gardeners write
for Special Price List.
J. B. ROOT & CO.,
Seed Grocers, Rockford, Ill.

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Kas., or call on above at Court House. Lists and rates
furnished free.

The Medical Flora of Kansas, and an
Epitome of the Medicinal Properties.
BY DR. J. H. OYSTER, MEDICAL BOTANIST,
PAOLA, KANSAS.
Potentilla Canadensis, Cinquefoil. Astringent
and tonic.
Agrimonia Eupatoria, Agrimony. Astringent,
tonic and alterative. The Canadians and
Indians have used it advantageously in fevers.

Farm Letters.

Give the Direction and Distance.

It would be often a satisfaction to strangers, and persons in the east, if correspondents would state, in their farm letters, the distance and direction from Topeka at the point from which they write.

ARGYLE, Sumner Co., Dec. 6.—The growing week has had a hard time of it the last two weeks, owing to the hard weather, which has killed the blades, and it looks brown; but I think it will come out all right if we have any fine weather before the new year. The cold weather has taught our farmers a lesson—that late sowing is not desirable in this state, if successful in others, as the early sown looks fully ten per cent. better than the late. The Walker varieties stand the cold the worst.

Farmers are not through gathering corn, the snow having hindered them for some time. The crop is not near as large as the public press of the state reports. It will average 30 bushels per acre on the bottoms and about 20 on the uplands.

Stocks of all kinds in good condition and healthy, with the exception of horses, which are troubled with the epizootic in a mild form. The following is considered a good remedy for the epizootic: pulverized liquorice 1 lb, elecampine 1 lb, pulv. fenugreek 1 1/2 lb, pulv. gentian 1/2 lb, pulv. anise seed 1/2 lb, ginger 1/2 lb, black antimony 1/2 lb, pulv. salspeter 1/2 lb, sulphur 1/2 lb, epsom salts 1 lb, pulv. resin 1/2 lb, hard wood ashes 1/2 lb, copperas 1 lb. Mix well and give a tablespoonful three times a day at first, and then only twice each day. The above recipe is from Dr. B. J. Kendall's treatise on the horse, a book that all farmers and horse owners should have in their libraries.

Corn is selling at 20 to 30c; wheat, 65 to 75c; hay, \$4 to \$4.50; hogs, \$3.60 to \$3.85; cattle, \$2 to \$2.25; apples, \$1; potatoes, \$0 to \$1.

THOMAS NIXON.

HARTS MILLS, Chautauqua Co., 136 miles south of Topeka, Dec. 5.—There have been some reports during the year from this county, but not very full. We had a light wheat crop; quality good but yield light. Oats were very short. Potatoes and garden vegetables only a partial crop. Corn is above the average, taking upland and valley together; but as this is decidedly a stock-raising country, we will consume the crop here at home very nearly. This county is not restricted by herd law, and we are proud of our nice flocks and herds. There are probably 20,000 head of sheep, and more good cattle in this than any other county in this part of the state, while in other stock in proportion.

This season has been very peculiar. The rains have been very light. The early part of the season we had rains very regular, but not sufficient to keep the streams up nor the water fountains, so there has been some trouble to get plenty of good water for our stock, in places, this cold weather. Still we never had stock to look better at this time of year, and sheep, especially, have proven beyond a doubt that this is the country for them, and they are the stock for this country. I find there is no pre-disposition to disease here at all, especially among fine woolled sheep, and hogs never did so well or averaged so heavy as this winter.

Now while there is more stock in this county than many others, there is still room. The grazing land is not all occupied and the valleys are first quality, and produce good crops to feed in winter.

Stock men are all trying to improve their stock. There are some very fine cattle and horses, and I believe there is no better sheep in any country than this. They are brought from almost all the other states, and even Canada, to this state, and we have our share of the good while some flocks are only common.

D. C. BALDWIN.

SENDECA, Nemaha Co., 75 miles north of Topeka, Dec. 8.—After a long interval, caused by a long and painful illness, I again have the pleasure of joining the family circle of the FARMER's correspondents. Although silent for a time, I have hailed the weekly visits of our paper with delight, finding in its well filled columns very much to instruct, and satisfy the longings of a mind seeking after wholesome food. Success to the KANSAS FARMER, and may the time soon come when every farm house in the state shall regard the FARMER as an indispensable weekly visitant and silent educator of the family circle.

Since I last wrote to the FARMER, this county has made considerable progress. A great many tracts of land have been sold and improved. New houses have sprung up everywhere over these prairies, and farmers are complaining that "free pasture" is becoming scarce, and will soon be a thing of the past.

The desire to have better stock is very prevalent, and some very fine bulls and high-bred hogs have been imported here. There has also been some improvement among our horses, although not as marked as in other kinds of stock, nor as much as it deserves to be.

To show that tree planting has been attended to, I will only say that a horticultural county society has just been organized and promises to be a live institution.

The past season has been a singular one in many respects—dry and wet, windy and calm, fruitful and unfruitful. Our wheat and oats were poor, so also was our seed of potatoes. Flax, sorghum, millet and corn were generally good. Potato bugs were plenty, while chinch bugs were unusually so, and did a large amount of damage. Cold weather set in early and the

ice, crop is big, and is now being gathered in. Probably not more than half the corn crop is husked yet. Fat hogs are nearly all sold. Some cholera in the county. HAY.

HAYS CITY, Ellis Co., about 200 miles west of Topeka, Dec. 9.—With the exception of a few pieces of Indian corn, rice, corn, millet and sorghum, crops have been an entire failure in this county. Rice, corn, when thrashed, does not yield as much as anticipated, the average yield being about 20 bushels. Sorghum was much below an average yield. Late sown millet was a heavy crop.

The winter set in very early and prevented the finishing up of some fall wheat seeding, and prevented some that was in from coming up, but as a general thing wheat looks better than ever before. The top of the wheat is now frozen and dead, and people from the east imagine the wheat "gone up" but near the ground it is fresh and green, and the first warm days will give it a very different appearance.

In the list of crops raised, I forgot to mention broom corn. Quite a number tried it this year, and though with indifferent success, (one-fifth ton per acre), I have not seen one but says he shall try it on a larger scale next year, as the experience they have gained (they were all new beginners) this year is of great value to them. Farmers are looking forward with a great deal of hope to the coming year. Am much pleased with the FARMER.

COW AND CALF.—Taken up by H. Jenkins, Reeder, tp, November 22 1880 one white yearling bull calf, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

MARE.—Taken up by J. H. Stewart, Reeder, tp, November 11 1880 one light bay mare, medium size, stripes in forehead, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

COW.—Taken up by J. H. Stewart, Reeder, tp, November 12 1880 one black cow, five and six years old, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

MARE.—Taken up by E. A. Edwards, 12th tp, November 12 1880 one light bay mare, five and six years old, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

MARE.—Taken up by M. S. Walker, Walker, tp, November 12 1880 one dark bay mare, five and six years old, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

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head, both front and one hind foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

MARE.—Taken up by John Barker, Pawnee, tp, November 11 1880 one red and white speckled heifer one year old, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

MARE.—Taken up by G. Richards, Mill Creek tp, November 12 1880 one yearling steer, red and white, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

MARE.—Taken up by Perry Burch, Mill Creek tp, November 12 1880 one yearling steer, red and white, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

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MARE.—Taken up by Perry Burch, Mill Creek tp, November 12 1880 one yearling steer, red and white, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

one pale yellow cow with white face, branded H on left hip, 15 years old, valued at \$12.

MARE.—Taken up by the same owner, one pale red calf six months old, valued at \$10.

MARE.—Taken up by H. H. Quiney, Middle Creek tp, November 12 1880 one yearling heifer, hind feet and left fore foot white, no marks or brands, valued at \$12.

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