

THE KANSAS FARMER

DEVOTED TO THE FARM THE SHOP AND THE FIRESIDE

VOL. X.—NO. 20.] LEAVENWORTH, OCTOBER 15, 1873. [\$1.50 A YEAR.

The Kansas Farmer

M. S. GRANT, PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR
 DR. A. G. CHASE, EDITOR.

Published Semi-Monthly, at 521 Shawnee Street.

ADVERTISING RATES:
 20 Cents per Line, Nonpareil space. A Liberal Discount to Large Advertisers.

THE MARKETS.

The late Wall street money panic has so demoralized the markets of the country, particularly cattle, wheat and flour, that any quotations of prices must of necessity, be very unsatisfactory.

There was at one time within the past three weeks, it was said, over 10,000 head of cattle in the Chicago market that could not be sold at any price, and to a more limited extent, the same was doubtless true of all cities. Many car loads of cattle have been reshipped westward, and it will take some weeks for the cattle market to recover its tone.

These remarks will also apply with equal force to the wheat and flour markets. It is not that there are any less of these articles consumed, but simply that there was no currency in the banks that could be had. All business of a speculative nature was brought to a standstill from this cause, but we are glad to know that confidence is gradually returning, and we look for a comparatively easy condition of the money market within the next month.

The present crash in money matters, differs from that of 1857 in this—then, three-fourths of all the paper money in the country was issued by irresponsible "wild cat" banks, and when they failed, the representative of money issued by them was worthless. Now, all the paper currency is, and must be worth dollar for dollar, from the fact that the general Government, has ample securities in its hands to pay every dollar of the National bank currency, and the creditors of any bank that fails, can throw it into bankruptcy, and collect their money. Then, the holders of bank bills lost all; now they can lose nothing. For this reason, we think the stringent money market of the past month will be of short duration. There is just as much money in the country now, as before the panic, and the holders of it will not care to keep it tied up in shot-bags and stocking legs, in or out of the banks, where it can be made to earn its cent per cent., so that we think by the time the pork packing season commences, that if low prices prevail, packers must look for some other excuse for their conduct than a stringent money market.

THE JACKSON COUNTY FAIR.

The above Fair commenced at Holton on Tuesday, September 30th, but the opening address by Gov. GREEN was not delivered until Wednesday.

As usual, the Governor was very happy in his remarks, and the address was brief, and to the point.

The attendance was good throughout, and the exhibition in all the departments, very fair, but nothing compared to what Jackson county can do.

Mr. STEVENS exhibited some excellent Short-horns, and some good Berkshires were shown by different parties. We trust by another year that the Society will be more firmly organized, and that the farmers will turn out more generally as exhibitors.

The Holton Express, with its accustomed enterprise, issued a Daily during the Fair.

SUMMARY OF U. S. SIGNAL SERVICE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.

Highest Barometer.....	30.459
Lowest Barometer.....	29.568
Range of Barometer.....	0.891
Highest Thermometer.....	91 degrees
Lowest Thermometer.....	28 degrees
Range of Thermometer.....	63 degrees
Total Rainfall.....	3.64 inches
Prevailing Wind.....	South
Average direction or Wind.....	South-east
Total number of miles traveled.....	5,073
Average hourly velocity.....	7.9
Maximum velocity of Wind.....	28 miles per hour
Average daily velocity.....	189 miles
Number of Cloudy days.....	8
Number of Clear days.....	10
Number of Rainy days.....	11
Number of Fair days.....	6
Mean daily Barometer.....	29.977
Mean daily Thermometer.....	65.4
Mean daily Humidity.....	58
Geo. S. ROWLEY, Observer, Signal Service, U. S. A. Leavenworth, Sept. 30th, 1873.	

THE ROOT CROPS.

Many farmers are apt to sell their potatoes and other root crops in the Fall, even though the price may be low, for the reason that they think they cannot keep them well through the Winter. A little care will keep these crops out doors with an insignificant loss. Dig a trench three feet wide, six inches deep, and of a length to suit the quantity to be stored. Fill in the roots, and carefully pile them up to a sharp cone, inserting a stick as large as a man's arm in the apex. These sticks should be long enough to reach through to the top of the covering, and there should be one every four feet of the length of the heap. After the roots are covered, these sticks are to be drawn out, and they leave a hole for ventilation. These holes should be left open until the weather gets very cold, and then a wisp of hay or straw should be inserted, but these plugs are taken out on all mild days. The great cause of loss in storing these crops out doors is not from freezing, but from foul air, and if there are plenty of these ventilators, root crops will keep better in the ground than in most cellars.

The covering should be first a layer of cornstalks laid lengthwise of the heap, or straw, and this should be put on to the depth of eight or ten inches, or even a foot; then put on at first two or three inches of earth, and as the weather gets colder, add three or four inches more. When completed, six or seven inches of earth is enough to carry the crop safely through, if our other directions are followed.

FUEL.

What a world of trouble, exposure and expense, many farmers cause themselves by putting off hauling the Winter's wood until such time as it is needed! There are many spare days now that could be devoted to this purpose; but most farmers will doubtless content themselves with simply hauling in a load as it is wanted, and in November and December when the teams should be engaged gathering corn, the work will have to be stopped to haul a load of wood or coal. Besides this, the work of getting the wood will be more disagreeable, and the roads doubtless, be in a worse condition, so that not nearly so much can be hauled at a load. All of these things should cause the farmer who wishes to keep abreast his work, and to work economically, to get in his fuel at the earliest day possible.

A BARN DESTROYED.

We notice in one of our exchanges, that the barn of R. J. STEPHENSON, of Newbury, Wabaunsee county, was struck by lightning in September, and both barn and contents totally destroyed. Among the latter was a large quantity of hay, two horses, and thirty head of his fine Cotswold sheep, including all his bucks. This is a serious loss to Mr. STEPHENSON, as well as to that portion of the State where he resides. We trust, however, that it will not entirely discourage him, and we can assure him that he has our warmest sympathies.

LOOK AFTER THE TOOLS.

Now that the work of Summer is over, the prudent man will see that his plows, harrows, cultivators, planters, drills, rollers, &c., are all gathered up and carefully housed. One almost loses patience with a man, to hear him talking about the unprofitableness of farming, and at the same time see his tools standing out the whole season, taking the winds, rains and snows, thereby decreasing their value at least ten per cent. Economy consists in taking care of what we have, and unless we exercise this, we ought not to complain. All tools that require to be kept bright and free from rust, should have some kind of a coating applied now. If not exposed to rains, whitewash is perhaps as good as anything; linseed oil is also good.

AN ICE HOUSE.

During the hot weather of Summer, many farmers declare that they will never let another Winter pass without putting up a bountiful supply of ice; but as often as the season rolls around, thus often is it forgotten or neglected. Now is the time to build your ice houses. It will not be expensive. Any farmer that can drive a nail, or saw a board, can build one, and we would advise all who live near enough to a stream, to build and fill one this Winter. It adds much to the comfort and health of the family, is needed in sickness, and is profitable to those who make butter to sell in Summer.

The Kansas Farmer

THE MISSION OF AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

We are pleased to lay before our readers the following address, delivered by Maj. J. K. HUDSON, at the Johnson County Fair, Oct. 2d, 1878. The ideas herein contained, are worthy of careful thought, not only by managers of Fairs, but by every farmer:

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: At this time, as at no previous period in our history, agitation and discussion are leading the public mind towards reforms in the interest and for the better protection of labor. It is certainly appropriate that we on this particular occasion devote some time to the consideration of the causes, which for years past have led to the general decay of local Agricultural Fairs. That there has been in the past few years a lack of interest among the farmers, mechanics and manufacturers, there seems to be no doubt. To point out some of the causes which have led to this state of things, and indicate what in my judgment are the practical remedies within our reach, is the task I have set for myself to-day. While my conclusions, and the theories for progress in this direction may be questioned, the facts upon which they are based are beyond dispute. It is not pertinent to our subject to go into the history of Fairs, reaching back as it does for centuries in the older countries. The principal feature and object of Fairs among Eastern nations was to create markets for their own and neighboring nations, as a means of exchange of produce and sale of stock and merchandise. These Fairs occur all over the world annually, semi-annually, quarterly, and even monthly. Donnybrook Fair, once celebrated for the sale of horses and black cattle, lasting fifteen days, was ruined by drunken debauchery, and now is held one week each year only as a pleasure Fair. In England various large district Fairs are held, specially devoted to one object, such as the great Fairs at Weyhill, Ipswich and Gloucester.

Throughout all Europe Fairs are devoted almost exclusively to the sale of stock of all kinds, farm produce and manufactured goods, while in this country, mere display is the only object. It is true there has been some attempt made to hold stock sales during our Fairs, but little or no success has attended that feature, so slight has been the cohesive power among farmers in all co-operative business efforts, that the agitation of the present time will educate us to the point of protecting our own interests by united action in our business as well as in legislation affecting our local affairs, is my sincere hope.

The value of Agricultural and Mechanical Expositions or Fairs, seems to be but slightly appreciated. We take it, that their true objects are, first, the encouragement of the best possible system of farming; second, the introduction of the best breeds of horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, &c.; third, the encouragement of trades and manufactures. These, Mr. President, I believe to be the legitimate objects of our Fairs. What, I ask, is the present character of these exhibitions throughout the country? To what extent do they reflect the true condition of American Agriculture? Are the true interests of the farm and the manufacturers' shops fostered and encouraged?

In the first place, the present system of conferring premiums, of asking for quantity instead of quality, of bulk instead of superiority, demanding monstrosities of every kind, from the six-legged cow to the mammoth accidental pumpkin, makes a Fair a curiosity shop instead of an exposition of intelligent farming and breeding. The average Fairs of to-day, East, West, North and South, vary only slightly in their character, as is shown by their premium lists and regulations. For one moment let us examine this matter more closely. An individual brings his cattle in good breeding condition, to

show their points as thoroughbred stock, to show their value as breeders. In competition he finds a fancy fed herd, fattened to the highest degree, moving with difficulty, and each animal treated as if it was an invalid. This herd travels for show, to take premiums. The first breeder, whose stock is shown in a condition all good farmers will pronounce the best for the animal, as well as for profit, will see the crowd rushing past his stalls to see the over-fed monstrosities. It is not uncommon for the Committee on Awards to gratuitously inform the exhibitor that his cattle are not in show condition. He profits by this lesson, and unless he concludes to go into the show business, wisely leaves his stock at home thereafter. Pampering and gross feeding to secure show flesh is demanded by the "dear people" for every kind of domestic animal shown at our fairs; swine only fit for soap grease, huge mountains of gross fat are shown as thoroughbred breeding animals. A greasy joke upon breeders and breeding.

Examine the farm produce hall, where the display generally fails to represent even what could and should be done by a township. There is the usual half dozen samples of corn, selected possibly from forty or eighty acres, representing no superior yield per acre, no especial system of culture, though it may have been taken from the best crop in the county, there are no proofs required or given, and it may have been from the poorest. The mammoth cabbages, pumpkins, melons, potatoes, turnips, beets, &c., may be the result of accident, or grown at a ruinous cost in labor and money, or they may be the result of years of intelligent study. If the first is true, they do not deserve a premium, and if the last be true, then every cultivator of the soil is interested in knowing how he may do likewise.

While it is desirable to open entrees to the world in all our Fairs, there are special classes, which for the development of home interests, and the welfare of the Association, should be restricted at least to the State, if not the county. For example in the horse ring, the man who secures for the State an imported and valuable animal, deserves reward, and those who bring their stock from another State, should be recognized in a creditable way. The special points to which I direct attention, are these: That the average farmer or breeder cannot show against professional breeders, who year after year travel with their stock, and that the prosperity of our county and State depends more entirely upon home exhibitors, who are improving the stock of their own locality. To exclude and ignore foreign exhibitors would be narrow and selfish, and yet the failure to protect home exhibitors has led to the condition of things to be seen in all the Fairs of our State, viz: The almost entire absence of any but professional breeders, and a consequent falling off in attendance and general interest. To allow an exhibition in our own interest, which should be every year an exponent of the agricultural wealth and progress of farmers and farming, to languish and die out is not flattering to our own pretensions to take care of ourselves. In the exhibition of both blooded and common stock of all kinds, the highest premiums should be given to stock bred and raised in the State. Between stock purchased for showing, and stock bred, discrimination should be made in the premium list, in favor of that bred at home. At present in Kansas, it is impossible for the home exhibitor to compete with the foreign professional breeder, and consequently, all small herds are driven from the field. By giving separate classes to home and foreign bred animals, no injustice is done to either, and hundreds of exhibitors will come out who are now practically debarred the show ring. There exists a necessity for a separate class for fat animals of all kinds, as distinguished from breeding animals, and proof of the breeding qualities should be demanded for all aged animal entered as such. In the ring for fat cattle and swine, the cost in feed and care should determine award. The showing of an animal in the fat

ring without any knowledge as to whether it cost more than it is worth, is of no practical value to the feeder or the general farmer. If, however, the exhibitor demonstrates how he secured a gain in that animal, of four or five pounds of flesh a day, the information is of utility and value to his whole State. The system of breeding, the treatment and feeding of domestic stock for profit, are worthy subjects to be demonstrated at our Fairs.

In our grains and vegetables, the manner of deciding awards is still more at variance with the real objects of Agricultural Fairs. The premium sack of wheat may be the best in the lot of wheat exhibited, yet that simple fact proves nothing for Agriculture. The huge ears of corn exposed, without the name of the grower, may be the best and the heaviest, and yet only represent the exhibitor's perseverance in selecting a few from a large field. We go away without knowing whether the exhibitor is growing corn at a greater or less cost than our selves, and without knowing anything of his yield per acre. I have yet to see a Committee in Kansas weigh a single bushel of grain of any kind, to learn the relative weight per measured bushel of the samples on exhibition.

If the exhibitor was compelled to place upon his exhibitions of fruits, grasses, grains, and vegetables, his name, postoffice address, a statement of the preparation of his soil, time of planting, mode of culture, and the average yield per acre, as determined by accurate measurement of a certain number of rows across his field, and this verified, and the premium given for the best and largest yield, we would have a definite and valuable idea. The premiums thus given, would represent meritorious effort and intelligent, well-directed study. At present they represent an accident. In vegetables, size seems to be the only qualification required for a premium. Again, we find every idea connected with their planting, culture and cost ignored. The quality is even of secondary consideration.

The various industries of the farm and shop should receive recognition in proportion to their value to the State. That the staple crops of wheat and corn should receive only \$3 or \$5, and a scrub race at \$100, is manifestly unjust. The premiums on farm stock and crops, and also on home manufactured goods, should, and must be liberal, to draw competitors. Can it be denied that to-day the principal features of our Fairs are the horse racing, advertising of machinery goods, and wares of all kinds? Breeders who are extending their business, seedsmen, florists, nurserymen and patent right men, find the Fair an excellent place for advertising. That is all right as far as they are concerned; I find no fault with them. All I lament is, that they constitute the major part of all exhibitions. I am not opposed to the trials of speed at our Fairs, but there is no justice in that element, absorbing all the funds, and becoming the leading feature; and yet this in a measure is true, and has created an antagonism, and caused in many localities the Fairs to degenerate to a third-rate horse trot. There need be no fears that speed will be neglected in Kansas. All the boys, and many of the older children are hunting "Smugglers." In all the byways and remote places of our State, are to be found men anxiously trying to develop speed. All the pacing stock is in demand to be converted into trotters; the mania is abroad, and everybody is after speed. From the minister to the plow boy, all are looking for \$40,000 Smugglers.

Place speed at an Agricultural Fair, where it belongs—among the amusements—not as one of the leading objects to which everything else must become secondary. Among the important undeveloped feature of our Fairs is the sale and exchange of produce and stock. If placed under a superintendent, and accommodations given for the holding of daily auction sales, and encouragement given to make the Fair week a time of general exchange among the citizens, this department would do an excellent service. In connection with this, will

come the necessity of affording camping facilities to those who come from a distance.

The offering of medals or purses for the best display of the products of a township, would in a measure arouse an emulation, and if taken hold of by the people, give such an exhibition as has not yet been seen in any county. The highest honors of the Society, whether medals, plate or purses, should be given for the best farms and farming. For the best forty, eighty, one hundred and sixty acre farms, and larger sized farms, there should be offered every year by your societies their highest premiums. If it be true that, as stated before, one of the chief objects of our Agricultural Fairs is the encouragement of the best possible system of farming, the arousing of the laudable ambition of every farmer in your county to gain the Society's honors, will certainly bring as it should, to your Society's support, the best elements in your county.

The mechanics and manufacturers each in their class and among themselves may be brought into competition with each other. Our Fairs languish, not because we lack the elements in our communities to make them successful, not because the farmer, the merchant or the mechanic have nothing to exhibit, but because their energies have not been given to the work; because their interests have not been appealed to, and the exhibitions in consequence are not a shadow of what they should be.

Large District or State Fairs can never usurp the especial place or accomplish the work of your local County Fairs, any more than your State Capital makes unnecessary your county towns. Every citizen who has an interest in the development of your county, and in advancing the material prosperity of our State, has certainly an interest in sustaining the County Agricultural Society. As one of the educational levers, as a popular Agricultural and Mechanical College, as a holiday week, a relaxation from the labor of the farm and the shop, it appears to all citizens to rescue it from its present unsatisfactory condition.

Mr. President, it seems entirely clear to me that amusements at our Fairs constitute a feature that cannot be dispensed with. While we believe in giving to these exhibitions practical value, conveying by example and competitive examinations lessons of the highest importance, we must remember that amusement of some kind is essential in a holiday. You are aware that an attendance of three or four days at a Fair is tiresome work. After the exhibition of stock, produce, machinery, &c., have been examined, the absolute poverty in amusements makes even a gamblers' horse race acceptable. The ever present fat woman, the dwarf, the giant, the snake and learned pig shows are patronized because nothing better is offered. It must be confessed that the cheap frauds called side shows, and the vendors of prize packages, patent medicine men and the whole pack of thimble riggers thrive at our Fairs because we offer no amusements outside the speed ring. It must not be forgotten that a Fair appeals to every class of citizens for support, and that while they come to learn to compare notes, to see what their neighbors are doing, they come for recreation and to have a general good time. The difficulty is, the want of variety. If there could be witnessed athletic sports, gymnastic exercises, base ball and cricket exercises, the circus, the theater, concerts vocal and instrumental every day, lectures for those who would listen, and trials of speed in the horse ring, all tastes could be gratified. Keep off your grounds and away from them gamblers and whisky saloons, but give us plenty of rational amusement, not for one but for every day. At present all the attractions in the way of amusements are put upon one day, and the big crowd waits for that day. It is a difficult matter to suggest a list of amusements which will bear critical judgment. Practically, however, I have observed among my acquaintances that those who are most opposed to every form of amusement at a Fair, postpone their visit until the big day, when

they can be found occupying front seats in the amphitheater when the races are announced. Equestrianism among both ladies and gentlemen is for some reason very seldom well represented, although a very desirable and interesting feature. The baby show being an exhibition of the best and handsomest yearlings of the county, occupies at this time prominence as an amusement, and it is certainly for the interest of the county that the exhibition should be large every year.

In conclusion, Mr. President, let me say that in the slight survey I have made of the abuses and weaknesses of our present system of holding Agricultural Fairs, it has been impossible to examine in detail each class, or to make suggestions which will arise in the mind of every intelligent individual when once the practice of awarding premiums hap hazard has given way to the more reasonable methods I have endeavored to indicate. When the Fairs cease to be a cheap advertising medium, a flimsy pretext for a horse race, then and not till then will we reap a benefit from them. These Grounds should witness each year such a farmers' re-union as has never taken place here. Brought together by mutual interest and for recreation and discussion, every citizen of your county should and will under the proper stimulus come here and assist in making this Fair a grand success. Every township will have a pride in securing the medal for the best display of its products, and it seems to me that no heirloom could be more highly prized by your sons and daughters, and your great great grandsons and daughters than the gold medal given for being the best farmer in the county. No honor that the State could confer would be greater than that of being the best farmer in Kansas. To whom, it is asked, belongs the duty of making these Fairs what they should be? I say most emphatically, to you, the people of the county. Your Fair, good or bad, is just what you make it. Your officers, just what you select and make them. Reforms don't work out themselves, and standing on the outside and crying "failure," won't correct the trouble. Through your organizations you can place your Fairs upon the most successful basis and beyond reproach. The remedy and power are in your own hands.

FLOWERS ADAPTED TO THE CLIMATE OF KANSAS.

The following list was reported to the Atchison County Farmers' Convention, at its meeting, September 26th. We do not know who is the author of the Report:

ANNUALS—Alyssum, Snapdragon, Balsam, Calliopsis, Candytuft, Cannas, Celosia, Convolvulus, Delphinium, Dianthus, Petunia, Phlox Drummondii, Portulaca, Stock, Verbena, Zinnia. Many favorites like the Aster, Double Daisy and Pansy require more moisture and shade.

ORNAMENTAL CLIMBERS.—Cardiospermaun, Cypress Vine, Flowering Peas.

EVERLASTING FLOWERS.—Ammobium, Gomphrena, Helipterum.

BIENNIALS AND PERENNIALS.—Aquilegia, Campanula, Carnations, Perennial Peas, Sweet William, Valeriana, Ipomoea.

SUMMER FLOWERING BULBS.—Gladioli, Dahlia, Tigridia, Maderia Vine.

HARDY PLANTS.—Dicentra, Peonies, Perennial Phlox, Iris.—Globe.

"Knitting and Talking."

EDITED BY ANN APPLESEED.

DROPPED STITCHS.

"Don't speak to me now," said a dear old lady, "I've dropped a stitch!" So I sat quietly, and marveled how her placid brows wrinkled, as she tried with the point of her needle to pick up the truant stitch, which at each effort she made, would slip a round lower, as if in elfin glee, escaping from its well-behaved, orderly companions. At last the old lady's face brightened, as I saw she had caught

the stitch and knit it up. "It is so aggravating to drop a stitch," said she, "I always feel as if I must hold my breath until I pick it up again, and one bit of noise furries me so then! You know it is almost impossible to make your knitting look as well where you have dropped a stitch." "Yes," said I, "dropped stitches are my dread," and I remembered, oh so many of them, in the wool of my own life—little omissions, that I thought could be put in any other time as well; kind words that were thought, but never spoken to a heart they would have comforted. "Alas!" said the old lady, "for the knitter who don't stop and pick up the stitch the minute she drops it, for it will go instantly and maliciously down to the very beginning of the work. Like the lizard, it makes haste backward."

"There are plenty of these dropped stitches in life," said she, "most people think they are of no account, and don't stop to pick them up; and oh, what ravages they make! They are the little mis-understandings, petty lies, half spoken slanders, and omitted kindnesses. One needs always to stop then, and without loss, undo the evil."

A tear rolled down the placid face, and I knew what it meant; looking across the fields of the quiet farm, I saw the white cross glistening in the sun, and remembered when the dreamer beneath it was the joy and pride of this mother's heart; and I knew that she might still have been, if the stern old father had spared his bitter words, which drove her from home to want, and finally to shameful death.

[Written for the Kansas Farmer.]
DEAD LEAVES.

BY E. S.
Drift the dead leaves gaily by,
Falling low or circling high;
Billiant maple red as blood,
Tawny gold of cottonwood,
Softest bronze of young leaf,
Deepest browns of grass and chaff.
Youth and verdure both have fled—
Gory, color—Death instead
Making merriest holiday!
Just as each will pass away—
Wildest carnival 'ere Lent—
Robed like reveller, Death is sent!

Out of youth's bright land will burst
Tender leaves of life at first;
Later, cometh fruit, and bloom,
Richest hue and best perfume,
Scarlets hot from Passion lent,
Azure soft from deep Content.

Yellows gay from Envy's star,
Royal purples, won in war,
Darkest sacramental wine
Spilled betwixt the thorns and vine;
Every leaf has color rare,
Gilt and bronzed by grief or care.
Once we dye the life-leaves o'er;
Sybil-like we open the door;
Scatter wide and fling them high,
Richest wool and rarest dye;
Brightest gold will surely show
Breath of furnace heat below.

Who will count the life we bring
To color deep the wreath we fling?
Who shall know the depths of woe,
Tinging all the leaves we throw?
Who will care the thorns we pressed
Gave that rosy leaf its best?

Only so the deeds we do
Help a comrade safely through:
Let the leaves so bright and dead,
Tell of all the life we led
Amid the joy of Autumn hour,
When fruit was shed, and closed the flow'r

Let the leaves so dyed and dead,
Bravely link to their last bed—
Gorgeous, like some king of old,
Cased in cinnabar and gold;
While our life-leaves softly fall,
With dear Love above them all.

THE CRISIS.

"We mount to heaven mostly on the ruins of our cherished schemes, finding our failures were success."

The crisis is upon us. Banks are all closed; East

and West, North and South, are stricken with the panic. Ways and means will doubtless have been devised by the time you read this, to set Commerce on her feet again, but the effect of this will be felt for months. A member of the Chicago Board of Trade shot himself in the door of that magnificent building. A Wall street broker jumped from one of the Brooklyn ferry boats and drowned. Far and near we hear these heart-rending facts, and how appalling they are! It is awful to see brave men who still have health, the wide green world, and doubtless, loving hearts, so utterly overcome, as to lose the courage to live; for at such a time, when a man past middle life, sees the labor of his life swept from him, it requires far more bravery to live than to die.

Editorials from masculine pens have long been circulating, declaring that the appalling increase of crime among men of high position, was owing to the desire of men to have their families live beyond their means. While we consider women much less guilty in this matter than the above writers do, we can but urge all women now to remember, that in their hands lie great resources of comfort and wealth. It behooves every woman whose husband has failed, to meet him as did a merchant prince's wife. "We have lost everything," said he, "all must go!"

"Will you have to go?" "No."

"Will I?" "No."

"Will the children?" "No."

"Will our health?" "No."

"Or our hands?" "No."

"Then we have lost little," said she smilingly.

Let every woman make a cheerful home now if never before. Women are sheltered from the fury of the blast, and if the hard portion of endurance is theirs, let them meet it bravely. They have more fortitude than men, and now is the time to evince it by pleasant and affectionate words, by cheerful counsels, by self-denials. Show the husbands now, who have lavished all upon you, that you are not broken reeds in time of trial. If necessary, practice the petty economies closer than ever. It is pitiful that all the economies of women are so small, for the practice of them is belittling to most minds. But at such times as the present, there is something of heroism in dismissing the servant, doing the washing and ironing, and even in turning and patching the old garments, as well as scanting the spoonful of sugar, and paring the potatoes thinner.

HABITS OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

Queen Victoria has now presided over the destinies of the British Empire for upwards of one generation. From the *Christian Advocate* we give the following account of this illustrious royal lady.

"When free from the cares of State, nothing can be simpler than the daily routine of life Queen Victoria leads at Balmoral Castle. She manages her household on very strict principles, servants according to merit—promotion always being held out. For a stupid act, one member of the royal household had to wait ten years for promotion. Her Majesty rises at seven, takes breakfast at nine, and then attends to dispatches and private correspondence; lunches at two, and then drives out in her carriage. During meals a piper plays in front of the window. She has dinner at half-past eight in the library, not having used the large dining hall since the death of her husband. There is no display in the library; the arrangements are of the simplest character. She spends much of her time in Prince Albert's room. She comes quietly in to her dinner, with her knitting in her hand, and retires early. She is a woman of great method. In all weather she is seen abroad. A rainy day does not keep her in; with a waterproof and umbrella, she defies the elements. It is quite a common thing to see her walking in the grounds under a drizzling rain. She is a hearty woman, having no "fine lady" fancies. She dresses consistently with the climate and weather, and a fresh, comely, sen-

sible looking woman she is, in her comfortable plain jacket and broad-brimmed hat."

Queen Victoria lives—not under—but over a monarchial government, yet the above account of her domestic life, which we have every reason to believe to be correct, shows her to be in very favorable contrast with the wives and daughters of many of our shoddy aristocrats.

[Written for the Kansas Farmer.]
THE HEART.

BY GEORGE E. C.

Oh, this thing they call the heart!
How it aches and throbs and beats;
It advances—then retreats—
And it never is at rest,
And it never feels 'tis blest
Till it is closely pressed
To a sympathizing heart.

Oh, this thing they call the heart!
How it echoes to the voice
Of the one it makes his choice:
To the voice of Love—but oh!
It does never beat so slow,
As it does when cold words throw
Their death chill on this heart.

Oh, this thing they call the heart!
Is there music half so sweet
As it sings, when beat to beat
In answering cadence meet?
How it warms, and glows, and burns
When a heart the love returns
Of a lonely, bleeding heart.

Oh, this thing they call the heart!
Is it best that it should be
Forever closed to sympathy?
Shall it thus by cruel Fate,
Be denied a loving mate—
Be entombed by bar and grate,
From another loving heart?

Oh, this thing they call the heart!
In the breast it finds a grave
When there is no love to save;
For it moans, and groans, and cries,
And it heaves its heavy sighs,
Till it faintly beats and dies
For the want of mating heart.

HOOKEY.

This unclassic word is well understood by boys, and is the terror of teachers and parents. It prevails during these pleasant Autumn days as an epidemic, especially in our city schools. Its symptoms are a listlessness over books, a far-off, abstracted gaze when the multiplication table is to be considered, and vague answers when geography queries are asked, or spelling lessons at hand. Then follows a certain bravado of manner; the boy is more pert than usual to his sisters, walks with a firmer step, and stands straighter; then follows rapidly the sequel. Some night you call him to supper, and he don't come; or more likely he went from school, and the simple fact is before you, that "Johnny has played hookey!" Appalling fact too, for once a boy gets a bite of that fruit, and it is long before he loses the desire to taste it again; any possible tragedy is at hand after that. You walk the floor, and wring your hands all night in blank terror lest your darling son shall be brought to you from the bottom of the sullen Missouri, or lifeless from the path of the engine. The brothers and sisters are hushed into tearful awe; the father tracks the street, and longs for and dreads every new face. Oh the anguish, the dreadful suspense, the agonizing terror in a happy house, where a boy who has been good before, suddenly "plays hookey!" Such boys can't conceive the pain they inflict, or they would not do it.

Like a good physician, we ask the cause of this disease. It is in one word: Discontent. Let parents and teachers say that word over often when they see the first symptoms, and let them try to cure that. A boy will not run away from what interests him; he will stick to that you may be sure. If he is tired of looking at the high board alley fence this pleasant weather, tell him you will go for nuts to-morrow in the country. Better spend some livery money, or part of a day's time for his recreation, than to spend a week on railroads hunt-

ing him up. In school this lovely October weather, the bondage is fearfully hard. Teachers had better lighten lessons, and tell more stories; better soften the harsh words, and speak tenderly to the boys. Harshness and severity drive boys to play hookey. "The out-door is so pleasant, and the teacher is so cross and ugly," pleads the boy, and with the instinct of a bird, he flies from the shadow into the light. This is the true diagnosis of "playing hookey." When stormy days come, the boys won't be so tempted. Now let mothers invent new devices for home amusement. Let fathers take long walks and drives in the country with the children, and plan absolute business for every waking hour. Leave no dreamy hours, for an empty brain is still the devil's workshop. These precautions taken, and we shall not see that most laughable and most pitiable sight, a boy starting out to see the world, and fight for fortune, with two marbles, a bee-snapper, a sponge and a slate pencil.

HOME HINTS.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES.—Make a thin mush of cornmeal, cooking it about ten minutes; allow it to become perfectly cold before putting the cakes to rise. In mixing the cakes, take a pint of the mush to a quart of buckwheat flour; add water and yeast as in ordinary cakes made of buckwheat. Making a mush of the corn meal prevents the raw taste there always is when the meal is put in uncooked.—*Ec.*

BUCKWHEAT CAKES No. 2.—Three parts by measure of buckwheat flour to one part of graham flour, and mix with buttermilk instead of water.

WAFFLES.—One pint of sour milk and four table-spoonsful of melted butter, stirred with nearly one quart of flour after dinner; at tea-time add a small teaspoonful of soda, then two eggs beaten till very light. Serve with them sugar and cinnamon mixed.

USES OF WASTE PAPER.—A writer in one of our exchanges says that few housekeepers are aware of the many uses to which waste paper may be put. After a stove has been blackened, it can be kept looking very well for a long time by rubbing it with paper every morning. Rubbing with paper is a much nicer way of keeping the outside of the teakettle, coffee pot or teapot bright and clean than the old way of washing it in suds. Rubbing them with paper is also the best way of polishing knives and tinware after scouring them. If a little soap be held on the paper in rubbing tinware and spoons, they shine like new silver. For polishing mirrors, windows, lamp chimneys, &c., paper is better than dry cloth. Preserves and pickles keep much better if brown paper instead of cloth is tied over the jar. Canned fruit is not apt to mold if a piece of writing paper, cut to fit each can, is laid directly upon the fruit. Paper is much better to put under carpets than straw. It is thinner, warmer, and makes less noise when one walks over it. Two thickness of paper placed between the other coverings on a bed, are as warm as a quilt. If it is necessary to step upon a chair, always lay a paper upon it, and thus save the paint and woodwork from damage.

A USEFUL SOAP.—The following is recommended by those who have tried it, for scrubbing and cleansing painted floors, washing dishes, and other household purposes: Take two pounds of white olive soap and shave it in thin slices; add two ounces of borax and two quarts of cold water; stir all together in a stone or earthen jar, and let it stand upon the back of the stove until the mass is dissolved. A very little heat is required, as the liquid need not simmer. When thoroughly mixed and cooled, it becomes of the consistency of a thick jelly, and a piece the size of a cubic inch will make a lather for a gallon of water.

FASHIONS.

We learn from *Harper's Bazaar*, and *Butterick's Magazine*—that for Fe, wraps, talmas, or dolman shape mantillas will dis ute the preference with

the redingote of the season past, and English jackets. The latter are very serviceable for a plain wrap; they are made of thick, soft, shaggy cloth, now called camel's hair cloth, formerly called chin-chilla; or of heavy diagonal cloths. Dark olive, blue, bronze, slate and myrtle green cloths are preferred to black. The trimming is usually bands, revers, cuffs, &c., of velvet or of repped silk of the shade of the cloth, piped or corded on the edge, or headed with the new yak braid. The buttons are of steel or pearl, colored to match, or else of oxidized silver.

Street dresses are made to touch the floor for house wear, but are drawn up by rings and drawing strings before going out. We recently asked a lady who spends part of each year in Paris, if any ladies there wear their dresses sweeping the streets. "No lady does," she answered, emphasizing the word lady, and added that trained skirts there were solely for carriage or house wear. We offer this item, hoping it may induce some one at least, to avoid street cleaning with their skirts. It was formerly most incomprehensible to us that women of most fastidious taste in everything else, could trail the very garbage of the streets to their homes, and now, that so long a reign of short dresses has lasted, we can but protest against the absurd habit of long dresses for the street. In dresses, basques and overskirts will rival the redingote. The lower skirt measures about three and a quarter yards around the bottom, and is worn over a support or bustle almost as long as the back breadths. The three front breadths are plain, with puffs of reversed pleatings, or flat side folds or shirred puffings extending from waist to toe. The back breadths may be ruffled or looped in horizontal puffs. A fold six inches wide lined and folded, may be laid down the two front seams of the skirt, and a row of buttons quite close together, thereon. Three narrow gathered flounces across the foot of the front breadth, and one or two wide flounces on all the other widths.

Among overskirts the long apron front is seen, but opened up to the belt behind, and each side trimmed. Back breadths are not draped in the middle, but are caught up very high on the sides.

Ruffs of tulle, lisse, swiss muslin, or valenciennes are much worn. These are made of double or triple, or side pleats, and from three inches behind slopes to one inch in front. Plain hemmed muslin ruffs in thick box pleats are cheap and pretty.

STOCKING FASTENERS.

There is no one thing in children's dress that troubles mothers more than how to keep the stockings fastened firmly and smoothly, and not impede free circulation of the blood. Some months since, we gave a rule for them, but have since seen it improved upon. Somebody has patented a simple oval brass ring, wider at one end than the other; as these were not for sale where we were, we took an ordinary brass curtain ring, and with a blow of the hammer made it oblong, and another blow flattened it. Then we sewed the elastic around the flattened end, leaving the narrow end to button on the stocking and waist. Four of these rings have stood the test of our ten year-old for a long Summer in the hay lofts and over the fences, and the stockings have always kept smooth.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH OUR WHEAT?

BY CO-RO-LO.

EDITOR FARMER: Two years ago you and I listened to an able and carefully prepared paper, under the caption "what shall we do with our corn?" The able writer, ex-Gov. Robinson, did not receive the credit due to such a paper, because he advocated feeding our surplus corn to Texas cattle. The "long-horns" were at a greater discount at that time than they are to-day, and the dread of the Texas fever was also greater.

Gov. Robinson stated clearly that the "long-

horn" was not his first choice, but as we had tens of thousands of bushels of corn more than we could procure swine and domestic cattle to consume, and the Texas steer was at our door, we must choose between feeding him, or selling the corn to St. Louis merchants at a price which did not cover the cost of production. How many farmers availed themselves of his counsel, I am not advised, nor do I know of there being any flattering accounts given by those who made the experiment.

If the cattle were young and thrifty, and went into winter quarters in fair condition, I doubt not but they well repaid both the corn and the care; but if they were greatly reduced in flesh before the experiment of corn-feeding began, I doubt the profitability of the investment.

But what shall we do with our wheat? is the question to-day; and it is a grave one. Not because the world will not need every bushel of it before another harvest, but because our farmers are poor and in immediate need of money, and because the "monetary crisis" has stopped for the present, all activity among buyers.

But farmers, we propose to show you by "figures that cannot lie," that you need not repeat the question asked at the head of this article, with any fear of not being able to receive a remunerative price for your wheat, if you will hold on to it a month or two longer.

The wheat crop of England for 1878 is a small one. It averages but twenty-four bushels to the acre, which is one-fifth below the usual yield; and France, which nearly always breads herself, and sometimes exports to England, is estimated to be deficient to the amount of 49,000,000 bushels. The gross consumption of wheat in Great Britain, if the price be moderate, is not less than 186,000,000 bushels. Between this and the estimated crop for 1878, there is a deficiency, not of 60,000,000, as the Lawrence Journal has it, but of 109,200,000 bushels. Now, if we add the deficit in France to that of England, the world has to supply to these two nations 157,200,000 bushels between now and the gathering of the harvest of 1874. But this the world cannot do. The people of these two great nations, therefore, must starve by thousands, or use some substitute, say corn meal, for bread.

We know nothing of the yield in Russia and Germany for the current year, but if it be good, the former country cannot export to Great Britain more than 50,000,000 bushels, nor the latter more than 12,000,000 bushels. Canada has on one or two occasions, sent out 8,000,000 bushels after a good harvest, and under the pressure of an advanced price. Last year America shipped to England in wheat or its equivalent in flour, 20,000,000 bushels. In 1870 the crop was a short one in England, and we shipped 33,000,000. A large amount of this, however, was furnished by California, but the crop in that State is a short one this year, as it is in Indiana. It is doubtful, therefore, with our rapid increase by immigration—although the average sown was greater than common—if we can spare, even under the stimulus of a large price, more than 30,000,000 bushels. But if we send the same amount we did in 1870, and if Russia, Germany, and Canada do their best, there will still be a deficit in England and France combined, of over 54,000,000 bushels, or nearly two-fifths as much as the Mississippi basin grows. I know that the Mark Lane Express, and various mercantile circulars, put the deficit somewhat lower than our figures, but this is an old trick with English grain dealers, and deceives none but the uninitiated. France with her skill in cookery, will make a thousand palatable and nutritious dishes, without the use of wheaten flour; but the British manufacturer must have his bread, cheese, and beef "or fight."

Unless we are wilder than ever in our imports, the balance of trade next year will be greatly in our favor. And our wheat growers, unless they are very hard pressed for money, and reckless in selling their crops, will realize before Spring, that

wheat growing in 1878 was not an unremunerative business.

P. S. Since the above was written, the north of Europe wheat crop has been heard from, and is pronounced below the average. The North American, one of the oldest and most reliable newspapers in the country, says that the European deficiency of wheat is 355,000,000 bushels; this is 67,800,000 bushels greater than our figures, and if correct, is appalling, and shows clearly that American cereals of all kinds will be in great demand.

Fort Riley, Davis County, Kan.

MORE ABOUT THE LOCUST TREES AND OTHER THINGS.

BY R. S. ELLIOTT.

EDITOR FARMER: The editor of THE KANSAS FARMER says I am in error, and that Dr. Warder, of Ohio, did not sell locust trees at \$1,000 an acre, but only the product of twenty acres, nineteen years planted, for \$2,000. My informant was the Report of U. S. Department of Agriculture for 1870, page 238, which says: "Dr. Warder * * * * * thinks that the black locust is a very valuable species for cultivation, on account of its rapid growth, firmness and great durability. He recently sold one acre of forest trees of this species, scarcely a tree of which was over fifteen years old, for \$1,000. The timber was used for paving the streets in Cincinnati, and from experiments which have been made, it is found to be a very valuable article for this purpose." This is my authority. At six feet apart, or 1,210 to an acre, locust trees will grow tall, and each will make two or more fence posts. At ten feet apart, or 436 to an acre, they will become quite large trees; so that \$1,000 an acre, is an extravagant yield.

Arthur Bryant says: "Between 1855 and 1865, a species of borer (arkopalus robinica) peculiar to the locust, spread over the State of Illinois, destroying nearly every tree of the kind in the country. Not only were trees planted for shade attacked, but groves grown for timber, were completely ruined. With the disappearance of the trees, the insect disappears also, and for several years the few trees which survived, as well as those which have since sprung up from seed, or from the roots of the old trees, have been untouched by it. The rapid growth of the locust, and the invaluable qualities of its wood, recommend it strongly to the attention of cultivators."

In the Summer of 1872, I paid a visit to Mr. Kelsey, to talk about trees. The question was: "What trees should a farmer plant in Kaw Valley, in order to get railroad ties in the shortest time?" We agreed that ailantus, catalpa, black locust, and black walnut were the four best trees. Now, all the men in the West who know about trees (Warder, Bryant and Kelsey are, I think the foremost), and they all recommend the planting of locust. Of course, they do not say it should be the only tree planted, nor do I; our platform only is, that it should not be excluded.

The catalpa is fast coming into repute as a timber tree; the wood is fine-grained and beautiful. As a fence post, it lasts always. The tree is a rapid grower, and if planted thick enough, will run up into good shape; unfortunately, it is not native, and the farmer must buy seed. I expect (in connection with my private business), to have seed to sell, but do not want to steal an advertisement by speaking of it here.

The walnut everybody knows about; but year after year, hundreds of bushels of seed go to waste in Kansas, all of which ought to be planted. A year ago I put myself to some trouble to call attention to the tree seeds ripening in Kansas, and to urge the farmers to gather and plant them; but I do not know that the advice did any good, and I will not report it in detail. The farmers, where timber is scarce, ought to know their own interest well enough to plant the seeds of valuable native trees. I have ash and box elder trees growing on

the plains, from seed gathered along the Smoky; some planted last Fall, and some in the Spring. *Wills, Kansas.*

LOCUST TREES.

BY S. T. ELLIOTT.

EDITOR FARMER: I notice in the last number of THE FARMER, an article from my friend R. S. Elliott, recommending the planting of black locust for timber groves in Kansas. I have great respect for Mr. Elliott's opinions, but I fear he does not fully appreciate this "boger trouble."

I came into Central Illinois some twenty years since, and found numerous groves of black locust, of from one to twenty acres each, some of them from twelve to fifteen years old and looking well, but the borer had attacked them, and in a few years every grove in that section of country was destroyed. I have watched the work of the borers since that time, as they have spread over the country, working their way westward until they have destroyed, so far as I can learn, every grove of any extent in Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas. A few large trees that have got too old and hard for them, still stand, and a few trees planted in isolated places may not have been found by them; but until we can see or hear of one good grove in Kansas, we can hardly recommend the planting of locust for a shade, ornamental or timber tree. Where only fuel is wanted, it may be valuable, as it will grow four or five years before the borers destroy it, and will make a large amount of excellent fuel. After being cut, it will sprout up from the stump and roots, and in three or four years will produce more fuel than from the first cutting, thus making a permanent wood lot, and four or five acres would keep up the fires for any ordinary family.

If the locust is planted for fuel, other trees for shade, ornament, timber, &c., can be safely planted near it, as the locust borer does not work in any other tree. I agree with Mr. Elliott that there are difficulties attending the growing of almost every forest tree; but for the eastern half of Kansas, we can safely plant ash, black walnut, box elder, cottonwood, catalpa, and many other trees of easy propagation and rapid growth. Farther West it is not so easy to make out a list for successful forest culture, but I have no doubt but that we shall find trees which will be at home in that soil and climate, and that will grow as surely and as rapidly as any trees that are now grown in Eastern Kansas or any other country. It only needs a little time and patience, and thorough, careful experiments.

THE STATE FAIR AND STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

BY N. CAMERON.

EDITOR FARMER: When the law was on its passage, making the State Agricultural Society a protegee of the State, we personally called the attention of one of the representatives of this county, to the evils that would result from such legislation, and our apprehensions have been more than verified. The bill prepared and lobbied through the Legislature last Winter, has made this institution odious in the eyes of much people, especially in connection with the action of the Board, in proceeding to publish at State expense, an unlimited amount of trash, not practically worth a continental sent to anybody. One book has been published, an edition of ten thousand copies costing the State (we are informed) seventeen thousand dollars. Now, we would like to know how those ten thousand copies are to be distributed (admitting that the book was actually worth the money), so as to do justice to the taxpayers of the State. What man in seven, among those actually engaged in Agriculture, is to be favored with a present of this wonderful book, that cost the State fifteen hundred dollars, merely to have three or four little pictures stitched in and bound in the book. If the State intends to go into the business of publishing books for free distribution, we shall insist that some useful or instructive

books be published. Give us all a copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary (with the pictures in), or even the laws of the State, and send each farmer a copy; it would be a thousand times more benefit to them, to study the laws a little, and see their infamous character. And then a more intelligent action could be taken to remedy the evils that now beset us. Other volumes of this agricultural trash were in process of publication, including reports for twelve years back of 1872, but we are informed that work on them has been discontinued, after an expenditure of three or four thousand dollars. This action of the Board we hail as some sign of returning sanity.

There is also a statistical work in process of publication, 3,000 copies of which will probably cost the State five or six thousand dollars. With this book, there is no doubt but that farming may be made profitable on the Plains of Kansas or the Desert of Sahara; the only unfortunate thing is that there will only be one copy to every twenty-five farmers, giving the favored few a grand monopoly over the rest of us poor mortals, who will have to grope along in darkness, with only such information as we can gather from almanacs and newspapers.

A section of one of the laws above referred to, seems to have been gratuitous legislation, in relation to the Academy of Science making it optional with this institution to become the titman pig of the commonwealth, whereby they could have their fine spun theories published at State expense. We expected the Academy would seize this bait with the eagerness and satisfaction of the toad a blue-bottle fly; we were agreeably disappointed, however, and it is a credit to the Academy of Science that there are a few men that refuse to grab out of the public crib when there is a chance offered.

It may be that the State Board of Agriculture used their best endeavors to make the State Fair a success, and do "a work that would meet the hearty approval of the tax-payers of the State." If so, we think they have utterly failed in both particulars. The location of the Fair the second time at Topeka, was fatal to success; this was plain to many of us who attended the Fair one year ago at that place. It is doubtful whether there is more than one locality at which a State Fair can be made a success, and not even there, except under different management and arranged premium lists. No institution deserves success, or can expect it, that does not pay its obligations promptly. We know that many that were awarded premiums one year ago, went home with the promise that their certificates would be sent to them next week, that they would be cashed at the local banks, so that holders of them would be to no extra trouble; but they were not sent for months, and when received and returned to the treasurer for collection were sent back with the indorsement "no funds." This action, we know, worked very damagingly to the success of the Fair this season.

This year we had the announcement in the Premium List as follows: "Premiums will be paid on the Fair Ground as fast as awards are reported to the Secretary's office." But this was not done except to a favored few; the balance were sent away with the statement "that it would take from one to two weeks to post the books, and make out the certificates;" and probably some went away believing that to be the facts of the case. Now, if the institution is bankrupt, and can't be saved by a genuine road dollar horse ruse, why acknowledge the corn, and adjourn the thing sine die. If the farmers of Kansas will not run and sustain an Agricultural Fair, it is the plainest evidence to us, that a State Fair is impossible, otherwise than in name, from this one cause if no other. The inability of farmers to attend, except to a very limited extent, on account of high railroad fare, and their impecuniosity. Until we can have one cent a mile fare on railroads, State Fairs will be nothing more than a little local county Fair, and not much of a one even at

that, unless they are managed on some business principles.

IN SEARCH OF A SCHOOL.

BY HOOSIER GIRL.

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS: If any of you have reached the age when you are considered fit to govern a school, perhaps you may have had some trouble like me in getting one.

Ever since (poetically speaking), I was "knee-high to a grasshopper," I have been going to be a schoolma'am. So I went, in the first place, to the examination. Such an innumerable lot of questions, all declared they had never seen. It seemed to me, as I looked at them, that I didn't know anything; we poor mortals sat and wrote steadily a day and a half.

Then, there were four days of dreadful suspense. What if I should fail, and not get to be a schoolma'am after all. At last there came to me an envelop, directed in an unknown hand. I opened it, and there was the precious certificate. My sorrows had fled. I commenced to sing "Oh! I feel so awful jolly when the band begins to play."

The next morning, a sober after thought came to me, that perhaps the schools were all engaged. I was anxious. I inquired about the city schools. All engaged. Well, I might have known it. Then I must look around among the country schools. Went to one place where I was acquainted. No, they hadn't a teacher engaged. What was the grade of my certificate? Was I experienced? They would see about it. Went up not long after to inquire again. Well, I hadn't had any experience; an older person had applied, and got it.

Tried at school No. two. Found the School Board having a meeting stretched out on the grass; male applicant, ditto. Did they want a school teacher? Yes, they had just engaged one. Who was it made the application? Ah! a young lady. Well, the school was a hard one to manage; and on the whole, they thought they had better have a man. I would teach for five dollars a month less. Well, that was a consideration, but—well—they had better have a man; lots of big, bad boys.

After a long ride over the roughest of roads, arrived at school No. 3. Received the comforting assurance that if I had been three hours earlier, I might have had the school for certain, in spite of the bad boys. Back home again; on the way found another school. Stopped at everybody's house to find out whether the school was engaged or not; and where the "Board" lived. First house didn't know whether the school was engaged or not; knew that Mr. A., Mr. S. and Mr. I. used to be the Board; could not tell whether they were now or not; had heard that Mr. Breakyourjaw had engaged the school; weren't positive; I had better go a mile further, and inquire. Went; no, they didn't think Mr. Breakyourjaw had got the school; had heard he didn't get a certificate; found out he was a part of the Board. Stopped at the next house. Could they tell me where Mr. B. lived. The lady of the house dropped a can of tomatoes she was sealing, in astonishment. "Mr. B.? Oh yes! Do you know where the schoolhouse is?" "Yes." "Well, go right past it; its the first new house. There's another man; he's principal director; prap's you'd better stop there. Well, go 'long, you'll find a stone fence; then ride down till you come to an orchard; that's where he lives."

I thought I might as well have some fun, so I stopped at the next house: all still. "Hello! Anybody at home?" Just then I noticed some moving white spots in the window; discovered they belonged to a 'black man's eyes. "Do you know where Mr. Whatshisname lives?" "No, dunno anybody by that name roun' heah. Cur'us name! cur'us name! Oh! I 'spect it's Mr. Breakyourjaw you want; he lives right yondah, that new house thar." Concluded I'd go and see the other man first. "Not at home; probably be home about seven or eight o'clock. Come in and rest yourself!" Informed

the good woman I hadn't time. "Oh, you're after the school! You couldn't teach this school; so many big, bad boys." I began inwardly to bless big bad boys. "I'll tell my husband you applied, and send you word; you had better go and see Mr. Breakyourjaw." Rode up before the mansion of the awful Mr. Breakyourjaw. Deathly silence! Nobody appeared on the scene, and I retraced my steps, wondering if it was necessary to have to open two pair of bars to get to every house.

Being somewhat tired of long rides, wrote an application to the next school; watching in vain, no answering letter came to me. I came to the conclusion that that neighborhood also, must be afflicted with "big, bad boys," and they wanted a "man teacher."

Heard of another school six miles away; started after it immediately. Yes, they wanted a teacher. How old was I? Had I had any experience? Could I make fires Winter mornings? Where would I board? How long had I attended the University? How long had I lived in Lawrence? I grew hopeful; never before had School Board asked so many questions. They would let me know soon; waited and waited. At last the information came that I could have the school. Could one ask for more? Could one write for a paper, with such doubts and perplexities disturbing one's sleep?

P. S. Doubtless the reason I got the school, was owing to the fact that there were no "big bad boys," and the children all being small, had no need of an "experienced" teacher.

Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas.

THE PATRONS; WHAT ARE THEY?

BY E. M. C.

EDITOR FARMER: Considering the columns of your journal the proper place to ventilate and discuss all matters of husbandry interest, I herewith take the liberty to seek through those columns, for information which I hope THE FARMER, or some of its contributors, will be so kind as to bestow.

The information I seek, is concerning that great question which seems to have taken the farming population so by storm, and thrown the local politicians in such a fever of excitement—that organization which promises so much in behalf of the downtrodden and oppressed husbandman—viz: the Grange. Springing up as it does, at a time in which the agricultural population, oppressed by railroad corporations, and other monied monopolies, are groaning beneath exorbitant taxation, it is not surprising that an organization, like the Grange, proposing to alleviate those oppressions, should create among the farmers an almost sentimental enthusiasm. Every circumstance is favorable for such a movement. The improper proceedings of the last Congress; the apparent inefficiency of the Republican party to cope with the growing corruption, all seem to invite a popular manifestation of some kind. The old parties seem paralyzed; they cannot survive on the glories of the past. The one killed itself in the struggle for human slavery, and the other in the greediness of its avarice, and the grasp of the almighty dollar. The living issues of the day call for action of the people, and a new political movement seems inevitable.

The general features of a new party are apparent to all. In the first place it must purify the various departments of our Federal Government; it must elect an Executive and Congress who will not prostitute the faith of the people, by imposing taxes to support these profligate carriers at fancy watering places and other disreputable resorts; it must secure a Judiciary who will enforce the law with such vigor, that when a county treasurer steals himself rich under the very eyes of his constituents, he shall have the opportunity of serving a term in the Penitentiary; it must compel its legislators to execute their business with promptitude and dispatch, instead of sitting all Winter to consider what some politician's chances were for the United States Senate, if somebody else had been out of the field. It

must, in fact, set an example, and compel honesty and economy in every department of Government.

Now, let us consider how nearly, and by what means, the Grange proposes to accomplish these ends. At the very outset we are met with the statement that the Grange *does not intend to meddle with Politics*. Then what is its object? We are informed that it is a social organization, for the mutual advancement of the "Patrons of Husbandry." This is somewhat vague. But let us investigate further its social merits. We are told that it unites farming communities, and does away with internal unpleasantness and neighborhood dissensions. If one man dogs his neighbor's cattle for trespassing on his close, and they quarrel, does the fact of each paying five dollars for admission into the local Grange, bring them together on terms of unity and friendship?

Does the Grange propose to elevate the low and the groveling to the level of the virtuous and refined; or bring the latter down to the standpoint of the base? Now, every neighborhood contains a class of slanderers and gossips, that one would go further every day to avoid, than he would to meet with once a month at the Grange. Will paying their admission fee reform this class? But let us grant all that, and ask the reason for an oath of secrecy. This, we are informed, is to guard against designing politicians taking advantage of the societies. But it is not a political organization, as above shown. I cannot conceive what harm the politicians could do; they surely would not interfere with the social motives of the society, nor would they have reason to persuade the farmers to plant their corn in the Fall, or mislead them in any other way; besides, considering that that class of gentlemen usually carry some money about with them, I cannot conceive why they could not pay their admission, and join, as it is.

If the Grange proposes to promote a higher order of Art, Science, Literature, or Agricultural development, its members have not as yet condescended to enlighten us as to its real object. I have had the pleasure of conversing with many prominent members, and yet none of them seem to have any definite idea of what they are going to accomplish. There is not even a guaranty on the part of the Society, as in Masonry or Odd Fellowship, to extend charity to its unfortunate members.

Therefore, if the Grange will not meet our political wants, and assumes sociability, without the means of elevating; and fraternity, without the disposition to be charitable, I cannot conceive what good it can accomplish in behalf of our overburdened people.

Topeka, Kansas.

ORGANIZATION IN SUMNER COUNTY.

BY HENRY G. SMITH.

EDITOR FARMER: Permit me through THE FARMER, to communicate to the farmers, the success attending Shoofly Farmers' Club, and the life of farmers down here. We commenced organizing here last Winter, under adverse circumstances, with but three or four members; but now we number some twenty, and our meetings are so lively, and the farmers so interested in the work, that we don't pretend to close doors before ten or twelve o'clock. Our meetings are crowded with business, motions being numerous, and resolutions just stacked in the corners round about.

At our last meeting, we fully organized for the coming county election, appointing a committee of eight, to canvass the entire county at once, and organize clubs in every township and school district, and put candidates in the field for county officers. This smacks of business. When we are thoroughly organized, we expect to attend strictly to the gathering and forwarding of crop reports, statistics, &c. We passed a resolution, in essence as follows:

Resolved, That we will choose men for office; and that we will support no man for office who puts himself forward as a candidate.

Resolved, That the various orders of the organizations, whether secret or public, should be a unit in

action; that united we prove a success; but divided we prove a failure.

Now, Mr. Editor, let us look up; for the farmers are coming—coming, not to tear and destroy, but to bless and build up.

Shoofly, Sumner County, Kansas.

SUCCESS OF THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT IN MISSOURI.

BY J. J. MILLER.

EDITOR FARMER: The Farmers' Movement, as it is generally termed, has been productive of good to others, as well as themselves in the matter of trade. The tradesman came to the conclusion that he must get from thirty to fifty per cent. above the cost of the article, and on many things, even more; in a word, they charged the consumer from thirty to fifty cents on every dollar's worth of goods he handled. This was felt to be too much, and our tradesmen were solicited to come down in their prices, and conform to the demands of the time; but they could not see it in that light, and kept on charging, combining so as to secure themselves against competition. But this condition of things was not to continue. A gentleman by the name of Griffith, came to our place, and stated that he was acquainted with the business of trade, and could handle staple dry goods and groceries at ten per cent. above cost, and fancy articles at fifteen per cent. Well, he put in a small stock of groceries, and commenced business, and the result was persons came seven or eight miles to trade at our place. Persons in our vicinity, who had not patronized our tradesmen, came to the new store and traded; in fact, the difference between ten per cent. above cost, and thirty to fifty, could easily be seen. Mr. Griffith has been at work several months; has enlarged his business, and added dry goods and hardware; he reports trade increasing, and the prospect of success all he could expect.

In the meantime, a wonderful change has come over the dreams of his competitors; they have discovered that they can afford to trade cheap too. Sugar at Belcher's refinery, St. Louis, is sold at twelve cents per pound by the quantity; they are giving eight pounds for one dollar. This you see is less than cost, and one of the tricks of trade not understood by everybody. He underbills the man that charges ten per cent. above cost, with a view of making it upon articles the value of which is not so well understood. But with all those that understand these tricks, but little can be made; they will sustain the man that trades on the square, and who first demonstrated that the community was paying more than the fair thing.

Mr. Editor, we trust that the business of trade will be better understood, and that enterprising men may be found, that are willing to supply the wants of the people at living rates; and if the tradesman can't fare quite so sumptuously as he could when he was taxing the community from thirty to one hundred per cent., let them work for a fair consideration, and live within their means, and earn what they get.

CROP AVERAGES.

BY G. H. STRATTON.

EDITOR FARMER: Having been engaged for a time this Fall in running a thresher, I thought I would give you the average per acre of both Spring and Fall wheat, also oats.

First. One hundred and fifty acres of Fall wheat yielded 1,463 bushels, or an average of 9¾ bushels per acre.

Second. Forty-nine acres of Fife wheat (Spring), yielded 595 bushels, or an average of 12¼ bushels per acre.

Corn will be a pretty fair crop, will probably average forty bushels per acre. Potatoes are very poor, almost a total failure.

Owing to the extreme dryness of the Fall, a very small amount has been put in, and what is sowed is not looking very well. Farmers are still sowing.

Maple Grove, Clay County, Kansas.

The Kansas Farmer

THE LEAVENWORTH FAIR.

At the present writing the prospects are that the Kansas Agricultural & Mechanical Exhibition is a complete success. The display of stock, implements and textile fabrics has rarely been equalled, and so far as the attendance is concerned, it has been all that anyone could wish.

It is useless to estimate the numbers present. People are so apt to over estimate crowds that if we were to express our opinions as to the numbers present, we would do an injustice to the Managers of our Fair. However, it is generally understood that crowds are generally over estimated, and we do not desire to err in that direction, but it is enough to say that the Leavenworth Fair was financially a success. The attendance throughout the week was good, but on Thursday and Friday it was a perfect jam. It seemed as though our whole population had turned out, and we noticed among the crowd a very large per cent. of persons from a distance. The Press of the State, and the Agricultural Press of the country was fully represented.

Coming down to the Fair itself, we have many words of praise and few words of censure. The show of cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry was good, in quality very good, and in quantity nothing that our people need be ashamed of.

The exhibition of Agricultural Implements was chiefly made by Grant & Pree, and represented nearly every line of implements known to the trade, and each class was represented by many specimens. The energy and enterprise of this firm in making so large a display is worthy of mention, and other lines of business would do well to emulate this example.

In Power Hall the exhibition was good. The show of buggies and carriages, stoves and other hardware was one of the largest we have ever had. One of the carpet factories had a loom in operation all the time, and excited much interest.

Mr. William Jones, of this county, who has invented a new churn, had different sizes and shapes on exhibition, the largest size being run by dog power. The power which he uses is also his own invention, and is one of the best we ever saw. It is worthy the attention of those who would like to utilize the labor of some worthless dog.

In Floral Hall the exhibition was conceded by all to be the best ever made in the State. The show of fruit was the largest and best we ever saw. Prominent among the exhibitors of fruit were the Jackson County Horticultural Society, and the quality of their fruit could not be excelled. Francis Goddard, the well known vineyardist, made a very large show of apples, pears and grapes. Of the latter he exhibited some twenty varieties; of pears, ten or twelve varieties, and of apples about fifty. J. S. Van Winkle, of Kickapoo township, J. C. Beard, Easton, S. H. Rhea of the same, and Mrs. Loar, of Delaware were large contributors of fruit. Also several other parties whose names we did not learn helped to make up this grand exhibition.

Two of our dry goods houses, Jaggard & Foster and Reamer & Cole, made a beautiful exhibition of dry goods, ranging from silks and satins down to the less costly but more serviceable articles of the lady's wardrobe.

Our furniture dealers, too, made a grand display of their goods, and the point was that most of the articles were manufactured in the city, and were as fine and handsome as any market can furnish.

Space will not permit us to speak of the many other beauties and curiosities exhibited in this Department. It is enough to say that our ladies did their whole duty, and made of this hall a palace of beauty.

In Farm Hall the show was first rate, and the grains and vegetables indicated that our farmers were up with their brothers in any other portion of the State. The ladies, too, made here an exhibition

of their skill as housekeepers, and we saw rows of bread and cakes, jellies, pickles and preserves enough to have fed a regiment of men. Also, large quantities of golden butter and cheese.

In the second story of this building was displayed some elegant specimens of harness and saddles, and other works of handicraft. B. S. Richards, the well known saddle and harness maker of this city, was the largest exhibitor, and as usual carried away a goodly number of the blue ribbons.

Among the interesting features of the exhibition may be mentioned the quartette singing, the equestrianism by boys and girls under twelve years, also by lads and lassies of a greater age.

Miss Matilda Fletcher's lecture, delivered under the auspices of the Society, at Laing's Hall, on Friday night, was the event of the Fair. All the kind words that have been said of this lady fall completely to do her justice. There is a brilliancy to her lectures, a fund of humor and an immense amount of common sense, that to be appreciated must be heard. Unlike many other lecturers, she speaks of matters she knows something about; of things that she has herself experienced, and consequently her criticisms are so true to nature that each hearer must of necessity apply much that she says to himself. The subject of her lecture here, Farmers' Wives and Daughters, was peculiarly appropriate, and we only wish that thousands of husbands and fathers could have heard it. It is barely possible that we shall be able to present it to our readers in our next issue.

To sum up the Fair we must say that it was a grand success. Its managers, most of them at least, had little or no experience in conducting an Agricultural Society, but they are apt scholars, and the errors of the present occasion will be taken advantage of, and the schedule of premiums and general management improved upon.

ADVERTISING FOR THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

We have the pleasure to announce to our readers that the Secretary of War has ordered THE KANSAS FARMER to be placed upon the list of papers in Kansas that are to publish all advertisements for contracts for beef, pork, corn, hay, oats, wood, &c., with which the various forts and garrisons throughout the West are to be supplied. With two exceptions, these contracts heretofore have only been published in daily papers, and the exceptions are papers of local circulation only.

We have long thought that the farmers of this State should have an opportunity to bid on these contracts if they desired to do so, but from the fact that they have been advertised only in dailies, and as these do not circulate to any considerable extent, they have rarely heard of a contract to be let, until it was too late to publish a bid. There is scarcely a hay or corn contract let at this or any other post in the State, but what could be taken by one or two farmers; but even if six or eight were to club together to fill it, and let some one of their number do the bidding, they would save to their own pockets that which now goes into the hands of unnecessary middlemen. Here at Leavenworth, there are at least fifty men that we could name, who have grown rich from the commissions they have made by acting as a middleman between our farmers and the Government. As we have said, we fail to see the necessity for this, and we are glad that the War Department has ordered these advertisements published in THE FARMER, and our thousands of readers, as well as the Government itself will be benefited.

GATHER THE CORN.

Don't let the usual fine weather of October and November pass without making every effort to house the entire corn crop. The weather has been exceedingly favorable this Fall thus far, for ripening the crop, and except in rare instances, it may all be safely stored by the last of this month. A farmer that neglects to do this work now, unless providentially hindered, will be entitled to little sympathy,

if he has to wade through snow and slush, or freeze his fingers, in December and January.

While speaking of this subject, we would remind farmers that much of this crop is annually wasted by neglect in repairing the corn cribs. A little work will often make them rat-proof, and we would advise all to do do what they can to prevent this ramage.

HORTICULTURAL NOTES.

We are under obligations to Mr. L. BISHOP, of Osawatomie, Kansas, for the following Horticultural notes:

The curculio having become very numerous by propagation in the peach for many years, and that having failed this year, he pitched into everything else—even the black walnut did not escape. I anticipate comparative freedom from him next year, his attempts at propagation having almost entirely failed.

The apple crop was very poor, so much so, that we did not send any to the Boston show, the fruit being badly knotted up by curculio; pears the same. I have had no pear blight, but there has been considerable around. I have seen scores of green flies suck cherries when pretty ripe, and my pears and apples have burned on the trees this year where fully exposed. The Northern Spy is very subject to the attacks of yellow wasps, and other insects. It is my intention, as soon as I can, to fence my orchard, and keep hogs, chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese in it; I believe that would be a great remedy.

THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

We go to press too early to give a report of the Farmers' Convention of this county, but from the many expressions that we have heard in different portions of the county, we are led to believe that the Convention will be a large one, and we trust that the proceedings will be pleasant and harmonious. We have full faith that the ticket nominated will be composed of good men, and as a result of this nomination, we expect reduced taxation, and a better condition of our affairs generally.

THE POTATO AS AN ARTICLE OF DIET.

Mr. Lecky, we believe, who first suggested that the use of the potato as food was the cause of the physical degeneracy of the Irish race. Quite recently several German writers have expressed the opinion that any people will deteriorate both physically and mentally, should potatoes become their principal food. Carl Vogt maintains that the potato contributes very little toward the restoration of wasted tissues; while Mulder, the Dutch physiologist, gives the same judgment when he declares that the excessive use of potatoes among the poorer classes, and coffee and tea by the higher ranks, is the cause of indolence of nations. Leidenfrost maintains that the revolutions of the last three centuries have been due to the revolutions in nutrition. If these savants are right, the potato rot must be viewed as a blessing in disguise; but the fact the popular tuber contains only a moderate amount of nutriment is by no means a new one. It follows of course that a nation subsisting almost exclusively on potatoes will be imperfectly fed.

KEEPING APPLES.

A correspondent of the *Cultivator* states that he kept 1,200 bushels, mostly Baldwins, through the past Winter and Spring in his cellar. He claims that by his mode apples may be kept the year round, without losing their juiciness or crispness. His theory is that the early rotting of apples is due, to a great extent, to a vegetable miasma in the air, which is communicated to it by vegetable evaporation under certain conditions. The effect of this miasma is first seen in a minute speck; sometimes as many as a dozen may be counted on the same apple. His remedy is a daily airing of the cellar or place where the apples are stored, arranging so as to have a brisk circulation, until all the

magnant air is expelled, and its place occupied by pure, healthy air. His success proves that his views are at least worthy of consideration.

THE FAIRS.

BY A DELEGATE.

EDITOR FARMER: Boston, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and California were the real contestants in the exhibition of apples; nineteen States competing. Nebraska was awarded the first premium, and Kansas the second. There are some statements connected with this decision which may throw some light upon the subject. It is known that the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad Company were the real exhibitors of the Nebraska fruits; for the purpose of advertising their lands in Nebraska; hence, the very large amount of fruits shown by that State. It is said, however, that they gathered their fruit indiscriminately from Nebraska, Missouri and Iowa. It is further stated, that many of the stock-holders of that road are Boston men. In addition to these statements, there are two facts which call for explanation: First, the awarding committee on apples, was originally composed of Downing, of New York; Flagg, of Illinois, and Hamilton, of Nova Scotia; when, however, this Committee was announced from the Chair, it consisted of Downing as before, Bateham, of Ohio; Moore, of Rhode Island, and two others, whose names are not recollected. Secondly, the Committee as thus announced, had a man on it who some years since, had an ill-natured law-suit with one of the Kansas delegation.

Why this change was made in the Committee, needs an explanation; and why this particular person of law-suit memory, was put on the Committee, also needs an explanation. One would suppose that a high-toned gentleman, knowing the facts, would have declined serving.

The above facts and statements, we think throw some light upon the award. It was conceded by Western fruit growers generally, that the Kansas fruit excelled in beauty, in perfectness of specimen and correctness of nomenclature; and yet all this went for nothing.

The Railroad Company had lands in Nebraska for sale. The American Pomological Society was organized for the purpose of bringing the history and nature of fruits into something like scientific accuracy. We hardly think that advertising railroad lands would tend in that direction; yet it was so allowed at the Society's meeting in Boston.

At Waverly, N. J., where the State Fair was held, Kansas was easily triumphant, being awarded the Society's Grand Silver Medal, and the Diploma for the finest display of apples made on that occasion. Nebraska had promised to show her fruits there also, but failed to appear.

At the American Institute Fair, held in the city of New York, Kansas and Nebraska met again. Nebraska entered 150 varieties of apples, and Kansas 190 varieties, 175 correctly named, and 15 for a name. At New York, as at New Jersey, Kansas easily triumphed over Nebraska, having received the promise from the Institute of a Grand Diploma, for the finest display of apples over all competitors, shown in 1873.

Thus ends the show of Kansas fruits for the current year, with, we think, the most gratifying results.

FRUIT GARDEN.

There is considerable art in raising fruits; but there is as much or more in gathering and ripening them. Pears and apples are ready as soon as the seeds begin to turn black, or as soon as they will part easily from the tree by gently raising the stalk, or as soon as the leaves show indications of falling from the trees; indeed, whether they are duly ripe or not, no length of time will avail them sought after the leaves fall. No rules can be given for the exact place to put them away in, but the principle must be applied to each individual case. In the first place, the fruit shelves must be secure from frost. In the next place, it must be just moist

enough to prevent withering, but not too much so, or the flavor will be inferior. Nor must it be too hot, or your fine *Beurres* may become *Abondantes*, or resemble *Pommes des terres*, alias boiled potatoes. If it is too cold—barely above the freezing point, the fruit becomes insipid and tasteless. The happy idea is to strike central to all these extremes. Of course, they must be hand-picked from the tree, as the slightest bruise causes decay. The stock must be occasionally overhauled anyhow, to take out such as will be found, from various accidents, in a decaying state. Apples for commercial purposes, are usually barreled up, with chaff or other light substance between each layer; and some pears, such as Lawrence, will bear the same treatment; but such preserved fruits are never equal in quality to those preserved in a more open way on shelves.

We may, perhaps, repeat the advice to plant considerably more fruit trees together on the same space of ground than is usually done, even though some has to be cut away in time. This should especially be in the case where parties prefer to keep the surface soil clear; as the intense heat reflected from bare soil is one of the great sources of disease in young trees. It might be well to introduce nurse trees into orchards, to obviate this somewhat. Alders, poplars or willows might, we think, be need to advantage; of course, cutting them away before they grew large enough to interfere with the roots of the fruit trees. A dry warm bottom, but cool surface, is of the highest importance in fruit growing. The past season in most parts of the country has been one of very abundant bearing, and unless the food has been kept up by a liberal supply of manure, there will be many weak and exhausted trees, and short crops next season. We prefer to manure, in such cases as these, in midsummer.

The cells of trees are like honey-combs, and store up matter for use the next season. They have of course to do this while growing; whenever this has not been done, matter for a surface dressing should be got ready during Autumn and Winter. Much injury has been done to fruit culture by the expressed dread some cultivators have of a "too rank growth," and a consequent advice not to manure, if the roots are healthy. If a tree seems to suffer after a heavy manuring, it is only because it was in a bad way before this. Of course, if one were to empty a cesspool, a cart load of fresh lime, or some other inordinate mass of food under a tree, it would suffer; but our meaning is that no amount of manure that would be found of benefit to any regular garden, will be otherwise than beneficial to a fruit tree, if the roots be healthy.—*Gardener's Monthly*.

GOOD BUTTER.

[From the Boston Journal of Chemistry.]

The market is abundantly supplied with poor butter, but of finer qualities the supply is very limited. It is a matter of wonder that dairy farmers do not regard their interests more wisely, in manufacturing this most important farm product. It requires but a very little more skill and care to send to market butter which finds a ready sale at high prices, than to send that which nobody wants, and which, if sold, goes at a low price. It is impossible for any butter producer to be in the slightest degree independent and above-board, who is contented to make an article of second or third quality.

If a dairyman in Vermont, New Hampshire, or any other State wishes to conduct his business successfully, let him come to the city and ascertain the character of the product which every dealer is anxious to procure, and for which he is willing to pay high prices in ready money. Many farmers at a distance do not really know what perfect butter is, having never seen the article. Finding as we do a ready sale for our milk almost at our own door, we have not, to much extent, turned it into butter; there fore our supplies come from those who raise milk under different circumstances. So difficult is it to procure perfect butter in the market, that frequent

ly we have waited a week before any could be found; when found, the price is about double that for which ordinary qualities are sold, and the price is cheerfully paid. How to make good butter is easily understood. Some remarks upon this point have already appeared in the *Journal*. Good butter cows are necessary, and also care and perfect cleanliness in milking, straining, and setting the milk. Without cool, airy, sweet rooms, specially designed for dairy purposes, it is impossible to make perfect butter. It cannot be produced in ordinary farmhouses, with ordinary conveniences. Those who produce butter largely, or even moderately, should have plenty of ice in Summer; and in Winter the warmth needed should not come from a stove in the room, as it is difficult to prevent contamination by dust and gases. The art of making good butter is like other industries—it must be learned; and there are certainly no investigations that a dairy farmer can make, which will give him better pecuniary returns for his trouble.

LOGAN FARMERS' CLUB.

LOGAN TOWNSHIP, Aug 23d, 1873.

Pursuant to a call of the farmers of Logan township, a meeting of the citizens was held at Hall's Schoolhouse, for the purpose of deliberating upon the subject of a farmers' organization.

Chas. S. Wyeth was called to the Chair, and T. C. Towler was elected Secretary.

The Committee appointed on form of organization, reported in favor of a Club. Report accepted, and Committee discharged.

On motion it was resolved to organize a farmers' club, to be known as the "Logan Farmers' Club," which was accordingly done with twenty-one members.

The following persons were elected officers: F. H. Colton, President; H. P. Sanford, Vice President; W. I. Edgerton, Secretary; John Reafnyder, Treasurer. After which the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That for mutual protection, and to avert financial ruin, it becomes the great duty of the times, with the farmers, to thoroughly and efficiently organize, and therefore it becomes the imperative duty of every farmer to unite with some farmers' organization.

Resolved, That in a country like ours, where the government is of the people, by the people and for the people, it becomes not only the privilege, but the bounden duty of every man, to take an active part in the political affairs of the country; and we hereby pledge ourselves to actively co-operate with all good citizens everywhere to purify our political atmosphere, and elect good and honest men to office.

Resolved, That franchises are not granted by the people to railroad corporations for the purpose of enabling them as monopolies to oppress the people, but for the mutual benefit of all parties; and therefore we believe in the right of the government to judiciously regulate railroad tariffs, and we will support no man for Congress or Legislature, who is not pledged to use all lawful means to enact a law regulating freights and fares upon our railroads upon a just and equitable basis.

Resolved, That while we are in favor of retrenchment and reform, we are nevertheless, bitterly opposed to any so-called retrenchment, which shall in any wise impair the efficiency of our public schools.

Resolved, That copies of the foregoing be sent to the Minneapolis Independent and THE KANSAS FARMER, for publication.

F. H. COLTON, President.

Attest, W. I. EDGERTON, Secretary.

OUR CORNER

Where is that Land.—One of our subscribers, Mr. L. BISHOP furnishes us under the above heading, with a dainty morsel for our Horticulturists to digest. It's poetry, but the story is so well told, that the veriest old fogey that reads THE FARMER will be interested in it. We have examined sixteen prominent entomological works, and we can't find that Mr. B. has omitted a single insect pest. If he has, it is not intentional, and if any of our readers, Mr. PORNBAU and Prof. RILEY included, can think of any bug hurtful to fruit that is not mentioned therein, will send us word, we will get Mr. BISHOP to write an additional verse, as we are satisfied he did not intend to omit any. Read it, fruit growers, and laugh.

Certainly.—We have received the following notice:

"Mr. Editor: You will oblige me if you will change my

address from Grover, Ottawa county, to Manhattan, Agricultural College."

There is no name signed to the above, and we do not know who it is that has moved from Grover to Manhattan. If the party will give us his address, we will change it willingly.

Mrs. Cora M. Downs.—Among our visitors of the past week, none have been more welcome than Mrs. Downs. Her reputation is State-wide, and no writer of to-day has received more encomiums than she. She is a woman of such strong, practical, common sense, and with such a keen sense of humor, that whatever she writes interests the average reader. We hope to hear from her through THE FARMER hereafter.

Renewals.—Old subscribers whose terms are about to expire will confer a great favor upon us if they will renew at as early a day as possible, as it will save us from many vexatious annoyances, and will insure a prompt receipt of the papers. While sending in your own name, ask your neighbors to subscribe.

An Apology.—The Editor of THE FARMER having been absent from the office visiting Fairs, feels that an apology is due to its readers for a lack in the variety of its reading matter. We hope to bring our next number up to the standard.

[Written for the Kansas Farmer.]

WHERE IS THAT LAND?

BY L. BISHOP.

Oh, let me go to some fair land,
Where bounties from Pomona's hand,
May be received without a brand
From that destructive insect band,
Which is increasing—marching in
With gnashing teeth and dismal din.
In vanguard comes the little Turk,
And vigorously sets to work,
With snout to cut the crescent form,
And egg to hatch the nascent worm;
Then nectarine, plum, apricot,
Are soon among things that are not;
And peach, gem of Pomona's crown,
Is not secure, though clothed with down.
And this year, apples, pears, and all
Are struck, and prematurely fall.
Then comes a host, as noisome quite—
Birds, bark-lice, beetles, borers, blight,
Moths, millers, worms, wasps, weevils, bugs,
Grasshoppers, ants, leaf-rollers, slugs,
Grubs, caterpillars, root-lice, rot,
Mold, mildew, sunscald, scab, speck, spot;
And, to complete the horrid train,
Come hail, frost, heat, winds, drouth and rain.
Oh, can a place somewhere be found,
Where all these plagues do not abound?
Where plums, and other fruits may grow
Unblemished by curculio?
Where red-heads let my Junes alone,
And pretty rose-bugs do not come;
Pear trees don't blight, nor blossoms freeze,
And Duchess pears burn on the trees?
Where Southern sweets are damaged not
By codling moth, and grapes don't rot,
And cherries are not spoiled by flies—
By yellow wasps, my Northern spies?

THE APIARY.

NOAH CAMERON, Editor.

ANSWER TO MR. SPONABLE.

In the last FARMER the question was asked: What was the harm to change places of weak and strong stocks to equalize them? The trouble with that mode is, from the fact that in many cases, the returning bees will destroy the queen in the hives that have been changed. If you have a poor queen, there is no harm done; but if you have a valuable one, it is not advisable to equalize in that way. The only safe way, is to introduce combs of cupped brood, in which case there is no risk, and colonies can be built up very rapidly.

KANSAS STATE BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Topeka, on the 24th and 25th of September, during the State Fair.

The President being absent, the Association was called to order by the Secretary, N. Cameron, and on motion Hon. M. A. O'Neil was elected temporary President.

The Secretary then read a portion of the proceedings of the last two meetings of the Association, showing that the time of the Annual Meeting had been changed from January to the time of the State

Fair. He also stated that the former Secretary had never turned over to him the Constitution of the Association, and he had left the country, so that we were without a Constitution.

On motion, the following Committee were appointed to draft a Constitution, to be submitted at the next session: Judge Guthrie, G. F. Merriam and N. Cameron.

An essay was then read by the Secretary, entitled "A few facts about Bees," after which there was an animated discussion on the topics suggested by the essay.

Mr. Meador objected to the use of the word "fertilization," as often used by apiculturists to express the copulation of the queen and drone; he stating that queens were fertile without meeting the male bee, and that many workers were also fertile that never had connection with the drone; he claiming that they were fertilized by the food they received, and were capable of laying eggs that would produce a progeny, which, however, would be all males without impregnation, after which, all the eggs produce females; and that the male bees were generally produced by eggs from the worker bee that was fed for the purpose.

Mr. O. Badders gave us the result of an experiment which may lead to a new discovery of no small importance. He removed a dozen or more eggs from worker cells to drone cells, and at the same time removed the queen from the hive, and all the eggs thus removed hatched perfect drones as far as the eye could detect. No other solution could be given to this experiment than that the bees removed the spermatozoa that changes their character from male to female, after they had been placed in the drone cells. If this should prove true, on further experiment and investigation, it will be a discovery in apicultural science.

Mr. Stiles wanted to know if there were more than one kind of drones, as he understood that drones were produced by fertile workers and the queen.

He was answered that drones were all alike perfect drones, however produced.

A question was then proposed, whether wax could be fed to the bees so as to have them use it in building comb.

Mr. Badders had fed wax (according to the Adair theory), melted and worked in granulated sugar, so that the wax would be in very minute particles and his bees built comb very rapidly from it.

Mr. Meador thought there was little gain from feeding wax. They would use the honey mixed with it, and build some comb, but most of the wax they would carry out of the hive.

A question was then asked, why a queen was different from the worker bee? Some claimed that it was on account of the worker cell being too small to allow the development of a perfect female. Others thought it was more owing to the food in quality and amount. An instance was given where small and worthless queens were produced in queen cells, on account of a scant supply of food; and that it required both the larger cell to admit of perfect development, and the proper food, in quality and amount, to produce it.

Mr. Meador proposed the following question for discussion to-morrow evening: "Why does Apiculture attract so little attention as a branch of husbandry?" which was accepted by consent.

N. Cameron offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed whose duty it shall be to press upon the State Board of Agriculture the importance of encouraging Apiculture by more liberal awards.

Gen. H. Cameron, Dr. L. J. Dallas and G. F. Merriam were appointed said Committee.

SECOND SESSION.

Wednesday Evening.—Hon. M. A. O'Neil in the Chair.

The Committee on Constitution not being ready to report, the President read a very interesting paper on "Bee Culture;" after which the Committee

on Constitution reported, which report was amended and adopted.

The following officers were then elected to serve one year:

President—Hon. M. A. O'Neil, of Black Jack.

Vice President—Capt. James D. Meador, of Independence, Mo.

Secretary—N. Cameron, of Lawrence.

Corresponding Secretary—O. Badders, of Leavenworth.

Mr. Meador offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That we regard the action of the Postmaster General in ruling that bees are not mailable matter, as an unlawful interference with our rights.

The resolution, after some discussion, was unanimously adopted.

The question presented by Mr. Meador was then taken up: Why does Apiculture attract so little attention as a branch of husbandry? The President spoke on this question at some length. He thought that owing to many failures, arising from want of a more thorough knowledge of the business, many were discouraged. That a practical knowledge of the business was necessary to insure success. Mr. Skinner said that one reason why this important branch of husbandry lagged was from the fact that our Agricultural Societies were too much absorbed in shows, gambling, horse racing, etc., to give any encouragement to any useful industry. Mr. Callahan and Mr. Miller thought there were only a few localities where bee-keeping could be made profitable, on account of a scarcity of bee pasture or honey plants. Gen. H. Cameron said that Apiculture attracts little or no attention at our State Fairs and from the thoughtless public for several reasons: All the wealth producing industries are, or at least, have been pushed into the background by certain practices, fashions and customs which contribute nothing to the wealth, morals, or true civilization of the State. This is chiefly owing to our own indifference and the thoughtlessness and infidelity of our educators. The interests of the wealth producers of the State are not made so prominent as the interests of sporting men, because we do not own nor control the newspaper press of the State. Papers started to advocate exclusively the rights of the individual classes are not sustained as they should be, and many of them are permitted to die. This is the basic evil, or parent of all the ill we complain of. If the industrial classes will organize thoroughly, and properly inform themselves on all matters which vitally affect their prosperity and welfare, American civilization will be greatly improved, and citizenship more highly respected, Republican institutions will range higher than they do, at home and abroad, and the advocates of industry and honesty will be able to hold the first place in the United States as easily as the advocates and friends of loafing and idleness hold it at the present time. Working men and women would be infinitely better off, if they would spend one-half their time in the business of saving what they produce. Mr. Cameron closed his remarks by calling attention to the novelty of Apiculture, as an additional reason why it did not take its appropriate rank among the useful industries of the country.

Mr. Meador said he introduced this question because it was an important subject, and he would give his views in a few words. Up to the time of the discovery of the movable frame, bee-keeping could not take a forward rank among the industries; on account of the difficulty of management. When the movable frame was discovered, and Apiculture began to prosper, unprincipled men took advantage of the situation, and flooded the country with worthless patents, a vender of which could be found in every town, and unsuspecting people were swindled to such an extent that they became disgusted with the business. He said no other stock would bring such a large return as bees, and with so little labor. If our bees required constant attention, he thought there would be more success. He believed that it

was an easy matter for the bee-keeper to realize 100 per cent. from his bees, while no other stock would do half so well. He had a hive this season worth \$15, which with its increase and surplus honey was now worth \$100.

The Secretary thought that a great many who attempted to keep bees, calculated that they would take care of themselves; that they either lacked the disposition or the ability to give them that attention that is absolutely necessary to success.

N. CAMERON,
State Secretary Bee-keepers' Association.



Prescriptions for Sick or Injured Animals, Free.

B. S. CHASE, VETERINARY EDITOR.

[The readers of THE FARMER, who have sick or injured Horses or Cattle, can have the advice of a Professional Veterinarian of great experience, through this Department, gratis, by sending an account of the complaint they desire advice upon. No question will be answered by mail.—EDITOR FARMER.]

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES ABOUT ANIMALS.

Inflammation of the Eye.

EDITOR FARMER: I desire to know through your paper what remedy I shall pursue for two mules I have. About a week ago one of them seemed to have something the matter with one eye, and was always trying to rub it; it run water constantly. Since then the other eye has taken the same way, and also one eye of the other mule; it seems to affect both the same.

WM. GAGAN.

ANSWER.—If there is any undue heat in the lids, bathe them several times a day with tincture of arnica one ounce, water one pint—mix. Also apply with a camel's hair brush to the ball of the eye, a little neat's foot oil.

Nasal Gleet.

EDITOR FARMER: I should like a little information through your veterinary column. I have a mare that has a discharge from the nose; she keeps in good condition, appetite good, and apparently feels as well as ever; the matter as a general thing is very light colored—almost white, and only from one nostril; it comes in flakes most of the time; at times the smell is offensive, and at other times, scarcely any smell at all. It will cease for several days and then commence again; she first commenced running from the nose in June; it then ceased for about three weeks.

ADAM MADISON.

ANSWER.—Nasal gleet is the name of the disease. Give the following powders; one powder once in twenty-four hours: Powdered sulphate of copper, three ounces; powdered gentian root, four ounces; powdered Spanish fly, one drachm; mix, and divide into twelve powders, to be given in cut feed.

VIENNA PREMIUMS AGAIN, AND AMERICAN SEWING MACHINES.

By reference to the "General Regulations of the Vienna Universal Exhibition," published by Archduke Regnier, President of the Imperial Commission, we find medals were to be awarded in the Mechanical Department in two classes, one for merit, and one for progress. The medal for merit was for the article possessing the greatest merit of its kind and class; and the medal for progress, for the article or thing which had made the greatest progression toward perfection. In this country, the award of progress would be called a second premium. Hence, we would conclude that, as the Wilson Sewing Machine was the only sewing machine that received the Grand Medal of Merit, when the awards were made at the Vienna Exposition, it must have been the best sewing machine on exhibition; although other sewing machines that received medals

for progress should not be considered very inferior machines. At the great American Centennial Exposition of 1876, they may have so improved as to equal the world-renowned Wilson Shuttle Sewing Machine.—*New York Tribune, Sept. 8th, 1878.*

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

We have a very high opinion of the merits of this breed—indeed, for fattening qualities, and quality of flesh, the two great points to be considered in breeding hogs, we do not know of any variety that surpasses the Berkshires; and our observation is, that they thrive and keep fat on grass, as scarcely any other sort will. But we are inclined to think that in their purchase, owing to the great demand, and consequent temptation to adulteration, there is great need of caution. We have seen some very mean black pigs imported for Berkshires; and when we called attention to this last year, a gentleman who had been an importer, insisted that the absence of the peculiar characteristics of the breed, did not prove that the blood was impure. Well, however this may be, we respectfully suggest, that an animal of objectionable form or quality should be rejected, whether purely bred or not. We have seen it stated in an English paper, that the great demand for black color, had induced some breeders to resort to the blood of the old, unimproved Essex, which gives a coarse, ill-looking sort, with hind legs placed too far forward. Now, as we have no pedigrees of this stock, the true way is to buy of parties of known integrity, and to be satisfied with no animal that is not of the desired type. And this rule applies to the purchase of swine of all breeds—it is the only security we can have against imposition and fraud.—*Stock Journal.*

HORSE ITEMS.

JULES JURGENSON, the celebrated trotting stallion and mate of Kirkwood, died at Freehold, N. J., some ten days ago, of strangulated hernia. He was owned by Charles Carman, who bought him in Maine, three years ago, for \$18,000. He was sired by Gen. Knox, and we have heard Col. Thomas S. Lang speak of him as the most promising of all the numerous fast ones got by the old horse.

Occident, the California wonder and pride, retains all his speed, and Gov. Stanford still believes him to be the fastest trotter on the Pacific coast, if not in the United States.

Fred Billings, the trotter, was sold after the trot at Beacon Park, to a Mr. Berry for \$2,000.

A FAST THREE-YEAR-OLD.—The *Spirit of the Times* stake was trotted for last week at Prospect Park. Twenty-four nominations were made, each paying \$50. The final payment of \$200 was due on the 1st inst., when but two were made good. These were Fearnought Boy, out of mare by Sherman Black Hawk, and a black filly, Dame Trot, by Messenger Duroc, out of a mare by Harry Clay. Dame Trot distanced its competitor (carrying a driver weighing two hundred and ten pounds, while Dan Mace drove the former), in 2:40. The winner was bred by Mr. Charles Backman, Stony Ford, Orange county, New York.

SMUGGLER.—This is the name of the horse that is at present the most talked about of any animal in the country. He is just from Kansas, and is now in the box-stall formerly occupied by Fearnought at the Home Farm. He is a trotter—his three trots inside of 2:21 at Prospect Park, a few days ago, showed that; and he is good blood, being only four generations from old American Eclipse, the greatest racer of his day. As a stock horse, he cannot but be of great value to New England, as a cross to our mares, and from the moment he was first shown at the Mystic Park, he has grown in power among all who know the points of a good horse. It is said \$40,000 was the figure Col. Russell paid for him.—*Mirror and Farmer.*

CHARCOAL AS AN AMENDMENT.

I want some treatise on the virtue, chemical properties, and proper application of charcoal, as applied to land. My soil is light, sandy loam, and I can procure 100 loads of charcoal dust at little or no expense, except drawing it a mile and a half.—[Thomas Rodgers, Lewis county, N. Y.]

We find the foregoing inquiry in the *New York Tribune*, together with the following reply by Prof. S. W. Johnson, of New Haven:

The treatise may appropriately begin with a collection of testimony on the observed effects of

charcoal, according to the experience of farmers. In my lectures on Fertilizers, I have been in the habit of stating at the outset that practical experience asserts of every manure, that it is good, that it is bad, and that it is indifferent. I have also said that simple practice can never get beyond this point, but must always go on contradicting itself—must maintain an endless controversy as to the facts of the action of fertilizers, and that science only can reconcile the contradictions of experience by searching out the reasons why charcoal, for example, here or now works beneficially, and there or then manifests no effect, or even operates detrimentally. After presenting some statements from those who have used charcoal as an application to land, I will attempt such explanations as the studies of scientific men enable me to offer.

Testimony.—In the *Albany Cultivator* for 1844, pages 46 and 148, Mr. R. I. Fell stated that he had used charcoal and nothing else as a dressing for land, at the rate of fifty-two bushels per acre, and had thereby obtained wheat at the rate of seventy-eight and three-fourths bushels per acre. The value of this experiment is much diminished by the fact detailed on page 148 of the *Cultivator* for 1847, that the plot of ground measured but two rods, and the wheat harvested, amounted to only thirty-one and one-half quarts. In the same volume, page 74, it is stated, editorially, that "We have often seen used the dust from 'beds' where charcoal has been made. This dust consists of fine bits of wood covered with the earth, with which the wood is mixed in the process of charring. It is frequently used for corn, putting some (say two or three quarts) in each hill at the time of planting. It is also sometimes spread on grass land, and we have generally noticed that its effects were very favorable. Crops are generally better, except, perhaps, for the first year or two, on the beds where coal-pits have been for several years." Again, page 234, a correspondent says: "My farm was, in the earliest settlement of this country, owned by a man who burned charcoal, and I find on those old beds always large wheat and bright straw, even if the rest of the field is poor, rusted and shrunk; and, in fact, all kinds of grain on these coal-beds are good."

In the same journal for 1845, page 195, mention is made of an increase of the grass crop "of nearly one-half" during a period of thirteen years, "where dry dust and fine coal" from a charcoal bed had been strewn over a meadow.

In the *Cultivator* for 1847, page 290, is the statement of L. Dille, of Ohio, that "he had sown wheat on a piece of ground three times, in each case with failure. Charcoal dust (quantity not stated) was applied in manure, and the succeeding crop was twenty-five bushels per acre of very fine and plump wheat."

In the same journal for 1849, John W. Bailey, of Plattsburgh, gives details of experiments on potatoes, which were well treated with a moderate quantity of well-rotted manure, and a portion of them with charcoal dust from the coal-house of an iron works. From a row without charcoal he obtained 80 barrels, and from three rows dressed with charcoal, he got 84, 85, and 85½ barrels of potatoes respectively.

In Watson's Survey of Essex county, published in "The Transactions of the New York Agricultural Society," for 1852 and 1867, we read: "In the midst of the disastrous drouth of the last Summer, while crossing a field in Moriah, occupied by Mr. Richmond, I observed a lot thickly strewn with pulverized charcoal, which presented a rich verdure, strongly contrasting with the blighted aspect of the adjacent field. The land is loamy. The refuse charcoal from an iron furnace was applied in September and October, 1850, at the rate of 1,000 bushels per acre, to five acres, at a cost of \$40. The effect was immediate. The grass freshened, and continued green and luxuriant after the surrounding fields were blackened by the early frosts. Although the past season has been so unfavorable, Mr. Richmond realized one-third more than the ordinary yield of hay, and sufficient to pay the whole outlay."

In succeeding paragraphs it is stated that the Hon. J. S. Whallon used charcoal dust to the extent of 250 loads annually, for several years, on light, loamy and clay soils, for hay, oats, wheat and potatoes, with results of "most favorable." Wheat was increased five bushels per acre on strong clay. Potatoes escaped the rot, and hay was more than an average crop.

A FISHING ADVENTURE.

A chatty writer in the *London Field* thus describes a fishing adventure:

Presently we got to a broader stretch of water, as clear as ever, but interspersed with huge patches of weed—between which, every now and then, we watched some goodly fish come up and quietly suck down a midge. So bright was the water, that even twenty yards away, we could make out a noble

trout, sailing around in the sunshine, and feeding as he went. This quiet feeding was a good sign, and in spite of the glassy surface, I determined to begin at once, and to hook that very fish. It took a long time to reach him, and as luck would have it, the sun came out brighter and clearer than ever; but I worked steadily on, and gradually lengthened my throw until the fly touched the water within a few yards of the trout. He swam slowly up to it, and even broke the water close to it—but that was all. After repeating this maneuver half a dozen times, he sailed back to the bank of weed, and refused to stir.

"It's no go," said Sylvester, "he's too clever an old stager to be gullied into rising in such glaring sunshine."

Still I fished on; dropping my fly again and again within a foot of the weeds. Suddenly, when I had given up all hope, the fish began feeding again; in another moment he had swallowed the quill gnat, and was rushing out into deep water, in the middle of the lake. I gave him his fling for a few yards, and then worked him steadily back to the shallow, where I could plainly see him; shortening my line as he came nearer, and now giving him the full force of the butt. He fought nobly, leaped into the air, and dashed off toward his old lair in the weeds—but for all these tricks I was prepared; and in five minutes I had him within a foot of the grassy bank, though apparently as strong as ever.

"Get below him," said I to Sylvester; "quickly drop the net underneath, and lift him out."

In a trice he was on the grass; a well-made, prime fish, white in the belly, and of a steely gray along the sides and back, spotted with black, and here and there, a sprinkle of brilliant crimson. He weighed just a pound a quarter. By this time the morning clouds had got well up into the sky, a light breeze rippled the water in all directions, and before we had got a hundred yards down the lake, I had killed two other trout, nearly as large as the first—one of them golden yellow spotted with crimson, and the second of steely gray. As the breeze freshened, the sport grew more and more exciting; I rose fish on all sides of me, hooked and lost four or five, and at last landed one half-pounder, which (according to squire's rule) was at once put in the lake again, where he darted off unhurt, to tell his friends of his strange adventure on land.

"WHERE THE LAUGH COMES IN."

"A little nonsense, now and then,
Is relished by the wisest men."

AN old wine-bibber says that an empty champagne bottle is like an orphan, because it has lost its pop.

AT one time in Boston, the other day, there were five bald-headed men in dry goods stores, looking vacantly about, and each one rubbing his head with a finger that had a thread on it.

A SENTIMENTAL editor says: "It is comforting to know that one eye watches fondly for our coming, and looks brighter when we come." A contemporary is grieved to learn that his "brother of the quill has a wife with only one eye."

TWENTY-EIGHT years ago a Buffalo man said to his wife: "Miranda, I'm going down to Tim's after a bed-cord." That was the last seen of him until the other day, when he entered the house with a bed-cord, and said he'd fix that bed now.

A FEMALE lecturer in Boston said: "Get married, young men, and be quick about it. Don't wait for the girls to become angels. You would look well beside angels, wouldn't you, you brutes?"

THIS going abroad is mite-y small business anyhow. It has been the habit of "skippers" for ages to continually go abroad. In fact, certain sailing vessels would put off going until a skipper was aboard.

TOM and Arthur have been rude to their mamma. Mamma has complained to papa, who is heard coming up the stairs. Arthur—"I say, Tom, here comes papa; I shall pretend to be asleep." Tom—"I shan't; I shall get up and put something on!"

A DANBURY boy found a pocket-book belonging to a Mill Plain man, and restored it to the owner, who gave him a five-cent piece. The boy looked at the coin an instant, and then handed it reluctantly back, audibly sighed as he said: "I can't change it."

A WESTERN editor who received half a dozen soft shell crabs the other day, said in the next issue of his paper: "They were indeed delicious, but were evidently intended to be eaten when dead, as one of the critters went skittering up and down our throat two or three times before we could mash him with our new boughen teeth."

A MOST singular coincidence occurred at Scarborough, Maine, recently. Rev. S. H. Merrill who was in perfect health, entered the pulpit and announced his text, "There is but one step between me and death." He had proceeded with his sermon about five minutes, when he fell, attacked by paralysis, and has remained unconscious since, with no expectation that he can recover.

THE modern Methuselah has been discovered by the *Anglo-Brazilian Times*. He was born at Saquerema, Brazil, in 1694, and is therefore 178 years old. He is healthy, for an old man, and his declining years are cheered by 42 children—born of six different wives—123 grandchildren, 86 great-grandchildren, 26 great-great-grandchildren, and 20 great-great-great-grandchildren.

A bashful young man of San Francisco made an elaborate bow on taking his leave after an evening call, recently, and backed into a china closet, mistaking it for the proper exit. It chanced that the family watch-dog had secretly crept in there for a doze, and he received the young man with all the ardency of his nature. The struggle was brief but decisive, and the young man will not call there again till that dog has been superceded.

BOYS who disturb camp-meetings by crying "Amen" in the wrong place, and remarking "Glory" with more zeal than judgment, should read and ponder the fate of thirteen small boys in Kansas. These thirteen ill-advised boys were guilty, so the story goes, of disturbing a Kansas camp-meeting by insisting upon shouting "Amen!" when a very muscular preacher, who prided himself on his voice, was singing a hymn. The preacher bore it for some time, but finally, becoming filled with righteous wrath, he descended from the pulpit, and never once interrupting his hymn, successively reversed and spanked the thirteen small boys. As his avenging hand descended, and the dust of the small boys filled the air, the rest of the congregation shouted in rapture, and encouraged him with loud cries of "Go on, brother, go on." Then he returned to the pulpit, still singing, and those boys went half a mile away behind a haystack, and laid down with their faces to the ground, weeping bitterly.

THE spectators in a court room always enjoy the retort, when a lawyer, in badgering a witness, receives short replies at his own expense. Sympathy is always against the lawyer. Even half-witted persons sometimes hit the weak point in the harness.

"William Look—tell us William, who made you?"

William, who was considered a fool, screwed up his face, and looked thoughtful and some bewildered, answered, "Moses, I suppose."

"That will do," said Counsellor Grey, addressing the court. "Witness says he supposes Moses made him. That is an intelligent answer; more than I thought him capable of giving, for it shows that he had some faint idea of Scripture. I submit that it was not sufficient to entitle him to be sworn as a witness capable of giving evidence."

"Mr. Judge," said the fool, "may I ax the lawyer one question?"

"Certainly," said the judge.

"Well, then, Mr. Lawyer, who do you suppose made you?"

"Aaron, I s'pose," said Counsellor Grey, imitating the witness.

After the mirth somewhat subsided, the witness drawled out:—"Wall, now, we do read in the book that Aaron once made a calf, but who'd a thought the critter had got in here?"

The judge ordered the man to be sworn.

A STORY is told of a Berks county Methodist minister while attending a protracted meeting. The minister's wife was sickly, and on his way to the church he called on one of his neighbors, who was making sausages, and the good lady of the house rolled up a few links in a paper and gave them to the minister to take home to his wife. He placed them in his coat-tail pocket and went to church.

While standing on the steps of the church conversing, a little dog scented the sausages, and kept jumping up and cathing the minister's pocket, jerking it pretty lively, and he cuffed the puppy away several times. But going in and entering the pulpit, he took up his Bible to commence services, and one of the deacons wishing to speak to him, walked part way up the pulpit stairs, and reaching up, caught the minister by the coat-tail, giving it a jerk to have him turn round; but, instead of doing so, he gave a tremendous kick backward, taking the old deacon in the face, and tumbling him down stairs, and without looking around, thus excused himself to his laughing audience:

"You must excuse me, my dear hearers; but I have a few sausages in my pocket, and that plagned puppy has been trying to steal them ever since I have been here."

SPECIAL NOTICES.

From Mrs. F. O. Oakley, Macon, Mo.

The Organ arrived all right. I was greatly pleased with it at the time I saw it in your salesroom; after using it, even more gratified than before, if possible. Its tone is truly charming. My neighbors are all in favor of the *ERRAY*. More Organs of the same kind will be sold here.

For sale by VIELLE & MILLS, General Agents, 214 North Fifth street, St. Louis, Mo.

Emigration Turning.—Cheap Farms in Southwest Missouri.—The Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Company offers 1,300,000 acres of Land in Central and Southwest Missouri, at from \$3 to \$12 per acre, on seven years' time, with free transportation from St. Louis to all purchasers. Climate, soil, timber, mineral wealth, schools, churches, and law-abiding society, invite emigrants from all points to this land of fruits and flowers. For particulars, address A. TRUCK, Land Commissioner, St. Louis, Missouri. 10-3-11

A Word to Travelers.—We have a word to say in favor of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. It was the "pioneer" line westward, and the "old reliable" route to St. Louis. With the improvements which have been made during the past year, we believe that the Missouri Pacific Railroad has the best track and the finest and safest equipment of any line west of the Mississippi. It is the only line which runs three daily express trains of fine Coaches and Pullman Sleepers, equipped with the Miller platform and the patent air-brake, from leading points in the West, through Kansas City, Sedalia and Jefferson City to St. Louis, without change, connecting at St. Louis with *seven different through routes* to points North, East and South. Particular information, with maps, time tables, &c., may be had at the various "Through Ticket" Railroad Stations in the West, or upon personal or written application to G. H. BAXTER, Western Passenger Agent, Kansas City, Missouri; or to E. A. FOX, General Passenger Agent, St. Louis, Missouri. 10-3-11

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

To the Constitution of the State of Kansas, submitted by the Legislature, at its last Session, for the ratification or rejection of the electors of the State, at the next General Election.

(Substitute for House Joint Resolution No. 17, providing for an Amendment to the Constitution.)

Be it Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring therein:

SECTION 1. That article 2, section two, of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, be amended so as to read as follows: The number of Representatives and Senators shall be regulated by law, but shall never exceed one hundred and twenty-five Representatives and forty Senators. From and after the adoption of the amendment, the House of Representatives shall admit one member from each county in which at least two hundred and fifty legal votes were cast at the next preceding general election; and each organized county in which less than two hundred legal votes were cast at the next preceding general election, shall be attached to and constitute a part of the representative district of the county lying next adjacent to it on the east.

SEC. 2. This amendment shall be submitted to the electors of this State, for adoption or rejection, at the next general election.

SEC. 3. The ballots used at said election shall be written or printed as follows: "For amendment to section two, article two, of the Constitution;" or, "Against amendment to section two, article two, of the Constitution."

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the *Kansas Weekly Commonwealth*.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above Joint Resolution originated in the House of Representatives February 5, 1873, and passed that body February 26, 1873, two-thirds of all the members elect voting therefor.

JOSIAH KELLOGG,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ALEX. R. BANKS,
Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above Joint Resolution passed the Senate March 6, 1873, two-thirds of all the members elect voting therefor.

E. S. STOVER,
President of the Senate.

GEO. C. CROWTHER,
Secretary of the Senate.

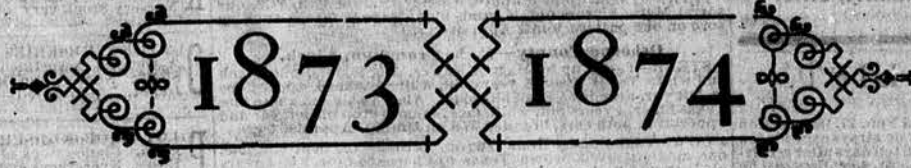
Approved March 6, 1873: THOMAS A. OSBORN,
Governor.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original enrolled Joint Resolution now on file in my office, and that the same was published in the *Kansas Weekly Commonwealth* April 10, 1873.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the great Seal of State. Done at Topeka this 31st day of July, A. D. 1873.

W. H. SMALLWOOD,
Secretary of State.

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The Old Reliable Agricultural Journal of the Missouri Valley.

The only Agricultural paper west of the Mississippi River that has a general circulation.

It has done more for the Agricultural interests of THE GREAT WEST, than all other papers combined

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The Kansas Farmer and Wood's Household Magazine	-- -- -- --	for	-- -- --	1 50
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Truly am I grateful to your noble invention, may Heaven bless and preserve you. I have been using spectacles twenty years; I am seventy-one years old.
Yours truly, PROF. W. MERRICK.
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 Plants raised in the West, this year. Also, a full line of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses and Evergreens, and are now ready to contract for

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 A good reliable local agent wanted in every county in Kansas to sell Nursery Stock for us this Winter.
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Osage Seed, and all kinds of Tree Seeds
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