

The Kansas Farmer

TO OUR READERS.

With our issue of December 15th, the contract that we entered into last January with over five thousand of our subscribers, will have expired. We will then have given two thousand of our readers, we trust, all that we promised at the beginning of the year. We write now, to ask of these two thousand readers, if they desire THE FARMER to visit them during the coming year? We hope to retain every one of them. We hope THE FARMER has been of sufficient benefit and interest to the farmer and his family to make it a necessity in all families, as we know it is in some. We shall endeavor to make it of increasing interest and profit to every reader, and we hope to have the cordial good will and aid of every one of our old subscribers.

We refer to this matter thus early, in order that all who wish to renew, may do so before the year expires. As in the past, our subscription price will remain at \$1.50 per annum. This gives the subscriber three hundred and eighty-four large pages of reading matter in the course of a year; enough to fill any five dollar book published in the country, and enough to make four ordinary books for which we pay one dollar and fifty cents each.

But in order to increase our subscription list beyond its present excellent proportions, we propose to furnish THE FARMER to two subscribers, one old and one new, for two dollars; or

We will furnish five copies to one address, sent at one time, for five dollars; or

We will furnish ten copies for ten dollars, and give an extra copy to the one who gets up the club; or

We will furnish twenty copies for twenty dollars, with the extra copy to the getter up of the club, and in addition, will make a present of a bound volume of THE FARMER for 1870.

This is an excellent opportunity for farmers' organizations to secure excellent reading matter at cheap rates.

Now, a word in conclusion. THE KANSAS FARMER is published in Kansas, by Kansas men, and for Kansas readers. We have in the past, and expect in the future to do all that we can to advance the interests of every part of our State. It is taken to a greater or less extent in every one of the Eastern States, and has been the means of bringing thousands of citizens to our fair young commonwealth. We think THE FARMER is fairly entitled to the support of every lover of our State, and we ask our friends everywhere to do what they can to extend our circulation and consequent usefulness.

To the press of the State we are under great obligations for their kindly notices, and in many instances, for the lists of subscribers they have sent us. We hope to merit their kind favors in future. And now friends, to the work.

THE KANSAS FARMER will be published Weekly after January 1st, 1874, at Topeka, Kansas, at \$2 per year in advance.

"UNDIGNIFIED."

The New York Tribune begs permission to disagree with the newspaper which speaks of Mr. Joseph Arch as having risen from "the undignified position of a farm laborer." Whatever respect we may have for Mr. Arch, and for the cause in which he is engaged, we still can see no lack of dignity in farm labor, or in honorable labor of any kind. Indeed, we have thought that in agricultural pursuits, all that goes to make up what may rightly be considered dignity of character was most commonly created and conserved. That Mr. Arch, in his old position, was compelled to submit to indignity and injustice, in no wise diminished the original and natural excellence of his vocation. It is well to understand that no man enhances his real importance by setting up as a reformer.

A REVIEW OF THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

Its Strength and Purpose—Formation of the Grange—Its Divisions and Subdivisions—Influences of Grange Meetings—Happier Homes and Better Farmers—Thrift and Economy Inculcated—Political Neutrality of the Order—Marvelous Progress of the Farmers' Movement.

[From Special Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.]

CLEVELAND, O., Oct. 10.—What is the Grange, anyhow? What is its extent? What are its objects? How does it propose to accomplish them? Is it a political body? What are its relations to existing political parties? are questions that have been asked of me a hundred times since my return from the West. In the long series of letters from the great centers of the Farmers' Movement, already printed in the Tribune, I have attempted to answer all these questions so far as they relate to the States from which they were written. A brief review of the entire Farmers' Movement, with some general remarks upon its relative strength and its general objects, will not be without value as a supplement to the letters already printed.

The Grange, or Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, is a secret organization of farmers. It was founded in Washington, D. C., several years ago, its first officers being gentlemen employed in the Agricultural Department. Its objects are to improve the moral, social, intellectual and material condition of its members, and whatever tends to accomplish either of these purposes comes legitimately within its province. The supreme power of the Order is lodged in the National Grange, which is composed of the Masters of all State Granges, and meets annually. Its last gathering was held at Washington, D. C., last Winter, and the next is appointed for St. Louis, some time early in the coming year. The National Grange has supreme control in all matters affecting the general welfare of the Order; the Constitution which it adopts is binding upon every State Grange, and also upon all of the Subordinate Granges in the States. Its headquarters are in Washington, and from its office there are issued weekly the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer—the first showing the number of Subordinate Granges formed from week to week, and the latter showing the financial condition of the Order. The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company of New York is its fiscal agent. Between the National Grange and the Subordinate Granges, where the important work of the Order is done, are the State Granges, composed of the Masters of the local organizations, and at their yearly meetings, forming superior courts of appeal, to which may be carried all questions arising in the Subordinate Granges.

SOCIAL OBJECTS OF THE GRANGE.

For admission to the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, the only qualifications required, beyond that of suitable age, are that the candidate shall be a practical farmer, or the wife or daughter of one, and shall be of good moral character, though each Grange retains the right to reject any candidate whose name is presented, without making explanation. The expenses of the Order are light—the initiation fee for men is five dollars and for women three dollars, and the monthly dues only a few cents.

The first object of the Grange is to afford an opportunity for social, intellectual and moral improvement. No class in the community is so greatly in need of an organization to draw them away, occasionally, from the hum-drum drudgery of their daily duties, and to bring them into contact with each other as the farmers. Dwelling apart, each family by itself, they have none of the excitements that make city life attractive, and are apt to become more and more rusty in mind as increasing cares grow upon them. Amusements and holidays are almost unknown. Those religiously inclined, find a mild excitement in a weekly attendance at church; those not so, may spend the Sunday in lazy lounging, or in hunting or fishing. The County Fair occurs on a red-letter day in the farmer's cal-

endar, and a wedding or a funeral marks an epoch in their lives. The life of a farmer's wife is even less attractive. Time was when young American women were glad to "go out and do housework," and a woman's "help" in the house was intelligent and capable. That time has passed; intelligent American girls, if their services are not needed at home, and they are obliged wholly or partially to earn their own living, become teachers or seek employment in the cities and villages, while the only household "help" that can be obtained is of the raw Irish or German variety, which requires a generation in which to be educated, and which when educated ceases to be obtainable. The farmer's wife, therefore, though she may be able and willing to pay for good assistance, cannot get it, and is obliged to make a slave of herself, working from sunrise to sunset through the long Summer days, until nature itself fairly gives way. I do not exaggerate; I have seen the haggard looks, and heard the weary sighs of over-worked farmers' wives in the East and in the West. I have seen broad acres of highly cultivated land groaning under the abundant crops, good houses and barns, fine stock and money to the farmer's credit in the bank; but the order and cleanliness that reigned in-doors in harvest-time, when twenty hungry men sat around the farmer's board, as well as when the family only were there, too often purchased at the price of the premature old age of the wife. Anything that will break in upon this tread-mill life, which, though not quite universal, is altogether too common, should be hailed with joy by the farmer and his family.

THE GRANGE MAKING BETTER FARMERS.

And this is what the Grange aims to do. Once in two weeks (sometimes every week) its members meet in some convenient hall which they either hire or own, each family bringing its basket of food. Many hands make light work; cooking utensils, dishes and tables are owned by the Grange; a bountiful feast is soon prepared, and the afternoon is spent in social pleasures, or in discussions upon subjects in which they are mutually interested. Who can doubt that an occasional breaking away from work by the farmer and his family, even though he should get no new ideas, will improve them all in health, and make them better able to perform their routine of duties?

But the Grange strives directly to make better farmers, and of this there is certainly need. Many of the agriculturists of the West and Northwest left Eastern farms, where high cultivation and intelligent management were necessary to insure a living; and if they were fair farmers there, they have generally been abundantly successful in the West. But there is a large class of men who have gone upon the wild lands of the West—Irish, German, Scandinavian, immigrants gathered in Europe by railroads and emigration agents—whose knowledge of Agriculture is of the most limited kind, and who have everything against them but the strength of their arms, their ability to endure privations, and the wonderful fertility of the soil when its tough sod has once been broken. They put lots of muscle into their business, but very little brains. Nor are all of the bad farmers of the West of foreign birth. Thousands of men reared in cities have been induced, by the promise of cheap lands and rich crops, to forsake the life in which they were reared, for the reaper and the plow. Some of these men have done well; others have naturally failed. Another fact I have noticed is that the very men who are most in need of advice such as a good agricultural journal would give them, are the ones who don't take it—probably their failure to read such a paper explains their need of it. To all farmers, good or bad, the Grange offers opportunities of improvement never before within the reach of the country people except in Farmers' Clubs, and in them only to a limited extent. Experienced, successful men tell in the Grange room how they have made good crops or why they have failed to do so; agricultur-

al newspapers are taken, read and exchanged; important advice is given to young and inexperienced farmers, and each member, no matter how well he understands his business, is sure to obtain some item of useful information.

LESSONS OF THRIFT AND ECONOMY.

The Grange teaches the farmer to contract habits of thrift and economy. The man who buys on credit always buys in the highest market, and of no class in the community is this remark more strikingly true than of the farmers. It is no uncommon thing for a bill at the village store to make a veritable slave of the farmer. A partial failure of his crops, sickness in his family, or other unforeseen occurrences, makes it impossible for him to settle when pay-day comes around, and a mortgage on his farm at 15 per cent. interest, is the result. Other men may offer to sell goods to him cheaper, but it may be impossible for him to transfer his trade when such transfer might involve a foreclosure of a mortgage. The Grange advises all of its members to buy and sell for cash, and to demand such favors as cash purchasers are justly entitled to. If ten per cent. of a man's salary on credit become bad debts, the increase in prices to make up for such loss ought to be charged against those who buy on credit, and not against those who buy for cash, and on whose purchases there is, therefore, no risk. The Grange also assists its members to get down to a cash basis, by making contracts with local dealers to allow a discount to Grangers who pay on the spot for their purchases, by making contracts to purchase agricultural implements, sewing machines, &c., at wholesale, from the manufacturers, and in a few cases by lending money at low rates of interest to enable the farmers to take advantage of these arrangements. I have spoken of this feature of the Grange Movement at considerable length in one of my letters from Iowa; the Grange in that State has thus far been the model which those of other States are imitating with greater or less success.

The Grange, I have said, teaches its members to be thrifty and economical. By this I do not mean that it teaches them to pinch and starve themselves, or to deny themselves the comforts or even the luxuries of life. On the other hand, it shows them how to acquire the means to gratify their finer tastes. Instead of leaving his plow in the last furrow, to rust and rot through the long season, and wear out in four years, when it ought to last six, the Grange teaches the farmer to put it under cover, and so save enough to pay for the subscription to a good newspaper or magazine, or to purchase a good book. Instead of allowing his wheat to lie in the shock and sprout before it is threshed, the Grange tells the farmer that its value will be increased several cents on a bushel if he carefully stacks it. It shows the careless, thriftless farmer the secret of his more successful neighbor's success, and gives him a helping hand to make that secret of practical value to him.

THE ORDER NOT HOSTILE TO MIDDLEMEN OR RAILROADS.

The Grange hopes to bring the producer and the consumer nearer together, by dispensing as much as possible with the services of middlemen. The Order makes no war upon middlemen; it recognizes the service they render in facilitating exchange of commodities; but they propose, wherever it is possible, to deal directly with the consumers of their crops. For this purpose, they have already established agencies in New York and Chicago, and have made some direct shipments of provisions from the West to South Carolina planters. In every case the buyer and seller have both profited. In some places the Grange owns elevators.

The Grange makes no war upon railroads as such. Its members generally recognize the fact that without railroads their rich farms would soon be deserted except along the rivers, and become once more the homes of wolves and wild fowl, and they are willing that men who put their money in-

to railroads shall receive fair returns on the capital they invest. But they believe that the people have some rights which even railroad corporations are bound to respect, and they are not willing that railroad charges shall be put so high as to pay ten per cent. on stock which the present owners never paid anything for, nor on stock that has been issued as a dividend. Many of the roads have been partially built with money subscribed by the farmers themselves, or by the towns and counties through which they extend, and the people are unwilling that men who have since got possession of these roads, often by the payment of comparatively little money, shall make large dividends until they have low rates. Above all, they are unwilling that the price of their crops shall be fixed by a ring of railroad men.

The remedy proposed is different in almost every State. Some propose a pro rata law; some desire a fixed rate of maximum tariffs for freight and passengers; some desire that the question shall be regulated by the State, and some by the United States. In some States the present controversy is over the power of the Legislatures to control the railroads; in others that power is conceded either in the charters of the companies or the constitutions of the States, and then the question is, *how* shall the power be exercised? Some hold that the right of eminent domain exercised by a State in condemning private property for the use of railroads is a right pertaining only to the State in its sovereign capacity, and one of which it cannot in any way divest itself. Railroad property, they say, is no more sacred or exempt from the exercise of this right, when the interests of the people demand it, than any other. Should a railroad company now existing, therefore, become so oppressive in its charges as to make it for the public interest that a new company should be formed under greater restrictions, the State has the power to charter a new company to operate a road over the same line, and, in its exercise of the right of eminent domain, to appoint a commission to appraise and condemn the property belonging to the old company. Nowhere are violent or illegal measures proposed. No tracks have been torn up, no buildings burned; the motto of the Grange is equal justice to all; and as the farmers have the power, by united action, to carry any measure they propose, they feel confident of ultimate success.

NEUTRALITY IN POLITICS AND RELIGION.

The Grange is not a political organization; politics and religion are forbidden topics of discussion in the Grange-room. But it strives to educate men to think for themselves, and not to follow the dictates of party leaders and packed caucuses unless their own judgment approves. A majority of the people in the West, as is well known, have been Republicans, and a majority of the Grangers voted for Gen. Grant last year. The Democracy has been their *bete noir*, and though the faith of many of them may have been shaken in the infallibility of the Republican party, they would never go into any other of which the Democrats formed an influential part. But the Grange makes the farmers a power within themselves, and outside of any political party, and now, in the States where they are the strongest, should they step out of the ranks of the party with which they have heretofore acted, it would not be necessary for them to seek shelter in the camp of their long time political enemy. They might leave the old ship that served them so long, and bore them safely through so many a glorious fight, but which is now strained and worm-eaten, not to go on board the Democratic ship, but to launch a new one of their own. How wisely they may build remains yet to be seen. Just now, the influence of the Grange is little more than to loosen the bands that bind men to old parties, and to make them free to choose their future places.

ASTONISHING GROWTH OF THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

The Grange, although organized several years

ago, did not become a formidable body until within the past twelvemonth. Immense crops of corn which had to be sold for less than the cost of production; short crops of wheat, with no corresponding increase of price; railroad combinations to prevent competition and reasonable rates of freight; wheat and corn rings, formed to control the price along many of the great railroad lines, and to prevent the farmers from receiving any advantage from favorable markets; the insatiable greed of some implement makers and agents; the accumulating mortgages on farms—these and many other circumstances have at length aroused the long-suffering farmers, and the Grange, already instituted, gave them the means to make their demands effective. This explains the astonishing growth of the Order since October, 1873.

I have said that none but farmers and their families may be members of the Grange. I see it reported that a number of grain dealers and others in Boston, not practical agriculturists, have obtained a charter, and organized a Grange. I don't know by what authority Mr. Abbott, the State Deputy of Massachusetts, has initiated men who were not farmers into the Order, and the matter will probably come before the National Grange at its next session. Hundreds of men in every State I have visited, have, for personal ends, attempted to obtain admission to the Grange. Some have been politicians who have desired to promote their political prospects; some have been commercial agents, who have had an eye to business; and some have been editors, who have desired to make the Order their constituents. Grangers are ready to clasp hands with any one for the purpose of promoting reform, but they do it outside the Grange room.

The Farmers' Movement is not wholly comprised within the Grange. In Illinois the Farmers' Clubs are as strong as the Granges, and being professedly political as well as social, deliberative and co-operative, have been more free to make their influence felt in public affairs. Besides these, there are thousands of earnest, thinking men who have never joined any organization, but who are equally interested in securing the reforms to which I have referred in this letter. They are closely watching every movement now made, and nobody doubts on which side they will be found when the time of action comes.

WHEAT BAGS.

California will want this year 19,000,000 sacks or bags in which to send her wheat to market, and expects to need more next, say 25,000,000. The value of these at a low figure is \$3,000,000. This year \$1,000,000 is sent from California to Scotland to pay for bags, and Dundee in Scotland, with a population of 100,000, is almost entirely supported by the manufacture of wheat sacks. The California papers are calling upon their State to manufacture their own bags, and thus save a million dollars a year. So says an exchange. And a large list of articles might be enumerated which could as well be manufactured in California or in Kansas, and thus not only keep vast sums of money at home, but give employment to thousands of people, and furnish a home market for our surplus breadstuffs. And, after all, this is the true solution of the Transportation problem: Get manufacturing establishments. This will furnish home consumption, and render transportation for breadstuffs unnecessary to the extent that farm products can be sold near the place of production.

GRANGES.—We learn that there are about seven Granges in this county ready to organize. They should get together oftener and consult together more frequently over their mutual interests. The Granges will effect a reform in this matter and in some other matters too. We shall probably have more news next week, as we are informed that Mr. Cramer is here, and will proceed to organize the Granges immediately.—*Eureka Herald*.

TO FARMERS.

Every man in the State engaged in Agricultural pursuits, should subscribe for THE KANSAS FARMER; for the reason that it is the organ of his profession, and is published expressly for his instruction and benefit. If you wish to be informed of all the new improvements and theories advanced by thinking cultivators of the soil; if you wish to profit by the opinions and experiments of practical farmers, subscribe; and subscribe at once. The correspondents of THE FARMER are among the most earnest, energetic, and consequently the most successful agriculturists of Kansas; and their communications are always suggestive of thought, and worth reading. Subscribe for THE FARMER, and ask your neighbor to subscribe.

BREADSTUFFS.

A writer in an Oregon paper, in discussing the theory recently put forth by a statistician, that the world is producing at present more breadstuffs than is required for consumption, says, whether the statement be true or not, there can be little doubt that the production of cereals in our Western States, if it has not been carried too far, has outstripped all other branches of industry. The census shows that the population of the New England States and New York engaged in Agriculture, varies from twelve to twenty-five per cent., whereas in the States comprising the Upper Mississippi valley, the per centage of population thus engaged, reaches from fifty to sixty per cent. With a series of good crops since the war, the producers find that the West is overstocked with food—that is, there are ten times as much as can be consumed at home. Corn, worth at the farm, fifteen to twenty-five cents a bushel, is worth sixty-five to seventy cents at New York, and upwards of a dollar in Liverpool. This difference is consumed in railway charges, commissions, and in ocean transportation.

The farmers of all the Great West are confronted with the dilemma of over-production and ruinous transportation charges. These evils have led to the calling of numerous Farmers' Conventions, to resolutions, speech-making; and at the end of all this there is still the fact that the old evil exists without mitigation. A Chicago contemporary strikes the key-note of the Transportation Question in this sentence: "Nothing is gained by railing at the railroads and vessel-owners. Grant that they are extortioners. The fact is, there is more stuff to be moved than the canal and railroads can carry. Preach to the crack of doom—they will charge all they can get. We must have new outlets."

Not only is a material increase in the transportation facilities needed, but a greater diversion of industries, in order to overcome these difficulties. This may be accomplished by creating a greater interest for manufacturing enterprises, by a concession of lands, water privileges, and, if necessary, by subscription of capital. In a word, sufficient inducements should be offered to bring in manufacturers, who, in turn, would assist the farmers by providing them with a market for their products at their own doors, instead of being obliged to look for a market from one or two thousand miles distant. The development of new sections of the broad national domain, where the cereals can be produced more abundantly with less labor than in the older settled States, has compelled the latter to resort to a diversification of industries, and with profit to all concerned. This is what will happen in the West. It is not likely that the raising of crops discovered to be unprofitable will be abandoned until it can be definitely determined what may be most advantageously substituted for them. The present may be said to be an era of experiments, but a solution of the problem is only a question of time.

It looks as though Western farmers were going to realize somewhat better prices for their grain this season. Another unfavorable year has curtailed the cereal crop of Great Britain, and English statistical authorities estimate that a hundred mil-

lion bushels of wheat will be required to make good this deficiency. And as the French crop is nearly fifty millions short, and as nearly all the nations of Western Europe are more or less deficient, it follows that above the average quantity may be drawn from this country. Already the exports of grain and flour have been heavy, and the outward movement is at present very large, with an upward tendency of prices. Besides the very large exports to the United Kingdom, it is a significant fact that we have been shipping freely to France, Belgium and Holland, with also a number of cargoes to Italy.

JOSEPH ARCH.

The Massachusetts *Ploughman* has an excellent article upon the recent visit of this distinguished and eloquent advocate of the rights of English Agricultural laborers. Mr. Arch deservedly enjoyed the honor of a public reception in Faneuil Hall, Boston, and has returned to England, after his brief tour through Canada, where he went for the purpose of finding openings for thousands of laborers at home, who are situated as he is himself. His intention is to return in the Spring, when he will make an extended and careful examination of the West. The *Ploughman* says:

A plain and uneducated man, Joseph Arch is a remarkable one. He says of himself that he is "a man of strong self will," and his very success in England shows it. He is different from Charles Bradlaugh. The latter speaks for Republican government in England, and does it eloquently as well; Joseph Arch pleads only for the immediate amelioration of the Agricultural laborers of his native land.

He must be a man of power and magnetism, or he never would have achieved what he has. By the simple force of his individual will, directed against heavy abuses which have for generations ground down the Agricultural population of England, he has established Unions of the Agricultural laboring class in every English shire, and what is still more significant, compelled the landlords to form compact leagues in their own defense, and to call in the clergy of the established church to their support. The latter see plainly enough that when the land-holding voter of England goes by the board, the church loosens her hold on the State, and revolution in the social state is at hand. Hence the clergy have of late shown remarkable industry in opposing the movement of which Joseph Arch is the head and front.

The query put to the English governing class is, whether the tenure of land is too sacred a matter to be disturbed. He tells that class that there are in England ten millions of acres of unoccupied land, devoted wholly to the selfish enjoyment of the aristocracy, while there are thousands on thousands of Agricultural laborers that have to subsist themselves and their families on nine shillings a week. He faithfully described the condition of England to their faces as that of a nation in which the rich are few, but the poor a vast multitude; and he believes that it is trying to stand the national pyramid on its apex instead of its base. But he sees and understands the stupendous difficulties that lie in his way. He comprehends the fact that the land-holding class in England is strongly entrenched behind laws and decisions, to say nothing of customs that are interwoven with every fiber of the State, which it would be vain to hope to break down.

Therefore he has come out to this country to view the opportunities which offer to the English Agricultural laborer in such abundance. He has seen Canada, and literally gone among its people. Next year it is his intention to visit the United States, and he will search thoroughly among the chances that offer themselves to tempt emigrants hither. We may be sure that he will make a thorough inquiry and report faithfully; and after that, we may look for an accession of English laborers upon

our luxuriant Western prairies that will prove the most valuable we have ever had. Joseph Arch means only business. He is a practical man. He does as he says. And it will be a sorry day for England when she witnesses his leading forth a long procession of laborers to depopulate the rural districts, perhaps as Ireland was depopulated by England herself. Students of political economy would have to begin again.

COTTON IN KANSAS.

The *Parsons Sun* says that Parsons is to have a cotton gin, and predicts that this gin will be the nucleus of a great cotton mill. One man in that neighborhood has one hundred and forty acres of cotton this year.—*Paola Spirit*.

That cotton can be profitably raised in Kansas has already been demonstrated to the satisfaction of those farmers who have had experience in cultivating that valuable crop in the Southern States. With the needed machinery for its manufacture, cotton can be made the most valuable crop in Southern Kansas; and we hope the day is not far distant, when thousands of bales will not only be cultivated annually, but manufactured within the State.

A PROPOSED TAX AMENDMENT.

The *Lawrence Journal* thinks that a valuable amendment to the Tax Law would be a rebate of five per cent. upon all taxes paid before the first of December. This would bring funds into our various treasuries in time to meet accruing demands on the first of January. Very little is now paid until within a few days from the time the penalty attaches, and as a consequence our treasuries run dry just at the time they have important demands to meet.

WALNUT LUMBER.—As an instance of the increasing value of walnut lumber, the *Indianapolis Journal* notes that the standing walnut trees on a half section of land on Eel river, in Miami county, Indiana, were recently sold to a lumber dealer for \$17,000. There is a large amount of other timber on the tract which is not included, only the walnut timber being sold. Walnut lumber is coming more and more in use throughout this country and Europe, and at present a very large business is done in preparing and shipping it from Indiana. The trees are disappearing rapidly, and no effort is made to renew the growth, which might be done with little trouble.

THE postmaster of Boston recently gave a lecture on the postal service, and illustrated the proverbial carelessness of letter writers by showing his audience two hundred letters taken in the office the previous day, which were not properly prepaid or directed, two hundred and fifty postal cards with all sorts of messages on the back but not a sign of a direction on the face.

A NEW YORK despatch to the *St. Louis Republican* says that Carl Schurz has come back from Europe well satisfied with the relative prosperity and discretion of America. He says that Austria is rotten, France haggard, Spain hopeless, and North Germany debauched with the sudden influx of money.

NEW JERSEY is making steady progress in organizing Granges. General Deputy G. W. Thompson expects that he will soon be ready to organize a State Grange. This will give a great impetus to the Order, as the several Granges are then brought together.

AMERICAN corn is now largely used in the manufacture of alcohol in Germany and Italy, the export to ports in those countries during the last five months having reached nearly a million bushels.

A CITIZEN of Missouri advertises for the whereabouts of the "Bug Catch man." He wants to find the State Entomologist.

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STATE NEWS.

THERE were 750,000 brick burned at Emporia this year, by Mr. Pollard.

ABOUT 2,000 cars of cattle have been shipped from Ellsworth this season.

THE coal bore at Alma is down 540 feet, and will soon strike the black diamonds.

RIDENOUR & BAKER killed fifty-one hogs in two hours at Lawrence last Wednesday.

THE Fort Scott castor oil factory made its first shipment of twenty barrels to St. Louis last week.

THE last of the Modocs are to be placed on a reservation near Fort Scott, and are now on their way thither.

PEANUTS.—Seth Heath, of Miami county, has raised 300 bushels of peanuts this year on between six and seven acres.

THE CATTLE TRADE.—It is estimated that Texas cattle dealers have taken \$9,000,000 into their State from cattle transactions in Kansas this year.

PORK.—Many of our farmers will pack their own pork this season, and hold for a rise. It is certainly discouraging work to sell on the present market.

S. S. PROUTY is understood to be doing the heavy editorial work on the Topeka Blade. We knew he couldn't stay out of the business very long.

THE Seneca Nonpareil says: "Some of our citizens, emulous of the success Centralia has attained in the manufacture of cheese during the past season, propose to take steps toward the building of a cheese factory somewhere in this vicinity next Spring.

THE coal mining interests of Kansas are rapidly becoming important. During the mining seasons of 1872 and 1873, 400,000 tons of coal have been taken from the Carbondale mines, from 500 to 600 persons employed, and the pay-roll is \$5,000 to \$6,000 a month.

CHEESE.—J. C. Farley proposes, through the Independence Tribune, that if the farmers will guarantee him the milk of seventy-five cows, he will have a cheese factory ready for operation in the early Spring, and make cheese for two and one-half cents per pound. That's a liberal offer.

THE Union Pacific Railroad Company sold during the month of October, 1873, 19,351.82 acres of land, at an average price of \$5.68 per acre, amounting to \$109,940.86. Sales averaged 134.89 acres to each purchaser. Total sales to November 1st, 1873, 819,100.25 acres, at an average price of \$4.52 per acre, amounting to \$3,904,201.40.

ONE of the significant signs of the times is a movement now maturing for a union of the Farmers' Granges and Labor Reformers. The leading men of those organizations have been consulting and laying plans for a general consolidation, which is now nearly completed throughout the Western States. A meeting has been held in furtherance of this object. The arrangement is being carried on very quietly.

KANSAS FRUIT IN EUROPE.—The Topeka Commonwealth says that the Kansas Horticultural Society is preparing two boxes of choice Winter apples of ten or twelve different varieties. These apples are to be taken to Europe by Mr. George Grant, of the Victoria colony, who will sail next month. One box is to be presented to Queen Victoria by Mr. Grant in behalf of the Horticultural Society of Kansas. The contents of the other box are to be distributed by Mr. G. among his friends as specimens of the productions of this State.

BROKEN IDOLS.

[From the Boston Journal.]

I am a disappointed man, my happiness has flown,
The idols of my childhood are remorselessly overthrown;
The heroes I have worshipped after all are common clay,
And each fable that I've cherished like a dream has passed away;

The reason why it should be so, I'm sure I cannot see,
But somehow, when I treasure things it always seems to me,
That people who go prowling round, a finding secrets out,
Are sure to tip 'em upside down, and turn 'em inside out.

The stormy seas of Norway once could of a "Maelstrom" boast,
Which "took in" other folks besides those on that rugged coast;

I seem to see it's picture now, the sinking ships and whales,
Which in despair gave up the ghost, flapping their monstrous tails.

Geography for children now is losing all its charms,
For scientific gents abound with books beneath their arms;
With compasses and telescopes they've searched around with care,

But they cannot find a sign of it, they say it isn't there.
Those "Patagonian giants," too, a romance used to lend
To school books, though they used to cause my hair to stand on end;

They'd be "on hand" when ships were wrecked, and "nab" the luckless crew,
And break their necks and eat 'em up, for anything I knew;

If anybody questioned it, I treated them with scorn,
It wasn't quite so common then to sail "around the Horn."
The man of science, nowadays, at all such nonsense laughs,

He's been and measured them with rules, and got their photographs.

Then there's the legend of John Smith, and his fair Indian maid,
I heard a tale the other day that spoils that, I'm afraid;

Of all that Pocahontas stuff it didn't leave a rag,
And he for whom are thousands named, was only "on his brag";

And his slaughtering those "haughty Turks" (I say it with a sigh),
With lots of other spunky things, is only "in my eye."

Folks shouldn't question things so close, it really isn't fair,
I'm losing faith in everything, I'll give up in despair.

Another thing annoys me, too; who would have ever thought
Those stories could be false about the "car of Juggernaut"?

That thing on wheels, in foreign parts, beneath which heathen rash
In pious frenzy flung themselves, and died, crushed "all to smash";

But that has "gone up" with the rest, it's really of no use,
To argue with those knowing ones, who evidence adduce;

A "party" lived there, years and years, and documents he brings
To prove they're no such folks at all, and never do such things.

And here eight hundred years ago (may I survive the shock),
They say those bold Norwegians were carving "Dighton Rock!"

Shade of Columbus! this, alas, fills to the brim my cup,
I mourn to think you've cheated me, with tears I give you up;

Old Jackson's cotton forts are gone, I mention them with pain,
And those horrid "deserts" of my youth, now wave with golden grain.

A modicum of fortitude I trust I do not lack,
But this last story is the straw that breaks the camel's back.

"Knitting and Talking."

EDITED BY ANN APPLESEED.

[Written for the Kansas Farmer.]

ALL THE SAME A HUNDRED YEARS HENCE.

"From gristle and pulp our frames have grown
To stringy muscle and solid bone;
While we were changing, he altered not;
We might forget, but he never forgot.

"He came with us to the college class—
Little cared he for the steward's pass!
All the rest must pay their fee,
But the grim old dead-head entered free.

"He stayed with us while we counted o'er
Four times each of the seasons four."

This was what Mamzelle and I found in the haunted house. Mind, I don't say the house was haunted; but people generally, the ubiquitous "they," said so. Old Bellows was the last person reported to have lived there with any degree of comfort. After he was elected to the Legislature,

and went to the State Capital, a family of Spiritualists tried it; but there was such a succession of double knocks, banging of doors, and other "manifestations," that Spiritualists though they were, they could not stand it, and speedily moved. After that, no one could be found brave enough to take the house, and it stood unoccupied a long while. Boys threw stones at it, and shattered every pane of glass; the wind and the rain did their work; and standing alone on the exposed side-hill, what had been a comfortable mansion, went to wreck and ruin, descending precipitately into a premature and despicable old age; like that of many a man, broken down before his time by vice, a spectacle at once pitiable and repellant.

Four years before, the last time old Bellows visited the College—the last time he went anywhere, in fact—he rented his former home to a farmer, who used the lower rooms for a granary, and filled the parlor till the burnished, living gold of the corn touched the tawdry, tarnished gildings of the cornices and ceilings. The staircase, with its heavy carved balusters, had been removed, and you reached the chambers, where the rats ran riot, by means of a rickety ladder. We stood in the desolate, unfurnished rooms now, Mamzelle and I. She had come there to see the queer student, and these rooms had been his lodgings.

The queer student had entered the College the year after old Bellows died; and when the Faculty asked him whether he meant to board at the Hall kept by the steward, he replied that he meant to "keep back" in the "haunted house." We all thought his taste a strange one, but no one disputed it; and here he had lived unmolested throughout the College course, which on this Commencement Day he had finished with high honor.

As we approached the house, Mamzelle shuddered. "Qu'il place affreux!" said she; "pas de vestige d'un sash in any window; the house resembles as if he had lost his teeth."

And no vestige of the queer student did we find within. The chambers above the yellow corn were utterly deserted, as though the wind had swept them clean, and there was no sound except the scramble of rats behind the partitions. Near one of the windows, pasted on the wall, not as if it had been done in the queer student's time, but yellow and time-browned, mice-nibbled about the edges, festooned with cobwebs, and spotted with mold, was the fragment of the poem with which I have headed my story. With my penknife I easily detached it from the wall, and it now lies among my most valued curiosities, "to witness if I lie."

But I am telling the end of my story first. Let me begin at the beginning.

I well remember my first day at the College, four years before my visit to the "haunted house." It was Commencement Day, and the Trustees sat ranged upon the platform, in awful semicircle, Old Bellows in their midst, holding the diplomas in an awkward way in his arms. The last graduate had delivered his valedictory, when the Trustee rose, gave the diplomas with great alacrity, as though glad to be rid of them, squared his shoulders, took a long breath, and began his address to the graduates. He was a pompous, wordy man, little liked by the students, who had given him his nick-name, not only because his name really was John Bellows, but because they thought it appropriate from his propensity for making long-winded speeches, or as they slangily expressed it, being "always ready to blow."

He had a somewhat difficult task before him this morning, that of explaining to the students some changes in the College curriculum—the striking out of the classics, and the substitution of some practical studies in their stead. He began by giving us his autobiography.

"When I was a young man of nineteen," said he, "having finished my course at the Academy, and being prepared to enter College, my father gave me my choice between forty acres of wild land which

he had purchased in Ohio, and a flock of thirty sheep, or a collegiate education. I took the sheep, and started for my farm; and have never regretted the step which I regard as the turning-point in my career. At the end of four years I found myself possessed instead of a single sheepskin; of a well-improved farm, stocked with three hundred sheep, and this only a part of my profits. In my experience through life, I haven't found any need of Greek or Latin, and I agree with a celebrated man who has said 'that he could not discern any appreciable difference between intoxicating one's self by means of literature or art, and getting tipsy on brandy, and who had a horror of the charlatanism which claims social and intellectual position as the reward for having laboriously waded through those authors who are conventionally termed *classical*.' I have acted from conviction; I may have been wrong. In either event, there will be little difference a century from now; while to me there is an immense difference whether while I lived I should be a poverty-stricken pedant, or a practical and wealthy man. Therefore I say to the young men here: Aim at immediate results; they are the only ones; the present alone is ours. It will be all the same a hundred years hence."

An awful emphasis was given to the man's words; for while he spoke, his features suddenly became ashen grey; the few notes of his address sifted from his fingers and fell upon the floor. There was a pause, he reeled, fell forward upon his face, and when they lifted him up, the Trustee was dead.

His last words were not forgotten, but took deep root in every mind that heard them, and the speech that might have been ridiculed, had it not been for the peculiar circumstances of its close, was regarded as oracular.

It was the next Fall that the queer student came. He expressed a wish to study Greek and Latin, and on being told that they had been dropped from the course, inquired if there was no one who could give him private lessons. This Mamzelle agreed to do. She was a French woman of extraordinary culture, and taught the modern languages in the College. Her pupil did not prove at all apt; he learned with great apparent difficulty, quite as an elderly person would have done if attempting for the first time the difficulties of a language. But he mastered his studies in the end by sheer force of will and a dogged determination not to be beaten.

At last came the day on which he was to receive his degree. He had kept himself much apart from his classmates; none of them were familiar with him, but he had outstripped them all, and the valedictory had been assigned to him. All were startled, when as the opening words of his address, they heard the last ones of the dead Trustee: "It will be all the same a hundred years hence."

I can not give you a synopsis of his oration; it was more than brilliant—it was eloquent. His theme was Influence—how each act, however trivial, was not only an effect, but a cause, ever widening and strengthening in its power; how the choice of the Trustee in his youth, had not only diametrically changed the course of his own life, but that of the College, which in its turn had already influenced the taste of eight hundred different students, and who had gone out into eight hundred different circles to exert their power, "some twenty, some fifty, and some an hundred fold." "It is not all the same now," said the queer student; "if you are an expert mathematician, you may be able to tell me what it will be a hundred years hence." He cited other instances, very trifling and unimportant in themselves, and thrilled us with the stupendous alternatives which depended for their existence on these causes. He spoke of conscience and of souls who "in their struggles learn that sin keeps memory awake forevermore!" And closing, said: "There is no good deed, no sin, no innocent mistake so insignificant that it will be all the same a hundred years hence—no, nor at the end of eternity."

As we looked at him with close-drawn breath, his face, too, changed. Throughout his College course he had not altered in the slightest particular, but seemed as youthful when he mounted the rostrum as when he applied for admission to the institution. But in a few moments he had aged marvelously; his hair, his features were ashen gray; the paper on which his oration was written, was slipping leaf by leaf from his hand. I looked to see him fall upon his face, as the Trustee had done, but he had vanished. Not among the graduates, upon the rostrum, or in any part of the crowded hall. No one had seen him leave the house; indeed, the aisles were so crowded that he could scarcely have done so; but he was gone.

Mamzelle, who sat next to me, grasped my arm in a frightened way. "Let us go him look for," said she, and together we hurried across the field toward the "haunted house." My thoughts were busy, not with the queer student, but with dead John Bellows. I thought not so much of the widening effect of his educational deficiencies upon posterity; I thought only of their effect on the life of the man himself, and that of the woman beside me, and how no children called the memory of the one blessed, or were a help and comfort to the other.

To and from the Academy in New England, he had carried the satchel of the little French girl, daughter of the dancing master. A deep attachment had sprung up between them; but he drove his flock of sheep out to Ohio without saying what he would have said had he remained in the same village four years longer. But, inasmuch as the attachment was a deep one, in after years he secured her services for the College he represented, and long years after they should have been (when the characters of each had crystalized into forms unsympathetic and unyielding), the words were spoken *too late*!

"For the lips that kissed, and arms that caressed,
To a mouth grown cold with delay, were pressed,
And encircled a heart that their clasp would have blessed
Had it only not come too late! too late!"

We reached the "haunted house," and I read aloud the paper on the wall. Mamzelle stood with her little shriveled hands clasped, and her eyes rolling toward the ceiling in a way tragical and Frenchy, but altogether sincere, and exclaimed "Ceil! Mais je le connais. Ze queer student; c'etait John! Come back to correct his mistake." It was Nemesis, thought I.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

There is so little money this year, that Christmas gifts will test the inventive genius of young and old. Crosses, anchors, and wreaths of Autumn leaves; pressed ferns and dried and colored grasses in bouquets; straw and rustic frames around tiny pictures; pen-wipers in butterfly shapes; covers for toilet cushions of linen, with threads drawn or netted or crocheted; log-cabin patch-work of silk or woolen, for sofa pillows or holders, are pretty and useful. Prettily devised paper holders or baskets, for which we gave rules the first of the year, are always appropriate.

Among so many children's books, how puzzled a parent who reads little, may become; yet it is so important to give children books of the right sort. To our mind, no better book for the young children can be found than the monthly *Nursery*, published at Boston. Among books, Whittier's "Child Life" is very fine. All of Hans Christian Andersen's books for children are good, especially fairy tales; Hawthorne's "Wonder Book" and "Tanglewood Tales." These latter teach in a simple way, the common stories of mythology. "The Child's Book of Nature," by Worthington Hooker, is one of the most admirable books for mothers, not only to instruct, but to amuse children.

Drawing books for beginners, and drawing cards, are full of interest and profit to every child, and almost every mother can assist the child, by carefully reading the directions. Prof. Walter Smith, State Director of Art Education for Massachusetts, has

issued a series of most practical drawing books, not to teach picture-making, but to teach art for industrial purposes. Separate from the series, or accompanying it, is a book in cheap form, called "Industrial Drawing for Beginners; Free Hand." This little book is invaluable for its purposes.

We could largely increase this list, for it is still true that "of making many books there is no end;" but we have named these as being our first choice, and because we so often hear parents say, "I don't know what books to buy for the children."

READ THIS.

Nothing can be more cruel, and nothing more foolish, than to place children where they must be dressed every day in fresh and fashionable clothes, and their freedom for play curtailed for the sake of appearances. What childhood needs! is perfect freedom among the things of nature—freedom to romp, to make mud-pies, to leap fences, to row, to fish, to climb trees, to chase butterflies, to gather wild flowers, to live out of doors from morning till night, and to do all those things that innocent and healthy childhood delights in, in cheap, strong clothes provided for the purpose.—Dr. J. G. Holland.

HOME HINTS.

TEA BISCUITS.—Make a good soda or cream biscuit, mold it, and roll it out half the thickness of common biscuit; spread it over with three or four spoonfuls of melted butter; then over this, sprinkle half a coffee cup of the best sugar; then begin and roll up compactly, as you would a roll of jelly-cake. Slice your roll off into inch-thick slices; lay these flat on your tin, and bake as biscuit. They are nice cold.

CHRISTMAS OR THANKSGIVING PUDDING.—One cup of chopped suet, one cup raisins, currants or berries, one cup of common molasses, one cup of sour milk, three cups of flour, two teaspoonfuls of soda, one of cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful of cloves, one nutmeg, one-half teaspoonful of salt. If you wish it very nice, slice citron in the bottom of the pan you steam the pudding in, then as you fill the dish, slice in layers of citron. Cover the dish, and place in a steamer, and steam two hours or more; then turn it out bottom side up, and serve. Sauce is one-half a cup of fine sugar, and one-fourth cup of butter stirred to a cream, and if desired, two tablespoonfuls of brandy. Pile the sauce irregularly on a small plate, and grate nutmeg thickly over it.

SNOW PADDING.—One-half a package of Cox's Sparkling Gelatine, one-half a pint of cold water to cover it, and let it stand over night, or until it swells; then add one-half pint of boiling water. When dissolved, and nearly cold, add one cup of pulverized sugar, and flavor with a few drops of extract cinnamon, and half a teaspoonful of lemon and vanilla extract, or two teaspoonfuls of lemon syrup. Beat the whites of five eggs to a stiff froth, adding it to the above, and beat or churn it until it is a set jelly; then pour it into small cups or molds. Use the yolks with one egg more, to one quart of milk, for a custard. Pour it around the pudding when served, or dish it separately. The pudding should be white as snow when done, and quake like jelly. If the gelatine shows, it is for lack of beating.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE NEAT CATTLE—No. II.

BY CO-RO-LO.

EDITOR FARMER: In my previous article on this subject, your compositor, by the omission of a word or two, makes a correction necessary. I commended the Agricultural College for testing the *adaptability* of the Galloways "to our soil and climate."

But a short time elapsed after being interrogated in regard to the polled black cattle on the College Farm, before I was gravely asked, "Why I thought

the Regents were such fools as to pay \$900 or \$1,000 apiece for cows, while the best milkers in the State could be purchased for \$100?"

I replied that the Regents had not paid so large a sum in but one or two cases, and then for very superior and high-bred animals; and that these cows, in the judgment of far better judges of cattle than myself, were not dear, but very cheap. Did I think them so cheap? I did, and for the following reasons:

The Shorthorn is a breed of cattle brought to the highest perfection, by the most skillful breeders in England, if not in the world. Many of the cows are great milkers, while the tendency to fatten early has been brought almost to perfection. To these qualities we may add size, a magnificent figure, and the production of beef beautifully grained or marbled, and of high quality.

I added that more than one-half a century ago, the Messrs. C. & R. Colling, of England, sold bulls and cows of this breed for more guineas than the College paid dollars for theirs; and that "Zenas King" and "Kate Lee" were, without a doubt, better cattle than any owned by the Brothers Colling. I admitted that both in England and in the United States, the interest of the grazer had prevailed over the dairyman; and maturity at an early age, with aptitude to fatten, had been more regarded than milking properties.

I have heard of Shorthorns, however, which gave thirty-six quarts of milk per day; but the College, as I had been informed, had not purchased this breed with the intention of testing their flow of milk or the quality of their butter, but for the purpose of proving their adaptability to our soil, pasturage and climate, and their quick maturity and beef-producing qualities. This breed has for years been highly extolled by the best judges of Neat cattle, all the world over. Some disinterested person should test their adaptability to Kansas, and give the real facts and figures to the farmers of the State; and who is better fitted to make this experiment than the Regents of the Farmers' own College? We need cattle for milk, for cheese, for butter, for beef, and for the yoke. Let the College test the various breeds that are claimed to be the best for these several purposes, and give us unbiased figures in regard to all these things. To do this properly and satisfactorily, she must secure the best representatives of the several breeds, and show us how their progeny turn out.

Another farmer asked me on the Fair Ground at Manhattan, "What under the sun did the Regents spend money for such little, long-horned fellows as those red cattle for? Was it for their horns?" I replied, and I am sorry to add, with some asperity, "No; not for their horns or tails, although both are graceful and beautiful; but for their true merits."

These Devons are the oldest good race of cattle known. No one can tell how long they have existed, or what country they were natives of. They were first brought to this country from the west of England, by our "Pilgrim Fathers," and nearly all that is good in our native stock, comes from that race of cattle crossed in 1832, by Capt. John Mason, of New Hampshire, with the large, yellow and vigorous cattle of Denmark. But unfortunately, this valuable cross has been allowed to deteriorate, not only by neglect and exposure, but also by "in and in breeding," and by a subsequent cross with the small black cattle of the Spanish colonies.

For work cattle, the Devons have no superior. They are active, hardy and gentle; their beef is superior in flavor to the Shorthorn; they mature some months earlier, and are, as a general thing, their superiors for milk. In the hilly portions of the State, and where the pastures are shorter than on our bottom lands, and where it takes more locomotion to get a supply, there is no question about the Devons being the breed for the farmer. They are the most beautiful and graceful of all our Neat cattle. Their color is a deep red, with the tip of their graceful and flowing tails white. They show

their vigor by impressing, invariably, their own traits upon their grades, and their value as work cattle, by their elastic step, quick walk and docile bearing.

Mr. Editor, the Regents of the College have, in my judgment, and I am happy to add, in the judgment of men wiser than myself, done well by their recent purchases of Neat stock and swine. Let any unprejudiced mind compare any of the breeds recently purchased by the Board, with the old-fashioned, great-boned, coarse-haired, long legged, lank-bodied cattle of the West; cattle that can eat and run against the world. Voracious as anconadas, and as lean as death, they have kept, and will keep, every farmer that raises them, poor.

And compare also, the firm-fleshed Berks, the graceful Essex, and thrifty Polands, with the old-fashioned swine of the State, whose shares are always sharp, and never need be taken to the blacksmith shop. Jack Sprat and his beloved and long-honored wife will now be able to eat and be satisfied, for the improved breeds of Neat cattle and swine furnish ample proportions of fat and lean.

Fort Riley, Kansas.

THE CASTOR OIL PLANT.

BY JAMES HAWWAY.

EDITOR FARMER: During the past year the attention of farmers has been drawn to the cultivation of the castor bean, and I learn from those who have been engaged in its culture, that it is a profitable crop to the producer. They have commanded \$2 per bushel in most of our towns, and should the price continue, they will be no doubt more extensively cultivated in the future. As this is the introduction of a new product in most sections of the State, I have been induced to pry into its history, and to ascertain what are its characteristics and affinities.

Scientific writers inform us that there are no less than 1,500 species of the castor oil plant, which are distributed over the four quarters of the globe; extending from the equator to the latitudes of Ohio and Indiana. Some species are found in the tropics, which become large trees; this appears to be its natural region. Botanists inform us that the properties of these castor oil plants are remarkably varied; some are highly valued on account of their medical uses, while others are poisonous. The *Ricinus communis*, as botanists term it, is the most valuable, and is cultivated for the seed, from which the oil is expressed.

It is a medicine of comparatively modern date; like quinia, or Peruvian bark, its value since its introduction has become highly estimated, and of common use. "Cold drawn," or "cold pressed," is regarded preferable to "hot pressed." The taste of castor oil is so exceedingly unpleasant, that I never thought to inquire whether it was cold or hot pressed. It is somewhat allied to the razor strop trade—here is an elastic razor strop; here is another, non-elastic—both advertising the opposite qualities as an inducement to the purchaser.

The duty on castor oil in England formerly was very high, but the British Government of late years concluded that a cheap medicine was necessary for the people. The tariff is merely nominal at this time; therefore a good market is opened for castor oil. Add to this the vast increase of late days. This oil is used for lubricating purposes, and it warrants the opinion that the market will continue to be remunerative to the producer.

Lane, Franklin County, Kansas.

FROM RUSSELL COUNTY.

BY E. W. DURKEE.

EDITOR FARMER: Under the above head in your last issue, I find my letter to you respecting some inquiries, &c., by our Burlington (Vt.) friend, which I was glad to see.

I think you published two small articles for me only about a year and a half ago. Since then, I have written some two or three, but none of them

have appeared; I attach no blame to any one, however, for they might not have been received.

You say that it has not been proved that mixed farming will succeed west of Reno county. Has it been proved that it will not? How many years has it been since there was as much doubt about even the extreme eastern portion of this State for mixed farming, as there is at the present time concerning this portion of Kansas? I say that it has been proven to some extent that mixed farming will succeed in this county, for several parties within my acquaintance have raised as good crops as can be raised in any portion of this or any other State, according to the chance they have had.

One of these I will mention, who is a reader and subscriber of THE FARMER, Mr. Landon. His crops were all good, consisting of corn, oats, barley, and all kinds of vegetables. This great bug-bear story that this portion of Kansas is good for nothing except buffalo, antelope, Indians, &c., is a hoax. It only wants time and improvement in the way of cultivation, to fully demonstrate these facts; the same as it needed in the more eastern part of the State.

I do not claim to be as well acquainted with the Arkansas Valley and its resources, as I am with Russell county, but I am well enough posted to know that we hold over them as before stated by me in your last issue. Again, you say if we go as far west on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad as Russell county, it takes us into Barton county, and land can doubtless be bought for \$2 or \$3 per acre. I am informed by what I suppose to be good authority, that the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company hold their land at from \$4 to \$8 per acre in Barton county, while it is only from \$2 to \$6 here. My informants live there, and ought to be posted; they will bear me out in my statement.

You say you have nothing but kind words to say for Russell or any other county in the State. I heartily thank you for it; but next you say, should parties ask for a good location for a cattle "ranch," you would have no hesitation in recommending Russell, Ellis or Trego; but for growing all the grains, vegetables and fruits, together with the raising of all kinds of stock, Mr. Durkee would himself doubtless admit that there are places in Kansas that would promise better.

I admit no such thing, except it might be for the first crop or two; and from your own statement that you have never been farther west on the Kansas Pacific Railroad than Salina, I think it is just as improper for you to judge of this part of the country as you do, as it is for me to judge of the Arkansas Valley and its resources, not being as well acquainted with it as I am with Russell county. The idea that many seem to entertain, that the best land is confined to the bottoms along the Arkansas river, is simply erroneous. There can be no better land than we have in Russell county, and I dislike to see our good papers, such as THE FARMER, recommending it for cattle "ranches" alone, when they have never been farther west on the Kansas Pacific Railroad than Salina, to learn its good or bad qualities.

Russell, Kansas.

CASTOR BEANS—HOW ARE THEY CULTIVATED?

BY P. HAWES.

EDITOR FARMER: I should be glad to receive through your columns, instructions as to how to raise castor beans, if it is not asking too much. Should like to know how and when to plant, how to cultivate, how much seed is required per acre, how much one man can manage, and how to take care of the crop after it is raised; in short, give me all the information that you think a "green un" at the business would require.

I have no doubt you have given such information before, but as I am a comparatively new subscriber, I have missed it; and perhaps such an article would prove of interest to some who have read it before.

Templin Kansas, Nov. 15, 1873.

The Kansas Farmer

TO THE PATRONS OF THE FARMER.

LEAVENWORTH, Nov. 25, 1873.

The undersigned having sold to J. K. HUDSON, all right and title to THE KANSAS FARMER, his connection with the paper ceases with this number. I take pleasure in saying to the many readers of THE FARMER, that the paper passes into the hands of a warm and earnest friend of the Farmers of Kansas; one practically identified with the Agriculture of the State, and one who will fully sustain the character expected of the leading Farm Journal of the State.

Respectfully, M. S. GRANT.

TO THE READERS OF THE KANSAS FARMER.

With this number the subscriber assumes Editorial and Business charge of THE KANSAS FARMER. In the past twelve years THE KANSAS FARMER has secured, not only within the State but throughout the East, a reputation as an original, high-toned Farm Journal, second to none in the country. The subscriber will in the future give his best labors towards building up in the State a Weekly Agricultural Paper, in every way worthy the respect, confidence and support of the farmers of the West.

Respectfully, J. K. HUDSON.

THE KANSAS FARMER will be published Weekly after January 1st, 1874, at Topeka, Kansas, at \$2 per year in advance.

THE OUTLOOK.

The financial panic is nearly over in the large cities, and unless the most careful judges are greatly mistaken, recovery from its effects is the next thing in order. As an exchange very justly remarks, this recovery will be slow; and many who do not look well ahead will be affected with occasional discouragement. But there is no more real panic; that has already spent itself. The stagnation of trade is next in order; but that need not excite alarm, as there is always a calm after a great storm. Values have been so much deranged, that it will naturally require some time to recover from the shock. Many merchants have already announced their intention to sacrifice their old stocks, and begin anew with the new prices and the new order of things.

But this calm can last only a short time. The great movements of foreign trade are sure to set everything going again. The country is rich. Gold is coming over from Europe, to pay for grain and cotton, and will continue to come for several months. This circumstance gives us, as a nation, a great advantage. And if Congress will avoid trying experiments with the currency, and leave matters to adjust themselves according to the laws of trade, which are above the reach of ordinary legislation, it will not be long before paper will come up to the specie level, and commodities will be bought at prices that allow open competition on the part of the world, for the reason that we shall be using the world's currency.

The conditions are all coming right, and the whole country will be the healthier in its business for the late sudden convulsion.

ALL correspondence after December 20th must be addressed to J. K. HUDSON, Editor and Proprietor KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

THE COST OF RAISING CORN.—An Illinois farmer says that last year he raised thirty-eight acres of corn which yielded sixty-six bushels per acre, expending on the whole, three days' work of a man and team per acre, which he reckoned at \$3 per day, making \$9 per acre. For the rent \$3.50 per acre, making \$11.50 as the cost of raising sixty-six bushels, or 19¼ cents per bushel. An Ohio farmer, on the other hand, estimates that it cost him 25 cents per bushel to raise and crib his Indian corn.

PROSPECTUS OF THE WEEKLY KANSAS FARMER FOR 1874.

THE KANSAS FARMER on and after January 1st, 1874, will be issued at Topeka, Kansas, as a Weekly Journal, devoted to the interests of the farmers of Kansas and the Great West. It will be a live exponent of the Material, Social, Political and Educational interests of farmers and laboring men. While it shall never be the organ of any clique, ring or political party, THE FARMER will presume to utter in no uncertain sounds such opinions upon public affairs as it deems of interest to its readers.

Upon the important questions of Reform now agitating the Farmers of the West, we invite correspondence and discussion. Every organization, whether Grange, Farmers' Club or Co-operative Association, which has for its object the better protection of the rights and interests of Labor, of making better farmers and farming, developing the resources of the State, and securing the Agriculturalists of the State against corrupt and class legislation, shall find in THE FARMER a warm and cordial supporter. Without permitting these columns to be used for personal abuse, or for the elevation or aggrandizement of any individual, THE FARMER will claim the right of independent criticism upon public men and measures, if found in opposition to the rights and the will of the people.

To the able corps of Correspondents who have assisted in giving THE KANSAS FARMER a high reputation East and West for originality and ability, we ask a continuance of their help, and from assurances already received, we can promise our readers many new and able pens who will assist us in making this the best Farm Journal in all the Great West. We desire the Farmers of Kansas to know that this is their paper, and shall, with the help of the many correspondents in various parts of the State, present intelligent discussions upon Farm topics. The Horticultural, Farm Stock, Veterinary and Entomological Departments will be properly represented each week. A department specially devoted to the Patrons of Husbandry and Farmers' Organizations, will be a new feature of the paper the coming year.

The Market Review will be a leading feature, presenting correct Market Reports up to the time of going to press, not only at the principal local markets of the State, but the leading cities of the country. In this particular we shall endeavor to satisfy a want long felt in the State for full and correct quotations.

To the 70,000 Farmers of Kansas we shall present our claims for support, resting those claims upon the merit and character of our paper. We have placed the subscription price at the lowest living rates for a Weekly paper, being only an advance of fifty cents per year upon the semi-monthly rates. One copy, weekly, \$2 per year in advance; three copies, \$5; ten copies, \$15. Clubbing terms with other papers, instructions to agents, and other information, will be sent upon application to this office. After December 20th, all communications must be addressed to undersigned at Topeka, Kansas; until then address to this office. All subscriptions made before January 1st will receive the numbers due of this year, free.

J. K. HUDSON, Editor and Proprietor,
Leavenworth, Kansas.

After December 20th, Postoffice address will be Topeka, Kansas.

THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

In another part of this issue we reproduce, from the New York Tribune, an excellent article, entitled "A Review of the Farmers' Movement." In reply to the question, What is the Grange? which thousands of our readers are asking every day, this article gives the desired information. And we know that the information therein contained is correct. During a visit to Washington City, last June, we called on an old and esteemed friend, employed in the Agricultural Department, whose "threescore years and ten" have been devoted to works of benevolence and peace; who, like the Master he serves, "goes about doing good," laboring to promote the best interests of his race and increase the sum of human happiness. In a long conversation with him, we learned the origin, design and history of the "Order of Patrons of Husbandry." Our friend is really the father of the Order, although he did not say so; he wrote its Ritual, assisted in organizing the first Grange, in Washington City, and his statements should certainly be received as authority in all matters pertaining to the Order. The plan, the object and the working of the institution are truthfully detailed by the correspondent of the Tribune; and nothing we could write would more clearly or correctly place it before our readers. But the objects of the Order can be best presented by itself. One of its organs sums them up as follows: 1. The ennoblement of Labor, and the fraternizing of the producing classes. 2. Bringing more closely together the producer and consumer. 3. Mutual instruction; the lightening of labor, by diffusing a better knowledge of its aims. 4. The building up and fostering of home industry. 5. The overthrow of the credit system. 6. Prevention of cruelty to animals. 7. The Prevention of litigation. 8. Social culture. 9. Mutual relief in sickness and adversity. 10. Mutual protection of farmers against sharpers and monopolists.

When we reflect that this Order has been only six years in existence, and its Granges are already established in thirty-five States, as well as in Canada; that there are 1818 organizations in Iowa, 920 in Missouri, 636 in Illinois, 596 in Kansas, 467 in Indiana, 392 in Mississippi, 372 in Minnesota, and so on through the long list of States—when we think of all this, the conclusion is unavoidable that the teachings inculcated by its Ritual, must appeal strongly to the sympathies of the farmer and his family. There is no politics in it. Indeed, all political and sectarian discussions are strictly prohibited in its meetings, under penalty; and visiting the sick and relieving the distressed among its members, are cardinal principles, which the Order imperatively enjoins. But the opportunity afforded by their frequent meetings for social, intellectual and moral improvement, seems to be most highly appreciated. The membership in this State, so far as our knowledge extends, embraces the most intelligent, industrious and successful farmers of Kansas.

Such an Order must do good, and should receive the aid and encouragement of every friend of the working man. THE KANSAS FARMER extends a cordial greeting to the Grange, and wishes a hearty God-speed to the "Order of Patrons of Husbandry."

THE KANSAS FARMER, published Weekly, with many new features, for \$2 per year in advance. Address after December 20th, J. K. HUDSON, Topeka, Kansas.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Various contradictory statements are going the rounds of the State papers, as to the political complexion of the incoming Legislature; and after a careful examination of all the "tables," the following appears to us to be as near an approach to being correct as can be arrived at before the meeting of that body next month: Elected on Republican ticket, 48; on Farmers' ticket, 32; Independent, 18; Democrats, 2; Total, 100. The Senate (which holds over) contains twenty-seven Republicans and

six Opposition. The combined Republican vote in Senate and House, according to this estimate, will be seventy-five—a clear majority of seventeen on joint ballot.

And yet, although the Farmers have not secured a majority of the Legislature, as at first stated, their numbers and their power, if judiciously managed, are sufficient to prevent unwise legislation, and to control the choice of a U. S. Senator—the most important measure that will come before them. They hold the balance of power; and while a Republican will probably be elected, they will have sufficient numerical strength to demand that the successful candidate shall be a man of pure life—not a demagogue or corruptionist, or one who has been heretofore identified with the “rings” or disgraceful acts which have given our young State such unenviable notoriety, as the “rotton Commonwealth,” and made her a stench in the nostrils of honest men everywhere. Kansas has men of integrity and talent—far superior in every respect to the demagogues who are clamorous for the place; men who would redeem the fair fame of the State, and properly represent the great majority of our people at the National Capital. Among those recently named most prominently are some of the purest and most upright, as well as the ablest men in the State—men against whom no breath of suspicion has ever been uttered, even during the most heated partizan warfare. Let one of these be chosen, and “all the people will say, Amen.” The Farmer members of the Legislature can do much to secure this desirable result. Will they use their influence in that direction, and vindicate their claim to be regarded as “reform” members of a body which stands very much in need of reforming?

THE KANSAS FARMER will be published Weekly after January 1st, 1874, at Topeka, Kansas, at \$2 per year in advance.

THE COST OF LIVING.

One result of the financial panic, through which the country is now passing, will be the reduction of prices of all articles of necessity, to rates that prevailed before the war. “The signs of the times” already indicate this. Take dry goods, for instance. H. B. Claffin & Co., announce that they will throw six millions dollars worth of dry goods on the market within the next thirty days. This brings out the house of A. T. Stewart in competition, with a still larger quantity in the same line; and other large wholesale houses will, of course, follow in the same direction. The object plainly is to induce Western merchants to purchase largely, at lower prices, and the public at large must reap the benefit of this step. It simply means the coming down of goods to old fashioned prices before the war, and the inability of speculators to hold up stocks of goods to an inflated standard. The days of speculative prices have gone by for our time.

The cost of living will have to recede in a corresponding degree; and labor will have to reduce its wages, because the same wages will in future purchase more articles needed for consumption in the family. And once prices come down to low-water mark, they can never go up again.

Groceries, also, must come down. The large importing houses have been able thus far to control the markets of the country; but they, too, must yield to the inevitable laws of trade, and be satisfied with moderate profits on their goods. And our millers must be content with less than forty to fifty per cent. profit upon flour.

Prices are tumbling, and the equalizing process must go on.

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LEAVENWORTH TO CHICAGO.

Of all the improvements and commercial facilities which Leavenworth has secured within the last few years, there are none of which she is so justly proud, or which has contributed so much to her solid prosperity, as the Chicago, Rock Island & Leavenworth Railroad. Crossing the magnificent Iron Bridge over the Missouri river, and passing through the most fertile portions of the three great States of Missouri, Iowa and Illinois, it has made the richest prairie farms and most industrious population on the continent tributary to the two cities at the termini of this great thoroughfare. The success of the Road, as a commercial enterprise, is assured.

For passengers to all points North and East, this Road offers superior facilities, as to comfort and convenience. It is the only route by which travelers can reach Chicago from this city or Atchison without change of cars; and at Chicago its trains connect with express trains on all the great Eastern and Northern lines. The Road is equipped with first-class engines and coaches, equal in elegance and comfort to any on the continent, and surpassed by none. Its time between Leavenworth and Chicago is twenty-three hours and forty-five minutes—the distance about five hundred miles—including stoppages; but the actual running time is nearly thirty miles an hour. Its road-bed and rolling stock are in such excellent condition that the traveler is all unconscious of the rapid rate of speed, and seems surprised on arriving at the end of his journey.

Much of the popularity and superiority of this Road is undoubtedly due to the excellence of its management. Judge H. M. ALLER, the Agent at Leavenworth, has thrown the whole of his wonderful energy into the work of making it the model Road of the West. Courteous, attentive to the wants of the traveling public, and untiring in his efforts to secure the comfort and safety of passengers, it is not surprising that he is the most popular and efficient railroad official in the West; nor that his subordinates should all be animated by the same spirit.

To our readers throughout Kansas and the great West, we have just this to say: If you wish to go East, on business or pleasure, secure tickets over the Chicago, Rock Island & Leavenworth Railroad. For speed, safety, comfort and polite attention, this route is seldom equaled, and not excelled anywhere. A large portion of the track is laid with steel rails, over which the finest palace cars in the world are run, and there are sleeping-cars on all trains. Before purchasing tickets call at the Company's office, corner Main and Delaware streets, and see Judge ALLER.

ALL correspondence after December 20th must be addressed to J. K. HUDSON, Editor and Proprietor KANSAS FARMER, Topeka, Kansas.

BLUE RAPIDS ENTERPRISE.

If every town and city in the State would manifest such energy and enterprise as are shown by Blue Rapids, we should soon hear less complaints among farmers of extortionate railroad charges and similar grievances; for the reason that manufacturers would be established in every neighborhood, which would furnish employment to a sufficient number of people to consume all the surplus produce of our farmers. That enterprising town has already in full operation a flouring mill, a woolen factory, a gypsum mill and a saw mill. A paper mill is also in course of erection, and other manufacturing establishments are projected, which will furnish employment for a large number of operatives, and create a home market for produce.

And still the *Times* of that place “is not happy.” It is clamoring loudly for an oil mill; and gives excellent reasons why such an enterprise should be a success. It says:

“But more needs to be accomplished. Corn is ruinously cheap, and don't bear transportation;

neither does oats or barley. Large and successful crops of grain yield but a small income. A successful crop does not make a successful farmer. There must be a variety of crops to insure the most remunerative results. One article has been tested that returns more cash for an equal amount of labor than wheat, corn or oats. Not only were the crops of flax raised in this vicinity last year, for the most part good, but they have been tested other years, and in like manner proved a success. Out of a large number of experiments last season, we hear of two failures. They were in the case of rich soils which pushed forward a crop of weeds so early that the flax was choked back and overrun. Parties were so satisfied with their success that in nearly every case we have heard of, they will repeat the crop next season. If a crop of flax seed alone, after deducting the freight to St. Louis, leaves a fair compensation for labor, how much more valuable might it be made when a paper mill works up the fiber, and a home market for the seed, saving double transportation. We see no obstacle to the industrial establishment of this industry. An extensive home demand already exists for this oil. The area of cultivation can be extended almost indefinitely in one or two years. Our climate and soil, as ample experiments have demonstrated, are well adapted to this crop. It would furnish a market for the product of so much labor, that other crops would have the benefit of an increased demand. We hope this subject will receive the attention of our wide-awake Agriculturists, and they will make their united demands felt to their advantage.”

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AMERICAN INTERFERENCE IN CUBA.

The *Lawrence Journal* gives in a nutshell the reason why our Government cannot longer delay action in Cuban affairs. It says the proper ground of interference by the United States is the demonstrated inability of the Spanish Government to so control affairs there as to keep them within the bounds of civilization and humanity. Spain is virtually powerless. The contest has gone on for years in a manner revolting to the public sentiment of the world. Now a series of acts is perpetrated which cannot be overlooked. Something must be done. The brutal butchers who shoot down captives and prisoners by the hundred must be made to feel that somebody has power to restrain them.

A SHORT SESSION.

From all parts of the State comes up a demand for a short session of the Legislature. And there is no good reason why this should not be responded to. A Senator is to be elected this Winter; and the custom has been heretofore to waste the first three weeks of the session in log-rolling, bribery and purchasing votes. 'Tis a custom “more honored in the breach than in the observance.” Let our legislators go to work on the first day of the session, proceed with business, and let senatorial aspirants take their chances when the election comes up in the regular order. If men will transact the business of the State in a business like manner—as the same men would go to work at their own private affairs—all needed legislation can be accomplished within four weeks, and from ten to twelve thousand dollars be saved to our over-taxed people; the burden of which falls upon farmers and others who can ill afford to bear it. Let us have a short session, say we.

THE *Portland Press* has intelligence from nearly every town along the coast of Maine that ship-building another season will be carried on to a greater extent than during the year now closing. It says there is every prospect that within a year or two the tonnage built in the State will exceed the largest amount of the prosperous days before the war.

AN INCH A YEAR.

A Minnesota farmer gives, in the *St. Paul Pioneer*, his experience of plowing a field for wheat one inch deeper every year. The first year he plowed the land four inches deep, and harvested seven bushels of wheat to the acre. The next season he plowed one inch deeper, and took off twenty bushels per acre. Continuing to plow one inch deeper the next year, he harvested thirty-one and a half bushels. He says, in conclusion: "Last Fall I did not go down for the extra inch. I feared if I kept on until I got down fifteen or twenty inches, the straw would grow eighteen or twenty feet high, and that won't stand the storms of Minnesota; but if we want long straw and heavy wheat we must plow deep. One inch deeper each year is plenty, until the proper depth is reached, and if this rule is followed strictly, our farms will be in good condition many years hence."

The Illinois State Grange will meet in convention at Bloomington, December 9th, instant. It is expected there will be at least one thousand delegates in attendance, and that the session will last a whole week.

SEED FOR FALL SOWING.

It is desirable and advisable to sow several kinds of hardy annuals in the Fall of the year, so as to secure an early growth, and consequently a finer bloom in the succeeding Spring. The *Nemophila*, for instance, can only be grown and bloomed successfully by such treatment, and who would be without that unrivaled blue variety—*insignis*? If possible, the seed should be sown in a sheltered, dry place, as by so doing they will germinate and start into growth much earlier in the Spring. When sufficiently large, plants can be transplanted where wanted to bloom (a practice to be recommended), or seed may be sown, and plants left to bloom in the same place. To the *Neophila* may be added the following flower seeds, as suitable for Fall sowing: *Antirrhinum*, *alyssum*, *calliopsis*, *callia*, *candytuft*, *delphinium*—all varieties, *mignonette*, *pansy*, *phlox drummondii*, *portulaca* and *Virginian stock*.—*Briggs Bros.' Quarterly Floral Work*.

WEIGHT OF DRIED FRUIT COMPARED WITH GREEN.

The California *Horticulturist* quotes from the *Bulletin* the following, as the result of dried fruits by the Alden process:

- Apples—100 pounds green fruit make 12 dry.
- Pears—100 pounds green fruit make 12 dry.
- Peaches—100 pounds green fruit make 12 dry.
- Apricots—100 pounds green fruit make 14 dry.
- Cherries (pitted)—100 pounds green fruit make 16 dry.
- Grapes—100 pounds green fruit make 20 dry.
- Gooseberries—100 pounds green fruit make 20 dry.

OUR CORNER

Secretaries of Farmers' Clubs, Granges, and Agricultural organizations of whatever kind, are cordially invited to write up their proceedings for *THE FARMER*. Let your brother agriculturists throughout the State know what you are doing, and how you are doing it. We shall be glad to receive communications from any farmer, and will take pleasure in publishing whatever is sent.

To Correspondents.—Correspondence is solicited from all parts of the State, on all subjects connected with farming and interesting to farmers. Write on one side of the paper only. Write plainly. Give full name, postoffice, county and State—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith, and to enable us to answer by mail when that course becomes necessary. No attention will be paid to anonymous communications. Address, EDITOR KANSAS FARMER, Leavenworth, Kansas.

What is the Matter?—*THE FARMER*, as a rule, has no reason to complain of want of punctuality on the part of its numerous Correspondents; indeed, it has often been difficult to find room for all that has been offered.

And this is just as we would have it. A primary aim of this paper is, to give every one of its readers, who has a thought he believes would benefit his neighbors, to give expression to that thought through *THE FARMER*. It is by the interchange of experience that cultivators of the soil must learn how to improve their modes of culture, and raise better crops. Then, let us hear from all readers.

Our correspondence in the present number is rather limited—our old-time and much esteemed friends, Judge HANWAY and "Co-Lo-Lo" being the only contributors. The long evenings and abundant leisure during the Winter will afford our farmers an opportunity to write for *THE FARMER*. Let us hear from you, friends. We want to retain all our old Correspondents, and will welcome as many new ones as may choose to come.

A Successful Business Man.—In all departments of trade it is the man of enterprise and energy, guided by caution and sound judgment, who is the successful merchant. If this be true in ordinary times, when business is brisk and money plenty, it is even more so during a financial panic, and the consequent stagnation of trade that is sure to follow—such as we are now passing through. A case in point is JOHN SECKLER, the popular Clothier of this city. While others are grumbling about hard times, the scarcity of money, and dullness of trade, he continues to receive invoices of new goods weekly, has been obliged to hire additional clerks, and sells more than all the other clothing houses in town. And why? He advertises his wares freely, and keeps none but the best quality of goods, which are marked down to the lowest figures; and then he has but *One Price*. Those who buy from him once become regular customers. He deals fairly with all, and has the confidence of everybody.

We called in at SECKLER'S mammoth establishment, on Shawnee street, below Fourth, a few days ago, and were surprised to see the activity that pervaded all departments. No dull times there. We sought an interview with the proprietor, and asked an explanation. JOHN replied: "Although I am not a prophet, nor the son of a prophet, I was prompted last Spring to go slow. I obeyed the command, and followed the same course this Fall. When others laid in a heavy stock, I stayed at home and replenished lightly. Now that the panic is over, I am daily receiving my principal stock of Winter Clothing at a discount of twenty per cent. less than similar goods were purchased for before the panic. I can afford to, and do, sell every article at the same reduction." And this is the whole secret of his success. He buys at panic prices, and gives his customers the benefit of his far-seeing wisdom in doing so. *Low Figures and One Price* for all comers, is his motto.

We take pleasure in directing the attention of our friends in the country to SECKLER'S advertisement, on last page. When you visit Leavenworth, be sure to call on him.

BOOKS AND PAPERS.

The *Rural Kansan*—Is the name of a handsome monthly magazine of thirty-two pages, which has just made its appearance. It is published and edited by D. B. EMMERT, at Humboldt; and is "devoted to the material interests of the State." It is printed on good white paper, from new type, and presents a fine appearance. The subscription price is one dollar a year. EMMERT is an experienced editor, is just the man to get up a first-class paper, and we feel confident he will do it. Success to the *Rural Kansan*.

The *Heart and Hand*.—This sterling Weekly is the official organ of the Grand Lodge of the United States, I. O. F. It contains the latest and most authentic and reliable intelligence of the workings of the Order in every State of the Union and throughout the civilized world; is also an excellent family paper, instructive and entertaining; and taken altogether, just such a paper as should find a place in the family of every Odd Fellow in Kansas and the West. It is ably conducted, handsome in appearance, and each number contains eight closely-printed pages.

The *Heart and Hand* is published in New York, by "The Golden Rule Association," and is furnished at the low price of two dollars a year, with rare inducements in the way of premiums to those who will get up clubs. Address W. H. BARNES, P. O. Box 4091, New York City.

Scribner's for December.—A second profusely illustrated article on Louisiana opens *Scribner's* for December. Mr. King's first article on this subject has created an interest which the present paper cannot fail to deepen. In the same number is a "popular science" paper on "Savage Man," with very striking illustrations; an interesting sketch, with portrait of Proctor, the celebrated young English astronomer now in this country, by John Fraser; Froide's second paper on an English Abbey, in which the Wat Tyler insurrection is touched upon, and a timely and able discussion of the Specie Payment question, by Professor Atwater, of Princeton. Dr. Holland, in *Topics of the Time*, discusses "Some Religious Newspapers," and "How much has been Gained" toward Christian Union. In "The Old Cabinet" there is "The House on the Corner," and "Something better than Truth." In *Home and Society, Culture and Progress, Nature and Science, and Etchings*, a great many subjects are briefly treated.

The January number of *Scribner's* will have features of special interest.

SERENADE TO A WOMAN OFFICER-ELECT.

In Illinois the women elected to county offices act "just like men" in their rejoicings. At least one would think so from the following item in the *Chicago Journal*:

"Several ladies were elected County School Superintendents in this State at the late election. Among them are Mrs. A. McIntosh, of Wilmington, and Mrs. Mary L. Carpenter, of Rockford, both married ladies and successful teachers. On Wednesday evening a number of citizens of Rockford, headed by a brass band, proceeded to the residence of Mrs. Carpenter and gave her a serenade. In response to a call she made her appearance, delivered a handsome little speech of thanks, and invited the party to partake of a lunch in her dining-room. Mrs. Carpenter is an accomplished lady, and will be an efficient school-officer."

"WHERE THE LAUGH COMES IN."

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

It is difficult for a man to see the point of a joke, when he is the butt of it.

THE higher we take a thermometer up a mountain, the lower it will get.

CANADA is sending out missionaries to India. The Brahmins ought to reciprocate.

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD boy recently complained that his teeth "had trod on his tongue."

A PATENT fire-escape killed four men in Montreal the other day, and it was only exexperimenting with them.

AN unpleasant quadruped was killed in Burlington, Vermont, the other day; and the local paper says: "Requieskunk in pace."

THE *Chicago Times* illustrates the amenities of journalism, by calling the editor-in-chief of the *Tribune* a "dirty little cuss."

"Is the Colonel here?" shouted a man, sticking his head into a Kansas City street-car. "He is," replied thirteen men, as they rose up.

AN active old bachelor in Maine claims to be one hundred and two years old; but he "makes his own bed," according to a local paper, "so he must lie," of course.

A GENTLEMAN late one evening met his servant. "Hello! where are you going at this time of night?—for no good, I warrant!" "I was going for you, sir," was the reply.

ST. LOUIS surgeons are a wise set. After probing three hours to find a bullet in a man's back, they discovered that the victim had been hit with a beer bottle.

TEACHER—"Who was the first man?" Head Scholar—"Washington; he was the first in war, first in—" Teacher—"No, no; Adam was the first man." Scholar—"O, if you'r talking of foreigners, I suppose he was."

A postal card was received at Portland, Maine, recently, having a dollar bill sewed on one side it, and directly above the bill was written: "If this is stolen, it will be after it leaves the Kittery post-office."

A consequential young fop asked an aged country sexton, if the ringing of the bell did not put him in mind of his latter end. "No, sir," replied the grim old grave-digger, "but the rope puts me in mind of yours."

A COWARDLY fellow having kicked a newsboy for asking him to buy a paper, the youngster waited until another boy accosted the surly fellow, when he shouted, in hearing of all the by-standers: "It's no use to try him, Jim; he can't read."

A LITTLE GIRL was one day reading the history of England with her governess, and coming to the statement that King Henry First never laughed after the death of his son, she looked up and said: "What did he do when he was tickled?"

AN imaginative Irishman gave rise to this lamentation: "I returned to the halls of my fathers by night, and found them in ruins! I cried aloud, 'My fathers! where are ye?' And echo answered, 'Is that you, Dennis McCarthy?'"

"NOW, WILLIE," said Fanny, "do have a little courage. When I have a pill or powder to take, I don't like it any better than you do; but I make up my mind to take it, and I do take it." "And when I have a pill or powder to take," replied Willie, "I make up my mind that I won't take it, and I don't, nary time!"

AN old Scotch clergyman once took for his text that passage of the Psalms, "I said in my haste, all

men are liars." Looking up, apparently as if he saw the Psalmist standing before him, he said: "You said it in your haste, David, did you? Well, if you had been here, you might have said it after mature deliberation."

If a person is inclined to be reticent and uncommunicative in company, it is generally best to let him alone. Such a person is like a bottle of champagne—hard to get uncorked, and harder still to cork up; and though the contents may be bright and sparkling, too much of them may cause you to wish you had not started the flow."

A country editor, a few years since, described the arrival of La Fayette in the following grandiloquent terms: "The Gallic hero, seated in a chariot drawn by six horses, led the van; the rosy morn besprinkled the orient clouds with effulgent glory; and the gorgeous sun, at last uprising, like a warrior from his repose, walked up into the sky, all along the vast expanse of ether, and throwing his broad and splendid rays upon a long line of one-horse wagons and chaises, filled with individuals principally from our village!"

ONE of the wittiest, as well as one of the most brilliant men Pennsylvania has produced, was the late Geo. W. Barton, of Philadelphia, who once occupied a seat on the bench. Trying a case before a judge who was chiefly remarkable for obtuseness, he took occasion to say that he had often seen a great ass in judicial robes. "You speak from experience, I suppose," was the angry retort. "Not at all," replied Judge Barton; "I am speaking directly from observation."

If ever there was a good and sufficient excuse for not getting a paper out in time, it is that offered by the editor of the *Panama Star & Herald*. He says the government troops were keeping up a regular and continuous fire on the door of his sitting room, and half-a-dozen shots did not vary three feet in striking it. "To this annoyance," he says, "we must attribute our delay in getting out this edition, for it is difficult to persuade men to work under a steady and dangerous fire."

Our Boys and Girls.

A VISIT TO A BEE-HIVE.

DESCRIBED BY THE FAIRY FLYAWAY.

"How doth the little busy bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey day by day,
From every opening flower.

"How doth she indeed?" I said to myself, as I awoke one bright morning.

The thought was suggested by a noisy bee, who woke me by trying to enter my lily-bell, and I resolved that I would look into the matter. So I flew out of my lily, and to the nearest hive, to make inquiries.

Bees are high-spirited and quick-tempered persons, I know, but a fairy can make her way anywhere.

The hive was a neat building, pleasantly situated in an orchard. On one side a clover-field, full of perfume, and on the other a gay flower-garden.

At the door of the hive I was met by a number of sentinels, one of whom addressed me rather sharply with "Who goes there?"

"A friend," I replied "who wishes to learn something of the ways of bees, and how they make honey."

"Your passport," said she.

"I never thought of such a thing," said I.

"Do you intend to go into the honey business yourself?" asked she.

"By no means," I replied; "I am the fairy Fly-away, and only want information and amusement."

"I will send a messenger to our Queen," said the sentinel.

The messenger soon returned with the Queen's permission to go entirely through the hive, escorted by one of her own body-guard, excepting into the royal apartments.

I then entered the doorway, where I was greeted by my guide, who gave me her name, Deborah, and ushered me with a grand flourish of her wings, into a wide gallery passage.

In the middle of the hive I saw a long string of bees, reaching from the roof to the floor, each bee clinging to her neighbor, and remaining motionless, while other bees ran up and down, as though upon a ladder.

"What is that?" I asked my guide.

"A bee-rope," she replied, "a short cut from the top to the bottom of the hive."

I remarked that I thought it might be some kind of dance.

"No," said she. "In the Winter when there is no work to be done, we sometimes dance in the sunshine before the hive, but never at any other time. We are too busy."

This seemed to me rather sad, but I did not say so.

In the gallery we saw bees hurrying about in all directions, too busy to notice us, and never disturbing or interfering with each other, in the least.

"These are our workers," said Deborah.

"About how many of them are there?" I inquired.

"There are twenty thousand of us, all told," she replied, "one Queen, or mother-bee, blessings on her Majesty! some hundreds of drones, and the rest workers."

"They must be tired enough if they always work as fast as these do," I said.

"No," replied Deborah, "they like it. A true worker-bee is never content to be idle. Would you like to see the nurseries?" continued she.

"Anything you please to show me," I replied.

We then turned through the side-gallery into a quiet corner of the hive, where we found curious cradles or cells, of different sizes, made of the purest white wax.

"Here the eggs are laid by our Queen," said Deborah, "generally about two hundred a day, but often many more."

"Then your Queen must be busy, as well as the rest of you," I said.

"No one works harder," replied my guide. I thought of our beautiful Queen, with her delicate wings, and felt that a bee-hive was not much like Fairy-land.

"And will these eggs ever turn into real bees?" I asked.

"Oh yes," said my guide, "in three or four days they hatch into worms."

"Something like caterpillars and butterflies?" I asked.

"A little," she replied, "but in this case the young worms are worth taking care of, as bees are valuable and industrious persons, while butterflies are idle and useless."

"You are mistaken there," I said, "they are useful to us fairies. In our long flights we could not do without them."

"Ah," said she, "I never heard of it before."

"When the eggs turn into grubs or worms," continued she, "the workers find plenty to do to take care of them. Each little worm must be carefully fed four or five days, with water, bread and honey."

"What kind of bread?" I asked.

"Oh, bee-bread," she replied, "nothing else would suit them. The cells are then sealed up; that is, a nice lid or cover is put upon each one, and the little worms must take care of themselves for a while. Every worm is expected to line its cell neatly with a silken webbing, and then roll it self up in a cocoon for a time. Ah! we are just in time to see the cells closed."

And, to be sure, there were attendants sealing up the cells, a small, white worm in each.

I must confess it made me shudder to look at them, for I never did like worms! It is so dreadful to meet one in the folds of a rose.

But I fancied the little worms seemed uneasy at the idea of being shut up, and so I told my friend.

"Ah well!" said she, "It is the only way. We all go through with it. Before many days they will come out perfect bees. Wings and legs all right."

"And must they go to work as soon as they are out?" I asked, "and not dance once?"

"No," replied Deborah. "They are not strong enough to fly until they have been fed one or two days. Then they begin to work in good earnest."

I observed that the cells were of different sizes, and inquired the reason.

"The largest and handsomest cells," replied Deborah, "are for the young Queen-bees or Princesses. The next in size for the drones, and the smallest for the workers."

"Can the cells be used more than once," I asked, "or are they done with, like last year's birds' nests?"

"The royal cells are all destroyed when they have been once used," she answered, "but the others are cleansed, and the silken webbing is left to strengthen them, and they are then better than ever."

"How long does it take to turn from eggs into bees?" I inquired.

"Sixteen days for the Queen-bee to become a perfect insect; twenty-four days for the drones, and twenty-one for the workers."

"And have these attendants nothing to do but to feed the little ones?" I asked.

"Oh yes," said Deborah, "they attend the Queen, do the fighting, prepare the wax, make the combs or cells, collect the honey by day, and store it by night, and keep the hive in order. The drones live an idle life; they will die rather than work. They will not even feed themselves if they can find any one else to do it; and, to tell the truth, like all idlers in a busy community, they are such a bother, that about once a year we have to kill them off."

"My dear Deborah!" I exclaimed, "you can't mean it!"

"Yes. It is the custom. They don't seem to mind it. But let us look now at the store-rooms," she said, hastily changing the subject, as well she might.

In the store-rooms we saw rows upon rows of cells, fitted one upon another, and every one filled with clear honey, and securely sealed.

"This is our Winter store," said my guide; "pure honey, made from the white clover, and put up in combs by the workers."

"How do they make the honey?" I asked.

"They gather it," she replied. "We send out thousands of bees every morning, to all the gardens and fields around. Mignonette makes good honey, and so do apple-blossoms. We usually make from two to six pounds a day. The bees often fly as far as two miles from the hive, and then come back loaded with honey and pollen. Each worker has a tongue or proboscis with which she licks or brushes up the honey, and puts it into her honey-bag."

"Stop a moment," said she to a worker who was hurrying by. "You will observe, my dear, that the hinder legs have something like baskets on the side, in which the pollen or bee-bread is carried."

"I see it," said I, "I have often watched the bees coming out of flowers, covered with yellow dust."

I then took the opportunity to mention to her that I lived in a lily-bell, that I sometimes danced the greater part of the night, and that the bees were in the habit of waking me at an unreasonable hour in the morning. She said she would attend to it.

"And how do the bees make wax?" I asked.

"By a process best known to themselves," replied Deborah. "It is not in my line just now, and I am quite sure that I could not describe it to you. The bees say they cannot tell how they do it, but they wish to keep the secret to themselves. The sides of these cells are the one hundred and eightieth part of an inch in thickness. So you see we must use an immense quantity of wax."

"You must indeed," I replied. "And are the cells always made in this same shape?"

"Yes," said she. "They are six-sided. The early bees fixed upon that as the best for strength and economy of space, and no change has been made since. However, bumble-bees," she added, with a slight expression of scorn, as though she had said "the beggars," "have a way which they prefer; they put it up in bags, and store it underground."

This was no news to me. Such a thing has been done in Fairyland as to "borrow" a little honey from the bumble-bee, in time of scarcity. But I said nothing.

"And you tell me the workers do the fighting. Is there much fighting to do?" I asked.

"A great deal," replied Deborah. "We have many enemies, bother on them! Mice, caterpillars, moths, snails, wasps, robber-bees, and other evil-minded creatures!" As she said this, she buzzed fiercely, and unsheathed her sting.

"Look here a moment," said she, "and you will see one of them."

And there in a corner, guarded by a squad of bees, lay a wretched snail, prisoner in his own shell. The edge of the shell was covered with strong cement, which held it firmly to the floor.

"I think we have him now, the villain!" said my guide. "His shell is fastened with propolis."

"What is propolis?" I asked.

"It is bee-glue," she replied; "resin from the buds of the trees."

"At this moment we heard a low murmur of 'The Queen! the Queen!' and turning, we saw passing through the principal gallery, a magnificent bee, large and more stately than any of her subjects, though her wings were much smaller than theirs. The under part of her body was golden, the upper part dark.

She was surrounded by her body-guard, and as she passed, her subjects politely backed out of her way, to give her room, and some offered her refreshment in the form of honey.

"What would become of us, if anything should happen to our beloved Queen!" exclaimed Deborah.

"How long has she reigned?" I inquired.

"More than two months," she replied.

"And how much longer may she reign?" I asked.

"She may outlive us all," she replied. "Queens live four years, and workers only from six to nine months. Our old Queen went away with a swarm to another hive. But now," she continued, "if you will come back to the gallery, I will offer you some of our best honey."

"This was tempting, even to a fairy, and we are considered dainty; that is, the crickets and grasshoppers call us so. I tasted some honey, and found it delicious."

"This is not like the honey one finds in the flowers," I said.

"We have our way of purifying and preserving it," said Deborah.

"And bee-bread. Can you tell me exactly how to make it?" I asked.

"That is not allowed," she replied, "though it would do no harm, as no one but a bee could ever make it. It is made of the pollen of flowers, and honey and water; and it wants a great deal of kneading. But it is only fit for the food of young bees. We old ones never eat it."

"And do the young princesses eat it too?" I asked.

"Not at all," she replied. "They are fed upon royal jelly."

"And what is that?" I asked.

"Don't ask!" she replied. "It is the greatest secret of all. Off goes my head, if I tell you! And by the way," said she, "perhaps it will be better to say nothing about the drone business."

"Perhaps it will," I replied, "for I have known our fairy-queen to imprison one of her subjects in a pea-pod a whole hour, for only pinching a gnat."

"Ah! yes," said she, "not our idea of discipline."

She then escorted me to the door of the hive. I thanked her, recommended less work and more dancing, invited her to call on me in my lily-bell, and took my leave, feeling that I had really learned something of the ways of the "little busy bee," if not how she makes honey.

The next day I sent to my friend Deborah, by a butterfly, the finest four-leaved clover I ever saw, knowing that to be the best return I could possibly make for her kindness.

—St. Nicholas.

MARKET REPORTS.

CONNECTED TO NOVEMBER 25TH, 1873.

APPLES—In limited supply, at \$1.25@1.50 per bushel.

APPLES, DRIED—80@12 1/2 per pound.

BACON—Per pound, Clear Sides, 7 1/2c; Dry Salt Sides, 6 1/2c.

BEANS, DRIED—Per bushel, \$3.00@3.75.

BEAN—Per sack, 75c@90c per 100 pounds.

BUTTER—Per pound, 50c@55c.

CHEESE, FACTORY—Per pound, 16c@20c. Country made, 18c@12 1/2c.

COAL OIL—Per gallon, White, 40c.

COFFEE—Rio, Green, 70c@80c; Old Government Java, 85c@90c; Rio, Browned, 80c@85c; Java, Browned, 42c@45c.

CORN—In demand at 40c@45c.

CORN MEAL—3/4 cwt, 1 1/2@1.35.

CRANBERRIES—Per gallon, 75c.

EGGS—Per dozen, wholesale, 30c@35c.

FATHERS—Prime live geese, per pound, 60c@70c.

FLOWER—Fancy, per 100 lbs, \$4.00@4.25; XXXX, \$3.75@4.00; XXX, \$3.25@3.50.

HAMS—Per pound, Sugar-cured, canvassed, 12 1/2c; uncanvassed, 11 1/2c; Plain, canvassed, 11 1/2c; uncanvassed, 10 1/2c; in dry salt, 8 1/2c.

HAY—Prairie per ton, \$5.50@7.00.

HIDES—Dry Flint, 15c; Green Cured, 7c; Dry Salted, 12c; Damaged, two-thirds of the price of good Hides.

LARD—Per pound, 8c@10c.

OATS—Per bushel, 23c@25c.

ONIONS—Per bushel, \$1.00@1.40.

POTATOES—Peachblow, \$1.00@1.25; Sweet, \$1.25@1.75.

SALT—Per barrel, \$2.80.

SUGAR—A, 11 1/2c@12 1/2c; Ex C, 11c to 11 1/2c; XXX, 10 1/2c to 11; Brown, 9 1/2c to 10c.

SYRUP—Per gallon, Maple, \$1.50; Silver Drip, \$1.00; Amber, 75c; New Orleans, 90c.

VINEGAR—Per gallon, C der, 50c; XXX, 40c.

WHEAT—Per bushel, No. 1 Fall, \$1.10@1.36; No. 2, 90c@1.10.

CATTLE—Native Cows sell readily at 2c to 2 1/2c per pound, and Native Steers, 3c to 4 1/2c; Texas Cows, 1 1/2c to 2 1/2c; Texas Steers, 2c to 2 1/2c. The supply is fully equal to the demand.

Hogs—Live Hogs are in good supply, and find ready purchasers at \$3.00 to \$3.35 per 100 pounds; Dressed Hogs, \$3.50 to \$4.00. Three houses in this city—those of Mr. WHITAKER, Mr. RYAN and Mr. KELLY—have packed to date about 10,000; but this represents only a portion of the business done, as large numbers of Hogs are being packed at private establishments, and the farmers themselves are packing a considerable quantity, rather than sell at ruling prices. Almost all reports indicate that Hogs this season will average considerably lighter in weight than last season, and that they will be put upon the market as early as possible, with a view to the saving of corn.

The number of Hogs packed in St. Louis up to November 24, according to the Republican, amounts to 51,575; at Chicago, 308,000; Indianapolis, 80,000; Milwaukee, 68,000. The number at Cincinnati is not given.

SHEEP—In good supply, at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per head.

WHEAT—The reports as to the acreage of Winter Wheat, throughout the Western States, indicate that a considerably increased breadth of land has been sown, and that the prospect is quite promising everywhere except in portions of Kansas, where the drouth has somewhat injured it.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

From H. J. Hulce, M. D., Louisville, Ky.

The Organ manufactured by you for me was delivered safely. I have compared its merits, side by side, with others of similar make and power, and do not hesitate, after an impartial trial of both, to state that your Organ is in all essential points infinitely superior to any and all others that I have ever seen. You modestly said you thought I would be pleased. I am delighted with its Diapason capacity, great power, sweetness and brilliancy, elastic touch and perfect equality of tone.

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

BREAK IN SEWING MACHINE PRICES.—Our readers will be interested to learn that the FLORENCE COMPANY have responded to the general call for lower prices for sewing machines, and will henceforth sell their well known and superior machines at a reduction of from 30 to 40 per cent. from former prices.

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. TUCK, Land Commissioner, St. Louis, Missouri. 10-5-t*

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 eleven 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. FORD, General Passenger Agent, St. Louis, Missouri. 10-5-t*

\$25 REWARD.

STOLEN, ON THE NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 6TH, ONE dark red HORSE, with black mane and tail, galled on right shoulder by collar, small whitish spot on upper lip.—is about 16 hands high, and 12 years old. Address

JARED RUTTY.

10-23-3t Mount Florence, Jefferson Co., Kan.

PHYSICIANS JUDGES OF A GOOD MEDICINE AFTER ALL

They use HAMILTON'S BUCHU & DANDELION, In all diseases of the Urinary Organs and Liver. It cures Gravel, Diabetes, Brick Dust Deposit, Rheumatism, Jaundice, &c. Try It!

W. C. HAMILTON & CO., CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE STRAY LIST.

BY AN ACT of the Legislature, approved Feb. 27, 1867, section 11, when the appraised value of a stray or strays exceeds ten dollars, the County Clerk is required, within ten days after receiving a certified description and appraisement, to "forward by mail, notice containing a complete description of said strays, the day at which they were taken up, their appraised value, and the name and residence of the taker up, to THE KANSAS FARMER, together with the sum of fifty cents for each animal contained in said notice."

Strays for December 1.

Bourbon County—J. H. Brown, Clerk. MARE—Taken up by Frederick Remuck, of Mill Creek township, one roan Mare, about 15 1/2 hands high, supposed to be eight or nine years old, with a lump or scar on left front foot, a small star or white spot in forehead, some white on both hind feet, shod all round, with head State on when taken up. Appraised \$70.

MARE—Taken up by Elias Williams, of Marion township, one sorrel pony Mare, white spot in forehead, right hind foot white, unintelligible brand on left shoulder, about 18 hands high, and about seven or eight years old. Appraised \$30.

PONY—Taken up by George Lewis, of Marion township, one stray horse Pony, white spot in forehead, left fore foot white, white strip on nose, unintelligible brand on left shoulder, about 18 1/2 hands high, about seven years old. Appraised \$30.

COW—Taken up by Wm W Findley, Timberhill tp, one brindle Cow about 7 years old. Appraised \$18.

HORSE—Taken up by James Younger, Scott tp, one light sorrel Horse, saddle marks, white spot in forehead, 7 or 8 years old, 14 hands high. Appraised \$25.

HORSE—Taken up by Robert Hays, Freedom township, one bay Horse, about 11 years old, an indistinct brand on left shoulder, splint in left fore leg, right hip knocked down, white spot in forehead, left hind foot white, about 16 hands high, white strip on right hind foot. Appraised \$35.

MARE—Taken up by Alanson Woodcock, Franklin township, one roan Mare, about 8 years old, about 14 hands high, having a dim brand on the left shoulder, supposed to be BB. Appraised at \$30.

Brown County—J. K. Klinefelter, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Henry Schmetz, November 4, 1873, one

dark brown Mare, 2 years old last Spring, 15 hands high, white hairs in forehead and on inside left hind foot. Appraised \$50.

COLT—Also one light bay mare Colt, one year old last Spring, left hind foot white, spot in forehead, 12 hands high. Appraised at \$25.

Batler County—John Blevins, Clerk.

COLT—Taken up by Charles Ketchum, Douglas township, October 27, 1873, one dark, half-pony Colt, star in forehead, left hind foot white, about two years old, no marks or brands. Appraised \$20.

Crawford County—F. R. Russell, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by William Hedgerson, Lincoln township, October 12, 1873, one sorrel Mare, blaze face, one hind foot white, blind in left eye, branded with the letter V on right shoulder, 8 years old, 13 hands high. Appraised \$20.

Doniphan County—C. Rappey, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by M and N Bohr, Marion township, November 17, 1873, one bay Mare, 15 hands high, 5 years old, star in the forehead, strip on the nose, all the feet white with black spots around hoofs, and also mark of a collar. Appraised \$45.

Johnson County—J. T. Taylor, Clerk.

COW—Taken up by W L Plumer, Monticello township, November 4, 1873, one black Cow, 6 years old, marked with upper bit in left ear, Spanish brand on right shoulder, has a suckling calf. Cow and calf appraised \$18.50.

HORSE—Taken up by George Grame, Monticello township, November 12, 1873, one iron gray Horse, shod all round, has some saddle marks, supposed to be 4 years old, about 15 hands high. Appraised \$50.

MULE—Taken up by W W Hammond, Spring Hill township, September, 1873, one brown horse Mule, 10 years old, 13 hands high, Spanish brand on left shoulder and hip. Appraised \$35.

MULE—Also, one iron gray mare Mule, 7 years old; 13 hands high, Spanish brand on left shoulder. Appraised \$24.

COLT—Taken up by Lawrence Ryan, Spring Hill township, one bay mare Colt, 2 years old, right hind foot white, star in forehead. Appraised \$40.

COWS—Taken up by John I Butler, Shawnee tp, two Cows, one white with red ears, 8 or 9 years old, marked with swallow fork in right ear, crop and swallow fork in left ear. The other, a red with white stripes on hips, crumpled horns, point of left horn broken off, 6 or 7 years old, no other marks or brands. Appraised \$15 each.

STEER—Taken up by A E Farnham, Gardner tp, November 1, 1873, one white steer with brindle head and neck, white star in forehead, supposed to be 2 years old last Spring. Appraised \$17.

Labette County—L. C. Howard, Clerk.

MULE—Taken up by Nelson Rowan, Mound Valley tp, October 31, 1873, one dark horse Mule, one year old, 15 hands high, branded B M on left shoulder. Appraised \$60.

Leavenworth County—A. B. Keller, Clerk.

STEER—Taken up by John Corcoran, of Reno township, September 27th, 1873, one two-year old Steer. Color, light red; long drooping horns, and the brush of tail, white. No marks or brands. Appraised \$11.

MARE—Taken up by Charles M. Fisher, of Shannon township, October 15, 1873, one dark bay Mare, supposed to be three years old, fifteen hands high, a little white in the face. Appraised \$70.

COW—Taken up by William Price, of Easton township, October 13, 1873, one red Cow, white face, points of horns broken off, some white on belly and legs, marked hole in the right ear, underbit in left. Appraised \$12.

COW—Taken up by John G Henderson, of Tenzanoxie township, October 31, 1873, one small-sized, red Cow, with white spots on the sides, and white spot in face, three years old, in low condition, no marks or brands. Appraised \$12.

Lyon County—D. S. Gilmore, Clerk.

BULL—Taken up by M. C. Stark, Center township, October 20, 1873, one dark red bull, a little white on the sides and in the forehead, branded with letters "C" and "P" on left hip, age about six years, size, about 1,200 pounds weight. Appraised \$20.

PONY—Taken up by Mr. J. Roth, Pike township, October 25, 1873, one black mare Pony, marked or branded on right hip "58", and M B on the right shoulder; supposed to be twelve years old, some saddle marks, 13 1/2 hands high. Appraised \$15.

COLT—Taken up by H. H. Gray, Emporia tp, one black horse Colt, one year old last Spring, no marks or brands, 14 1/2 hands high. Appraised \$35.

Miami County—G. W. Warren, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by J S Miller, Richland township, November 14, 1873, one sorrel Mare, 2 years old, light mane, dim white star in forehead, dim star running down toward end of nose, about 14 1/2 hands high, no other marks or brands perceivable. Appraised \$25.

MARE—Taken up by Wm Goodyear, Osage tp, November 4, 1873, one dark bay Mare, 2 years old, white face, no marks or brands perceivable. Appraised \$20.

HORSE—Taken up by Dennis Cassida, Osage tp, October 24, 1873, one bay Horse, 4 years old, white face, right fore foot white from hoof to above pastern joint, small white spot on left hind foot, no other marks or brands perceivable. Appraised \$30.

STEER—Taken up by J V Lyon, Marysville tp, November 4, 1873, one roan red Steer, 2 years old, short horns, white spot in face, white under belly, short tail, notch in under side of left ear, no other marks or brands perceivable. Appraised \$13.

STEER—Also, one white Steer, 2 years old, with red or brown spots on neck and fore legs, red ears, dark nose, no other marks or brands perceivable. Appraised \$11.

Montgomery County—J. A. Helpingstine, Clerk.

MAKE—Taken up on the 8th day of September, 1873, by Joseph Bonadum, of the city of Parker, one strawberry roan Mare, about four years old, 13 1/2 hands high, black mane and tail, saddle marks on each side, and whip marks on hip. Appraised \$40.

HORSE AND MARE—Taken up by O P Smith, November 15, 1873, one sorrel Horse, 16 hands high, 10 years old, blazed face, one hind foot white, right knee enlarged, branded B on left shoulder. Appraised \$20. Also, one bay Mare, 14 1/2 hands high, 9 years old, dark legs mane and tail, no marks or brands except by harness. Appraised \$20.

Morris County—H. W. Gildemester, Clerk.

STALLION—Taken up by James Conway, of Neosho township, October 11, 1873, one Stallion, 14 hands high, bay color, small white spot in forehead, no other marks or brands perceptible. Appraised \$30.

Nemaha County—Joshua Mitchell, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Roscius Shirts, Granada township, and posted before J W Graham, P. M., October 11, 1873, one bay Mare, blind in right eye, lame in right fore foot, a few white hairs in forehead, both hind feet white, twelve or fourteen years old, 15 1/2 hands high. Appraised \$20.

Neosho County—G. W. McMullin, Clerk.

FILLY—Taken up by Andrew Baird, Tloga township, November 19, 1873, one bay Filly, 2 years old, white stripe in forehead, dark mane tall and feet. Appraised \$20.

MARE—Taken up by J S Gilmore, Big Creek township, November 7, 1873, one iron gray Mare, about 16 hands high, about 3 years old, shoe on left fore foot, halter on, no other marks or brands perceivable. Appraised \$40.

Osage County—W. Y. Drew, Clerk.

COW—Taken up by J L Wood, Agency tp, October 13, 1873, one small spotted red and white Texas Cow, 5 years old, branded T U on right side back of shoulder, long horns. Appraised \$18.

MARE—Taken up by J W Edgar, Ridgeway tp, October 13, 1873, one black Mare, 14 hands high, 3 years old, left hind foot white, small white stripe in forehead. Appraised \$37.50.

HELPER—Taken up by D S Williams, Arvonla tp, about November 1, 1873, one roan Helper, about 2 years old, middle size, red ears. Appraised \$17.

All Reforms must go Forward!

1873 1874

The Kansas Farmer

WEEKLY, AFTER JANUARY 1st, 1874.

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

It is published in the interest of The Farmer, The Stock Grower, and The Fruit Culturist.

It acknowledges no mistress save Agriculture.

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It has received a generous support.

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The Kansas Farmer and Seneca Weekly Courier	for	3 00
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A large and complete list will be issued December 15th.

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These prices are made upon the basis of corn at twenty cents per bushel.

Will our friends respond?

Address, until December 20th,

J. K. HUDSON,

Editor and Proprietor Kansas Farmer,

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS.

After December 20, address as above, at TOPEKA, KAS.

MARE—Taken up by Thomas Davies, Arvonia tp, about November 4, 1873, one bay Mare, about 15 years old, 15 hands high, blind in both eyes, right hind foot white, white stripe in the face. Appraised \$30.

MARE—Taken up by A J Churchin, Melvern tp, November 8, 1873, one bay Mare, medium size, 2 years old, gray hairs on each flank, mane and tail long. Appraised \$35.

Rice County—W. T. Nicholas, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by J. W. Lucky, Atlanta township, September 12, 1873, one mare Pony, color brown, small star in forehead, three years old. Appraised \$35.

Saline County—D. Beebe, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by John J Prall, Smoky Hill township, one bay Horse about 16 hands high, right hind foot white, white spot on forehead and nose, no marks or brands. Appraised \$35.

Wabausee County—G. W. Watson, Clerk.

MULE—Taken up by Charles Hensen, Washington tp, November 1, 1873, one dark brown mare Mule, 3 years old next Spring, about 13½ hands high, some light hair on nose and belly, mane and tail trimmed. Appraised \$25.

MARE—Also, one black or dark brown Mare, 10 years old, about 15 hands high, a small star in forehead. Appraised \$20.

Wyandotte County—A. B. Hovey, Clerk.

COW—Taken up by John Stoke, Wyandotte City, one roan milk Cow, small white spot in forehead, 5 years old. Appraised at \$26.

COWS—Taken up by W H Ramsey, one red Cow, white star in forehead, a little white on each hind foot, bush of tail white. Appraised \$20. Also, a pale faced red Cow, line back, mottled face, bob tail, has a red bull calf about 2 months old. Appraised at \$20.

COLT—Taken up by Sarah Dyer, Wyandotte City, one bay horse Colt, about 3 years old, 13 hands high, no marks. Appraised \$14.

COW—Taken up by George Wateny, Shawnee tp, one white Cow, 8 years old, crop off right ear, and underbit in same. Appraised \$12.

Strays for November 15.

Anderson County—E. A. Edwards, Clerk.

COLT—Taken up by Elisha Davis, of Reeder township September 22, 1873, one bay horse Colt, 3 years old, left hind foot white, small white spot in forehead, no marks or brands. Appraised \$15.

MARE—Taken up by Alfred Fletcher, Rich township, October 8, 1873, one sorrel Mare, 4 years old, left hind foot white, white face, had ring and strap on left fore leg. Appraised \$35.

FILLY—Also, by Alfred Fletcher, Rich township, one dapple gray Filly, 3 years old, white mane and tail. Appraised \$25.

Linn County—W. M. Nesbitt, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by John Bridger, Centerville township, September 27, 1873, one black Mare, 15 hands high, branded G on the right shoulder, white spot in forehead, saddle marks, shoes on front feet, 8 years old. Appraised \$40.

STEER—Taken up by John Brown, Sheridan township, September 23, 1873, one red Steer, marked with a swallow fork in right ear, white in forehead, supposed to be 6 years old. Appraised \$20.

HORSE—Taken up by J M G Beard, Centerville township, October 16, 1873, one dark bay Horse, 8 years old past, with left shoulder shriveled, 14½ hands high. Appraised \$35.

MARE—Taken up by James A Reynolds, Blue Mound township, October 1, 1873, one bay pony Mare, 4 years old last Spring, 15 hands high, black mane and tail, some saddle and collar marks, a little white between the eyes, right front foot and left hind foot shod, a little white on outside of right hind foot next to the hoof. Appraised \$50.

Miami County—G. W. Warren, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by McDonough Bacon, Osage township, October 19, 1873, one bay horse Colt, 3 years old, black mane and tail, saddle marks, had on a five-ringed halter, head stall nearly new. Appraised \$31.

Neosho County—G. W. McMillin, Clerk.

BULL—Taken up by R W Jackson, Toga township, November 4, 1873, one red and white spotted Bull, about 2 years old. Appraised \$12.

Osage County—W. Y. Drew, Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by Geo Oarby, Melvern township, October 6, 1873, one dark gray gelding Pony, small size, about 5 years old, white hind feet, branded R I on the right shoulder, branded W with III above on left shoulder. Appraised \$25.

MULE—Taken up by T B Gamble, Ridgway township, September 30, 1873, one brown horse Mule, about 16 hands high, 2 years old, no brands. Appraised \$35.

Wabausee County—G. W. Watson, Clerk.

PONIES—Taken up by John Garringer, Wilmington township, October 2, 1873, one sorrel mare Pony, 3 years old, branded on left shoulder with L P, white stripe in face, white under the jaws, three white feet, sweeney on right shoulder. Appraised \$30.

Also, one sorrel mare Pony, blaze in face, supposed to be 8 years old, with a suckling colt, dark bay, white spot in forehead. Appraised \$25.

Strays for November 1.

Clay County—E. P. Huston, Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by W H Hibbard, Mulberry township, September 21st, 1873, one dark brown mare Pony, 12 hands high, star in forehead, white star on upper lip, figure 2 on left shoulder, anchor on left hip, saddle marks, 10 years old. Appraised \$20.

Crawford County—F. R. Russell, Clerk.

STEER—Taken up by G A Trask, Washington township, August 11, 1873, one Steer, 7 years old, white, with red ears, crop and underbit on right ear, upper half crop on left ear, branded with figure 2 on right side, and R on left hip. Appraised \$17.

STEER—Also, one Steer, black and white, 3 years old, branded B O S on right side, R on left hip. Appraised \$16.

COW—Also, one Cow, 8 years old, brown, with white spot in forehead, branded A E on right hip, R on left hip. Appraised at \$14.

COW—Also, one brown Cow, with white spot in forehead, 6 years old, branded A M on right side, R on left hip, swallow fork in each ear. Appraised \$14.

COW—Also, one pale red Cow, with white spot in forehead, 7 years old, branded R on left hip, Q S on left side. Appraised at \$14.

COW—Also, one pale red cow with white spots, 8 years old, branded A M on right side, R on left hip. Appraised \$14.

COW—Also, one black, red and white spotted Cow, 6 years old, branded R on left and with a heart on the left hip and side, branded S on right hip. Appraised \$15.

MARE—Taken up by J M Bixler, Lincoln township, August 30, 1873, one bay roan pony Mare, 12 years old, 14½ hands high, saddle marks, branded Y on left shoulder. Appraised \$20.

MARE—Taken up by Henry Hesse, Walnut township, August 27, 1873, one sorrel Mare, 8 years old, 15 hands high, Mexican brand on left shoulder. Appraised \$35.

STEER—Taken up by Henry Bass, Walnut township, August 2, 1873, one red Steer, line back, some white on thighs, white dish face, marked crop off left ear and half crop off right ear, blind in left eye, seven years old. Appraised \$25.

MULE—Taken up by L R Jewell, Lincoln township, August 17, 1873, one bay mare Mule, 14 hands high, 15 years old, branded M on left shoulder and left hip, also Spanish brand on left shoulder. White hairs on knee of foreleg, and above the right eye. Appraised \$35.

Davis County—Daniel Mitchell, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by J P Grassberger, Smoky Hill township, one sorrel Horse, 12 years old, 15½ hands high, white stripe in

forehead, U S on left shoulder and I O on left hip, left eye blind and right one nearly so. Appraised \$30.

Doniphan County—Chas. Rappelye, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by Richard A Howell, September 27, 1873, one dapple or iron gray Horse, about 18 hands high, 5 or 6 years old, mark on the fore leg between the knee and fetlock resembling a burn, collar marks on the neck. Appraised \$75.

Montgomery County—J. A. Helpingstine, Clerk.

COWS AND CALVES—Taken up by T F Cole, of Sycamore township, on the 9th day of October, 1873, two Cows and Calves. One black Cow, branded on left hip with an O and an x inside it, slope under each ear, slit in right ear, and black heifer calf. Also, one red brindle Cow, marked and branded as above, with an O and an x inside it, and a red bull calf. Both Cows supposed to be 4 years old. Appraised \$12 each.

COW—Taken up by J N Hawkins, Sycamore township, on the 24th September, 1873, one white Cow, 5 years old, with red specks on head and neck; crop off each ear, slit in same underbit in right ear, supposed to be Indian stock. Appraised \$15.

Morris County—H. W. Gildemeister, Clerk.

COLT—Taken up by J H Beagle, Ohio township, October 8th, 1873, one bay horse Colt, 14½ hands high, star in forehead, saddle marks, small white spot on the right weathers, right hind foot white to the paster joints, white streak around each fore foot, supposed to be 3 years old. Appraised \$30.

COLT—Also, one iron gray pony mare Colt, supposed to be 3 years old, no marks or brands. Appraised \$25.

Labette County—L. C. Howard, Clerk.

STEER—Taken up by R McCormick, Walton township, one roan Steer with high horns, about 4 years old, branded A B on right hip and right side, ears cropped, a piece of lower part of right ear. Appraised \$17.

TEXAS STEER—Taken up by F M Wood, Mound Valley township, one brindle and white Texas Steer, 3 years old, branded T on left hip, crop mark slit in left ear, and under slope in right ear. Appraised \$12.

Neosho County—G. W. McMillin, Clerk.

COLT—Taken up by Levi Teener, Grant township, September 29, 1873, one bay horse Colt, about 3 years old, mark on left hind leg, and white spot in the right eye. Appraised \$35.

Riley County—Wm. Burgoyne, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by M E McNemar, Ogden township, one gray Horse, 15½ hands high, 12 years old, no marks or brands. Appraised \$35.

Wyandotte County—A. B. Hovey, Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by Matilda Hughes, Prairie township, one sorrel mare Pony, 14 hands high, 3 years old, shod all around, shoes considerably worn, right hind foot white half way to the hock joint, white stripe in face commencing at right nostril running to the left eye and a piece above the eye, a white spot on left side of neck and smaller spot on right side of neck, a few white hairs behind left fore shoulder. Appraised \$35.

Bourbon County—J. H. Brown, Clerk.

COW—Taken up by Geo O Masters, of Marmaton township, Bourbon county, one light roan Mare, six or seven years old, about 15½ hands high, sorrel mane and tail, small blaze in forehead, right fore leg white to the knee, right hind foot white, collar marks, shod all round. Appraised \$70.

Brown County—E. N. Morrill, Clerk.

COW—Taken up by Joseph Fox, Hamlin township, one red Cow, dark about the head, branded letter X on right hip, about seven years old. Appraised \$20.

Cherokee County—J. O. Norris, Clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Silas Hudson, Pleasant View township, September 6, 1873, one bay Mare, 10 years old, 15 hands high, blaze in face, three white feet, scar on right side, had a small bell on when taken up. Appraised \$40.

Jewell County—W. M. Aller, Clerk.

TEXAN CATTLE—Taken up by S G Pickett, Big Timber township, September 26th, 1873, six black Cows, from four to twelve years old. One dun Cow twelve years old, two black and white Cows ten years old, one red and white Steer three years old, one brown Cow nine years old. Appraised \$85.

STEEPS—One white and brown 5 years old, branded T S S on left side. One brown seven years old, branded D L on left side, and one white and speckled 5 years old, branded S on left side and C on right hip. Appraised \$36.

MARE—One light sorrel Mare supposed to be two years old, 14 hands high, white spot in forehead with white streak half an inch wide and six inches long between the eyes and nose, feet all white, flax mane and tail, and scar on hip. Appraised \$50.

PONY—Taken up by A Hoover, Burlingame township, on or about August 1st, 1873, one mare Pony three years old, cream color star in forehead, black mane and tail. Appraised \$25.

HORSE—Taken up by N Coleman, Richmond township, September 23d, 1873, one deep sorrel Horse 16 hands high, supposed to be eight years old, small star in forehead, lame in both fore feet, small white specks on body. Appraised \$20.

Riley County—Wm. Burgoyne, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by James Irwin, Ashland township, one light bay Horse, hind legs and feet white, white strip in face, white on under lip, 15 hands high, six years old, no brands. Appraised \$45.

Sedgwick County—Fred. Schatner, Clerk.

HORSE—Taken up in Ohio township about September 10th, 1873, one iron gray horse Pony, about six years old, branded with capital H S and inverted h on left shoulder and same on left thigh. Appraised \$19.

HORSE—Taken up by Martin Smaltz, Newbury township, September 23, 1873, one light bay Horse, 15 hands high, eight years old, branded S on right shoulder, collar marks, light mane and tail. Appraised \$36.

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