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The Kansas Farmer.

J. K. HUDSON, Editor & Proprietor, Topeka, Kan.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER: AGRICULTURE:—Broom-Corn, Brooms—The Cotton Growers Convention. HORTICULTURE:—How Not to Make an Orchard—Proceedings of the Agricultural and Horticultural Association of 23d Representative District.

COMPARATIVE TABLE, SHOWING THE

Population of Organized Counties of the State of Kansas.

Table with columns for County, 1873, 1870, 1860, Gain in three years, and When Organized. Lists counties like Allen, Anderson, Atchison, Barton, Bourbon, Brown, Butler, Chase, Cherokee, Clay, Cloud, Coffey, Cowley, Crawford, Custer, Decatur, Dickinson, Douglas, Ellsworth, Franklin, Ford, Greenwood, Harvey, Howard, Harper, Jackson, Jefferson, Jewell, Johnson, Labette, Leavenworth, Lincoln, Lyon, Marshall, McPherson, Miami, Mitchell, Montgomery, Morris, Neosho, Ness, Osborne, Ottawa, Phillips, Pottawatomie, Pawnee, Reno, Republic, Riley, Russell, Saline, Seward, Shawnee, Sherman, Smith, Sully, Trego, Wallace, Washington, Wilson, Woodson, Wyandotte.

(a) In comparing the census of 1860, 1870, and 1873, by counties, the names of counties are given as they appear in 1873. Where names of counties have been changed, those last named are credited with the enumeration of previous years, to which their territory respectively is entitled.

Agriculture.

BROOM-CORN—BROOMS.

Enough has been done in Kansas to prove that there is no better place in the world to grow broom-corn. The brush is long, fine and elastic, and the brooms made of it are the best I have seen.

place found employment; and many of the occupants of those cosy dwellings were stockholders as well as workers in the paper mill. That is the way the people of Kansas ought to do, whether they make cheese, or work up hemp, or manufacture brooms, or can or dry fruits—combine and do whatever is to be done in the best manner, and with as small an expenditure of manual labor as possible.

But think and consult about this matter of the brooms; and bear this in mind, that if we can make our State famous for both the quality and quantity of its brooms—and I believe this can easily be done—we can send millions of dollars worth beyond the borders of our State.

THE COTTON-GROWERS' CONVENTION.

Pursuant to the call, a convention of the cotton-growers of the Arkansas valley was held at Belle Plaine, Sumner county, Kansas, on the 26th and 27th of December last.

must produce something from the soil that will buy money and bring it from the East to our valley. Corn, wheat and oats will not do this, owing to the high rate of freights for transportation. The farmer who produces more corn than he consumes can sell the surplus to his neighbor who consumes it—which does not enrich the country, nor the farmers as a class, for the trade is made among themselves.

Col. H. C. St. Clair was called upon, and gave a glowing description of the effects of the products of Sumner county in the State Fair, especially the show of cotton thereat, and remarks of cotton-raisers of Kansas and other southern men, who were decidedly of the opinion that cotton was a success in this valley.

Wm. Carter, was called upon. He had not come to make a speech. He had been in nearly all the cotton districts and was familiar with the most approved plans of raising and marketing cotton.

are later in the spring and earlier in the fall than in Sumner county. They throw two furrows together, leaving the "laps" undisturbed and plant on the ridge. The top root of the cotton penetrates the ground like the hickory, and branches which penetrate the bolls are kept back until the tap root strikes solid earth.

Horticulture.

HOW NOT TO MAKE AN ORCHARD.

EDITOR FARMER: You asked me to tell the readers of the FARMER how to make an orchard. But people have been so often told how to do it and the directions have been so generally disregarded, that I thought it might be of some advantage to tell them how not to make an orchard, or in other words, give some of the methods of mismanagement by which people pay out millions of dollars, waste a good deal of time, have a vast amount of vexation and fail to get any satisfactory returns.

1. Don't make up your minds to plant when you have time to consider what you will plant and where to plant it, and to get your ground prepared. 2. Don't try to ascertain whether nurserymen in your vicinity have good trees of such kinds as you need.

4. After you sign look things up a little and learn that you have to pay from two to four prices for your trees; declare it is a swindle, and you will not take the trees at all, but finally, pay for them to save a lawsuit. 5. Having got your trees, keep it in mind that you have been swindled, that your trees are not right and it will not pay to take care of them.

in your cattle, to save the fall feed in the field, and if the cattle leave any, don't wrap or protect them, and you can trust the rabbits to finish the job. 10. Conclude that you don't live in a fruit country, or that you are not lucky with trees, and don't plant any more till some tree pedlar catches you with a new story.

This picture describes the common practice among the farmers of the country, especially in the west, by which they throw away millions of dollars, for want of a little forethought and care. In my next I will give your readers some hints on the way to make an orchard.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

EDITOR FARMER, DEAR SIR: Pursuant to order of the Society, I send you the following as a report of the proceedings of the Agricultural and Horticultural Association, of the 23d Representative district:

The Agricultural and Horticultural Association of the 53d Representative district met at the Junction school house at 9 o'clock, A. M., January 3, 1874, being the time for holding the annual meeting of said society. J. S. Van Winkle, President took the chair and called the meeting to order.

On motion of G. W. Moore, it was ordered that this association become auxiliary to the State Agricultural and Horticultural Association. A ballot was then taken for delegates to represent this association in the State Association of Farmers, to meet in the city of Topeka, on the second Tuesday in this month: J. C. Baird and J. S. Van Winkle were found to be duly elected. Robert McClure and H. C. Squires were elected as alternates.

The wheat crop in this locality looks well and farmers are hopeful of better times in the near future, notwithstanding the present hard times, high taxes, defaulting treasurers, etc. I am getting up a club for the FARMER, and hope that hereafter we may find it a true friend to the interests of the farmers of Kansas. Wishing you a happy new year and success in your new undertaking, I remain, Yours, etc., G. W. H. M.

tions never would have been sought in sane moments, have mounted the rostrum to tell an excited constituency how their business ills may be cured.

Without a notable exception, "Cheap Transportation" is the panacea prescribed for all our ills. They tell us that cheap transit for grain and farm products, from the producing interior to the consuming exterior of our own country, and to the grain consuming markets of the old world, will set everything right.

To get relief, we must dredge rivers from source to mouth; enlarge existing canals, and dig new ones, connecting lakes and rivers, large enough to float sea-going vessels.

Were these new projects ever so promising, the country is in no condition to enter upon them at this time. The withdrawal from legitimate enterprise of so much capital for a like purpose in the immediate past, has brought us where we stand to-day—slivering upon the brink of general bankruptcy.

It seems impossible that any of these new speculative schemes which have commanded popular favor, as the sight of a straw inspires confidence in the drowning man, should become crystallized into congressional enactment very soon.

The writer of this article is a believer in works of internal improvement. They are essential to national unity, dignity and power. Nor are we opposed to aiding such enterprises when demanded by commensurate wants.

It has been a purpose in this article to avoid discussion of the practical results to the country if the "Cheap Transportation" theory could be embodied in successful practice.

CO-OPERATION IN GERMANY.

Here is the progress of co-operation in Germany: In 1850 there were 89 societies, with 18,676 members, who had on loan 4,131,456 thalers; share capital, 246,031 thalers; and in 1870 these figures had risen to 740 societies, 314,656 members, 297,618,287 thalers loans, and the share capital had risen to 12,440,152 thalers.

The above exhibit of the progress of the co-operative method of doing business in Germany, will no doubt be of interest to many of our readers, particularly just at this time, when the Patrons of Husbandry are carefully feeling their way towards some such system, through their Councils and State Agents.

SUBJECTS FOR LEGISLATION.

BLUE RAPIDS, KAN., Dec. 22, 1873.

DEAR MAJOR: Your favor kindly inviting me to furnish an article for your 1st of January number, is received. I have not time to prepare anything as elaborate as should appear in the initial number of the weekly KANSAS FARMER; but there are some thoughts I would like to express prior to the meeting of the State Farmers' Association, which I see is called for the 2nd Tuesday in January, and I will hastily jot them down.

The Legislature may do a great deal for Kansas this winter, if its members heartily try, and it is likely that the advice or suggestions it may receive from the Farmers' Association will have weight in determining the action of many of them.

May the present great movement for reform "make haste slowly," and so have no occasion to take any step backward. To this end the Legislature should at once take up and thoroughly examine general measures which are of vital importance to the people of the whole State.

Unfortunately it has become customary for a great majority of the members to vote for a local bill to please the member who introduces it. This courtesy to a fellow member, originating in the very natural presumption that he best knows the needs of his own locality, often results in gross injustice to a portion of that member's constituency; for these bills are often got up and passed, before the taxpayers, who are most affected by the measure, have the slightest suspicion that such a thing is thought of.

Among matters of general interest, the laws relating to assessment of property and collection of taxes should be amended, so that all property shall be assessed according to its true value, and that one-half of the taxes shall be paid by some fixed date, and the balance within six months thereafter.

The transportation question is one that must be very wisely handled. It has been usual to say a great deal against those terrible corporations, the railroad companies. Let it be remembered that Kansas to-day, owes much of her prosperity to these same railroads, and it is the hope of her citizens that ere long she may have still more.

Excuse the length of this, which I have not time to rewrite. Respectfully yours, JASON YURANN.

TAXATION.—Concluded.

BY JOHN DAVIS.

A far better plan would be to have taxes fall due quarterly or semi-annually, so that the money paid on each installment would have time to find its way into circulation by the time the next became due. This plan would greatly aid in bearing the burdens of Kansas tax-payers the present winter, if it should be adopted by the Legislature.

I see no reason whatever to hinder the adoption of the semi-annual plan. Say, let the times of payment be January and July; it would favor the tax-payers, and would remove temptation from those officials who are now at a loss to know just how far they may speculate and tamper with the public funds without being caught.

Of course, the brokers and speculators will oppose this plan, but gentlemen should remember that "turn about is fair play," and that the tax-payers should now be favored a little.

Indirect taxes are the import duties levied on the commodities of commerce by the general government for purposes of revenue. They are paid by the importer, and added to the cost price of the goods.

Let us examine the subject more fully: Suppose there lives in our country a single individual—Wm. B. Astor, for example—whose wealth is \$100,000,000. He has a family of say six persons. This family belongs to the class of consumers, and on their consumption Mr. Astor pays indirect taxes. This is all the indirect tax he pays that is not refunded to him in the course of his business.

Go straight to General Grant, and tell him you "re after somethin', tho' I s'pose he'll know that without your tellin' him. Tell him you want a vagrancy, and if he tries to get rid of you, just stick closer to him than a brother. What's the use of your havin' red hair, Isaac, if you don't resist in gettin' what you're after.

Do n't be like that silly young man that spent a long time looking for an opening in life, and then jumped into a well, because he could n't find any other. I don't think you like cold water well enough for that.

Such a state of things should be remedied. So long as tariff duties are needed for protection to manufacturers, and for government revenues, let them be levied as wisely as possible, so that poverty and all degrees of wealth may have justice.

Excuse the length of this, which I have not time to rewrite. Respectfully yours, JASON YURANN.

If these doctrines appear new and extraordinary, it should be remembered that the times we live in, and the conditions surrounding us, are also new and extraordinary. When men in palaces have more weight in public affairs by means of their wealth than ten thousand times their just proportion, while useful industry is everywhere crushed and taxed to penury and helplessness, is it not time to look for remedies? Are not legal and peaceful remedies far preferable to those of violence and revolution? Indeed, as I view the matter, the peevishness is the only effectual one.

Now, Isaac, while I've been givin' of this advice to you, you have gone and went and than at first. It should never be mentioned or contemplated by American freemen, except to be shunned; hence I would point out and remedy that unequal state of things which now exists, and must necessarily grow worse and worse if let alone, until humanity can bear no more.

Now, Isaac, I've been wantin' to give you some instructin' advice about your goin' out into the wide, wide world. This is a vale of tears, Isaac, and you are goin' right into the pitfalls and snares of the advertiser, and you must be as wise as a dove and as harmless as a serpent, and you must try and be decorous and decomposed in your manners, and not get cross-eyed, and cross-legged, and cross-wise, and don't be forever internally asking questions, and when you get to Washington, you go straight and ask about that silver service reform, and may be you can get me some spoons out of it, or a coffee pot.

I declare, Isaac! When I think of it, I get so frustrated in my mind, thinkin' of what you'll get to be, sometime! May be you'll get to be a great leading Jackanaps, or a pilaster, or a purveyor general, or a defaulter, or somethin' or other. I hope, tho', Isaac, you never'll get sent to Congress! I would n't do it, Isaac! for the good book says "the way of the assessors is hard," and they say that men that go there have to scratch gravel.

Go straight to General Grant, and tell him you "re after somethin', tho' I s'pose he'll know that without your tellin' him. Tell him you want a vagrancy, and if he tries to get rid of you, just stick closer to him than a brother. What's the use of your havin' red hair, Isaac, if you don't resist in gettin' what you're after.

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There are at this time millions of people in our land, looking with jealous eyes upon our law makers, both in State and National councils. We have been sitting idle for a long time, resting upon our supposed rights, until the legislation of our country has been of such a character as to be in favor of monopolies and against the people.

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OUR LAW MAKERS.

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Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

A KISS AT THE DOOR.

We were standing in the doorway— My little wife and I— The golden sun upon her hair...

SPEAK NAE ILL.

Other people have their faults, And so have ye as well, But all ye chance to see or hear...

HOME TALK.

The Christmas days are over and with them, for many farmers families, the last holiday of the winter; we are so busy here in the great west...

on affections we are enabled to inspire," and we cannot inspire affections if we are morose and tired and disheveled. When a husband and wife are both in this condition, much as they need and merit each others sympathy...

FARM HOME LIFE.

We want to see farmers' homes as comfortable, as convenient and as beautiful as it is possible to make them. A painted house not only looks better than an unpainted one...

higher art of collecting and stuffing, for preservation, specimens of our native birds and animals. We like to see a country home look as if it was of the country, and not imported from...

person wishes to post such a way, which bond shall be filed in the office of the justice of the peace...

Read the Club List.

Table with columns for newspaper names and prices. Includes entries like 'KANSAS NEWSPAPERS', 'Topeka Commonwealth and Farmer for \$3.00', 'Leavenworth Times', etc.

STRAY LAW.

From the General Statutes of the State of Kansas, we take from the act relating to Stock the following amended law pertaining to Strays:

ARTICLE III.

SEC. 5. No person shall take up any unbroken animal as a stray, between the first day of April and the first day of November, unless the same be found within...

