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THE UNDEVELOPED RESOURCES OF KANSAS.

ADDRESS delivered before the Farmers Institute, held at the Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan Tuesday evening, February 5, 1874.

BY JOSIAH COPLEY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—In the discussion of a question like this, numerous and widely different elements enter, the first and governing one of which is our local place among the wide-spreading districts of this mighty empire—our long distance from the great mass of the consumers of the products of our soil, whether they be found on this side or that side of the Atlantic. Next in importance as an element in this discussion, is the fact that between us and the great markets for food, there lie hundreds of thousands of square miles of the finest agricultural land in the world, the occupants of which have now, and always will have, the advantage over us in the cost of transportation of the products of the soil to the markets of the seaboard. This advantage will remain to them no matter how the cost of transportation may be reduced. For this reason our producers of food can never compete with them successfully in those markets; for the productive capabilities of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota have not been reached, and will not be for fifty years to come.

The last and most important inquiry remains: What undeveloped resources have we, which, when developed, will make this a new centre; give us a full and complete system of industries, diversified, but mutually beneficial, and self-sustaining community?

We already know that Kansas is beautiful, salubrious and wonderfully productive. These are our open treasures, known and read of all men. If a rich soil could render a people prosperous, our people would this day be eminently so. But they are not; because, as before remarked, they are too far away to thrive upon the crude products of the soil; because they have no home market worthy of the name; because almost every man is the competitor of his neighbor and not his customer; because, to reach a market, the farmer is obliged to put himself more or less in the power of middle men and transporters, thus making them masters instead of servants. As servants they are very good—we cannot get along without their services; but give them the mastery of the situation, as in the case at present, and they are hard and exacting, leaving the toiling producer so little profit, that were he to hire his labor, he would be a loser instead of a gainer by being the proprietor of a farm.

This is true in Kansas to a degree commensurate with the greatness of our distance from market; and will remain so as long as the magnificent agricultural domain stretching between us and the consumers whom we are now obliged to reach exists. Then, as we cannot compete successfully with the producers of food east of the Mississippi, even were schedules of freight put down to the lowest practicable figures, we must of necessity turn to our own undeveloped, almost hidden resources. Our locality compels us to this course and the sooner we set to work to render them available the better.

As a purely agricultural district our distance from the great mass of consumers is a crushing and insuperable disadvantage; but in the work of diversifying our industries, developing new resources, and making this a new industrial centre, that distance is greatly to our advantage. No section of this continent is better situated for being made such a centre. Already avenues of commerce are opened in all directions—to Texas and the Gulf on the south; to the immense regions drained by the Missouri and the Yellow Stone on the north; with Colorado, rich in exhausted mines of precious metals and of iron and coal, on the west, and all the east over numerous lines. The geographical centre of the Union is almost in the centre of Kansas. Already we are in connection by railroad with millions of people, who, if we manage things wisely, may be drawn here for their supplies of a thousand things, embracing food, clothing, implements and furniture.

But what have we that can be turned to such diverse uses? We have no native iron.

True; neither has Massachusetts much, and Rhode Island has none. We have not much timber. Neither have the States I have named; neither has England. We have some coal, but it is inferior to that of Pennsylvania. New England has none at all. We have no gold and silver mines like California, Nevada, and other great territorial divisions west of us. So much the better. If we can feed them, and clothe them, and supply them with many things which they now draw from beyond the Mississippi, beyond the Hudson and beyond the Atlantic, we can well afford to let them delve in their mines.

But what have we? Are there such resources in Kansas, developed and undeveloped, as will enable its people to prosecute profitably such diverse industries? This brings us to the very point under consideration; and this question can be best answered by pointing to some other locality where a great variety of industries already flourish, and then institute a comparison between the natural resources found there and similar natural resources existing here. We cannot take Pennsylvania, because our mineral wealth will not compare with hers; and the same remark holds good of the eastern half of Ohio. In some things we might take New York—for example, in the matters of the orchard and the dairy. But if we take Massachusetts we shall find the conditions which best suit our purpose—Massachusetts as Nature made it, not as human enterprise and skill have made it. That was a hard and sterile region, rocky, broken, bleak,—a region where the utmost measure of the primal law of humanity was met: "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." In this respect it differed greatly from the beautiful heritage which Providence has assigned to us. It had fine harbors, and its coast swarmed with fish. Commerce and the fisheries, however, failed to make New England rich and prosperous, although they did train up a hardy, resolute and active race of men, more intelligent, more versatile, more inventive than any the world has ever seen.

The sterility of the soil and the severity of the climate drove men from the pursuit of agriculture to other industries, other devices—drove their thoughts into new channels and in quest of new contrivances. No man knows or ever will know, the hard inward workings of the mind of the apparently idle Yankee, who sat, in what looked like listless and unprofitable indolence, whittling with his jack-knife. Emphatically was it true in New England that "necessity was the mother of invention." In the history of the settlement, the rise, the progress, the prosperity, the abounding wealth and matchless intelligence of that section of our country we see the true import of these remarkable words: "Cursed is the ground for thy sake;" for, had New England been as fertile as many other sections of our country, the people would have plodded on from generation to generation in a dull and unimproving routine, as those of many other purely agricultural countries have done. This principle may be seen in the cases of Great Britain, as compared with Spain; of North Germany as compared with South Germany, as well as in that of New England when contrasted with the more fertile states of this Union south and west of it.

I have said that Massachusetts had its compensations. In the granite which protruded through the soil (as our abounding strata of limestone do) and greatly interfered with and narrowed the arable area, the resolute and versatile Yankee found a source of commercial wealth and his grandest foundation for local improvement. But in the strong flowing streams his keen eye detected a power which he could render subservient, and cause it to labor for him. So, from little to more machinery propelled by that force was set to work. By that agency, more than by any other, Massachusetts has been made rich and prosperous. Water, rushing from the higher levels to the sea, in obedience to the law of gravity, was seized, and fettered, and set to work, and no moral law was violated, no rights of humanity were trampled upon; while the southern planter laid hold of the docile African and compelled him to toil regardless of the claims of humanity and of the great law of right. Blessings followed the one system of servitude; the pathway of the other was marked with blight and moral and social degradation; and at last it went down in calamity and blood. To few men in human history was a more glorious work given than to the few brave men who, in the turbulent territorial era in Kansas, rolled back this overflowing curse from its beautiful soil.

Thank God, no slave was ever permitted to toil in Kansas; but, in compensation, the Creator has given us in large measure the same powerful agent which he bestowed upon Massachusetts. Our streams, for fullness and permanence of flow in dry seasons, are only equalled by those of New England. Massachusetts began its career of prosperity when practical science and skill, as applied to the ordinary avocations of life, were only beginning to develop, and when capital had not accumulated in America. Massachusetts, with its hard and rugged surface, its severe climate, its nearness to the powerful competition of Europe, had nothing like the advantages which Kansas has to-day. But it struggled through all its difficulties, and is now among the most opulent, enlightened and well-governed communities on the face of the earth.

Out of what natural resources did this grand result come? Rugged, barren, cold—destitute of coal and of metals—it had but little except its fine natural streams, which, under the hand of science and skill, were converted into manufacturing forces. Having but little good soil, and less mineral wealth, its people were thrown back upon their own inherent resources, and out of their own brain power they made themselves great and prosperous. They cultivated their minds and thus became masters of the situation. They had faith one in another, and thus were able to combine their energies and accomplish enterprises which were beyond the power of single individuals. They combined their home industries with the commerce of the world; their sails whitened every sea; and the ubiquitous Yankee was found in every port.

Men and running streams constituted the original stock in trade with which Massachusetts, or, rather, New England, began its prosperous and glorious career; and because it had little else, these two put forth their energies to the utmost. "What can people raise in such a country as this?" exclaimed a gentleman from the broad plantations of the south, as the stage coach carried him for miles over a rocky and barren region in Vermont—"what can they raise here?" They raise men, sir," replied the driver, with an emphasis characteristic of his people. So would I say to you people of Kansas—raise men; for

"In vain with lavish kindness  
The gifts of God are strown."

unless we have men to render them available—men who can confide in one another and work together for the good of all—men who have hearts large enough and generous enough to be spurred on in their efforts by patriotism as well as self-interest—men of intelligent, cultivated, wide awake intellects—men capable of seeing and grasping a natural resource and turning it to their own profit and advantage, and to the general prosperity of the commonwealth.

You ask me to speak of the undeveloped resources of Kansas. In doing so I point to its present and future men as first and chief. Develop these, and everything else will follow. Our coal mines will be discovered and operated; our gypsum beds will become sources of wealth; our capabilities of producing salt will be practically demonstrated; flocks of sheep will beautify and enliven our rolling prairies; and agriculture will flourish as it has not hitherto done, because we shall be a self-sustaining community, with home markets and home supplies.

Our men must do as those of New England did—lay hold of the mighty energy of our running streams and set them to laboring for them, and make this a second Massachusetts. This must be done before this state can prosper; and when that shall be done to the extent that it may be, a new era will set in, the benefits of which none will share more largely than the farmers.

It is a remarkable fact that the larger streams of Kansas do not fall in the dry seasons as do those of the states east of the Mississippi. For seven years I have been observing this phenomenon; but I attributed it to the copious summer showers with which this country is usually blessed. The severe and long-continued

drouth of 1873, however—near the close of which I travelled some and had good opportunities for observation—satisfied me that that was not the cause. Whence came this copious flow in the larger streams, when many of the smaller streams had not enough to supply their own evaporation? was then the problem. Some reservoirs of immense capacity must be steadily emptying themselves into the channels of these streams. But where are these reservoirs to be found? for certain it is they are not discharging themselves, as subterraneous reservoirs generally do, through gushing fountains scattered over the regions drained. We have some of these, it is true, but the condition of the smaller tributaries at the close of that dry season showed that the heavy volume found in the larger streams was not to be traced to them. For a while I was puzzled. I then began to consider the vast deposits of sandy alluvium in the valleys of our rivers—in some places miles in width and of great depth—masses which take up water like a sponge, and then give it out by slow and steady percolation as the water in the deep channels of the streams sink a lower and lower. This I regarded as a simple and strictly philosophical solution of the problem.

But why is not the same thing found in Illinois, where the river bottoms are perhaps as wide as ours? Because of the difference in the composition of the alluvial deposits. Theirs are composed mainly of mud; ours of sand. Mud takes up comparatively little water, and holds that little fast; but sand takes in and gives out largely and freely. As we go westward towards the supposed source of these enormous deposits they become more and more sandy, because sand deposits more quickly than the clayey particles of which the alluvium of the more eastern portions of the Mississippi valley are composed.

These natural reservoirs, are of priceless value to Kansas, and lie at the foundation of our richest and best source of future wealth, prosperity and advancement; for I am persuaded that we can, if we bring the necessary enterprise, capital and skill to bear, create more of this cheapest and steadiest of all manufacturing power than any other state between the Hudson and the Rocky Mountains possesses. In this way, more than by any other means, we can draw capital and skilled operatives to us; increase our population enormously; diversify our industries; render ourselves independent of middle men and transporters; and, which is better than all, have home markets for the major part of our agricultural products.

But there is one difficulty in our way in the accomplishment of this great object, and that is found in the sandy and friable nature of the banks and bottoms of our streams, rendering dams liable to be undermined and washed away by floods. But to overcome that difficulty requires not so much a high degree of engineering skill as the application of good, hard common sense, and a liberal and judicious use of stone—not of stone put into nice and costly masonry, but used as nature uses it in the construction of the "overlasting hills"—simply riprap unsparingly applied.

A suggestive analogy may be found in the recent great change in military science in the matter of building forts and other defences. The old way was to erect, at enormous cost, massive works of solid masonry. They answered the purpose pretty well until the introduction of heavier and more effective siege guns. But now, under more effective artillery such masonry soon crumbles into ruins. Heavy mounds of earth were then substituted for more costly masonry, simple as the riprap of which we are speaking, and it was found that all the cannonading that could be brought to bear upon them could not breach them. So it is in the matter of erecting defences against the destructive effects of swollen streams. What an earthwork is against cannon a riprap is against a torrent of water. In such works, the more closely we follow the simplicity of nature the more likely are we to be successful.

If I wished to build a dam on one of those peculiar streams of ours, I should look out for a place where the banks are high. Whether there was a ripple at the place or not I should regard as of little consequence. I should slope down the banks above and below the dam one or two hundred yards, and then line them thoroughly from bottom to top with

broken stone of all sizes—not built in, but simply thrown in. Then fill up the channel from bank to bank until the water rippled over the top of the riprap. Then put in a strong wooden crib as high as it is intended to raise the water in the pool above that below the dam, fill it with stone, plank it over, and secure the ends with plenty of riprap. Then fill up above and below with riprap to the full height of the crib, putting five times as much below the crib as above it; for the upper side will take care of itself. Below the crib the riprap ought to slope down the stream very gently over a space of from fifty to one hundred feet, according to the size of the stream and the height of the dam. The main thing is to avoid the creation of reacting or downward currents, which would cut away the soft bottom of the stream. The water for the works, whatever they may be, and whether one or more, must of necessity be drawn from the pool above through a well-guarded sluice and race or canal, and discharged below, keeping pretty well off from the bank of the stream.

In such works the abundance of rock in all our bluffs is a most beneficent provision of nature, for without that it would be almost impossible to do this thing. The costly work of procuring and driving piles had better be avoided; for the money and labor which they would cost would put in an amount of riprap which no flood could ever wash away.

You will please pardon this homely essay on engineering. The only apology I can offer for it is the exceedingly different character of the water channels of Kansas from those found in the eastern states.

It would be impossible to estimate the imminence of the power which may thus be rendered available in this state. By means of it Kansas may be made a new manufacturing centre; while our far-reaching railways; our proximity to the finest cotton region on the continent; our ability to produce any amount of wool; the adaptation of our soil to the production of hemp and flax, and many other things which can be worked up into forms of high commercial value; and last and best of all, our delightful climate and our abundance of food, give us advantages not possessed by any other manufacturing state.

I have already alluded briefly to our salt and gypsum. These are among our most important undeveloped resources. The manufacture of salt by solar evaporation—the only method by which it can be made in Kansas at a profit—may ere long become a very large and important source of wealth. Our bright hot sunshine and our dry and lively atmosphere are both exceedingly favorable to this branch of industry; and I know not that any limit to its extent can be assigned.

Of gypsum I think we have more than any other state. It is widely diffused. It is found in beds of great thickness in the sections drained by the Blue, the Smoky Hill, the Arkansas, and probably in other places. This is an article upon which our people can bring no small amount of the water power we have been discussing to bear, and, by very simple processes, render it a commodity of great value in the markets of the country.

I have said little or nothing of our coal, for that cannot be classed among our undeveloped resources. Although of great value, it cannot make Kansas rich.

I have said nothing about agriculture as a resource, for that too is developed—too much developed as compared with other things—yet nothing to what it will be when it shall stand first and chief among many industries. Believe me, a people can make no greater mistake than to suffer their country to run into what may be called an agricultural monopoly. Illinois stuck fast for years in that condition; but now, since thousands of her people are engaged in other industries, it is prospering and making rapid progress. In Kansas, so far removed from the great markets of the East, the necessity for that diverse industry is immeasurably greater than it is in Illinois.

In closing, permit me to return to the prime resource with which I set out—MEN—active, intelligent, educated, honest, trusting and trusting men—good men, who can and will do their part as individuals faithfully, and have faith to combine with others in the accomplishment of profitable and beneficent objects. In the absence of such men all our other resources—our soil, our streams, our gypsum beds, our coal, our pastures, and our salubrious climate will be of little avail. Thanks be to God, this is not an undeveloped resource, although there is room for much further development. Our schools and colleges are training up thousands of boys and girls, young men and women, who will have the fitness to accomplish the grand work before us—to grasp the great treasures and forces of nature, and make them subservient to their prosperity, progress and happiness. Citizens of Kansas, cherish and sustain these nurseries of mental and moral power, and especially that one object of which is to educate the industrial classes. In this respect, too, let us make Kansas a second Massachusetts.

For the Kansas Farmer.]  
**FARM NOTES AND QUERIES.**  
BY W. MARLATT.

The uncertainty of crops together with the variableness of the grain and vegetable market, has led many to come to the hasty conclusion that farming in general don't pay. While in a restricted sense, this may be true in certain localities, and when confined to some particular branches, there is probably in the long run, when intelligently conducted, no

other pursuit, that as a whole, gives more satisfactory results.

The idea has gone abroad, very generally, that the rearing of live stock, particularly cattle, can be made immensely profitable on our broad and free pastures.

However true that may have been in the past, that time has "gone by, for a while at least; as long as the cheap beef of Texas growth is made to supply the market, at a price as low as it is at present.

I for one, have yet to learn the secret of wintering native cattle, in good condition, at a cost of two dollars and a half per head, or the price of a ton of prairie hay, and that too, without any shelter, other than that afforded by a chance bluff or grove of timber.

My experience is, that, even with plenty of good hay and a generous feed of corn daily, stock if not at least partially sheltered, will not only fail to hold their own, but will lose flesh through the winter months, in so much, that though they may have been fat in the autumn, they will be lean in the spring.

Where the usually sudden change from succulent green to dry food, can be supplemented with roots, or sown rye or other green food, this may be prevented. But where large herds are kept, this is not always practicable, in fact as a general thing, the larger the number, the more negligently are they wintered, the idea seeming to be to "get them through" in some way till grass grows. When we had but one cow, Mrs. M. made and sold thirty dollars worth of butter in one winter, besides supplying the family with all that was wanted for the table. At the same time, a neighbor with a dozen cows, had but a pint of milk a day for his coffee; and another neighbor with twenty, had not even this. The difference was all in the feeding. Old Brindle having a generous supply of rich and succulent food, while the dozen and score of my neighbors, were left to take their chance with the general herd, supplied with prairie hay alone. To make this business pay in the future, we must have better stock and bestow upon them better care. This rule will apply to all other farm stock as well.

The prospect of the winter wheat crop for another season, is not particularly promising. Winter killing has been the chief difficulty of late years.

Our Farmers Club has had the subject of wheat culture under discussion—Major Miller read a very interesting paper at a late meeting, in which he gave a detailed statement of the results of a number of plots, on the College farm, showing the beneficial effects of manures on the wheat crop of the past season under his supervision. The application of twenty loads of well rotted barn-yard manure, more than doubled the yield per acre, giving a profit of thirty-five per cent. on the extra cost thereby incurred. The experience of various members of the Club in reference to wheat culture in Kansas, is quite diverse, and in some instances, contradictory; some averring, that they succeeded best on new lands, while others have had their best crops on lands that have been a number of years in cultivation. The whole discussion elicited the humiliating fact, that after an experience of ten years and more, we have practically learned nothing. When our Agricultural College by means of scientific experiments, is enabled to solve this problem, so as to enable the wheat growers to average twenty bushels per acre, it will have added fifty per cent. to the value of real estate throughout. This having to labor under a continuous over shadowing cloud of uncertainty is sure in time to unnerve and paralyze the strong arm of industry. This uncertainty rests alike on all farm crops; though all, or seldom half of them fail or fall far short the same season. From this cause, he who engages in general husbandry, avoiding in a measure, all specialties, is seldom brought into very great straits by the failure of some one or more certain crops, or line, of farm industry.

In speaking of the care of stock in winter, in our Club, it was agreed by an experienced and successful stock raiser, that the coarse grass on the bottoms, was much superior as hay for wintering stock, to that of the high prairies. I have heard others maintain the same view, basing their arguments on facts gained from experience and observation. I see that in the St. Louis market, the fine upland prairie grass is rated as No. 1, while the coarse or marsh grass is rejected as worthless. Here is a seeming contradiction, who is right? Again I find a difference of opinion, as to the best time to cut prairie grass, for hay. Some maintaining that it should be cut while in its green or growing state, say early in July; while others would not cut it till in its matured state, say the middle or last of August, or even latter. There is doubtless, between these two extremes, a golden mean, that a little common sense observation may enable all to determine upon for themselves. My experience is, that grass cut in the late part of the summer is apt to get musty, and sometimes spoilt, before cool weather comes on; while that cut late, even though it be before frost, is apt to contain too much woody fiber from being suffered to get over ripe and dead.

Is it not a fact that stock often fail to do as well as they might, other things being equal, for want of salt and good water, in sufficient quantity, at all times. Where the object of stock raising is to convert grass and grain into beef, no available means should be neglected to bring about the most favorable results. To do this, as intimated above, we cannot afford to breed any but the best. Experience has shown that for this purpose Short Horns and their grades give, when fairly tried, the most satisfactory results.

Bluemont Farm, Feb. 10th, 1874.

**Horticulture.**

For the Kansas Farmer.]  
**HOW TO MAKE AN ORCHARD. NO. 3.**

BY S. T. KELSEY.  
**PRUNING.**

Is more talked about and less understood than any other operation in managing trees. Even the learned doctors disagree, so that it is difficult for one to arrive at any conclusion as to what "style" or "system" of pruning is the best. One says prune for low headed trees. Another says prune high and still another tells us to adopt the medium "style" without even telling us what low, high or medium means.

We are told, by one, to thin out the heads of trees to make them open and give them the advantages of the sun and air, while another who has grown gray in the business, tells us not to prune at all, for nature knows better than we, just what the tree needs and the limbs and leaves that we cut off are needed to protect the tree and fruit from the sun and wind, and keep it in healthy condition. Winter pruning is advised for wood, that is to induce a healthy, vigorous growth—and summer pruning for fruit. But in following this advice, many good orchards are almost ruined, by either the winter or summer pruning or both.

Many persons become confused at the contradictory and indefinite directions that are given, and fail to prune at all, till their trees become a crowded mass of half starved limbs, a foliage unable to ripen good and perfect fruit, and then seeing that something must be done they cut off a portion of the large limbs to give the rest a better chance, and nearly complete the work of ruin.

The theory and practice of pruning could not be learned from a single newspaper article even if it had teachers thoroughly competent to instruct, and I offer the following suggestions, only with the hope they may give the unexperienced a better idea of trimming their trees, say that they may not be damaged by neglect or ruined by mutilation.

The ultimate object in starting an orchard, is to get fruit, but for the first five years, a tree like an animal, should expend its energies in growing. It should get size and strength before it begins to bear.

Every bud and leaf on the tree helps to suck up the sap from the earth, absorbs the gasses of the atmosphere, digests the food thus obtained and sends it back through the limbs and stem to all parts of the tree to add to its growth, and every bud or leaf taken off before it has fulfilled its mission, retards the growth of the tree, while if too many are taken off disease and even death follows.

We should endeavor then, while getting our trees up to bearing size and age, to disturb the growth as little as possible.

In transplanting, we may cut back the shoots, so that evaporation shall not exhaust the sap in the tree before the roots have taken hold of the soil and are able to furnish a supply.

If a straight stem is required to a certain height, the side branches must be cut off up to that height, but they should not be cut off too soon, or too many at a time.

I would have apple, pear, cherry and plum, branch about 2½ feet above ground, peach a little lower.

If two shoots of nearly equal size start out that are likely to make a fork, one of them should be taken off.

Keep a good look for 3 to 4 years after planting, to see that no limbs get a start where they are likely to cross each other, or be too close to other limbs when grown.

By looking over the orchard two or three times during the season, such limbs will be noticed and taken off before they are so large that their loss will materially check the growth of the tree.

If "watersprouts" start about the roots they should be taken off as soon as possible, and the tree will need no further pruning until it is up to bearing age and size.

If a tree is unfruitful after it is old and large enough to bear, it may often be brought into bearing by cutting back the young shoots in June, which check the wood growth and induces the formation of fruit buds.

As trees become old, there is a tendency to overbear and produce inferior fruit. When this occurs, we may cut out all unhealthy or half starved limbs, twigs and fruit spurs, cutting no large ones that have vitality enough to be of any value. This trimming out of unhealthy and unthrifty wood will leave trees in condition to develop and mature its fruit. If in addition to thinning out the unthrifty wood, we will wash with soap or lye, rubbing off all rough dead bark, the tree may continue to ripen good crops of well developed fruit for a great many years.

The whole theory and practice of pruning fruit trees may be summed up in a few words. While they are young do not allow limbs to grow that will need to be taken off in later years.

If too tardy in bearing, shorten in the young shoot in June.

When old, if inclined to overbear and produce inferior fruit, thin out the unhealthy twigs and fruit spurs, to give the strong ones a better chance. Cut no large limbs when it can be avoided.

If limbs must be taken off, the least injury will ensue from cutting in early spring before the sap starts or after the growth is nearly completed, in August or September.

**Farm Stock.**

For the Kansas Farmer.]  
**BLACK LEG.**

BY A. WASHBURN.

During the month of July, 1873, I lost four yearling steers and two calves, by a disease, said to be the black leg, by persons who claimed to know. Those I saw, after being taken, and before they were dead, manifested signs of considerable distress, accompanied by either much stiffness, or lameness in the leg most affected by the disease. It seemed to be quite violent, as the animal lived only some eighteen hours or less, after the disease had located itself, so as to be apparent to the observer. After trying most of the *sure cures*, and some nostrums, communicated to me, by individuals of the curing art, as being *specific* for the brute creation, and losing the number above stated, I heard of the following simple remedy, which I successfully tried on two fat calves, soon after the loss of the above, viz: Barbadoes Aloes; pulverize and mix with molasses, to form a pill, and then roll in a little flour, so as to prevent its sticking to the fingers when administering it, which is easily done by elevating the nose of the animal, and pulling the tongue out gently, with the fingers inserted in the corner of the mouth, and then putting the pill down as far in the mouth, as one can easily let the tongue loose, and the pill will go down.

Dose. For a calf *one ounce*, to be repeated in, say three or four times, unless one dose proves sufficient. An overdose does no harm. For a yearling say two ounces.

As a preventive of the disease, I would advise giving calves in the winter, plenty of salt mixed with sulphur, say four ounces to two quarts of salt.

Topeka, Feb. 10th, 1874.

"E." wants to know what will cure the garget. Let him use what is commonly known as poke root, grated fine, in a bran mash. As soon as a cure is effected the cow will refuse to eat it. A piece as large as a hulled walnut will be sufficient.

Your last issue contains an inquiry from "E" wishing a cure for the garget. A reliable gentleman informs me that he has cured it permanently several times by feeding the cow a handful of horseradish root.

I had a horse die by hydrophobia, and while he had it, he bit his mate several times. It has now shown three weeks since she was bitten and she is all right yet. Is she liable to have the disease?

Hays City, Feb. 6, 1874.

In answer to T. V. Wilson—young cattle are as liable to be affected on their backs, sides or shoulders, with the disease called black-leg, as they are upon the leg. I have no cure for the disease, although I have tried many remedies, but as a safe and sure preventive I give my cattle equal parts of salt and wood ashes twice a week, and have no more black-leg.

Something is wrong with my horse—he is very stupid, holds his head to one side, apparently stiff-necked, eats continuously but with difficulty, appears partially blind, mouth so closely shut that it is difficult to open it sufficiently to receive the bit. At first I bled him freely, with temporary relief. The disease appears to be in the head, and I wish to know its cause, name and cure.

Ellsworth, Feb., 1874.

**Going into Dairying.**

We take the following Extracts from an article on the above subject in the *Prairie Farmer*. It contains valuable hints:

Success in this line of business is dependent on quite a number of things, a few of which we will mention. One must have a favorable situation in relation to location, soil and climate. The land must be naturally favorable to producing grass both for hay and pasturage. It must not be liable to drought. Pure water should be abundant and within easy reach. Facilities for cutting and storing ice are desirable, if not essential. Unless one has means to keep cows enough to supply a private dairy with milk, it is necessary for several farmers to unite in the production of it. Indeed, it is very rare for isolated farmers to succeed in dairying. There is no denying the fact that dairymaking is most profitable in neighborhoods where almost every man is a dairy farmer. One man learns from another. There is a sort of mutual inspiration. Children grow up with a knowledge of the business, and almost inherit a love of it.

Then the farmer must be adapted to dairying no less than the farm. He must understand how to breed cows for the dairy, or be such a judge of them that he can buy them judiciously. He should be a lover of cows, and have knowledge of the best ways of taking care of them. He must be a man of regular habits, who will feed and water his cows at stated times, no matter what else is neglected. A man who is in the habit of going to town two or three times a week and of returning at very uncertain hours, will not succeed with a dairy. Perfect punctuality is required. The cows require it or they will not give milk. The cheese maker demands it or he will not receive the milk into the factory. The railroad conductor requires it, or he will not take the milk to the city to be sold. Unless a man can be at home, or provide a competent and trustworthy substitute, at stated hours, three hundred and sixty-five mornings and evenings in every year, he had better give up the idea of managing a dairy farm.

A Cow that will average her two gallons of milk per day for a year, which, if sold at 12½ cents per gallon, brings her owner the nice little sum of \$312.50; allow one half for feed and care, leaves for net profit 156.25. Dairying pays a good profit on the investment.

**Bee Culture.**

For the Kansas Farmer.]  
**BEE HIVES.**

The bee keeper is often puzzled on account of the multiplicity of hives, to know which one to adopt, as each one has its friends and advocates, and each one of a thousand inventors, claimants and patentees, etc., can prove beyond a doubt (especially to their own minds) that they have the best hive. This business of hive vending has been followed so persistently, and we are sorry to say, successfully, that great injury has resulted to the cause of apiculture, from the fact that bee keepers have thus been led to over-estimate the true value of a hive, thinking that by the complicated fixtures of the hive the care and attention of the bee keeper would be dispensed with, which of course, was anything but true; all such hives requiring double the attention and labor in management as plainer and simpler ones. The American people have been so educated in the line of patents and premiums that they blindly grab at articles bearing those titles, of the most worthless and swindling character, and paying double price for them and to the exclusion of articles of real merit. They never once consider that patents are not granted to applicants because they have a meritorious article, but because they can make a claim a little different from some one else or claim the same thing for a different purpose, for instance one man will claim a hole in the hive for the purpose of a ventilator and gets a patent; the next man will have a patent on the hole for the purpose of feeding; another one will have the hole patented for a moth trap, and so it goes. A little good swearing with the requisite amount of funds will procure a patent on anything, and the value of a premium as a recommendation in our estimation, would not be very heavy. We are rather inclined that people should be more cautious in purchasing articles where they have got to be bolstered up by such claims.

But to come to our subject again, we would advise every one that wants bee hives, to pay no fee for a patent. Bees, as well as many bee keepers, have become disgusted with the whole patent hive business. All that is necessary for a good hive as can be, is a good tight box made out of seasoned lumber, made in such shape as may suit the notion of the bee keeper, with movable cover, and frames let in from the top, an entrance at one side, on a level with the bottom boards. Adopt a hive that will combine all the conveniences of the movable frame made in the simplest and cheapest manner possible to be substantial, and you have the best hive. No bee keeper with his complicated five and ten dollar hive can compete with the bee keeper that has his two dollar hive. Bees will store just as much honey in a cheap hive as they will in an expensive one. The first point in relation to a hive is convenience of management, and then good common bee hives would dictate that it should be accomplished with as little an outlay of capital as possible. Avoid moth traps of every description, and have no crack about the hive in which even the eggs can be deposited. The man that invented the moth traps has been the worst enemy to the bee of the two. It is a good plan to provide hives before the hurry of spring comes on. Many bee keepers that are handy with tools can make just as good hives as they need. In fact we think that any man that has intelligence enough to make a successful bee keeper could, with the requisite tools, manufacture his own hives.

**CORN HONEY.**

The reader has probably heard of "corn syrup," and what a glorious future awaits Kansas in its manufacture. The legislature should let the bond law remain a few years yet so the people could vote what little they have left to the encouragement of this new and promising enterprise. But who ever heard of corn honey? Well, there is an enterprising chap down in Iowa, by the name of E. Gallup that informed us through the *Bee Journal* of tubs of corn honey, he also informed us that it was not the common kind of corn but what was called the Dutton corn. He thought it the time that it was a sharp game to catch the unformed and sell a lot of cheap corn at a high price. And now, Mr. Gallup informs his numerous customers for corn that certain plants produce honey only in certain localities owing to climatic influences, etc. While there is truth in this statement it will take several other witnesses to make us believe that the Dutton corn is a honey plant grown by Mr. Gallup himself, unless under his linden trees, of which he once informed us that they produce honey so profusely that the blossoms were covered with honey, as though they had been actually dipped in honey, and the honey ran off of them and covered the leaves with honey on the ground. Now, while we like to see enthusiasm, we like to see it confined within the bounds of reason and common sense.

It may be, that this man was not attempting deception or fraud, but being so enthusiastic that he really believed the honey dropped from the basswood blossoms as sap from a sugar tree, and that it slid out on the corn silk by the barrel. He may have had honey on the brain so that every thing that he looked at glistened with honey, and he imagined a swarm of bees collecting it. But if we were asked our private opinion we would pronounce corn syrup and corn honey unqualified humbugs.

Patrons of Husbandry.

For the Kansas Farmer.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

Paper read before the Teachers Association, by R. C. Young.

This secret society, exercising so much influence upon the social and commercial departments of this country, was first talked and plan of organization perfected on the 8th day of August, 1867. O. H. Kelley, present National Secretary and William Saunder, Supt. of Garden and Grounds of Agricultural Department divide the honor of starting the movement and giving it part of its present nature.

The nature of the order at first was purely agricultural, but the congregating together of men and women for the purpose of redressing grievances naturally led to the close inquiry for the cause of these wrongs. Finding the cause in the administration of unwholesome laws passed by fraud and upheld by corruption, they, from the necessity of the case, became political and are destined to grind to powder any form of opposition whither political or in the form of monopoly. They wage no war against society. They demand the practice of those virtues taught by the Scriptures. The charge of communism in the shape of New York bread riots does not apply to them, because there was perhaps not a Granger in it; two classes were in them of course, one class the middle man to whom the Grangers had sold their bread, and who had piled it up high in their storerooms, and the other the down-trodden poor, who were hungry, starving if you please, under the very shadow of Dives. Its objects are to elevate American character and thus preserve the republic. Is American character low? I say yes, because many rules the nation. History repeats itself, and arguing from the historic horoscope, we are upon the verge of ruin, nationally; every nation that ever existed began in virtue, valor and intelligence, and as long as they remained governed by those qualities, the ascent to the pinnacle of fame was almost a certainty—always a certainty, unless the most overwhelming odds were against them.

All great nations have had similar beginnings, all have travelled similar roads to glory, honor and power. All nations that have passed from the stage of action, went down the same channel to ruin. As long as a Spartan dollar weighed 50 lbs., the people were lovers of their country, because a dollar could not be easily hidden in corrupt transactions. When Persian or Macedonian gold came into collision with the chief men of the Greeks, they fell; they became corrupt; the people become as the rulers, and down went the great Grecian republic; as long as poverty was not accounted a disgrace among the Romans, a Fabricius could not be overcome by the arts, valor or gold of a Pyrrhus. But when the Praetors sold the imperial dignity to the highest bidder, then the mighty empire was an easy prey to corruption, to barbarians, and went to ruin accordingly.

We began our national life in poverty; honor, probity and ability were our riches, and it is a notable fact, that not one of the 56 signers of the declaration, had a blot upon his name at death. Our national greatness grew from our immortal principles. History repeated itself in our case. We became corrupt and reached the same culminating point reached by all our predecessors. We as common people began to imitate our rulers, and when the rulers of a nation prefer self aggrandizement to honor, or the welfare of the people, and the people themselves become infected with the same moral disease, who says that we are not coming to ruin. We are coming to ruin. Inordinate love of money, is the root of all evil. Avarice begets covetousness, covetousness begets stinginess, stinginess begets unhospitality and unsociability. We as a nation are beginning to be the most unsocial nation on earth. We are a hiss and a by-word, where once we were honored. Our servants have become our masters, and go so far as to sell the lives of our citizens, murdered by an impotent power. Where is our patriotism? Where is our honor?

The Grange says to corruption "thus far and no farther." History shall not repeat itself in the downward course. The Patrons are taught first, to cherish sociability, and for this reason our wives, daughters and sisters form part of its strength.

Sec. 1. To give no man preference, except the man who can best reflect the honor and usefulness of the truths it teaches.

Sec. 2. To cherish honor as our very lives, and never do anything that would disgrace the name of Americans.

Sec. 3. To always be ready to keep down disorder of any kind, and to keep peace, harmony and hospitality as the certain seed that will help to usher in the millenium.

Sec. 4. To preserve the Republic of America.

This last we are determined to do in spite of all attempts to rule or ruin that money used by bad men may make.

As a promoter of general information the Granges will be provided with all the paraphernalia of the school-room. Thus we will soften the asperities of society and promote the general welfare. Its entire influence is to bring us up to the standard of men in the true sense of the word. Those among us who are not men, we will make men out of. Of the 700,000 Grangers in the United States, not all are good men, but the most are, and the good have the power to control the bad. We mean to preserve the glory, honor and integrity of America.

Shall we as teachers join our forces with the only means that are being used to preserve us,

Shall we also come down from our high calling, and say to those that have been robbed until they have nothing left, give us more! give us more! Farmers have made our nation educationally what it is. Farmers have paid all our wages, others have reaped the glory. We have every incentive to urge us to give them our effective support. They never have been stingy when they had money. They have always honored the school teacher.

FROM THE NATIONAL GRANGE,

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 9, 1874.

The Order of the Patrons of Husbandry is the only order in the world where every one meets on one common level. And to be assured that this is emphatically true of our Order, needs but a visit to the Southern Hotel this week to convince the most skeptical.

The meeting of the National Grange here at this time brings representatives from every State in the Union, save one, I believe and as they come from the rock-bound coast of the Pacific to the sand-washed beach of the Atlantic, from the land of perpetual flowers, almost to the land of perpetual snows, from every clime within the bounds of our beloved Union, without distinction of sex or sects. Religion and politics shake hands over the bloody chasm, forgetting the past and uniting in one common brotherhood, in one common cause, for one common interest and for one common good, hence, I claim that the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry is the only order in the world where all meet on one common level.

To go into the lodge room here when the lodge is holding its session reminds one of the Supreme Court of the United States (were it not for the ladies) every man's looks, as well as nearly every one's gray hairs gives evidence that they were selected with a view to their experience and ability and not composed of a class of upstarts that the Order was obliged to use for the want of better material. I doubt whether any assembly in the United States contains more talent than this. It encourages any one heretofore "weak in the knees" to see such men at the helm, and to witness their deliberations inspires all with the feeling that our Order must be perpetual.

The people, not only of St. Louis, but everywhere court our favor, extend to us courtesies and acknowledge our success. It has been in session here now, since the 4th inst., and how long it will continue is more than I can tell, but business must be done if it takes six weeks. We expect to go home from here stronger and better prepared to battle with the world.

Reporters are treading the corridors watching every word that may casually be dropped, and editors and newspaper men who one year ago were open enemies to our Order and did not hesitate to make us feel the power of their influence on the public mind, are to-day meekly asking the privilege of giving us their paper that they may convince us that they are our friends and wish to co-operate with us. Thus, we flatter ourselves that we are working our way with the public favor by destroying the feeling that we are every body's enemy, and making the impression that we are every one's friend and that our motto is "Live, and let live."

LETTER FROM ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS, February 9, 1874.

EDITOR FARMER:—When your FARMER of the 21st inst. was laid on our table in the National Grange room in the Southern hotel, in this place, almost the first article that claimed our attention was under the head of "Extravagance" over the initials of G. T. A. Now, Mr. Editor, I am glad I don't know who G. T. A., is, for you know "ignorance is bliss" when "it is folly to be wise," but I know that it is no woman, for woman could not be so false to her sex. Hence, upon the assumption that some man, envious of the other sex, has undertaken thus to slander us and drag us down, to place the financial embarrassment of a nation upon our shoulders, I wish to venture a few remarks. If any lady on Kansas soil has "diamond jewelry and a mortgaged homestead," (which I question seriously), she is the exception. Nor can you look for the difficulty in "carpets and laces." Every lady of refined and cultivated taste loves to ornament her home and render herself at least tolerable, but no sensible lady will consent to cover their farm with a mortgage that she may cover the floor with an extravagant carpet. No! No! Mr. G. T. A., you must examine some other "points in the anatomy of time," and fearing that you may not know anything near what part of that great anatomical body to examine let me just suggest that you look to overreaching speculations, heretofore so honest. Certainly they were supposed to be honest, else how could they have had such opportunities? No banking company would be so recreant to their own good as to place a jail-deserving man behind their counter and the keys to the safe in his hand, hence, we always see the newspaper notices of an embezzlement or defaulter accompanied with the assurance that this was the "first time," and that heretofore he was honest and upright. Look for this "loose joint," not among the women with all their extravagance, for they do not hold the purse strings of this great nation, but if you look to the proper place you will find more homesteads mortgaged to pay the taxes imposed by defrauding government officials, salary grabbers and credit mobiliers. Look for this "loose joint" among our public servants, and you will not search in vain, you cannot go amiss, from the executive mansion all along

down the almost interminable line even down to the treasurer of public school districts, and there is defaulting, embezzling, stock watering, bond speculating, until our taxes swallow up our entire income and more homesteads ten to one are mortgaged to meet the demands thus forced upon us than there is to buy "camels hair shawls" or fine laces or gorgeous carpets.

Resolutions of Respect.

At the regular meeting of Salt Creek Grange No. 236, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we sympathize with the bereaved family in their hour of trial and trouble.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to the neighboring granges and friends for their sympathy and kindness in attending through the illness and at the funeral of our worthy sister.

Resolved, That this grange tender their grateful thanks to Rev. Mr. Friend for his able and instructive discourse on that occasion.

Resolved, That these preambles and resolutions be entered on the minutes, and a copy sent to our worthy brother and the family of the deceased, and copies to the Kansas Farmer and Spirit of Kansas for publication.

A. B. HUDDLESON, F. A. DOWNS, J. FAUCHER, Com. LYNDON, February 7, 1874.

Elm Creek Valley Grange.

At a meeting of Elm Creek Valley Grange the following resolutions were adopted, and copies ordered sent to the Kansas Farmer, Spirit of Kansas and Salina Herald for publication:

Resolved, That we, the Patrons of Elm Creek Valley Grange, do hereby positively affirm that we will not purchase farming implements from any manufacturing company who refuse to sell directly to Granges or only through their authorized agents.

Resolved, That we ask all Granges throughout the state to co-operate with us in enforcing this resolution.

Mrs. G. A. CAMRON, Sec. Salina, Feb. 10, 1873.

Indian Creek Grange.

At a regular meeting of Indian Creek Grange No. 680, held on Saturday evening, February 14, 1874, the following resolution was unanimously adopted and ordered to be given to the KANSAS FARMER for publication:

Resolved, That we disapprove of any arrangement whereby any one paper be made the organ of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry in Kansas.

Neutral City Grange.

EDITOR FARMER:—Neutral City Grange, No. 88, was organized April 12, 1873, with 28 charter members. We have admitted two, and now have 40 members and a lively working Grange. Rees Cadwalader was re-elected Master, and James H. Houk, Lecturer. We have erected a building at Neutral City 30 feet long by 20 wide, two stories high. The upper room is one hall, and the lower room, when completed, will be used for a Grange store room.

Our people are an industrious, energetic class of farmers, and mean business in the farmer's movement. L. CONKLIN, Sec'y. Neutral City, February 13.

DECLARATION OF PURPOSE OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

PREAMBLE.

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby, unanimously, make this Declaration of Purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

1. United by the strong and faithful tie of Agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our Order, our country and mankind.

MOTTO.

2d. We heartily endorse the motto: "In essentials, Unity; in non essentials, Liberty; in all things, Charity."

SPECIFIC OBJECTS.

3d. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects:

To elevate a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves.

To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits.

To foster mutual understanding and co-operation.

To maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor to hasten the good time coming.

To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate.

To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining.

To diversify our crops, and crop no more than we can cultivate.

To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel and more on hoof and in fleece.

To systematize our work and calculate intelligently on probabilities.

To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy.

We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and in general acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require.

Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social and material advancement.

BUSINESS RELATIONS.

3d.—For our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly with them, but we do not need them.

Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits. We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected with our interest, and harmonious action is mutual advantage. Keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action that "Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity."

We shall, therefore, advocate for every state the increase in every practicable way, of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers and consumers, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our fixed purpose to open out the channels in nature's great arteries that the life-blood of commerce may flow freely.

We are not enemies of railroads, navigable and irrigating canals, nor of any corporations that will advance our industrial interest, nor of any laboring classes.

In our noble Order, there is no communism, no agrarianism. We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation, or enterprise, as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profit.

We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies.

We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century.

We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest, and exorbitant per cent. profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens and do not bear a proper proportion to the profits of producers.

We desire only self-protection, and the protection of every true interest of our land by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade, and legitimate profit.

EDUCATION.

We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges, that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.

POLITICAL RELATIONS.

5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange, National, State or Subordinate, is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings.

Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and, if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country.

For, we seek the greatest good to the greatest number. But we must always bear in mind that no one by becoming a Grange member gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country.

On the contrary, it is the right of every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs.

It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption and trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our interests are nominated for all positions of trust; and to have carried out the principle which should always characterize every Grange member that THE OFFICES SHOULD SEEK THE MAN, AND NOT THE MAN THE OFFICE.

We acknowledge the broad principle, that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that "Progress towards truth is made by differences of opinion," while "the fault lies in bitterness of controversy."

We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness; protection for the weak, restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens, and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of an American republic.

We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and future. In our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes, we shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West.

It is reserved by every Patron, as the right as a freeman, to affiliate with any party that will best carry out his principles.

OUTSIDE CO-OPERATION.

6. Ours being peculiarly a farmer's institution, we cannot admit all to rank. Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men, or artisans, or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling or pasturing the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purpose.

But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial co-operation to assist in our efforts towards reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromise, and earnest co-operation, as an omen of our future success.

CONCLUSION.

7. It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our Order.

Imploring the continued assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time, to return by our united efforts to the wisdom, justice, fraternity and political purity of our forefathers.

- State Grange—Special Deputies. J. F. McDowell, Columbus, Cherokee county; A. F. Case, Salina, Saline county; R. DeLynn, Hutchinson, Ionia county; A. J. McKee, Frankfort, Marshall county; J. F. Palmer, Washington, Washington county; T. F. Kennerly, Osage Mission, Neosho county; J. D. Watt, Dresden, Lincoln county; G. W. Summerville, McPherson, county; D. B. Welding, Robinson, Brown county; Geo. Donnell, Moberly, Osage county; J. A. Wilcox, Coloma, Woodson county; J. L. Blair, Severence, Douglas county; A. Ellis, Elk City, Howard county; E. F. Pomeroy, Girard, Crawford county; P. Brandon, Burlington, Coffey county; J. F. Hickett, Garnett, Anderson county; J. L. Zimmerman, Wichita, Sedgewick county; J. M. Warden, Vernon, Cowley county; J. N. Limbocker, Potawatomi county; B. H. Bradshaw, No. Cedar, Jackson county; F. G. Herron, Huron, Atchison county; T. S. Floyd, Sedgewick City, Harvey county; T. M. Morgan, Jarbaso, Leavenworth county; W. S. Mathews, Seneca, Nemaha county; J. N. Insley, Okaloosa, Jefferson county; H. Farmer, Solomon, Dickinson county; G. Baker, Appleton, Bourbon county; Z. Meredith, Ulathe, Johnson county; E. A. Hodges, Marion Centre, Marion county; J. C. Guppy, Humboldt, Allen county; T. E. Taber, Lawrence, Douglas county; S. B. Shultz, Buffalo, Wilson county; John Nelson, Jacksonville, Labette county; J. W. Sifton, Eldorado, Butler county; W. S. Hanna, Ottawa, Franklin county.

From the Grand Secretary. The Worthy Master of the State Grange having resigned his office on the 15th of November, 1873, all communications intended for the Master should be addressed to the Overseer, M. E. Hudson, Mapleton, Bourbon county. G. W. STRUNOON, Sec. Kansas State Grange.

To Deputies.

The various Deputies will greatly oblige us by sending lists of Granges, when organized, for publication in this column.

It is requested that all Granges within the State report the names and postoffice address of their Masters and Secretaries, elected for the ensuing year, to the Secretary of the State Grange, G. W. Strunoon, of Jacksonville, Neosho county, Kansas.

It is also requested that each delegation from every county report the names and postoffice address of the Masters and Secretaries of the Subordinate Granges of their respective counties at the coming meeting of the State Grange, on the third Wednesday of February next. G. W. STRUNOON, Sec. State Grange. Topeka, Jan. 14, 1874.

Price List, No. 4.

From the office of the State Agency, is being prepared, and will be issued in a few days. Circulars No's 1 and 2 are all out, and No. 4 is intended to embrace a complete list of prices, so far as arrangements have been perfected. All Granges found on the business roll of the Agency will receive a copy as soon as out.

CHATS WITH PATRONS AND REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BY E. A. POPONOE.

Allow me to answer through the FARMER, the following questions, by W. R. P., Greenwood county, Kansas:

- 1. How many persons does it take to organize a Grange? Ans. Not less than nine men and four women, nor more than twenty men and ten women.
- 2. What are the fees? Ans. \$3.00 each for men, fifty cents each for women.
- 3. Whom does this money go to? Ans. It belongs to your Grange, only the fees sent to National Grange, for your books, and papers, and Deputy fee.
- 4. What is the Deputy's fee for organizing? Ans. \$5.00.
- 5. How near to another Grange can we organize ours? Ans. Not nearer than four miles. Send to editor FARMER, Topeka, Kansas, and get copy of State Constitution, it will give you further information on the subject.
- J. S., Brown county. In answer to question: Is the Grange preferable to the Farmers' Club for social and educational benefit to farmers and their families? I say yes, undoubtedly, although I may not be the proper person to answer that question, as you know the Grange is a pet of mine. Let me say to you, however, if you join a Grange, and after being a member for six months are not satisfied with the benefits to be derived from it (the social benefits more especially) I will agree to pay your initiation fee.
- J. E. W., Allen county. Open the Grange in the degree you want to work in. It is not the rule to open in a low degree and work up to the degree you want to confer. You cannot admit a member of another Grange to yours, if you do know him, unless he can work in, you may think he is in good standing, but he may have been suspended without your knowledge. So the rule is as I understand it: "No one can vouch for a member of another Grange, so he should not be admitted, only regular. The Overseer should see and know that no one approaches the Master's office, without coming up the lawn.
- If the Master is not present at the hour of opening, the Overseer should take his place and go to work. When the Master comes in, let the Overseer turn the work over to him and resume his place.
- J. C. A list of sub-Granges can be had of the Kansas Spirit, Lawrence. You will get circular this week from State Agent, look over it carefully, and then write to him.
- To Deputy of county. You cannot under any circumstances, organize a Grange without ladies. I should rather organize without men. I am aware than farmers' clubs often meet without ladies, but a farmer ought to have a club over his head for doing so.

"FREE AND INDEPENDENT.—The farmers of the Northwest have dissolved partnership with all old political parties, and stand, to-day, free and independent. We honor them for the step they have taken, and the masses of the people will join hands with them in the great work of political reform."

The Kansas Farmer.

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

TERMS: CASH IN ADVANCE. One Copy, Weekly, for one year, \$2 00

ADVERTISING RATES: One insertion, 20 cents per line, nonpareil type. Three Months, 15 cents per line, nonpareil, each insertion.

SPECIAL RATES FOR LARGE CONTRACTS. To the Breeders, Nurserymen's and Seedmen's Directors we will print a card of three lines for one year, for \$5.

THE KANSAS STATE GRANGE.

Do the Patrons of Husbandry Want an Organ?

Before the adjournment of the State Grange the question as to whether the Patrons of Husbandry in this state want an organ, will come up for settlement.

We are firmly convinced, from observation of the effect in other states, as well as in Kansas, that the selection of any journal, which shall be designated as an "Official Organ," works serious injury, not only to the Grange, but in a great measure destroys the independence, integrity and reliability of the paper itself.

The selection of one special paper upon which the Grange concentrates its patronage tends to place the press of the state in antagonism. The press of the state will be earnest co-workers unless driven into opposition by special favoritism shown to one paper.

It is no wish of ours to stop to discuss whether the Grange which is non-political in its character should select a political or an agricultural paper. On the other hand we deem it almost unnecessary to show that the concentration of patronage and influence upon one journal is contrary to the true principles of the Order, especially in this so in the case of a journal now absurdly claiming to be an official organ in Kansas, in which there has been neither such concession in price to the patrons, nor the furnishing of a paper the quality and character of which may hardly be considered as up to the standard of ordinary newspapers.

Against those who are representing these counties, we have nothing at all to urge; but we protest against allowing counties to be organized, and run by a half dozen men. The evil is not only in the door this easy legislation opens for future adventurers in this field, but it makes possible, if not probable the formation of little rings which place upon these new counties, bonded debts, sufficient to be for many years to come a burdensome mortgage upon the industry of the settlers.

This whole business is so protected and covered up by compromising trades among members, to secure special legislation of one kind and another, that members, with honorable exceptions, have not the courage to vote squarely and fairly upon the merits of this and similar questions. While we are upon this subject, we desire to venture this suggestion, viz: That some such practical reform as dealing fearlessly with this new county business, is within the reach and power of the House, and would do more to convince the people of the state of its intention to purify, than a volume of bunkum resolutions and promises.

Our Paper. The FARMER was not large enough this week to contain all the good things we had to present to its readers. Unavoidably No. 2, of Mr. Johnson on "Treeless Plains," was crowded out. An article from Mrs. Tupper of Iowa, on "Bee Culture," will appear next week. Mrs. Soulard will present the readers with the first of a series of excellent papers, for the Literary Department, "Betty Badger's Household Talk," we regret to say, was also crowded out this week. An excellent and finely written paper, from Mrs. Marr, will appear in our next paper. Prof. Jones, late of the Iowa Agricultural College, delivered an address at the Farmers Institute at Manhattan, on the "Best Education for the Farmer;" the FARMER has been selected to publish the address, and it will appear in No. 8.

In this week's paper, we believe, our readers will find on improvement upon

free discussions of public men and measures. The Grange department will be the best that labor and money will make, giving the latest and best information that can be obtained upon all questions of interest affecting this great movement. We ask the State Grange to authoritatively settle this question as to whether the Patrons of Husbandry in Kansas want an organ.

WILD-CAT COUNTIES.

The formation of new counties on our western border has assumed an importance, as a branch of Kansas politics, which demands the attention of the people, as well as their legislators.

This organization of wild-cat counties seems to be a growing industry, and presents a field for enterprising politicians, who may wish the honor of representing territory without a bothersome constituency, and building up a competence in the bond business which must recommend itself to all young and enterprising gentlemen who have "come west" to grow up with the country and go to congress.

That a county having two hundred and fifty legal voters may have a representative under the late constitutional amendment, no one denies, although some of the best legal authorities, with whom we agree, doubt the constitutionality of the amendment. We do not, at this time, propose to discuss that phase of the question, but to call attention to the precedent which has been made upon this subject by the present legislature. The facts are that four or five counties are represented in the present legislature having no legal population to sustain such a claim. Some power is responsible for the issuing of election certificates, and it occurs to most citizens of common sense that some reasonable proof should be presented to make good a claim to a seat as representative. The House, on the other hand, being in possession of these facts, and having the power to investigate the subject, had not the courage to do what was the right and just thing. While scarcely a doubt exists in the mind of any intelligent man of there being less than a corporal's guard in some of these buffalo counties, there was such an entire absence of courage that only about half the House voted upon the question, the balance being absent or dodging the vote.

It would be time and money well spent to send a committee of investigation to learn the exact state of facts regarding these new counties. If they are legally entitled to representation, it is of course very proper they should have it, but on the other hand, if they are not, the whole state has an interest in securing their expulsion. Vast interests are dependent upon the legislation of the state, and litigation involving immense expense to the people, may arise from this hasty and negligent business. Against those who are representing these counties, we have nothing at all to urge; but we protest against allowing counties to be organized, and run by a half dozen men. The evil is not only in the door this easy legislation opens for future adventurers in this field, but it makes possible, if not probable the formation of little rings which place upon these new counties, bonded debts, sufficient to be for many years to come a burdensome mortgage upon the industry of the settlers. This whole business is so protected and covered up by compromising trades among members, to secure special legislation of one kind and another, that members, with honorable exceptions, have not the courage to vote squarely and fairly upon the merits of this and similar questions. While we are upon this subject, we desire to venture this suggestion, viz: That some such practical reform as dealing fearlessly with this new county business, is within the reach and power of the House, and would do more to convince the people of the state of its intention to purify, than a volume of bunkum resolutions and promises.

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In this week's paper, we believe, our readers will find on improvement upon

all before it. The address of Josiah Copley, of Jefferson county, we consider a paper of much more than ordinary value. The Grange Department will be found well filled. "Juneberry," tells in a vein of humor specially her own, of the troubles of her "matrimonial and gardening partner." We are allowed by special permission of "Juneberry," to say, that the readers may count upon her as one of the FARMER family, ready to assist in entertaining. Mrs. Beer's story in the Domestic Department, we are allowed to say, will be followed by other contributions from the same experienced pen.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS.

DR. JOHN A. WARDER, Ohio. GEO. T. ANTHONY, Leavenworth, Kan. DR. CHARLES REYNOLDS, Fort Riley, Kan. S. T. KELSEY, Pomona, Kan. MRS. CORA M. DOWNS, Wyandotte, Kan. "JUNE BERRY," Wyandotte County. MRS. M. S. BEERS, Shawnee County. MRS. SOULARD. "RAMBLER." "BETTY BADGER," Freeport, Pa. DR. A. G. CHASE, Leavenworth. JOHN DAVIS, Davis county. JUDGE JAMES HANWAY, Lane, Kan. P. J. LOWE, Leavenworth. R. S. ELLIOTT, Kirkwood, Mo. W. MARLATT, Manhattan, Kan. NOAH CAMERON, Lawrence, Kan. C. W. JOHNSON, H'awatha, Kan. "OLD CENTRE," "COUNTRY LAD," "HOOSIER GIRL," W. P. POPENOE, ALFRED GRAY, PROF. SNOW, PROF. KEDZIE, PROF. MUDGE, and host of other valuable contributors, who will assist in giving the farmers of Kansas a paper not equalled in the country for originality and merit.

A special and interesting department of the paper will be the short letters from farmers and breeders, fruit-growers and others interested in the various branches of agriculture. The live discussions upon the topics of the day, embracing full and complete information upon every phase of the farmers' movement, will also be a prominent feature of the paper. Specimen copies will be sent free to any address.

A STRAY FOUND BY MEANS OF AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE FARMER.

LEAVENWORTH, KAN., Jan. 29, 1874.

EDITOR FARMER: I have just received, through information published in the FARMER a cow, which had strayed a distance of fifty miles. Hence the importance of the law requiring the stray list to be published in the state agricultural papers is very manifest to me.

Now, I wish to inquire as to the legality of the fees charged in this case. Said stray was appraised at eighteen dollars and posted before Andrew Douglas, of Douglas county, Nov. 1, and reclaimed the last of January. The fees and charges amounted to \$12.00, of which sum \$3.75 was for keeping, which was a reasonable charge. The balance \$8.25 was for fees. Thus over two-thirds of the value of the amount was consumed in keep for three months and in fees. If you would publish an item and list of fees in such a case, I apprehend you would do farmers a favor.

If the above amount of fees is according to the present law, would it not be well respectfully to call the attention of the legislature to the need of amendment to the law?

J. H. BYRD.

Where can I get a corn drill? I wish a two horse drill, but can find none here. I have seen them in Illinois, but did not notice where they were made. They drill but one row at a time, the seed coming down in the centre between the wheels, with a shovel before the seed which loosens up the ground and kills the weeds which might have started; also, an attachment to drop lime or plaster. The wheels being the right distance from the dropper, no guide stakes are needed. Considerable inquiry is made for them in this neighborhood. Cherokee, Feb., 1874.

J. H. WARNER.

When is the proper time to sow buckwheat in this latitude? Does it succeed well in southwestern Kansas? I sowed last June, and lost my seed. My neighbors can give me no information on the subject. Hutchinson, Feb. 9, 1874.

Z. THARP.

FEBRUARY BIZNES.

BY OLD CENTRE.

If yure hed feles soar after the kalkulaschuns an araingmunts yo hev bean makin the past month, fer the comin yere, saturate xterior several times with Karbolick sope an water an let the interium have sum rest. While yure hed is resin koax yure wife tu let yo du the churin fer feikle xersize, but dont meddel with bur bakin. Rock the baby an if the beates ar lain thur egs in yure frute tres, go fer em. Sort over yure pougtsiteaux an tel the gurl she mite kast then roten ones tu the hoge. If yu want sum nu kind ov sede send 3 dolers back este fer a pound an tel the tatre man if that aint enuf yu will send more. The tatre man will se yu mene biznes an will send yu fers tatre jist like the ones yu hev, but thay aint. Hev him send them by male or post ois order so az tu prevent the Rale Rode from skinin yu on the frate. Hev him send yu hiz category. Hev him send them kwick so az thay wont hev time tu frize an yo ken hev them cutt reddy fer plantin. Tri an git up a couple lodes of oko wude az it is purty hard fer a fellers wife tu git enuf split of a cotonwude chunk tu git a mele with. When yure nu petatres cum, hide em, fer feve yure wife gits em an biles em fer company.

Study up tu se if there aint sumthing yu aint thot ov an az yure wife if she noes ov sumthing.

For the Kansas Farmer.

THE ONION CROP OF PISISTRATUS.

BY JUNE BERRY.

To my utter dismay the seed catalogues for 1874, are pouring in at a fearful rate, and Pisistratus, (my matrimonial and gardening partner) is getting his periodical attack of lunacy, showing itself in the well known symptoms, which you, Major, will recognize, at once as the genuine thing, viz: an eager and absorbing poring over seed catalogues—writing out long lists and dispatching them to seedsmen—making out on paper a close calculation of the large net profits to be realized from the next year's farming campaign—(in a horn) investing all the spare cash of the family in "novelties" and new-fangled notions recommended by the seed catalogues, and perambulating agents for "reliable nurseries," rushing out frantically a dozen times a day and mapping out a fresh plan for the coming season's crops, confident of being on the high road to fame and fortune; together with a general fidgetiness and state of exultation, indicating an excited condition of the brain, threatening a softening of that organ. In my opinion, these gorgeously gotten-up seed catalogues are the most insidious devices ever invented by the arch enemy for the purpose of depleting the pockets and souring the tempers of confiding and verdant gardeners and horticulturists, (such as Pisistratus and I, for instance). Speaking from my variegated experience, I consider them the natural enemies of rural felicity, and do utterly despise 'em. They are pouring in upon us from all directions, and I expect the wagon and Shem and Ham, (the ponies) will soon be called into requisition to haul seeds from various depots. One would suppose, after Pisistratus's meteor-like and exasperating experience of several seasons ago in onion growing, that the very name of onion would be nauseating to him forever after. But bless your heart, he is going to it again, with a greater stock of enthusiasm and on a larger scale than ever. Instead of six acres he proposes sowing eight this season, and the Lord only knows where we will be this time next year, if "unmerciful disaster follows fast and follows faster," as has been the case ever since Pisistratus felt that we were "called" to gardening. He says he'll not touch any of the old standard varieties this time; says they are humbugs, and seems to owe them a grudge—I expect he remembers the six acres he sowed in Weathersfield red, and Yellow Danvers when he was in the baion business before, when instead of harvesting onions he mowed five tons of weeds and fox tail hay. He intends sowing only the Big Mogul silver skin and the Champion Surprise—two novelties—I guess it will be a surprise. He is confident of harvesting two thousand bushels from the eight acres, and has ordered a car-load of sacks, and is getting out circulars intending to flood the country with 'em. The circulars contain a brilliant and exhaustive treatise on the culture of the onion, advising all to go into the business without delay. I confidently expect we'll be mobbed one of these days, and I tell Pisistratus that to be engaged in an onion riot, altho' it might do very well in the way of an advertisement, I should consider it unspeakable humiliation. He answers, "It's as good as any." He vows that he'll not sell a bushel of onions of the two thousand for less than three dollars, and "proposes keeping them until he can get that. I tell him he might as well be investing in half-a-dozen American fruit-dryers, first as last, for we'll have to dry 'em, or they won't keep—they'll spoil if they're not dried. To be sure it is not common to dry onions—in fact, I suppose it's very uncommon, but, who cares? Everything has to have a beginning, and maybe they'd be a good thing to keep in the house for sauce for unwelcome visitors—or to make presents of—I'm sure they would be good to feed our Berkshire—or would make excellent compost. Anyhow they'll keep if they're dried, a century or more. I wonder tho' if the drying process would have the effect of liberating their perfume and sending 'em floating? Merciful Elijah! The gases of two thousand bushels of onions rampant on our Kansas zephyrs. By-the-by, I have often wondered why no poet has ever thought it worth while to immortalize our Kansas zephyrs. I think I shall have to render them immortal in a "pome," tho' I can think of nothing better to compare them to than a drove of runaway mules on a rampage. I have a lingering suspicion that I have never seen them do their best—whenever I do, I shall hunt up another simile. Wiping the dust from my eyes, and sneezing it out of my long-suffering nose, I do most frankly and cheerfully acknowledge that Kansas is the best ventilated state in the Union. But revenons a nos onions. I think upon consideration we had better bury 'em pretty deep too, and keep 'em down 'till Pisistratus's customers come to terms.

We are going to have an Onion weeder, and a self-acting reversible mower; they are already ordered, with some other novelties that I will make the subject of another letter. The mower is for mowing weeds and onion hay and things, you know, and from what I can learn you have only to wind her up in the morning and start her off, and in the evening there won't be a weed left to tell the tale—not even a fox tail. She makes fence corners a specialty; that is one reason why Pisistratus is so taken with her. (I use the feminine gender in speaking of this novelty, because Pisistratus says she reminds him of an energetic female with her spunk up). He says he'll not be caught in such a fix again with such a heavy

crop of weeds on his hands and no mower. It is an encouraging sight to me to see him so thoughtful and provident—it raises my spirits. It proves too, that there is an underflow of doubt pervading his mind as to which'll beat, the weeds or the onions. I have already waded a silk dress on the weeds, but Pisistratus says that is owing to my unfortunate trait of always looking on the dark side. You may be sure it'll be an exciting race. My part will be similar to that of the old woman who stood by clapping her hands while her husband fought with the bear, and shouting, "Go it husband—go it bear!" So I will say, "go it weeds; go it onions."

Mr. Editor, I should feel under everlasting obligations to you if you would throw out some telling hits, wisely interspersed with good, sensible advice to onions growers, thro' the columns of the FARMER; or else write to Pisistratus. I know he would appreciate it, coming from a practical farmer and such good authority on all matters pertaining to agriculture and horticulture—(pray don't accuse me of flattery). It might, at least, have the effect of inducing him to postpone making out his onion plantation until the frost is out of the ground. He is threatening of commencing now soon, and getting the start of the weeds and the bugs, and every time the wind shifts to the south, I expect to see Pisistratus snatch his hat and rush out with a sack of onion seed under each arm. I tell him the sap is moving early this season surely.

If the onions go to grass again I do think Pisistratus ought to conclude that this is an unhealthy climate and sell out cheap, (if there's anything left to sell) and go in search of a more congenial onion climate. I think he might just as well be looking around now. It will be a rare chance for somebody who is an admirer of picturesque scenery, grand old primeval boulders, and lots of 'em, with plenty of moss, and a soil of such a deep golden hue, that I have been trying to induce Pisistratus to quit gardening and go to digging for gold—the ground must be full of it the way it looks. We think it is too rich for onions.

Whoever takes the place would have to take the onions crop, two thousand bushels, at Pisistratus's terms; in fact, that would be a stipulation, and if they didn't want the onions they couldn't have the peace. Pisistratus says he would rather sell 'em in the ground and offers to throw in the sacks. That's a liberal offer, now; then onions are so wholesome, you know. I am thinking of getting up a pamphlet on the virtues of the onion. Dr. Hall says it possesses such wonderful absorbent properties that it makes an excellent disinfectant, and is to be regarded as such. If that is the case with a handful of onions, the disinfecting virtues of two thousand bushels all in a heap could n't be estimated by words or money; that's why our place would be so valuable. As soon as I had read what Dr. Hall said, I thought to myself, "now I know where all the bad odors go to; (I have often wondered) they go into the onions." I trust the readers of the FARMER will think that whenever they eat onions, Pisistratus and I do, and we don't eat 'em.

The next time I write you, Mr. Editor, I will give you the names and uses of the different novelties Pisistratus has ordered, recommended by the said catalogues; he is having a house built to put them in. I am anxious, too, to ventilate my knowledge of stock growing, and will touch up the hog question in particular.

Big Knife Lodge, Wyandotte, Co. Kansas.

DR. EVERTS, in the Rushford, Minn., Star, says of the FARMER:

An old friend of ours—himself a farmer and thorough-going "anti-monopolist"—sends us a copy of the Kansas Farmer, a magnificent eight-page weekly journal, published at Topeka, in the best style of the typographic art, and edited with evident ability in the interest of the farming population. The fact that the farmers of Kansas have sustained such a sheet and carried it into its eleventh volume, bearing with it every evidence of the greatest prosperity, makes in itself a good showing of their general character and culture; when we look over long columns of home correspondence in the paper, and find such solid chunks of wisdom as appear in the extracts from a farmer's letter, (printed elsewhere), we are ready to put faith in the "farmers' movement," whenever the farmers will listen to each other and not go worshipping at the feet of loud-mouthed political prophets, who, finding no honor in their own country, come out into the fields and prophesy pleasant things in eloquent language, simply that they (the prophets) themselves may get a hearing.

THE KANSAS FARMER issues a supplement containing full proceedings of the Legislature with its weekly edition free to subscribers. Such a stroke of enterprise by the proprietor is remarkable and should be appreciated. The FARMER under its new management and in its new form is par excellence. May success attend Bro. Hudson in his efforts to give the farmers of Kansas a good agricultural paper. The Courier and Farmer are clipped at \$3 for both papers.—Seneca Courier.

THE KANSAS FARMER comes to hand replete with all kinds of profitable reading, suitable especially for farmers, got up in a neat, attractive style, and upon a perusal of the present number, we pronounce it one of the best that makes its appearance in Kansas. We would recommend it to every farmer in the land. We will send the News and the Farmer, (a quarto sheet), to any new subscriber for \$3.—Lincoln County News.

TO AGENTS OF THE KANSAS FARMER. Persons who have been empowered to act as agents for this paper, will please to bear in mind that no subscriptions are to be taken except at the rates and upon the terms published in the paper and circulars. The "Hard Pan" offer which is 25 copies, one year, for \$25.00, only applies where the number and amount is sent at one time, in one order. The subscriptions may be taken for any post office and in any number over 25, but must be sent in one order. Additions can only be made to the same club afterwards by sending ten or more at one time. Beyond this special offer for large clubs, there are no rates except given in our clubbing list with other payers which will be found very liberal. We have adopted uniform rates not only for subscription but also, for advertising, which will be strictly enforced.

Topics of the Day.

RETRENCHMENT AND ECONOMY.

When men feel they talk... When they suffer for they groan and writhe...

This is tax paying time... Men are in trouble and saying to each other what shall we do? It is so every year.

Now certainly this cause is too puerile for wise men... Our taxes are burdensome, greatly so...

CARBOLIC ACID.—In a late letter to the Mobile Register, Prof. Cochran, of the Alabama Medical College, questions the efficacy of carbolic acid as a disinfectant.

THEORY OF EARTHQUAKES.—In a discussion before one of our scientific societies, the hypothesis has been proposed that the centrifugal force of the diurnal rotation of the earth, acting on the fluid interior mass...

THE DEEPEST WELL IN THE WORLD.—At about twenty miles from Berlin is situated the village of Sprenberg, noted for the deepest well that has ever been sunk.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD ELECT THE SENATORS.

BY F. WELLHOUSE.

Another senatorial struggle is over, and one full week spent in getting through it. Now why in the name of common sense can not these senators be elected by the people?

The Iowa legislature has just spent weeks in electing a speaker of the house, and why not elect him as well as the president of the senate.

SPRING HILL, JOHNSON CO., KAN., Dec. 31. EDITOR FARMER: I have come to the conclusion that it is of no use for a farmer to show at our fairs, for they must show against the thorough bred stock.

THE TELEGRAPH IN CHINA.—The Great Northern Telegraphic Company has recently established a line between Wouing and Shanghai. Twenty words are sent for a dollar.

TOBACCO has been proscribed by the medical authorities of the English army for the use of the soldiers in the Ashantee war. It is accordingly furnished by the government to be served out to the troops as a regular ration.

Scientific Miscellany.

STEEL RAILS.—Eight establishments in the United States are now making rails from steel made by the Bessemer process. Their annual production is 150,000 tons, an aggregate which, it is expected, will ere long be increased some thirty-three per cent.

EXPERIMENTS shows that cold-blooded animals, like plants, die at different freezing temperatures. The honey-bee dies at -1 degree, C., the spider at -3 degrees; the flesh-fly survives a temperature of -6 degrees, the silk-worm-egg one of -21 degrees.

STORMS.—The director of the meteorological observatory in Central Park, in his report for 1873, shows by accurate tables that the mean heat of summer and the mean cold of winter are the same now as they were more than a century ago.

THE ICE CROP IN INDIANS is reported to be a poor yield to the acre. In former years Fort Wayne has raised enough not only for home consumption but to supply other points, but this year will be obliged to seek a supply in other localities.

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THE HOUSE COMMITTEE on Expenditures in the Department of Justice will ask the House for authority to send persons and papers to administer oaths in the discharge of its duties. About \$300,000 are said to have been expended in marshals' fees, and like amount in southern New York and South Carolina.

THE ICE IN THE RIVER at Troy, N. Y., broke up suddenly yesterday morning. Seven men who were at work on the Congress street bridge, took refuge in two barges moored to a pier. The barges were forced down the river to a point near Albany, where the ice became jammed.

FROM OMAHA. A large amount of ammunition is being shipped from Fort Leavenworth and Rock Island arsenals to the various posts in this department. All post commanders have been ordered to keep their commands in readiness to take the field against the Indians on a moment's notice.

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General News.

THE election of James M. Harvey as United States Senator from Kansas to fill the vacancy caused by Caldwell's resignation, seems to cause unmixed satisfaction among all parties in that state.

IN consequence of the disturbance in front of the captain general's palace Thursday evening several hundred policemen and a body of gendarmes were quartered in the vicinity of the palace last night, as a precautionary measure, but everything was quiet.

THE return of the British army from Coomassie is announced in dispatches from the Gold Coast. The war has been an almost bloodless one, and reflects great credit on the coolness, energy and foresight of the British General.

THE INDIAN BUREAU is considerably alarmed at the possibility of a general Indian war from the Plate to the Yellow Stone. For the past six months serious apprehensions have been entertained of an outbreak, especially among the younger braves of the Brule Sioux bands.

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Business Notices.

SOMETHING NEW.

At the present time a Piano or Organ is almost a necessity in every house, and the high price heretofore asked for a good instrument has been the only obstacle to their general use.

OUR MAMMOTH WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT.

We present our readers to-day with a supplement containing the proceedings of the Legislature. We do this in obedience to the expressed wish of many members of the farmer family, from all parts of the State.

OUR NEW ILLUSTRATED POSTER.

To any friend of the FARMER who will find a place to tack up our large, beautiful illustrated poster—such as a store, shop, station, or other public place—will confer a favor by sending us his name.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS.

Persons desirous of purchasing any agricultural works, published in this country or England, can do so through our agency.

GRANGER PRICES.

WE will sell, for the next sixty days, our large stock of Seeds and Implements to Grangers or any parties favoring us with orders accompanied with cash, at our regular wholesale price list.

FOR RENT OR LEASE.—In Rice county Kansas, a good improved farm, with groves of timber and living water; close to church and school.

RAW VALLEY NURSERY.—The proprietor of this Nursery offers 200,000 No. 1 Apple Root Grafts for sale on terms of one and two years.

GRANGE STORE.

196 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas, keep on hand a large stock of Dry Goods, Fancy Goods, Notions, Carrels Oil Cloths, Mattings, Window Shades and Grangers' Supplies.

WANTED.—A partner, experienced in the nursery business, a rare chance. Address, P. G. Carter, Emporia, Kansas.

Beekeeper's Directory.

BEEs, QUEENS, HIVES, HONEY EXTRACTORS AND APPLIANCES. Send for Circulars and Price List to SOAH CAMERON, LAWRENCE, KANSAS.

Breeders' Directory.

J. FIERY Emporia, Kansas, Breeder of Thoroughbred Short Horn Durham cattle. Three Bulls for sale at reasonable prices.

Nurserymen's Directory.

NORMAN & INGHAM, Hutchinson, Reno Co., Kansas, Dealers in Forest and Fruit Trees and Garden Seeds in bulk.

Seedsman's Directory.

KERN, STEBER & CO., SEEDSMEN, 211 Market street, St. Louis, Mo Illustrated Catalogue Free. Correspondence Solicited.

Sweet Potatoes!

I HAVE for sale Red and Yellow Nemomond Potatoes, and will have them in their season.

Market Review.

OFFICE OF THE KANSAS FARMER, TOPKA, KAN. FEB. 18, 1874.

Topeka Money Market.

KANSAS Pacific Gold Seven, May and Nov. 55 1/2 Kansas Pacific Gold Six, June and Dec. 55 1/2 Kansas Pacific Gold Sixes, Feb. and August 61 Kansas Pacific Income Securities, No. 11, 75 Kansas Pacific Income Securities, No. 12, 75 Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe First Mortgage 75 Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe L'd G't Bonds 50 1/2

LOCAL SECURITIES.

Kansas 7 per cent Bonds 98 City Scrip 85 Kansas 6 per cent Bonds 90 Dist. School Bonds 50 3/4 State Warrants 100 Money on ap'd sec. par month County Warrants 100 County 10 per cent improv't B'ds, 92 1/2

PRODUCE AND PROVISIONS.

APPLES—Green Michigan, per barrel, \$5 00; Native, per bushel, \$3 00. BEANS—White Navy, hand picked, extra choice, \$3 25 Medium, \$3 00; Common, \$2 00; Castor, \$1 40. BUTTER—Choice, 2c; Common Table, 2c; Medium, 1 1/2c; Fresh, 2c; Pickled, 15c.

Leavenworth Market.

LEAVENWORTH, February 18. FLOUR AND GRAIN. BARLEY—No. 1, \$1 00; No. 2, 90c; No. 3, 85c. CORN—Shelled, 50c; Yellow, 40c; Ear, 3c. RYE—No. 1, 80c; No. 2, 75c.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

CATTLE—Supply limited and demand good for fat cattle. Native Steers, \$4 00; Cows, \$3; Texas Steers, 3 1/2. HOGS—Receipts light and demand good at extreme range Live Hogs, \$4 00; \$4 25; Dressed—Good to Choice, 5 50; Light, 4 75.

PRODUCE.

BUTTER—Choice, 20c; Firkin, 20c; Cooking, 14c. EGGS—20c. BEANS—White Navy, \$2 50. POTATOES—Early Rose, \$1 40; Peachblows, \$1 50.

Kansas City Market.

KANSAS CITY, February 18. FLOUR—XXX, per sack, \$3 50; XXX, \$3 25; XX, \$3 00; X, \$2 75; Rye, per cwt, \$2 25; Choice, \$4 00. BUTTER—Choice, 2c; Good, 1 1/2c; Common, 1 1/2c.

CATTLE AND HOGS.

CATTLE—Native Steers, \$4 50; Fat Oxen \$4 25; \$4 50; Texas Steers and Cows mixed, \$3 45; Hogs—\$4 50.

St. Louis Market.

ST. LOUIS, February 18. WHEAT—Spring No. 2, \$1 25; \$1 25; Fall No. 3, \$1 45. CORN—No. 2 mixed, 62c. OATS—No. 2 mixed, 43c. RYE—Kansas, \$1 35; No. 1, 1 1/2.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, February 18. LAND WARRANTS. Land Warrants, 160 acres, - - - Buying \$160 Selling \$160 Land Warrants, 120 acres, - - - Buying 120 Selling 140

PRODUCE AND PROVISIONS.

WHEAT—No. 1 Spring, \$1 25; No. 2, \$1 20; No. 3, \$1 15. CORN—No. 2, mixed, 55c. OATS—No. 2, 42c. RYE—No. 2, 90c.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, February 18. FLOUR—Superfine, \$5 00; Good to Choice, \$5 50; White Wheat Extra \$5 75. WHEAT—No. 2 Chicago Spring, \$1 40; No. 3, \$1 35; Iowa Spring, \$1 45; North-west Spring, \$1 40.

Atchison Market.

ATCHISON, February 18. CORN—40c. WHEAT—Spring, \$0 95; Fall, \$1 15; No. 1, \$1 15. RYE—50c. OATS—20c.

Junction City Market.

JUNCTION CITY, February 18. WHEAT—Spring, 90c; Fall, \$1 00; No. 1, \$1 00. CORN—50c. OATS—75c.

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

From the Galaxy.

A QUESTION.

BY MARY B. RITTER.

What if your life had been a barren thing—Barren of all that made it good and wise.

Think if one day upon that desert waste A great light fell, and dazzled and struck blind.

Suppose sometimes it glowed clear, warm and bright And lifted you above all common need.

Whereat you gathered, trembling and afraid. The treasures of your life—all that was good—

And cast them down—a costly gift—to stay But for a little time the lightning light.

Think if the bribe were powerless, and you lay Voiceless, dethroned—no refuge—none to save:

YOU LOOK LIKE A GRANGER!

A country lady friend of mine went to the city recently to do some shopping, and as it was a very cold day and she a sensible woman she was clad accordingly, with over shoes, warm gloves, hood, furs, etc., and considered herself well dressed; but imagine her surprise when, on calling for a friend who had engaged to accompany her to the shops, she was told that she looked like a granger, and was gently reminded that she had better uncover her head and throat and take off her arctics.

The feeling that she had been patronized with advice about her appearance, because she was from the country, was the paramount one; she did not condescend to retaliate by telling the city friends that she would not go out in such weather with the front part of her neck bare below the collar bone, and kid shoes on her feet, if she knew a little more about the laws of health, and neither did she acknowledge to her that she knew city people were as a rule more handsomely dressed than country people; she simply felt that her friends ought to have known that country people think of all these things, and have feelings, and know something of what constitutes good manners.

We believe town people often make such mistakes without any desire to wound, and indeed sometimes through kindness only, but it can hardly be supposed that any reasonably sensitive woman, to whom such a suggestion was offered, would fail to think on the instant, "she is ashamed of me," and whether the hint is adopted or not the pleasure of the meeting is very much marred.

There is no good reason why city people should not use as much etiquette and show as much respect in their intercourse with country folks as vice versa; we do not mean that there are no reasons why country people should not shout on the streets as those from the town usually do when they get beyond the suburbs we do not object to them doing that, it does not disturb many people among the woods and fields, but they need not say if they meet a half grown bashful boy, "well, John how's the crops?" neither need they strain their necks to look in at every window, nor forget to thank the little girl that carries a drink out to the gate for them after they have hallooed to know if we have any fresh drinking water.

We had an experience last summer which we hope is rather rare, for no body likes young folks and their fun better than we, we were one ourselves upon a time, and the same true knight that we know so well was one at the same time and place.

Everybody has heard a load of boys and girls old enough to be young gentlemen and ladies go along a country road singing in full chorus; it is something we always enjoy and at the time we refer to a lady and gentleman of culture and good breeding as well as learning, and whose society we prized and enjoyed, chanced to be spending a day with us, when such a merry boy came along, stopped at the gate and all alighted; of course they requested water, there was no other excuse for such an intrusion, and one by one they all seated themselves on the porch, and there they sat for an hour, laughing, talking, joking about the children at play in the yard, indulging in what they supposed to be witty repartee, eating peanuts and oranges and throwing the litter under their feet until they had satisfied themselves that they had "brass" enough to show country people that they did not consider we had any rights town people were bound to respect. What would have been thought of such a procedure in town, we cannot think; the police would have been sent for, or they would have been told to go, and "stand not upon the order of their going," and even we had the satisfaction of telling them, as they departed, that country people sometimes know when they see ladies and gentlemen.

It is proposed to get up a cemetery near New York, of about one hundred acres in extent, for the burial of people who have been talked to death. The idea is a good one, but the cemetery ought to be larger.

For the Kansas Farmer.

A STORY FOR NONE BUT SCOLDS.

BY MRS. MABEL S. DENNIS.

Mrs. Stebbins stood shading her eyes with one hand, and gazing up the road toward the school house.

"Well, it beats the world!" she said aloud, "here it is a quarter past five this minute, and Henrietta Stebbins not in sight yet; curious to me why a girl of her age can't have a little interest in things about her own home. I tell you if I hadn't had at her age it would have been pounded into me, that is one sure thing; here is all the milk to be skimmed, and it is time to build a fire for supper, and out under the big kettle, to heat the water for the calves' mess; the eggs to be gathered in, and there is that big yellow hen that makes such a good mother wants to set, and I was going to send Henrietta over to Mrs. Cruni's this very night to get."

"Ha-ha-ha, he-o-e-e!" Mrs. Stebbins cut short her sentence and whirled around to see her jolly, fat husband standing in the kitchen door wiping the sweat from his face, and laughing "ha-ha-ha!"

"What are you laughing at, Mr. Stebbins? if you can tell; if it is at me, I would advise you to just wait for some more mirth-provoking occasion."

"Don't need any better one, wife, not a bit! this is rich enough; haven't I stood ten minutes, and heard you practicing here all by yourself?"

"Practicing what! Mr. Stebbins?"

"On a first class scolding which you're going to give Ett, for being late home to-night, and I 'spose she's had to wait to take another from the school Miss, for being late to school this morning." Mighty good thing for Ett, she takes after her old father and has got such plump broad shoulders, else she couldn't stand so much as she gets all around me, but mother—(hesitatingly) come now, don't you believe Ett. would do most as well if not a little better if you didn't scold her quite so much—eh? Yonder she comes now, running like a deer—and this hot night! 'nough to kill her."

And farmer Stebbins, dear old soul, having had his drink for which he came in, and having said a volume more than he often ventured to say, went quickly back to the garden, not waiting for his wife to recover from her chagrin and astonishment sufficiently to answer him but saying to himself, "No, mother's just the best woman at heart, and never means the half she says. I wish she wouldn't scold so much, it's all she lacks, tho' 'mebbe of brains perfect and ready for 'mother world, but it frets the girl so, and don't do no good, not enough to pay any way; that's how it seems to me, and Ett's pretty good little gal 'cordin' to my reckoning that is."

Henrietta Stebbin's pretty round face was all aglow with something beside the running when she reached home that Monday night, she expected to "catch an awful scolding" for being so late, but her mother simply said:

"I hope you have had enough schooling for one day," pointing to the clock:

"It's too bad mother I know, and you so tired with washing; I didn't think it was so late though you see Miss Mott was helping me with my arithmetic, something I was too stupid to get through my head all day, and some way I couldn't see through it, for ever so long to-night—but I did at last, it is so plain now and you don't know how glad I am, I do want to go into the sixth grade when I go down town to school and Miss Mott says she is sure I can if I'll finish that arithmetic. Now what is first for me to do?" having rolled up her sleeves and tied on a big checked apron while talking.

Unluckily, she had touched the wrong chord by speaking of that most cherished of all precious plans, "going to town to school" which her father had promised she should do in September and which her mother persisted in calling "the greatest piece of foolishness."

"Do? do what has got to be done of course, enough to be done, and I should think a girl of your age might see it without waiting to be told every identical thing. Here is milk to be skimmed, supper to be got ready, calves' feed to be made, eggs to be hunted, clothes to be taken down and sprinkled, and there you stand as unconcerned, asking "what shall I do?" You can do just what you please. I'll not tell you a mortal thing," and Mrs. Stebbins drew on a doleful, most-abused look, wrinkling up her forehead and setting her lips firmly on her teeth.

Poor Ett! She thought her mother had told her enough to do she only wondered what she would rather have done first, and knew she would have to be extremely careful or she would bring upon herself a storm of words she could see were only gathering against the provocation came; but she felt to work bravely and quickly doing those things her mother had named as she came to them, wishing meanwhile her "head would stop aching."

She was a good girl, and had profited by her mother's teachings and could work almost as quickly and well about most things pertaining to the general housework as her mother herself, and as she went on quietly she had the satisfaction of seeing "the storm was blowing over;" the wrinkles in the forehead lessened in number and depth, the mouth regained its more pleasing expression and herself began to breathe more freely.

Supper was ready, and she had called to her father to come and was taking the clothes off the line as she went back when her mother called her.

"Oh, Henrietta! Henrietta, come here, quick!"

She dropped the clothes pin she had just pulled off, and ran in through the sitting room depositing the armful of clothes on the lounge as she ran.

"Come, you are the pokiest girl, and do try my patience, why could n't you come when I called you?"

"Why, mother, I did just as fast as I could. I had an armful of clothes I was taking down."

"Of course! you always have an armful of clothes then, or something when I need you. You had better say a headful of going to town to school, and then you would hit it about right. I do just hope and pray something will turn up to keep you at home, it has been nothing but that for a year, and for my part I have had all I want of it. Now, run over to Mrs. Cruni's and get those eggs she promised me from her brahmas. I want to set old yellow to night, and had like to have forgotten it with so many million thing to worry me; don't stop to talk! Do you hear, Henrietta Stebbins?"

"Yes'm, I do hear!" answered back Ett, and away she went, cross-lots to Mrs. Cruni's fast as she could for her aching head and the pain in her side which had come during her run home from school, and which had not left yet, but it was only a little way, just a few yards—thirty or forty may be, and she got the eggs and was home again just as her father and the men from the field went into the supper room followed by her mother, who, seeing her turned to say:

"Well, you did go quick once in your life, I must say! Now, child take that crock of cream out to the cave so it won't get warm, and then come to your supper—hurry now! don't keep us waiting for you."

Ett took the crock full of cream, and staggered at first under its weight, but she often carries heavier things than that—but "what if something should happen as ma hopes there will, to keep me from going away from home to school. Oh, dear! seems to me I had rather die than to—"

She did not finish her sentence, not then, nor ever, I guess. She was hurrying so, all the time, because she knew that whenever her mother was in the mood she was in that night she always had father wait for her to be at the table before the blessing was asked, and she did not want to provoke her mother any more.

She set her crock down to open the door of the cave, a sort of trap door it was, that stood slanting so as to shed water, and it was always heavy to open, and heavy to hold while she let it down, which her mother always bade her "do carefully so as not to slam it all to pieces" it was dreadfully heavy to-night, but it was open now, and she stooped down to raise her crock of cream, stepping down one step as she did so, by way of lifting it more easily, and also to gain time when—"What does all my head?" she thought, and splash! went the cream; crash! went the crock, and into one and on the other fell our Ett, headlong into the cave, where she lay perfectly quiet.

In the house at the table they sat, Mr. Stebbins looking at his wife a little anxiously to see whether the indications there were to proceed or to wait; they seemed to his practical eye to be, wait. So they sat silently waiting one full minute, then another, then Mrs. Stebbins fidgetted in her chair and exclaimed (thoughtfully for once): "That girl can't hurry to save her life, don't wait for her, Mr. Stebbins, if you are in a hurry."

So the good man said "grace" reverently; after which Mrs. Stebbins poured the tea, and thought she would "set" it on the stove to keep hot, and just see what could keep Henrietta." She looked out toward the cave—no one there! So she stepped quickly out along the path, in a stealthy sort of a way, wondering the while "what can the child be doing, not eating sour cream I hope!"

"Goodness me! what next? I'd like to ask, if she hasn't fallen in and split my cream and broke the crock all to smidgens, the awkward hussy! Henrietta! Henrietta Stebbins!"

Henrietta did not even so much as stir, and her mother drew her skirts up about her instinctively to keep them from the cream-spattered walls, and stepped cautiously down into the cave. She next proceeded to lift up her child, and turned up a white face with bloodless lips, the sight of which somewhat sent the strength away from her arms and knees, and it was a full minute before she found enough in her voice with which to shout:

"Father! Father-r-r!"

When father and the man who helped him laid the limp form on the lounge (from which Mrs. Stebbins had hastily taken a great armful of dry clean clothes) Ett sighed, opened her eyes and moaned so pitifully, then fainted again, "dead'n ever," Mr. Stebbins said.

The men went back and finished their supper, all but father he and mother ate no supper that night.

When the doctor came and made some examinations he found "Left leg broken in two places; be a long time 'fore she's round again Mrs. Stebbins, months anyway—if she ever gets well 'twill cripple her for life like as not, terrible fall, it's that broken crock as done it!" Something like a sob choked Mrs. Stebbins, as she thought of what she had said not an hour before, but "indeed, I did not really mean it, that anything would turn up to keep her from going to town to school."

In the weeks of watching that followed, when Ett's life hung as it were upon the thinnest thread, when in the delirium of fever, her child—the only one God had ever entrusted to

her care, would throw her arms wildly around and cry: "Oh, mother? don't scold me so," Mrs. Stebbins had ample time to repent of that one imperfection which certainly kept her from "bein' ready for the other world," and made both her husband and child often very miserable; certain it is, they neither of them ever heard her scold again, and tho' September had gone, and winter passed away, and bright spring had come before a pale lame girl, (although she was rapidly getting over even her lameness) left the old farm for "school in town," she went with not only her father's permission but her mother's hearty sanction.

From Scribner's for February.

LOVE'S LAND.

BY LOUISA C. MOULTON.

In the South is Love's land, Where the roses blow, Where the summer lingers, Fearless of the snow.

There no winter chills it, So its life is long— Gentle breezes fan it, Age but makes it strong.

Now: fresh roses wither Where the sun is hot— Not in torrid regions Blooms forget-me-not.

Love's tender blossom, Which the winter chills, But too eager Summer With its kisses kills.

For the Kansas Farmer.

A KANSAN IN EUROPE.—No. 5.

BY RAMBLER.

Some of our fellow travelers, intending to stop and visit Sterling Castle, invited us to stop also, and as there were several ladies in the party, it did not require a great deal of urging to induce us to comply with the request. In point of historical interest this castle is not excelled by any in Great Britain. After passing over the drawbridge and through the gateway, we find the castle to be of a quadrangular form, built on a rocky eminence and surrounded by a battlemented wall 1 1/2 feet thick, all in a good state of preservation, and now used as barracks for soldiers. First, we enter the chapel, built by James VI in 1504. Here it was that Mary was crowned Queen of Scots. It is used as an armory and store room now, and contains 17,000 stand of arms, besides a lot of interesting relics, among which is the pulpit from which John Knox preached the coronation sermon of James VI; a tilting lance of that monarch, and an axe from the field of Bannockburn.

Next, we enter the castle itself. The lower floors are all occupied by the soldiers, so after passing through the first entrance, we ascend a narrow, winding, stone staircase, and reach the second landing. Here we are shown into the "Douglas room." It was in this room that James II stabbed to the heart William, Earl of Douglas, because he refused to break off a bond of confederacy with the Earl of Crawford. One of the ladies of our party gives us a quotation from Scott's "Lady of the Lake," in which he refers to this room:

Ye towers, within whose circuit dread, A Douglas by his sovereign bled.

The only occupant of this room is an old woman who sells photographic and stereoscopic views of the castle and surroundings. This being all there is of interest to see inside the castle, we are taken by the guide to the ramparts on the wall outside, and pointed out the field of Bannockburn, where Robert Bruce vanquished the English army.

To the south of the castle, on another hill, is the cemetery. The grounds are tastefully laid out, and we see many monuments and headstones as old as the fifteenth century. The past and present are romantically linked together in this old churchyard; one monument in particular was very much admired by all present—it is called the "Martyrs' Monument," and is represented by two female figures, one a child of twelve or fourteen years of age, sitting on a rock, the elder girl with her arm around the younger one, in her lap an open Bible, as if in the act of reading to her the truths of the Scriptures, a lamb lies at their feet—the emblem of innocence—and in the rear and leaning over them stands the figure of an angel, with half opened wings, a wreath of flowers in her hand to crown the youthful teacher. The figures are of full size, and of the whitest of Italian marble; the base is of granite. The inscription beneath gives the history, and is as follows: "Sacred to the memory of Margaret McLaughlan and Margaret Wilson, who suffered martyrdom on the 11th of May, 1685, by being tied to stakes and drowned in the bay of Wighton by the rising of the Solway tide, for holding the opinions of the covenanters." Taking it altogether, it is the handsomest piece of marble work we have yet seen, and is an honor to the sculptor who wrought it.

UNCLE BILLY WOODHAMS is an old and sly resident of Plainwell, Mich. His reputation is established there as practical joker, and his crowning joke—extremely practical in its nature—is told by the village paper in this way: "The family and a few friends assembled at the residence of Mrs. Gilky (that was) last evening, to witness as they supposed, the marriage of the lady with Mr. Woodhams, but were somewhat surprised, just at the moment the vow was to be taken, to see the minister omit the usual ceremony and introduced the twain as Mr. and Mrs. Woodhams." They had been married more than a year, but the joke had grown to good to keep.

Read the Club List.

KANSAS NEWSPAPERS.

Table listing various Kansas newspapers and their prices, including Topeka Commonwealth and Farmer, Leavenworth Times, Educational Journal, Topeka Record, etc.

OTHER NEWSPAPERS.

Table listing other newspapers from various locations like Rochester, Buffalo, Louisville, etc., and their prices.



