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Eastern and Western Farming--Manure.

Kansas Farmer:

This is the time of year when farmers have time to "read up," study and write, and much may be learned by consulting with our brother farmers through the medium of our agricultural papers, concerning the various subjects connected with our calling upon which we wish to give or receive information. The writer of this has not been in Kansas two years yet, consequently the West is yet something new; but he has faith in Kansas and also in the *KANSAS FARMER*. All its departments, and especially the editorial pages are filled with good solid information and advice which is of great benefit to any farmer who will read with the object of being benefited, even though he be a "well-read man." We get several agricultural papers, but among them all the *KANSAS FARMER* stands first in usefulness. We commenced taking it before coming to this State, and it has been of use in making the change from the methods of farming in vogue there to those which we find here; for while the general principles of farming are much the same here as in the East, there is a great difference in the details, and the Eastern farmer coming here has considerable to learn. My observation, however, leads me to believe that we should hang to some of our old principles if we would attain the highest success in tilling even the virgin prairie soil; for by this skimming process, of which we find so much in all new countries, the most fertile soil will finally become impoverished, just as a man would by living and keeping his family on the principal of his money and not having any income. It is far easier to keep rich land in heart by saving and applying the manure made on the farm than it is to bring it up after it has had the cream taken off. In many parts of the East the farmers are now reaping the result of this same plan, which was once practiced there. The writer is acquainted with tracts of land in Ohio which are naturally good strong soil, containing an abundance of plant food, and which, when new, produced large crops just as the Western prairies are now doing, but by this system of butcherly farming, shallow plowing, working the soil when too wet, continuous cropping (mostly with flax and corn), but above all, by making very little if any return of fertilizing material to the land, has been reduced to such a state of poverty that it scarcely produces enough to pay the taxes, almost the only production of some pieces being the weed known as five-finger and a light, fine, worthless grass which we call "poverty grass." To restore the fertility of such lands the owner is compelled to resort to expensive commercial fertilizers, to augment his carefully-husbanded supply of barn-yard manure, while, had a reasonable return been made while the land was yet productive, the fertility could easily have been maintained and even increased, and instead of now being a bill of expense it would be a continual source of income.

Brother farmers of Kansas, would it not be well for us to profit by the example of our Eastern neighbors and save our manure while our farms are yet new and rich and will grow crops sufficient to make a good pile to haul out each year? If not, why not? If allowed to go to waste, it brings us nothing and is generally a disadvantage both in the matter of convenience and health, to say nothing of looks; and if we save and apply it to our fields, it certainly costs us

nothing but some labor for ourselves and teams, a good part of which can be done in the winter when work is slack. Then we will never dwindle down to "half a crop;" neither will we have to buy superphosphate or bone-dust at \$40 a ton to enrich worn-out farms.

FLOWBOY.

Wayland, Shawnee county, Kas.

["Plowboy" is right on the manure question, as many of our farmers have learned. We ought to make and use all the manure possible. It is money saved every time.—Ed. K. F.]

About the Storm West.

Kansas Farmer:

The late storm has been the severest on stock that has occurred to the oldest settler in central Kansas, the greatest fall of snow, with the longest cold spell. Cattle, sheep

The Storm in the Southwest.

Kansas Farmer:

We have had a succession of the most severe storms that I have ever witnessed in Kansas or any other State I think except in Dakota. It broke loose on New Year's night, and continued until Monday night with wind and snow from the north, drifting terribly, filling sheds and stables and banking up all shelters on the south sides of stacks, wind-breaks and sheds. It was not very cold, so that stock that got covered did not suffer so much. Then we had two days to rest, and I employed all the time cleaning out my hog nests and supplying fresh straw and cleaning out my sheds and stables preparatory for another blizzard, and that I felt certain was coming. Thursday it came in great force and lasted forty-eight hours, worse than the first, drifting and blowing

has sired ten pigs that now head breeders herds, and his stock has been shipped to eight States and two Territories during the past year. He took four first premiums before he was five months old. He is as active and muscular a Poland-China as may be seen in the show ring, and his full weight is about 700 pounds.

Notes from Ellsworth.

Special correspondence *KANSAS FARMER*.

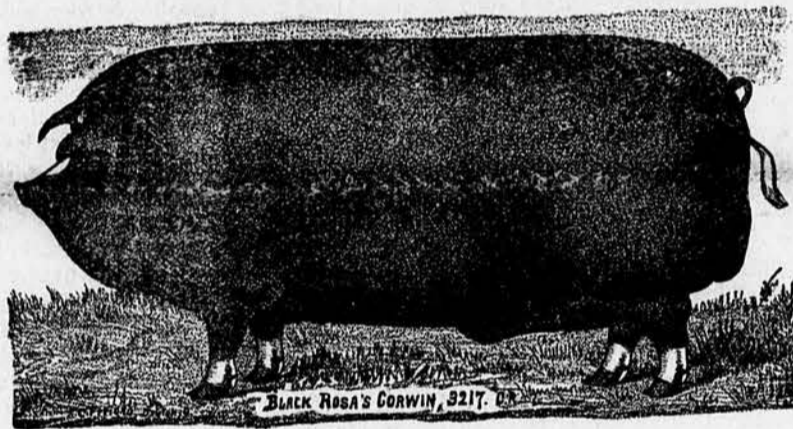
Ellsworth county is situated near the central portion of the State of Kansas, and is destined to be a leading county of this great commonwealth, being admirably adapted to both stock and agricultural purposes. Population of county is 10,500; indebtedness only \$34,000; average rate of taxation is 70 cents on every \$100 of real valuations. Ellsworth, the county seat, contains a population of 2,500, is flourishing, and everybody happy. The Smoky, an excellent water-power stream, is of immense value to the city and county. Mills and elevators in abundance and doing well; schools and churches afford ample educational and religious advantages; hotels are first-class, which speaks well for the city's welfare. The newspapers do credit to the place and community of which they form an important factor. Immigration is heading this way at an astonishing rate. Many other good things might be said of this fine county and city had we space and time to enumerate them. However, I will say that the acreage of wheat is 50,000, the stand excellent, none frozen out, being protected by the snows, which are indeed a blessing to any community. Old corn on hand at present will exceed 500,000 bushels, and it retails at an average of 20 cents per bushel.

The recent severe cold spell has been hard on stock, and out of a probable 31,000 head of sheep, 1,500 have died, mostly smothered to death by over-crowding. Of hogs, about 3 per cent have died by same process, while loss of cattle will not exceed 1 per cent. During last quarter 6,400 rabbit scalps were brought to the County Clerk for bounty, divided among 350 persons, mostly boys. One boy captured and brought in 247 scalps, and not a very good day for rabbits, either. For the foregoing pointers your correspondent is indebted to N. H. McCoy, the affable and energetic County Clerk. HORACE.

We are told "it is the early bird that catches the worm." We all know that it is the early pullet that lays the first fall and winter eggs. Every prudent poulterer, therefore, should see to it that they are well cared for, as it is these early eggs which fetch the best prices.

The story is circumstantially told by the *London Times* that a certain baronet, watching to catch the thief who nightly stole eggs from his pantry, saw rats removing them by an ingenious process. One rat clasped an egg with all his legs, turned on his back, and was drawn off with his load by his companions, who held his tail between their teeth as a tug rope.

One of the most common weeds in all southern and western Texas is the trompillo (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*), whose black berries when ripe have the remarkable property of curdling milk, though they disclose no acid reaction. The Mexicans crush the fruit, put it into a muslin bag, and submerge this in a pan of milk until coagulation has taken place.



OWNED BY W. S. HANNA, OTTAWA, KAS.

and hogs have died by hundreds. Game of all kinds have perished on account of the heavy snow drifts. Railroads are completely blockaded; there has not been a freight or accommodation train from Denver for twenty-two days, and, if I am right, not more than two mail trains. We have been getting our mail in bulk, something of the olden-time stages, etc. But with all the cold weather and storms, those that took good care of their stock and did not leave them drift with the storm, have lost very little. My neighbor, Goff, who is holding 100 head, has lost none. I lost one heifer out of seventy head. Some hogs were lost on account of smothering in the snow drifts; also some sheep. One cattleman on East Wolfe, Russell county, lost forty-three head out of about 200. The fall of snow at this place was about twenty-eight inches and drifted in piles from four to twenty feet. But the western portion of this State has suffered in stock and are still suffering. No feed, with the prairie covered with snow, is death to stock. Many settlers in the new counties have suffered. But we in the counties of Ellsworth, Russell, Lincoln and Barton, are all right. Our wheat crop for 1885 was light, but corn, oats, millet, etc., in abundance. Our country is improving, and well-to-do farmers are in good shape.

J. T. MCKITTRICK.

Wilson, Ellsworth Co., Jan. 23.

A prominent physician of Athens, Ga., who has had many cases of sore throat lately, made an investigation, and found that nearly every one of them was caused by cigarette smoking.

terribly. I have never seen such drifts. The snow banked up in every open space, and blew through the smallest crack or crevice, and hung by every straw, and stuck to every board like paint. Thousands of cattle and sheep and hogs perished in this storm. Such as had shelter seemed to be no better off than those more exposed. In some instances cattle and sheep were buried to the depth of six or eight feet. The snow was so dry and packed so hard in the drifts that most of the stock that was covered smothered before they were got out.

Still the rough weather continues, but not so cold. We have learned one fact, that one extreme follows another, and we could have expected little else after so long and pleasant a fall. I do not look for the winter to continue at this rate. We will be likely to have a good deal of fine weather soon. The wheat and rye crop looked splendid and this snow will be a fine thing for it, and we look for a prosperous and early spring, and the indications are that there are good or at least better times in store for us southwest Kansas people than in former years.

W. J. COLVIN.

Black Rosa's Corwin No. 3217.

Black Rosa's Corwin No. 3217, the subject of illustration this week, stands at the head of Granger Herd, and is said to be one of the finest animals ever shipped west of the Mississippi river. He has sixteen first-premium animals, including two sweepstakes hogs at St. Louis, on his pedigree, and four \$500 hogs which head four of the largest and most popular herds east of the Mississippi, and ought to be as good as any of them. He

The Stock Interest.

PUBLIC SALES OF FINE CATTLE.

Dates claimed only for sales advertised in the KANSAS FARMER.

May 4—Leavenworth County Short-horn Breeders, Leavenworth.
 May 4—W. P. Higinbotham, Short-horns, Manhattan, Kas.
 May 19—Col. W. A. Harris, Cruickshank Short-horns, at Kansas City, Mo.
 May 26—Powells & Bennett, Short-horns, Independence, Mo.
 May 26—W. A. Powell, Short-horns, Lee's Summit, Mo.
 May 27—U. P. Bennett & Son, Short-horns, Lee's Summit, Mo.
 June 1—Shepherd, Hill & Mathers, Short-horns, Jack-sonville, Ill.
 June 4—Johnson County Short-horn Breeders, Olathe, Kas.
 Tuesday and Wednesday of next Kansas City Fat Stock Show, Inter State Breeders' Association, Short-horns.

Fat Cattle—Where is the Profit?

The fat stock show just closed at Chicago demonstrates unmistakably the disposition of feeders to bestow their attention upon animals of two years and under. Any one who attends these shows regularly must be impressed with the gradual disappearing of the older and the wonderful improvement in the quality of the younger animals. The very close competition and serious consideration given to each and every point that goes to make up a profitable steer helps to crystallize the half-formed opinions and beliefs of those most interested. The stringency of the times gives force to everything bearing upon the subject of economical beef production.

The prizes offered for "cost of production" have elicited some valuable information. As quite in line with all the other cases, we may take the example of Mr. Gillett's fine Short-horn steer, "Mammoth." At twelve months he weighed 1,400 pounds and had cost \$44.96, or about three and one-fourth cents per pound. At the end of the second year he had made a wonderful gain, weighing 2,250 pounds and had cost \$102, or about four and one-half cents per pound. At three years he weighed 2,450 pounds and had cost \$186, or more than seven and one-half cents per pound. And just here is the point for feeders to note: When an animal has such weight and age that the food required to support it is very considerable, then and there profit ends. This steer at three and one-half years showed no gain, but the cost of keep had been so great that his weight had cost almost nine cents per pound.

We see at what a fine profit he might have been sold when one year or two years old, and how considerably the loss at three years. A plain lesson for us is to find an animal that will grow and get fat young and then learn how to feed economically. This steer, Mammoth, ate during his third year an average of twenty-three pounds of corn per day in addition to good pasture. Now here was great waste. Can any one tell us how it might have been prevented?

Prof. Stewart, in a recent article in the *Country Gentleman* upon "The Cost of Good Beef," gives some tables of facts collated from the seven fat stock shows:

SUMMARY OF SEVEN SHOWS ACCORDING TO AGE.

	Age, Days.	Average Weight.	Gain per day.
23 head.....	300	780	2.60
119 head.....	625	1,351	2.16
99 head.....	926	1,617	1.74
92 head.....	1,278	1,893	1.48

GAIN IN PERIODS.

1st period.....	300	780	2.60
2d period.....	325	571	1.76
3d period.....	310	266	0.88
4th period.....	352	275	0.78

"This last table showing the gain in periods gives an instructive summary of the whole matter. All these large numbers of steers are supposed to have grown alike through each period; and this may properly be assumed since we give only averages. The individual is lost in the aggregate; yet the individual

modifies the averages, and as these averages include the animals of the shows of seven years the figures should be considered reliable. It is thus most conclusively proved that by the natural law of animal growth the daily gain decreases as the age of the animal increases, under good feeding as well as under poor feeding."

It will be seen from the above tables that the average gain during the first year was more than two and a half pounds per day, the second year the daily gain was a third less than during the first year, and so on with an ever-diminishing gain per day. If the result is such with good feeding, what must it be under ordinary management? If it costs money to put on flesh what justification has the farmer when he allows his steers to lose during the winter the gain of the summer? Next year he must be at additional expense to put on the very same number of pounds again with the added difficulty of age to combat.—*Indiana Farmer.*

How I Raise Sheep.

This was the topic of a successful wool-grower, at the late meeting of the Iowa live stock men. He said:

"I would prefer pure-bred stock, but as that is expensive I usually get grades and breed up, for it takes but a short time to breed up a good flock. I have always used pure-bred Merino rams, being convinced that for profit where sheep are kept in flocks of 100 or more there is no equal to the Merino and its crosses. I aim to couple so as to have lambs dropped as soon as grass comes in spring. I want lambs to come early, yet not before there is pasture enough so that the ewes will have plenty of milk. During lambing time I keep a close watch, and if a lamb is dropped—unless it is warm weather—I see that it goes to the stable at once and as soon as possible see that it sucks—after which no further care is needed, except in storms. I aim to castrate all lambs before three weeks old and wean them by September 1st. During summer I know nothing better than good blue grass and that kept pretty short, as sheep do not like long grass. I never feed grain in summer, yet when pasture is short I think a little grain would pay. I feed lightly at first in the fall, but by the time winter sets in I aim to give full feed of about one bushel of corn to 100 head per day, with plenty of hay. While on dry feed in winter it is important that sheep should have plenty of water. When the cold fall rains commence they should be kept dry, as no sheep will thrive when its coat of wool is soaked full of water.

"Good care and shelter are just as important as good feeding, for sheep well sheltered will shear from one to two pounds more per fleece than when exposed to the weather, and the wool will sell for a higher price in the market; with fine-wool sheep the wool can be left on till quite late in the season—first, because there is great danger of losing sheep by cold storms, if sheared too early in the season; and, second, the wool is not in the best condition until the 'grease' raises, which will not be until the weather is quite warm. We usually sell as soon as the clip is ready. I think Merino sheep and their crosses the most profitable, because they being smaller, eat less and shear much more than the coarser ones. You can keep at least five fine-wools on the same feed you keep three coarse ones."

The number of sheep slaughtered for mutton annually, in this country alone, is roughly estimated at 12,000,000, and from these the bulk of what is known as "pulled" wool comes.

A Farmer on Barns.

Mr. W. D. Boynton, in *Farmers' Review*, says: "The barn is a most important institution upon the farm in our variable American climate and seasons. That this fact is fully understood and appreciated by our farmers is plainly indicated by the general character of our farm barns. No other country can boast of such uniformly good buildings of this description.

"But while we are vastly ahead of other nations in this respect, we are, owing to our greatly increased needs in this line, much behind the actual necessities of the case. As hinted at above, our climate and seasons demand the very best housing quarters for animals, and secure storage room for all products of the farm. The great majority of farmers, it is needless to say, have not such facilities in this line as are really needed. The improvement in our barns may be as marked as those of our houses, that have taken place in the last generation or two; but there is still room for great improvements in this line as well as in the other.

"The hovel of poles and straw has been supplanted by the neat frame barn many, very many years ago in our older settled portions of the country. Along our water lines the transposition process still goes on. When the settler in a timber country moves onto his wild, rough claim, his first thought is of shelter for the winter. The rough, unhewn timber from his land offers the readiest means for providing this needed shelter. These serve an excellent purpose for a time, but he soon wants more room and wishes to build after a permanent plan; and now comes the common mistake; he has, perhaps, half of his land cleared up and under cultivation. He puts up a barn that is of ample dimension with, perhaps, a little to spare at the time; but as his cultivated acres increase in number, and the wants of the land demand more stock, he finds it quite inadequate to his needs. He too often falls into the way of keeping his stock down to the size of his barn, rather than to increase the capacity of his barn to keep place with the increase of his stock and other products of the farm.

"It is a small farm that cannot profitably employ a large barn. A snug little barn 30x40 feet may answer for a time, but the farm will soon outgrow it. Better have it larger at the start, for it can never afterward be added on so cheaply as it could be built at the start.

"The farmer should certainly not fall into the way of thinking that his stock must be kept down to the capacity of his barn. It is a very comfortable, natural groove that he must keep well out of. If the farmer is not able to build another complete, well-furnished barn, he can at least put up temporary shelter of some sort that will answer his purpose until he is able to do better.

"The common style of farm barn of the dimensions above mentioned, is usually divided off into three floor divisions, the big bay across one end, the stable occupying the other, with the open barn floor running between. This is an excellent arrangement so far as it goes, but as a stable of this size will accommodate but six or seven cattle, besides the work horses, it cannot long serve the farmer as a sole stable. Such barns may be enlarged and remodeled in many different ways. One very good plan for increasing the amount of stable room is to build a lean-to along one side. The barn floor may be carried right through this lean-to, and thus give room to stand two loads of hay, grain or other produce on the floor at a time. The floor divides this addition into two separate stables that may be entered

from the outside. Such small stables are most convenient for horses, calves or for any use where no great amount of space is needed. The old stable across the end of the original structure may then be devoted to cattle entirely.

"By extending the posts of this addition well up under the eaves of the old barn, a considerable amount of storing room may be added to the capacity of the barn at the same time. The addition should be of sufficient depth to admit of an alleyway three or four feet wide between the stable proper and the big bay. This is a great convenience in feeding. Hay may be pitched down into it from overhead, and easily distributed along the mangers.

"Like the house, the barn should be so arranged as to save unnecessary labor. Choring is tiresome and monotonous work at best and should be lightened in every possible way.

"That portion of the barn devoted to stable uses should be lined and filled with sawdust or tightly-packed straw. One thickness of boards between animals and the outer air is not enough. It costs but little to line and fill a stable, and this cost will be more than paid in a single winter by the economy in fodder and the thrift of the animals confined, which it induces.

"Stalls should be made roomy and strong in the horse stable, that no accident may occur to the farmer's loss. All stables should be well lighted with sliding windows of full sash, where we often find a square of movable boards, which when closed causes complete darkness. The floors should have just sufficient incline to carry off the liquid excrement readily. It is a good plan to have an extra thickness of planks directly under the feet of the animals."

Arab Ponies.

Colonel Barrow, of the 19th Hussars, who is well known as the chief organizer of mounted infantry in recent campaigns, has drawn up an important memorandum in regard to the Arab ponies which were the mounts of the 19th Hussars during the campaign on the Nile for the relief of Khartoum. These animals, Arab stallions of 14 hands, whose average age was between eight and nine years, were bought in Syria and in Lower Egypt at about £18 per head; and Colonel Barrow thinks it a most remarkable circumstance that out of 350 horses during nine months, in a hard campaign, only twelve died from disease; and this he attributes, firstly, to the climate of the Soudan being most suitable for horses, and, secondly, to the Syrian horse having a wonderful constitution, and being admirably suited for warfare in an Eastern climate. The distance marched, irrespective of reconnaissance, etc., was over 1,500 miles, and the weight carried averaged fourteen stone. The weather during the last four months was very trying. Food was often very limited, and during the desert march water was very scarce. When General Stewart's column made its final advance on Metammeh, the 155 horses the 19th had with them marched to the Nile without having received a drop of water for fifty five hours, and only eleven pounds of grain. Some fifteen or twenty had no water for seventy hours. At the end of the campaign, and after a week's rest, the animals were handed over to the 20th Hussars at Assouan in as good order as when they left Wady Halfa nine months previously. Colonel Barrow believes that the performances of the 19th on Arab ponies will compare with the performances of any horsemen on record.

For cuts from barbed wire fence, sore shoulders, ticks and open sores on animals, use Stewart's Healing Powder, 15 and 50 cts. a box.

Correspondence.

From Brown County.

Kansas Farmer:

We have gone through the stormiest January I have ever seen in Kansas. We have had cold weather before, but as the old year ended with such nice weather, the change was so sudden as to cause much suffering to man and beast. The usual sunshine that warms stock after the storm was also lacking during this wintry month. There was not much loss of stock—only a few hogs by piling up. This is better than might have been expected, considering the amount of snow that fell, and the terrible storm. The snow is cleaner and whiter than usual, the sleet having effectually sealed the dust before the snow fell. The snow is badly drifted; only the principal roads are open even now. There is very little frost in the ground. When the snow melts most of the water will be absorbed by the ground. It undoubtedly has been good for wheat, for it has not been exposed to naked frost this winter so far. There will be a considerable quantity of corn sold here this year, because a large portion of the hogs died from cholera. The hog disease is traveling eastward in this county, and is just as fatal as ever. In the west part of the county it took about four-fifths of the herds affected.

H. F. M.

From Rooks County.

Kansas Farmer:

December was fair in general and farmers plowed here till after Christmas, but January has been cold and stormy so far. Snow commenced falling New Years afternoon, but the blizzard did not commence till the 3d, lasting about two days, but not very cold. The 5th and 6th days were fair winter days, the second blizzard striking here about dark of the evening of the 6th, lasting two nights and one day, and was much colder than the first, and continuing severely cold ever since. A great many head of hogs, sheep, cattle and horses were lost, but not so much as in some counties further southwest, and so far as we can hear no human lives were lost in this county. Several sheepmen lost from 100 to 200 head of sheep, while others lost almost nothing; the highest loss we remember hearing for one man was 200 sheep and fourteen ponies. Most of the stock in this county had shelter and feed, but if February is no better than this, lots of stock will suffer for lack of feed.

We looked at the peach buds a few days ago, and found most of the fruit buds already dead on low land, and badly injured on high ground.

Stockton, our county seat, has doubled in size since last spring, and has a good many more buildings booked for spring. J. C. Stockton, Jan. 25, '86.

The Currency Question.

Kansas Farmer:

I am well pleased to see you on the right side on the silver question, and wish you would come out strong for a thorough reform in the currency. If corporations are allowed to borrow money of the Government at 1 per cent. why should not individuals, by putting up proper security, which they will willingly do, and not ask 3 or 4 per cent. interest on the security or collateral as the National banks do? Please let us hear from you on this subject in the near future. If there is any good excuse for continuing the National banks I have failed to find it. It is merely strengthening our enemies that have been bringing on these periodical financial depressions that renders it so hard for the producers to realize anything for their enterprise and labor.

Every farmer in this part of the State, so far as I meet them, is embarrassed to meet his bills, notwithstanding we had good crops. Stock of all kinds have done well; very little cholera among hogs or anything else wrong except the money question. Never did the producer prosper as he did from 1865 to 1870, when we had \$50 or upwards per capita in circulation. Immediately on its contraction hard times came on and continued until inflations (to a limited extent) began from '79 to '84. Again has contraction laid its withering fingers on all the industries of the country, and only "Shylock" prospers.

The weather has been fine until January

7th, when we had the most terrible storm I have seen in a residence in the State for fifteen years, and the weather has been cold and severe continually ever since. Reports of loss of life and much stock come in from all points from the storm.

ALBERT SEAVEY.

Albion, Sumner county.

Bad Report From Butler County.

Kansas Farmer:

Perhaps it would not be overestimating the soil of Kansas, to say that it will compare favorably with its sister states. Butler county has as good farm land as any other county in the state. There are other counties that may have a greater number of acres for producing grain, but of no better quality.

I am told by some of your contributors, that this is the garden of Eden. Does the majority of your readers believe the report? As I have asked the question I will answer by saying they do not. If this is such a fine producing state, how does it come that the majority of the people are so badly incumbered? Why is it that so many improved farms are under mortgages? Do the people dress extravagantly, and are they buying too many fine horses and carriages? Is it possible the majority of the working classes are indulging in what is herein set forth? Then they are to blame and they are not to be pitied. If the laboring classes are indulging in those things, I fail to see it, and I assure you that I am not altogether blind. The money leeches are in every town in the state, and the interest they charge here is monstrous usury. They charge the poor devils three per cent. per month. This is what the majority of the working classes are paying in this county for the use of money, and I assure you they have done so ever since I have been here—between fourteen and fifteen years; and I think this will apply to all portions of the state that has been settled the same length of time. We have the same per cent of energetic men here as any other county, but they can't, or have not succeeded.

The editors of the state of Kansas, and they will compare favorably with the editors of other states, seem to think the laboring classes are, to use the term, lousy with money. But if they will take a hop, skip and a jump over the state, they will find out why the people do not read more. The extortioners have gobbled all they have made.

Now, Mr. Editor—I think the Kansas editors use entirely too much taffy, and their contributors do the same thing. There must be a cause for the people to be compelled to pay \$36.00 for the use of \$100 per annum. It is the failures of crops. One year ago one portion of the farmers, and they were the majority, came to Douglass to watch for a load of corn to take home, and scores of them during the winter drove their teams thirty miles, the round trip, and no corn. This winter the same thing is being done. Have I made it plain in regard to the mortgage question? The supposition was last year, that the web-worm had not done the damage that was reported, but the people see now where their corn is coming from. Kansas is known as drouthy Kansas, and if I am not mistaken, Kansas suffers more from floods and water-spouts than all the drouths that ever visited her. E. Taylor, Westmoreland, Pottowatomie, tells facts in his criticism on Mr. Colvin's letter.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have read some very flattering reports this last summer, from a man living in Cowley county, Kansas, and as I live within three miles of the north line of said county, will say the people here do not believe the report made through your columns by the Winfield correspondent. One of her citizens, an old soldier, and a real estate owner, told me the other day the indebtedness of Cowley county is one million. Don't you see the people are taxed to death?

Don't throw this into your waste basket, as I am an old reader of your paper. I want the same privilege as others if I do not agree with them.

HENRY BUTLER.

DOUGLASS, Butler county, Kansas.

[The editor of this paper has often spoken well of Butler county and her people, and he knows that they are energetic and thrifty. The county is not old, but last March it contained 27,018 of population. There is about one hundred and fifty miles of railroad in

the county. In 1884 the mileage was 114 of main line. We have not the figures for 1885 convenient, and therefore, in what follows we use the report for 1884. The assessed valuation of the county was \$4,513,217.70 which is about 30 per cent of the real value. This is the valuation made by the local assessors, and the rule is not to exceed 25 to 30 per cent of the real value in assessing property. It is not too much to say that at the time that assessment was made—as of March 1, 1884—the real value of the taxable property in Butler county was not a cent less than \$15,000,000, and that leaves, of course, the constitutional exemption of \$200 with every family. The indebtedness of Butler county at that time was about \$200,000. The total number of acres in cultivation in the county was 282,799. The quantity of wheat produced the preceding year (1883) was 743,340 bushels; of corn 4,448,220 bushels. The total value of all the crops as reported for 1884 was \$2,175,859, nearly half a million less than the reported valuation for 1883. The number of horses in the county was reported at 10,056; of milch cows 11,588; other cattle, 27,215; sheep 68,188; swine 49,099. The wool clip for the year was 335,362 pounds. Cheese manufactured in the county was 31,277 pounds; butter 589,831 pounds made in families. The value of poultry and eggs sold was \$52,231. The farmers had 49,098 bearing apple trees and 309,950 peach trees in bearing, besides 24,527 cherry trees and a great many fruit trees of other classes. On the first day of March 1884, the farmers of Butler had 1,238,110 bushels of old corn on hand. They were paying \$18 and board per month for labor. The county had 149 organized school districts; the value of school property was \$111,386; male teachers were receiving an average of \$40 per month, and female teachers \$36.66. Now, we think that is a pretty good county. Mr. Butler is living among a thrifty, industrious class of people and we doubt not he has a good home himself, as he deserves to have. As to the rate of interest in Butler, we know nothing, but responsible men in Topeka are advertising to lend money at 6 per cent per annum. The indebtedness of Cowley county in 1884 was \$277,010.—ED. K. F.]

Hog Cholera--Legislation.

Kansas Farmer:

I see in this week's issue of the FARMER a party writes about his sick calf, and you seem to think it was poisoned. I had a calf affected in same way, acted the same, and I treated it the same or nearly so; had to feed it with a bottle for two weeks or more. I then consulted with a veterinary surgeon, and on examination found its tongue was inflamed about the roots, it could not use it properly to eat with, it got poor and weak. We took pulverized copperas and put it down around the roots of tongue. Two applications relieved it so it commenced eating and it got along all right. I think the turpentine I put on the head done more harm than good; it seemed to affect the brain.

I see much is said about the hog cholera which is a very peculiar disease, and numerous remedies are recommended for it. I think we are all in the dark as to its cause and the best treatment. We have lost a great many hogs with it in this, Bourbon county, and are still losing many. I think it is of much the same nature of chills and fever in people, and the best remedies I have seen for it yet is to take equal parts of quinine and calomel, a half teaspoonful each for a dose; put it in a chunk of bread and put it in the hog's mouth. The dose generally cures if not too far gone.

I hope the bill Dr. Holcomb has prepared will not become a law, especially the 3d and 4th sections of it, as it would cause much litigation, trouble and expense among neighbors, and if fully carried out and enforced, it would tend to lessen the hog product of our State materially. We can't legislate the disease out of the hogs or out of the country, as it seems, like other epidemics, to go in the air. I think we had better investigate and experiment with it further and see if we can't find a more reasonable way to prevent and cure it.

I am much pleased with the way the silver question is being discussed in your paper. We are not in any danger of having too much or too cheap money in the west. Just so it is honest money, let it come; we can stand it a while longer at least. T. WOODARD.

Olover Culture.

Kansas Farmer:

In the FARMER of January 13th some one asked questions in regard to sowing clover. As I have been experimenting with grass I will give you what I consider the best way to put in clover. Plow the ground good and turn it over as smooth as possible, then harrow with light harrow just enough to smooth the ground; sow your seed and roll with heavy roller. Do not sow anything with the clover and do not sow too early. About April 1st is a good time. I have sowed with and without grain, on solid and on loose ground; but have had best success when I sowed on loose ground and rolled with heavy roller. I sow twelve pounds of seed to the acre.

I have no experience with Mammoth clover. One of my neighbors sowed Mammoth clover and it failed, while red clover sowed the same day did well. The editor says in FARMER of January 13th to sow rye with the clover. Rye sown in the spring after the freezing weather is over will not joint. I cannot see what benefit it would be to the clover.

J. A. DOUGLASS.

Oak Valley, Elk county, Kas.

Some Kansas Figures.

Kansas Farmer:

In the Agricultural Report of 1883, I see Kansas raised 176,800,900 bushels of corn. Allowing 500 bushels to the car, it would take 353,601 cars to take it to market. Allowing 30 cars to the train, it would require 1,175 engines, 1,175 engineers, 1,175 firemen, 3,525 brakemen (3 to each train). Allowing 50 feet for engine and tender and 30 feet for each car, would make a solid train of 2,020 miles, or about twice the distance from Kansas City to New York.

If it were fed to hogs, allowing 10 bushels to the hog, it would have fattened 17,680,900 head; an average of 250 pounds to the hog would make 44,200,225 pounds of bacon. If placed on a road 6 abreast, allowing 5 feet in length for each 6 hogs, the drove would reach 2,790 miles; or, if single file, over three-fourths of the distance around the globe. If used as a boundary line of Kansas it would surround the State 14 hogs deep. If placed on the northern boundary in the same manner there would be nearly 42 hogs abreast; or if one on top of the other a wall 6 hogs wide by 7 hogs high would be the result and thus have a pretty good wind-break.

If the corn was all made into hominy, it would give nearly 3 bushels for each citizen of the United States. If made into whisky it would make 580,402,700 gallons, enough to kill all the drunkards in Kansas and all the adjoining States.

Now, with these facts, is it any wonder Kansas is now or soon will be the leading State in the Union, notwithstanding Dakota's blowing? We will soon be able to build a wind-break of hogs so high that Dakota may "blow" all she wants to, and we can look over our home-made wind-break and laugh while we plow all winter through.

E. B. BUCKMAN.

Elk City, Montgomery county.

From Butler County.

Kansas Farmer:

This is believed by the oldest settlers, to be the severest storm that this part of the country has ever witnessed. People here froze their feet, and some their shins; some had their fingers frozen, others their noses. On the 5th of January I measured ice 13 inches thick in the town of Douglass, taken from the Walnut river. The mercury has registered all the way from 16 to 21 degrees below zero, in a distance of five miles. On the river bottoms mercury has run the lowest.

The average of fall wheat in this locality is down to the minimum for a fact; there is not one half enough sown to make the bread for the people of this portion of the country. The small portion that was sown last fall was looking well the last time it was seen; the ground has been covered with snow the most of the time since the first of December. The farmers along the streams have suffered great losses the past season with what is termed hog cholera.

A word as to Prof. C. C. Blake. If I understand your paper, you convey the idea that he has failed in his predictions on what the weather would be. I read the Professors predictions in his September issue, and he predicted a fine fall, and we got it in this

The Home Circle.

For the KANSAS FARMER.

Lines to Lara.

BY M. J. HUNTER.

To Lara, hid behind a *nom de plume*,
We ask that he his unjust charge resume.
Had Pope or Longfellow ne'er lived before,
"Væ Victis" had the self-same image wore.
O, thou! the god of song and harmony,
Defend our muse, and henceforth set us
free
From envious spirits who with words mali-
cious
Would shroud our humble song with hints
suspicious.
And teach them that of song thou art the
sire,
Though other muses sang an octave higher;
That other souls touched with promethean
fire
Will sweep with harmony the magic lyre.
E'en while the universe in concert rolls,
Its harmonies will echo in the souls
That tread life's highway; let the chords be
strung
To joy or sorrow; such will be their song
Till life's last "silver chord" in sorrow
breaks
And earth to the archangel's notes awakes.
Concordia, January 23, 1886.

Why Don't He Come Home?

Dreary and dark! no moon, no stars,
To guide a wanderer's way;
While I, with my face at the window-pane,
Peer wistfully out through the mist and the
rain,
Waiting till Harry shall come home again,
His toil at an end—like the day.

The Maltese kitten is watching with me
(Just now she is taking a nap);
Little Pearl has eaten her milk and bread,
And, tired of waiting, crept into her bed;
The firelight plays round her curly head,—
How the chestnut logs crackle and snap!

Cheery and bright is the fire's red light,
Cozy his soft arm chair,—
This nice warm room is a pleasant nest
For a weary man to come in and rest.
Though I love little Pearl, I love him the
best,
When baby I could not spare.

Dear Harry! how hard he works early and
late,—
Working for Pearl and me!
I miss him the moment he's out of my sight,
He carries off with him my sunshine and
light,
And restless, impatient I long for the night,
As one longs for the day when at sea.

I've read in the papers till troubled, alarmed,
My heart beats a wild tattoo,—
My eyes grow dim with a sickening dread,
And I think of the murders—the horrors
just read,
And I fancy my darling—oh, no! not dead!
There's a noise! hark! that's his coo-coo!

A man is not troubled with visions and fears,
To which a poor woman is bound.
She can watch, she can wait, she can com-
fort and cheer,
She can make a man's home of all places
most dear.
But there I must stop—a footstep draws
near!

That's Harry—I know from the sound!
—Mrs. Harry Don, in *Good Housekeeping*.

No answer comes to those that pray,
And idly stand
And wait for stones to roll away
At God's command.
He will not break the binding cords
Upon us laid
If we depend on pleading words,
And do not aid.

When hands are idle words are vain
To move the stone;
An aiding angel would disdain
To work alone.
But he who prayeth, and is strong
In faith and deed,
And toileth earnestly, ere long
He will succeed.

—J. C. Rockwell.

A world-worn man, at fall of eve,
Said, "But a year and I shall rest.
A few more plans, a little gold,
Then on the mountain's captured crest
Content shall come, joy's flag shall wave."
The year's end found him in his grave.

As the sun breaks through the darkest
clouds,
So honor peereth in the meanest habit.
—Shakespeare.

Look round the habitable world, how few
Know their own good, or knowing it, pur-
sue.
—Dryden.

How to Keep Children on the Farm.

An essay read before the Farmers' Institute at Nortonville, Jefferson county, Kansas, January 23, 1886, by Laura Babe Gabbert Stone.

In order to keep children on the farm, make the farm more attractive than any other location, and farming more attractive than any other occupation. How is this to be done? By ornamenting your homes in every possible manner, until the fields, pastures, orchards, yards and dwellings are beautiful in the eyes of your children; by making all things pertaining to the farm not only pleasant to the sight, but convenient, thereby saving steps for your families and making their daily tasks lighter. Encourage them by words of confidence and praise until they feel it is good for them to be there. When a youth feels that his home is as good as any one else's, he will not be in haste to search for another. Lessen the hours of labor, and give them time for mental improvement. While giving them exercise to develop the muscles of the body, do not dwarf the mind, that noblest gift of God, and cause your sons and daughters to feel their mental inferiority when in company with people of culture and refinement. Educate your children. It requires sense to be a successful farmer. Let them thoroughly study the sciences, and be ready to give a chemical analysis of the soil and note carefully its producing qualities. If possible, after they have obtained a college education, it would be well for the boys to take a course at an agricultural college, thereby giving a thorough knowledge of the requirements of the occupation you wish them to pursue. They will necessarily like the calling they understand best. Keep sufficient books, journals of agriculture and newspapers in your homes, that they may keep well posted upon all necessary subjects; they will then have confidence in themselves and their calling, and feel mentally equal to any one, be they reared in city, village or rural home. Then they will have no cause to envy any one or wish to leave the honest calling of their fathers. Money is spent to educate in every other profession, then why not freely give means to educate that they may succeed in the profession that towers high above the rest? Farmers should never be made to feel the shame of ignorance. A professional man would expect to fall if he was not educated for his profession; then why should we expect farmers' sons of this advanced age to succeed without an education?

Give your youths a share in the productions of the farm as a reward for their industry; they will then feel it to their direct individual interest to farm successfully, and they will plan and calculate to that end. Do not make mere plow-boys of your sons. Give them opportunities to become farmers in the full sense of the word. Give them practical knowledge of all kinds of stock, that they may buy and sell intelligently and profitably. A son must feel that his services are appreciated, and that he will receive a just remuneration, or he naturally grows discontented. Instill the spirit of independence in their minds, that they may realize that it is nobler to own and work for one's self than to live on a salary and be a servant, whether it be in the shop or counting-room. American people are naturally an independent people, and our youth's naturally wish to manage for themselves. Nine-tenths of our farmer boys are told by their parents to do this or that, without ever calling into action their thinking powers on the subject; the consequence is, when they do buy or lease farms for themselves, they have not sufficient judgment to succeed. Then it is they launch headlong into some other business with a like result.

Raise more grass and cattle and not so much wheat and corn. The old-fashioned system of farming is enough to run any enterprising boy away from the farm. Every other science is rapidly advancing, and farmers themselves are gradually coming to the front, yet there is vast room for improvement.

Children should be taught from infancy that labor is honorable, healthful, praiseworthy. Parents are often the cause of idleness in their children; either they make the work so irksome that they learn to despise it, or sometimes it is the case that over-indulgence spoils them for usefulness. Select a good farm and make a homestead of it. How is a child to become attached to a home

when the father is always restless and discontented, so often selling out and buying anew, finding fault with every location. If you wish your families to be contented, first have the spirit of contentment yourselves. Show them that life is a sea of uncertainty. One-half the business men of large cities are failures, while failures on the farm are comparatively rare. Then again, that statistics as well as observation shows the average life of the farmer to be far beyond the commercial man. Worry kills more than work.

How are we to attain that variety, which is the spice of life, on the farm? Life is indeed very monotonous with thousands of our farmers. This of itself is often the cause of families seeking a life in the cities. Let them occasionally visit the cities and other resorts of pleasure. Mind and body both require rest and recreation. It is well to learn from others as well as books, especially the manners and customs of the people. Then you need have no fear of their being a prey for sharpers. Clothed with knowledge, independence, morality and refinement, they will no longer be termed "country greens" by those in the city. On the other hand, they will be respected and appreciated. Then it will be you will see our Senate chambers, halls of Representatives, and even the Presidential chair often occupied by farmers. When your children feel themselves equal socially, politically or financially to their brothers in the city, think you they will despise the calling of their fathers, which gave to them all these blessings? A thousand times no.

Make the household work lighter for mothers and daughters. What woman, tired, discouraged, and sick at heart, can always wear a smile and transmit joy to others? No wonder is it that your daughters learn to detest a life of care and drudgery, made so by your indiscretion and thoughtlessness, preferring many times to marry clerks and shop-keepers, in order to escape the toils of farm life. Don't be sparing of words of praise and encouragement to her who shares your joys and sorrows. Arrange things for her comfort, convenience and pleasure. Provide necessary assistance in times of need, and she in return will have time to ornament the interior of your homes and make home doubly pleasant for you. She will lighten your labors by words of consolation and smiles of approval, and at last when the hardest is over, the sheaves shall have been garnered, and the last day's work nearing its end, on the eve of eternal holiday, surrounded by sons and daughters, made affluent by your example and occupation, then, conscious of labor faithfully ended, will the soul wend its way through pastures green to its beautiful, heavenly homestead.

Birds--Breakfast--Judgment.

Dear friends of the Home Circle: I am beginning to feel quite well acquainted with you. The silent ones are very valuable (to the editor). "Speech is silver, silence is golden."

O, Mrs. Hunter, how are your P. R. fowls after this severe winter weather we have had? are their combs all perfect? We have one grand crow that has had all the dignity taken out of him by a severe freezing of his comb and wattle; he is a sorry bird. We have had an abundance of the "beautiful" snow and shall be glad to see it depart.

We have what we consider a very good breakfast dish, so I give it to you. Just try it, and see if the children and men folks do not ask for it again. We have it nearly every morning the year round. It takes away some care and thought to know just what you will get every morning: For a family of four take eight thin slices of bread and toast brown—a wire toaster to lay on top of the stove is essential; with a knife scrape away any burned spots; lay in a deep dish; take the fry-pan, grease it, so the milk will not stick to it, and put therein one quart of milk; when it nearly boils, add two large spoonfuls of flour smoothly mixed with a little cold milk; let it boil, stirring well; remove from the fire, and add salt to taste; (if you add salt while it is boiling it will curdle the milk); now dash hot water over the bread and pour off quickly; pour over the milk gravy. It is delicious. We prefer adding butter while we eat it, to putting it over the whole or making the gravy of part cream. I have often prepared this in fifteen minutes.

"Englishwoman," I earnestly believe with

you, that it is our duty to prepare for the world to come, now. Why one should use their best years and talents in acquiring wealth, denying themselves pleasures and even necessities, and wholly ignore the preparation for the world to come, is a great mystery to me. The wealth so soon gone. A whole eternity of happiness or woe we shall surely have.

May each one of this small Home Circle of the FARMER meet above in the great Home Circle of love and light. CLARIBEL.

A Plea for the Girls--No. 3.

How many of "my girls" would envy the position of our inexperienced housewife of last number? You are all, doubtless, glad your mothers have instructed you in the art of housekeeping, since you behold with sorrow the failures of your heretofore envied friend and neighbor; and bless the fortune that has kept back the fatal darts of Cupid's arrow, rather than unite your fate with the poor hireling whose scanty means were hardly sufficient to pay his laundry bills. And right here, dear girls, I am persuaded that many a selfish fellow has, in an economical point of view, proposed, been accepted, settled down in life, thinking it cheaper to pay the parson's fee than hire his washing done, the missing buttons sewed on, etc. But we are not to speak of matrimony in this article. Beg pardon for the offense. Think you not it is more self-satisfying to know you are prepared, by early training and every-day practical experience, to go out into the world, empty-handed and alone, than to seek the inevitable, irreparable fate of one who, lacking the rudimental lessons of useful life, thrusts herself upon the mercies of one as incompetent as herself? Never mind your empty purse; if it were already full to repletion, I fear perhaps some of you at least could see no necessity of the toil that bringeth sweet rest and peace. Be independent, girls! For you are well aware the women of the nineteenth century, that command the respect and pride of earth's great ones, are the women who have made their way up from quiet walks in life to the heights which their greatness have carved for them. One need not be born to wealth, nor cradled in luxury, to attain to that niche in life's great drama we long to reach some day. Those are royal women, indeed, whose willing hands minister faithfully to the dear ones God has placed about our paths in life. Not all of us, not all of us may rise above the mists of every-day life, nor tread the halls of tapestried elegance, for there is many an unnoticed hero (and heroine, too,) of whom the world at large may never have read, but is he or she less hero or heroine if thoroughly active in the vineyard of the Lord than though their names were carved high upon the scroll of fame?

Still, I am glad you are not content with present attainments; and there are greater heights and still higher for you, just as you make use of the gifts God has given you. This is as it should be. Our Creator has given us talents, the which if we employ to our best ability, will be as a foretaste only of knowledge there is just ahead. With still more forbearance from our kind editor, we will continue our subject in future.

Oskaloosa, Kas.

MYSTIC.

Rheumatism

We doubt if there is, or can be, a specific remedy for rheumatism; but thousands who have suffered its pains have been greatly benefited by Hood's Sarsaparilla. If you have failed to find relief, try this great remedy. It corrects the acidity of the blood which is the cause of the disease, and builds up the whole system.

"I was afflicted with rheumatism twenty years. Previous to 1883 I found no relief, but grew worse, until I was almost helpless. Hood's Sarsaparilla did me more good than all the other medicine I ever had." H. T. BALCOM, Shirley Village, Mass.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

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The Young Folks.

The Song of the Sea Wind.

How it sings, sings, sings,
Blowing sharply from the sea-line,
With an edge of salt that stings;
How it laughs aloud, and passes,
As it cuts the close cliff grasses;
How it sings again and whistles—
How it shakes the stout sea-thistles—
How it sings!

How it shrieks, shrieks, shrieks,
In the crannies of the headland
In the gashes of the creeks;
How it shrieks once more, and catches
Up the yellow foam in patches;
How it whirls it out and over
To the cornfield and the clover—
How it shrieks!

How it roars, roars, roars,
In the iron under-caverns,
In the hollows of the shores;
How it roars anew, and thunders,
As the strong hull splits and sunders;
And the spent ship, tempest-driven,
On the reef lies rent and riven—
How it roars!

How it wails, wails, wails,
In the tangle of the wreckage,
In the flapping of the sails,
How it sobs away, subsiding,
Like a tired child after chiding;
And across the ground swell rolling,
You can hear the bell-buoy tolling—
How it wails!

—Austin Dobson.

A Story of the Yukon River.

The great Yukon river of Alaska flows for nearly a thousand miles from its source in the Alaskan coast range of mountains, through the British Northwest Territory before entering the territory we purchased from Russia. In this portion we have the greater part of the picturesque scenery of that most picturesque river, although but few of the sons of nature live upon its banks in these districts to enjoy the Alpine views spread so prodigally before them. Nearly all the Indians of the Yukon river, like so many of the arctic and sub-arctic climes, are fish-eaters almost altogether, the plentiful supply of this kind of food in Northern rivers determining their main kind of sustenance. The fish of Yukon are mostly salmon, which annually ascend the river to spawn, and are then caught by the natives in great quantities. As would be expected, they are most numerous at the mouth, and here the natives are also the most thickly settled as a consequence, the villages in size and frequency dwindling as we ascend the great stream. Among those on its upper part, or in the British Northwest Territory, the ascending salmon are only used as a summer diet, the winter supply of food being from the moose, caribou (woodland reindeer), black and brown bears, and mountain goats that they manage to slay. During the summer the dense swarms of mosquitoes, for which the valley of this great river is noted, drive the game to the higher levels, closely following the snow line if they can, and here in the breezes and coolness of the altitude they find temporary exemption from these pests. The grazing on a mountain or a range being exhausted, however, the moose and deer often migrate across the valleys, swimming the rivers and lakes to find new feeding grounds. It is while on these journeys, swimming the rivers, that the natives often catch the moose, that especially delights in the water, by pursuing the animal in their swift birch-bark canoes, and when overtaken dispatching them with spears, arrows, or even great hand-knives which they carry. Sometimes they find a most belligerent buck moose who may think that the aggressive is the best way of defending himself, and, turning on the pursuing canoe, wrecks his birch-bark craft with a few well-planned sweepings of his huge palmated horns or a good stroke from his keen hoofs as he rears up in the water. In these constantly-chilled waters, from the snow and ice on the mountain near by, the already well-developed repugnance of the American savage for bathing is increased to such an extent that very few of those in this district understand the art of swimming; so to be upset in the deep water, with their canoes torn to pieces, is not a very pleasant predicament, unless a companion be very near in his canoe to rescue the capsized hunter. These risks, coupled with the loss of the canoe, which in the savage mind is a much more valuable article than the carcass of a moose, has made some of those hunters adopt a method which

seemingly is more desperate and even foolhardy than a pursuit in a canoe could possibly be. It is for the hunter when he gets near the fleeing animal to throw himself from the little vessel to the animal's back, and grabbing its nose cut its throat with a villainous-looking two-edged knife, the only weapon with which he would arm himself for such affrays, or by terrible stabs in the neck with it dispatch the brute which he had at such a disadvantage. The animal having succumbed, the hunter is relieved by a companion in a canoe, who has also looked after the craft floating away when the Indian exchanged it for the less reliable locomotion on a moose's back. The canoe returned to its owner, the two men bestir themselves to getting the carcass ashore. In their early spring, or rather summer, counting by our months, when the ice first breaks up and floats out, this season finds the moose so poor and lean in in flesh that they will sink when killed, but the sprouting herbage and fine green browsing puts fat on their ribs and loins at a rate that will soon after float them when dispatched. One of the most numerous and thrifty-looking tribes of Indians in this part of the British Northwest is the Ayan tribe, among whom I first heard of this adventurous method of moose-hunting in a general way, and of a story in particular connected with it which I shall relate.

Two Ayan Indian hunters had started to go from one of their villages to another some distance up the river, and were in their birch-bark canoes, of course, that being nearly the only method of traveling in that country, so swampy is the land even on the hillsides, and so dense is the undergrowth of bushes as to hinder a pedestrian. So swift is the Yukon river in this part that the native canoe man in attempting to ascend it for any distance never relies on his paddle to propel him against the current, but with two small poles, one in each hand, he gets in the shallow, slack water near the shore and poles his craft up stream at quite a rapid gait. Our two nimrods had gone but a short distance from the village when one of them found that he had left his paddle with true Indian carelessness, but it was too much of an effort to go back after it, and laughingly remarking to his comrade that the one or two places where they would cross the river to get near better shores for poling, he would tie his craft behind the other, the two went on poling their way up stream. They were about half way between the villages when a buck moose was seen swimming the river far ahead, and making for a small wooded island in mid-stream, he ran into the willows and disappeared. It was quite evident that he could be routed out of such a small patch by a vigorous display of lung force when near by, and the two canoe men started for the island, but much hampered by having only one paddle, one canoe having to tow the other. Sure enough, the moose was readily frightened out of the underbrush where he had taken refuge and plunged into the water to swim to the mainland, quite a good distance away. In the race that followed there was but little headway made by the pursuers, from their peculiar predicament, but it was also necessary to keep together, so that one of the contestants could look after the empty canoe when the death struggle commenced. The best hunter and canoe man was in the forward craft digging into the water as if dear life depended on the result, while his assistant was helping him all he could with both hands used as paddles over the sides of the second one. It was hurriedly agreed on between them that when the hunter sprang on the animal, could it be overtaken, he would throw his paddle to his companion, or as near as he could, and he would paddle to it with his hands and get it. The race was a close and exciting one, and as the bank was neared the moose seemed to take heart and redoubled his efforts to escape, with the effect of keeping about even with his pursuers. The swift river had carried them all down stream to a long stretch of high, perpendicular bank, where the Indians in turn took heart at the prospect of here gaining on their prey. Yet it would not do to trust Mr. Moose not to climb even so steep a place, and as the bank was near by, the foremost canoe man cut loose from his companion and shot forward alongside the doomed animal and sprang on it, at the same moment hurling his paddle as far toward his companion as he could. Even this slight addition to the programme was enough to turn the tide, and during the short

time occupied in doing it the moose had knocked the knife out of the hunter's hand and started up the stream with him, while the other Indian went paddling with his hands after the paddle, not very near him. The moose, making little headway against the stream, turned back across the river, and nearing a barren, sandy island or spit of a tenth of an acre, the Indian gladly embraced the opportunity to cease embracing the moose, and let him go, accompanied by a yell to prevent his turning and pawing him to death. The other Indian did not get everything into "ship-shape" till he had drifted so near the lower village he thought he would return to it, when taking a good long rest, as becomes an Indian, he returned by his companion on the lone sand spit, who had amused himself fighting mosquitoes, the only life that disputed the claim of the island with him, and keeping the recording angel busy jotting down choice Indian expletives. —Frederick Schwatka, in *Inter Ocean*.

A City on the Water.

It will perhaps be news to our readers to learn that there is near by a new city, one which is migratory and comes and goes with the swallows. This may seem strange and striking, but it is nevertheless true. In all this city there is only one trade—one profession, if it may be so called. Strangest of all to relate, this city forms no integral portion of any domain. It is a fleeting but permanent reality. At ever-recurring seasons it dissolves of its own volition and wanders in sections from State to State, coming together again at stated periods and resuming the functions of a well-governed and civilized community, and incredible as it may seem, the marvelous city is within a stone's throw of New York. It is bounded by Brooklyn on the east, by Manhattan Island on the west, and its foundations are continuously washed by the waters of the East river. Indeed, it is upon the water, and its precise location is in the Erie basin, and its title is Canalboat City. Every winter, when old King Boreas pays his chilling visits to us, the novel city forms. All the canalboats which ply upon the Hudson and the intermediate waters during the spring and summer lie up for the winter in the Erie basin.

Not less than 1,200 canalboats compose this community, and on these wooden hills 4,000 people live throughout the season. All the necessities of life they have among themselves. The massive hulks are transformed into business marts. Grocers' shops and liquor saloons, and even barbers' shops rise up where coal and lumber find a home during the season of transportation. The people live wholly among themselves. They are transformed for the time being into a business community. The cabin of one boat is brought into use as a billiard and pool room, while in another a tailor's shop prevails. Then in the hold of another there is a miniature coal and wood yard, while several of the boats bear signs that washing and ironing are done. A pretentious cigar and tobacco shop is a feature of this city also, and brings in a handsome revenue to its owner.

By the means enumerated, the inhabitants of this community are enabled to reap a considerable income. Many of the able-bodied men work along the shore when the weather permits. Not a single case of outlawry, assault or larceny has ever occurred. Whatever little disputes happen are settled among themselves. It might readily be thought that drunkenness would prevail, but this is not the case. The men, as a class, are sober and industrious. Their wives and families live with them through all seasons of the year, and know naught of the pleasures or wickedness of city life. In the spring, summer and autumn months the men earn a comfortable living pursuing their occupation as boatmen. The business is, all things considered, lucrative. They have no rent to pay. It costs little for clothing for themselves and families, and they are accordingly enabled to save much money. Some of the boatmen ply a lucrative business by letting out small boats during the winter months to fishing parties. —*New York Mail and Express*.

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THE KANSAS FARMER

ESTABLISHED IN 1863.

Published Every Wednesday, by the
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H. A. HEATH, - - - - - Business Manager.
W. A. PEPPER, - - - - - Editor-in-Chief.

The KANSAS FARMER, the State Agricultural paper of Kansas, is also the official State paper for publishing all the Stray Notices of the State, and is kept on file in every County Clerk's office.

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Address **KANSAS FARMER CO.,**
Topeka, Kas.

The American Fat Stock and Dairy Show will be held at the Exposition Building, in Chicago, November 8 to 16, 1886.

Some of the letters appearing in the FARMER this week, were on the "copy hook" for our last issue, and when the boys had "matter" enough up, these letters were still there.

A correspondent, writing from Norway, Republic county, to renew his subscription two years, says there was no loss of stock during the late storms except a few hogs smothered by "piling up."

We have a letter from a friend urging us to advocate some amendments to our land laws. There are half a dozen or more bills now before Congress, and our Kansas members are on the alert for what Kansas people need.

A gentleman from Missouri was in this office a few days ago and told us of his successful treatment of a cholera-sick hog with a decoction of tobacco. He boiled leaf tobacco, and mixed the juice with sweet milk and poured some of it into a hog that had gone beyond eating. The next day it was walking about and recovered in a short time. He had lost a large number before he used this remedy on the last one that took sick.

There was little sunshine yesterday for the ground hog to see. The day was cold, so cold that window glass of heated rooms was frosted over. And the day was cloudy, with a little snow falling at times. The last two or three days of January were mild and most of the snow melted away. February 1st was not very cold, but there was no thawing. Yesterday morning was cold enough to make warm wrappings about the face necessary on the city streets. If we may place any reliance on the ground hog theory, the winter is mostly past.

Day of Grace Past.

We gave notice recently that our "t 62" subscribers would be allowed one more week in which to renew, make up clubs, etc. The time is past, and all delinquents are cut off our mailing list. The number is not large, but we regret that there are any such. All we can do for them now is to save copies for them from the first of the year, so that when their names do come in, as we expect they will and asking for back numbers, we will have the papers to send.

Another Word on Silver Money.

We have a long letter from our good friend who "did not wish to be rude" in reply to what was said editorially in the FARMER some time ago about the information he desired to be conveyed to the editor. Having received the information just as it was written, and it having been voluntarily tendered, our right to refer to it and comment will hardly be questioned, and that ought to end the matter unless we had named our friend and done him an injustice.

But he replies, and we have no disposition to deny him another hearing on the only phase of the subject that is of importance. The first six pages of his manuscript relate to matters about which we do not differ, and that both admit. Beginning on the seventh page, he says:

If (but I am not quite clear as to your meaning) it is desired on this side to make British capitalists accept interest in silver for capital they lent in gold, and especially in dollars intrinsically worth about 80 cents, the less talk there is about "honest money" the better. Could it be accomplished no doubt it would be a very smart piece of finance! What possible honest objection can there be (if silver be desired as a standard) to make each silver dollar of its face value, intrinsically, as nearly as may be, so that variations in the silver market would have the minimum effect on exchange? See Toledo Blade (of, I think, January 12th). If the gold coinage be worth its face value, why should an exception be made in silver? It is perfectly inconsistent. The circulation of the silver taken for 100 cents, when its value on the silver market is only intrinsically 80 cents, is inflation and as unjustifiable in kind as paper without bullion basis; that is, under ordinary conditions. Paper, with merely a government guarantee, is allowable in national emergencies, such as the late civil war, but a very costly business at the best. It seems pretty soon to have forgotten the discount there was on greenbacks. People who are prudent when lending money on mortgage will insist on a condition that gold must be repaid so as to secure themselves against possible loss in being paid off in silver with its value fluctuating day by day. Were a silver standard adopted and that only, exchange in London would go to 6 instead of about 4.84. If you cannot see that this would be a big loss for this side, you have not read up exchanges to much purpose.

In conclusion let me beg of you to disabuse your mind of these extraordinary hallucinations respecting the aim, etc., of English merchants and statesmen. They are quite devoid of foundation, and were you to reside in England a few years you would laugh at the idea of your ever having entertained such views. They are probably the remains of the old prejudices and enmity handed down from the war for independence. When I first heard these fancies on my arrival in the country, I felt inclined to pinch myself to know whether I were awake or not, so utterly preposterous did they sound. Don't you know that prosperity in Liverpool means prosperity in New York and vice versa, so connected are they by business ties. When two countries trade with each other, the more either prospers the more the other will, too.

Our friend will pardon us, we know, for again calling his attention to the fact that we are citizens of the United States and that our legislation ought to be in the interest of our own people. We are more concerned about New York than we are about Liverpool. The people of this country do not want to establish a silver standard of money, nor do they desire to pay English capitalists in silver if they prefer gold. There never was any difficulty on this account and it is not at all likely that there ever will be. A very large part of our national debt, which was incurred during the civil war, has been paid, the interest has been paid promptly, all our foreign obligations have been met and satisfied honorably, and still we are increasing our gold currency yearly. There is now about \$600,000,000 in gold coin in the country, a good deal more than would be required to pay every gold demand now due.

The people want both silver money and gold money, and they want all of both that they can get. In the beginning they agreed upon the weight of money in either metal. They have never changed the weight of the silver dollar (the pure metal, we mean,) but they did change the weight of gold money

twice, and in both instances because silver was more valuable than gold according to the relative standard adopted and it was exported. No objection to this was ever seriously made. But the common people of this country always used silver money, except during the civil war, and they do not wish to have it taken from them now. They began business with the silver dollar of 371½ grains pure metal, and they do not want to see it banished or discredited now.

And then, if they had to decrease the weight of gold in past times in order to accommodate it to silver values, and if, when our mines increased the world's stock of gold by many millions in the 50's, it nearly all was taken to other countries, why should we now change our policy and increase the weight of our silver money in order to accommodate it to gold? Why shall we measure silver by gold rather than gold by silver? Why not diminish the weight of gold coin? Please remember that we are not consulting the interest of any other people, nor are we discussing any international problem. We have plenty of gold to meet all foreign demands. What money we use among ourselves is our own affair, and we are not accountable to others. Up to this time our gold dollars and silver dollars and paper dollars are circulating at par. Let us keep that condition of things going, and not at a stroke wipe out one-third of the metallic money of the country.

Whenever anybody begins to lose money or other property because our silver money is not heavy enough, it will be time to discuss "honest money."

The Legislature.

The situation in the Legislature, as to things done, is precisely the same now that it was when our report was made up last week. The apportionment committee has not yet reported, waiting we suppose to see whether any new counties are to be made in the southwest. There is a very strong pressure in favor of relocating the county lines of old Seward, Stevens, Kansas, Gray, Arapahoe, Grant, Stanton, Hamilton, and Sequoyah counties. This bill is the result of a convention held at Lakin, Finney county, on December 23d, at which there were delegates from all the interested counties. There was a difference of opinion among the delegates, but it was finally decided to ask the Legislature to reestablish those lines. The House on Monday last, adopted a resolution expressing the sense of the body to be that the present apportionment should provide for one hundred and twenty representatives. If that is not reconsidered, the report of the committee will be ready soon.

The chief difficulty arises from the fact that the constitution requires every organized county to have at least one representative, and the larger counties cannot be made into representative districts of equal population without cutting them up in objectionable ways.

A large number of bills have been introduced—a great many more than can be passed at this session, and some of them are important. We do not care to encumber our pages with matter concerning the debates which will result in nothing. There are several bills pending which have special interest for the farmers, relating to stock running at large, fences, hedges, irrigation, game, stock diseases, etc. It is impossible to tell what will be done with any of them.

A resolution was adopted requiring an investigation of expenditures on the repairs of the east wing of the capitol building. An appropriation of \$75,000

was made for that purpose last session, and it appears that upwards of \$100,000 have been expended, or work to that amount done, and more money is needed.

A good many petitions have been presented asking that a law be passed giving to women the right of voting in city elections.

The resolution opposing the confirmation of Mr. Acers was laid on the table and will not be called up again, we suppose.

A bill passed the Senate requiring sessions of a grand jury in every county at least once a year.

By next week we expect to be able to report something that will have permanent value, as the final passage of important bills. Up to yesterday morning the number of bills introduced in the Senate was 180, in the House 266, total 446.

Kansas Quarter-Centennial.

On the 29th day of January, 1861, Kansas was admitted to the Union, and on Friday of last week, the event was commemorated in Topeka in an appropriate manner, it being the twenty-fifth anniversary of the State's birthday. Hon. Charles Robinson, the first Governor, delivered an address on the early history of Kansas, and the present Governor, John A. Martin, followed in an address showing the State's growth. Other speakers followed. Major B. F. Simpson delivered an address on "The Wyandotte Convention."

He was followed by Justice A. H. Horton in a scholarly address on "The Judiciary of Kansas."

Then came Colonel C. K. Holliday on "The Cities of Kansas."

Judge Humphery spoke of our railroads; Hon. D. W. Wider took up the Press; Colonel D. R. Anthony talked all along the line of our wonderful history; Lieutenant Governor Riddle and Mr. Speaker Johnson told about the "Senate" and "House," when Rev. Dr. Cordley gave the history of our schools, and Rev. Dr. McCabe followed with the "Churches of Kansas." Colonel S. N. Wood touched up the "Pioneers of Kansas," the Territorial government was unearthed by John Speer, T. D. Thatcher brought to light the "Rejected Constitutions," Mr. Secretary Sims showed up the agriculture of Kansas, and Alexander Caldwell presented our Manufactures, when Senator E. F. Ware delivered an original poem appropriate to the occasion.

There was a vast fund of information presented in the address. Together, they would make a good immigration document.

Patents to Kansas People.

The following is a list of patents granted Kansas people for the week ending January 30th, 1886; prepared from the official records of the Patent office by Mr. J. C. Higdon, solicitor of patents, Diamond building, Kansas City, Mo.:

Egg tray—Nelson F. Tipton, of Baldwin City.

Windmill—Alvin Sherwood, of Hampden.

Mechanical movement—Frederick Reed, of Solomon City.

Neck yoke—S. D. Mehew, of Peabody.

Clothes rack—Edward G. Hurd, of Seneca.

Portable hay press—Porter & Burnette, of Parsons.

There was a very interesting convention of stockmen in Denver last week, at which measures were adopted looking to more effective organization and the better protection of western cattle from contagious diseases which are peculiar to other sections of the country.

The Nebraska State Fair will be held at Lincoln, September 10 to 17, 1886.

Why Stock Was Lost in the Storms.

From what has appeared in this paper the last two weeks and this week, readers will understand that losses of stock during the cold weather of January was very large. Reports were greatly exaggerated in many cases, but the truth itself requires big figures.

It is important to our own people and also to people in other States east of us that the exact truth be known not only as to numbers lost, but as to the reasons why the losses occurred and how. Our western readers understand all about it, but those who live in the older States know nothing about it. All the losses that were traceable to cold weather, occurred not because of the low temperature, but because the animals had no protection or not sufficient protection from the storm. The temperature was as low last winter as it was this, but there was not as much wind, nor was there as much snow. In the western part of this State there are a good many large ranches where there is no attempt to protect stock from the storms. There is very little preparation for feed, and in some cases none. The cattle are expected to find feed on the range. When a hard storm comes the animals drift with it, going sometimes many miles and scattering over a large territory. Cattle belonging in the Platte river valley were found in Hamilton county, this State, a few days ago, having travelled nearly or quite three hundred miles with the storm. In one case reported, a large number of ranch cattle came into a settlement of small farmers where hay had been prepared for the use of their stock, and these hungry, cold cattle on the move ate up the hay stacks almost as fast as fire would have destroyed them. Cattle thus move with the storm for days, and until they find something that operates as a relief, a ledge of rocks, a bluff, a ravine. There is no timber out there. The prairie is covered with snow and ice, and in this case the wind was so strong that a great deal of dust was mixed with the snow, making the drifts very hard. In the railroad cuts, there was so much sand mixed with the snow in many places that the composition had to be dug up with pick axes. The water in all the courses was frozen, so that cattle could find nothing to drink. They were thus without feed, without water, without shelter, and in a terrific storm that continued with short intermissions some twenty days. It is that condition of things which accounts for the unprecedented losses of cattle. Drifting about over a shelterless prairie, hungry, thirsty, thin in flesh at best, thoroughly chilled, weary and disheartened, no wonder the poor brutes perished.

We have carefully watched the reports, and have learned of no case of loss where reasonable protection had been prepared, and where the stock had proper care and attention. Some losses of sheep and of hogs are reported where they had covering, but these occurred almost if not quite wholly from smothering, just as some cattle did where a large herd pressed together and tramped the inside animals down where they were helpless. In no case have we heard of losses where farmers had no more stock than they could and did take good care of. And this is a very important lesson, one that every farmer should remember and profit by. No man ought to keep more stock than he can take care of. He ought to save plenty of feed and have abundance of water. He can, with very little time and trouble, arrange some kind of protection against storms, even though he be poor. It is not the cold alone that kills. Give an animal enough to eat and drink, give it

a place to lie on straw or hay, protected from the wind and drift, and it will endure a very low temperature. Let us all profit by the experience of the men who are most directly interested in the losses about which this is written.

Railroad Discrimination.

A friend complains because he was charged as much, lacking fifteen cents, for hauling a lot of goods from Kansas City to Ellsworth as from Richmond, Indiana, to Kansas City, a distance about three times as great.

The rule has been all along and is now that rates from the East are made to Kansas City, and another rate is charged from there West. That is the reason why our Kansas people that receive goods by rail always have two separate charges to pay if the goods came through Kansas City. There is only one way to remedy this, and that is by bringing Eastern roads into Kansas without touching Kansas City and paying toll there. Topeka is now expecting two such roads, one connecting us direct with St. Louis and southern points, the other connecting us with Chicago and all northern points. That will give Topeka the same rates that Kansas City has, and the goods that are to go farther West will be sixty-six miles on their way. If our correspondent will address a note to the Secretary of the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, Topeka, giving the facts, he will be informed whether the charge complained of is above schedule rates. If any redress can be had at little expense it will be through the Board.

Kaw Life Association.

The Hutchinson *Interior-Herald* recently contained a communication from Zeno Tharp, in which he says: "I have taken a great deal of pains to find out the standing of the Kaw Life Insurance Company of Kansas City. I have written to a number of those that they have settled with on \$5,000 policies, and not one has been paid over \$1,300. Others have been settled with at as low a rate as \$800. I am in correspondence with others that are to be paid soon and will inform you what they receive. I have been assessed for deaths that occurred before I was a member."

He says he wrote to the Secretary of the company and received an answer November 23d, 1885, as follows: "We have not as yet been paying our \$5,000 policies in full. We are paying all the way from fourteen hundred to two thousand dollars, and some as high as twenty-eight hundred dollars."

It is not necessary to reprint all of Mr. Tharp's article. When the Secretary of the company says they are not paying one-half what they promised to pay, and what they take money to pay, there is no use in wasting time on such a company. Let everybody steer clear of it. It seems strange that legislative wisdom has not yet been able to protect people from such insurance institutions. Here are honest men paying out money on solemn assurances of fair dealing, and then are offered less than 10 per cent. when pay day comes. It is a gross outrage.

The Missouri Wool-Growers' Association will hold their next annual meeting at St. Louis on the 7th and 8th days of April, 1886, at which time there will also be held the National Sheep-Shearing, with cash premiums to be awarded to the amount of \$1,500, offered by the enterprising merchants and business men of St. Louis, and with flattering prospects of the National Wool-Growers' Association of the United States, meeting at the same time and place. The Association is

making laudable efforts to increase its membership. The owners in Missouri, and the Association offers thoroughbred rams as prizes awarded at the St. Louis meeting.

There are nine rams, seven Merino and two Cotswold, offered to persons sending in new memberships the individual furnishing the largest list of paid memberships shall have the first choice of rams; next highest, second choice, and so on to the end of the list. Address of every member, with \$2 cash, membership fees, must be given. Names and money to be forwarded to Harry McCulloch, Secretary, Fayette, Mo.

Amend the Game Law.

An open letter addressed to the members of the Legislature now in session, was published in the Walnut Valley *Times* a few days ago, on the defects of the present game law, and asking that a more perfect enactment be made. We have not examined the matter carefully, but we are in favor of any measure that will protect our insect destroying birds. Men who have studied the subject recommend the following, which merits and we hope will receive the careful consideration of the Legislature.

First, A law making it a felony to shoot in, into or across a public highway, or into the inclosure of another, provided the law shall not apply to officers in the discharge of lawful duties or to individuals destroying ravenous wild beasts, mad dogs or other vicious brutes, that endanger life and property.

Second, That it shall be a misdemeanor to carry gun or pistol upon the premises of another without written permission from the owner or occupant, and a violation shall be punished by a fine not less than \$50 nor more than \$100, one-half to go to the informer.

Third, That it shall be a misdemeanor to ship by any conveyance whatever, quails and prairie chickens, and birds so shipped shall be subject to confiscation and all parties connected therewith subject to a fine not less than \$50 or more than \$100, one-half to the informer and an attorney's fees of \$10 be allowed in this and the last preceding section.

Fourth, That in other respects the same protection be given to birds as by existing laws.

National Sheep-Shearing.

As to the rules governing at the National Sheep-Shearing to be held at St. Louis, April 7 and 8, we give the following as published by authority: "Competitors for premiums must be the owners of the sheep entered, and residents of the United States. Entries for competition must be made on or before the 1st day of April, 1886, and the sheep must be in the pen by 9 a. m. of the 7th of April, ready for inspection by the committees, at which time there shall be given to said committees, in writing, under the number of the entry, a statement of the breeding of the animal, its age, sex, and the age of the fleece in days, and answer made to such questions as the committee may deem proper to ask. The shearing, which will begin after the inspection, must be completed by 4 p. m., and will be under the supervision of the committees for each class, who will verify all weights. Committees on shearing will report to the Missouri Association, in the annual meeting, at 2 p. m. of the 8th, when premiums awarded will be paid in cash. Reductions in rates, by railroads and hotels, will be secured. Communications in regard to entries, premiums, accommodations, etc., should be addressed to A. J. Child, Cor. Sec., 209 Market St., St. Louis, Mo."

A \$200 Barn.

Kansas Farmer:

Seeing E. W. Brown's communication in the *FARMER* of the 20th inst., I was pleased to know some one feels interested in making suggestions for cattle barns, to make the poor helpless brutes comfortable in such terrible storms as we have passed through this winter. Bro. Brown's straw barn would have relieved many a farmer's troubled mind and let him have a clear conscience. Peace that comes from building no others; Build straw barns if you can. In feeding build them for the profit there is in your cattle out of the cold and storms, and have no feeling for the suffering animals.

A farmer feeding twenty head of steers in the timber told me they lost a hundred pounds a head during two storms this month, making a cash loss of \$80. Another, feeding fifty head, does not estimate any gain this month, making a loss of feed of \$150. I might quote many more like instances of out-door feeding, but these are enough for the thinking mind; for it is evident that by out-door feeding in cold winds and storms the losses cut down a great per cent. of the profits.

While I advocate a hay barn in connection with a cattle barn, arranged convenient for feeding, and second the thousand dollar plan of Bro. Brown, I say it is not economy and therefore not policy to wait till the thousand dollars are in hand to construct it. A convenient barn for stabling in stanchions, and feeding fifty head of cattle can be built for \$200. We are using one and find it answers every purpose of a thousand-dollar barn so far as comfort to cattle and economy in feeding is concerned. This barn is 36x64, 6-foot walls above a 6-inch stone foundation. An alley-way 18 feet wide runs through the center, leaving 9 feet on each side to stanchion up the cattle in. The cattle are let in at the ends, and droppings cleaned out through long horizontal doors on the sides. The frame of the barn is 2x4-inch scantling, sills doubled. Alternate immovable stanchions were set in the ground and run up to the roof, and are capped by a 2x4 plate which supports the roof, the rafters of which are 20 feet long. The lumber cost \$15 a thousand here, and shingles \$3.50 a thousand; the boarding is laid on horizontal, and the work can be done by any intelligent man, if a carpenter cannot be had. The movable stanchions are secured at the bottom by bolts to the ribbons of fencing nailed to immovable stanchions that support the roof. The stanchion timbers are set edgewise and the short stanchions cut 4 feet long. The alley-way will hold ten tons of loose hay and can be filled from folding doors at the ends, and when the cattle eat away the hay at the sides of the mow it is only a few minutes work to fodder them, and when the hay is partly fed out the mow can be replenished from the field. An hour and a half is all the time one man requires to clean out the barn, let out and re-stanchion the cattle each day. During the cold blizzards our cattle stood in front of the hay-mow eating and chewing the cud of contentment without realizing the raging storm without.

We claim nothing new in this barn of ours, as it is only the well-established arrangement of the New England cattle barn familiar to us from boyhood. The wide alley in the center adapts it to our use on the bleak prairies of Kansas. We say without fear of contradiction that three men can care for 300 head of stock cattle in such barns where water is supplied in the yards by windmills and the hay is within two miles of the barns, and the improved condition of the cattle will pay the expense. F. T. FROST.
Maple Hill Farm, Whiting, Jackson Co., Kas.

One thing is certain, we must enrich the soil if we expect an orchard to prove profitable. The idea that an orchard after it once gets started will take care of itself is a decidedly mistaken one, and if we expect to raise some other paying crop in the orchard extra care in this respect must be given.

Where good judgment is exercised in their use, no implement is more valuable than the roller, but there are none the less some crops which, like corn, need a light, loose soil where the roller will do more harm than good.

Good seed is one of the most important things on the farm, and a poor article is one of the most disastrous to the farmer.

Horticulture.

My Mistakes.

Kansas Farmer:

Very few of us care to tell of the mistakes we make, and the number that do not make them are still less; and as these mistakes are a part of our experience, we ought to try and use them for our own, and others' benefit, and by the use of the columns of our paper, the FARMER, which the editor kindly tolerates for our scribbling, we are able to help each other both by our success and failures in our labor on our farms. Now, I have noticed that the exceptionally large yields on our farms are reported, while the ordinary yield or total failure, are seldom if ever mentioned. I do not wish to be understood as trying to detract anything from this praiseworthy spirit, but the point I wish to make is this: that if the mistakes we make, or at least the most serious ones made, and the cause as far as known, leading to such mistakes, were made known through the FARMER, would result in vast benefit to the readers of our paper.

The most serious mistakes I have made was in setting out my apple and cherry trees. The apple trees were set 16x16 feet. Thirty feet or more would have been better. Cherry trees 16x12 feet, and 24x24 is close enough for the Early Richmond, the kind I have. Another mistake was in seeding my orchard to red clover. This may not be so serious, as I shall plow it under sometime in June, next. Another mistake or neglect was in not pruning enough. A tree with the top as dense as some of my trees, no odds how far apart they may be, are in nearly as bad shape as if they were set too close; because such a tree excludes the sunlight, and without sunshine no apple can be perfect either in color or flavor. The cause that led me to set my first trees so close was this: In 1875, when my first trees were set out, everybody that I conversed with then said that fruit would not grow this far west, so I thought the less ground they occupied, until I had tested this, the better. I am happy to say I have lived to see this theory of "too far west for fruit to grow" thoroughly exploded. I will cite one instance by which close planting resulted in considerable loss, although the present owner, Colonel H. A. Loper, did not do the planting. In talking with him a short time since, he informed me that he was then having every other row of his apple trees cut out, and that the number to be removed would be 1,500, many of them six inches in diameter. He estimates that if the trees had all borne as well as the outside rows did, he would have had 2,000 bushels more the past season than he did have. His fruit farm, containing eighty acres in fruit, mostly apples, is within a half mile of Wellington. The reader may tally the above digression as another one of my mistakes if they so choose; it's not likely to be the last one.

Another mistake that cost me a good many dollars in damage to my trees, was in trying to keep the rabbits from injuring them by a number of different ways, until finally I wrapped them with tarred paper, fastening the paper on with small wire. This proved effectual, as it prevented the approach of the rabbit to the tree.

Sowing my grass seed on land that was foul with what is known here as ragweed, was one of the reasons of getting my timothy too thick, sowing nearly two bushels of timothy and one-fourth bushel clover seed on a little over ten acres. Two mistakes were made here, one by not having the

ground clear of these perennial weeds; the other, by sowing too much seed, in the hope of thereby smothering out the weeds. The above was sowed in the spring of 1883. My observations since then have convinced me that timothy should be sown in the fall. The same mistake was made in sowing my clover seed on ground that was foul with the nasty ragweed. Clover should be sown in spring, and if possible on fall-plowed land. My impression is, after two season's trial with Johnson grass, that those who have, or may sow it, will, like myself, have made a mistake. Alfalfa is another grass on which I squandered \$15, besides the labor and loss of the use of four acres of ground for two years. From what I have observed in other parts of our country, I am satisfied that alfalfa sown on land that has a sandy or porous subsoil would with proper care do very well. Last spring I sowed two acres of evergreen or tall meadow oat grass. Here a mistake was made by not sowing earlier in the season; it should have been sown about the first of April; mine was sown the last of May.

G. W. BAILEY.
Wellington, Kan.

The Busy Bee.

About Hives.

The hives in an apiary should be all alike, as a new swarm could not be made up from several others, if the frames were of different sizes; and in using an extractor the same difficulty would be found. The simplest hive, I think, is preferable, a single story, with cap cover, deep enough to hold one or two tiers of one-pound sections. The Langstroth hive I do not like; the frames are too long to take out or handle with one hand, (which it is often convenient to do,) and when filled with honey they are too heavy to lift easily, especially for women. The size would not be objectionable if the frames were made to go across instead of lengthwise. An extractor is indispensable to entire success. It is better than clear gain to take the honey out of the combs early in summer, for the queen will then have room for more eggs, which will hatch in time for the fall harvest. It would be a good plan for several neighbors who have each a few colonies to buy an extractor in partnership. The cost is about \$10, including express charges.

They can be obtained of dealers in bee supplies. In opening a hive, a little smoke, only a whiff or two, may first be blown in at the entrance, which will cause the bees to fill themselves with honey, and be peaceably inclined. Lift the cover and handle carefully, without jarring or breathing upon them.

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In the Dairy.

What a Cow.

The following is vouched for by a brother editor, and notwithstanding his general reputation for veracity, it is without doubt true. An elderly and well-known gentleman of Boston, who, while he likes to sit at the convivial board, will not touch anything spirituous, devoting all his attention to the lacteal fluid, was invited out a few nights ago by a party of choice spirits. A huge milk punch had, however, been prepared for him, and when he was asked what beverage he would prefer, his reply was as usual: "Well, I guess I'll take a little milk." The punch was brought, and all eyes were turned toward him to note the effect. Raising the glass, he took a sip, and then another; at the third, however, he drained the tumbler, smacked his lips, and looking lovingly at the empty glass, observed: "Great Caesar, what a cow!"—*Boston Post.*

How to Milk a Kicking Cow.

A. E. K. in the *Farm and Home* gives a way to break a kicking cow, which is very good on some cows, but fails entirely on others. I had a cow that would kick before one could get a rope round her foot. She soon found out what I was up to when I was trying to get it around her leg and would jump and kick "for all that was out." I tried another plan that succeeded nicely: I tied her short in the stable, lifted up her right fore-foot so that her knee would be bent up close; then had a loop made of small rope that would slip over her knee and up on her leg when it was bent, so that it would hold her foot up from the ground. When I would get the loop on, I would slip a smooth round stick in between the rope and the knee-joint so that the loop could not come off. She had to stand on three feet while milking and therefore couldn't kick. If she did she would go down. I kept the stick and the loop in the stable so that it was always at hand. It was very little bother and always succeeded. But as for getting them broken so that they will always be safe, don't always believe it.

Occasionally a discussion breaks out among writers in regard to the causes of crystals of salt appearing in butter; and if they keep at it they will soon have this simple process of nature surrounded with as much mystery as is already thrown around the "white speck" question. Salt is a mineral that is dissolved by the action of fluids, and when the fluids are impregnated with salt to a point of saturation they will take up no more and the salt remains in crystals. When brine is evaporated the crystals form again. Putting in too much salt will not cause it to show on the outside if the water is all worked out, for when there is more salt than the fluids of the butter will dissolve, it will not dissolve. But if too much water is left in the butter, when it evaporates it will bring the salt to the surface and deposit it. And if butter is exposed to the air it will impart some of its moisture of the air and the salt will be left on the surface.—*Mirror and Farmer.*

Darymen should remember that a well-fed cow is a different animal in many respects from a thin cow. And this difference is never more apparent or important than at the time of calving. A cow in a poor condition needs rest for two or three months, and there is little danger of inflammation of the udder unless she is highly fed. But a cow that has been kept in a high condition

is no doubt safer if milked all the time till she calves. If the milking is stopped while she is giving a good flow, it makes a change in the system which, added to the increasing inflammation resulting from her condition, is apt to make trouble and end in milk fever.

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The Veterinarian.

[The paragraphs in this department are gathered from our exchanges.—ED. FARMER.]

ITCHING SKIN.—We have a mare that has been biting and digging herself for the past two weeks, and we can hardly make up our mind what the trouble is. She pulls well and eats well, but if she can get a chance she will rub until she rubs the skin off, and stand and rub one leg against the other. On the inside of her hind legs there are little lumps. Please state what the trouble is and what to do for it. [If you are feeding the mare with corn, discontinue it. Give internally every night for a week a powder composed of two drachms each of gentian root, nitrate of potash and sulphur. Feed bran mashes. Wash the mare all over with a strong solution of common salt in water.]

PARTIAL PARALYSIS.—I have a fine young stallion, and he is weak in the hind parts; he is lively, eats nearly enough, but has not got good control of himself. When he lies down he can hardly get up. I think it is in his back, for he seems to have good legs, but when he walks he goes sideways and nearly falls down; he is weak in his hind legs; sometimes he nearly falls down when he turns around; he wants to play but cannot. I think it must be in his back; he is falling off all the time; he has been this way nearly two months; can run some, but his hind parts go about where they please. The difficulty is of a nervous nature and is located in the region of the loins. [Keep the horse on a laxative diet composed of cooked bran, oats and linseed meal. Give 1 drachm of powdered nux vomica morning and evening, mixed in feed, and at the end of a week increase the amount to 1½ drachms night and morning. Clip off the hair from the region of the loins and apply frequently embrocations of mustard and turpentine. Place in a roomy box-stall.]

MEGRIMS.—I have a horse that I bought six weeks ago which has peculiar spells. The first I noticed was when driving him with a load, he began jerking the muscles of the right side, and also the eye of the right side. I took him out of the harness and he shied off and threw up his head; seemed to be afraid of everything that he saw. The spell lasted only about five minutes. As soon as he got over jerking he sweat profusely on the same side, and seemed to be blind for a few minutes. I worked him the rest of the day, and he seemed all right. The next time he had a spell was the second day after, the same as first, only on the opposite side, but not as hard, and did not last more than half as long; did not take him out of the harness, but he drove up like a high-spirited horse. This time was without a load. Bowels seem free and all right. Eats and drinks well, seems to feel good, and is in good flesh. First, what is the matter with him? Second, what shall I do for him? [Restrict the diet. Give an occasional laxative. Avoid tight collars or whatever presses upon the veins of the neck. When the symptoms begin to appear, stop the horse, cover the eyes, apply cold water to the forehead, and then give a dose of salts.]

Those who have used the BOSS ZINC and LEATHER COLLAR PADS and ANKLE BOOTS say they are the best and cheapest, because most durable. They will last a lifetime. Sold by Harness-makers on sixty days' trial. DEXTER CURTIS, Madison, Wis.

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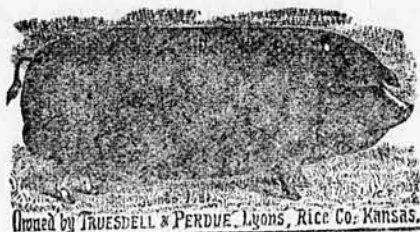
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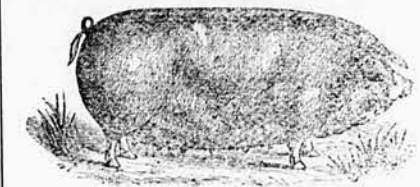
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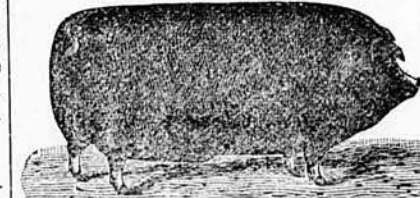
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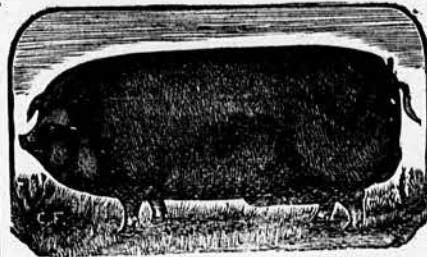
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I have for sale a fine lot of young pigs sired by Jayhawker 2639, Ottawa King 2885 (the champion hog of Franklin county) and Buckeye Boy 2d 2219, Ben Butler 2977, Leak's Gift-Edge 2887, which are very fine breeders of fashionable strains. My sows are all first-class and of popular strains. I also have an extra fine lot of Duroc Jersey Red pigs for sale from sires and dams that have never been beaten in the show ring in four counties in Kansas. I have hogs of all ages in pairs or trio of no kin, for sale. Herd has taken over twenty prizes this last year. My herd has never had any disease. Stock all eligible or recorded in Central Record. Please call and see stock, or write and give description of what you want. Inquiries promptly answered. Farm, three miles southeast of Ottawa, Kas.

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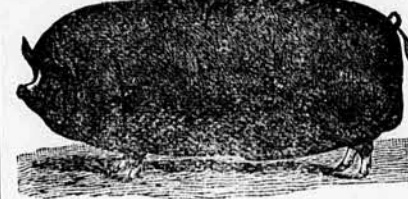
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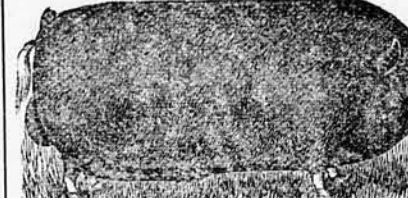
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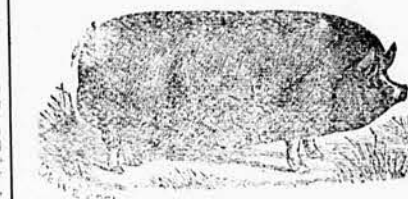
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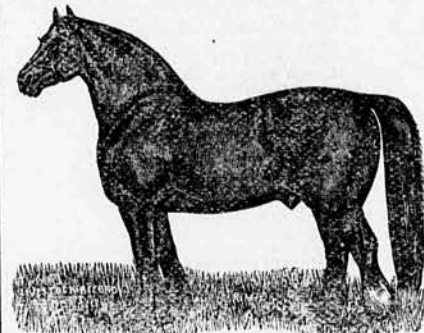
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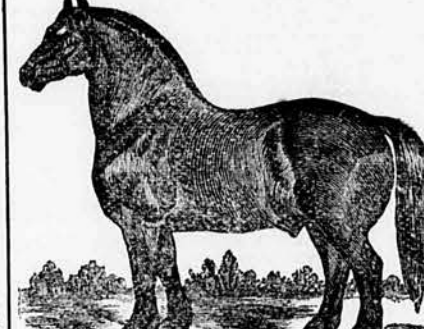
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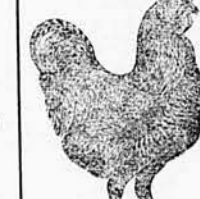
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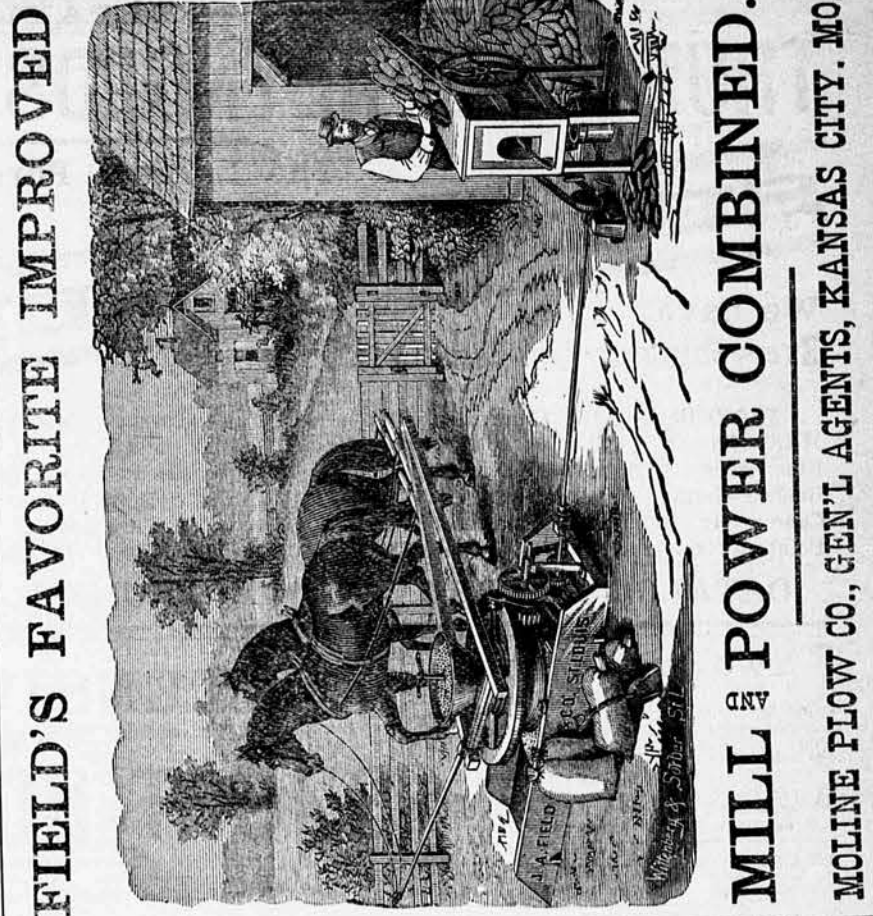


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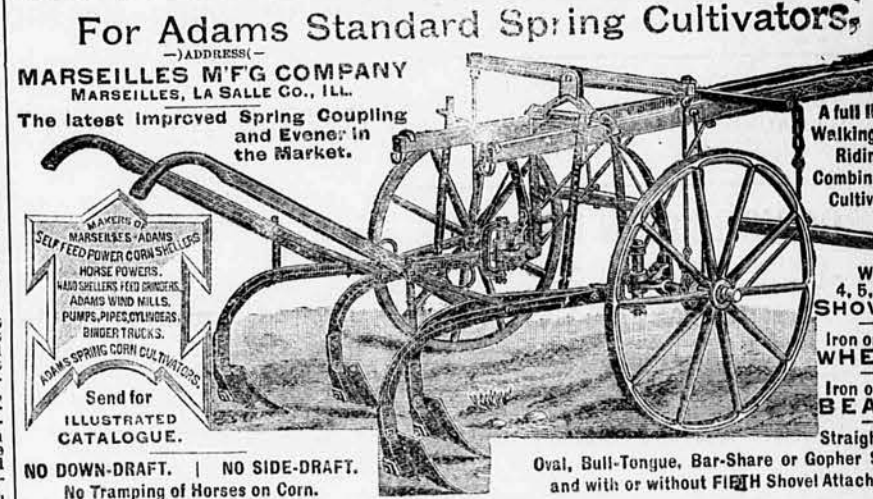


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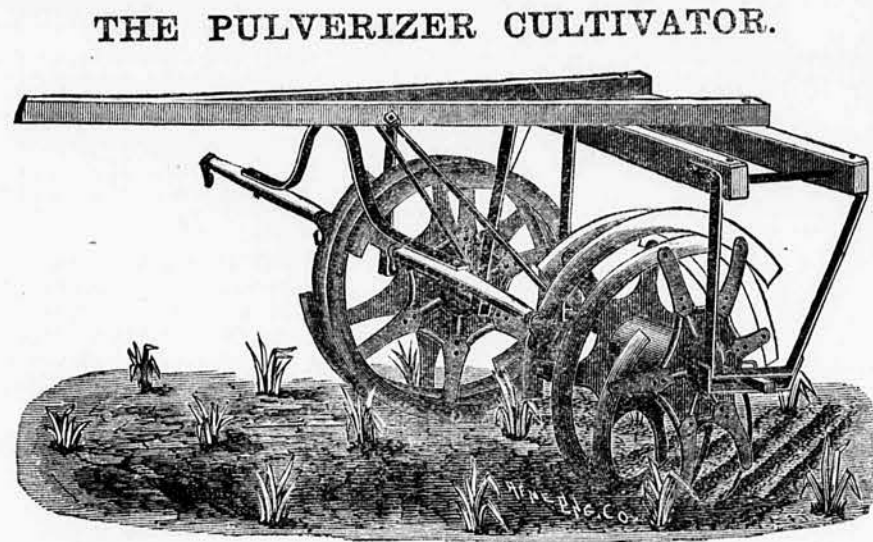
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 We will guarantee the "LOVELL" WASHER to do better work and do it easier and in less time than any other machine in the world. Warranted five years, and if it don't wash the clothes clean, without rubbing, we will refund the money.
AGENTS WANTED in every county. We CAN SHOW PROOF that Agents are making from \$75 to \$150 per month. Farmers make \$200 to \$500 during the winter. Ladies have great success selling this Washer. Retail price only \$5. Sample to those desiring an agency \$2. Also the Celebrated **KEYSTONE WRINGERS** at manufacturers' lowest price. We invite the strictest investigation. Send your address on a postal card for further particulars.
LOVELL WASHER CO., ERIE, PA.



ESTABLISHED 1871.

TRUMBULL, REYNOLDS & ALLEN, KANSAS CITY.

The Largest, Purest, Freshest and Best Stocks of

SEEDS! :: SEEDS! :: SEEDS!

We have Everything in the Seed Line.

SEEDS IN THE WEST!

We give only a partial list of our Stocks.

10,000 Bushels Red Clover; 2,000 Bushels Alfalfa Clover; 1,000 Bushels White Clover; 1,000 Bushels Alsike Clover; 10,000 Bushels Timothy; 10,000 Bushels Kentucky Blue Grass; 10,000 Bushels Orchard Grass; 5,000 Bushels Red-Top; 5,000 Bushels English Rye Grass; 10,000 Bushels German Millet; 10,000 Bushels Common Millet; 5,000 Bushels Hungarian; 5,000 Bushels Early Amber and Early Orange Cane Seed; 500 Bushels Improved California Golden Broom Corn Seed; 1,000 Bushels Jerusalem Artichokes; 5,000 Bushels Northern Seed Potatoes (Irish); 3,000 Bushels Seed Sweet Potatoes, Etc., Etc. **LARGE STOCKS OF T. R. & A.'S RELIABLE GARDEN SEEDS. ALL NEW CROP.**

CATALOGUE FREE.

ADDRESS TRUMBULL, REYNOLDS & ALLEN, KANSAS CITY, MO.

TWO-CENT COLUMN.

"For Sale," "Wanted," and small advertisements for a short time, will be charged two cents per word for each insertion. Initials or a number counted as one word. Cash with the order.

WANTED—To hire 100 acres tillage land in eastern or central Kansas. Write, giving full particulars, P. O. Box 61, Paxico, Wabasha county, Kas.

FOR SALE—Three Pups from imported pedigree Gordon Setter slut. Ten months old. Perfect in colors. \$15 each. John Whitworth, Emporia, Kas.

WANTED—To buy Fat Cattle and Hogs, and some good Fresh Milch Cows. Also a good Work-Horse. Will trade coal or pay cash. Call on or address Kansas Coal Co., 238 Kansas Avenue, Topeka. (Telephone No. 243)

Too Late to be Classified.

HALSTEAD POULTRY YARDS—Choice Light Brahmas and Brown Leghorn Chickens and fine Pekin Ducks. Address A. & W. C. Petrie, Halstead, Kas.

DO YOUR OWN PRINTING

DARLING & JOHNSON, Topeka, Kas., Fine Job Printers and manufacturers of

RUBBER STAMPS!

for printing cards, envelopes, marking clothes, etc. Also Stencils for marking sacks. **25¢** Make money by writing us.

Public Sale Trotting Stock

Annual Public Sale of Trotting Stock. About Forty YOUNG STALLIONS, FILLIES, BROOD MARES, etc., by the Hambletonian Stallions Bismarck and Twilight, will be sold

MARCH 3, 1886.

The most promising lot I ever offered for sale. Catalogue on application. T. E. MOORE, Shawhan, Bourbon Co., Kentucky.

100 REGISTERED SHORT-HORN BULLS

For sale by the following Breeders of Jackson Co., Mo.

Good Individuals. Good Pedigrees. Low Prices Apply to any of the following gentlemen, at Independence, Mo.:

JNO. T. SMITH, L. P. WILLIAMSON,
H. M. VAIL, M. R. HUGHES & SON,
L. O. SWOPE, M. W. ANDERSON,
G. L. CHRISMAN, FURNISH BROS

Kansas Economy Incubator!

Manufactured by the Inventor, JACOB YOST, Richmond, Shawnee county, Kas. The Incubators will be sold at the following low prices, with full instructions for operating:

No. 1, 100-Egg capacity, \$12; No. 2, 150, \$15; No. 3, 250, \$20.

Send 50 cents for my new Book, which contains directions—How to make and use this incubator; also, how to make a good Brooder to mother the chicks, what and how to feed them to make them ready for market in eight or ten weeks; also, how to manage Hens to keep them laying all winter. The Book contains Remedies which cure Roup and Cholera.

This incubator is a success. I have hatched 75 per cent. of the eggs without testing, and raised 90 per cent. of the chicks with my Brooder.

Address JACOB YOST, P. O. Box 30, Richmond, Kas.

KNABE PIANOFORTES.

UNEQUALLED IN Tone Touch Workmanship and Durability. WILLIAM KNABE & CO. Nos. 204 and 206 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore. No. 112 Fifth Avenue, New York.

EXTENSIVE SALE OF WELL-BRED SHORT-HORN CATTLE!

A. H. LACKEY & SON

—Will Sell at the—

Fair Grounds, Peabody, Marion County, Kansas.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9th, 1886,

Seventy-five head of Splendid Young

COWS AND HEIFERS AND A FEW YOUNG BULLS.

The offerings will include Rose of Sharons, Young Marys, Cruickshanks, Arabellas, Blossoms, Floras, and the other sorts that are good and useful for the purposes for which Short-horns are bred—beef and milk. All females old enough have calves or are in calf to the splendid Cruickshank bull, BARMPTON'S PRIDE 40854, or the elegant Flat Creek Young Mary bull, ARCHIE HAMILTON 49792

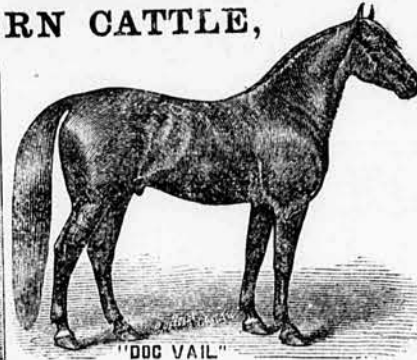
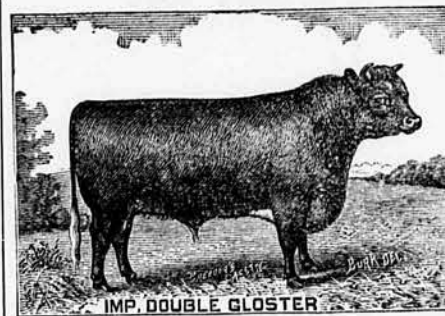
We call special attention to the large number of cows and heifers of the Cruickshank and other well-bred and fashionable tribes in this sale.

ALL ARE RECORDED OR ACCEPTED FOR RECORD.

Every animal will be sold receiving a bid. No postponement on account of weather. TERMS:—Cash, or nine months credit on good bankable notes drawing 10 per cent. Three per cent. off for cash. Catalogues on day of sale.

COL. S. A. SAWYER, Auctioneer. A. H. LACKEY & SON.

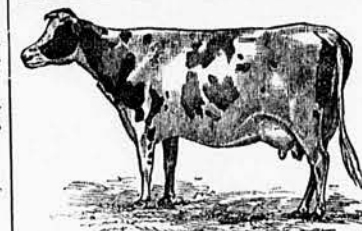
BLUE VALLEY HERD AND STUD OF SHORT-HORN CATTLE,



The Blue Valley Herd and Stud offers for sale FIFTEEN RECORDED SHORT-HORN BULLS of choice breeding, good colors and splendid individual merit; thirty head of equally good COWS AND HEIFERS; also thirty head of first-class ROADSTER, DRAFT AND GENERAL-PURPOSE HORSES, many of which are well-broken single and double drivers.

My stock is all in fine condition and will be sold at reasonable prices. Correspondence and a call at the Blue Valley Bank respectfully solicited. Write for Catalogue. MANHATTAN, KAS., January 1st, 1886. WM. P. HIGINBOTHAM.

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIANS



ALL AGES AND BOTH SEXES. HOME-BRED AND IMPORTED.

Cows and Heifers Bred to Best Netherland and Anglie Bulls.

The Average Records of a Herd are the True Test of its Merit.

The Following Milk and Butter Records Have All Been Made by Animals Now in Our Herd:

MILK RECORDS:

Five Cows have averaged over 19,000 lbs. in a year. Ten Cows have averaged over 18,000 lbs. in a year.

We know of but 23 Cows that have made yearly records exceeding 16,000 lbs. and 14 of them are now in our Herd and have averaged over 17,500 lbs.

Twenty-five have averaged over 16,000 lbs. in a year. Sixty-three, the entire number in the Herd that have made yearly records, including 14 three-year-olds and 21 two-year-olds, have averaged 12,785 lbs. 5 ozs. in a year

BUTTER RECORDS:

Five Cows have averaged 50 lbs. 7 ozs. in a week. Nine Cows have averaged 19 lbs. 1/2 oz. in a week. Fifteen Cows have averaged 17 lbs. 6 ozs. in a week. Six three-year-olds have averaged 14 lbs. 3 ozs. in a week. Eleven three-year-olds (the entire number tested) have averaged 13 lbs. 2 ozs. in a week. Six two-year-olds have averaged 12 lbs. 1 1/2 ozs. in a week. Fifteen two-year-olds (entire number tested) have averaged 10 lbs. 8 3/10 ozs. in a week. The entire original imported Netherland Family of six cows (two being but three years old) have averaged 17 1/2 lbs. in a week. This is the Herd from which to get foundation stock. Prices low for quality of stock. SMITHS, POWELL & LAMB, Lakeside Stock Farm, Syracuse, N. Y.

IMPORTED AND KANSAS-BRED HEREFORD CATTLE.



For Sale at Very Reasonable Prices. Representatives Horace, Lord Wilton, The Grove 3d, and other noted sires. Thoroughbred and high-grade bulls and heifers for ranchmen a specialty. Send for Catalogues. G. E. HUNTON, Breeder, ARIZONA, KAS.

THE ELMWOOD HERD

A. H. Lackey & Son, PEABODY, Marion Co., KAS., BREEDERS OF

SHORT-HORN CATTLE

AND BERKSHIRE SWINE.

Our herd numbers 130 head of well-bred Short-horns, comprising Cruickshanks, Rose of Sharons, Young Marys, Arabellas, Woodhill Duchesses, Lavinias, Floras, Desdemonas, Lady Janes and other good families. The well-known Cruickshank bull BARMPTON'S PRIDE 49854 and the Bates bull ARCHIE HAMILTON 49792 serve our herd. We make a specialty of milking Short-horns, the Arabellas being specially noted as milkers. Good, useful animals of both sexes always for sale. Premium Berkshires very cheap.

M. W. DUNHAM

Wayne, Du Page Co., Illinois, HAS IMPORTED FROM FRANCE Percheron Horses valued at \$5,500,000, which includes about

70 PER CENT OF ALL HORSES

Whose purity of blood is established by pedigrees recorded in the Percheron Stud Book of France, the only Stud Book ever published in that country.

EVER IMPORTED TO AMERICA.

STOCK ON HAND: 140 Imported Brood Mares 200 Imported Stallions, Old enough for Service, 125 COLTS Two years old and younger.

Recognizing the principle accepted by all intelligent breeders that, however well bred animals may be said to be, if their pedigrees are not recorded, they should be valued only as grades, I will sell all imported stock at grade prices when I cannot furnish with the animal sold, pedigrees verified by the original French certificate of its number and record in the Percheron Stud Book of France. 100-page Illustrated Catalogue sent free. Wayne, Ills., is 35 miles west of Chicago, on the Chicago & North-Western Ry.

THE CITY HOTEL, CHICAGO.

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THE STOCKMEN'S HOME.

Special Rate to Stockmen, \$1.50 Per Day. Nearest Hotel outside the Yards. Cable cars pass the House for all parts of the City. W. F. ORCUTT, Proprietor.