

KANSAS FARMER

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ADDITIONAL REPORTS.

Barber county.—The winter was mild and fine. Stock in good condition. Feed plenty. Winter wheat not very good, too dry. Not much spring work done.

Ellis.—The winter averaged cold but without violent storms and without the January thaw. Stock is in good condition, and the losses in wintering have been very slight. Feed is quite plenty, more so than ever before at this season in the history of the county. Winter wheat looks bad and is quite uncertain. The ground is in good order, having had a gentle snow without drifting, which has melted on the whole surface. Not much preparation for spring work.

Johnson.—The winter was not so severe as the last two, especially on stock, which is in good condition. Feed plenty at fair prices. Winter wheat in very good condition. Ground in splendid condition; farmers plowing for oats, and spring work is well advanced.

Montgomery.—Winter is gone and spring work is fairly begun; some oats sown; more plowing done than usual. Stock on some farms rather thin, on others in very good condition; no loss except by turning into stalks. Coarse feed plenty, grain scarce. Winter wheat finer than for years. The ground works fine. Preparations for spring work well under way, some oats sown and potatoes planted.

Rawlins.—The winter was mild, only two storms. Stock never in better condition. Feed plenty. Winter wheat looks rather dead, but think it will come out all right. The ground is in good condition for spring. Spring work commenced; lots of spring wheat sown.

Republic.—We had some severe weather last winter, but was generally favorable, having no high winds and driving snows. Cattle and horses have done well; I hear of some disease among hogs. Feed, so far as I know, is equal to the demand. Winter wheat, in consequence of ground being free from snow nearly all winter, is nearly all killed. The ground is free from snow and too much frozen for the plow. Preparations for spring work have begun by change in locations, cutting stalks, etc.

Rice.—The winter dry and open; total snowfall about nine inches; unusual amount of cloudy weather; several severe cold snaps. Stock in good condition; went into winter rather poor on account of short fall pasture. Feed plentiful. Winter wheat in fair shape to make a crop. Ground in good condition for plowing, and considerable plowing being done. Spring work rapidly progressing.

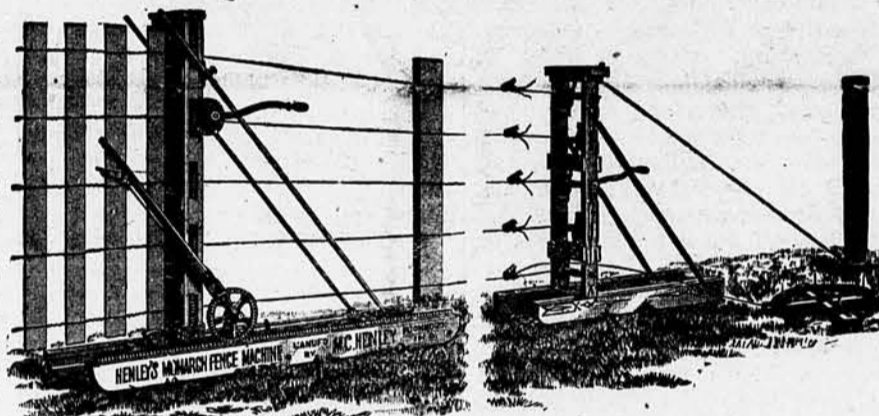
Riley.—The winter in general has been mild and pleasant, very little storm and only a few days at a time of severe cold weather. Stock is looking unusually well; the winter was favorable for them to feed in the stalk fields, and I know of none dying from doing so. There will be feed enough to go through but not much surplus. Winter wheat looks rather unfavorable as it was badly winter-killed, but it is too early to speak positively. We have had two or three snows and rains in the past two or three weeks which has moistened the ground pretty thoroughly on the surface. But little plowing done yet; some oats sown.

Wilson.—The winter has been pleasant and dry; stock water scarce in dry localities; coldest weather in January, 18 below. Stock generally doing well now, but a great

many died in early winter from eating corn fodder and pasturing in stalk fields. Plenty of hay and corn. A very small acreage of winter wheat, but enough living to make a fair stand if weather continues favorably. Ground in first-class order for work. Some oats are being put in, and a great many are plowing for corn.

Woodson.—Winter mild, dry, and but one cold day. Stock in good condition. Feed getting a little scarce on account of stalks affording no pasture. Winter wheat poor. Ground very mellow. Spring work fairly begun.

The Improved Monarch Fence Machine, Manufactured by M. C. Henley, the well-known and extensive manufacturer of Richmond, Ind., the advertisements of which have appeared from time to time in the columns of this paper, has proved an immense success. It has won its way into



THE IMPROVED MONARCH FENCE MACHINE.

popular favor on its superior merits as a thoroughly practical durable machine. It has fully solved the problem which has hitherto interested all inventors, and the question of vital importance to farmers and land-owners, namely, to make a strong, durable, substantial fence, that would not only be absolutely practical for all ordinary fencing purposes, but also combine the elements of strength, symmetry, saving of labor, protection to crops, perfectly available for stock purposes, for the farmer and ranchman, and proof against rabbits and poultry, for nurserymen, gardeners and vine-growers, and above all, a fence that could be made at a cost that would bring it within the reach of all. Mr. Henley has just issued an elegant new catalogue, giving full information as to the Improved Monarch Fence Machine. Send for one of these catalogues. Address M. C. HENLEY, 523 to 533 North Sixteenth street, Richmond, Ind.

Rolling Land.

Kansas Farmer:

In a great many instances in preparing land for spring crops, the roller can be used to a decided advantage. Land that is spongy or inclined to open, as is often the case with light sandy loam, the use of the roller can be made very profitable.

Meadows can be benefited if rolled early in the spring after the frost is thoroughly out of the ground and it is sufficiently dry to work well. Thawing and freezing often lifts up the plants and leaves a portion of the roots exposed which a good rolling will press back into the soil. Winter wheat is

often benefited in the same way. Some soils seem to have a natural tendency for throwing out the roots of plants in thawing and freezing, unless they are pressed back into the soil the vitality of the plants will be considerably lessened.

Of course, rolling should not be done indiscriminately. The soil should be dry. If wet it will be inclined to bake or crust on the surface. I never like to roll the surface when in the least degree wet—so that the soil will adhere to the roller.

In sowing oats or clover, the roller can be used to good advantage. After sowing the oats and harrowing in, rolling not only levels and fines the soil, but also presses the soil down well upon the seed, insuring a better germination. If oats are sown with the intention of seeding to clover, my plan is to sow the oats and cultivate in and harrow thoroughly, cross harrowing if necessary to get into a fine condition, and then roll well;

this leaves the soil in splendid condition for sowing the clover seed. Then with a light harrow or brush the clover seed can be covered lightly.

Every year that I farm convinces me the more thoroughly of the importance of thoroughly preparing the land before planting the crops, especially so with cultivated crops like corn, potatoes, cane and beans. After harrowing thoroughly a good rolling can be given with profit, not only in putting the soil in a better condition, but also as an aid to marking out, planting and covering.

If the soil is dry, as is sometimes the case even in the spring, a good rolling can be made very beneficial, pressing the soil more firmly down upon the seed and aiding materially in retaining the moisture. A certain degree of moisture and close contact with the soil is necessary to secure a good germination of the seed, and firming by rolling well often aids materially in securing this. Of course, at other times this is not necessary, and in using the roller, especially in the spring, good judgment must be used, for it will not always be the best thing to do to use the roller in the spring. But I consider it one of the best and most economical implements we can use on the farm, if some judgment is used as to when to use and when to let alone. N. J. SHEPHERD.

Eldon, Miller Co., Mo.

[N. B.—By a careless oversight, Mr. Shepherd's name did not appear to his last article in the FARMER—subject, "Economizing Labor."—EDITOR.]

It is dirt under the cellar in nine cases out of ten that injures the shoulders of horses.

The Harness.

Kansas Farmer:

There are many jobs around the farm which can be done now, and thus time can be saved later in the season when the rush of spring work is upon us. Among other things, the harness should be repaired and well oiled. For several years we have been using a mixture of neats-foot oil and fish oil, equal parts. A quart of the mixture is sufficient for a double set of farm harness, and costs about 30 cents. We also mix a small quantity of lamblack with the oil. That which comes dry will answer, but that which is ground in oil and put up in small tin cans for paint is preferable, as it gives the harness a durable black color which does not rub off as easily as when the dry color is used. We formerly used pure fish oil for this purpose, but it formed a gummy substance on the surface of the leather which collected the dust and dirt. After that we used pure neats-foot oil for a while, but found that the mice were fond of nibbling it. By mixing we obviate both these difficulties, and the leather is rendered soft and pliable. For applying it, a good sized paint brush is very convenient, especially for oiling around buckles, under keepers, etc. Harness should always be taken apart and cleaned before oiling. If they have been mudded, or if grease has formerly been used which collected the dirt badly, soap and water will take it off better than anything else. But if they are clean, dusting with a stiff brush is all that is necessary. They come apart easily if oiled each year. When doing this examine them closely, and if any part is found broken, or so badly worn that it will probably give out during the season, or if the sewing is ripped, it is important that they should be repaired before oiling. "A stitch in time saves nine." Many farmers do their own repairing. It does not require any great amount of gumption to do a fair job of sewing with an awl and waxend. Making the "end" is the hardest job for a beginner. We use Barbour's shoe thread. And fine thread makes a much better "end" than coarse. An important point in making an "end" is to have it well twisted, or the wax will soon come off and it will go to pieces. A dime's worth of copper rivets of different sizes will go far toward keeping a set of harness in good shape. Where the end of a strap is doubled over and fastened, such as fastening on a buckle, for instance, a couple of rivets are often better than stitching, especially in old leather. But they are objectionable for splicing one strap onto another unless it is sewed also.

Seneca, Kas. PLOWBOY.

Variety of food is desirable for all animals, and especially so for pigs.

We call special attention to the new advertisement in this issue of A. F. Leonard, seedsman, 159 W. Randolph St., Chicago. Send for his catalogue.

The Michel Plant and Seed Company, of St. Louis, whose card appears in this issue, have done business in that city for nearly forty years and established a reputation second to none in this country.

You can have a perfect roofing at low price; indeed, you can have the Black Diamond Prepared Roofing at lower price than the lowest; and no harm done. Address the manufacturers.

M. EHRET, JR., & Co.,
No. 113 N. 8th St., St. Louis.

The Stock Interest.

DATES CLAIMED FOR STOCK SALES.

MARCH 15.—Wm. P. Higinbotham, Manhattan, Kas., roadster, trotting-bred and general-purpose horses.
MAY 17.—Wm. P. Higinbotham, Manhattan, Kas., Short-horn cattle.
JUNE 1.—Walter Latimer, Closing-out Short-horn Sale, Garnett, Kas.
JUNE 30.—A. H. Lackey & Son, Short-horns, Peabody, Kas.

Sheep-Raising and Wool-Growing in Kansas.

A paper written by E. Copeland, Douglas, Kas., and read before the sixth annual meeting of the American Sheep Register Association, held at Jackson, Mich.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN:

It is difficult for us to appear at your interesting meeting, as the distance to Jackson is about 800 miles; it would be rather an expensive trip, although we would like to be with you very much, but not being able to have that pleasure, we will inform you by letter how the sheep business is in south Kansas, and also our mode of handling sheep.

Sheep are mostly handled here in large bands, say from 500 to 3,000 in a herd, and most all are grade Merinos. Very few of the mutton breeds are seen here. We keep our sheep in summer on the prairie grass; but many of them subsist in cornstalk fields from fall until spring, and oftentimes with nothing more than a barb wire fence to protect them from bad storms. But for our part we handle them differently, and on a plan of our own. We herd our sheep, or run them in pastures on wild grass in summer, and in the fall as long as the grass remains green, as it contains more fattening qualities while in its green state than any tame grass we can get; and then when the wild grass dies down we turn in blue grass pasture and feed a little corn each day to make it equal to wild grass feed.

We feed our lambs bran and threshed oats once a day all summer in troughs. We do that by building a pen in the center of their resting place at night, with portable panels, and we have one or two boards hung on hinges to raise and fall, and we have the opening high enough to admit the lambs at will, but low enough to keep the ewes out. In that pen we have our troughs, and put our feed in once a day, in the evening. When the sheep come in at night, the lambs will soon learn to go in after their feed as thick as blackbirds. By this plan of feeding we get a fine growth on our lambs the first year. Will say there are many of our lambs that will weigh 90 pounds now. We feed them all the corn and fodder they will eat the first and second winters, but we do not feed our breeding ewes quite all the corn they will eat. In the winter we feed them enough to keep them in good order, and after their lambs drop we feed them all they will eat of corn, threshed oats, or sheaf oats, with a reasonable share of bran and mangel-wurzel beets, until the grass is good to turn out on.

It may seem strange to some that we feed the sheep all the corn they will eat and they do not slip the wool. Will say that can be easily done by starting to feed in small quantities, and gradually raising their feed once a week, little by little, till they get on full feed. Sheep never are on full feed until they belch up their corn while chewing their cud.

The writer has had something to do with sheep off and on for the last forty years, and finds it a good plan, in order to make strong and heavy wool, to keep fat sheep the year round, as a sheep cannot make wool very fast while in poverty.

Will say that we have not a large flock of sheep; we have between six and seven hundred, and that is as many as we can handle and keep properly.

This is a good country for wool-grow-

ing, as our winters are usually dry, compared with more eastern States, and never very cold; therefore it don't take as much of the feed to keep up the animal heat. Sheep men are feeling better here than they were when taking panic prices for their wool.

This is November 11. We finished breeding ewes to-day. We have our lambs drop in March and April, as we always expect wild grass by the 12th of April. We keep our best home-raised rams for our own use, and when we buy rams to get new blood we buy the best we can find; but we do not like to use a ram with a ewe fleece, regardless of what his other good qualities might be, and seldom breed a short-stapled ewe to a short-stapled ram, as it is liable to breed a short-stapled lamb. It is hard to keep as many as 400 ewes all of one type, so that when I find a ewe that is faulty, I try and counteract the fault with the ram, except our best ewes; those we bred to our best rams, and from them we expect to get our best stock rams and show sheep. They do not always come out that way, for my observation tells me that it takes forty good ewes of any of our flocks to breed one first-class ram a year, and sometimes it takes three years to get one. And if this be true, you see our American Merino-sheep is a long way from perfection; yet when I was in Vermont three years ago a breeder there told me that they had their sheep bred to perfection, and at the same time he had on his farm a fine ram he called Standard, which he had sold for the sum of \$2,000 to go to Australia, and over the hill in a back pasture we found about eighteen rams that I suppose he was offering to some ram-buyer for \$15 per head to be shipped West, with which to improve Western sheep.

But at the same time the Merino sheep is my kind of sheep, and when we look back to the importations, and see what they were then and see what they are now, I for one feel very well satisfied with the improvement.

I will say I am a practical breeder, but I do not claim to be a perfect one; the head of no one man is large enough to supersede all others in breeding, so we need the help of each other. I am free to say the breeding part baffles my skill more than all the balance of sheep husbandry combined, for sometimes I will make a mistake and only see it when the lamb comes to maturity. I like some grease on a sheep, but I do claim there is a stopping place on grease and on body wrinkles, as an over-quantity of grease oftentimes causes a low constitution, and many body wrinkles most always gives a poor quality of wool. In my breeding I aim to get a large square-built sheep, with a good thigh, and good back, with a good front and a good tail, with a medium amount of grease and rather a plain body; and when I see a flock of that kind I call them a good all-purpose flock.

Practical Hog Talk.

A Pennsylvania farmer thus discourses on hogs in the *National Stockman*, Pittsburg:

If the American hog should get very sick, American farming would be a very crippled industry indeed. There is no doubt the hog has suffered during the past season, but give him a fair chance, and he will come out all right. I think if he was given soft corn sparingly when it first comes in, and allowed to have bran, grass, and a few roots, tubers, or something simple to correct a feverish condition at the same time, we would hear less of "cholera."

When "cholera" does get a good start it is no doubt contagious, but poor attention and feed until soft corn comes, and then gorging on that alone, are apt to generate the germ and get it started

in any place. Two cases have come under my notice this season that could have started in no other way. One of the parties came to me and said all his hogs had died but three, and they were sick. I gave him some tartar emetic and carbolic acid, telling him how to use them, and in case the hogs got better to keep the soft corn back for a while, and then start slow with it. He came again in a week or ten days and said his hogs were getting well, and since he told me they made good pork at killing time. This party was isolated on a mountain, raised his own hogs and had gotten no new ones for some two or three years.

The other party referred to was similarly located. Another party in the village got two pigs, the last of a herd that had the disease. They took sick and died a short time after he got them home. Within a radius of half a mile there was a number of fat hogs. One of them got sick. Tartar emetic and carbolic acid were quickly given. It got well, and in the meantime every owner of a hog in the neighborhood, I believe, gave ten to fifteen drops of carbolic acid to each hog, daily, in a bucketful of slop, or a tablespoonful in a barrel, and went slow on corn. No more was heard of "cholera" in that community, and a finer lot it would be hard to find when killing time came around. Some hogs fourteen to sixteen months old, dressed as high as 432 and 437 pounds, nine months old pigs dressing 250 to 300 pounds.

As far as it has come within my vision, well-kept and cared for herds have been cholera-proof, and every one I heard of having been "cleaned out" in this section was a bad "hogman." The greatest wonder in many cases was how the poor brutes lived as long as they did. What I state is in reference only to herds of ten to fifty, young and old, such as are kept by Pennsylvania and Eastern farmers. When they get up to hundreds, as in the West, the conditions are very different.

The good "hogman," however, does not crowd his pens or pastures, and always provides dry and warm quarters, not neglecting simple ventilation, cleans out and gives a little fresh bedding at least twice a week, feeds regularly and a variety, puts a tablespoonful of carbolic acid, or other anti-febrile, in the slop barrels when the "cholera" is around, and whitewashes the insides of his pens spring and fall, putting about a gill of muriatic acid to the bucketful of whitewash. He has separate places for his sows when they "come in." He does not in-breed, but is always on the lookout for fresh blood, that he thinks will improve what he has. He will keep no poor feeders or breed from sows that are not good milkers, and able to raise six to eight good pigs twice a year; and a sow that eats her young he gets rid of, with all her relations, at the very next killing. He keeps nothing but stock hogs over winter. His last litters come by the 1st of September, and he markets them by the 1st of February, dressing 125 to 175 pounds each. When grass comes he clears the pen, not to be used again if possible until fall. He separates his herd into two or three different pastures, provided with dry places under cover where they can lie in storms, looking well to their noses that they keep above ground. They won't mind it after a little, and it makes them better graziers; but he does not stint them to grass alone, unless it be a very good clover lot. At all times and places his hogs have access to salt, and he occasionally gives them a little bituminous coal, mixed with lime, at the rate of a bushel of coal to a peck of lime, or some crushed charcoal in the slop. If he has fed much charcoal he has likely found

out that if given as much as they would eat sometimes one would die suddenly; and he has found instead of the "cholera" fine charcoal packed tight in the lower bowel, yet he knows it is good and healthy, barring the above danger.

This man keeps his breeding stock in good condition, but never fat. His young sow goes to the boar at seven or eight months, and if she is a good breeder, careful mother and heavy milker, after the first litter he lets her run six months before coupling again. He knows it pays better to sacrifice some size for a better mother, a better milker and a safer breeder. He keeps his boars and barrows in a lot by themselves, out of sight and hearing of sows. If there is cholera within reach he will give some of his less particular neighbors a young boar for service sooner than let strange sows come on the premises, no matter what fee may be offered.

And he is always on such terms with his stock animals that they will step up and speak whenever they meet him. This the good "hogman" will do, and more, his herd will be "cholera"-proof, and he be paid double for it all.

Percherons Best for City Use.

A. M. Stein & Co., Brooklyn, N. Y., handle 2,000 horses annually, mostly heavy draft. They say of the grade Percherons: "We handle more of the Percherons than of any other breed. There is more demand for them. They give the best satisfaction, no matter how little of the blood there is in them. Generally they have good feet and last better on our pavements than the Clydesdales or other breeds. Tell the farmers of the West to keep their Percheron mares and breed them. Would advise breeding to Percheron horses in preference to any other breed."—*Chicago Tribune*. The greatest importer and breeder of Percherons is M. W. Dunham, of Wayne, Illinois, who has imported and collected at his Oaklawn Farm, altogether some 2,500 of these valuable horses. His purchasees are exclusively confined to pedigreed animals, recorded in the Percheron Stud Book of France, as the honest and careful breeders of pure-bred stock would no more buy a horse imported from France without a pedigree, than they would buy an imported Short-horn or Hereford bull that was not recorded in England.

Root graft during the winter, packing the grafts in sand or sawdust awaiting the spring setting.

☞ A sample copy of the *Normal Advocate* sent free to any one. Address *Normal Advocate*, Holton, Kas.

If the line fences are not on the exact line, have them put there at once. You can not afford to quarrel with any one.

Interest is like an open faucet to the molasses barrel. The molasses will run out slowly, but it will all get out.

Everybody Likes It.

Any person sending fifteen cents to the Advertising Department of the Wabash Route, St. Louis, Mo., will receive by return mail a handsome, well-bound book, entitled, "Social Amusements," containing all the latest and most novel Parlor Games, Charades, etc. The best publication ever issued for anyone giving an evening party.

Money Tells!

It is a well-established fact that A. D. Robbins & Co., 179 Kansas avenue, Topeka, Kas., can place large farm loans, of \$3,000, to any amount required, at lower rates of interest and less commission than any agency in Kansas, when security is satisfactory and title perfect. No unreasonable delay. Our business is strictly confidential—or we could refer you to parties where we have placed in past year \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000, \$20,000, \$40,000 loans. We are prepared to make better rates than ever. Send description of property and amount required, and apply to headquarters for large or small loans. When applying for loans give numbers of land, town or range, amount of improvements and number of acres under plow.
Address A. D. ROBBINS & Co., Topeka, Kas.

In the Dairy.

Why Cream Does Not Make Butter.

Kansas Farmer:
I see the question, "Why don't the cream churn?" in the KANSAS FARMER of February 9. I had a little experience of this kind once myself, and would have been glad to have some one to tell me why the cream did not churn, or rather why it did not make butter. It did churn, because I churned it. I found out why it did not make butter. I was milking four or five cows at the time. Our cream had been churning all right till one morning, my wife got the churning ready and I told her I would do the churning. There was about three gallons of cream. I churned awhile, when the cream began to foam. I told my wife she had better take out a part, that I had more than a churn-full; so she did, and I churned again. Finally we gave it up, and gave the cream to the pigs. Then the question was to find the cause. I had one cow that I had milked for some time, and she was getting pretty well along with calf at the time. She did not give more than two quarts at a milking. So I kept her milk out, and I had no more trouble. The cream churned right along after that.

Lyons, Rice Co., Kas.

Dairy Notes.

Don't waste food on cows unable to make a decent return.

If you want the flow of milk to keep up, always milk clean.

The quality of the food has much to do with the quality of the milk.

As the thermometer goes down let the heat-producing elements of the diet increase.

Cream makes better butter to rise in cold air than to rise in cold water, but it will rise sooner in cold water and the milk will keep sweet longer.

After cream becomes sour, the more ripening the more it depreciates. The sooner it is then skimmed and churned the better, but it should not be churned while too new. The best time for skimming and churning is just before the acidity becomes apparent.

W. G. Roberts, of Cass township, Guthrie county, Iowa, has two pet pigs that know how to live nicely. They each have a motherly cow that they suck as though they were born calves. When the bovines are driven into the yard they select their motherly one, and erecting themselves on their hind legs, take hold of the lacteal fountain and drink in the milk of bovine kindness to their full satisfaction.

Don't be in a hurry to throw up dairying because of low prices. It pays now as well as any other branch of farming. But weed out your stock. Make a careful test of every cow, and keep none that does not pay a profit. Get a male with a good pedigree, if you do not have one already, and breed from these selected cows. This will put you in the best possible condition to meet present and future contingencies.

The wise dairyman is laying his plans to have fewer cows in milk in summer and more in winter. He thus avoids glutted markets and low prices, and pastures his dry cows at a nominal expense. They yield largely when the cost of keep is largest, when the markets pay best, when the manure can be saved to the best advantage, and when the farmer has more time to care for them than in the rush of summer work.

Cheese ought to be eaten instead of so much meat. It is just the thing to take its place. But then we must have cheese

not quite so aromatic with the putrid whey stored up in it, nor quite so stinging in taste. There are many cheese factories where a hint of this nature can be applied with decided benefit. Make cheese people like and they will buy it. They buy other things, not leaving out whisky and tobacco. That is the way the world goes.

Crocks of butter to be kept for several months, says the *United States Dairyman*, should never be placed upon the cellar bottom. This causes two degrees of temperature in the crock, which will be at the expense of the quality of the butter at the top. The crocks will keep their contents far better if placed at least a foot from the cellar bottom upon a bench, and a thick woolen cloth thrown over it.

Cows will readily learn to eat skim-milk. There is an advantage in this, for there are times when more milk is produced than can be profitably fed otherwise. Besides, the cows that are taught to eat the greatest variety of food are always the best milkers. But in most places all the skim-milk can be more profitably fed to pigs and poultry than to any other stock. Skim-milk for hens will set them to laying. It abounds in albumen, from which the white of an egg is formed.

The churning of the whole milk finds little or no favor among practical dairymen. The practice of creaming the milk and churning the cream only produces the most satisfactory results. The system that makes it possible to skim the milk sweet is the best, either deep-cold setting or the centrifugal separator. The value of sweet milk for feeding stock or in domestic economy is far more than the pittance of butter obtained, which is fully paid for the extra labor expended.

Science in dairying does not stop at the selection of the proper breeds, or the mode of feeding, but also includes the process of management of the milk and the preparation of the butter, for which the proper facilities should be provided, while the judicious saving of the manure, and its conversion into crops, must be taken as important factors of the enterprise. It is an old maxim that "the dairyman gradually becomes wealthy even when his receipts and expenses are nearly balanced," for the reason that his farm produces larger crops each succeeding year, the manure being the profit. As long as dairymen refuse to resort to some system of breeding, and continue to purchase fresh cows to take the place of those becoming dry, they can not estimate on any definite results, as it is almost impossible to go into the market and purchase a dairy herd of cows that excel in both milk and butter, though with the use of well-known breeds, such as the Holstein, an approach to such may be made. The average dairyman should breed only to thoroughbred males, and thereby intelligently grade up his herd as near to the purposes required as may be possible.

Pruning of the hardier kinds of trees may go on in all suitable weather.

Frames containing cabbage, cauliflower or lettuce plants ought to be well aired daily.

The huge, drastic, griping, sickening pills are fast being superseded by Dr. Pierce's "Purgative Pellets." Sold by druggists.

To keep young colts confined on a plank floor is to invite ringbones and other similar diseases. Give them exercise in the yard.

*** Young or middle-aged men suffering from nervous debility or other delicate diseases, however induced, speedily and permanently cured. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

BREEDERS' DIRECTORY.

Cards of three lines or less, will be inserted in the *Breeders' Directory* for \$10.00 per year, or \$5.00 for six months; each additional line, \$2.00 per year. A copy of the paper will be sent to the advertiser during the continuance of the card.

HORSES.

M. D. COVELL, Wellington, Kas., fifteen years an importer and breeder of Stud Book Registered Percherons. Acclimated animals of all ages, both sexes, for sale.

PROSPECT FARM—H. W. McAfee, Topeka, Kas., breeder of Thoroughbred Clydesdale Horses and Short-horn Cattle. A number of choice bulls, also horses for sale now. Write or call.

THOROUGHbred AND TROTting HORSES and Poland-China Hogs bred and for sale. Write for pedigrees. O. B. Hildreth, Newton, Kas.

CATTLE.

T. M. MARCY & SON, Wakarusa, Kas., have for sale Registered yearling Short-horn Bulls and Heifers. Breeding herd of 100 head. Carload lots a specialty. Come and see.

JERSEY CATTLE—A. J. C. C. Jersey Cattle, of noted butter families. Family cows and young stock of either sex for sale. Send for catalogue. C. W. Talmadge, Council Grove, Kas.

W. M. BROWN, Lawrence, Kas., breeder of A. J. C. C. Jersey and Holstein-Friesian Cattle. Stock for sale. Bulls, \$50 to \$100; Heifers and Cows, \$50 to \$150. Send for catalogue.

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WARREN, SEXTON & OFFORD, Maple Hill, Kas., importers of thoroughbred Red Polled Cattle. Bulls and heifers for sale. Railroad station, St. Marys.

D. H. FORBES, 198 Kansas avenue, Topeka, Kas., breeder of Short-horn Cattle. Six head of Bulls, from 7 months to 3 years old, for sale now on easy terms.

FISH CREEK HERD OF SHORT-HORN CATTLE consisting of the leading families, headed by Sharon Duke of Bath 2d, 64450. Young stock for sale. Also Bronze Turkeys. Visitors cordially invited and welcome. Walter Latimer, proprietor, Garnett, Kas.

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FRANK H. JACKSON, Maple Hill, Kas., breeder of Hereford Cattle. Young thoroughbred Bulls always on hand for sale. Choicest blood and quality.

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WALNUT GROVE HERD OF POLAND-CHINAS. V. B. Howey, proprietor, box 103, Topeka, Kas. My hogs are strictly thoroughbred, of the finest strains in America. All breeders recorded in Ohio Poland-China Record. Chief Commander No. 6775 at head of herd. Pigs for sale, from 2 to 10 months, from \$10 to \$25.

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OUR ILLUSTRATED JOURNAL—A full and complete history of the Poland-China Hog, sent free on application. Stock of all ages and conditions for sale. Address J. & C. STRAWN, Newark, Ohio.

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Berkshire Hogs, Short-horn Cattle, and thirty varieties of high class Poultry. All breeding stock recorded. Eggs for sale in season. Write for wants and prices. **HARRY McCULLOUGH**, Fayette, Mo.

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H. V. PUGSLEY, Plattsburg, Mo., breeder of MERINO Sheep. Ewes averaged nearly 17 lbs.; stock rams 34 lbs. to 35 lbs. Extra rams and ewes for sale. Also Holstein Cattle.

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7 TOULOUSE GEESSE EGGS—\$1.50. Wyandotte, Plymouth Rock and Black Cochins eggs, \$1.50 per 15, \$2.50 per 30. I. H. Shannen, Girard, Kas.

Send stamp for circular.

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SUNFLOWER POULTRY YARDS—T. S. SHAWLEY, Topeka, Kansas, breeder of PURE-BRED POULTRY.

Leading varieties.

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REPUBLICAN POULTRY YARDS. **PLYMOUTH ROCKS**—W. E. Doud, Eureka, Kas., breeder of Plymouth Rocks. Eggs, \$1.50 per 15. Birds for sale at from \$1 to \$5 each.

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N. R. NYE, Leavenworth, Kas., breeder of the leading varieties of Land and Water Fowls. DARK BRAHMAS a specialty. Send for Circular.

SHAWNEE POULTRY YARDS—Jno. G. Hewitt, Prop'r, Topeka, Kas., breeder of choice varieties of Poultry. Wyandottes and P. Cochins a specialty. Eggs and chicks for sale.

ONE DOLLAR PER THIRTEEN—For Eggs from my choice Plymouth Rock Fowls and extra Pekin Ducks. Mark S. Salisbury, Box 31, Kansas City, Mo.

MISCELLANEOUS.

S. A. SAWYER, Fine Stock Auctioneer, Manhattan, R. Riley Co., Kas. Have Coats' English, Short-horn, Hereford, N. A. Galloway, American Aberdeen-Angus, Holstein-Friesian and A. J. C. H. R. Herd Books. Complete catalogues.

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A BARGAIN!
Land to exchange for Stock. Apply in person or by letter to **BRADY, DORMAN & CO.**, Hutchinson, Reno Co., Kas.

Correspondence.

Castor Beans.

Kansas Farmer:

To raise castor beans, prepare the ground the same as for corn; plant in checks four feet apart each way; plant as early as the ground is warm—as early as you would dare plant corn. Plant six to eight seeds in the hill, and when the plants are about six inches high, thin out to two stalks in each hill; do not leave more than two.

The cut worm is the great enemy of the castor bean, and you must plant thick enough to allow them a good share while the plants are small. They are safe when about six inches high. I have known the worms to destroy whole fields of beans just as they were coming through the ground. I have sent many a day killing cut worms in the field. Dig about the hill and you will find them if they are in the field. They do their work mostly at night, and eat the young plants off just at the top of the ground. It is almost necessary to hand hoe the castor beans once or twice, as they must be kept clean when small, and the earth must be kept loose on the surface around the hill. After you have gotten them fairly started (say six or eight inches high) cultivate them the same as you would corn. I have known them to be soaked a few days before planting hasten germinating, with good results.

The first gathering ought to be ready about the first or middle of August, and could continue till frost. A wagon may be used, driving over a row and picking two or three rows on each side, or use a small sled with a ten or twelve bushel box on it, drawn by one horse between the rows.

If this escapes the waste basket, I will give you the particulars in regard to harvesting, popping, etc., at another time. One bushel will plant about ten acres, and that is as much as one man had better attempt to sow until he has had some experience. Ten bushels per acre is a fair yield, and \$1 to 1.50 per bushel is a fair price. If any inquirer has any questions to ask I will be glad to answer in my next, as I have "been here"—that is, in the castor bean field.

A SOWER.

Hedge Fences.

Kansas Farmer:

In looking over your paper I see that one of your subscribers has taken an active part against cutting hedges; and to convince him that he is somewhat out of his latitude in regard to this matter, I will endeavor to make a few remarks, as I am one of your subscribers. Those tardy fellows are just the very ones we are after, not only for their own benefit, but for the benefit of the community. Take, for instance, any man who is the owner of a farm and has any spirit in him, you will notice that his hedges are all trimmed and his property is worth from \$5 to \$25 an acre more than that of a neighbor just across the road with a hedge fence from fifteen to thirty feet high.

As for its being a benefit for people traveling through the country in covered wagons (you might say movers, or emigrants), we are not supposed to keep our hedges for the accommodation of a few fellows who invest our private and public lanes during the nights. They are fences for the protection of crops from being destroyed by passing people and stock, as the case may be; and not only that, but for an ornament to our lands, and to make it such we must keep it trimmed down to a reasonable height. As for the public traveler hurrying past those high hedges, I am at a loss to know whether or not he would ever get done hurrying in some localities, for you can drive for miles and never see out in different places, as I have seen myself, and as man or woman, as the case may be, would never get to the big cities to do their trading on account of those terrible hot lanes they have to go through when the thermometer stands at 112 deg. above zero. This would be a fine looking country in the course of fifty years if hedges were allowed to grow that long. Why, the whole State of Kansas would be one mass of Osage timber, and the people would become backwoodsmen and lose all energy in the way of improving their homesteads.

As far as crops are concerned, that is entirely out of the question. The bill says nothing in regard to crops, so I will drop that. It confines us strictly to hedges and

public travel. In passing a man's field and see his place fenced with hedge about twenty-five or thirty feet high, it looks as though he was ashamed of his crop and did not want passers-by to see it.

JOHN H. WAGONER.

Mr. Swann's Advice to Farmers.

Kansas Farmer:

I have been long off from saying much in the press. But reading of the disastrous storms and floods, and the first of March is here, so there is no longer time to be allowed to pass if any advice is to be given for the benefit of the farmers of our State for the spring crops of this year. While I cannot say to them, as I did in 1881, that '82 would bring them a first-class wheat crop in yield and quality, I can now only advise savings as one of the surest means of helping for the present year. First—Let none sow grass seeds or plant trees this spring, except millet, and let that be sown as soon as danger of frost is past. Make fine tilth and drill. Second—List all the corn in as far as it can be done. The land stirred for corn should all be furrowed out deep. Third—Land for all crops this year should be entirely clear of any and all litter. Oats land ought to be harrowed in advance of sowing and the oats plowed in or under two to three inches deep, and when half or more are up run a smoothing harrow over them. Harrowing land before listing will pay this year. And be sure to stir deep for corn, and let the harrow keep pace with the stirring. Fourth—Plant largely of the large varieties of sweet corn and cut and shock early. Fifth—Let every farmer plant an acre or more of mangels who has stock he expects to carry over, and he who does plant should list out his land early and run the subsoller deep as well as the plow, and before planting remove the subsoller and with two horses split and throw back the first ridges, thus giving a deep trench and ridge, ridges two feet apart. Seedsmen will give time and distance of plants apart in the ridges and care in winter for the same. Sixth—Keep an eye open for the old chinch bugs, and when you see them make a large fly to north and east, do not let more than one week pass until there is a general burn made of all old grass and trash. Remember, another dry summer is to be ours. Local rains are all that can be expected. And I earnestly request all county papers to copy this as soon as it can be done.

JOS. C. H. SWANN.

Valley Center, Kas., March 3.

P. S.—Tell friend Mohler that his article nearly one year ago was all right except the closing paragraph, wherein he said we can't tell. A wet March is his index to a dry summer. I will ask the gentleman what about the March months of '76, '77 and '78—all were very wet, as well as '84 and '85. He is all right when we are on the down grade of the cycle of years. See a general failure of the wheat crop this year. J. C. H. S.

Value of Oxen.

Kansas Farmer:

There are some sections in the United States where the ox is used quite extensively for work purposes, and I have often wondered why they are not used more universally by farmers in general.

It does not cost any more to rear an ox, but the principal objection raised against them is that they are too slow for general use, and that when they are used it is necessary for the farmer to keep horses to use in driving and for other work, for which oxen are not fitted. We feed steers for profit, and to the extent that we can make them useful and pay for their keeping we ought to raise them. Having them in our possession, we might as well use them, and as it requires no special kind of treatment to prepare them for work, they could be put in almost any time.

The training is quite important, and should begin early in the animal's life, for the earlier it is undertaken the easier it is to train them. After they are six months old it would be well to obtain a small yoke, and accustom them to wearing it. This will be good work for the boys to undertake, and there will be considerable sport in it for them if they take an interest in such matters.

It is not always practical for the farmers to devote much time in training these animals at this age, as they are sometimes very busy and cannot afford to use their

time in this way, but like colts, they are more readily trained when young, and the longer the work is put off the more unmanageable they will become, and they are then quite liable to do both themselves and their attendants considerable injury while being trained.

Accustom them to the yoke by putting it on them while in the stall. When they are oxen on the farm they are already broken, and it is a good plan to yoke one of the unbroken oxen with one that is well broken, but do not put them to hard work at first, not even hitching them to a wagon until they are well accustomed to each other.

Then when they become perfectly used to the feeling of the yoke a chain can be fastened to it, and they should be driven about a little. It will require several weeks to get them properly trained, that is to get them to understand what is wanted of them.

There are no particular rules for driving them, as every driver generally makes up his own rules, and the oxen will soon become accustomed to him and are generally very faithful to mind.

Be sure to have the yoke fit well, or the oxen cannot do their work properly, any more than a horse can with a poorly fitting collar. It should fit the animal's breast nicely so that he can exert his full strength and do it comfortably. They should be guided wholly by word of mouth with an occasional touch of the whip. Do not excite them or they will do wrong, simply because they are confused. No animal can do as well under abuse as it can if treated kindly, and it requires a considerable amount of patience and kindness on the part of the driver to succeed best, but if they understand what is required of them they will readily comply with any ordinary demand.

They can do better work than the horse in many respects, and will do it with less fatigue, but they should be well sheltered and fed abundantly on good strengthening food, and an occasional grooming will do them no harm. GEO. F. MARSTON.

Pensions--Transportation.

Kansas Farmer:

I want to thank you for the stand you take on the President's veto of dependent pensions. I think it is high time there is a halt called on pensions. Our old soldiers are amply provided for under existing laws. Let something be done for the people generally if there is a surplus of money, and I see no better way to help the people than for our own government to begin to take control of transportation and bring it to actual cost, as we have with our mail service. If corporations had control of the mail we would pay five times what we do now, so what is the use of paying so much for freight and express as we do now? It may be said that railroads are making a small per cent. on their investments; but if this is true, why does their wealth increase so fast? We must also take into consideration that there are a great many lines of road which are run for competition which, under government management, would be unnecessary, thereby lessening expenses. There would also be a regular schedule of wages paid, which would reduce strikes, as there would be less discontent among laborers when they know that goods are being carried at cost. Besides, the government pays large sums for transportation of mails, troops, etc., and if Uncle Sam can pay them for carrying mail packages and then charge the people less than the companies do, he surely can do the same with other things.

There is too much voting done blindly, voting as party leaders say, and not enough care taken about the principles of the man we vote for, as witness the late Senatorial contest in Nebraska (a burning shame and insult to every farmer in the State). We should try to get a President from the West, one who will be identified with Western interests and at the same time for the interests of the whole people, whom the farmers and laboring men of the East could trust, and who would fill those conditions better than this same Senator Van Wyck?

Clay Center, Kas. S. W. MILES.

Itch, Prairie Mange, and Scratches of every kind cured in thirty minutes by Woolford's Sanitary Lotion. Use no other. This never fails. Sold by Swift & Holliday, druggists, Topeka, Kas.

Gossip About Stock.

Our readers will be interested to know the inducements offered by E. S. Shockey, manager of the Early Down Hereford herd, advertised elsewhere in this paper.

Indications are apparent that more interest and activity will be manifested in the sheep business in Kansas this year than for several years. There is money in the business for experienced wool-growers.

Don't forget the attractive horse sale of W. P. Higinbotham, which occurs at Manhattan on March 15. Every convenience is provided for the comfort of those attending the sale, no matter what the condition of the weather.

The amount of hog cholera is insignificant compared to the prevalence of the disease one year ago. The prevailing market prices are good and breeders of pure-bred swine report more sales at better prices than for two years. Swine-raisers will make money this year.

The past winter has been unusually favorable for stock-feeding and losses have been less than for years. When feeding began in the fall, owing to the severe drought, some loss was caused from impaction, but generally stock are in better condition now than for several years, making a decidedly better outlook for the stock business for 1887.

Horses were never higher unless in war time. The wear and tear of city uses tells on them. It will be so. Hurry and big loads empty the markets. Europe wants all our large and active horses. They cannot afford to raise them. Let the good mares help pay for the farm and taxes. Do not patronize the cheap stallions unless you want to rear cheap horses. There is more difference between one and two hundred dollars than \$5 and \$20.—Montreal Witness.

There is too much pig pen and not enough pig pasture.

Very strong coffee and any drink taken hot is bad for the voice.

Pigs' blood is now made into buttons, such as one wears on his waistcoat.

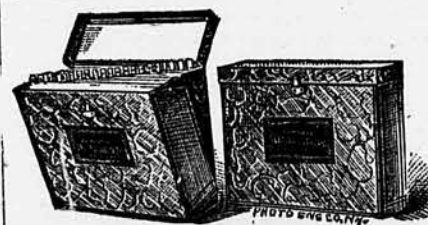
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BUSINESS MEN, Consult your own interest and use the Complete Letter File, the most convenient and practical file made. It indexes and files all Bills and letters. Price 50 cents. Discount to the trade. Liberal terms to Agents. A. H. Green, Box 83, LeRoy, N. Y.

Forced Feeding.

Kansas Farmer:

The first thing to be taken into consideration in selecting the food for an animal, is its digestibility. Every breeder knows that it is only digested food that furnishes any nourishment to the animal, as any part of the food which passes through the system undigested is really of no value whatever to the animal.

Some foods that are considered valuable are often indigestible, owing principally to their shape. This is often the case with seeds that are possessed of nutritive qualities, but being encased in a hard covering or shell, the nutriment cannot be digested, and of course passes through the system without furnishing the animal with the least bit of nourishment.

It is not this matter of digestibility of which I wish to speak particularly, but rather forced feeding and the limit to this forcing process, and I really believe that by close observation it will be found that young cattle, as a rule, suffer more from the effects of overfeeding and being too liberally fed, than from being supplied with too scanty rations.

The effect of overfeeding is always disastrous when practiced with the young stock to any extent. It serves to weaken the digestive organs, and in this condition, the animal's system soon becomes loaded with highly injurious matter, and it will generally have the effect of stunting their growth and oftentimes will even reduce the weight previously gained.

Steady, healthy growth is what should be aimed at, and this can only be obtained by regular and even feeding, and the breeder should always guard against trying to accomplish too much. Nature should always have her own way, which is really the only proper way, and whenever the breeder assists nature and works in the same line of action, he will then aid in accomplishing better results than could be obtained in any other way.

What the animals need during the early part of their life is especial attention to the development of their bone and muscle, and the food furnished to them at this time should be governed by this fact. A large frame is always desirable to have, both for breeding and market purposes, and strictly fattening food should never be given to the stock until they are fully matured and close to market time. Excessive flesh and good health do not, as a rule, go together, and is especially burdensome to young animals.

Breeders that are able to make a careful selection of food are always well repaid for their trouble by the better results realized, and it always pays to have the food for any animal of the very best quality. With sheep husbandry, the profits are oftentimes seriously diminished, resulting directly from the neglect of the breeder to remember that they are very fastidious in regard to what they eat. My experience has been that this kind of stock always insist on having what is really nice, and if they fail to get it, and they are generally pretty good judges of the quality, they will eat but very little indeed, barely what is necessary to keep them alive.

In breeding any kind of farm stock, the breeder cannot afford to let them take care of themselves, but should study into their wants, and find out what causes produce the best results. He will then be enabled to feed intelligently and will get much better results than could be obtained in any other way. GEO. F. MARSTON.

Stewart's Healing Cream, for chapped hands, face, or gentlemen to use after shaving. The cheapest and best article for the purpose in the world. Please try it. Only 15 cents a bottle at drug stores.

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A clergyman, after years of suffering from that noxious disease, Catarh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured him and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Dr. Lawrence, 212 East North Street, New York, will receive the recipe free of charge.

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Loans on farms in eastern Kansas, at moderate rate of interest, and no commission. Where title is perfect and security satisfactory no person has ever had to wait a day for money. Special low rates on large loans. Purchase money mortgages bought. T. E. BOWMAN & Co., Bank of Topeka Building, Topeka, Kas.

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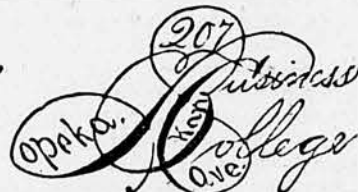
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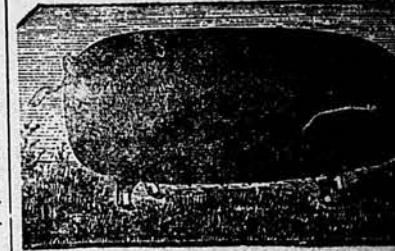
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AFTER TAKING.

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Mr. Henry Mohm: Please send me 3 doz. packages of Eureka Hog Remedy, for which I enclosed \$24. Yours respectfully, C. F. JOHNSON.

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Mr. Henry Mohm: Please send me 2 doz. packages of Eureka Hog Remedy, for I can afford to do without it. Yours respectfully, W. S. HANCOCK.

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Mr. Henry Mohm: We are about out of Eureka Hog Remedy. Please send us 4 doz. packages for it gives good satisfaction in our neighborhood. We sell it "no cure, no pay," have not lost a bill. Yours respectfully, MARTIN & CO.

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The Home Circle.

Folded Eyes.

I have somewhere seen it written,
And have wondered if 'twere true,
"Folded eyes see brighter colors
Than the open ever do."

Can it be the little sleeper
Dreaming on its mother's knee
Really sees what, from its smiling,
We can fancy it must see?
Little lips, oh, open for me,
Tell me if indeed 'tis true,
"Folded eyes see brighter colors
Than the open ever do."

Happy maiden, idly dreaming,
Where the shadows come and go
In among the apple blossoms,
Tell me truly if 'tis so;
Is the picture Fancy sketches
Brighter than all else to you—
"Folded eyes see brighter colors
Than the open ever do?"

Folded eyes, from which the sunlight
Faded, leaving us in shade,
In the light which fadeth never;
Is it true as poet said,
Still beholding in unfolding,
Glories that are ever new,
"Folded eyes see brighter colors
Than the open ever do?"

Last night I lay asleep, and somber dreams
Around my pillow came on waving wings;
Tranced in forgetfulness of all true things
I lay awhile; at last I woke. The beams
The sweet moon flowed in silver streams
Through both my windows, and their glim-
merings
Tinged all they touched like songs a poet
sings.
Behold," thought I in joy, "these bright
moongleams
Lay round me while I slept my troubled
sleep,
And Cynthia with her stars smiled in the sky.
So on through life in fitful dreams we sweep,
Tent on visions that around us fly,
And seldom wake to feel how soft and deep
The love in floods is shining from on high."
—Rochester Post-Express.

Hints for Housekeepers.

Potatoes can be cooked in many ways that
are good and form a variety. Mashed potato
can be utilized that has been left over. Add
a thick sweet cream, a little more butter,
salt, and the yolks of two eggs, to a quart of
potatoes, flour the board and roll out
out an inch in thickness, cut in round
slices, wash over with beaten eggs and bake
brown on the griddle, or on tins in the oven.
Saratoga chips: Cut raw potatoes in quar-
ters, drop into hot lard, when a golden
brown take out with a wire dipper and salt a
little. Saratoga chips: Slice the raw potato
round and round as you pare an apple, fry
in hot lard. Scalloped potatoes are mashed
potatoes made rather thin, seasoned rich,
and baked in a deep tin. Select some small
potatoes, pare them and boil tender, drain
the water off and place them in a dish, have
cream, butter, pepper and salt in a
billet, let it boil up and turn over the po-
tatoes; serve hot.

Cabbage is delicious sliced fine and boiled
milk; when tender add cream and butter.
Put a head up a little coarse, boil tender,
put into a dish with a cup of sour vinegar,
one tablespoon of thick sour cream, stir
all round, turn over the cabbage; this is
our cabbage." Boil some eggs hard and
boil them fine; chop cabbage fine and mix,
to make a salad of mustard, sugar, butter,
one raw egg and vinegar; when hot
pour over the cabbage. Chop a crisp head
cabbage fine, place in the dishes in which
it is to be served; fill a pint bowl one-half
with white sugar, moisten it with vinegar,
fill the bowl with sweet cream, mix
all and pour over the cabbage; it is splen-

dish. Squash is delicious cut in small pieces and
fried; when done scrape from the rind and
season. Scalloped squash is nice; steam,
season and season with butter, salt and
pepper, it should be quite thin, bake half an
hour, serve hot. Turnip is good for a
soup cooked in slices, the slices left
whole, turn over them cream, butter and

It is true that all good cake-makers, fancy
compounders, cannot get up a good
cake. I would far rather be deficient in
my cooking and understand plain cook-
ing. It is true also that some are not nat-
urally cooks and cannot learn. It seems to
be the easiest thing in the world for a per-
son to take a good practical cook book and
meet with breakers; one must have
common sense and ingenuity. The
recipes have too much butter, in that
the cake will be so rich you cannot cut
and keep it in shape. It is quite a talent
to manage the odds and ends. In frying

ham or salt pork considerable fat accumu-
lates in the course of the year. Some young
housekeepers might not know what to do
with the surplus. The skimmings of kettles
—everything but pork fat I consign to the
soap grease, keeping it clean and covered
close. The pork grease should be strained
into a clean dish and is good to fry potatoes
in, or for the crust for apple pies. What is
not used can be added to the soap grease.
Never throw cold meat and grease bones
and ham rinds all together; save the cold
meat on a plate and have a grease dish
handy. All refuse meat, rinds, bits of any
such refuse if given to the hens will be
amply repaid in nice fresh eggs. I like eggs
much better this time of the year; in the
spring and summer when they are so plenty,
I become tired of them, and in hot weather
I cannot eat them at all.

A nice side dish is made by toasting bread
and laying it on individual platters, or pie
plates, season some canned tomatoes and
turn over each slice. Beef's tongue is de-
licious served with tomato sauce. Apples
make a good dish cooked in the following
manner: Dig the core out of nice tart ap-
ples, having them of uniform size. Arrange
them in a dish and fill the cavities with
sugar, lay on a bit of butter and grate a little
nutmeg over; add a tablespoon or so of
water and bake in a slow oven. Sweet ap-
ples are most excellent boiled in sweetened
water instead of baking. Pare some tart
apples—Greenings are nice—steam them
until done, turn over boiled custard and
serve for dessert when cold. I think the
time will come when we will not make so
much pie. There are so many simple dishes
we could use in its place. Very few cook
heminy; it can be procured at the grocery,
and is white and free from hulls. Soak it
over night, then cover it more than two-
thirds with hot water and steam four or five
hours; eat with sugar and cream, or make
into a baked pudding precisely as you would
rice.—*Evangelist, in Michigan Farmer.*

Waste in the Kitchen.

Waste in the kitchen is very often great
from apparently trivial sources. In cooking
meats, the water is thrown out without re-
moving the grease, or the grease from the
dripping pan is thrown away. Scraps of
meat are thrown away. Cold potatoes are
left to sour and spoil. Dry fruits are not
looked after and become wormy. Vinegar
and sauce are left standing in tin. Apples
are left to decay for want of "sorting over."
The tea canister is left open. Victuals are
left exposed to be eaten by mice.

Bones of meat and the carcasses of turkey
are thrown away, when they could be used
in making good soups. Sugar, coffee, tea
and rice are carelessly spilt in the handling.
Soap is left to dissolve and waste in the
water. Dish towels are used for dish cloths.
Napkins are used for dish towels. Towels
are used for holders. Brooms and mops are
not hung up. More coal is used than neces-
sary by not arranging dampers when not
using the fire.

Lights are left burning when not used.
Tin dishes are not properly cleaned and
dried. Good new brooms are used in scrub-
bing the kitchen floors. Silver spoons are
used in scraping kettles. Cream is left to
mould and spoil. Mustard is left to spoil
in the cruse, etc. Pickles become spoiled by
the leaking out or evaporation of the vine-
gar. Pork spoils for want of salt, and beef
because the brine wants scalding. Tea and
coffee pots are injured on the stove.—*The
Restaurateur.*

SWEET POTATO CUSTARD.—I will give
my receipt for making sweet potato cus-
tards: Boil the potatoes until tender, and
mash them very fine. To one gallon of
mashed potatoes take six eggs and two cups
of sugar. Beat the sugar and eggs together,
add the potatoes and enough sweet milk to
make a thin batter; bake with one crust.

RACHEL.

"The light that lies,
In woman's eyes,"

is a ray of heaven's own brightness; but it
is, alas! often dimmed or quenched by some
wearing disease, perhaps silently borne, but
taking all comfort and enjoyment out of
life. That light of the household can be re-
kindled and made to glow with its natural
brightness. Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Favorite
Prescription" is a potent specific for most of
the chronic weaknesses and diseases pecu-
liar to women.

Notes and Recipes.

Pulverized charcoal is a good deodorizer.
Don't let the pork in the barrel get un-
covered.

Where cockroaches are abundant sprinkle
lime powder.

Never keep heavy boots and shoes in the
closet with cloth garments.

Cistern water may be purified by charcoal
put in a bag and hung in the water.

One of the best and cleanest poultices that
can be used is cotton dipped in warm water.

Whiting or ammonia in the water is prefer-
able to soap for cleaning windows or paint.

The luster of morocco may be restored by
varnishing it with the white of an egg. Ap-
ply with a sponge.

To prevent drain pipes from stopping up
pour a hot solution of potash into the pipes
every month or two.

The gloss upon the oilcloth will be retain-
ed a long time if the dust is taken off by
wiping with a dry flannel.

Rub grained wood with a cloth slightly
moistened with linseed oil, after removing
the dirt by the use of cold tea.

Flower-pot stains on the window-sills will
yield to a forcible application of fine wood
ashes. Rinse off in clear water.

To wash dishes without putting the hands
in the water, make a mop of cord or twine
with a wooden handle about a foot long.

The juice of half a lemon makes a very
pleasant addition to either iced or warm tea.
Of course milk should not be used with it.

In sweeping carpets use wet newspapers
wrung nearly dry and torn to pieces. The
paper collects the dust but does not soil the
carpet.

To drive away ants, scrub the shelves or
drawers that they frequent with strong car-
bolic soap, after which sprinkle red pepper
in every crevice.

Use great care when pickling or preserv-
ing in a brass kettle. Scour the kettle just
before using, and never let food stand in it
after it is cooked.

Galvanized iron pails for drinking water
should not be used. The zinc coating is
readily acted upon by water, forming a
poisonous oxide of zinc.

Coats and cloaks should be hung always
on the little wire frames, costing but five or
ten cents, which come for that purpose. The
frames should first be covered with some
soft material to prevent the garments from
breaking over their edges.

Oyster Soup.—Take two quarts of water,
one tablespoonful of salt, two of butter, half
teaspoonful of pepper. Heat to a boiling
point. Add pint of oysters, six rolled crack-
ers, one cup of sweet cream. Remove the
moment it boils up and serve immediately.

Lemon Snaps.—Half a cup each of hot
water, sugar, molasses and lard, one egg,
half teaspoonful of soda, flour enough to
make a pretty stiff batter, flavor with extract
of lemon; drop with a teaspoon on a but-
tered tin, leaving room to rise; bake in a
quick oven.

Time Table for Boiling.

Potatoes, half an hour, unless small, when
rather less.

Peas and asparagus, twenty to twenty-five
minutes.

Cabbage and cauliflower, twenty-five min-
utes to half an hour.

String beans, if slit or sliced slantwise,
and thin, twenty-five minutes; if only snap-
ped across, forty minutes.

Green corn, twenty to twenty-five min-
utes.

Lima beans, if very young, half an hour;
old, forty to forty-five minutes.

Carrots and turnips, forty-five minutes
when young; one hour in winter.


Beets, one hour in summer; one hour and
a half, or even two hours, if large, in winter.

Onions, medium size, one hour.

Rule.—All vegetables to go into fast boil-
ing water, to be quickly brought to the boil-
ing point again, not left to steep in the hot
water before boiling, which toughens them
and destroys color and flavor.

This time table must always be regulated
by the hour at which the meat will be done.
If the meat should have to wait five minutes
for the vegetables there will be a loss of
punctuality, but the dinner will not be dam-
aged; but if the vegetables are done and

wait for the meat, your dinner will certainly
be much the worse; yet, so general is the
custom of over-boiling vegetables or putting
them to cook in a haphazard way, some-
where about the time, that very many people
do not recognize the damage. They would
very quickly see the superiority of vege-
tables just cooked the right time, but would
attribute it to some superiority of the article
itself, that they are fresher and finer, not
knowing that the finest and freshest, im-
properly cooked, are little better than the
poor ones.—*Good Housekeeping.*



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Nervous Debility, Vital Weakness,
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The Young Folks.

I Am Great and You Are Small.

A sparrow swinging on a branch
Once caught a passing fly;
"Oh, let me live!" the insect prayed,
With trembling, piteous cry.
"No," said the sparrow, "you must fall,
For I am great and you are small."

The bird had scarce begun his feast
Before a hawk came by;
The game was caught. "Pray let me live!"
Was now the sparrow's cry.
"No," said the hawk, "you must fall,
For I am great and you are small."

An eagle saw the rogue, and swooped
Upon him from on high;
"Pray let me live; why should you kill
So small a bird as I?"
"Oh," said the eagle, "you must fall,
For I am great and you are small."

But while he ate, the hunter came;
He let his arrow fly.
"Tyrant!" the eagle shrieked, "you have
No right to make me die!"
"Ah," said the hunter, "you must fall,
For I am great and you are small."

—From the German.

Poverty in Washington.

There is a large class of men in Washington who are in a most imppecunious condition and who make heavy drafts upon the purses and patience of those with whom they manage to become acquainted. Some have been rotated out of official duties, which has unfitted them for any other business. Others imagine that the party in power owes them an office either at home or abroad and some have claims which, if allowed, would make them wealthy, but all wait, and it has been truthfully said that they are getting "broker" and "broker" every day. They sleep in cheap lodgings, eat where it is convenient and drink every time they are asked. They are good fellows for the most part, and they were once respectable citizens at home, but they are stuck fast in Washington and cannot get away. They bear a worn and anxious cast of face and only smile, as stated above, when invited. Political cripples they are, waiting for the waters of Siloam to be troubled, and it will be a long time before their wants are granted. Meanwhile they modestly request the loan of a dollar until the first of next month. Denied, they ask for fifty cents—nay, they will take a quarter, and I once had one fall back on a demand for a horse-car ticket. I was afterward told that at a neighboring bar two horse-car tickets were regarded as equivalent for one dram of bad whisky. We have dark shadows with the bright Washington life. —*Philadelphia Times.*

Aged People.

CENTRALIA, ILL.—Elisha Hobbs, aged 94 years, died at his home near Gallipolis, O., on the 16th of October, 1886. He was born in Randolph county, N. C., April 27, 1793 and was known as one of the pioneers of the vicinity in which he had lived. His parents moved to Ohio in 1800, when there were plenty of Indians still in the State. He served in the war of 1812, and was stationed at Urbana, O. He was an honest, quiet and friendly citizen, and held the respect of the community in which he resided for many years. During the late war three of his sons enlisted, serving four years each. Henry, the youngest of the three, was made a Captain, and received wounds at Pittsburg Landing. Mr. Hobbs was a pensioner for several years before his death. He was a Republican ever since there was a Republican party, and never failed to cast his ballot for the Republican party, and prized the privilege as high as the most young and active men. His decline was slow and gradual. Several years before his death he lost the sight in one of his eyes; the other remained moderately good until the last. A short time before his death he fell, coming in at the door of his home, from which he never recovered. Mr. Hobbs was the father of Mrs. H. Fields, of this city.

TAYLORVILLE, ILL.—Probably the oldest person in this (Christian) county is William S. Frink, of this city, who was born at Lebanon, New London county, Connecticut, on the 17th day of December, 1790, and is therefore 96 years of age. When a mere child his parents removed to Stonington, Conn., where he lived until he was 41 years of age. The family originally came from Wales in the beginning of the eighteenth century. He spent twelve years of his life in teaching,

and during the time made two voyages to the West India Islands in 1824-6. On the 21st of October, 1830, he was married to Miss Sarah G. Grant, of Troy, N. Y., and in 1831 removed to New York city and engaged in business, where he remained four years. On the 27th of May, 1837—the year of the great bank panic—he started westward with his family, and in due time reached this county and settled and lived in Allentown until January 1, 1853, when he removed to Taylorville, where he has since resided. Mr. Frink was a soldier in the war of 1812. While living at Allentown he purchased the whole town, had it vacated by law, and converted the site into a farm. He was elected Probate Judge in 1843 for a term of four years. He was United States Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue from 1862 to 1868, when he resigned the office, and has since lived a retired life. His wife died in this city November 24, 1866, aged 58 years. Of six children, but one, Sarah N., wife of Oscar F. Morrison, survives. The old gentleman is still comparatively hale and hearty, being able to walk up-town and up and down stairs without assistance, and never fails to go to the polls at every general election and vote the straight Republican ticket. He contributes freely to the support of the Baptist church, of which he is a consistent member. He makes his home with his daughter, and bids fair to reach 100 years. —*Cor. St. Louis Globe Democrat.*

Snowshoeing Sports.

Snowshoeing disputes with tobogganing the honor of being Canada's national sport in winter. The shoes are made in many shapes and of many sizes, ranging all the way from two to six feet in length, and from ten to twenty laces in breadth. But for all practical purposes, says J. M. Oxley, in *Harper's Young People*, a shoe measuring three feet six inches by twelve or fifteen inches, is the best. In walking, narrower shoes are used, but these rarely go below ten inches. The great coat and knee breeches are of heavy woolen, such as blankets are made of; the cap is usually a knitted wool one, as are the stockings. The snowshoes are of light ash wood about half an inch thick, and at least ninety inches in length, bent to a long oval until the two ends touch, when they are fastened together with catgut. Strips of tough wood are then fitted across this frame and the intervening sections woven across with catgut.

Mr. Oxley tells how men and boys go snowshoeing, as traveling about on snowshoes is termed, many of these journeys being undertaken by an entire club, each of which aspires to make the quickest record. The best amateur time, according to the authority quoted, for a hundred yards on the flat, is twelve and a half seconds, so that, clumsy as the racquets may seem at first glance, they are in reality a very slight bar to the speed when the wearer is thoroughly expert in their use.

"Hare and hounds," on snowshoes, is a sport much indulged in by the boys. Snowshoeing is very easy to learn, once one has mastered the art of sliding one shoe over the other, with a motion similar to that made in skating, instead of lifting it up high as though wading in deep snow, the art is acquired.

Snowshoeing is not only popular with the boys in Canada, but boys at the East are catching the infection and have been forming clubs in localities where there has been sufficient snow to warrant it.

Interesting Items.

There is a man in San Francisco who has four ears.

Samuel Litchfield, of Scituate, Mass., has a pear tree 206 years old.

Mrs. Frank Gilman, of Hollis, N. H., has made a quilt containing 9,794 pieces.

I. H. Wyatt, a veteran hunter of West Thornton, N. H. has killed sixty bears during his life.

A silver shoe buckle, supposed to have once belonged to General Washington, was recently found among some rubbish at Mount Vernon.

A. M. Bragg, of Corinth, Me., has a young apple tree from which he gathered last fall 171 apples, 150 of which filled a flour barrel. One of the apples measured thirteen and a fourth inches in circumference, and the trunk of the tree fourteen and a half inches.

"ONLY AFTER DEATH."

WHAT WONDERS THE MICROSCOPE HAS DONE FOR US.

No Longer Obligated to Die to Find Out "What's Killing Us."

One of the leading scientific publications states that many people are now using the microscope to discover the real cause of disease in the system, and to detect adulterations of food and medicines.

This wonderful instrument has saved many a life. A microscopical test shows, for instance, the presence of albumen, or the life of the blood, in certain derangements of the kidneys, but medicine does not tell us how far advanced the derangement is or whether it shall prove fatal.

The microscope, however, gives us this knowledge:

Bright's disease, which so many people dread, was not fully known until the microscope revealed its characteristics. It greatly aids the physician, skilled in its use, in determining how far disease has advanced, and gives a fuller idea of the true structure of the kidney.

A noted German scholar recently discovered that by the aid of the microscope, the physician can tell if there is a tumor forming in the system, and if certain appearances are seen in the fluids passed it is proof positive that the tumor is to be a malignant one.

If any derangement of the kidneys is detected by the microscope, the physician looks for the development of almost any disease the system is heir to, and any indication of Bright's disease, which has no symptoms of its own and cannot be fully recognized except by the microscope, he looks upon with alarm.

This disease has existed for more than 2,000 years. It is only until recently that the microscope has revealed to us its universal prevalence and fatal character. Persons who formerly died of what was called general debility, nervous breakdown, dropsy, paralysis, heart disease, rheumatism, apoplexy, etc., are now known to have really died of kidney disease, because, had there been no disorder of the kidneys, the chances are that the effects from which they died would never have existed.

As the world becomes better acquainted with the importance of the kidneys in the human economy by the aid of the microscope, there is greater alarm spread through the communities concerning it, and this accounts for the erroneous belief that it is on the increase.

As yet neither homeopathist nor allopathist is prepared with a cure for deranged kidneys, but the world has long since recognized, and many medical gentlemen also recognize and prescribe Warner's safe cure for these derangements, and admit that it is the only specific for the common and advanced forms of kidney disorders.

Formerly the true cause of death was discovered only after death. To-day the microscope shows us, in the water we pass, the dangerous condition of any organ in the body, thus enabling us to treat it promptly and escape premature death.

As the microscope in the hands of laymen has revealed many diseases that the medical men were not aware of, so that preparation, like many other discoveries in medicine and science, was found out by laymen, outside the medical code; consequently it comes very hard for medical men to indorse and prescribe it. Nevertheless, Warner's safe cure continues to grow in popularity and the evidences of its effectiveness are seen on every hand.

Some persons claim that the proprietors should give the medical profession the formula of this remedy, if it is such a "God-send to humanity," and let the physicians and public judge whether or not it be so recognized.

We, however, do not blame them for not publishing the formula, even to get the recognition of the medical profession. The standing of the men who manufacture this great remedy is equal to that of the majority of physicians, and the reason that some doctors give for not adopting and prescribing it—viz.: that they do not know what its ingredients are—is absurd.

Mr. Warner's statement that many of the ingredients are expensive, and that the desire of the unscrupulous dealer or prescriber to realize a large profit from its manufacture

by using cheap or injurious substances for those ingredients would jeopardize its quality and reputation; and that Warner's safe cure cannot be made in small quantities on account of the expensive apparatus necessary in compounding these ingredients—seems to us to be a reasonable and sufficient one.

The universal testimony of our friends and neighbors, and the indisputable evidence that it, and it alone, has complete mastery over all diseases of the kidneys, is sufficient explanation of its extraordinary reputation, and conclusive proof that it is, perhaps, the most beneficent discovery known to scientific medicine since the microscope revealed to us the all-important nature of the organs it is designed to reach and benefit.

The most effectual remedy for slimy and greasy drain pipes is copper dissolved and left to work gradually through the pipes.

In 1867 Henry Stocum lost a gold watch while fishing in a cove near Nantucket. Last week William Tucker fished it out with a scoopful of oysters.

A man living at Red Wing, Minn., has a pair of golden candlesticks which he says he dug out of an Indian mound at Waukesha, Wis., and which he thinks are the golden candlesticks which formed part of the decorations of Solomon's temple.

Don't Read This

if you have a sufficiency of this world's goods; but if you have not, write to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, and receive, free, full particulars about work that you can do, and live at home, wherever you are located, at a profit of from \$5 to \$25 per day, and upwards. All succeed; both sexes; all ages. All is new. Capital not required; Hallett & Co. will start you. Don't delay; investigate at once, and grand success will attend you.

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Beautiful Cards. Agents' sample book and full outfit for 2c. stamp. EAGLE CARD WORKS, Northford, Conn.

NEW Sample Book of beautiful cards, 14 Games, 12 tricks in magic, 436 Album Verses. All for a 2c. stamp. STAR CARD CO., Station 15, Ohio.

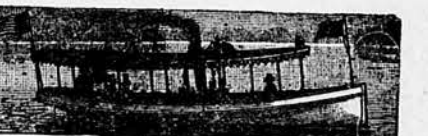
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NEW CARDS, 40 Samples and AGENTS' Convancing Outfit for 2c. stamp. CARD WORKS, Northford, Conn.

WORK FOR ALL. \$30 a week and expenses paid. Valuable outfit and particulars free. P.O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

WANTED Ladies and Gentlemen to do nice light work at their homes. \$1 to \$3 a day easily made. Work sent by mail. No canvassing. Steady Employment Furnished. Address with stamp CROWN P.F.G. CO., 294 Vine St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

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SMALL STEAM YACHTS AND STEAM LAUNCHES.—Our boats are not experimental, but are powerful, fast and economical of fuel. Burn either coal or wood. Do not require experienced engineer. No complete boats under \$500.00 in price. Illustrated Catalogue, including engines, boilers, propeller wheels, also six photographs of completed launches, sent on receipt of six two cent stamps. CHAS. F. WILLARD & CO., 282 Michigan St., CHICAGO.

AGENTS WANTED FOR THE AUTHORIZED LIFE OF LOGAN

with introduction by MRS. LOGAN.

This Biography has been more than two years in preparation. Gen. Logan himself furnished the data to the author, Geo. Francis Dawson, his intimate friend and associate; and before his death he read all but the closing chapters of the work and gave it his unqualified endorsement. Mrs. Logan states this in the introduction. A million admirers of the dead Chieftain want this thrilling story of his great career in peace and war. Splendidly illustrated with portraits and battle scenes. Send quick \$1 for outfit and get choice of territory. Address

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Ten Dollars for Six! (\$10.00 for \$5.00!)

For a limited time we have concluded to send the **KANSAS FARMER** (price \$1.00 a year) and the *Weekly Capital* (\$1 a year), in **CLUBS OF ONLY FOUR** names for each paper, to any address, for \$6. Any one can get up a club in a very short time and get *eight* yearly subscriptions for six dollars. The two papers will be sent to different persons, if desired, and to any place. Roll in the names!!

One dollar pays for the **KANSAS FARMER** until January 1, 18 8.

We have a number of communications on file that will appear as fast as we can find room for them and not disarrange the make-up of the paper. The subjects are such as will keep a few weeks and not spoil.

Mr. Blake predicts the weather for March and says: "In the latitude of Kansas we do not think late spring frosts will hurt oats sown in March. Western Kansas, western Nebraska, Dakota and northwestern Texas should sow small grain as soon as possible in order to secure a good crop—probably the 10th of March will not be too early for Texas."

Phillip D. Armour, of Chicago, and associates, own and operate, it is said, the largest establishment in the world for the manufacture and sale of lard and other hog products. Here is what the great pork packer said about his interest in the cottonseed oil business: "The use of cottonseed oil in the manufacture of lard and hog products has grown to such an extent in late years, that my establishment alone consumed one-fifth of the total cotton oil produced in the United States. Hence cottonseed oil is an important item to my firm." The oil products of last year was from 17,500,000 to 20,000,000 gallons.

Railroad managers, all over the country, met last week and considered the new inter-State commerce bill. There does not appear to be any friction anywhere thus far. A New York dispatch dated March 2, says: "At the conference of the traffic managers, freight agents and railroad vice presidents and managers, held here to-day, the classification committees report, on which the agents and managers have been at work for the past ten days, was reported as ready. It is understood that the adjustment of rates proposed in the report has given general satisfaction to railroad men." This is just as the **KANSAS FARMER** predicted. All the loud talk before the passage of the bill, was either bluster and bluff, or it was the way ignorant men adopted to relieve themselves of something that would sound well on the "desert air." There is no insurmountable barrier in the way of a general system of inter-State transportation that will be just to all parties in interest and sufficiently remunerative to the carriers.

MAJOR SIMS' REPORT.

The Fifth Biennial Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture is the best of the many good reports that have been sent out from the Secretary's office. Major Sims has done the State a valuable service in this excellent presentation of its condition and resources, and he has proven himself capable of great things in this direction. It would be impossible to do more, in a brief newspaper article, than to merely mention some of the principal points.

Among the matter of special interest is the decennial population of the State as taken in 1885 and the annual enumeration of the people as taken by the assessors in 1886; descriptive statements of the several counties, accompanied by maps, statistics and general information, as to surface, topography, streams, water, timber, land in cultivation, crops, mills, postoffices, schools, churches, newspapers, towns, townships, etc.; the geographical and topographical features of the State; tables, statements, summaries and diagrams, showing the products, progress and development of the State; crop and stock statistics showing the kind and quantity of grains, grasses, fruit, live stock, etc., grown in every county; sketch of the Kansas educational system from the common school to the State University (a fine picture of the University serves as a frontispiece to the book); a synopsis of the public land laws, with directions to settlers; a chapter on Kansas railroads; notes on the geology of southwestern Kansas; an article on Tree Planting; meteorological report for the State; a treatise on soil; report of the State Veterinarian; a treatise on the sugar industry in the State; an article on "Natural Gas in Eastern Kansas;" and a Postal Guide showing the post-offices of the State and where located.

The book contains—(Part I., 601 pages, Part II., 227 pages)—831 pages exclusive of the index. It presents the State just as it is, in the aggregate and in detail. Every county is described in reading and represented by a map, so that the reader may select any county he wishes and see its shape, its size, its streams, mills, postoffices, its population, schools, churches, etc.—everything he wants to know about it. Thus may every county, every township and school district of the State be traced and studied, and then the State is summarized and its products, population, etc., shown in every desired comparison by statistics and suggestive diagrams. The work is an encyclopedia of Kansas. In mechanical execution the book is creditable from every point of view. The typography is clean, clear, full, and the binding is strong, substantial and neat. The Kansas Publishing House, in charge of Hon. T. D. Thacher, State Printer, will have a standing advertisement in the work done on this book.

As compared with the agricultural reports of any other State, this Kansas work leads them all both as to matter and as to the mechanical make-up of the book.

February Weather.

The weather report of Prof. Snow gives February records, and he says: The month was cold, cloudy and wet, the monthly rainfall being above the average for the first time since May, 1886. On the 17th the barometer column reached the lowest point on our twenty years' record, the nearest approach being in January, 1870.

Mean Temperature—Thirty and forty-three-hundredths deg., which is 1.67 deg. below the February average. The highest temperature was 68 deg., on the 28th; the lowest was 5.5 deg. below zero, on the 3d, giving a range of 73.5 deg. The mercury fell below zero on three

days. Mean at 7 a. m., 26.30 deg.; at 2 p. m., 34.82 deg.; at 9 p. m., 30.30 deg.

Rainfall—including melted snow—One and fifty-eight-hundredths inches, which is 0.32 inch above the February average. Rain or snow in measurable quantities fell on eleven days. There was one thunder shower. The entire depth of snow was six inches.

The Work of Congress.

The Forty-ninth Congress expired by operation of law last Friday. The first session began December 4, 1885, and was in session until the fifth day of August, when it adjourned until December 6, and continued in session until the 4th inst., covering a total period of ten months and twenty-six days. Of this time the Senate was in session 224 days and the House 251 days. During that time, more bills were introduced in both Houses, more committee reports made, more bills passed, more became laws, and more vetoed than ever before. There were introduced in the House 11,288 bills and 263 joint resolutions on which over 5,000 reports were made, being several thousand more bills and over 1,000 more reports than were made in the Forty-eighth Congress, which had in its turn, beaten the record. In the Senate there were introduced 3,337 bills and 118 joint resolutions, on which 1,988 written reports were made, being upwards of 500 more bills, over 400 more reports than the Forty-eighth Congress. The total number of laws enacted was 1,391, of which 1,053 originated in the House and 338 in the Senate; 264 of these became laws by the expiration of the constitutional ten days limitation.

Among the measures which have been before Congress some years, and which became laws during the life of this Congress are the Presidential succession bill, the electoral count bill, the inter-State commerce bill, and the bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter.

Of the 1,053 House bills which became laws, 275 were of a more or less public nature; most of the others were of comparative unimportance, such as bills granting private pensions and special relief, authorizing the erection of bridges, granting right of way and the like.

The following are among the bills of general interest which passed and became laws:

To forfeit the Atlantic & Pacific railroad land grants; to increase the pension of widows and dependent relatives from \$8 to \$12 a month; to amend the Thurman act, (it requires the Pacific roads to pay the cost of surveying and conveying their land grants and subjects the land to taxation as soon as the companies are entitled to them, notwithstanding the fact that they may delay selection); the increase of the naval establishment, (it was passed in the first session of the present Congress and provides for the construction of two armored vessels of sixteen knots an hour, one cruiser of the highest practicable speed, one torpedo boat and one dynamite gun cruiser and for the completion of the monitors Puritan, Monadnoc, Ampirtrite and Terror); to pension the Mexican war veterans; to impose a tax and regulate the manufacture, sale, importation and exportation of oleomargarine; to authorize the transfer of the Highwood tracts near Chicago to the United States for military purposes; to protect homestead settlers within railroad limits; to enable banking associations to increase their capital stock and change their name and location; to forfeit the New Orleans, Baton Rouge & Vicksburg railroad (Backbone) land grants; to reduce the fees on domestic money orders for sums less than \$5; making appropriations for additional barracks at the

southern, northwestern and western branches of the National Soldiers' home; to provide for closing up the business of the court of Alabama claims; to establish additional life saving stations and for the construction of additional light houses; extending the free delivery system to towns of 10,000 inhabitants; for the construction of a light house supply steamer for the Atlantic and Gulf coasts; for the sale of the Cherokee reservation in Arkansas; for the location of a branch soldiers' home west of the Rocky Mountains; for the adjustment of land grants and the forfeiture of unearned lands; to add a number of cities to the list of national bank reserve cities and to allow a part of the reserve to be kept in cities other than New York; for the relief of settlers in the public lands in Kansas and Nebraska; to provide for bringing suits against the government; to restrict ownership of lands in the Territories to American citizens; to prohibit government employes from hiring or contracting out the labor of United States prisoners; to amend the dutiable goods act (so as to allow merchandise to be transported in bond or passenger trains in safes, pouches and trunks and in parcels); to amend the act prohibiting the importation and immigration of foreigners under labor contracts; for the issue of postal notes in sums less than \$5; regarding the incorporation of insurance companies; to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend the time for the payment of purchase money on the Otoe and Missouri Indian lands; to provide a school of instruction for cavalry and light artillery; to effect a rearrangement of grades of office in the Adjutant General's department; to provide for filling the office of United States Treasurer in the absence of Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer; to make Cape Charles City, Mo., a port of entry; to allow merchandise liable to specific rates of duty to be transported in bond although the merchandise may not appear by the invoice to be consigned to the port desired, to all underwriters to be recognized as consignees of merchandise; to authorize the President of the United States to protect and defend the rights of American vessels, American fishermen, American trading and other vessels in the British dominion of North America; the act to establish agricultural experiment stations; the act granting right of way through the Indian Territory to the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska railway.

St. Louis Wool Market.

From Hagey & Wilhelm's market reports we quote: Wool—Receipts, \$6,728 lbs., against 36,179 lbs. last week; Shipments for same time, 181,651 lbs., against 42,407 lbs. last week. Hardly enough selling to point accurate quotations; both offerings and demand light. We quote, as follows: Tubwashed at from 34c. for inferior to 37c. for choice; Unwashed—medium at 25c., light fine 23c., heavy fine 20a21c., low 17a19c.; Kansas and Territory at 15c. for low to 18a21c. for heavy to light fine and 23c. for choice medium; Texas—short and sandy at 14a17c., fall clip 19c. to 24c., spring clip 24a26c.; Black, Burry and Cotted wools less.

The bill for the redemption of trade dollars and the anti-polygamy bill became laws without the President's signature, by reason of the expiration of the constitutional limit of ten days within which he should have returned the bills to Congress in case of disapproval. Both bills were carefully considered by the President, and while they contain the same provisions to which he preferred not to commit himself, he was unwilling to defeat the objects of the measures by a veto.

Castor Bean Culture.

There seems to be an increased interest in the culture of castor beans among Kansas farmers this spring. We have had nothing on the subject in our columns for more than a year. Here are some practical suggestions made by an Illinois farmer a few weeks ago in the *Chicago Tribune*. He says a soil that will answer for wheat or corn will suffice for the castor bean. Wet, heavy soils cannot be utilized. The sandy loam is always preferable. It has been demonstrated that as a fertilizer the raising of castor beans on land has no equal. It far surpasses clover, and is worth more than can be estimated to each acre planted in it. It is claimed that pestiferous insects, which have been the dread of Egyptian wheat-raisers, have been eradicated by the culture of the bean. Soil for the planting of beans should be prepared about the same as for corn or wheat. The ground is laid off in rows six feet apart, the seventh row being omitted to allow a vehicle to pass through to gather the beans when ripe.

The seeds are put into very warm water and allowed to remain twenty-four hours before being put into the ground. Unless this is done they do not germinate properly, and are a long time showing themselves above the ground. Some people take the precaution to put several unsoaked seeds into a hill for fear the cut worms may take the first to sprout, and the others will eventually take their place. Planting eight seeds to a hill, a bushel will plant fifteen to twenty acres, and the planting should be done after frost time, as frost quickly destroys the plant. The cultivation of the growing crop is about the same as corn, the weeds being destroyed and the earth kept open and mellow. When the plants have a good start, reduce the number in each hill to one or two. One strong, healthy plant will produce better results than two in the same hill. When the plant reaches the height of two feet, it is capable of its own care and needs no more attention, except after heavy rains, which make it necessary to go through the field with a cultivator, breaking up the crust which has been formed.

When August comes in the beans begin to ripen. They are produced in pods or husks on spikes of various lengths, and should be gathered as soon as the pods begin to turn brown, to prevent their legs by popping out on the ground, as beans when ripe pop, or burst, from the pod and fly off quite a distance. They are gathered by cutting off the entire spike, of which each plant has a number, being produced and ripened in succession until frost. Of course none but the brown pods are cut.

These spikes are then thrown into a wagon or sled passing through the popping yards, which is made on a piece of land near the bean field, sloping to the south, so as to get as much benefit from the sun as possible. There are two ways of making the popping yards. By some the sod is cut off and the ground rolled down hard, and a fence made around the yard to keep the popping beans from getting away. Another plan—and that is considered best—is to build a big floor, around which muslin or canvas to the height of ten feet is run, the top being left open to admit the sun. The spikes are placed on the floor, the action of the sun makes them pop, and they are kept turned and stirred up until the beans have all left the husks. The same process is gone through with until the entire crop has been shelled. Care must be taken not to allow the beans to get wet, as it ruins them. The mass of husks and beans

after the popping process is over is put into a fanning mill and cleaned, when the beans are ready for market. Board floors are best, because they prevent the mixing in of small stones and bits of earth, which cannot be taken out with the fanning mill. The floors are generally painted black, the idea being that black draws the sun. After beans begin to ripen the field is gone over about twice a week until frost. This work is done mostly by children—in which so many southern Illinois families are prolific, some having as many as twenty-three to a family. Three brothers down there have between them seventy-two children, who have probably gathered enough beans in a day to furnish physic for the earth.

The yield depends much upon the attention the plants have received from the cultivator, upon the season, and upon the care exercised in ripening and gathering. From fifteen to twenty-five bushels to the acre is the average. It is claimed that farmers do well in raising this crop, as it is more remunerative than many others. It is not a difficult crop to get to market, and can be taken by team or sent by river or railroad. A farmer, to make the production pay, must realize at least \$1.25 per bushel.

Inquiries Answered.

SWEET POTATO PLANTS.—We gave, a little while ago, some instructions relating to the growing of sweet potato plants. We give below some plans prescribed by G. C. Hickok, Lincoln, Neb., as printed in the *Nebraska Farmer*. His method will apply to Kansas only that here the work should be begun three weeks earlier. He says:

"For growing plants for sale pits are the best. They should be dug any length desired and five feet wide, and filled up eighteen inches deep even to the surface with fresh horse manure, packed firmly, but not tramped. Then place frames on, made four feet wide, twelve inches at the back and eight inches in front, facing the south. Now fill in the frame four inches of good fine earth, rake smoothly over, then cover the frames with cotton cloth tacked firmly over. The bed should now be left a few days until the violent heat has passed off before the potatoes are placed in. When the bed has sufficiently cooled the seed should be put in, laying the potatoes about one inch apart. Then if good plants with good roots are desired cover with at least three inches of fine earth, or what is much better, well-rotted manure. Now put on the covering of canvass and keep guard that the bed does not get too hot.

"In case the bed gets too hot and is liable to burn the potatoes, thrust a crowbar or sharp stake down into the manure around on the outside of the frame, and that will let off the heat. Vigilance is the price of good plants.

"The first of April is about the proper time for making the bed, but much depends on the season. But if proper care is taken plants will be large and fine early in May. In case of cold weather the frames should be banked around the sides and the covers kept on, and protected from cold rains. After the plants begin to come out of the ground, take off the covers on warm days, in order to harden them for planting and when dry, water enough to promote a good growth."

HOT-BED.—If our correspondent will look in his copy of the *KANSAS FARMER* for last week, he will find, in the Horticulture department, instructions about making a hot-bed. In addition to that, he will find something interesting on the same subject in this week's paper among the "Inquiries Answered," as applicable in growing sweet potato plants.

Mr. Swann's advice to prepare for drouth is good. It will apply every year. When a farmer is prepared for drouth he is in good condition.

The *KANSAS FARMER* will be sent until January 1, 1888, for only \$1.

Fire alarm boxes have been placed in the public schools of New York city.

THE GRANGE PLATFORM.

Churches have their creeds; political parties have their platforms; our forefathers over one hundred years ago made and signed their "Declaration of Independence."

Long years ago the Grange announced its creed, adopted its platform and issued its "Declaration of Independence," and it is here presented to the farmers, farmers' wives, farmers' sons and daughters of America.

This is what the Grange is, what it always has been and what it will be in the future. All that is herein contained the farmers of this country propose to do, and what those in the Grange are honestly trying to do now.

Read this platform carefully, study it, think about it, and then, as you love your family, as you love your farm and home, as you love your country, as you feel that you should have "an equal chance in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Act upon it. Help your brother farmers who are trying to carry out the purposes of this platform.

Farmers never needed an organization so much as now, and the Grange never was in a better position than at this time to help us in our efforts toward reform.

DECLARATION OF PURPOSES OF THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY OF THE UNITED STATES.

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

GENERAL OBJECTS.

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

2. We heartily endorse the motto: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

SPECIFIC OBJECTS.

3. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects: To develop a higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits. To foster mutual understanding and co-operation. To maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor, to hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To diversify our crops, and to crop no more than we can cultivate. To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel and more on hoof and in fleece; less in lint, and more in warp and woof. To systematize our work, and calculate intelligently on probabilities. To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy. We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and in general acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good will, vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional and National prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social and material advancement.

BUSINESS RELATIONS.

4. For our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence, we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits. We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence, we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, and that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous; keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action, that "Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity," we proclaim our settled conviction that we cannot expect to help ourselves in any form that involves the injury of others. We shall, therefore, advocate for every State the increase in every practicable way of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers and consumers, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our fixed purpose to "open out the channels in nature's great

arteries that the life-blood of commerce may flow freely." We are not enemies of railroads, navigable and irrigating canals, nor of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring class. In our noble order there is no communism, no agrarianism. We are opposed to any such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by an enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest, and exorbitant per cent. profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear a proper proportion to the profits of producers. We desire only self-protection and the protection of every true interest in our land by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade, and legitimate profits.

EDUCATION.

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

THE GRANGE NOT PARTISAN.

5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange, National, State, or subordinate, is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss partisan, political or sectarian religious questions, or call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings. Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and, if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country. For we seek the greatest good to the greatest number. We must always bear in mind that no one becoming a Patron of Husbandry gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country. On the contrary, it is right for any member to do all in his power, legitimately, to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his party to put down bribery, corruption and trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust; and to have carried out the principle which should always characterize every Grange member, that the office should seek the man; not the man the office.

We acknowledge the moral principle that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by difference of opinion," while "the fault lies in bitterness of controversy." We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness, protection for the weak, restraint upon the strong, in short, justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy the sons and daughters of an American republic. We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and, of right should be, dead and buried with the past; our work is for the present and for the future. In our agricultural brotherhood we shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West.

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

OUTSIDE CO-OPERATION.

6. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution, we cannot admit all to our ranks. Many are excluded, not because they are professional men or artisans, or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling or pasturing the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes. But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial co-operation to assist in our efforts towards reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption. We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromises, and earnest co-operation as an omen of our future success.

CONCLUSION.

7. It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command. Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to invocate a proper appreciation of the abilities and spheres of women, as indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our order. Imploping the continued assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time; to return, by our united efforts, to the wisdom, justice, fraternity and political purity of our forefathers.

Horticulture.

Horticulture for Farmers--No. 2.

Kansas Farmer:

THE GARDEN.

Tending a garden was the primitive employment of the first man of our race; and the first of men among his descendants, have ever been attached to that occupation. During the fifty years of my life on the farm, I have regularly as the season returned planted and tended a garden. And now that my long life is daily drawing nearer its close, I confidently believe that this pursuit has conduced to a vigorous healthy body, great peace of mind, and greater peace and comfort in the household.

My farm garden is protected on the north and west by a wind-break. It is none of those ginger-bread affairs, enclosed by a white-washed lath fence, which we so often see attached to a farm. But it is a liberal slice of rich soil, exposed to the south, and gently sloping to the east; no little beds on which seed has been sown broadcast mars its surface, but every crop is sown and planted in straight rows running north and south. The first row next the west end contains sixty gooseberry bushes. Then follows two rows of grapes of different varieties; thirty vines in each. Two rows blackberries, comprising sixty plants of Kittatiny and sixty plants of Snyder. Three rows of Blackcap raspberries, one row of Doolittle, one Miami, and one Hopkins. One row of Turner red raspberry. All these are six feet between the rows. Six rows of strawberries, composed of Wilson, Crescent, and James Vick. Adjoining this block of small fruits is one row of rhubarb (pieplant) and four rows asparagus, these three feet between rows.

Early in November each year the unoccupied portion of the garden is heavily manured--this is the secret of successful gardening--and plowed under immediately after spreading. Throw up furrows in ridge form, so that a larger surface will be exposed to the frosts and snows of winter.

As soon as the soil becomes mellow in the spring, as much of the surface as is needed for hardy vegetable seeds should be dragged smooth and fine with a loaded harrow. Taking the plow, open three deep furrows three feet apart in which to sow peas. Preference is given to Little Gem, Advancer, and Champion of England, one row of each; these are excellent varieties, and succeed each other in regular rotation. Six furrows, three feet apart, are then opened for potatoes. Early Ohio is preferred, as this variety has no superior either for quantity or quality. These two crops are cultivated with the one-horse double-shovel plow.

Three feet from the last row of potatoes stretch the line, and draw very shallow drills with the hoe, fifteen inches apart. In the first three plant onion sets, one row white onion sets, and two rows of top sets. In six rows sow black seed onions, Red Weathersfield, Yellow Danvers, and White Spanish. Two rods of a row of the last named should be sown very thick to produce white sets for next season's crop. Sow one row with lettuce, one-third of the row Tennis-ball for early salads, one-third Prize Head, and one-third Hanson. Sow one row with the following three varieties of radish: Early Olive-shaped, Long Scarlet, and White Naples. One row with beets for the table, Early Eclipse and Early Blood turnip. Sow one row with Long Orange carrot, and one row with Hollow-crowned parsnip. In covering these seeds throw on the soil lightly with the

feet, having a foot on each side of the row; after covering tread the soil over the seed very compact with the feet; as Peter Henderson says, "the brogan is a very valuable factor in vegetable culture." The above crops must be cultivated with the hoe. Three feet from the row of parsnip stretch the line and draw shallow drills for early cabbage; drop three seeds fifteen inches apart, one-half of the row with Early Etampes, the other with Jersey Wakefield. Sow half of the second drill with Early Winningstadt, the other half with Henderson's Early Summer. One more row should be sown with tomatoes, for fear those sown in the hot-bed should prove a failure; drop the seed in hills, three feet apart. The Paragon and Mayflower are profitable varieties. Don't be surprised if your out-door sowing of cabbage and tomatoes catches up with your plants raised in the hot-bed--mine did last spring.

This comprises all the hardy varieties of vegetables which should be sown in the month of March. And the new beginner who has formed the resolution to have a garden this spring will be twice glad--glad that his packets of seeds are all committed to soil in tip-top order, and glad that his noble resolve did not fail him when he had got half through with the task assigned him. His sleep that night will be the sleep of the just.

JOHN W. ROBSON.

Venerable Trees.

Those who, like Dr. Holmes, have many trees scattered about in various parts of the country, will be interested in a paper by the Prussian Chief Forester Gericke, in the last number of the Forstliche Blatter. He declares it to be a fable that there are trees in the German forests which have lived for a thousand years. Even the so-called "historical trees," he says, to which an age of 700 to 800 years is imputed, are nothing but "hollows surrounded with bark, vegetating only as ruins." No tree can reach so great an age in central Europe and remain healthy. He has been at pains to make inquiries at all the German, Austrian, and Russian forest academies; and, comparing their reports with his own long researches, he has compiled a table of the comparative ages of the different sorts of trees in central Europe. The highest age is attained by the pine; but after it has reached the limit of sound life it declines more rapidly than any of the leaf trees, which continue vegetating long after they have begun to decay. The oldest pine tree, judging by its annual rings, reaches an age of 570 years. The next in age, the white fir of the Bohmerwald, is 429 years old. The larch, in Bavaria, was at its oldest in 274 years. The oldest sound oak, which is at Aschaffenburg, is 410 years of age. The oldest red beech, also at Aschaffenburg, is 245. The highest point of healthy age with other leaf trees is as follows: The mountain maple, in Bavaria, 224 years; the birch, 160 to 200 years, in Finland; the ash, 170 years, in Silesia; the elm, 130 years, in Silesia; the aspen tree, 219 years. The most frequent among "the so-called historical trees" in Germany are lime trees (linden). The renowned "Linden" of Neustadt, on the Kocher, in Wurtemberg, is known by the local chronicle to have had its branches supported by sixty-seven strong staves in the year 1448, so that it must even then have been a venerable tree. It has now seven horizontal branches, which are supported--at from five feet to seven from the ground--by stone columns. It is reputed to be over-700 years old, but it can hardly be said to be alive; it is quite hollow, and is supported by internal as well as external masonry.

Willow Twigs.

Kansas Farmer:

I would advise farmers not to plant Willow Twig apples trees. Mine have all blighted. They are eleven years old, and I will have to cut them all down this spring, and replant. My other kinds are all right. My neighbors' trees are the same way. L. R. SPANGLER. Muscotah, Atchison Co., Kas.

Choose your breeding stock carefully; imperfections are likely to be perpetuated; blood will tell.

Have you a foot tub in your stable? If not, why not? Your horses' feet should be washed out every day.

If you have chapped hands or rough skin, use Stewart's Healing Cream. Only 15 cents a bottle. Gentlemen who suffer from a tender face after shaving are delighted with it. We only ask a trial. Stewart Healing Powder Co., St. Louis.

Apple Trees Very Cheap,

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References:--P. B. Weare Commission Co. and Hide & Leather National Bank, Chicago. 194 Kinzie street, CHICAGO, ILL.

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The Poultry Yard.

Liver Disease.

Kansas Farmer:
Noticing in the poultry column of your paper of February 23, a query from "S. H.," Federal, Kas., I thought it might be well to give him the benefit of my experience, having lost some fine Plymouth Rocks with the same disease. Of course all of my neighbors said it was the cholera, but as the chickens weighed eight pounds, and their combs were red, I concluded, after dissecting two or three and seeing the enlarged condition of the liver, that it was nothing but liver disease; so I went to work on a common-sense plan and gave them Simmons' Liver Regulator—one-fourth bottle to six quarts of meal for sixty hens once a day, which entirely cured my flock.

ZUE A. SEXTON.

Seabrook, Shawnee Co., Kas.

State Poultry Association.

Kansas Farmer:
I noticed in your issue of February 16 an article "Lost," in which the writer, undoubtedly an amateur, or he would have known that the State Poultry Association had ceased to exist over one year ago, and has died never to be resurrected, at least not by the original stockholders. It seems strange that in this day of poultry prosperity, that the capital city cannot afford an association equal to that of any city. But it is an established fact that such is the case, and so it will remain until more harmony exists among our "jealous" leading fanciers. In my humble judgment, I verily believe that if the breeders in the city and county would meet in session, organize, take hold of and work up the matter, that the State could boast of the strongest association of its kind in the country. As Kansas takes the lead in everything, so would her poultry association, and next winter could be given one of the grandest poultry exhibitions that was ever witnessed west of the Mississippi. I would be pleased to hear the views of others in this matter, especially of Mr. Geo. Hughes or C. H. Rhodes. Let us have an association, by all means.

HENNERY.

Raising Chickens.

Kansas Farmer:
I see in your columns the 23d of this month, the best plan of hatching and raising early chicks. I have had a great deal of experience in raising them in Kentucky for twenty years, and three years on the farm in Kansas, where I now live. I set my early setters now, so I have one week of February and two weeks of March. I first get a piece of hick cloth for the bottom of the nest, and then make a thick nest of prairie hay on that. I select the largest and moother eggs and the most gentle hen. I put fifteen eggs under a hen. Our hens sit in the hen house, where it is warm. The eggs must be kept in a warm place before setting, so they are not chilled. I put a curtain over them to keep any other hen from disturbing them. Every day at 12 o'clock I raise the curtain and she comes off to feed and drink. I watch her until she goes on again, so I let the curtain fall, and she is all safe from the cold wind at this season of the year. One hen hatches as many as she can keep warm; mine hatch every egg but one or two; it is the care I take. I sprinkle the Swedish insect powder on the hen's back and in the nest, so I am not troubled with insects. I put the little chicks in the sun when warm enough, and keep them in the hen house on straw on the floor. I

feed them cooked feed, bread soaked in warm water. I feed four times a day, and milk for them to drink is a great help to make them grow.

I have had eggs all winter. The Plymouth Rocks lay the best, but my mixed chickens set the earliest. I have the mixed and Plymouth Rocks. I enjoy reading the KANSAS FARMER.

La Cygne, Kas. MRS N. D.

P. S.—I also advise my lady friends to get their chickens hatched out early before the chiggers come to trouble them. I always have a hundred or two early, and fried chicken in June. I would like to hear more from the ladies about poultry-raising.

Chickens and Garden.

Kansas Farmer:
Winter is now nearly over and spring is fast coming on, and it is time to turn our attention to the raising of chickens, and the making of garden. I will set a few hens in this month. I give each hen eight or nine eggs, and set them in a warm place. Of course the chickens will require a good deal of attention, but I feel myself well repaid when I can have nice early chickens to fry; chickens that are hatched in this month, if well fed and protected from the cold, will be of a fair size to fry the first of July. Six or eight chickens is all one hen can care for this time of the year. They must be kept in a warm house of some kind until they are four or five weeks old; then they can be turned out for a while every nice day. I feed my chickens on corn bread; I mix it with milk and bake it thoroughly. I think it is the best feed I ever tried for little chickens.

Now is a good time to look over the garden seeds and see what we have not got, and to decide what we want to plant, and get them before time to plant. I plant parsnips and early peas and beets the last of March. I look over my rose bushes and prune them, cutting away all the decayed or broken branches, and dig up all the sprouts early in the spring. When I wash I pour all the soapsuds around my rose bushes; it makes them bloom better and gives them a richer color.

RACHEL.

Poultry Notes--Care of Young Chicks.

Kansas Farmer:
Neglect causes an immense loss of fowls every year. People will tell you "I've had bad luck; my chickens most all died with cholera." They ought to die. Many persons seldom ever think to give fresh water or suitable feed. They need to be watered regularly the coldest days. Their perches and houses are in such a neglected condition that it is a wonder they don't all die.

Neglect and impure surroundings invite disease. The vermin feed on the fowls until they are weakened, and derangement of the liver is induced; the result is what people call cholera.

Chicken lice may be avoided by white-washing everything about the chicken house twice a year, mixing crude carbolic acid or coal tar with the white-wash and smearing the perches well with the coal tar often. This remedy is infallible if you begin early and keep it up through the season.

When the hens are broody, give them fourteen eggs; select smooth, medium-sized eggs, dark yellow. The light ones break easily. Every day when your morning work is complete, or about 8 o'clock, provide fresh water and feed. Then carefully remove all the hens at one time. Close the door and give them time to eat and drink and enjoy a dust bath. Pretty soon they will all report and may be put on their nests, and then close up the front to prevent intruders. They will seldom ever want to come off until the next morning. This is much

less trouble than watching them coming off one at a time.

CARE OF THE LITTLE CHICKS.

When they are removed from the nests they should be fed with eggs boiled hard, or with soda bread well baked, giving fresh water often. Don't feed raw dough unless you wish to kill them; it sours and produces disease. If the weather is chilly and damp, put a spoonful of cayenne or black pepper in the bread when it is mixed. Chop up onions and lettuce and feed; they are extremely fond of this. Millet and Hungarian seed is much relished when they are a few weeks old. Chickens can endure much cold if kept dry and away from cold winds.

If you are prepared to take care of young chickens you can as well have them ready for an early market as not. In 1874 I had 150 young chickens in March. The mercury ran down below zero, and of course I lost a good many. In May following I sold three dozen of those chickens to one man for \$18, or \$6 per dozen. Two weeks later sold three dozen for \$15. Prices ruled high then; but this shows what can be done by close attention.

E. D. VAN WINKLE.

Pleasant Ridge, Kas.

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What Mr. Beyer says: "Please accept my best thanks for the splendid seeds received from your firm. It would be a rather lengthy list if I should name all, but will say that amongst 38 first, and 3 second premiums awarded me at our fairs in Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan, 28 first premiums were for vegetables raised from your seeds. What firm can beat this?"

Seed of this quality I am now ready to sell to every one who tills a farm or plants a garden, sending them FREE my Vegetable and Flower Seed Catalogue, for 1887. Old customers need not write for it. I catalogue this season the native wild potato. JAS. J. H. GREGORY, Seed Grower, Marblehead, Mass.

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SPECIAL OFFER.

APPLE TREES	3-year-old, 5 to 6 feet high.
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PETER HENDERSON & CO., 35 & 37 Cortlandt St., NEW YORK.

THE STRAY LIST.

HOW TO POST A STRAY.

THE FEES, FINES AND PENALTIES FOR NOT POSTING.

BY AN ACT of the Legislature, approved February 27, 1886, section 1, when the appraised value of a stray or strays exceeds ten dollars, the County Clerk is required, within ten days after receiving a certified description and appraisement, to forward by mail, notice containing a complete description of said strays, the day on which they were taken up, their appraised value, and the name and residence of the taker-up, to the KANSAS FARMER, together with the sum of fifty cents for each animal contained in the notice.

Broken animals can be taken up at any time in the year. Unbroken animals can only be taken up between the first day of November and the first day of April, except when found in the lawful enclosure of the taker-up.

No persons, except citizens and householders, can take up a stray. If an animal liable to be taken up, shall come upon the premises of any person, and he fails for ten days, after being notified in writing of the fact, any other citizen and householder may take up the same.

Any person taking up an estray, must immediately advertise the same by posting three written notices in as many places in the township giving a correct description of such stray.

If such stray is not proven up at the expiration of ten days, the taker-up shall go before any Justice of the Peace of the township, and file an affidavit stating that such stray was taken up on his premises, that he did not drive nor cause it to be driven there, that he has advertised it for ten days, that the marks and brands have not been altered; also he shall give a full description of the same and its cash value. He shall also give a bond to the State of double the value of such stray.

The Justice of the Peace shall within twenty days from the time such stray was taken up (ten days after posting), make out and return to the County Clerk, a certified copy of the description and value of such stray.

If such stray shall be valued at more than ten dollars, it shall be advertised in the KANSAS FARMER in three successive numbers.

The owner of any stray may, within twelve months from the time of taking up, prove the same by evidence before any Justice of the Peace of the county, having first notified the taker-up of the time when, and the Justice before whom proof will be offered. The stray shall be delivered to the owner, on the order of the Justice, and upon the payment of all charges and costs.

If the owner of a stray fails to prove ownership within twelve months after the time of taking, a complete title shall vest in the taker-up.

At the end of a year after a stray is taken up, the Justice of the Peace shall issue a summons to three householders to appear and appraise such stray, summons to be served by the taker-up; said appraisers, or two of them, shall in all respects describe and truly value said stray, and make a sworn return of the same to the Justice.

They shall also determine the cost of keeping, and the benefits the taker-up may have had, and report the same on their appraisement.

In all cases where the title vests in the taker-up, he shall pay into the County Treasury, deducting all costs of taking up, posting and taking care of the stray, one-half of the remainder of the value of such stray.

Any person who shall sell or dispose of a stray, or take the same out of the State before the title shall have vested in him, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall forfeit double the value of such stray and be subject to a fine of twenty dollars.

FOR WEEK ENDING FEB. 23, 1887.

Chase county—J. J. Massey, clerk. STEER—Taken up by Frank Maybell, in Diamond Creek tp., January 17, 1887, one dark red yearling steer, no marks or brands; valued at \$13.

STEER—Taken up by D. W. Mercer, in Bazaar tp., one 2-year-old spotted steer, branded R or K on right hip, some ear-mark; valued at \$18.

COW—By same, one red cow, 3 or 4 years old, some brand on ear; valued at \$17.

COW—Taken up by Phillip Rehl, in Bazaar tp., January 15, 1887, one roan cow, about 6 years old, branded C on left hip and K on right hip, under-crop off of right ear; valued at \$20.

HORSE—Taken up by Cyrus Wilson, in Bazaar tp., November 25, 1886, one bay horse, about 7 years old, star in forehead, no marks or brands; valued at \$50.

Lyon county—Roland Lakin, clerk.

MARE—Taken up by James Markin, in Reading tp., one 3-year-old light bay mare, star in face; valued at \$25.

FILLEY—By same, one 2-year-old roan mare colt; valued at \$15.

STEER—Taken up by H. J. Stratton, in Elmendaro tp., one red and white spotted 2-year-old steer, tin tag in left ear; valued at \$18.

Franklin county—T. F. Ankeny, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by A. Elder, in Ohio tp., (P. O. Princeton), one light red 1-year-old steer, bruckle face, white spots on belly, branded O on left hip; valued at \$15.

Sedgwick county—E. P. Ford, clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by Chas H. Miller, in Union tp., February 4, 1887, one bay horse, shod in front, 12 years old, no brands; valued at \$60.

PONY—By same, one roan mare pony, 10 years old, no brands; valued at \$60.

COLT—By same, one black 1-year-old colt, no brands; valued at \$30.

Phillips county—S. J. Hartman, clerk.

PONY—Taken up by Nate Kemp, in Arcado tp., December 17, 1886, one black pony mare, 6 years old, 38 inches high, two white feet, branded on left shoulder.

FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 3, 1887

Morris county—G. E. Irvin, clerk. 2 STEERS—Taken up by Edwin Stout, in Valley tp., January 27, 1887, two 1-year-old red and white spotted steers, no marks or brands; valued at \$20.

HOLSTEIN—Taken up by A. W. Cassidy, in Neosho tp., January 27, 1887, one horse, red color, about 8 years old, 4 feet 11 inches high, white spot in forehead over right eye, hind feet and right fore foot white, branded on both shoulders and blind in left eye.

Marshall county—J. F. Wright, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by Benjamin Murphy, in Clear Fork tp., about February 10, 1887, one red heifer, 2 1/2 years old, red, marks and brands, all feet white, star in forehead; valued at \$20.

Duniphan county—Joseph Schletzbaum, clk.

COW—Taken up by Thos. Joyce, in Wolf River tp., (P. O. Severance), February 16, 1887, one roan cow,

about 7 years old, brand on left hip, left horn off, weight about 900 pounds; valued at \$18.

Thomas county—Jas. M. Summers, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by W. T. Brooks, in Hale tp., (P. O. Hughes), January 17, 1887, one dark red or brown steer, 2 years old, line back, dim brand on left ribs, under half-crop in each ear; valued at \$25.

Washington county—John E. Pickard, clerk.

COW—Taken up by A. J. Moses, in Haddam tp., (P. O. Haddam), February 7, 1887, one roan cow, 5 years old; valued at \$20.

Trego county—C. A. Hoar, clerk.

PONY—Taken up by D. S. Roach, Jr., in Saint John tp., February 14, 1886, one strawberry roan pony mare, about 12 hands high, Mexican brand on left shoulder; valued at \$20.

FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 10, 1887.

Greenwood county—J. W. Kenner, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by A. N. Brigham, in Otter Creek tp., November 1, 1886, one roan heifer, 2 years old, no marks; valued at \$17.

Reno county—W. R. Marshall, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by Cleo Williamson, in Sylvia tp., one 3-year-old red heifer, white stripe on back branded H. O. on both sides.

STEER—By same, one red 1-year-old steer, stripe on back, branded H. O. on both sides; both above valued at \$15.

Pawnee county—Jas. F. Whitney, clerk.

COW—Taken up by F. E. Sage, in Pawnee tp., (P. O. Larned), February 18, 1887, one red cow, white on belly, ends of horns sawed off; valued at \$12.50.

Leavenworth county—J. W. Niehaus, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by James Fox, in Stranger tp., November 6, 1886, one yearling heifer, red and white spotted, white face, no marks or brands; valued at \$13.

E'k county—J. S. Johnson, clerk.

HORSE—Taken up by Joseph Greenwood, in Howard tp., January 24, 1887, one 2-year-old dark bay horse colt, about 13 1/2 hands high, no marks or brands; valued at \$25.

Morton Co., Kansas!

THE SOUTHWEST CORNER COUNTY and BEST COUNTY in Kansas. Fertile soil, fine climate, pure and never-falling water. Health unsurpassed. CHEAP HOMES. Government and Deeded Lands. For particulars, write to Pierce Taylor & Little, Richfield, (county seat), Morton county, Kas. They are old and reliable Land Agents of the Southwest. Your business will receive prompt attention. Information free. Correspondence solicited.

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AND TURTLE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT.

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Holstein - Friesian Cattle.

We have for sale forty head of Registered and Grade Holstein Cattle—young and up to 6 years old, male and female. Also a few P.-C. Swine, age 3 to 6 months, and 75 head for spring and summer trade. None but first-class stock sent out, and all stock guaranteed as represented. Farm at Andover, Kas. Address us at Winfield, Kas., Cowley Co., Box 607.

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Jersey Cattle.

Stock for Sale at all times, of most Fashionable Breeding.

PEDIGREES TABULATED.

—Address—

S. B. ROHRER, Manager.

OAKLAND STOCK FARM.

FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 3, 1887

Morris county—G. E. Irvin, clerk. 2 STEERS—Taken up by Edwin Stout, in Valley tp., January 27, 1887, two 1-year-old red and white spotted steers, no marks or brands; valued at \$20.

HOLSTEIN—Taken up by A. W. Cassidy, in Neosho tp., January 27, 1887, one horse, red color, about 8 years old, 4 feet 11 inches high, white spot in forehead over right eye, hind feet and right fore foot white, branded on both shoulders and blind in left eye.

Marshall county—J. F. Wright, clerk.

HEIFER—Taken up by Benjamin Murphy, in Clear Fork tp., about February 10, 1887, one red heifer, 2 1/2 years old, red, marks and brands, all feet white, star in forehead; valued at \$20.

Duniphan county—Joseph Schletzbaum, clk.

COW—Taken up by Thos. Joyce, in Wolf River tp., (P. O. Severance), February 16, 1887, one roan cow,

about 7 years old, brand on left hip, left horn off, weight about 900 pounds; valued at \$18.

Thomas county—Jas. M. Summers, clerk.

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AT THE GREAT ST. LOUIS FAIR, 1885.



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G. A. FOWLER, St. Marys, Kas. E. S. SHOCKEY, Manager, Lawrence, Kas.

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Premium Notes in Force and Other Assets, \$125,000.

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Insures Farm Property, Live Stock and Detached Dwellings

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CAPITAL, FULL PAID, \$50,000.

The last report of the Insurance Department of this State shows the KANSAS FARMERS' FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY has more assets for every one hundred dollars at risk than any other company doing business in this State, viz:

The Kansas Farmers' has \$1.00 to pay \$18.00 at risk; the Home, of New York, \$1.00 to pay \$46.00; the Continental, of New York \$1.00 to pay \$80.00; the German, of Freeport, Ill., \$1.00 to pay \$70.00, the Burlington of Iowa, \$1.00 to pay \$78.00, and the State of Iowa has \$1.00 to pay \$79.00 at risk.

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For the Weak, Nervous and Debilitated; How to regain Health, Strength and Vigor. Home Treatment

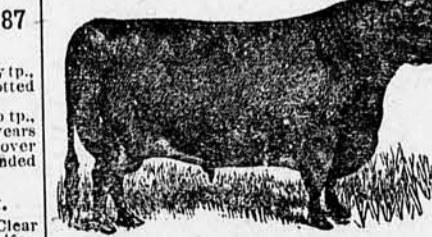
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W. S. WHITE, Sabatha, Kansas,

Breeder of High-class Short-horns, will sell some choice females in car lots or singly, to suit purchasers. Also a few good Bulls. Prices low. Write or come.

The Veterinarian.

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

A lot of pigs, with a large yard attached to the pen, may be made to furnish a ton of manure a month to each pig if sufficient material is given. We have found dry or half-dried swamp muck with the manure from the horse stables the best materials for this purpose. No better manure for use in hills or for a garden can be had than this. It is a part of the profit to be made from pigs to turn them to account in this way. It is a good time now to consider how a good clover pasture can be provided for the pigs; or, if this cannot be done, how a crop of roots or other green feed may be grown for them. If no other provision can be made, a field may be divided into two or three lots by portable fences, and the land plowed and sown with rape; or one part with turnips, another with peas, and the other with turnips. Each is fed off in turn, and as one is fed down the land may be sown again with some other crop. It is quite evident that some settled provision must be made for feeding pigs in a reasonably healthful manner to escape the prevalent diseases to which they are subject.

MELANOTIC TUMORS—I would like to consult your veterinary in regard to a horse we have. He has a large swelling or bunch on his rump, on the left of anus, a little below and to the left of his dock, under the hide; it seems by feeling to be a hard, fleshy substance. I first noticed it last September, when it grew to the size of a walnut, where it appeared to remain for some time, but has started to grow again; of late it has attained the size of a citron, crowding the anus to the opposite side. The horse has warts on its dock, also on his penis and sheath, small ones in clusters. I removed a wart or tumor, or whatever you would call it, about the size of a walnut, about a month ago, that grew on the left side of his dock, and used to touch his rump. Where this swelling now is was raw on the surface, used to bleed when chafed by switching flies. I removed it by putting a fine wire round base and tightening every day until it was about half cut off, then finished it with a knife. But I cannot remove the one in question in the same way, for it is situated differently, and under the hide. The horse is about 15 years old, in good condition, and apparently all right every other way. Is a good horse for his age, has been in the family nine years, the women's buggy horse and favorite. The one I removed seemed to be composed of black rotten flesh and blood vessels, and of the consistency of a dry, hard sponge. I would like to know if this one is of the same character as the other, and what it is called, how to remove it, if an operation is necessary, if so, how to operate, or if it can be removed by blisters and liniment, and of what kind. [The bunches referred to are termed melanotic tumors, which are commonly found in horses of a gray or white color. Horses which are white when old, are usually dark or black while young, owing to the hair being colored by pigment, which is the dark substance you refer to as "black rotten flesh." As the animal whitens, the pigment is thought to be stored away in the various parts of the body, notably the parts described by you, instead of being used as formerly to color the hair. In this way it forms tumors of variable size, clustered in and underneath the skin, like bunches of grapes, or forming large tumors at the base of the tail, or in the internal organs. They can only be removed by the knife, and if you could procure a competent veterinary surgeon to operate, it would be more satisfactory. If not, throw the horse and secure him, then with a sharp knife make a long incision over the growth and dissect the tumor from its attachments, taking care not to remove any skin. The wound should then be syringed out with a solution of one part of carbolic acid to thirty of water, and brought together by stitches, except at the lowermost part, where an opening should be left for the escape of what pus may form. After removal, tumors of this kind have a tendency to again form.]

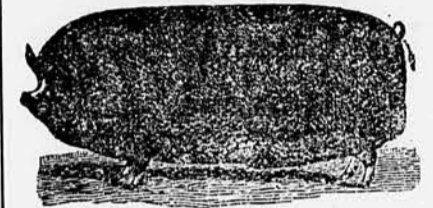
Do not expect as much work from colts as from old horses.

Chester White, Berkshire and Poland-China Pigs, fine Setter Dogs, Scotch Collies, Fox Hounds and Beagles, Sheep and Poultry, bred and for sale by W. GRUBBS & Co., West Chester, Chester Co., Pa. Send stamp for Circular and Price List.

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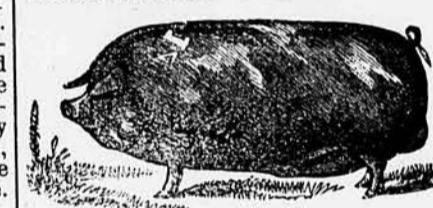
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I have thirty breeding sows, all matured animals and of the very best strains of blood. I am using three splendid imported boars, headed by the splendid prize-winner Plantagenet 2019, winner of five first prizes and gold medal at the leading shows in Canada in 1881. I am now prepared to fill orders for pigs of either sex, not a kin, or for matured animals. Prices reasonable. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send for catalogue and price list, free. S. McCULLOUGH, Ottawa, Kansas.

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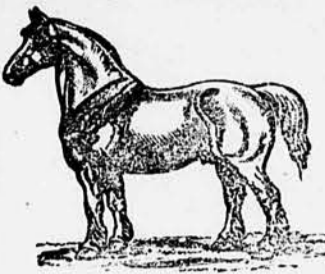
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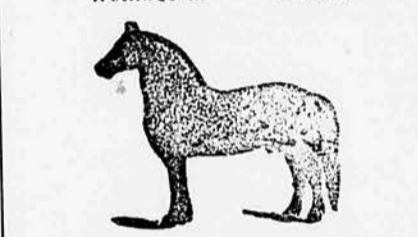


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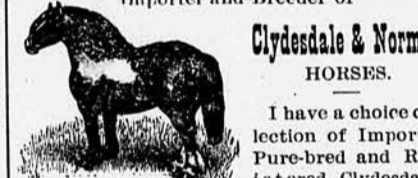
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All Steel Teeth. Best implement in use. Unequaled as a sod harrow and pulverizer. Works equally well in growing Wheat, Potatoes or young Corn. Adds 5 to 10 bushels per acre to the yield. 25 to 50 acres per day cultivated by one team. Will pay for itself in one year. Send for Illustrated Price List. H. A. STREETER, Manuf., 85 to 41 Indiana St., Chicago.



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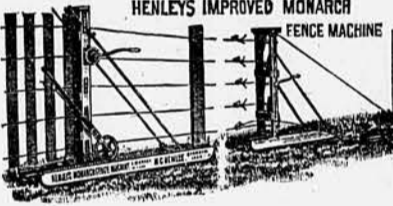


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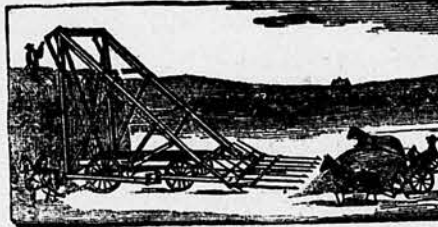
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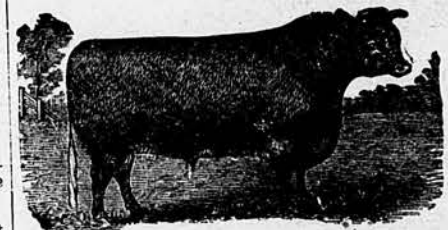
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