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WEATHER, BUGS AND BRAN.

Kansas Farmer:

I have read with much interest the article in the July 28 number of Mr. J. C. H. Swann, also the article in the August 4 number—"The bran question." Now as regards Mr. Swann, I thank him for generously forgiving me, that I do not believe in his theories. In his little book entitled "The Future by the Past," he says that history in regard to agriculture (that is, good and bad crops, drouth and rainy seasons) repeats itself every twenty years; he bases this theory on records kept by him. On another page he says that we will not have a good corn and wheat crop the same season, but he advises the farmers to sow wheat largely in the fall in the uneven years, because his records show that there is always a good wheat crop in the even years; and always plant corn largely in uneven years, because there will always be a good corn crop in uneven years. This, he says, is the case according to his records and his theories in general terms. I believe Mr. Swann is perfectly honest in the expression of his views; but are his views right? That is what interests the farmers. Mr. Swann was certainly right in predicting a terrible drouth, but contrary to this, some sections of country, as southwestern Missouri and southeastern Kansas, never had any better crops than this year, both in wheat and corn. According to Mr. Swann, we ought to have a good corn crop this year, it being an uneven year, but the chinch bugs on one side and the terrible drouth on the other side, got away with our corn, and farmers and stockmen in this part of the country have to buy largely to winter their stock; and I for one do not know where they will get the corn and roughness they want. Now as far as wheat is concerned, in '84, according to Mr. Swann, we ought to have had a good wheat crop, and in this part of the country we had it; '85 was poor, all according to Mr. S.'s theory, but '86, when we ought to have had a good crop again, it was still poorer than in '85, and this year beats it all. This year, '87, seems to be a phenomenal year all round; we have no wheat, no oats, no corn, no millet, scarcely any grass to make hay. Pastures were brown and burned up by middle of July, creeks and wells dried up in a very large part of our country. Most of the farmers have lost their grit, and no wonder. Another such year and most farmers here will be broken up entirely. It is very hard for them now, (and for the business men in the cities, too). Mr. Swann advised sowing wheat this fall; I did the same to all farmers that I had a chance to speak to, but with the same provision that Mr. Mohler, of Osborne county, makes—"if we get plenty of rain this fall to destroy the chinch bugs." If we do not get rain enough to destroy these pests, I would not sow a single grain. By the way, I think Mr. Mohler is the only man who has the right remedy against chinch bugs—that is rain, rain and rain. All the other remedies, like putting fence boards around a field and tarring them, etc., may work all right on a small garden-like patch of corn or other grain; but suppose a man has 100 acres or more in corn, it will be quite a job to do this. As an example, let me state that last fall an Eastern man bought a farm just a little southwest of Ellsworth, paying a large price for it, but the improvements were good, and the land was good. The man said he wanted a good corn crop; he plowed his land well

in the spring, then check-rows his corn, and when it came up it was a beautiful sight, cultivated both ways, clean, not a weed to be seen. He had heard about our dear little chinch bugs and he wanted to head them off; so around his field, I think it was 200 acres, he left a strip of about two rods all around and on the outside he sowed thickly some corn, to give the bugs that came in from neighboring fields something to eat, and between this strip and his cornfield he kept a cultivator going all the time to keep the land mellow and bury the bugs that tried to crawl to his cornfield. If ever a man did his work faithfully, that man did it. But what is the result? The chinch bugs took the field in spite of all, and his corn crop is entirely gone. That man put his all in one crop and he is nearly ruined. This certainly is a year without any precedents, and as they say here, "no rule holds good in dry time."

Now let me say a word about "the bran question." In '81 I came to this county and engaged in the milling business in Ellsworth. At that time bran was considered about equal in value to sawdust; they actually chucked the bran under the boiler of the mill and tried to burn it, because there was no sale for it. I bought some sheep and fed them bran, persuaded some friends of mine that were stockmen to buy bran and feed it, and the first winter worked up a trade that I was unable to supply; I had to ship in a few carloads from Salina. From that time bran was never sold for less than \$7 per ton and often reached as high as \$15 per ton, and stockmen found it profitable to buy bran at that figure. In '83 I sold out my interest in the Ellsworth mill and have gone to stock-raising, and my experience is that if I had to buy any feed I would rather pay \$12 per ton for bran than 30 cents a bushel for corn. Of course, a farmer ought to raise as much as he wants to feed out, but when he has to supply a shortage of corn it will pay him to buy bran rather than corn, not only for the feeding value of the bran but also for mixing with other feed, as corn. There is no one food which supplies all that an animal needs, but by mixing the feed a farmer can better supply the wants of his stock. For fattening and finishing off a lot of hogs nothing can so well take the place of corn; but even fattening hogs will be all the better, will be healthier and put on fat quicker, if they have a mixture of bran with their corn, especially if the corn be ground. For horses nothing in this country can take the place of good sound oats; if horses that are worked hard are fed on corn alone, they are unable after a while to perform their work. Corn is too heating and too much fat-producing, while oats is nearly a perfect food for horses, giving them strength, forming bone and muscle. Whenever I was obliged to feed corn to my horses, I would always mix it with bran. It has been my experience that corn fed exclusively to horses would sooner or later produce disease. I only fed corn to horses in very cold winter weather. For fattening cattle, corn is the feed; but, like hogs, they will be all the better for a change, and I fed mostly shelled corn and bran together and had very good results. All this applies to feeding grown animals. No man should feed young stock of any kind on corn; it is too heating, too fat-producing. Young stock fed on corn will after a while lose their appetite, and if they have no change are very apt to contract disease or get stunted. In my opinion, for growing stock nothing can take the place of bran. It

is easily digested, forms bone and muscle, and keeps the bowels open. Oats comes nearest in feeding value and chemical composition to bran, and if a farmer could grow all the oats for his stock he would be very well off; but if it comes to buying any kind offered, then bran is the feed which, if he can get it at \$12 per ton, is better than corn or oats at 30 cents per bushel. What I have said about cattle applies to steers or fattening cattle, while every dairyman knows that bran is the best feed to produce milk that he can buy, considering the money value of bran and milk. In Pennsylvania I have bought bran at \$25 per ton and fed it to milk cows and made money at it.

Now we come to sheep. When I came to Ellsworth county, the motto of the sheepmen was corn and prairie hay for winter feed. I demonstrated to them that they could advantageously substitute bran for part of the corn; they tried it, and most of my bran afterwards went to sheepmen. As I stated before, I always had been keeping some sheep. I was not fixed to keep them myself, so I let them out on shares. In the winter of '83 they were fed on a corn and bran diet, about one bushel together a day to one hundred sheep and all the roughness they wanted. They had rather a poor shed; the sheep were then 4 years old and sheared a trifle over eight pounds per head on an average and raised a good percentage of lambs. In '84 I gave them to another man. He fed an exclusive corn diet with all the roughness they wanted, and had a good frame shed; they sheared five pounds on the average, and from 400 sheep I got thirty-two lambs. The ewes fed on corn were fat but had no milk, while the year before when fed on corn and bran they were in fair condition and had plenty of milk. In '85 I changed them again to another man. He was an old sheepman from Ohio; I do not think he fed them very well. He went into the winter with 350 head and came out with 216 head. Corn diet, about one bushel a day per hundred. It is true he raised some few more lambs than I had in '84; I got eighty-six lambs. It was an awful hard winter, which may be some excuse for him. The sheep while in his care sheared just four pounds per head all round. I always sold off or traded the lambs. I did not find it profitable to let sheep out that way; so I concluded to keep them myself last winter, and as they were getting along well in years I wanted to fatten them and put them on the market. In the summer of '86 I laid in a large supply of bran—fifty tons—and commenced to feed these 216 ewes bran quite early, commencing about the middle of September, and as I thought they would fatten better if they were served by the bucks, I let the bucks run with them. When the new corn crop came in I commenced to feed corn and bran together, about three pecks together to one hundred sheep. I found that they were not gaining so much as I expected; they were in very good condition, but they were too old to fatten readily, and as the market did not seem very promising, I concluded to keep my sheep over winter and get a crop of lambs and a crop of wool off them. I had a good barn for them, plenty of well water, plenty of roughness, and when cold weather set in I increased their feed to one bushel a day per hundred of mixed shelled corn and bran. They kept in very good condition; the first lamb was dropped on January 18. I was well prepared to take care of them; the ewes had plenty of milk. There were about 160

lambs dropped in all, but I lost a few; about shearing time I counted 152 lambs. I butchered some of the largest. I weighed two; one dressed forty-five pounds, and the other dressed forty-six pounds. The old ewes that the winter before sheared only four pounds, sheared now a trifle over nine pounds. This winter we had more winds which would blow the dust more into the fleeces and no rains to wash it out; this in some measure accounts for the heavy shearing; but my fleeces were the cleanest of any that I have seen. In my opinion the good results obtained were through the feeding of bran. The old ewes could not digest the corn so well as the bran mixed with the corn, and perhaps it would have been just as well to feed bran alone; but these sheep would never have raised such fine large lambs without the bran, which made the milk for them. My losses this winter were just six head of ewes, of which two died of old age and four were killed by my neighbors dogs.

My experience with all kinds of stock has led me to the conclusion that if a farmer has to buy feed, then bran, all things considered, is the best and cheapest to buy; and even if a farmer has corn, it will pay him to buy bran to feed to his young growing stock. Now let me state that I have sold part of my ranch near Ellsworth and bought a mill in Wilson, therefore Mr. L. A. Knapp might infer that I have an axe to grind and want to sell my bran, which, however, is not the case, as I am unable to fill the orders for bran for the next six months. Do not let your readers understand that I fed those fifty tons of bran that I had to those 216 sheep; no, I had quite a lot of cattle and hogs besides that I fed bran to.

Now, Mr. Editor, if you have worked through till here, you may put this letter into your waste-basket or print part of it or all just as you see fit. I wanted to let the farmers know what my experience of six years in Ellsworth county is, that bran is the best and cheapest feed if they have to buy any feed at all. Yours truly,

OSCAR VOIGTLANDER.
Ellsworth, Ellsworth Co., Kas.

It Discounts the Past.

Remarkable and extraordinary as has been the success of the Western National Interstate Fair during the past, there can be no doubt that the exposition this year will excel all its former successes. The management of this great mirror of the material prosperity of our State, have so systematized and perfected the gathering together and attractive showing of a great and varied exhibit in all departments that upon their part there can be no such word as fail. It depends upon the people of this and other counties of the State to render this great exposition, by their presence, an untold power in the development and distribution of the marvelous and varied resources and productions of our State. This great State Fair is a means of practical education which should be taken advantage of by every producer of, and dealer in, the products of Kansas. The date of this remarkable exposition is September 5 to 10, at Bismarck Grove, Lawrence, Kansas.

All persons desiring to attend some business college in the fall or winter, ought to write to the Southwestern Business College, Wichita, Kansas, for circulars. The tuition is reasonable and good board can be furnished at from \$1.75 to \$2.00 per week at the student's boarding hall.

The Stock Interest.

DATES CLAIMED FOR STOCK SALES.
OCTOBER 12-13.—W. T. Hearne and U. P. Bennett & Son, one or two days' sale of Short-horn cattle, at Lee's Summit, Mo.

American Tastes as to Horses.

Horses in this country, like the people, are largely composed of foreign stock and their descendants. The first good horses were brought here from England, France and Germany. American tastes in the horse direction are cultivated, and there is a good deal of foreign influence in it. Still, we have some horse ideas, and good ones, too. In this respect as in many others, we are breeding away from the foreign standard rather than towards it. In a late number of the *American Agriculturist*, some pertinent thoughts on this subject were expressed. The successful merchant is the man who first recognizes and then supplies the market he deals in, the writer says: With this trite fact before us, seemingly few breeders know their market requirements, or, if known, the needed objects are not offered. The breeding of thoroughbred horses has passed into the hands of a few enterprising men, lovers of racing, who have ransacked three continents to procure sires and dams worthy of their great undertaking. The courage of these breeders has been crowned with success. They know their markets and they ably supplied it. The trotting interests are likewise well looked after, and the American trotter, a horse *per se* created, and, we can honestly add, perfected, in his native land, asks no outside strain of blood to maintain or improve his standing as a first-rate light harness horse. With these two families, and the various breeds of heavy draft horses, the record of satisfaction ends; as yet the United States cannot boast other useful families with distinctive race qualities. The annual importation of sires goes on, and the careful observer sees with satisfaction vast general improvement in the horses performing the daily work of our large cities, but a dreary want in the individual classes. We take the stand that while the farmer thinks he wants, and sometimes fondly believes he has, a general-purpose horse, there is no such horse on the planet, and still less a sire for general purposes. It is looking for the union of opposite qualities that has retarded in the United States the formation and full development of various types of horses, suited for our diverse and constantly varying necessities.

Recently horseback riding has become the fashion, yet it would be very difficult to select a score of safe, steady, good-looking, even-tempered saddle horses within the confines of our great metropolis. This lack is also felt in single harness horses, when power and temper and much style are required. A medium class of horses, suited for moderate work in double harness, is fairly represented. At this time, the express companies possess the best class of heavy harness horses to be found, and to obtain these animals their agents are out all over the country searching for young, sound, well-broken horses. These horses, though useful, with a fair share of good looks, are not one-fifth what they could be raised to by judicious selection and careful crossing.

When the breeder seeks to create a family his first care must be to place his stock on land suited to their peculiarities. Saddle horses are best reared on broken, hilly ground, for the habit of surefootedness it insures. Harness horses require for their development a rolling country, the moderate irregularities of which give good knee action, and

render them able in after days to cheerfully breast a hill. On no account should a rich, deep, alluvial soil be chosen to breed saddle horses on. Having secured a desirable tract of land, the breeder next must decide what class of horses he intends to produce. If saddle horses, the sire should be an Anglo-Arabian; color, dark bay, dapple brown or black; in conformation the build should be close-knit, the head handsome, with the dish-face of the Arab; the ears small and pointed, the eyes prominent and full of intelligence; the forehead wide, the muzzle so small that he could drink from a tumbler; the neck long and graceful, cut in at the throat; this will insure his get against being pullers; the lips, when at rest, firmly closed; the back short and straight, the withers rather low and round; the forearm and hindquarters muscular; the ribs deep, the knees large and flat, the crown bone short, the foreleg measuring at least eight inches and a half under the knee; the height not to exceed fifteen hands, three inches; the horse well broken, and ridden in difficult grounds. A steeple-chaser would be the most desirable of all thoroughbreds, as his education would be transmitted to his progeny, in so far that they would be more readily taught than other horses. The dams should be selected for stoutness of constitution, docility of temper, perfect soundness and abundant good looks; highly, but not clean bred. The sire, to produce stately harness horses, should also be thoroughbred; for heavy harness work, sixteen hands would not be too high, when combined with due size and symmetry of form. The first cross of such a sire from clean-bred Clydesdale or Percheron mares, gives excellent results; the second cross on these half-bred fillies, the sire being also thoroughbred, produces three-quarter bred beauties of much substance, and abounding in good qualities. To create a type and preserve its best features is easier and more remunerative than to do as farmers generally do, viz.: breed for general purposes, because it is cheap and easy.

Care of Pigs in Warm Weather.

Warm weather is quite as hard on animals as on men. Every observing person has seen animals exhibit symptoms of great uneasiness and discomfort when suffering from extreme heat. Cold reduces flesh; so does heat. And pigs are very sensitive to heat. Where they have opportunity they spend half the time, during hot weather, in water. The wear and waste from heat is much greater than most farmers know. Good feeding—proper and plentiful feeding, we mean, is quite as necessary in summer as it is in winter. The food ought not to be corn only, in warm weather; it ought to be grass and vegetables, mixed with meal, millstuffs, bran, etc. It ought to be nutritious, disposed to loosen rather than to constipate the bowels; to strengthen rather than fatten; to produce muscle and bone rather than lard. The *National Live Stock Journal* reasons this way:

"Among farmers the common practice of keeping pigs upon a spare diet of thin slops from the house, with a little grass, through the warm weather, and then doing all the fattening in the fall and early winter, results in much loss of food and poor returns to the feeder. The cost of keeping pigs in this slow-growing condition is but little less than generous feeding, which will produce twice the growth in the same time. We do not disapprove of putting pigs upon good grass for this is not only good for their health and thrift, but is the cheapest food so far as it goes. What we wish strongly to enforce is the

economy of full feeding during warm weather. A little addition of grain to summer pasture will produce twice the additional growth that the same amount of grain fed in cold weather will. There is very little expenditure of food in keeping up animal heat at this season, and the grain will all go to the extra flesh. A March pig may reach as great weight on the first of September, by good feeding, as on the first of December by the common system, and the expense will be much less. An experiment, several years since, with four March pigs of the same litter, each of nearly equal weight, all fed upon grass, but two of them having in addition fine wheat middlings and cornmeal, mixed in equal parts and soaked in cold water twelve to twenty-four hours, all they would eat, showed the decided advantage of full feeding. The other two had the same grass with the thin slops from the house for drink, and weighed, on the first of September, when five and one-half months old, 248 pounds, while the two with meal and bran, *ad libitum*, weighed 450. They ate 500 pounds of the middlings and meal in 123 days, from the time they were weaned, at six weeks old, to the first of September, and gained 202 pounds by this additional feed, or one pound for two and one-half pounds of middlings and meal. The experiment was continued three months longer, to the first of December, all four pigs being fed alike what they would eat of three parts cornmeal and one part middlings, with grass during September and October, and pumpkins in November, and weighed, the two former, 440 pounds, and the latter, 660 pounds, live weight. The former lost 20 per cent. in dressing, and the latter only 16 per cent. They consumed of the meal and middlings 1,620 pounds, or four pounds of feed to make one pound live weight, besides the grass and pumpkins. Here it takes 60 per cent. more grain to produce a pound live weight in the fall than during the summer. But this result is caused, first, by the greater age and weight of the pigs, and second, by the cold weather. The two pigs that were full-fed through the summer, still gained more pounds in the fall than the others and showed their better condition in the end by losing less in dressing. There is only one point of importance left out in the experiment—the separate quantity consumed by each two pigs after the first of September. It is highly probable, however, that the heaviest two consumed the most feed to make one of live weight after that period, as the full-fed animal constantly eats more, as its weight increases, for each pound of gain. From other experiments tried by us, we found that it cost 30 per cent. more food to produce a pound live weight in November than in July, August or September. These experiments were tried in ordinary pens, not warmed or constructed with a view of keeping up a summer temperature, which might profitably be done for winter feeding. But as few farmers are prepared to keep their pig pens of an even temperature at all seasons of the year, economy requires them to feed when the greatest amount of pork can be made from a given amount of feed. The principle illustrated in the above experiment is most important. During the warm weather two and one-half pounds of extra food produced one pound live weight. This would be a most extraordinary result if applied to all the food taken by the pigs, but it must be remembered that they had all the good grass they could eat, and that this food supplied the waste of the system, the animal heat, and kept the pig growing moderately, and this extra food was used solely to lay on flesh.

Here is the secret of high feeding. The extra food digested all goes to profit, whereas the food that supplies animal waste produces no gain in flesh, and if no more is fed than to supply waste in the young animal, the food is all thrown away."

Save the Best Lambs.

If a man would have success in any calling he must take care of details. No business will run itself. The farmer who expects to raise good stock without great watchfulness and attention as to little matters, will be disappointed. He might as well expect to raise good corn or potatoes without planting good seed. Save the best lambs, just as you save the best pigs, calves and colts. "Those who raise early lambs," the *Wool-Grower* says, "often find it quite profitable to turn them off in autumn. There are some very good arguments in favor of this practice. If turned off at this time comparatively little expense has been incurred, so that the greater portion of the price received will be clear profit. The price fixed upon them usually allows something for the wool. The expense of wintering will more than equal the gain during that period."

"There is more clear profit in selling a lamb for \$3 in autumn than in selling for \$4 in the spring after wintering over. The item of risk must always be considered in carrying over winter. There is risk of low prices, dull market, and loss by severe winter, disease and death.

"As these lambs are largely turned off in very early autumn, if not late summer, it offers a source of income to the farmer at a time when he is greatly in need of a little ready cash to pay the expenses incurred in harvesting his crops.

"On the other hand, if the farmer gets in the way of realizing upon his lambs at this early day, he is often tempted to sell more than for the good of his flock he should; or what is also too frequently done—allow the purchaser to select his finest lambs in consideration, perhaps, of paying a little extra price.

"The sheep-raiser is pretty apt to yield to such temptations when pressed for ready means. The flock that is culled in this way soon deteriorates. To keep the flock well up in quality, or to make a gain in that direction the best lambs must be kept on the farm. The butcher must not have the pick of the flocks.

"The best ewe lambs especially must be reserved to take the places of the older ones that should yearly be removed from the flock. If wethers are to be kept over for fattening it should by all means be the best ones, for that is where the profit comes in."

If swine are to be kept on the farm, the best profits will be found in the finest breeds that run into matured meat the first year.

See that your shoer fits the shoe to the foot, and not the foot to the shoe. It is the owner's own fault if blacksmiths are allowed to ruin their horses' feet.

If farmers in any agricultural community set their faces against the numerous neighborhood squabbles that get into the courts, they may lessen taxes materially, besides insuring easy service for judges and juries.

When you feel that you are dangerously sick, you will send for an educated physician of acknowledged skill, without considering the cost. *You wish to get well.* Have you malaria in your system, and do you wish to get rid of it? Dr. Shallenberger's Antidote is the remedy. The Doctor is a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, thirty years in practice. The medicine will cost you one dollar, but it will cure you, and is safe in any dose. Sold by druggists.

Marketing Wool.

Kansas Farmer:

I have been engaged in keeping sheep in this county for the past sixteen years. I came here with 375 Missouri sheep and increased them up so I generally winter from 1,300 to 1,500. I have generally had good success with sheep with a few bad losses, and to guard my brother sheepmen from the same I write these lines. I sent my wool to Philadelphia market for several years; it netted me from 28 to 35 cents per pound, unwashed. That was what I called good times for the sheepmen. After having one bad sale in Philadelphia, I sent to Walter Brown, of Boston. He always graded my wool and always sold for the full market price of Boston. But the objection I had with the Boston market was, they sold on two months time; I had to wait for my money two months or pay interest on advances. Last year my wool was in rather bad condition, some few fleeces being coted, and some not as strong as it should be on account of the sheep not wintering well; so I sold it to a buyer at home at 17½ cents per pound. This year my wool was a good strong growth, free from burs or tags. The pulled wool and tags and black wool I sacked separately. Knowing that I had a good lot of wool that would bring a good price in any market, and receiving circulars and seeing their advertisement in the KANSAS FARMER of Hagey & Wilhelm, that they carefully graded and set their price on wool and sold it for what it was worth, I concluded to send my wool to them with instructions to hold and sell at 22 cents per pound, knowing that it would grade about three-fourths light fine, one-eighth dark fine, one-eighth medium and fine medium. It graded from the same sheep in that proportion in 1885, and the wool is in the same condition as then. Before they received the wool they sent me a letter requesting me to have them sell the wool on arrival, which I did, but told them not to sell at a low price. The result was, they sent me the returns on arrival of the wool—14 cents and 4 mills per pound, and stated to me that they sold the wool at 16 cents per pound all around, without grading and opening the sacks. Instead of getting 22 cents per pound, the quotation in their circular, I got the price of buck wool for 9,020 pounds of good wool. Such a price is enough to give any man the blues; but I can stand one such loss, and I hope that other wool-growers have not fared so badly. When I received the returns I sent a card stating that I had not received within \$400 of what my wool was worth, and if they were honest men to send me the man's name and post office address that bought the wool. They answered by saying that they could not control the market. They did not dare to let me know what became of the wool or who they had turned it over to. Now let us hear through the FARMER what returns other wool-growers have got from the same parties.

GEORGE R. MANN.

Penfield, Osage Co., Kas.

P. S.—In answer to the inquiry about oat grass, I will say I have a small field of oat grass. It stands the winter well. I never have seen chinch bugs in it. I had corn adjoining it that was full of bugs. It is the earliest grass to come up in the spring that I ever saw, but not equal to orchard grass to grow after the hay crop is cut; does not grow in dry weather so well.

G. R. M.

The World One Market.

One of the most momentous and what may be called humanitarian results of the recent great extension and cheapening of the world's railway system and service is, that there is now no longer any occasion for the people of any country indulging in either excessive hopes or fears as to the results of any particular harvest; inasmuch as the failure of crops in any one country is no longer, as it was, no later than twenty years ago, identical with high prices of grain; the prices of cereals being at present regulated, not within any particular country, but by the combined production and consumption of all countries made mutually accessible by railroads and steamships. Hence it is that, since 1870, years of locally bad crops in Europe have generally witnessed considerably lower prices than years when the local crops were good, and there was a local surplus for export.

In short, one marked effect of the present railroad and steamship system of transpor-

tation has been to compel a uniformity of prices for all commodities that are essential to life, and to put an end forever to what, less than half a century ago, was a constant feature of commerce, namely, the existence of local markets, with widely divergent prices for such commodities. How much of misery and starvation a locally deficient harvest entailed under the old system upon the poorer classes, through the absence of opportunity of supplying the deficiency through importations, is shown by the circumstance that in the English debate upon the corn laws, about the year 1840, it was estimated, upon data furnished by Mr. Tooke, in his "History of Prices," that a deficiency of one-sixth in the English harvest resulted in a rise of at least 100 per cent. in the price of grain; and another estimate by Davenant and King, for the close of the seventeenth century, corroborates this apparently excessive statement.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

Live Stock Insurance.

This subject is attracting a good deal of attention in Kansas, and in view of the fact that up to this time several companies have failed, it will be interesting to read what the New York *Insurance Monitor* says on the subject:

"The difficulty with live stock insurance is just this: Rates high enough to cover the normal losses of honest live stock insurance drive trade away; men can not pay the prices which will justify the company in assuming the natural hazards of the business; and if they let the rates remain low enough to secure trade the losses will break the company; and so, between the devil and the deep sea, it goes down every time. We regret that we have not kept a list of these Western failures; we can call to mind only a very few of them, but we are able to name the Aetna Live Stock, Fire and Tornado company, of Oxford, Michigan, which went down in 1871; the Great Western Horse and Detective company, of Decatur, Illinois, which went up in 1868; the Fire, Lightning and Live Stock company, of Rochester, Minnesota; the Minnesota Mutual Live Stock; the Mankato Live Stock; the Rock River, of Beloit, Wisconsin, and now the Security Live Stock, of Bloomington, Illinois. A score more could be recorded if their names could be recalled. The experiment has been tried a great many times in the United States, but never successfully. Companies with capital and without capital were started years ago, and their lack of success was attributed by the rich and astute New England underwriters to a defective financial basis; so in 1886 the Hartford Live Stock Insurance company was organized in Connecticut with a cash capital of \$500,000, and a management which included some of the wealthiest men in Connecticut. Before it commenced business it sent abroad for information, and for several years studied the systems of live stock insurance then in operation in Great Britain and Germany, and its managers supposed they were thoroughly equipped for a successful campaign in America. But within twenty-two months of its advent it sustained losses amounting to \$410,000, and was obliged to discontinue business. The Aetna Live Stock, of Hartford, was organized in 1867, just as the Hartford was scooping in money by the bushel and was supposed to be making immense profits. There are plenty of Hartford insurance men who can remember the enthusiasm of twenty years ago when the Aetna company opened its books for stock subscriptions, and the crowd was so great that parties came around to the side of the building and rapped on the windows begging for an opportunity to subscribe before all the shares should be taken. The projectors of the company were men noted for the successful and careful management of all institutions with which they had theretofore been connected, and it was believed that the warning of the past would enable the new enterprise not only to steer clear of disaster, but to consummate a splendid financial success. In less than a year and a half it was a total shipwreck. Whether any of the new companies which have been organized in the West will be able to make a better record than their predecessors is a matter which only time can determine; but with the annals of the past in view we are inclined to take precious little stock in live stock insurance companies."

Send for Catalogue of Campbell University.

Gossip About Stock.

J. B. Wales, Jr., Secretary of the Holstein-Friesian Herd Book, writes the KANSAS FARMER that he will sell fifty head of fine Holstein-Friesian cattle at Kansas City, Mo., Monday, September 26, 1887.

In our two-cent column may be found matters of interest to every reader, and we invite every one that has anything for sale, trade or wanted to try this cheap column which was opened especially for subscribers advertising.

J. M. McKee, Wellington, Kas., presents a new advertisement of his celebrated Poland-China swine in this issue of the KANSAS FARMER, to which your attention is directed. His herd is composed of choice blood and nothing but first-class hogs of individual merit and gilt-edge pedigree. Always mention this paper when you write him; also in writing to others do likewise.

Not every owner may have acquired a knowledge of the veterinary art, but the Humphreys' Medicine company have made it possible for all to have the means at hand for relieving any ailment of the horse until a competent veterinary can be summoned, and in many cases the services of a practitioner can be entirely dispensed with. In nothing is the old maxim, "a stitch in time saves nine," more applicable than in relation to the care of that noble animal, the horse. How many valuable animals have been lost through inattention when first attacked by disease that would have yielded to prompt treatment? No stable should be considered complete without a supply of Humphreys' Homeopathic Veterinary Specifics.

In the transfers of thoroughbred stock, American Berkshire Record, are the following: Fancy 13417, S. W. Renfro, Collinsville, Ill., to College of Christian Brothers, St. Louis, Mo. Fancy Duke 17388, M. L. Stewart, Manhattan, Kas., to Frank Fry, Salina, Kas. Artful Belle V 16821, N. H. Gentsy, Sedalla, Mo., to Shay & Grishaber, Windsor, Mo. Perfection II 16829, N. H. Gentry, to L. J. Miller, Bowling Green, Mo. Bell Duke of Monmouth 17393 and Rochester Beauty 17398, N. H. Gentry, to P. W. Brockway, Rochester, Minn. Duke of Bedford 18395, N. H. Gentry, to Geo. C. Stitzel, South Auburn, Neb. Matchless 17396 and Sampson 17399, N. H. Gentry, to J. A. Martin, Marlin, Texas. King of Fairfield 17409 and Queen of Fairfield 17410, C. M. Walter, West Chester, Pa., to Edward Walter, same place.

E. S. Shockey writes from Maple Hill, Kas.: The Early Dawn Hereford Herd was increased this week by three calves—two heifer calves by Beau Monde and one bull calf by Beau Real. Some time ago we sold the 2-year-old show heifer Idalia 24539, got by Senator 21577, by Secretary 6597, by Regulus 3849, a Royal prize winner, by Sir Roger 4076, the sire of Lord Wilton. Her dam is May 24540, got by Lord Rowton 8662, by Sir Isaac 6629, dam Miss Perfection 7516, by The Earl 7518. Idalia was a winner at Topeka, St. Joe, and Lincoln, Neb., in 1886, and she will likely sustain her yearling record. Yesterday we sold a yearling bull, by Beau Monde and out of a Marlow cow, to the same party. The rain last week has freshened grass very much and cattle are happy in consequence.

The Surveyor General of New Mexico thinks a good deal of land in that Territory has been obtained unlawfully, and he wants an additional appropriation of \$15,000 to pay clerks for assisting in the examination of titles.

All who feel interested in obtaining a thorough business, short-hand, academic, music or art education should put themselves in communication with the Lawrence Business College and Academy of English and Classics, Lawrence, Kas., the leading institution of its kind in the West.

Buttermilk is a good drink in any kind of weather, but more especially in warm weather. An exchange suggests: "In warm summer weather many persons feel an irresistible craving for something sour, and often gratify this desire by a free indulgence in pickles, or vegetables made acid with vinegar. This demand for acids indicates a deficiency in the acid secretions of the stomach, and the demand for an artificial supply is a natural one; but vinegar is not the best substitute. Lactic acid is one of the chief

agents that give acidity to the gastric juice of the stomach in health. This is the acid of sour milk, and therefore one of the best summer diet drinks that we can use is buttermilk. It satisfies the craving for acids by giving to the stomach a natural supply, and at the same time furnishing in its cheesy matter a good supply of wholesome nutrition. A man will endure fatigue in hot weather better on buttermilk than on any diet drink he can use."

Book Notices.

AMERICAN MAGAZINE.—The *American Magazine* will hereafter be published under the management of the American Magazine company; a corporation abundantly equipped in finances and business experience. Readers are promised a continuous improvement of the magazine in all its departments, including several new and attractive features. Address *American Magazine*, New York.

PRACTICAL FLORICULTURE.—Peter Henderson's new book is just what is needed by every person who is interested in the growing of shrubs and flowers, and more particularly those who want to learn how to do that kind of work. It would require more space than we can now spare to tell all or one-twentieth part of what this excellent book contains; so we will say, only, that it is quite as good as any of Mr. Henderson's other books, and that is enough to recommend it anywhere among persons who are fond of flowers and house and yard plants. It is published by O. Judd company, 751 Broadway, New York. We do not know the price, but it is worth all that will be asked for it.

A good deal of rain fell in Wisconsin last week, enough to help out crops that were not already too far gone for anything to help.

The commercial department of Campbell University has had very flattering success. Whole expense for five months need not exceed \$75.

A national convention of colored editors was held last week in Louisville, Ky. There was the usual division among the members as to what party they should support.

The music course at Campbell University is second to none in the West. The faculty consists of two professors of piano and organ and one professor of vocal culture and two special professors of band and orchestra music.

The Lawrence Business College and Academy of English and Classics, Lawrence, Kas., is the best in the branch of business and academic education in the West, and takes a front rank among the leading institutions of the country.

Reports of 271 township correspondents to the State Department of Agriculture, covering every county of South Carolina, show that on August 1, cotton, which is two or three weeks earlier than last year, has a full bottom crop, and if the season continues propitious the largest crop ever produced in the State will be made. The corn crop is reported as generally the best grown. The yield will be the largest on record.

The annual catalogue of the Lawrence Business College and Academy of English and Classics is before us. It is a neat pamphlet of about sixty pages, neatly printed and illustrated with several elegant engravings. The Board of Directors is composed of prominent men well known throughout the State and West, among whom we find the names of ex-Chancellor James Marvin, D. D., L. L. D., Judge S. O. Thacher, ex-Gov. Chas. Robinson, etc. Eminent professors are numbered among the faculty, and many new and important features have been added to this justly popular school. The business, academic, music and art departments are sustained by first-class talent and rank second to none in the State. All who contemplate attending some business college, academy, music or art school should address Prof. E. L. McClravy, Lawrence, Kas., for a copy of the College catalogue and review.

Prospective medical students should have a catalogue of the preparatory course in Campbell University.

CREAM OF A WEEK'S NEWS.

The Indiana *Farmer* says that fine crops of wheat and hay have been grown and harvested. The paper admits that the outlook for corn is unfavorable, and cautions farmers against cutting corn at present for fodder. The editor insists that the ear is in good shape, and claims that there is yet a possibility that timely rains may result in saving the larger portion of the growing crop.

A Galveston (Texas) *News* special says: "Alexander Walker, the colored prohibitionist speaker who was set upon and badly beaten and mangled by being thrown against a wire fence soon after he had made a speech at Prairie Grove, near Webberville, in this county, last week, died on Sunday from the effects of his injuries. His friends claim that he was beaten by anti-prohibitionists, but it is not known who his assailants were."

The Minnesota State Commissioner of statistics gives the following figures, showing the increase in the acreage of the principal cereals as compared with 1886, as follows:

	INCREASE.
Wheat.....	96,278
Oats.....	155,037
Barley.....	86,177
Corn.....	73,755
Flax (decreased).....	33,922

Acreage of wheat for the present year is 3,046,143; oats 1,278,427.

A Nashville, Tenn., dispatch dated Aug. 10, says: Willis McDearmon, a school teacher near Gabattia, Jackson county, found his school house guarded by a mob yesterday morning who refused him admission on the ground that he was a prohibitionist. He opened another school house and the anti-prohibitionists have installed a new teacher and the pupils are divided according to the parents' views on the question.

As to the number of teachers attending the late meeting at Chicago, Prof. Canfield, Secretary of the National Educational Association, says the total number of registrations at the national meeting held in Chicago was 9,200. Illinois leads with 1,700 teachers. Iowa next with 1,154, and Kansas situated so far away ranks third with 940. Minnesota, Missouri and Nebraska each about 625; Ohio 565; Wisconsin 485. The rest are scattering.

Things are so dry in parts of Illinois that prairie fires are common even in towns. A prairie fire which broke out about 5 o'clock last Wednesday in the vicinity of Eighty-ninth and Halstead streets, Chicago, resulted three hours later in the total destruction of the Weber wagon works at the corner of Eighty-first and Wallace streets, the Auburn school building just across the street, a two-story flat adjacent to the school building, and four cottages on Wallace street, north of Eighty-first street.

The Ottawa (Canada) *Free Press* has the following: "On inquiry at the fisheries department this afternoon it was ascertained that there are some grounds for the statements telegraphed from Halifax on Sunday, to the effect that some British war vessel will assist in the work of protecting the gulf and Atlantic coast fisheries from American poachers. Some confidential communications in reference to the matter have been recently received here from the admiralty authorities. It is understood that her majesty's war ships will not only act as patrols for the purpose of keeping Americans outside the forbidden waters, but will be prepared to make seizures whenever an opportunity offers."

Hon. Emory Speer, presiding in the United States circuit court for the southern district of Georgia, rendered a decision in the case of Sherwood vs. Roundtree, involving the validity of the contracts of money loans on land made by loan companies. He held that the practice of these companies of withholding from 15 to 20 per cent. of the amount loaned under the device of commissions for negotiating the loan, was usurious, and claimed that where the money lender, who dealt through the loan companies was shown to have carried on a settled business where these exorbitant and extravagant rates and in addition to regular interest were charged, he was presumed to understand the nature of the contracts and that in the absence of satisfactory proof to rebut the presumption, he could recover only the amount received

by the borrower and the legal interest and not the commissions, which are included in the amount stated in the note or mortgage.

A Chicago dispatch of the 10th inst. says: "Never before have the farmers and residents of the suburbs suffered so from the heat and dry weather all around. Vegetables of small gardens have been killed. All along the railroad tracks prairies are on fire and the residents of the suburbs are called out at all hours of the day and night to extinguish the flames when they threaten the houses and barns. At Western Springs a valuable grove of young trees has been completely destroyed and the neighboring dwellings were only saved by the greatest efforts on the part of the villagers. Out on the Rock Island things are even worse. Fences are on fire and the air is constantly filled with the smoke of the burning prairie grass. At South Englewood every one was called out of church Sunday to fight the fire and the people of the village have had to turn out and extinguish the flames several times since. The wells are almost dry and the precious fluid is economized in every possible way. Cattle stand for hours lowing for water. At Washington Heights water has been sold for 5 cents a pail and found a ready market."

Inquiries Answered.

STATE FAIR.—The Kansas State Fair will be held at Topeka, September 19 to 24.

RYE.—Rye may be sowed for pasture at any time when the ground is in good condition.

SORGHUM FOR FEED.—For fall pasture, sorghum seed may be sown at any time when the ground is fit to receive the seed between the first of July and the first of September, remembering that frost injures the plant.

CARP.—To whom shall I apply for German carp; at what time of the year can spawn be furnished and what time is best to stock a pond?

—Address Hon. S. Fee, State Fish Commissioner, Wamego, Kansas, and tell him what you want.

WORMS IN COLTS.—The following is recommended for colts that are troubled with worms: "Tartar emetic, half drachm; powdered ginger, one-fourth drachm, make into a ball with linseed meal. Give one every morning for a week on an empty stomach. Then follow with a purge of aloes."

Boss Churns at lower prices than ever at J. J. Floreth & Co.'s, 713 Kansas avenue, Topeka, Kas.

The fall term of Pond's Business College, Topeka, Kas., reopens September 12. Business and short-hand courses excellent—no better east or west, north or south. Come.

Farm Loans.

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.,
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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.

Short-horn Bulls for Sale.

A number of choice young thoroughbred Short-horn bulls for sale at low prices and on satisfactory terms to purchasers. Address, at once,

J. B. McAFEE,
Topeka, Kas.

Remember the FARMER is now \$1 a year.

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Twelve Concerns Have Used About 700,000 Square Feet.

	Square feet.
Texas State Fair and Dallas Exposition Association.....	410,000
Chas. Schmissor, West Belleville, Ill.....	73,000
St. Louis Press Brick Co., Collinsville, Ill.....	60,000
Adolp'i Coons, Golden, Col.....	30,000
Corsicana (Texas) Fair Association.....	20,000
Belleville (Texas) Fair Association.....	23,000
Belleville Nail Co., Belleville, Ill.....	20,000
Iola Carriage and Omnibus Co., Iola, Kas.....	16,000
Parker-Russell Mining and Manufacturing Co., St. Louis.....	16,000
Tupelo Compress Co., Tupelo, Miss.....	10,000
W. B. Kline & Co., Birmingham, Ala.....	10,000
Saline County Fair Association, Marshall, Mo.....	8,000
French Market, city of St. Louis.....	8,000
Total.....	706,000

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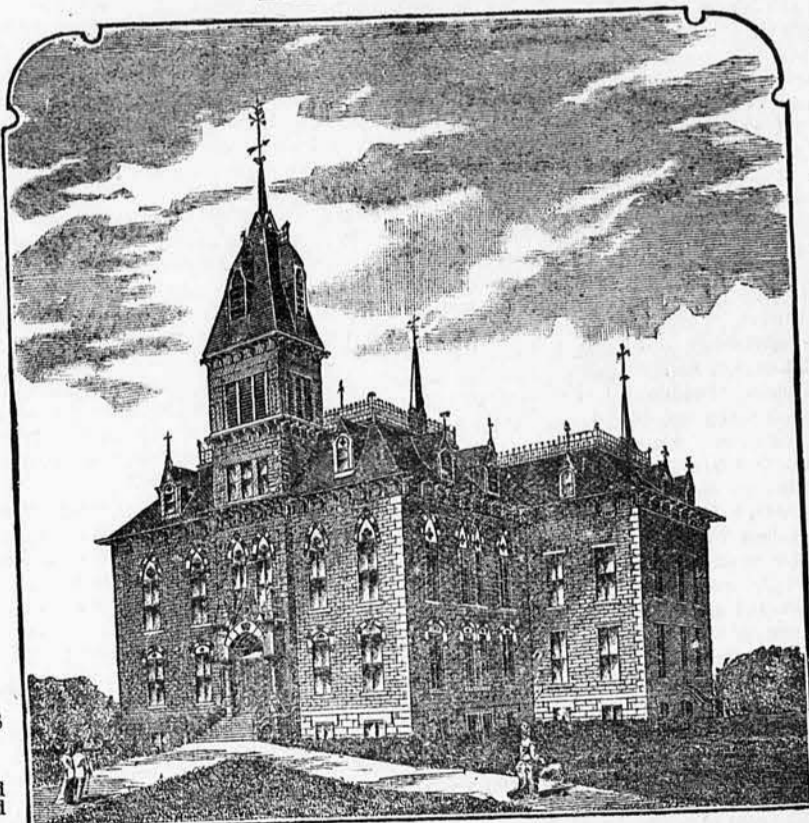
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New classes at opening of every term, and no extra charge for plain or ornamental penmanship, German, vocal music, drawing.

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ADDRESS PRESIDENT J. H. MILLER.

ANTI-DROUTH THEORIES.

The peculiar experiences of this year, have set the people to thinking about methods for relieving agriculture as much as possible of the usually disastrous effects of long continued dry and warm weather. Mr. Thomas E. Hill, in *Hill's National Builder*, says farmers are draining their lands too much. "For a generation," he says, "our farmers have been draining their lands of moisture. They have run their tileing through every slough; they have drawn out the water from every swamp; they have dried up the pond; they have obliterated the beautiful little lake. In doing this they have made such easy and rapid egress for rainfall from the soil, as to endanger the homes and farm lands of all the settlers along the great rivers in the southern regions of our country, already inflicting great distress, loss of life and property equaling in value many millions of dollars—an evil which is growing in magnitude each year."

What follows from this course, in Mr. Hill's opinion, is this:

The result of this wholesale draining of the upper country of water is not only thus disastrous to life and property along the larger streams from frequent overflow, but there is such absolute drainage of moisture from the earth as to produce severe drouth, accompanied by such intense heat and dryness of atmosphere as results in the hurricane, the cyclone and innumerable village, prairie and forest fires. In the early days when the process of evaporation of moisture went forward from the swamps, the ponds and lakes of our Western and Middle States, an extended drouth, with extremely intense heat, was comparatively rare. In those days sunstroke was very uncommon, and the cyclone was comparatively unknown. This year we are in the second season of drouth in various portions of the country, while every year brings its devastation from wind, the result of an excessive dry and frequently disturbed condition of the atmosphere.

As a remedy, Mr. Hill makes at least one good suggestion, that instead of "running the drains through and out of the swamp, they should lead to an excavation of such size as circumstances will permit, which should be made at a depth of three or four feet, where the water can gather and will remain throughout the year." He says no fear need be entertained as to stagnation and filth, because, by putting fish in the ponds they would keep the water clean. He has a pond on his own land—a pond made from "dredging a swamp;" the pond is filled by rainwater, only, yet it is "always perfectly clean and fresh." He concluded his interesting article thus: "Dot the farms of our inland States with ponds and miniature lakes, and while they will afford health, attraction and pleasure in a thousand ways, they will give us back the uniform rainfall we had in the early settlement of the country, when excessive seasons of drouth, forest fires and cyclones were unknown."

The *Western Rural* does not see much force in the theory advanced by Mr. Hill. That journal says: "The fact is, this country suffers more from an excess than from a lack of rainfall. While drouth may injure the crops it is no detriment to the soil. The fertility of the land is lessened by remaining long in a saturated condition. Because the present period is one of extremely dry weather is no reason why we shall not have the extremely wet weather follow it. Excessive rainfall has been a characteristic feature of this country for ages and the distribution of it will not be materially changed by thorough drainage. Let the laying of tiles be continued, not only as a safe guard against drowning, but against drouth as well."

But the *Rural* does not stop by opposing Hill's theory; it has one of its own. "The winds are the prevailing causes of rain or drouth," the *Rural* says. "Regulate the winds and this

continent will not languish as a desert without food for the multitudes which dwell thereon." That is as good as the physician's theory that if he could only get his patient into a fit he could cure him, because he understood how to handle fits. It is suggested by the *Rural* that "the force of the winds can be modified by timber belts. The sweep of the winds over large areas of bare country, hastens evaporation and intensifies the heat of summer. Heavy rainfalls, hail storms and tornadoes are the results, or drouths are intensified by absence of trees."

These are samples of many things which are now being published on this interesting subject. As to these two in particular, there is something very good in both of them. We do not understand Mr. Hill to oppose drainage. He would have the water run into reservoirs, ponds and the like, and saved there instead of being run away. The extent of evaporation from such ponds, however, is not as great as one would suppose. The Iowa *Homestead*, advising the making of ponds for stock water, says: "We have watched some of these ponds during these two dry seasons and are surprised at the small loss they suffer through evaporation, even in the driest and hottest weather. About one-fourth of an inch is the daily loss, so that an eight-foot pond, even after the tile has ceased to flow, will stand nearly an entire year without rainfall."

Anything which will dampen the atmosphere, will be that much relief in a dry time; but half a dozen half-acre ponds on every farm would not amount to much as substitutes for rain, unless they were all dipped out and spread over the farm. A rainfall of one inch is good, but it goes only a little way down into the soil. A two-inch fall is much better, and a three-inch fall is a "good rain." Take a half-acre pond which is three feet deep on the average and spread it out three inches deep over the land. It would cover just six acres of ground. At one inch depth it would cover eighteen acres. Six such ponds, would contain water enough to irrigate thirty-six acres of land with water equal to a rainfall of three inches on that area. But to be useful the water must be poured on the land, not merely passed over it in the form of vapor. The evaporating processes would be moistening agencies, but for practical effects in a dry time, they would be worthless except in a general way, acting upon the air rather than on the earth.

The forest-planting theory is a good one, too; but its worth consists in its effects upon the atmosphere as a help in regulating temperature. The atmosphere in the region of forests is more moist than that of open plains. But forests do not spout up water and spread it over the thirsting fields of the farmers. What people want in a dry time is water. Every farm ought to be supplied with springs, streams, wells, ponds or lakes; also trees, vineyards, orchards and groves. These are very important for purposes which they serve; but they do not prevent drouths. Men ought to do all they can do to secure comfort, health, beauty and contentment, and trees and wells add much in this way; but they do not produce or bring rain. Every year, men, somewhere, are reminded of the value of rainwater and of their absolute helplessness in cases of drouth, unless they are prepared with means and appliances to use stored water, to deflect streams from their courses or to carry spring or well water in large pipes.

How shall we save water that runs away doing no good; how shall we save enough of it to be useful in irrigation;

and how shall we use the water when needed? These are practical questions. From the suggestion above given as to the quantity of water in a half-acre pond three feet deep, any farmer can calculate for himself, whether it would pay him to store water for irrigating purposes. The expense of making a pond is but little in some localities, and it need not be very great anywhere. And if a farmer would set apart ten acres of ground to be subjected to irrigation—or even five acres—he could collect rainwater enough to do it in one or more ponds according to the "lay" of his land, and he could arrange machinery to raise the water, when needed, and send it in one large pipe or trough into the irrigating ditch. Something of this kind will secure water and that is what all of us want when the rains do not come.

Save Feed and Make Feed.

Some farmers do not feel much concern about their own stock of feed because they have enough; but there are others who are not thus fortunate, and they must be up and doing in order to get enough feed together to put them over the fall and winter. Where farmers, as some are doing in Illinois, are now feeding cornstalks of this year's growth to cattle, the outlook is gloomy, indeed. It is not that bad in Kansas, but it is bad enough in some places. Grass is not as long as it is most years, so that those who depend upon the prairies for pasture and hay find this source of supply very much shortened this year. But where heavy rains have recently fallen there will be a vigorous growth of grass yet and fall pasturage will be good, while in low ground and draws grass will yet grow tall enough to yield a great deal of hay. And those farmers who have more of this class of feed than they need for their own use ought to put up all their surplus for the use of others less fortunate. Feed will be in demand.

Corn-fodder should be saved on every farm. In some localities corn will be abundant, but in other places there will be very little; but there is fodder on nearly every farm, more or less. Wherever there is any fodder, it ought to be saved. It will be needed, all of it. There must be some feed made. Sorghum seed, if soaked twenty-four hours in water before sowing, would yet produce a heavy crop of fodder before frost, if the ground is in good condition to hurry the growth along and maintain it. And after cutting, in late fall the second growth will afford excellent pasture. Rye ought to be sown largely for fall and spring pasture. And a little orchard grass seed sown thickly in September on good ground would get a good start for the winter and would put forth grass early in spring.

The Pottawatomie Plum.

Messrs. Howard & Latimer, of Mount Arbor Nurseries, Shenandoah, Iowa, have our thanks for a box of Pottawatomie plums. They are very fine, plump, well-matured and luscious. The taste is particularly pleasing, slightly acid, with no astringent properties. The Pottawatomie is supposed to be a cross between the Chickasaw plum family and the Swedish sloe. Its origin is not definitely known, but the parent tree sprung from a Miner plum orchard brought from the State of Tennessee and planted in Iowa in an early day. Messrs. H. & L. say the tree is "perfectly hardy and is an immense early annual bearer. Twelve years without missing a crop, and generally overloaded. Four-year-old trees have borne a crop of two bushels to the tree. It is a strong and vigorous grower up to its fourth year, and from that on immense

crops of fruit give it a dwarfish habit and pendulous form of growth. The fruit is about the same size of the Wild Goose plum, but the quality is far superior, and while the taste is so peculiarly its own that we cannot definitely describe it, those who eat the fruit for the first time frequently remark 'it has a peach taste. The color is a yellow ground overspread with a bright pink and prominent white dots, which give it a transparent hue. Of all plums it is the plum for canning as it has no acid taste, and when scalded the skin (which is very thin, scarcely more than that of the cherry,) peels off in precisely the same manner as the tomato, leaving the plum whole and complete and a beautiful golden yellow, and as luscious from the can as fresh from the tree. It begins to ripen in our latitude about the 25th of July and the season lasts three to four weeks."

In a note, the senders say "the fruit is one-third less in size this year, owing to the extreme drouth."

The Saloon Must Go.

Hon. Albert Griffin, President of the executive committee of National Anti-Saloon Republicans, addressed a meeting at Topeka last week. Mr. Griffin is sanguine of success in time. He has thoroughly learned that the saloon interest is deeply imbedded in society and that, like slavery, it will require herculean efforts to remove it. The necessity for its removal grows more apparent every day, and this Mr. Griffin understands, also. In every State where the subject has been earnestly and generally discussed—in Kansas, Iowa, Ohio, Georgia, Texas and Tennessee, men have been beaten, men have been murdered on account of their opposition to dramshops. Texas defeated the prohibition amendment a few days ago by a majority too large to publish, notwithstanding many of the most distinguished men of the State actively favored the proposed amendment. United States Senator Reagan and many other leading men of the ruling party faith in Texas openly espoused the cause of temperance; but the saloon interest was too powerful for them. The same influence is felt wherever the subject is agitated. Some day farmers everywhere will see that they are very much interested in the utter suppression of the saloon, and when that time comes, one of the worst afflictions of society will begin to disappear. Every dramshop is a bad men's rendezvous. The worst forms of political debauchery are worked out in liquor saloons. Strong drink has more to do with party villainy than any other one thing. It is the enemy of law, of order, of social, religious and civil discipline; it is the enemy of government and of everything else which is good; it makes liars, thieves, and house-burners; it destroys honor among men and virtue among women; it drowns conscience, overrides character and debauches officials. The saloon must go.

American Berkshire Record.

By courtesy of Phil Thrifton, Secretary of the American Berkshire Association, we have completed our set of the Berkshire Record. On application, Mr. Thrifton forwarded to this office volumes II, IV, VII and VIII. The first of these begins with boars, No. 1449, and ends with sows No. 3522. Vol. 4 begins with No. 2467, boars, and closes with No. 6810, sows. Vol. 6 begins with boars No. 4087, and concludes with sows No. 10000. This volume contains a general index to entries in former volumes. Vol. 7 begins with sows, No. 10001, and ends with No. 12000, sows. Vol. 8 opens with No. 12001, sows, and closes with No. 14000, sows.

Mr. Thrifton will please accept thanks of the FARMER management for courtesies extended in connection with these volumes.

TWO-CENT COLUMN.

"For Sale," "Wanted," and small advertisements for short time, will be charged two cents per word for each insertion.

FOR SALE—Short-horn Bull, 9 months old. Grand-son of the famous show cow Conquest 2d.

FOR SALE—Five hundred bushels of choice Kentucky Blue Grass Seed, in lots to suit purchasers.

WILL SELL OR TRADE—One-half blood Clyde Stallion, Annandale, Jr.; brought from Illinois.

FOR SALE—Two yards Wyandotte Chickens, one yard Partridge Cochins. One cock and five hens each.

THE TURKVILLE P. O. FARM FOR SALE—Cheap, on easy terms. Saline river flows three-fourths mile through north side.

STOLEN.—Black horse, white face, high neck heavy mane but short, long heavy tail, shoes on front feet.

STRAYED OR STOLEN—One blood-bay Mare, 15 hands high, crippled in right hind foot.

WANTED—Man and wife—no children; man to superintend dairy farm and attend to growing stock.

BARTHOLOMEW & CO., Real Estate and Loan Brokers, 189 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kas.

FOR RENT—For cash, a Farm of 800 acres, fourteen miles northeast of Council Grove, Kas.

Pure-bred Poland-Chinas

C. G. SPARKS, Mt. Leonard, Mo. BLACK U. S. at head of herd. About sixty choice pigs, both sexes, for sale.

For Sale or Exchange.

Real Estate in Eastern Iowa, including stock of Drugs and Notions, for WESTERN LAND OR CATTLE, or both.

Sheep--For Sale--Sheep!

Rams, Wethers, Ewes, Lambs. Rams thoroughbred, balance high-grade Merinos.

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We offer our eight-horse-power Baxter Steam Engine and Boiler, now running our printing presses and other machinery.

FOR SALE!

A fine Stock Ranch of 800 acres, all in one body and all fenced and perfectly watered by never-falling spring creeks.

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SCAB! Only SHEEP DIP sold under Positive Guarantee. Never fails. Ten Years of Continuous Success. Nothing Poisonous about it. LADD'S TOBACCO SHEEP DIP

FOR SALE! Four Colonies Italian Bees, at \$5.00 each. Four Trios Prize-winning S. C. B. Leghorns, at \$2.50 per trio.

FOR SALE. Twenty Large Brood Mares. Inquire of JACOB MARTIN, Coffeyville, Kansas.

FOR SALE! Large English Berkshire Hogs Being obliged to change my business, on account of the burning of my hotel, I will sell at Low Prices

All My Brood Stock and Pigs. The old stock is all recorded and the young stock is eligible to record.

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WESTERN KANSAS! Full information regarding the great and rapidly-developing Southwestern Kansas given on application.

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FOR SALE! A fine Stock Ranch of 800 acres, all in one body and all fenced and perfectly watered by never-falling spring creeks.

Image of a pig. J. M. MCKEE, WELLINGTON, KANSAS. My herd is composed of such strains as Black Bes, Give or Take, Tom Corwin, Gold Dust and U. S.

KANSAS IN 1887. A GRAND EXPOSITION Of Her Material Greatness. THE KANSAS STATE FAIR! AT TOPEKA, -:- KANSAS, September 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, 1887.

\$20,000.00! IN PREMIUMS, To be Distributed Under Award of EXPERT JUDGES. \$1,000.00 IN PREMIUMS For Best General Display of FARM PRODUCTS! MADE BY COUNTIES. STATE FAIR GROUNDS, TOPEKA. Includes a map of the fair grounds with various buildings and a speed ring.

THE GREATEST EXHIBITION OF Thoroughbred and Imported Stock Ever Made in the United States, will be at the KANSAS STATE FAIR! TO BE HELD AT Topeka, Kas., Sept. 19 to 24, inclusive, 1887.

PUBLIC SALE OF Thoroughbred Hereford Cattle AT THE NEBRASKA STATE FAIR, SEPT. 15, 1887, COMPRISING Twenty 2-year-old Heifers and Bulls, of the Grove, Fortune and Wilton Families, From the celebrated herd of J. S. HAWES, COLONY, KAS.