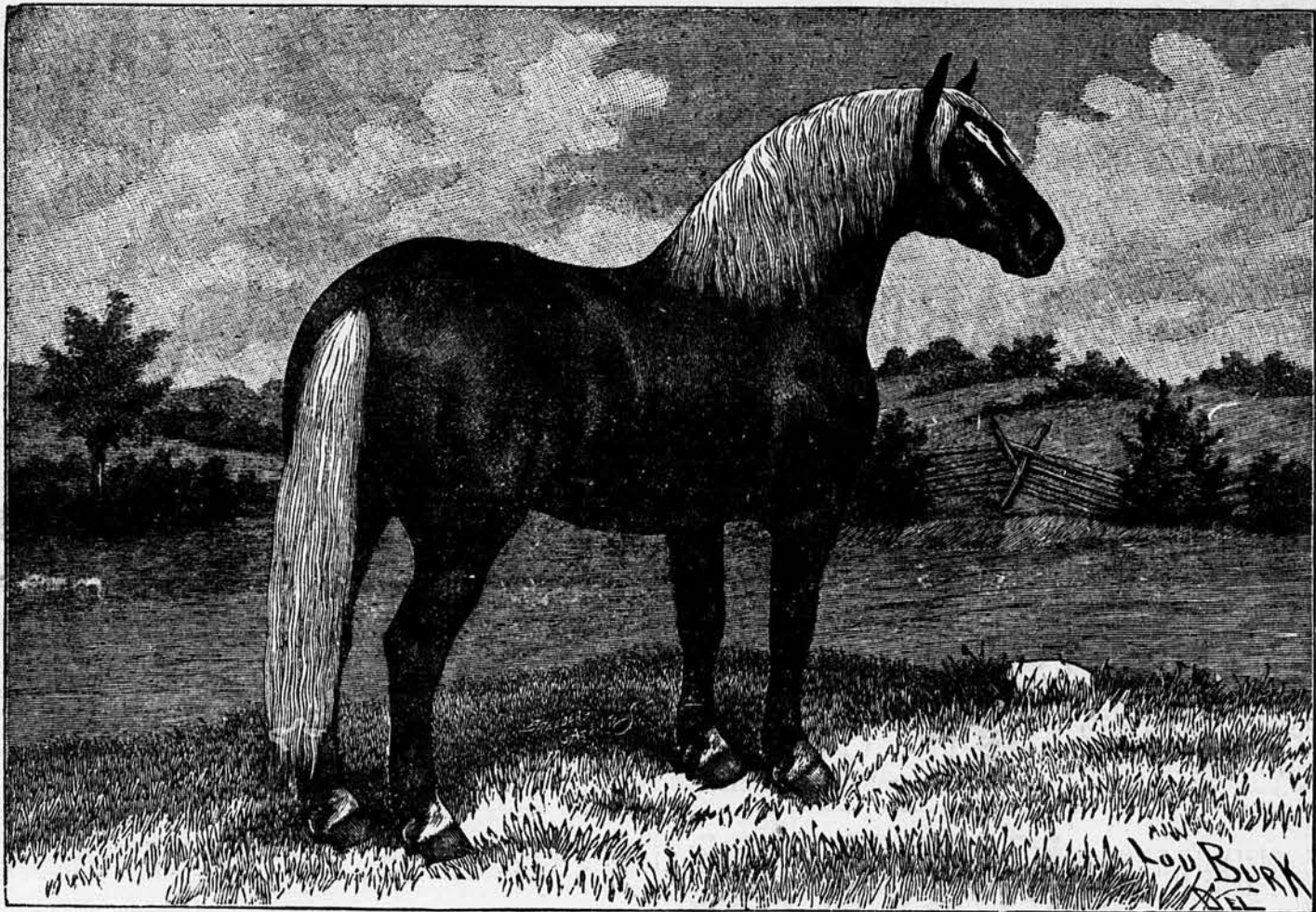


KANSAS FARMER

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(Continued on page 20.)

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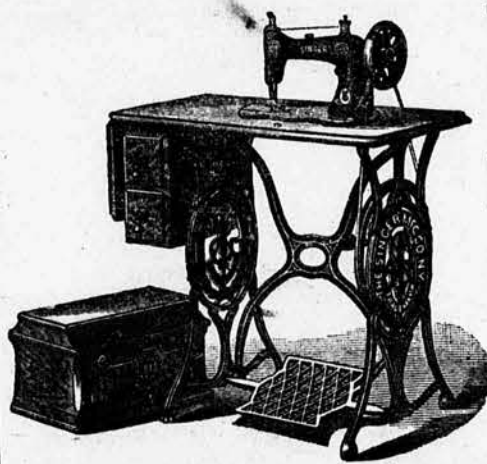
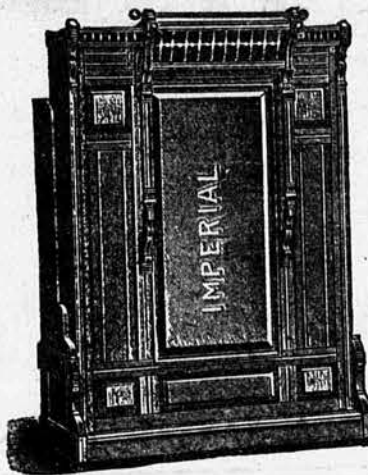
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The Stock Interest.

ABOUT PIG PENS.

Houses are one of the accompaniments and necessities of civilization among men, and with the advancement of human affairs go better methods of taking care of domestic animals. Among these better methods is shelter for stock. Mr. F. D. Curtis, of New York, has thought and written a good deal on this subject, and he believes in well-arranged shelter for all classes of animals. One of his articles on pig pens was published a few weeks ago in the *Country Gentleman*. To get the right kind of a floor upon which to winter hogs has given him more trouble than any other problem about swine. No kind of a tight floor is exactly the thing, and still a tight floor has seemed to be a necessity, in order to save the urine. Most farmers have the floors to their pig-sties so open, that the urine runs through, and soaks into the ground underneath. "This," he says, "is deliberately wasting money. I cannot afford to let such valuable fertilizing material go to waste. The last pig-pen built on the farm had two floors, built on two entirely different plans. One pen was designed as a place to feed large hogs in, and it opened into another with a ground floor, calculated for wintering young pigs in, and to be used as a butchering place. The floor of the first pen mentioned is laid with costly pine plank, matched so as to be perfectly water-tight. A narrow trap door was left at the lower edge of the pen, to be opened when necessary to let the manure out on the outside. Sufficient slant was given to the floor to cause the urine to flow to the lower side, and thus arranged, it was supposed the hogs would have a dry and comfortable pen and sleeping place. Not so. The urine is constantly dammed up by the excrement and does not flow off, and the manure freezes at the lower end and shuts off the exit. The pen must be cleared twice a day, to be endurable; and the bedding must be removed every day, or the pigs will have to sleep in filth. The other floor, or rather, the bottom of the other pen, was filled in with small stones, on which gravel was spread, with the hope of always having a dry and suitable floor for the pigs. It does have the advantage of being better suited to the healthfulness of the pigs, as they do not get stiff and sore in the joints as soon as they do on a plank floor, but it will get mussy and wet, and is not a good place on which to confine pigs. I have in my mind an ideal pig-pen. It should be high enough to have a basement under it, and this should be so high that a man could work under the floor when necessary, and pitch the manure out into a wagon. This manure pit, or basement, should be enclosed on all sides, so as to keep out the cold. Here the manure could all be saved, both liquid and solid. The floor overhead should be made with holes in it, frequent enough to let all of the urine through as soon as it was voided. There should also be a narrow trap at the lower side to let the manure through. "A pen made in this form could be kept clean and dry enough for hogs to sleep in. In the main hog-house, where all of the floors are tight, two pens are used for each lot of hogs—one as a feeding pen, and one for a sleeping room. Too much pig-house is a mistake. It is an expense not needed in the summer, as the field is the place for the hogs. Here no manure is wasted, and the hogs can get the most comfort. My breeding sows, old and young, are now divided off into small "bunches," and are still in the fields. I intend to keep them

there until winter fairly sets in. There is an idea in this system which to me is important.

"For some time I have been trying to build up a breed of hogs with more lean meat than fat. So intent has been my purpose in this direction, that corn as hog feed has been almost wholly discarded, and pens have fallen into disuse. There must be a warm and dry sleeping place, and a place where the hogs can get out of the cold wind—a place for shelter. These accommodations are all that is required, and they do not necessarily carry with them close confinement. Last winter, and the winter before, all of the young sows were actually wintered in a field near the house. A sty twenty feet long and eight feet wide furnished the shelter. The bed was at the farthest end, the entrance being a small door at the south end. The sows were never more healthy. They had no coughs, were not in the least lame, grew finely all winter, and averaged eight and one-half pigs each. Every one bred, and not one lost a pig, except it was lain upon. They were strong in every part, and must have developed muscle in excess of fat. It is a bad plan to put old hogs and young ones together. The young ones get robbed and are liable to get injured. The hogs should be divided into lots of not more than ten, and five is better; and these should be as nearly of an age and size as can be. If a pig happens to be an underling, and the others all fight it, it should be taken away. It is wicked to keep any animal thus persecuted in the company of others. None of them will do as well, for the master ones are liable to hurt themselves by slipping in their efforts to injure the weaklings. The example also is bad. A quiet contentment is the best condition for our animals. When one particular animal is active in biting or trying to injure the rest, it is best to take that one out of the flock at once, as it will keep all the others restive, frightened and poor.

"A pig-sty can scarcely be too warm, if it is well ventilated and dry. A hot, damp and reeking sty or pen is very unhealthy for hogs. They should never come from the nest steaming, or they will surely get colds and perhaps die. Sleeping under straw stacks is an unhealthy place, or piled up on top of each other; for when this is the case, those underneath get too hot and are liable to get smothered. The ground is the best floor, provided it is dry. The sty should have no floor, but be constructed so that the manure can be easily taken out. Dryness can be insured by putting a ditch around the sty and raising the bottom of the bed a foot or more above the level of the ground around. A pig-pen should always be long, with the feeding place in one end and the bed in another. This arrangement will help to keep both ends clean. Hogs are generally more neglected than any other animals, whereas they require to be carefully handled. Hogs are more susceptible to colds and inflammatory diseases than many suspect. They cannot relieve themselves of surplus heat by evaporation or sweating, like some animals; and when made hot in their nests the surface cools too rapidly in winter, and the blood being driven in, will cause internal inflammation. These extremes should be avoided."

When a hog opens its mouth to get a greater supply of air, it must be let alone, or it will die from excessive heat internally. It must be remembered that a few degrees of extra heating will be liable to melt the fatty coverings to its internal organs; hence no time should be lost in making it cooler, when it is found suffering from excessive heat.

Shelter for Farm Animals.

It is quite as important to provide shelter for animals as it is to provide houses for men, if we would preserve good health in either case. It is true, probably, that few Western farmers ever tested the efficacy of protection of stock against cold and stormy weather. Experiments have shown, many times, that the food required to maintain animal heat in cold weather, when the stock has no shelter, is fully equal to what is required to prevent the animals from falling away in flesh. Aside from all considerations of humanity it pays to provide shelter for one's beasts.

It is not always convenient or even possible for many farmers to build barns. This is true particularly as to settlers on wild lands and to farmers during the first few years of making a farm. Fortunately it is not necessary to build barns on new farms. Every new prairie farm has abundance of wild grass out of which may be made as good shelter for stock as any cattle ever had. It is possible to build a shed for a few head of cattle with hay only, using nothing else. Stacks may be built six feet apart and run over in an arch ten feet above ground and topped out the same as a solid stack. This would afford not only good protection against storms and rain, but also a feeding place. It is not the best plan, however, and it ought not to be adopted at all, if one is able to get a few sticks or wire to make sides and top secure against accidents, as the falling in of the top after holes have been eaten into the sides. It is better to construct a rough, but strong frame-work, to hold up the roof. Build a rick of hay on the east and on the west side of the ground to be enclosed as a shelter, then close the north opening with another rick; then throw poles, scantling, or wires across for joists, and cover with long hay. This makes a good shed, and it may be made as long as required to shelter any number of cattle.

Pine scantling, two by four inches, make a good frame work, setting the posts two feet apart and connecting them on top by other pieces set on them on edge. A fencing board tacked on the sides will hold the parts in position until the frame is completed. Throw corn-fodder across the joists so as to prevent the hay from falling through. It is better to make the frame first and then build hay around and over it.

A neat and very good shed can be made by fastening wires about a foot apart around a frame work like the above described, and covering the walls with thatch made of rye straw or long coarse grass dried. Thatch is simply small bundles of grass bound at one end and flattened by dividing the bundle into equal parts and turning half round in opposite directions, crossing the band between them. They are tied on the wire by little bands made of their own material or by wire or twine, as may be desired, and they are lapped like shingles or clapboards.

It matters little what plan is adopted. The great thing is to have shelter of some kind.

Reforms in the Herd Book.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—I am pleased to notice the agitation going on, principally among leading Short-horn breeders as to Short-horns, but as much needed with other breeds, concerning some means by which inferior cattle will be excluded from record or recorded in a way that will give the beginner an idea of the cattle he is going to breed, other than the name of the breed and the plausible talk of the man who is selling \$50 cattle by way of speculation "just as good" as those sold by the

man who is spending his lifetime in the proper study of the greatest interest of this country, spending his money with a view of producing the best of the breed, and hoping that some day his efforts will be sufficiently appreciated to afford him a reward for his labors. There are Short-horns and Short-horns, as well as Herefords and Herefords, and we all know that many a calf of either breed should find its way through the feed lot to the butcher instead of into the breeding pen.

E. S. SHOCKEY.

Maple Hill, Kas.

General Classification of Hides.

Green hides—Hides just as they come from the animal, never having been salted.

Part-cured hides—Hides that have been salted, but not long enough to be thoroughly cured.

Green-cured hides—Hides that have been salted long enough to be thoroughly cured.

Deacon skins—All calf skins under 8 lbs. shall be classed as deacons.

Dry flint hides—Are thoroughly dry hides that have not been salted.

Dry salted hides—Are thoroughly dry hides, having been salted while green.

Grubby hides—Hides having one or more grubs.

Branded hides—Classed as damaged. Branded hides (damaged) 1 cent off damaged price. Damaged and branded bulls, 1 cent off prime bulls.

Tainted, grubby, No. 1 branded, badly scarred, scored, and murrain hides, also all light hides 25 lbs. and under, shall be classed as damaged, unless they be very badly damaged, when they shall be classed as glue stock. In dry hides, moth-eaten, sunburnt, or weather-beaten, shall also be classed as damaged.

All green-cured hides of 60 lbs. and over shall be called heavy, and all green-cured hides under 60 lbs. shall be called light hides. All dry hides 25 lbs. and over shall be called heavy, and all dry hides under 25 lbs. shall be called light hides.

All hides shall be free from salt, dirt, meat, dung, horns, tail, bones, and sinews; and before being weighed all such substances shall be removed, or a proper deduction made from the weight; and when the head hangs to the hide by a narrow strip, it shall be cut off; also when the head is not split in the center, it shall be made straight before being weighed.

Stock Notes.

The colt should have the means of exercise in open air, each day, and its stall or stable should have a dry dirt floor, with good bedding. Plank floors are the fruitful cause of bad feet.

Drive moderately for the first few miles, until your horse gets settled, then you can go faster without injury. Many a fine horse has been spoiled by feeding heavily, harnessing at once, and then putting him down to his speed from the start.

It is but fair that sheep-raising should pay those who engage in it, says the *Husbandman*. As a protective measure the United States should grow their own wool of every grade, except carpet wool, which is the lowest-priced of all wools.

Do not value a hog because it does not eat much. A good hog has an excellent appetite always, and eating a large quantity of food means rapid growth. Increase of weight can not be secured except by the use of plenty of food, or "raw material" with which to manufacture the product desired.

Leicester and Lincoln are better adapted to the low and rich land between the sea and 500 miles inland, and the heavy active Cotswolds and Oxford Downs will find a home in every essential, and where a trespass either above or below would do no harm. But such are the marked effects of latitude and less shelter with change of vegetation that Leicesters and Lincolns could not possibly give the same profits on the uplands as on the low lands.

In the Dairy.

Failing to Make Profitable.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—There are two good and sufficient reasons why many dairy herds fail to pay. One is the breed or quality of the cows; the other is in their management, and in a majority of cases it is as much the one as the other, for no matter how good the breed is, if we fail to manage properly we will certainly fail to secure the most profitable results. And the best management with a poor herd will fall short of what might be secured with a better grade of cows. It has been reasonably well demonstrated that it costs no more, or at least very little more, to keep a good cow in a good thrifty condition, than it does a poor one, while very often it costs less. We may be able to keep one at a somewhat less expense than the other, if we let them look out for themselves, because generally the scrub stock will stand this kind of management better than the other grades. The best results, both as regards the quantity and the quality of milk, can only be secured by having first a good breed and then giving them good care in feeding, sheltering and watering. A failure in either point will have an effect upon the results. There are fully as many that fall into the error of thinking that after they have secured a good breed they have done all that is necessary, as there are of those who can see no profit in paying a good price for the best quality of stock; while it is wholly due to their own mismanagement that better results are not secured.

As a rule, upon an equal footing, the better stock will prove the best investment, but the largest per cent. of profit with the best stock can only be secured by giving the best care; and usually in proportion as we give this we can gauge our profits. The extra feed and care necessary to give what we might consider good management, and letting them look out for themselves, considering the feed saved, is not very great, especially if we attempt to keep them in anything like a thrifty condition; while the way they are cared for, especially during the winter, will make a very considerable difference in the results secured. And it is by reason of the failure to give this care that the cows kept on many farms do not prove as profitable as they should. And yet how many of us really can afford to keep cows when at best only a small margin of profit can be realized?

In farming, as in other branches, it is no small item to secure the largest per cent. of profit, and in order to do this we must first give the essentials, whether we are raising and feeding hogs, horses, cattle or sheep; and with cows kept for dairying purposes it is no small item to properly manage so that the very best results can be secured. If this fault is in the breed, make a change; but before this is done look over the ground carefully and see if the proper care is taken to secure the best results with what we have, remembering that in many respects the feed and care are fully as important as the breed, and that the best or most profitable results are secured by having a good breed and then giving them careful management.

N. J. SHEPHERD.

Eldon, Miller Co., Mo.

Device for Warming Water.

In fact, it is simply a water tank, twelve feet in diameter, placed just outside the staging of a windmill, which (the staging) is boarded up about twelve feet. An opening thirteen inches in diameter is made through the side of the tank into the windmill house, and

through this opening a cylinder ten feet long by twelve inches in diameter, made of No. 20 galvanized iron, is placed in the tank one or two inches from the bottom. From the further end of the cylinder a smoke pipe runs up through the cover of the tank high enough to give sufficient draught to the fire. The cylinder has a flange two inches wide at opening, thus securing a space for water of one inch between the iron and the woodwork of the tank. The only precaution necessary in an apparatus of this kind, is to be sure that the cylinder is always surrounded by water when the fire is lighted or burning, otherwise a light cylinder of this kind would burn out in a very short time. In a heater of this kind one cord of wood will be sufficient to heat the water for thirty or forty head of cattle all winter.

It is not desirable to maintain the heat in the tank all the time; the effect of that would be to render the water unfit for use in a very short time. I hope no farmer who tries the experiment of heating water for his cattle will attempt this through a mistaken notion of economy.

In the coldest weather we have never found it necessary to keep the fire burning longer than from two to four hours out of the twenty-four to supply forty head of cattle with all the water they would drink, at a temperature of from 60 to 70 degrees. We used a temperature of from 60 to 70 degrees, but I am fully impressed with the idea that under certain circumstances the best results in dairying will be obtained with a much higher temperature, say from 80 to 90 degrees.—*Farmer's Review.*

Garget.

We have been on the hunt for facts for several years concerning garget in cows. So far as we have gone in our investigations we find that cows that give milk rich in butter fat, are most liable to this affection. In cows giving a large flow of average grade or poor milk we find a much less per cent. with injured quarters. We notice certain peculiarities in the construction of the udder. Cows that incline to garget, as a rule are apt to have a more fleshy udder than those that yield a large flow of medium or fair milk. It has been noticed that Holsteins, for instance, are not near as apt to be troubled with garget as Jerseys. The Holstein cow gives a large flow of medium milk requiring from twenty-five to thirty pounds and upward to make a pound of butter. Their udders usually milk down to a loose flabby shape. From an external view, at least, the udder of the Holstein cow does not appear to contain as elaborate a cellular construction as that of the Jersey. At least their udders are larger, and not as compact as is the Jersey.

Besides she has not as highly organized a nervous system as the Jersey. In this particular she more resembles the Short-horn. It will be noticed, however, that whenever a Holstein cow shows a strong butter tendency she is much more sensitive and susceptible to nervous excitement and disturbing conditions than the average of the breed, and this is true of all good butter cows in all breeds. In the study of this question we must never forget that the udder or mammary gland is wonderfully connected with the uterus through the sympathetic plexus, a net-work of nerves that form a complete and immediate connection with the spine and thence to the brain. Any disturbance then of the nervous system is sure to be felt in the udder.

The butter temperament is essentially a highly organized nervous temperament. The cow could not be a large butter producer without such an organ-

ization any more than a race-horse could win a race unless he was of a highly organized nervous temperament. By this we do not necessarily mean an excitable or vicious nature, but rather a temperament that can easily be made excitable or vicious by ignorant or abusive treatment. Such facts as we have collected induce us strongly to the belief that all cows of decided butter temperament need exceptional care.

Garget, milk fever and parturient apoplexy are diseases which powerfully affect the nervous system and may be said to be induced primarily by some derangement of the nervous equilibrium. We can see from this that a rich butter cow in her daily work is taxing severely the nervous system, and we must exercise wise forethought and care for the sake of our own profit in guarding her against undue exposure, especially to cold and wet, or unkind or exciting treatment. In selecting a cow we will do well to avoid those with too plump or fleshy udders. A deep, wide and thin quarter to the udder is less liable to attacks of garget, so far as our own observation goes. But any cow is very much less liable to this disease that has a kind, intelligent, sympathetic owner; one who has a keen eye to the comfort of a mother.—*Hoard's Dairyman.*

Dairy Notes.

Cattle and men in the vicinity of salt water, require very little if any salt added to their food—less than those living on high lands remote from saline vapors.

The good done and the increased interest in the careful handling of the dairy cow and her products, will more than compensate for the outlay of time and money. One of the great requirements in the handling of dairy cattle to-day, is proof of actual performance at the pail and churn.

A good cow should yield 365 pounds of butter a year, allowing for the time she is dried off. This yield is seldom secured from each animal in a dairy herd, but it is not impossible, as such yield has been greatly exceeded. By using the butter-producing breeds, and feeding for the highest possible production, the profits from a herd may be doubled.

In drying off cows in the fall or early winter, when the milk is rich and thick, and the cows, perhaps, a little feverish from change of feed and exposure to changes of the weather, there is more need of watchfulness than at some other seasons of the year, when milk is poorer and thinner and more easily absorbed away. On no account should milk be left so long in the bag as to become thick. The best way to dry off cows is milk daily, or at regular periods, leaving back a part of the milk at each milking.

Building up dairies is far more scientific work than building beehives, as in the dairy each animal is only the mold from which future generations are to be taken, while with the beef animal, after raising him to perfection he can only be sent to the block to determine what his real value is. The dairy, therefore, should enlist the good work of all those who have a love for animal-breeding, and rearing and studying out lines of crosses and happy "nicks." There can be no more interesting nor profitable occupation when well and intelligently followed.

The following is an English recipe and said to be a good one: Take a quart of cream, or if not desired very rich, add one pint of new milk; warm it in hot water until it is about the heat of milk from the cow, add a tablespoonful of rennet, let it stand until thick, then break it slightly with a spoon, and place it in a frame eight inches square, and four inches deep, in which previously put a fine canvas cloth, press it slightly with a weight, let it stand twelve hours, then put a finer cloth in the frame—a little powdered salt should be put over the cloth; it will be fit for use in a day or two.

In developing heifers for milch cows, the object should be to develop the muscular system and the frame, and avoid as far as possible, the tendency to lay on fat. If the pasture is sufficient to keep them growing

thriftily, that is all that is required, but if the pasture is scant, give them three pounds of wheat bran, coarse or fine, in two feeds, dry, but give no corn meal. When taken from pasture, clover hay, bran and ground oats will be the best food to develop the calf they carry, and still keep up their growth. If any one inclines to grow fat, put her on clover hay alone, or hay and one pound of bran. Heifers, inheriting the capacity to secrete milk, will develop the udder with cooling food. Clover hay and bran is a cooling, muscle-growing, frame-building, non-fattening ration, especially when given in moderate quantity.

One Fact—

Is worth a column of rhetoric, said an American statesman. It is a fact, established by the testimony of thousands of people, that Hood's Sarsaparilla does cure scrofula, salt rheum, and other diseases or affections arising from impure state or low condition of the blood. It also overcomes that tired feeling, creates a good appetite, and gives strength to every part of the system. Try it.

Western farmers usually have more corn than other grain, and therefore often keep their horses almost wholly upon corn, sometimes in the ear. This will keep horses apparently in good condition—the body plump—but it is not a proper diet for a work horse, as it is too fattening, not giving sufficient nourishment to the muscular system.

The Normal Department of Campbell University, Holton, Kas., admits students any week of the year. Young people who want to teach next year can be well prepared by July 26 by entering this winter.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low-test, short-weight alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall street, New York.

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KANSAS FARMER.

ESTABLISHED IN 1883.

Published Every Thursday, by the KANSAS FARMER COMPANY.

OFFICE: 821 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kas. S. J. CRAWFORD, PRESIDENT. J. B. MCALPHEE, GENERAL AGENT. H. A. HEATH, BUSINESS MANAGER. W. A. PEFFER, MANAGING EDITOR.

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An extra copy for one year for a Club of six, at \$1.00 each. Address KANSAS FARMER CO., Topeka, Kansas.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Reading notices 25 cents per line. Business cards or miscellaneous advertisements will be received from reliable advertisers at the rate of \$5.00 per line for one year.

Table with 5 columns: One inch, Two inches, Quarter column, Half column, One column. Rows include 1 week, 1 month, 2 months, 3 months, 6 months, 1 year.

All advertising intended for the current week should reach this office no later than Monday. Objectionable advertisements or orders from unreliable advertisers, when such is known to be the case, will not be accepted at any price.

The season thus far has been well tempered for out-door labor.

The national prohibition convention is called to meet at Indianapolis, June 6, next.

The American Poultry Association will meet at Indianapolis January 18 to 25 next.

The temperature fell Monday of this week in Kansas and a good deal of snow fell in some localities.

The KANSAS FARMER one year to a friend would be a useful Christmas gift, and it would cost only a dollar.

Snow was reported on the 17th in Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York. At Reading, Pa., it was eighteen inches deep and the falling had not ceased.

The unusually small amount of editorial matter in the paper this week is accounted for by the presence of so much other original matter on interesting topics.

Congress will adjourn to-day to meet again after the holidays. Nothing beyond the introduction of some important bills and resolutions in the Senate, has been done, the House committees not having been announced yet.

In cases where subscribers, who have renewed their subscription for another year, receive two copies of the paper a few weeks, they can hand one of the copies to some erring brother who does not take the paper. Give it to him as a sample.

The State central committee of the prohibition party of Kansas, by reason of requests from many of its members in the organization, has decided to hold a conference of its friends and active laborers, in Music hall, Topeka, on the 27th and 28th of December, 1887, commencing at 3 o'clock p. m., of Tuesday, the 27th. Ex-Governor St. John is expected to be present and speak.

A CHRISTMAS GREETING.

The KANSAS FARMER wishes all possible good to every one of its thousands of readers. It would have them all enjoy the Christmas season which is upon us, every one according to his best desires. There is something about Christmas that makes better men and women of us. It lifts us out of the ruts and routine of every-day life into an atmosphere where better sentiment prevails. In anticipation of Christmas we study our fellow mortals as we never did before; we consider their peculiarities and wonder how we can, within the range of our own powers, afford them the most happiness, and then, in thousands and thousands of instances, we select some simple thing, cover it all over with good will, and place it where, when it is discovered and received by him or her for whom it is intended, it is welcomed as a messenger bearing good tidings. God blesses a gift like that. It stirs up two souls to their depths, and often makes whole families happy.

We thank Thee, O, Father, for the Christmas time. May its holy influences widen and grow to the end, bearing fruit and scattering blessings all along the years, and may we, all of us avail ourselves of every opportunity to improve our lives by contributing, according to the measure of our ability, to the happiness of our fellow men.

MUTUAL ADVANTAGES.

Only one more week will pass before we begin to make up the first issue of the KANSAS FARMER for the new year, 1888. It is important to both sides in pecuniary interest that every old subscriber to the paper renew promptly; advantages lie on both sides, to the publishers and to the readers. We want to impress this fact on all persons who read the paper. There is a good deal more than book farming in a journal like this, just as there is a good deal more to farming than plowing and harrowing and building fences. The time is at hand when farmers must inform themselves on matters outside of and beyond the mere routine and drudgery of the farm. They need the help of strong newspapers as they need the friendship of neighbors. They need more and more every year a just influence in public counsels and legislation, and this they cannot have without the aid of journals strong enough to have themselves felt in courts and legislative halls. The KANSAS FARMER has reached a plane where persons in places of distinction and power come to examine its columns and learn what it is proposing, or urging or condemning.

Let us work together for our mutual good. Let every subscriber interest himself in increasing the circulation and influence of the paper. That will do the publishers good personally, and at the same time add to their strength and force in the line of their work which has advantages for both sides, pecuniarily and morally. Renewals are coming in fast. Let there be no delay. It is important that we know you are with us in the beginning of the year.

Five Dollars in Seeds.

Mr. James W. Bouk, Greenwood, Neb., offers to send five dollars worth of seeds advertised in his catalogue to the person who sends in the largest number of subscribers to the KANSAS FARMER between the present time and the first

day of March, 1-88. Mr. Bouk raises seed himself—makes a business of it, so that they may be relied upon. The list contains vegetable and grains seed—cabbage, melon, potato, oats, corn, wheat, etc.

SALARIES AND TAXES.

A valued correspondent, Mr. E. W. Brown, called attention a few weeks ago to the general subject of county salaries. The subject is one that needs attention, and it ought to be thoroughly discussed by the people. It is generally believed that prices of commodities, all around, will remain low. Hon. David A. Wells, an economist of distinction in this country, recently published a series of articles in Popular Science Monthly devoted to this subject of low prices, and he believes that the causes which operated to bring commodities down to their present low level in the markets are general in their nature, and that their results in this respect will be permanent. He believes that the transportation facilities of civilized men have become so extended that it will never again happen that a short crop in one country or a war in another will have the effect to greatly advance prices of grain in any other one country. All well informed persons, as far as we know, take the same view of the matter that Mr. Wells does, though no other man has given as many and as convincing reasons for the belief.

It may be reasonably expected, then, that prices of farm produce will not be very much higher than they are, and it is from the product of his farm that the farmer raises money to pay the taxes which are used partly in payment of salaries of officers. If the farmer's wheat and corn are to be permanently lower in price than they were when the present salaries were graded and fixed, it requires no figuring to show that salaries, if they were not too low then, are too high now.

The remedy lies in legislation. We have been of opinion many years that Kansas people are paying a good deal more money for salaries of public officers than is necessary. Nobody in particular is to be blamed for it; the system has grown up gradually. Begun in extravagance, it has so remained. Ten thousand dollars could be expended wisely by the Legislature in paying the expenses of a commission of three competent men and a first-class stenographer and clerk, to examine this whole subject of county administration in this and other States and report a plan more simple and economical.

Dollars count for dollars in taxes as in all debts. If a farmer's tax is fifty dollars, it is that and not a cent less, no matter how low grain and stock have fallen. In hard and close times, he can dicker with the men he employs to work for him on the farm and make special contracts in view of certain conditions; but as to the salaries of the men employed to perform the public work, they are fixed by the Legislature and cannot be changed except by legislative action. Salaries ought not to be so high in any public office as to be the only inducement to persons to enter the public service. All the people are better able to pay than a single person is; but that is no reason why the county or State should pay for any services more than they are worth measured by standards in common use among the people in their private business. If, in a private business establishment a clerk earns \$700 a year, why should he be paid \$1,000 or \$1,500 by the county for doing work no more difficult? There is no good reason for it. Salaries of public officers ought to be rated like wages of persons performing similar work in private affairs. It would be better to

condense the public work and have it done by fewer persons. There is a good deal of work done that could be dispensed with under a simpler system, or done by persons who would be satisfied with lower wages.

The Land Commissioners.

The resignation of Mr. Sparks renders necessary the appointment of another person to the office of Commissioner to the General Land Office. The friends of ex Governor Glick, of Kansas, have presented his name and urged his appointment. The KANSAS FARMER heartily indorses the movement in his favor. The appointment of Governor Glick would be wise from every standpoint. He is well qualified for the place; he is a liberal, broad-gauged man; old enough to know that what is required of a public officer is a faithful discharge of duty. He is well enough acquainted with human nature to understand that men are neither angels nor demons, that they grade somewhere between those extremes, and that it is proper for men in places of great public responsibility ought to be patient, painstaking and just. Governor Glick is a Western man, and he knows a great deal about what is done and to be done in the General Land Office. We believe that the people of Kansas, without regard to party prejudices, would be pleased with his appointment.

The annual meeting of the Kansas State Veterinary Association was held at the Fifth Avenue hotel in Topeka, last Thursday. Dr. W. D. Epperson, of Ottawa, President of the association, presided, and Dr. Ed. R. Allen, of Kansas City, Kas., is Secretary. There was quite a large attendance of veterinary physicians from various parts of the State. Several addresses were delivered on subjects of special interest to veterinarians. Dr. Epperson's address on "physiological laws of inheritance" was interesting and instructive. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Dr. A. A. Holcombe, of Wyandotte; Vice President, W. D. Epperson, Ottawa; Secretary, Ed. R. Allen, Kansas City; Treasurer, R. C. Moore, Holton; Board of Censors, W. D. Epperson, R. C. Moore, Ed. R. Allen, Dr. J. M. Phillips, Wichita, Dr. Charles E. Gregg, Ellsworth; Board of Directors, Dr. M. Miller, Topeka; J. C. McCassey, Concordia; A. A. Holcombe, Wyandotte; J. H. Wilhite, Emporia; E. R. Allen, Kansas City, Kas.

The Inter-State Commerce Commissioners, in their first report, suggest no amendment to the law except to show whether express companies are included in the scope of the statute. They think the law has worked beneficially, and that it ought to be continued. On the subject of amendments to the law, the report says: The Commission has seen no occasion for recommending any very considerable changes in the act, under which work is performed. It has seemed to its members that the law for the regulation of inter State commerce should be permitted to have a growth, and that it will most surely as well as most swiftly attain a high degree of efficiency and usefulness in that way. Incidentally in this report some need of amendment has been pointed out. Especially ought the law, as we think, to indicate in plain terms whether the express business and all other transportation by the carriers named in the act shall be governed by its provisions. The provision against the sudden raising of rates ought to be clearly made applicable to joint rates as well as to others. Other matters, and particularly whether transportation by water shall be made subject to the act, are submitted to the wisdom of Congress without recommendation.

Horticulture.

THE STATE HORTICULTURAL MEETING.

Special Correspondence Kansas Farmer:

Marion, Kansas, is a prosperous, well-arranged city of over 3,000 people. It is here where the Twenty-first annual session of the Kansas State Horticultural Society is being held. The meeting began to-day at 10 a. m., and closes Thursday evening. The citizens have granted the use of the Methodist church in which to convene, and, best of all, entertain all delegates in a royal manner. A full list of same will be given further on in my report.

THE FIRST MEETING

was called to order at 10 a. m. by the Vice President, Martin Allen, of Hays City, who spoke as follows:

Members of the Kansas State Horticultural Society:

GENTLEMEN:—In the absence of our highly esteemed President, (which I am sure we all regret), it falls to my lot to serve you in his stead. In the discharge of his duties (which I know but little of) my highest ambition will be to serve you as reasonably well. During the progress of this, our twenty-first annual meeting, I may indulge the feeling that our Society has reached its majority, therefore you need not be surprised if I should allow you the utmost freedom of debate and largest liberty of discussion, consistent with parliamentary laws and usages, which, unfortunately, I do not well understand, hence I will crave your indulgence and expect your counsel, almost continually. The questions that will naturally come before us for consideration and discussion will be questions that, next to good government, are the most important of all questions to mankind. Because next in importance to political rights and privileges comes the questions of making our homes beautiful and enjoyable, and you, gentlemen, may consider yourselves as teachers of these arts, or in other words, the "fine art of agriculture." Viewed from this standpoint, your duties on this occasion will be neither light or trifling. Knowing you so well in the past, however, I will look to you, and each of you, with the utmost confidence, believing that your duties will be well and faithfully done, and that the work you may do at this meeting will, as all your past works have done, meet with an eager and hearty demand from the people in all parts of the State.

After these remarks, Mr. Allen appointed in regular order, the following committees: On credentials, Capt. E. P. Diehl, of Olathe, W. Marlatt, of Manhattan, and J. Fulcomer, of Belleville; on membership, Levi Billings, of Marion, F. Wellhouse, of Fairmount, and Wm. Cutter, of Junction City; on programme, Levi Billings, A. Willis, of Ottawa, and J. W. Byram, of Cedar Point. Pending the report of committees a talk was had on the

CONDITION OF ORCHARDS.

This was very full and concise, embracing all parts of the State. Mr. F. Wellhouse, said that in Leavenworth county the fruit trees were all in fine condition, excepting the peach, the buds of which were afflicted by the late cold snap. Last year the dry season cut the crop of fruit short and small in size, and this year the fruit dropped badly, but what was left was of good size. Peaches not very good and only about two-thirds of a crop, while this year they were larger than usual, but the hot weather caused them to mature too early. As to apples, the Jonathan ripened early in September, and the Winesap matured by October

first. The cherry had not been a good crop for four of five years.

Capt. Diehl said that his fruit did not drop badly until about time for maturing. Fruit kept better when picked early. In Johnson county the same condition existed as in Leavenworth. Said we must aid in strengthening the fruit-bearing trees by thorough cultivation.

Mr. J. W. Byram said that in Chase county the fruit trees were all right, with few exceptions. Had one hundred and fifty cherry trees in bearing, but the crop of fruit was light, owing to the late frost of last spring. Had but little trouble from dropping off of fruit. Thorough cultivation prevented it. The less one cultivated the more will his fruit drop off.

Hon. Wm. Cutter stated that Capt. Diehl was about right, and referred to A. Allen's orchard, of his vicinity, Davis county, and said that he always cultivated thoroughly and often, not less than three or four times a year. As to his own a great portion of the apples wilted before the rains came, thereby checking their growth. The dry weather dried stems in many instances. His cherries failed three or four times. Advised not to set where trees had died out nor too close together. Fruit dropped worse in old orchards—cause, lack of vigor. The cracking of the Rawles Jenet was from a second growth.

J. W. Byram said all fruits matured early this year in his vicinity.

Hon. J. W. Robison said that he had traveled over his county, Butler, and found many orchards in a dilapidated condition. The trees were too thick and headed too low, thus preventing cultivation after in bearing, and the majority were left to grow without pruning. The people allowed wind-falls to decay under trees, and the codling moth abounded. The old orchards had best fruit in the outside rows. The young orchards did best. Take the county over, the fruit crop was a failure, both large and small. Grapes good. Pear trees mostly dead. Found that the Kieffer's Hybrid was the best. He believed in plenty of manure, cultivation and mulching.

Mr. Carpenter, of Nebraska, remarked that orchards had too much timothy and other grasses. Premature dropping could be prevented by cultivation. In their part the codling moth was bad, mainly caused by neglect. Cherries did well, four crops out of five. As a rule orchards were planted too shallow.

Mr. J. M. Shepherd said that they had heaviest crop of fruit from trees budded on the Mahaleb roots. In Dickinson county apple trees were in good condition. Cultivate well when young, and later mow weeds and put on manure mulching. Peaches all gone. Currants don't do well.

Mr. Simmons believed in fall pruning and best attention always gave best fruit. In Sumner county the condition of orchards was only an average. Where seeded with oats or timothy they were in bad condition and the crop of fruit very inferior.

Mr. W. Marlatt said of Riley, Pottawatomie and Wabaunsee counties, that the condition was better this year than last year and the year before, so far as apples were concerned. He had planted an orchard twenty years ago and now the trees were large. Was troubled with some dead wood. Was a farmer. Found that fruit pays, and that for eleven years past had brought him on an average of \$100 per acre. His orchard was on second bottom, a rich soil. To succeed plant on best soil. His had wind-brake on every side. Found that the south needed the most and the east the least. Had three rows of trees and

hedge. Wind-brake was twenty-five feet from orchard, should be sixty feet. Of five hundred fruit trees had not lost ten per cent., and the trees not trimmed had best apples. Orchard was seeded to clover eighteen years and not pastured. At ten years of age had thinned out and pruned trees pretty severely, from which it took a year or more to recover. Referred to a neighbor who had poorer soil, but had manured and cultivated well; the result was better fruit than his own but not so plentiful. Referred to another party who had thirty acres in orchard and did no trimming and the fruit was poor, small and knotty. He found that the Jonathan dropped badly every year, the Winesap not so bad, and the Ben Davis least of all. He referred to the success attained at the Agricultural college farm from spraying, and believed that others could meet with equal results. With him cherries had nearly all died in the past few years.

Hon. M. Allen said that there were but few orchards in Ellis county, yet all in good condition, save the peaches, buds of which had been destroyed. His cherries never failed as yet.

Mr. Cleveland wondered why people planted their trees so close when it was necessary to success that they have plenty of space. His orchard was on north side of a rather steep hill and in good condition. Had a tree eight years old that was eight inches in diameter and twenty-five feet across the top. Had heavy crop of choice fruit. Orchards in Greenwood county he considered, as a whole, were in excellent condition.

Mr. Switzer said of Reno county that apple orchards had attained fair growth and were in good order. Had wind-brake on south side of his orchard. Mostly box elder. Apple crop was light; cherries fine, but no peaches for four years past.

Mr. J. W. Doile said that in Lyon county apple trees were in good condition, but cherry trees nearly all dead. No peaches.

Mr. Williams said that in Marion county the apple and cherries were good while peaches were only fair. Think buds not killed by late cold snap.

HANDLING FRUIT.

Next in order was a paper on "Handling fruits," by Capt. E. P. Diehl, of Olathe, as follows:

Handling fruits properly is evidently the most important branch of horticulture. Fruit well grown and then poorly handled is certainly very unprofitable, to say the least. Recommendations improperly given prove very disastrous. A few years ago I visited a neighbor's fruit cellar in which he had a fine large lot of fully-developed Jenets, but almost colorless. Upon inquiry as to their pale, colorless condition, he replied that someone had informed him to gather just as soon as the seeds of the apple were colored. But to his loss and sorrow he learned that he had been misinformed. Had he learned the importance of handling his fruit at the proper time he would have realized twenty-five per cent. more for his fruit. It is but a few years since American fruit has been successfully shipped to foreign markets. I remember well, since coming to this State, of its being currently reported that the Newtown Pippin was the only variety successfully shipped to Europe. At this time any of the hardy varieties bear shipment to the foreign markets. I will venture the assertion that any person handling fruit properly, when put on the market with his stamp or "ear mark" upon it, that it will be sought after and command a good and remunerative price. The fruit badly handled and poorly selected will go begging for a purchaser. On

the twentieth day of last May a lot of fine, well-handled Willow Twig apples sold in the Kansas City market for \$10 per barrel, while others by their side, badly handled, sold at from \$3 to \$5. Not long ago I read an article where one of the successful fruit-growers of one of the Southern States had very carefully selected his fruit and packed it with the utmost care in barrels, putting with each barrel his name or address. Some of his fruit was shipped to foreign markets, and the condition of it was so good that it elicited correspondence with orders for all his supply of fruits. How many orders do I apprehend would secure attention when fruit is poorly selected and badly handled, even with address attached? Echo answers none. Fruit, when gathered carefully, should be kept at as low a temperature as possible above freezing point. Various modes have been adopted. It is not unfrequently the case that after fruit is gathered, during the months of November and December, a high temperature is reached, 70 to 85 degrees, and to counteract this a cool storage should be provided, such as a deep cellar, or close proximity of ice. A deep cellar to store fruit in, leaving the doors and ventilators open during the night and closing them in the morning, is one of the successful modes of storing fruit. A few hundred weight of ice will reduce the temperature, and the moisture furnished by the melting of the ice is very beneficial to fruit. Some years ago a canal boat was sunken, late in the fall, loaded with apples, and owing to the lateness of the season and severity of the weather, the boat and cargo were not disturbed until the following spring, during the month of April, when to their surprise, the apples were found to be in good condition, and commanded a good price, according to the newspaper statements. Fruit gathered properly should be handled as carefully as you would handle eggs, and the stem should be left on, especially that of cherries.

Adjourned until 2 p. m.

HORACE.

[To be Continued. — Horace reported the meeting quite fully, and his notes will be printed in the KANSAS FARMER, continued from week to week, unto the end.—EDITOR.]

A Chapter on Pruning.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—To the words of invitation at the head of your Horticultural department in last week's issue, I hope many will respond. It is in the power of those engaged in this important branch of agriculture greatly to benefit each other by sending into you for publication a sketch of their experience, a detail of observations, and other views and opinions on matters of general horticultural interest. During the long winter evenings farmers and fruit-growers surely will be thinking over the varied occurrences of the past and probably many previous seasons, and laying their plans for future work. When so employed how many will wish they had information on some subject, and probably quite as many could give it, but on some other do not feel fully informed, and hence not fully prepared for the work of the coming year. As "no one's light shines less brightly for lighting that of his neighbor," let us have rays from many quarters, and make this department of the KANSAS FARMER a treasury of valuable horticultural information.

I did not sharpen my Faber to write in this strain, or on this subject, but to bring before your readers two or three matters which I deem of special interest. As winter comes on, and during its continuance, a class of individuals travel over the country, armed with a

saw, long handled chisel and pruning knife, seeking and claiming to be skillful, yea, frequently, professional pruners. Many are of German birth or descent, and all are ready to give an account of their years of experience, and to tell how finely, beautifully even, they have pruned orchards here and there in several other States. Many of these itinerants are really skillful in the use of their tools, and know how to remove the limbs of trees so that the wounds will most speedily heal; but almost without exception all have and persist in a wrong theory of pruning—almost fatally wrong for Kansas.

They were taught and have had years of experience in a widely different climate. Their practice has been in a cooler climate, and one having a moist atmosphere, where it was essential that the branches of bearing trees should be so thinned that the wind might circulate through the tops and the sunshine penetrate every portion. Their leading idea is to open out the top so as to let in sunlight and air, so that the fruit may ripen, also to reduce the number of bearing limbs, or rather twigs so that the trees cannot possibly over-bear.

Now, while I cannot believe that the true way to prevent over-bearing, anywhere, is to cut away in advance the wood carrying the fruit-bearing twigs, I will concede that giving the tree an open top for the admission of air and sunshine, is essential in the northern portion of the Union. In Iowa, Michigan and New York, and the northern half of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio the theory and practice in this direction, tested by experience as it has been, may be considered the true and correct one. But it does not follow that it is the same in Kansas. Here the atmosphere is remarkably dry and constantly in motion; and here during the almost cloudless days of a long summer and fall, the sun's fierce rays penetrate the entire top of all our trees, no matter how dense the foliage, as the limbs are swayed by the never-ceasing winds. The dry air day by day is abstracting moisture from the body and branches of our trees, and evaporation proceeds at a rate entirely unknown in the States northeast of us. The fact is, the bodies and branches of our trees need all the protection they possibly can receive from foliage on the south and west sides; yea, even the top must be kept dense to protect the larger limbs of the whole tree from the intense heat of the August sun. "What!" says the recent settler in Kansas, "wouldn't you prune at all?" I answer, only to remove interfering limbs, and such portion from the north, or more accurately northeast part of the top, as will keep it balanced; that is, its weight equal to the opposite side. The limbs on this side, owing doubtless to the protection of the foliage, annually outgrow those of the south and southeast side, hence should be headed in and to some extent thinned, or your trees will in a few years be leaning to the northeast and sadly out of balance.

Let one of these professional pruners go to work at a thrifty six, eight or ten year-old apple tree in Kansas, which has been pruned only as above indicated, and he will soon give it the approved shape and style common in New York, Ohio, Illinois, or wherever he has lived. He will, with saw, chisel, shears and knife, thin out the branches, large and small, to give a freer circulation of air, hence greater evaporation from limbs and twigs, and to allow the hot

summer sun to beam in all its intensity upon the body and larger limbs, removing to a great extent the protection of foliage so absolutely essential to health and vigor in Kansas.

Allow him to prune your orchard in his own way, and it will scarcely obstruct your view, in winter at least, of your stock on the pasture beyond; and when he has done he will call you out to observe its beauty, what a lovely open top he has given each tree, and will point with seeming pride to the quantity of stove-wood he has ready for you to haul out and chop for summer's use. He probably don't know how the sun will scald your trees, what a fight you will have to make the next and succeeding seasons with flat-headed borers; don't realize that he has done you almost irreparable damage, but claims that he has done a splendid job, and asks a big price for it. Enough. Those who prune on this theory have not studied climatic influences and effects; and as for the professional pruner I write him down as a humbug. Bah! I have no patience with him or his class, and were the choice given me to either turn a drove of Texas steers, or a professional pruner, loose in any orchard, I do believe I'd say drive in the steers.

I did intend to say a word about itinerant tree agents, but space forbids.

L. A. S.

Wellington, Kas., Dec. 7, 1887.

The Poultry Yard.

Poultry on the Farm.

The general subject of poultry-raising, we mean. Every farmer has poultry, and he has it because of its usefulness. Poultry are cheaply raised and they are very profitable. They require but little attention, but little food that costs labor or money, yet they produce eggs and meat and are always ready for sale on a cash market.

There are not many farmers that make a specialty of poultry, or who give the subject of poultry-raising much consideration. With most of them it is a kind of natural, of course business, needing no attention. These farmers are wrong in this respect. Poultry responds as readily and as profitably to good management as sheep or cattle or hogs or horses do. There is as much difference in fowls as there is in horses or any other class of domestic animals, as to merit. A little more care, a little change in management, a little preparation in the way of buildings and conveniences for the comfort of the fowls, a little display of taste in arrangement of the grounds, a little more attention to the kind and the nature of food, in short, a little business-like, farmer-like attention to poultry-raising as a business and part of the general work of the farm, will pay quite as well as any other part of the farm work, and much better than most of them.

One of the benefits of poultry-raising when it is managed well is the interest in it created and maintained in the family. Bring a pair of handsome chickens on the place and everybody about the farm is interested in the strangers. Have a dozen or a hundred such, and it amounts to a steady and continuous entertainment for all the family from father and mother down to the baby. The neighbors, too, drop in to look at the graceful movements and bright plumage of the farm birds. This

article is written for the purpose of directing the attention of all our readers to the general subject of poultry-raising, but we more particularly address those farmers who are not paying any particular attention to the subject, who are letting it take care of itself. To such it may be truthfully said there is money in poultry on the farm. A very little food and a very little attention, if those little are wisely managed will yield immense profits comparatively, beside adding a great deal to the comforts and pleasures of home. A hen's egg is perfect food. Eggs, as food for men, are what oats is for horses—the best food. A farmer—any hard-working man, indeed—can perform as much labor on eggs for his food, as he can on pork or beef. The meat of fowls is not as strong as that of some of the larger animals, but its use once a day would be much better for health than the continuous use of pork. And besides the value of eggs and meat in the family, there is always a ready-cash market for them, if not at the nearest town, then a little farther away on the railroad. In cases where the market is distant or inconvenient, use more at home, preserve the rest for use during a scarcer season. With soft-boiled eggs for breakfast, a working man can easily dispose of half a dozen, and he will feel better than if he had eaten one-third of a pound of bacon. Farm families in general take no note of the eggs they use, and that is one reason why they pay so little attention to poultry-raising. If they were buying the eggs they use they would be more apt to think of the number. Take a family of eight persons and give them all the eggs they can dispose of in the different ways of cooking, and a hundred dozen do not last a month. And in the hot weather poultry meat might be used profitably many times, cooked in one form or other, in place of stronger meats.

We do not mean that farmers shall raise more than a reasonable number of fowls, but that they ought to make poultry-raising one of their departments of business and take good care of it accordingly.

The Standard.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—I noticed in last week's KANSAS FARMER the "ad." of a poultry fancier stating that he had Brown Leghorn cockerels for sale with combs three by five inches.

If I can read my standard aright, this would be a disqualification, or at least a cut on points, as it says "medium in size," and we are of the opinion that a comb three by five inches would be very large. I simply want to draw this lesson from the above text: So many breeders do not understand the standard of excellence, or are working upon the credulity of many persons who think large combs in Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks, and some other breeds, or long legs, large tails, and other points go toward making the ideal bird of many breeds.

The standard of excellence should be in the hands of every breeder, and the breed he is interested in most, and breeds should be thoroughly studied, and his aim should be to breed true to standard and for standard points. Of course there are many farmers who care not for points other than beneficial for eggs or meat, and such should consider whether they wish eggs exclusively, or for meat, or both combined, and select the breed which will come the nearest filling their wants. We of course are satisfied in our own mind of the best

general-purpose fowl, but our opinion would be of little weight with breeders of other varieties. The best plan for farmers to find out the best breed suitable to their wants is to attend the fairs, compare the various breeds, talk with the various breeders, and then make your selection. We are glad to see the interest taken in this column of the FARMER and think there can be much learned by each of us.

JOHN C. SNYDER.


Posey Creek Farm.

Let Us Hear From You.

There is a good deal of interest manifested in this department by some of our readers. We have had some special correspondence on the subject by breeders and others who have not only a vested interest in poultry, but a general interest in common with all farmers. Several persons suggest a special poultry editor, while others urge more zeal on the part of the managing editor and more interest on the part of correspondents.

This is encouraging. The best way to warm up our Poultry department is for friends of the poultry business to push the work. If you want somebody to say something, that is pretty good evidence that you have some thoughts of your own to offer if called for. They are now and hereby called for. Let us hear from you, every one of you. An occasional letter in this department of the KANSAS FARMER from such of its readers as can write out their thoughts readably would add much to its interest and usefulness. Let the poultry men and women of Kansas get acquainted through the columns of the KANSAS FARMER. Let us hear from you.

A poultry show is to be held at Plattsburg, Mo., January 10 and 11. A competent judge will be secured to pass on and score all birds exhibited. W. A. White, of Plattsburg, is Secretary.



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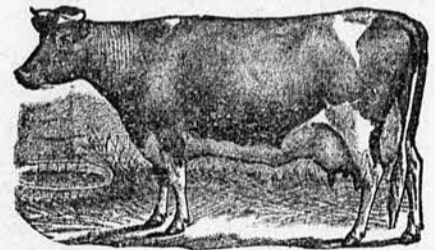


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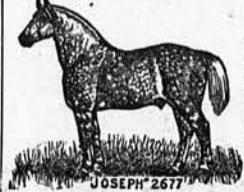
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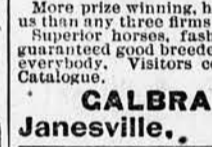
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