

Agricultural Matters.

A CHAPTER ON WEEDS.

Perhaps the best definition of a weed is, "A plant out of place." Good farming is always clean farming, and clean farming both adds to the appearance of the farm and greatly reduces the labor of cultivation, especially in a wet season, and under some circumstances will largely increase the yield of crops, for in a drought the robber weeds steal the moisture from the plants, and make them suffer much sooner and worse than they would on clean land. Here in southwestern Ohio this season has been a good one to illustrate the value of clean fields. From the 1st of May till the middle of June it was so wet that we could not work the land half the time, and sometimes we only got two days' work in a week. On the 28th day of May I drove about twelve miles through my county, and I saw on some farms fields which had been partly plowed the last of April, and now the farmers were finishing them, and that which had been plowed early was covered with so dense a growth of weeds that it was impossible to kill them with the harrow, and either the land must be replowed at this late date, or the corn planted among the weeds. On other farms, where clean cultivation was the rule, land that had been plowed just as long showed very few weeds, and could be planted without replowing. The trouble was not over on these weed-stocked farms when the corn was planted, for the first half of June was more wet than May had been, and when finally it cleared off, and the land got dry enough to work, it lacked but one week of wheat harvest, with oats and grass following on its heels, and it was simply impossible for the farmers to clean out their weedy fields. A drought lasting several weeks followed, during which time less than a half inch of rain fell, with more than three consecutive weeks without any rain at one time, and all weedy fields were ruined, many of them not even making fodder.

To get and keep a farm clean requires a constant and intelligent warfare. It will not do to fight for three or four years and then relax your vigilance, but persistence must be the watchword. One comfort, however, is that there will be a visible weakening of the forces of the enemy from year to year, and after a few years the labor will be very light. The two greatest helps, I find, in this work, are clover and the mowing machine, and by their aid I can keep the stubble fields perfectly clean. It is a rule never deviated from on my farm to sow clover on all small grain, and never to pasture the young clover the first fall. I use more seed than most farmers, a bushel to six acres, and then I pass over the field with the mowing machine once or twice between harvest and autumn, twice if the season is such as to produce a very large growth.

If any weeds come up with the clover this kills them, and I think it also improves the clover and covers the land with a fine mulch, for in cutting we take off the track-clearer, and set the sickle a little high, and all that we cut falls just where it grew, evenly distributed over the land. It seems strange to me that so few farmers use the mowing machine on their stubble fields. In more than 2,000 miles travel last winter, doing institute work, I watched the farms, and almost without exception the stubble fields were covered with dead weeds which had scattered their seed, and filled the land, to give trouble in future years; for of many kinds of weeds it is literally true that "One year's seeding makes seven years' weeding." The mowing machine cannot always be used in the pastures, but if

potato field after the vines fall so the cultivator can not be used, substitute the hoe and hand-pulling, and be sure to do it in time, for one day's work done at the proper time is worth three days a week later. There is no crop which it pays better to keep clean than potatoes, for the weeds not only rob the plants of moisture and reduce the yield, but are a great hindrance in digging the crop. If it is necessary to clean out the corn fields by hand to prevent weeds from seeding, do it if it costs \$1 an acre, remembering that each year that it is done makes the next year's work lighter. In 1838 my father settled on a bottom farm in Union county, Indiana. All these fields were so full of weed seed that it was the practice to have a boy ride a horse, and draw a brush between the rows to brush off the Spanish needles and cockle burrs before husking. Father determined that he would clean out his fields, and put a force in with hoes. It took a man two days to clean an acre the first year and was not much better the second, but after that the improvement was rapid, and in a few years scarcely a weed would show. There are some special pests which the farmer should particularly guard against, but as this article is long enough I will defer speaking of them till another time.—Waldo F. Brown, in *Practical Farmer*.

The Plank Drag.

I so frequently see farmers preparing ground for crops with other implements that do not do the work so effectively as the plank drag would that I am convinced that the excellence of this implement has not been impressed upon them. While for certain work the harrow or the roller is better than the plank drag, for other work the plank drag is the best; and I have found that in the preparation of ground for crops the plank drag could be used to the best advantage oftener than either the harrow or the roller. In the equipment of a farm the drag is as necessary as the harrow, roller, or even plow. Its cost is little, it is durable, as easily operated as a farm implement could be, and it is effective in accomplishing the important objects for which it is designed.

We are now about to engage in the preparation of ground for winter wheat. In this work we will find the plank drag very valuable. Very often the ground is lumpy as it comes from the plow, and these lumps are quite dry and hard. The weather this summer has been unusually drouthy, putting the ground in such condition that we will doubtless have to work to the best advantage to reduce to a good seed-bed the clods that come from the plow. The common harrow reduces hard lumps very slowly. They will slip through the teeth of the harrow, or the teeth will slide over them, and the result is to polish the clods rather than to reduce them. The disc or Acme harrow will do better work, and yet when the clods are hard very many will escape between the discs or the cutters, and often a disc or cutter will pass over a clod or press it down into the fine earth without any material damage to the clod. The work of the roller, though heavy, is more apparent than real. It will press down or jump over a very hard clod rather than crush it. The drag will not pulverize every clod, but it will do more effective work than any of these implements named. If it cannot crush a clod it will at least shave off and pulverize a part of it. It carries clods along and grinds them up rather than presses them down. For leveling land it is the equal, at the least, of any harrow, and of course far superior to the roller. It shaves off the bumps or ridges and deposits the material removed in the depressions.

The drag is to do the work of the

it goes somewhat deeper than the roller, as it is as apt to pull up a clod as to push it down. But in preparing refractory ground it will be necessary to use the harrow with the drag, as with the roller, if to accomplish nothing more than to get clods to the surface.

A very important part of preparing the ground for winter wheat is to get the seed-bed compacted as well as fined. For accomplishing this result the drag is better than the roller. In this line the work of the roller is very superficial indeed. It compacts the surface, while underneath there will be vacant spaces and loose earth. Any one not a close observer will be deceived. The drag compacts better than the roller, yet the work can not be done with the drag only. The harrow is needed for complete work. Either the harrow or drag alone is insufficient. Each has special offices to fill, and both should be used. Then I always put the roller just before the drill to smooth down and compact the surface. When this is done the ridges are better made and the seed is more nicely covered.

The drag is a valuable implement to use in the spring as well as in the fall. It is somewhat risky to use the roller in the spring. Then the ground is apt to be wet and somewhat sticky and the roller leaves the ground in such condition that a heavy rain, always reasonably to be expected in the spring, makes it almost as solid and as badly fused as it was before it was plowed. The drag can be used when the ground is so wet that the roller can not be used, or at least will do very poor work, and it does not leave the ground in a condition so favorable to serious results from a rain.

The heavy pole drag is an effective implement, and its employment may be justified in newer sections, where a dollar is very large, where lumber is dear while timber is plenty. But the plank drag is a good deal superior to the pole drag. I have only one hint to give about the construction of the drag, and that is, its width should vary with the character of the land upon which it is to be used. The man with smooth, level prairie land may well make a drag twenty-four feet wide, three horses to be attached at each end, for this drag will do good work on his land and of course is more economical of manual labor than one not so wide. But the man with sharply-rolling, uneven land will find best a drag only ten feet wide, to be drawn by one team. This will reduce clods in depressions that would not be touched by the twenty-four feet wide drag. Of course if a drag can be used at all on ground containing stumps the narrow drag is the one. Other things being equal, the wide drag does the better work, as it runs more steadily and clods are not so apt to escape at the sides.—J. M. S., in *National Stockman and Farmer*.

Turnips as a Field Crop.

All reading farmers know that turnips are an important field crop in England, the moist, cool climate exactly suiting them, and making them a sure and easy crop to grow. In our country they are scarcely grown at all as a field crop, and the great majority of farmers do not know how to grow them, and esteem them of very little value when grown. From many years' experience in turnip-growing and feeding, I can recommend them as a profitable crop, and there is this advantage connected with them, that they are sown so late in the season that the farmer knows whether his spring crops are light or heavy, and if he sees that stock feed is going to be scarce and high, he may often grow a crop of turnips that will help him largely in wintering his stock. From 200 to 500 to the acre is about an average crop of flat turnips, and on rich garden land, with a thin stand, so as to

200 bushels to the acre on a clover sod after cutting a crop of hay in June, and 500 bushels on manured garden land which had grown a crop of early peas, which were followed by cucumbers for pickles, and the turnip seed was sown at the last hoeing of the cucumbers, just as the vine began to reach across the rows. I never saw any one succeed in getting a stand of turnips on freshly-plowed, loose land, and when turnips are to be sown on clover stubble it should be plowed as soon as the clover is removed, and at once harrowed and rolled or dragged, so as to make it as fine and firm as possible. If heavy rains fall follow with the harrow as soon as it will work nicely, and by the time to sow it should be level and fine at the surface, and well settled and solid below. My father used to tell me that in New England they would plow a lot in the spring and yard the sheep on it nights all summer, and that at sowing time it will be solid as a road, but after a rain a heavy harrow would scratch a little loose earth to start the seed, and an immense crop would grow on top of the ground, with only the tap root in the soil. I have never used superphosphate for growing turnips, but I am told that it gives excellent results. It should be applied broadcast on the smooth surface just before sowing the seed and covered with the seed. The best time to sow turnips in the latitude of southern Ohio is the first ten days of August, but I sow from July 20 to August 20, when the conditions of soil and weather are right, and I have raised good crops sown as late as September 1. The most important direction for sowing is to always sow as soon after a rain as the land will work well. I find that a majority of farmers think it a nice thing to sow the seed just before a rain and let the rain cover it. It is the worst possible plan, for if rain falls enough to form a crust on the land, you will rarely get a stand, and if you do they do not make a thrifty start, and are often destroyed by the garden flea, besides the rain usually brings up a crop of weeds with them.

The best way to cover the seed is by a plank drag, not too heavy, a single plank two inches thick and a foot wide drawn over the surface will cover about right. If you are sowing a large field take a plank sixteen feet long, with a horse at each end, or a plank ten feet long can be used with one horse, by hitching to it with a chain or rope near the ends so as to make it draw steady. I use one pound of seed per acre, and prefer to sow it without mixing anything. There is usually more danger of getting them too thick than too thin. If they come up too thick they can be thinned when the plants are about two inches across by passing over them with a harrow. Go over them when the sun shines brightly, so those torn up by the harrow will wilt at once, as if they are very thick it may be necessary to harrow more than once. This harrowing will not only thin them, but will cultivate the plants left to grow, so as to give them a good start.

Occasionally, on account of dry weather at the seeding time, there is a scarcity of turnips and the price goes up so as to make the crop very profitable to those who succeed in growing them. I have sold, several times, more dollars worth of turnips from a piece of land than the land would sell for. You can get a stand of turnips in a dry time by drilling the seed, when it would be impossible to do so if sown broadcast. Get the land smooth and mellow and after the sun is low in the evening, so it will not dry rapidly, open drills down to where there is moist earth and sow the seed, and then trundle a wheelbarrow along this row so the wheel will press the seed into the earth. If the empty barrow is not heavy enough you can load it lightly with earth. The drill should be made straight and narrow so as to be easily followed by the wheel. Any one who has never tried the effect of pressing the seed into the soil in hot, dry weather, will be surprised to see how much quicker and stronger the plants will come up for it, and a good stand can be had by this means when the seed would not come up at all without it. I have found that horses and hogs, as well as cattle, will eat turnips when they are on dry feed in winter, and a feed of them once a day is much better for all stock than so much grain and hay.—Waldo F. Brown, in *Farmers' Review*.

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The Stock Interest.

THE WOOL INDUSTRY.

Wool has been a staple clothing material from the earliest recorded history of the world. The most ancient poem, attributed to the time of Moses, commonly known as the Book of Job, refers to the fleece of the sheep as material for clothing, and no doubt this use of the sheep's fleece dates back to the era of the first aboriginal races, who lived in caves and rough dwellings long before the light of civilization dawned, for the textile quality of wool must certainly have been discovered by mankind long before the fiber of linen came into use, and the remains of linen cloths have been found in the caves and the ancient lake dwellings. No doubt first the skins were used for clothing with the wool on them, as they are now used by the semi-civilized shepherds of the Llandes, in the French province of Brittany, where the writer has seen them mounted on their long stilts, dressed in garments of the raw skins, greasy and odoriferous, tending their flocks on those dreary plains, and busy knitting the wool into articles of clothing, but mostly for sale and not for use. But as civilization advanced, the fine wool of Spain became a merchantable product, and furnished the material for the luxurious Roman, whose fine purple robes of state were an imperial distinction and too costly for any inferior use. The Roman ladies found employment for their leisure hours in spinning this fine wool and in weaving it into the softest and finest fabrics, and thus the Spanish Merino became a special object of regard, and was bred and cultivated for its fleece with the greatest care. The Roman historian Pliny gives great attention to the subject of the sheep industry of his time, and describes the different varieties of wool and the cloths made from them with much minuteness. During their extended course of conquest through Europe the Romans introduced flocks of fine-wooled sheep and established factories. They established a factory in Britain for the clothing of their armies, and the Britons quickly recognized the importance of the industry and followed the example. And thus the historian Tacitus remarked to the effect that from thence even came the dignified habits and common "toga" of the Romans, showing how refined and more luxurious clothing exerted a most effective civilizing influence upon the barbarians. In fact, the sheep has always been an accompaniment of civilization, for the impediment of a flock necessarily became an insuperable obstacle against the roving, changeable life of a soldier, and all the shepherds could do in a warlike way was to enroll themselves for defense of their settled homes and their flocks.

The early manufacture of wool was devoted mainly to fine clothing for the wealthy people, and the finest wool was most assiduously cultivated. The British fabrics were most highly valued and gained a reputation for fineness beyond all other kinds. "The British wool is spun so fine as to compare with a spider's web," was remarked by Tacitus, and from this beginning grew a long-continued cultivation of this industry, which remained without any serious competition for 1,500 or 1,600 years, after which the Spanish, French and German flocks became noted for their still finer products. The wool industry still grew in importance until the cotton manufacture became established, about one hundred years ago, when it lost its position and became secondary to this leading fabric.

No other industry was so much aided by legislation (and possibly hampered sometimes) as the woolen manufacture. Importation of sheep and wool was prohibited in England, and the use of woolen clothing was enforced by law. A dead body could not be lawfully buried unless it was wrapped in a woolen shroud, and law and fashion were both made to exert all possible influence in favor of wool. At the time of the American independence the English had 12,000,000 sheep; the manufactured products were worth \$60,000,000 annually, and 1,000,000 persons were employed in the industry. The wool product was 96,000,000 pounds, equal to an average of eight pounds per fleece. The first importation of sheep into

and twenty-four years later the first sheep was brought into Boston. In 1643 the first pulling mill was established at Rowley, Mass., but the first established factory for woolen cloths was not put in operation until 1794, when independence of the odious restrictive government of Great Britain was achieved, and Americans were free to make woolen goods for themselves.

Since then the industry has made grand progress. In 1880 the condition of the woolen manufacture was as follows: Establishments, 1,990; capital employed, \$96,095,564; number of employes, 86,504; daily consumption of wool, 764,006 pounds; value of products, \$160,608,721.

In addition to these there were seventy-six establishments for the manufacture of worsted goods, using daily 86,761 pounds of wool, employing 18,803 persons, and turning out in the year \$33,549,942 worth of products. It is not an extravagant estimate to make that the extent and value of this industry have fully doubled since then, and the importance of this manufacture to the farmers of America has correspondingly increased.

The American climate is not adapted to all the varieties of wool, which may be distinguished as fine clothing, clothing, combing, both fine and coarse; lustrous wool, coarse wool, and carpet wool. Our climate and methods of agriculture are not adapted to the lustrous wools, or to the coarsest wools used in making carpets. The fine-wool sheep, of which the Merino stands at the head of the class, thrives here as well as in any other part of the world, both as regards the fine carding and the combing or "delaine" wools. The clothing wool sheep also do well here; these include the mutton sheep, although the long-wool Merino, with its larger and more meaty carcass, is an equally good sheep for mutton. This class includes the Southdown and its related breeds, the Shropshire, Hampshire, Oxford, and while the kind commonly called native, which is a mixture of all, with most of the Merino, furnishes by far the largest proportion of the domestic production of the coarser grades used in manufacture. Lustrous wool is the long silky fleece of the heaviest mutton breeds, including the Lincoln, Leicester and Cotswold. This class of sheep has not succeeded in our climate, missing the moist atmosphere, the succulent pastures, and the abundant root crops of their native English climate, all of which are necessary for the growth of the soft, bright, glossy wool, the staple of which is from nine to fourteen inches long, and serves for a special class of goods known as worsteds or nubians, bunting for the star-spangled banner, braids, fringes, and other small wares.

American farmers have a prejudice against growing roots. This is unwarrantable, and a serious loss to them, for every sheep needs this succulent food through our long winters, not only for the production of the best meat, but also for the growth of the heaviest and best quality of wool. With root crops for winter feeding and better pastures or green fodder crops for feeding on the land, there is no doubt that every kind of sheep valuable for wool, and some of which as yet have never been introduced here, could be kept successfully and with satisfactory profit except one. This is the low-grade, coarse, carpet-wool sheep, which produces a meagre carcass, fit most for lanterns, and a thin, poor fleece, two pounds in weight, fit only to be trodden under foot in the form of carpets. It is the product of the lowest grade of agriculture, and while, perhaps, it might find a home in the Indian reservations with equally uncivilized Indians for shepherds, it is altogether of too low a grade for an American farmer or shepherd to turn his attention to, and beneath his notice or consideration. And yet the carpet manufacture has undergone a large development since 1880, when less than 200,000 yards of all kinds were produced, while now the whole domestic supply is made and a surplus is exported, affording American farmers an opportunity for furnishing their dwellings with this indispensable adjunct of a civilized life.

The American Merino is par excellence the wool sheep. It is the laniger, the wool-bearer, as distinguished from the ovis of the sheep generically, of the Latin language. Its purpose in life has been to produce wool of the finest character and the most luxurious fabrics. It is the embodiment of all that has been most valuable in every grade of the Merino sheep brought from Spain, Saxony, Silesia and France, in which countries distinct types of the ancient sheep of Spain, which were introduced there by the Romans, have been culti-

Merino was so called from the custom of removing the earliest Spanish flocks from the low-country pastures to the mountains at different seasons of the year for change of feeding, this word signifying a traveler, and hence this breed has always been remarkable for its aptitude to wander over extensive pastures and to herd in large flocks. It was brought from Spain into Saxony in 1765, and formed what was soon afterward known as the Electoral breed, having been introduced by the Elector of that province into his domains. From thence it was carried to Silesia. The main purpose of these German importations was to produce the finest fleeces regardless of size of carcass, and hence these sheep became diminutive in size, while the wool became exceedingly fine and silky. The finest Saxony wool measured only 1-1500 to 1-2000 of an inch in diameter of the fiber, while the serrations of the fibers amounted to less than 2,800 to the inch in length. In 1775 the Hungarian nobles, most especially Count Esterhazy, introduced flocks from Spain; in 1776 the sheep were carried to France, and ten years later the afterward noted flock of Rambouillet was established by the French government as a nursery from which the private herds could be supplied with breeding animals. This flock still remains, and it has been drawn upon by American breeders for the improvement of their flocks. The French, however, gave more attention to the sheep itself than the German breeders, and increased the length of the fiber with the size of the carcass, producing an excellent mutton animal with a fleece of surpassing softness and freer from wrinkles than was that of the Spanish and Saxony flocks. The unequalled French fabrics, the Merino cloths and the delaines, were made from this longer wool, and for the purpose of improving the broods here importations have been made from this flock. So that in the end the American Merino, in the hands of the most intelligent breeders, became the best wool sheep in the world, and has reinforced, in turn, the flocks in Europe and also of Australia, where fine wool growing has developed to an extent unapproached in any other country. English breeders have used the Merino to improve their native varieties, and the Southdown, Leicester and other fleeces have been refined in this way. In America the Merino has been so widely scattered that it has formed the basis of the common herd known as native sheep, and the mixed varieties now furnish the bulk of the clothing wool produced here.

The first importation of Spanish Merinos was made by Mr. William Foster, of Boston, but these sheep, a ram and two ewes, were ignominiously made into mutton by the friend to whom they were presented by Mr. Fisher. This friend made due reparation by importing a ram at a cost of \$1,000. In 1802 Col. Humphreys, the American minister to Spain, sent hither twenty-five rams and seventy-five ewes, and later as many as 4,000 sheep were sent over from Spain by the Hon. William Jarvis, our Consul at Lisbon. Some other importations were made, and flocks increased until, in 1212, when our war with England caused an era of speculation, Merino wool sold for \$2.50 a pound and sheep sold for \$1,000 to \$1,500 per head. The history of these sheep since then has been a series of ups and downs. In 1815 Merinos sold for \$1 per head; again, \$20,000 has been refused for a ram. In 1862, after numerous oscillations of values, a flock of ten ewes were bought for \$10,000, the common price at that time, and not long afterward the writer was offered a small flock that cost over \$1,000 a few years previous for \$10 for the whole. In 1824 some Saxony sheep were imported, but their small size and their two and a half pound fleeces as compared with the four and a half of the Spanish sheep led to the disappearance of this breed before 1845.

The careful culture of the American Merino, which then became established, led to a large increase of the fleece without any deterioration of its fine quality. The four-pound fleeces gradually gave place to six or eight-pound fleeces, and twelve to thirteen for rams, of washed wool. In time a fleece of fifteen pounds from a sheep which weighed after shearing only forty-nine pounds was not uncommon, and now seventeen to twenty-pound ewe fleeces, and thirty and more pounds for rams, is thought unworthy of special remark at the annual shearing festivals of the Merino breeders.

Of late years more attention has been given to the larger strains of these sheep based on the French blood. These so-called delaine sheep have a fleece of fine wool three inches in length, and

ied, and reach a weight of 150 pounds for ewes and 180 pounds for rams. The fleece has less oil and yolk, while the wool retains its softness and fineness and its characteristic curl. The carcass yields excellent mutton of a flavor equal to that of the Southdown, and the sheep and its grades forms the very best basis for a flock desired for the production of early market lambs when crossed with a Shropshire or other black-faced ram.

The Merino is characterized most especially by the heavy folds and wrinkles in its skin, mostly on the neck, dewlap, and the rump. This might be regarded as a damage to the fleece on account of the inferior quality of the wool in the folds, but physiologically considered, this heavily wrinkled skin is so closely connected with a copious secretion of oil and yolk which lubricates the fleece and confers softness, strength, elasticity, fineness and its peculiar curl, that it might be dangerous to ignore the fact lest the value of the animal as a breeder for the perpetuation of its most valuable characteristics as a wool-bearer might be endangered. This class of Merinos are justly sought for crossing on the smoother-skinned and harsher-wooled sheep, and while the habit is considered objectionable by some breeders, yet viewed in this light it certainly has its valuable points.

Undoubtedly, for a wool-bearing flock the Merino stands first of all our varieties of sheep. Its wool enters into the most numerous classes of fabrics, as ladies' cloths and dress goods, fine flannels, the finest blankets and shawls, felted goods of the finest kinds, knitted goods and fine underclothing, cassimeres, meltons, and the finer cloths for men's wear; for mixing with shoddy for a large class of inferior cloths, as diagonals, tricots, etc., and for the finest hosiery; in short, for all goods where fineness of texture, softness, warmth and durability are desired we have to depend upon the Merino for our raw material. And hence the high value which this sheep should hold in the estimation of the American shepherd.

A few words might be said for those who are not well informed in regard to the Merino as a breeder and as a wool-bearer. The show sheep are not the real producers of wool. They are most useful for breeding, and there is no necessity for any person who wishes to establish a flock for wool-growing to give fancy prices for prize-winners, except for the purpose of improving the common natives or the grades. The breeding of the Merino has been so skillfully done, and for so long, that a pedigree flock of the best ancestry is able to fix its valuable peculiarities on even the poor Texan and Mexican sheep, which are really degraded Merinos, and in a few years to raise them to a point where the fleece will be worth something more than that of the pure-bred sheep, and this because of a greater demand for the second-grade wool. This should be understood, especially at this time, when the sheep is in more favor than it has been for a few years past. The best pure Merino sheep have 40,000 to 48,000 fibers upon a square inch of the skin, and this extreme density of the fleece is in part contributed to the grades produced by crossing. But this is true only to a certain extent. A grade with fifteen-sixteenths of pure-blood will have no more than 25,000 fibers to the square inch of the fleece, and thus is but little more than that shown by the first cross. But this closeness indicates fineness of fiber, and that the Merino ram can improve the fleece of a coarse sheep from two or three thousand fibers to the square inch up to twenty or twenty-five thousand is one of those facts which go to show the value of judicious selection and liberal expenditure in securing the best rams for crossing on a flock of inferior sheep. —Henry Stewart, in *New York Times*.

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The Colorado Workman asks: "Who was it that changed the original contract and made the government bonds payable in coin instead of lawful money, and thereby added over a billion of dollars to the wealth of the bondholder? The Republicans. Who was it that allowed the fraud to continue when they had the power to stop it?"

Resolutions Indorsing Geo. O. Ward.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE CENTRAL NATIONALIST CLUB, KANSAS CITY, MO., September 15, 1890. WHEREAS, It has been brought to our notice that reports have been circulated impeaching the character and honesty of purpose of George O. Ward; therefore

Organization Notes.

The industrial people of Stafford county will hold a grand rally at St. John, Friday, October 24.

Sub-Alliances in the vicinity of Sterling, Rice county, will hold a grand rally at that place Saturday, October 25.

There is a great deal of transparent humbugery in the McKinley bill, so far as it relates to agricultural products.

There will be a grand rally of the People's party held at Barnes, Washington county, Wednesday, October 29. A. C. Powers, the Indiana soldier-orator will address the multitude.

The industrial people of Washington county will hold a big rally at Clifton, Monday, October 20, and will be addressed by Captain E. S. Osborne, People's candidate for Secretary of State.

The two old political parties are headed the same way and are traveling "neck and neck." They are owned, bossed and managed by the same riders, who thoroughly understand each other.

The great common people of this country have discerned the fearful cataract ahead of them on the old party currents, and propose to shift sails and steer for the calm waters of peace and prosperity.

Lay aside all prejudice and stand by your industrial friends who are candidates and elect them, and you will be all the better represented, your laws better enforced, and our country blessed.

A grand rally of the People's party, of Decatur county, will be held at Oberlin to-morrow Thursday, October 16. Judge Peffer, editor KANSAS FARMER, will address the assembled multitudes on the vital issues of the day.

An exchange from Nebraska says: The Farmers' Alliance down in sister Kansas is worrying the leaders of both the old parties amazingly. This is just. These leaders have long worried the farmers. Turn about is fair play.

J. C. Stewart, State Secretary F. M. B. A., writes us that in accordance with the constitution of that organization, the State Assembly will meet at Iola, Allen county, Tuesday, October 21. A large, interesting and fruitful meeting is expected.

Why should Wall Street be favored with a year's interest of \$24,000,000, on registered and coupon bonds? Are they entitled to any more respect and protection than the brave boys who faced death upon the field of battle that our country might be saved?

The Alma News wants to know why the "grand old party" has arranged to bring its ablest workers into Kansas instead of taking them to "doubtful" states? With Allison, Plumb, Ingalls and Harrison, already billed, and many more to follow, the impression is spreading all over the Sunflower State that somebody is getting frightened, not to say demoralized.

Nine hundred and ninety-nine out of a thousand of those who say that our money should be based on gold, don't know anything about how much gold there is in the country. There has not been mined in whole world, during the past century, enough gold to move the products of the United States for one year. This is a fact. Then how can our money be based upon gold?

The executive committee of the People's party, of Harper county, write us that H. R. Walling, of Sumner county, addressed a large and enthusiastic audience at Anthony, Saturday, October 4, both in the afternoon and evening; that he is one of those thoroughly posted speakers that bring conviction to the minds of the people by logical arguments, pleasing manner and good nature.

The Monitor, (St. Louis), says: Monopolies is a monstrous serpent with two poisonous heads—the Democrat and Republican parties. No matter which head bites you, the sting is the same and death is the final result. Trying to reform these two old parties is simply attempting to pull out the fangs to render the creature harmless. This is a slow and dangerous process and will never be productive of great or permanent good.

The Republican, Washington county, says: How the organs do dwell upon the demand of the Republican party for an equity of redemption law. The Republican party repealed a redemption law years ago, and just last summer Governor Humphrey told the Alliance men who wanted an extra session to pass another, that such a law would be unconstitutional. Do the Republican managers of Kansas think the farmers of Kansas are fools to listen to their promises?

The Leavenworth Times, one of the stalwart and leading Republican papers of the State, says of our candidate for Governor: John F. Willits has elements of strength. He is a practical farmer and a fluent speaker. He thoroughly appreciates the needs of the farmer, understands the aims of the Alliance and can present his cause in such a manner as to be listened to and carry conviction to the minds of many who listen. Those who think Mr. Willits will be a weak candidate will change their opinion before the middle of November. His nomination makes the most interesting campaign the State has witnessed.

Here are some interesting facts and figures that we wish our soldier readers, especially, to consider well: "Did it ever occur to you that in many States where a victory is not absolutely certain, the old soldiers are well cared for by giving them fat offices and liberal pensions? This is

instance, Indiana and Ohio occasionally go Democratic. Indiana is the home of sixty thousand soldiers. Fifty thousand of these are on the pension rolls and draw annually \$8,500,000. In Ohio there is a soldier population of fifty-five thousand with forty-four thousand on the pension rolls drawing \$11,000,000 a year. Kansas, which is considered safely Republican, has one hundred thousand old soldiers, only seventeen thousand of them draw pensions. Our readers can draw their own conclusions.

While in Topeka at the great soldiers' reunion last week, President Harrison did not explain to the battle-scarred veterans of Kansas why it is that a majority of the soldiers in his State (Indiana) are pensioners, while Kansas with her 100,000 veterans only has one-fourth of them on the pension list. He did not explain that it was because Indiana is a doubtful State.

The Arbor State says that it is a sad state of affairs when foreigners own one-fourth of the property of such a country as the United States. European capitalists now hold \$16,000,000,000 of mortgages and bonds upon the property of the people of the United States. It seems that what England failed to accomplish 100 years ago with guns, the capitalists of Europe are accomplishing with money.

There is a great change coming; and if it is not brought about by the ballot, stronger measures will be the forced result. But we have too much faith in the intelligence of the great common people of America, informed as they are upon the vital issues of the day, to think that they will much longer be so blinded by party prejudices, that they will not remedy the great wrong by an intelligent vote. They will not sit supinely down and see their children brought to a condition of serfdom and slavery.

Public Speaking--Appointments.

The demand for public addresses by the editor of the KANSAS FARMER has become so great as to make it important to publish appointments ahead, so that people in making new appointments, may know what days are already engaged. Dates now named in advance are:

- October 16, Oberlin, Decatur county. October 18, Coldwater, Comanche county. October 22, Jamestown, Cloud county. October 23, Glasco, Cloud county. October 24, Emporia, Lyon county. October 25, Garnett, Anderson county. October 28, Ulysses, Grant county, 1 p. m. October 28, Woodsdale, Stevens county, 7:30 p. m. October 29, Hugoton, Stevens county, 10 a. m. October 29, Liberal, Seward county, 7:30 p. m. November 1, Harper, Harper county.

There is no charge made for these visits except for necessary expenses, and this may be made up largely, if not wholly, by subscriptions to the KANSAS FARMER, when the people are so disposed.

Alliance Lectures.

In order that a place and date may be fixed, brethren desiring either open or closed lectures should write me, Topeka, Kas. It were better that several sub-Alliances join, say three to five, and bring out all the unconverted possible.

W. P. BRUSH, Ex-National State Organizer.

Topeka Weather Report.

For week ending Saturday, October 11, 1890. Furnished by the United States Signal Service, T. B. Jennings, Observer.

Table with columns: Date, Max., Min., Rainfall. Data for October 5-11.

Chicago's Great Business College.

The young men and women of the country patronize the Bryant & Stratton Chicago Business College on account of its grand facilities for instruction in practical business training, in shorthand and typewriting and in the English branches. A magnificent 112-page catalogue, 9 1/2 x 12 inches, printed on finest enameled paper, and illustrated with thirty full-page engravings, is distributed without charge at College office, Washington street, corner Washash avenue, Chicago, or sent by mail free upon receipt of 10 cents in stamps to pay postage.

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Shawnee County Alliance Exchange Co., wholesale grocers. Send for price-list. 1201 Sixth Ave. east, Topeka, Kas.

In using Crummer's Hog Sanitarium you save 20 per cent. of the feed and have healthy hogs. You can't afford to be without it. Send to Belleville, Kas., for circulars.

No change to Denver, Ogden, Salt Lake, Portocello, Pendleton, Portland, St. Louis, Chicago, etc., via the "Only Line," i. e., the Union Pacific. H. B. HARRINGTON, City Passenger and Ticket Agent, 525 Kansas Ave., J. F. GWIN, Depot Agent.

The Young Folks.

Brooding on the Years.

I vex me not with brooding on the years
That were ere I drew my breath; why should
I then
Distrust the darkness that may fall again
When life is done? Perchance in other
spheres—
Dead planets—I once tasted mortal tears,
And walked as now among a throng of men,
Pondering things that lay beyond my ken,
Questioning death, and solacing my years.
Who knows? Oftimes strange sense have I of
this,
Vague memories that hold me with a spell,
Touches of unseen lips upon my brow,
Breathing some incommunicable bliss!
In years foregone, O Soul, was not well?
Still lovelier life awaits thee. Fear not thou!

—Thomas Balby Aldrich, in the Century.

Beyond the purple, hazy trees
Of summer's utmost boundaries;
Beyond the sands, beyond the seas,
Beyond the range of eyes like these
And only in the reach of the
Enraptured gaze of memory,
There lies a land long lost to me—
The land of Used-to-be.

A land enchanted—such as swung
In golden seas when sirens clung
Along their dripping brinks and sung
To Jason in that mystic tongue
That dazed men with its melody—
O, such a land, with such a sea
Kissing its shores eternally,
Is the fair Used-to-be.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

LIONS IN HARNESS.

The Long Training Needed by the Desert King Before He'll Slave.

The very spirited illustration of three lions driven abreast by a man standing erect in a Roman chariot is familiar to most residents in London. It portrays, without the usual absurd exaggeration of mural art, an entertainment which is given daily at the French exhibition at Earl's court.

In the center of the large circular space which has been used during the last few years for the display of the Indians of the Wild West, the sports of the Roman amphitheatre, etc., is erected a smaller circle securely surrounded by iron bars, having at the back an inclosed building containing dens. The "open sesame" of my host passed us into the private recesses of this prison house, in which I found four young lions, the oldest being about 3 years of age.

These constituted the trained troupe, and there was also one younger scholar, who had just been added to the collection. The education of this one was just commencing, and he still retained the feline characteristics to such an extent that any approach to familiarity was met by a snarl which displayed the unshed milk teeth of the owner, looking as sharp and needle-like as those of a puppy.

The training of these young lions rarely occupies less space of time than twelve months, and is chiefly accomplished by kindness. Mr. Darling, their trainer, informed me that he regarded force as not being desirable, as it excited the animals to rebellion and was not conducive to obedience, whereas, trained under the system adopted, each animal knows its name and answers to it. So successful are the methods employed by Mr. Darling that he has never been bitten by the animals during the time he has had them in hand.

In addition to the lions the collection includes two huge Bavarian boarhounds, which take a very prominent part in the performance.

After this introduction to the performers I took my seat with the audience to witness the exhibition. Mr. Darling and his assistant entered the arena with the lions and one of the dogs; the former, at the word of command, leaped up upon the pedestals and arranged themselves in pyramidal groups. While in this position Mr. Darling placed the ends of two scarfs in the mouths of the lions, forming festoons, over and under which one of the dogs leaped; two of the lions then stepped upon a plank forming a seesaw, the dog leaping on to the center and swaying it from side to side.

One of the lions then mounted a tricycle, working the pedals moving the front wheel with its fore feet, while the boarhound was pushing behind. The chariot was then brought forward, one lion entered readily between the shafts, and two others took their places at either side, one proving rather refractory; but after sundry growls he submitted to the stronger will of the trainer, who mounted the chariot and drove the trio round the circle.

The performance is very distinct from

that of lion-trainers in general, who rule their charges with rods of iron and prod them with points worse than the stings of scorpions, utilizing the fear and terror of the animals at the superior power of man. Mr. Darling, on the other hand, is very familiar with the members of his troupe. The manner in which he took hold of the fore-legs of one of the largest and pulled him down from his pedestal when he was not sufficiently quick in descending was amusing.

The lions are of African descent, but, like the majority of the species now in menageries, have all been born in captivity, and familiarized with man from their birth. Whether they retain their docility as they advance toward their full size remains to be seen; but at present they offer the most complete specimens of trained lions that it has ever been the writer's fortune to witness.—London Field.

Big Ocean Waves.

In his report of the terrible hurricane encountered by the British ship Ventura, on August 18, in latitude twenty-eight degrees, forty minutes N., longitude one hundred and twenty-eight degrees, fifty-seven minutes W., Captain Norman Lillia, the master, makes the assertion that "a mountainous wave was seen rolling toward the ship about one hundred feet high." As the gallant Captain is known to be a gentleman whose ability as a yarn-spinner is very great, he was probably unaware of the gross exaggeration he was guilty of. An ocean wave one hundred feet high is declared by shipmasters to be an impossibility, and even a "bore," or tidal wave, has never been known to reach such a height.

A number of shipmasters were discussing this report on 'Change yesterday, and all were of the opinion that such a wave existed only in Captain Lillia's imagination. One captain, well known here, and of great experience, said:

"Waves never rise to more than thirty-five feet. The highest wave I have ever seen was twenty-four feet six inches by actual measurement, and that broke on the bar at Pismo, where I was wrecking a vessel. I had ample opportunity to measure those combers, and few of them rose over twenty feet. At the Farallones you see the water going clear over the rocks. The force of the waves there is terrific. I saw the iron rudder-head of the wrecked Bremer, which is seven inches in diameter and of wrought iron, snapped off like a pipe-stem, and yet, as the result of long personal observation, I would say that the waves at the Farallones seldom, if ever, are higher than nineteen feet. The piers and jetties along this coast are never more than from twelve to fifteen feet in height, and yet you seldom hear of them being washed away. From my own experience at sea, I should say that ocean waves never rise more than twenty-five feet at the highest, and more generally only twenty-two feet. The heaviest seas I ever met were in the Bay of Biscay, and I was in that delightful part of the ocean in one of the worst gales that ever raged there, and I know that no wave that I saw there rose higher than twenty-three feet. A wave one hundred feet high would destroy the best ship that ever sailed the sea. No vessel could possibly survive the shock of it. Now, just look at the absurdity of the thing: The Ventura's main truck is probably not more than one hundred and fifty feet from the deck. Make it one hundred and fifty from the water line even, and then you will see that a wave one hundred feet high going over the vessel, must have buried her in the water up to the topgallant crossrees, and of course no vessel could rise from such an immersion."

"Where are the largest waves found, Captain?" asked a reporter.

"Well, my experience has been that in the forties, both north and south, in the Pacific and Atlantic, you will find the heaviest seas. They are called the 'rolling' or 'roaring' forties, you know, because of the rough weather generally experienced in those latitudes."

"Yes," said another shipmaster, "I agree with you, and reverting to the matter of high waves, I guess there are none to be met with higher than those in the Bay of Fundy or China sea. An English naval officer recently sent out to measure those in the former place observed no wave higher than thirty-five feet. The waves off Cape Horn are of course very high, but they are long and give a ship

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time to recover herself. Off the Cape the waves are more choppy, and consequently do not rise so high. Waves do not rise with the gale. It is after the blow that the highest waves are seen. The excessive force of the wind keeps the water flat to a certain extent, blowing the crest off in what the sailors call 'scud.'

"Yes," said the captain who first spoke, "I do not think the waves in the Samoan hurricane were so large. The trouble was they came so quickly one after the other that the vessels had not time to recover. The force of waves in a hurricane is almost incredible. It amounts to 6,983 pounds or so to the square foot of water in a gale. It has been observed that waves of eight feet numbered thirty-five to the mile and eight a minute, of fifteen feet there are six to the mile and five a minute, of twenty feet there are three in the mile and four a minute.—San Francisco Alta.

Calculation on a Potato.

Did you ever calculate the value of a single potato on the basis that that single tuber was the only one left in the world? That one would, of course, contain within itself the possibility of restocking the world with a valuable article of food. If one potato would produce when planted but ten potatoes, in ten years the total product of that one potato would be 10,000,000,000, which would stock the whole world with seed. If the world were reduced to one single potato it would be better that London or Chicago be blotted from the earth than for that one tuber to be lost.—St. Louis Republic.

An Old Cemetery Found.

A cemetery of the Merovingian period has been disclosed by workmen in a railway cutting near Argenteuil, France. Two hundred and twenty tombs were brought to light. The primitive mode of confining the dead in plaster of paris was resorted to by the people who buried in this cemetery. The plaster envelopes have resisted well the action of time, it is reported, as all the skeletons were preserved.—Paris Letter.

"Don't Care to Eat."

It is with the greatest confidence that Hood's Sarsaparilla is recommended for loss of appetite, indigestion, sick headache, and similar troubles. This medicine gently tones the stomach, assists digestion, and makes one "real hungry." Persons in delicate health, after taking Hood's Sarsaparilla a few days, find themselves longing for and eating the plainest food with unexpected relish.

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Kansas State Art Association
Will open in the "Kansas Farmer" Building, corner Fifth and Jackson Sts., on Monday, September 15.

Over one hundred and sixty pupils have received instruction during the past four years and have made substantial and rapid progress. Additions to the equipment will be made this year and new features be introduced. Special rates made to pupils from outside of the county. Those desiring to attend the classes this year, and especially those who would like to join the night class, should communicate at once with PROF. G. E. HOPKINS, by mail, who will furnish circulars as to terms and instruction.

AGENTS LOOK HERE

and Farmers with no experience make \$2.50 an hour during spare time. A. D. BATES, 104 W. Robins Ave., Covington, Ky., made \$31 one day, \$21 one week. So can you. Proof and catalogue free. J. E. SHEPARD & Co., Cincinnati, O.

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Objectionable advertisements or orders from unreliable advertisers, when such is known to be the case, will not be accepted at any price.
To insure prompt publication of an advertisement, send the cash with the order, however monthly or quarterly payments may be arranged by parties who are well known to the publishers or when acceptable references are given.
All advertising intended for the current week should reach this office not later than Monday.
Every advertiser will receive a copy of the paper free during the publication of the advertisement.
Address all orders
KANSAS FARMER CO., Topeka, Kas.

Plumb and Kelley, of Kansas, both voted against concurring in the conference report on the tariff bill.

The general rise in prices of dry goods and clothing is a knock-down argument against the new tariff bill.

Stock is generally in good condition. Fall rains have put grass forward so that grazing was never better in October than it is now.

Our neighbor, the *Capital*, is not in love with the Farmers' Alliance. It refers to the State meeting now in the city as "the Alliance blowout."

Correspondence of the State Board of Agriculture indicates that the increased wheat acreage in Kansas this year over last year is about 35 per cent.

The State Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union is now in session at Metropolitan hall, this city. It is impossible, of course, for us to give any report this week.

We wish to direct attention to our market report this week. We are making arrangements to secure and publish a complete report every week upon such articles as Kansas farmers are specially interested in.

Col. L. L. Polk, President of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, will address the people at the fair grounds, in Topeka, to-morrow. We hope our Republican friends will not be afraid to go and hear him. He is a mild-mannered man and goes unarmed.

It appears from indisputable evidence that the Republicans have two candidates for Congress in the Sixth district. The party are talking and laboring for the election of Webb McNall on the Republican ticket and paying the campaign expenses of Tully Scott, the Democrat nominee.

We are in receipt of a pamphlet copy of the proceedings of the Kansas State Republican convention held at Topeka, September 3, 1890. It was prepared by an expert stenographer under direction of Geo. W. Crane & Co., printers and book-makers, of Topeka. This is an excellent campaign document for any of the parties, because it is full and correct. It is for sale by Messrs. Crane & Co., at 25 cents a copy.

The *Capital*, a few days ago, published an editorial paragraph to the effect that the members of the trades unions in Topeka are solidly against the Farmers' Alliance. The *Capital* is in error. The enumeration of objects in the constitutions of the various unions does not include anythingavoring of a political character; but individual members are at liberty to affiliate with any party, and as matter of fact, a large proportion of tradesmen are in full sympathy with the People's party.

RECIPROCIITY AND THE 'WESTERN FARMER.

Last week we called attention to the general subject of reciprocity, and took the liberty of suggesting that if reciprocity is to be limited to American nations south of us the results will be largely in favor of our manufactures, and that the farmers would come in second as usual. Since that article was written, our attention has been called to a letter written nearly a month ago by Mr. Secretary Blaine, in which he discussed this matter, conceding that the result of proposed reciprocity with the people south of us, or, as he calls them, the Latin American nations, is altogether conjectural. He expects good to follow, and especially to the Western farmer in an increased demand for his wheat. Mr. Blaine's letter was written in answer to an invitation to attend a banquet of the Boot and Shoe Club of Boston. He said the club can do great good by counteracting certain phases of New England opinion, which he regards as hurtful to New England interests. New England is to receive in the new tariff complete protection for every manufacturing industry within her borders, and it will be, in the judgment of the Secretary of State, both inexpedient and injurious for her representatives to disregard a measure which will promote Western interests.

Mr. Blaine refers to the letter recently received from the President of the late convention of millers at Minneapolis referring to excessive duties on American flour in Cuba and stating Americans will be unable to retain any part of the Cuban flour trade unless immediate relief is secured. "In view of these facts," says Mr. Blaine, "is it possible that a protectionist can even think of opening our markets to Cuba's products free while absolutely excluding from her market by a prohibitory tariff? With reciprocity the West can annually sell many hundred thousand barrels of flour in Cuba and Porto Rico, together with a large mass of other agricultural products. Without reciprocity she will be driven more and more from these markets. Giving the fullest protection to all Eastern interests as the proposed tariff bill does, surely no man of good judgment, certainly no protectionist of wise forecast, wishes to expose a Western interest to serious injury; especially when it is manifestly easy to protect and promote it. Manifestly easy, because at this very time boards of trade, chambers of commerce and public opinion in Havana are demanding reciprocal trade with the United States.

Nothing is said or suggested by the Secretary concerning the reason of the high duty levied on American flour in Cuba. We have never understood that Spain or Cuba want to exclude our flour. If they did they could easily prohibit its importation by still higher duties or by statute direct. The object of the high duty on our flour is presumably the same as our high duties on Cuban sugar—to raise revenue. We have taken none the less of Cuban or German or French sugar because we levied high duties upon them, for we wanted their sugar or we would not have purchased it, even when we knew the duty tax come out of our own pockets in the end; and for exactly similar reasons the Cubans levy high duties on our flour and still buy it because they want it. This does not argue against reciprocity; that is not what it is written for, but it shows that while taxes on sugar and flour are onerous and ought to be removed, the increase of sales of American flour in Cuba, under reciprocity, would not be very great, any more than the increase of sales of Cuban sugar in the United States, under reciprocity, would be very great. Cheapness is always an inducement to the purchaser when he has the means to purchase with, hence it is that low prices usually stimulate trade to some extent. It is probable that more flour would be sold in Cuba if the trade were free, and that more sugar would be sold in the United States if the trade were free. But with wheat being raised and flour produced in some of the southern American countries and exported from at least two, it is not reasonable to expect very large increase in the American flour trade there under any circumstances.

It is not so, however, in the case of manufactures. There is not yet much manufacturing done in the countries south of us; the people there are now receiving immense supplies of manufactured goods

from foreign nations—mostly from the other side of the Atlantic. The great field, therefore, in Latin America is for the Eastern manufacturer and not for the Western farmer to fill. Mr. Blaine, in the letter referred to, treats the subject thus:

Certain wise men asked how can we sell farm products in South America when the same things are produced there. Cereals are undoubtedly grown in most portions of South America, but wise men will remember that cereals and sugar do not grow in the same soil, and the sugar countries of South and Central America and the West Indies contain 40,000,000 of people who import the largest part of their breadstuffs. Indeed the largest portion of the sugar product of Latin America is at our doors, and we can greatly enlarge our exchanges there, if Congress will give us opportunity for reciprocal trade. Another class observe they want time to study the system. To these I may reply, the best method of studying the system is to observe its practical workings. While studying in the abstract, and refusing to take some object lessons, these gentlemen propose to open our market to Latin America products free of all charge, without asking Latin America to give us in return some freedom in their markets. The object lesson immediately before us is the treatment of the sugar question. Shall we make Latin America a gift of that trade? When we have studied that lesson we shall be prepared for the second. The worst proposition of all is put forth by those who say "let us put sugar on the free list now and next year take up the subject of reciprocity." If I understand their logic, it is to make sugar free this year without condition, and next year to ask Spain if she will not kindly consent to grant us reciprocal trade. Holding complete vantage ground themselves, the proposed policy transfers the vantage ground to Spain. Those who take this ground belong to that class of careful guardians of property who prepare a long lock for the stable after the horse is gone. I do not mean in anything I have said to imply that reciprocity is only a Western interest.

The many forms in which our business interests will be promoted by reciprocity cannot be known till the active commercial men of the United States shall have developed those forms by investigation and experience. We shall not realize the full benefit of the policy in a day, or year, but shall we, therefore, throw away countless millions of trade in addition to the \$80,000,000 we have already thrown away and then ignorantly declare, without trial, that "the system won't work?" Finally there is one fact that should have great weight, especially with protectionists, every free trader in the Senate voted against reciprocity. Free trade papers throughout the country are showing determined hostility to it. It is evident free trade Senators and free trade papers have a specific reason for their course. They know and feel that with the system of reciprocity established and growing their policy of free trade receives a most serious blow. The protectionist who opposed reciprocity in the form in which it is now presented knocks away one of the strongest supports of his system. The enactment of reciprocity is the safeguard of protection. The defeat of reciprocity is the opportunity of free trade.

The latter part of Mr. Blaine's letter is not statesmanlike. Not one of the members of either branch of Congress, in voting against the McKinley bill, expressed himself in favor of free trade, and not one of them is opposed to reciprocity. Their reasons for voting against the bill were well expressed by Senator Plumb—because the bill unnecessarily increases the burdens of the masses without any corresponding benefits to any but manufacturers who were before making benefits to which they were not justly entitled.

That part of our country which lies east of the Mississippi river produces no more grain and cattle than is required for use of the people living there. The surplus for export is produced almost wholly in the region west of the river. It is that fact, chiefly, which gives importance to the opening of a deep water harbor on the Texas coast. It is particularly desirable that the Western farmers have a shorter and a cheaper route to the seaboard; and then, in connection with that, if we have reciprocal trade relations with all the people of the earth, we will have opened many new avenues of trade which are now closed to us. It is important, however, that Western farmers understand their relations to this great subject. Our legislation has all along been in the interest of the manufacturer, and it is well that all the people should see clearly that the proposed departure is in the same direction. If it is intended for the benefit of the farmer and laborer, why not apply the same doctrine to all nations? As we stated last week, the people of Great Britain alone took from us last year \$382,000,000 worth of produce, and that mostly from our farms, while all the nations south of us, combined took only \$68,000,000 worth of our produce, and that mostly manufactured goods. The Western farmer will get his eyes open after a while.

VOTES ON THE SILVER BILL.

Inquiry is made concerning the Congressional vote on the final passage of the silver bill in both Houses. We did not preserve the record of the final vote in the House. On a House motion to recommit the bill with instruction to report a free coinage bill, all the Democrats except thirteen voted aye, and all the Republicans except fifteen voted no. This was a test vote. Republicans voting for free

coinage were Allen, of Michigan; Anderson, Funston, Kelley, Perkins and Turner, of Kansas; Bartine, Nevada; Carter, Montana; Connell, Nebraska; De Haven Vanderver and Morrow, California; Featherstone, Arkansas; Hermann, Oregon; Townsend, Colorado—15. Democrats voting against free coinage were Dargon, Elliott and Hemphill, South Carolina; Dunphy, Flower, Quinn, Tracey, New Wiley, New York; Geisenheimer, New Jersey; Marsh and Mutchler, Pennsylvania; O'Neill, Massachusetts; Venable, Virginia—13.

A BASE FORGERY.

President Polk, of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, recently addressed a letter to the chief officers of other bodies of organized farmers inviting them to attend the National Alliance meeting to be held at Ocala, Florida, on the 2d day of December next. The object of the invitation is to effect a union of all these bodies, so that the farmers of the country may be united in defense of agricultural interests. This letter was taken by the Republicans of Kansas and an extract from a New Orleans paper—the *Times-Democrat*, added to it, with Polk's name attached, and sent out to the party papers as a genuine document. Polk's letter and the *Times-Democrat* article both were printed in the *National Economist* of October 4. The *Times-Democrat* was urging Democrats of Louisiana to make common cause against the Farmers' Union of that State, which body is about to elect a Congressman who is in sympathy with them; and it is an extract from an article in that line that is added to President Polk's letter.

The KANSAS FARMER hopes this forgery will be traced to its source and the guilty whelps prosecuted to the extreme limits of the law. Is there no honor, no cleanliness, no manliness left in politics? Is the Ingalls doctrine really true—that the decalogue and the golden rule have no place in a political campaign?

FIRST EFFECTS OF THE NEW TARIFF BILL.

The KANSAS FARMER gave timely warning concerning the danger ahead of us in case of the passage of the McKinley tariff bill, and we received some raps over our knuckles from friends as well as from enemies. The bill took effect on the 6th day of this month and we have the first fruits given to the world. A New York dispatch, under date October 4, conveyed the following information:

New York, October 4.—The most intense excitement has prevailed in and about the custom house all day. Whole troops of importers and brokers kept coming and going. As 3 o'clock approached the numbers increased until finally the rotunda of the custom house was filled with a solid mass of humanity. All carried large sums of money. They were on hand to enter goods that were expected to arrive late this afternoon. They wished to get their entries in under the old law, and stood ready to make their entries the moment the vessels were sighted at Fire Island. By the decision of yesterday, the custom house was to have closed on the strike of 3 o'clock this afternoon. All goods arriving after that hour were to come in under the new law and duty to be charged accordingly. The mass of importers and brokers in the custom house was so great at 3 o'clock that Collector Erhardt deemed it inadvisable to close at that hour. He announced that the time would be extended until 4 o'clock. Each moment after 3 o'clock the excitement became greater. Those in the rotunda appeared to be going crazy. They shouted, yelled and made futile efforts to move about. Every few minutes whole delegations of importers and brokers invaded the Collector's office and impounded him to keep the custom house open until midnight. The Collector was in a quandary. His office was jammed full of importers who waved rolls of bills in their hands and shouted to him not to close the custom house. The pressure on the Collector became so great that he finally sent a telegram to Washington. It was directed to Secretary Windom and requested advice as to what the Collector should do, under the circumstances. In a little time there came an answer from the Secretary of the Treasury and informed the Collector that he could use his own discretion in the matter. Upon receipt of Secretary Windom's telegram, Collector Erhardt and his seven deputies held a consultation. They decided to keep the custom house open until 12 o'clock to-night. The importers cheered. The steamships Regnald, City of Chicago, Vadam and City of Columbia, the latter from Havana with a cargo of tobacco, are expected to arrive this evening.

THREE CHEERS AND A TIGER.

New York, October 4.—At the custom house at 5:20 p. m. the City of Chicago was entered, and a great part of the waiting crowd was relieved. At 6:05 p. m. the steamer *Regulus*, with a cargo of laces, silks and velvets was entered. There was still due the *Euturia*, the *Thingala* and the *Zaandam*, and news of them were anxiously awaited. At 10:30 p. m. it became known that the *Euturia* had been sighted off the outer bar at 9:34 p. m. At 11:50 the Captain of the *Euturia* had not arrived. Ten seconds later, when half the lights were out, a carriage came on a rush to the door and a great shout went up. From it jumped Captain Haines, who was immediately behind the counter and entered his vessel just before the clock struck midnight. Three cheers and a tiger were given for the Captain. The Captain had upon a special tug and was driven at a

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Honey as Food.

The wholesale and extensive consumption of sugar as a saccharine food in a pure state, or when entrusted to the art of the kitchen, is deleterious to the health.

If the kitchen could return sugar into the same conditions when in cane and beets, and when eating our palatable dishes we could eat it so mingled in bulk foods, it would be all right and good.

Extensive use of sugar on fruits is not as bad as the cake and cooky mania that rages in so many kitchens. The fruit acids largely neutralize the indiscriminate and injudicious use of sugar.

Because of the expensiveness of lumber, most farmers in the West live in houses that are small, close and covered, that can not be properly ventilated.

A New Way to Make Money.

MR. EDITOR:—Mrs. Reed's success in silk culture created so much interest that I am tempted to give my experience with soap.

Sexton, Warren & Offord.

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J. D. ZILLER, Prop'r, Hiawatha, Kas. Consists of twenty carefully selected sows from 1 to 6 years old, bred to four noted boars representing the leading strains. Sows in this herd scored 87 1/2 by Hazlette. I make a specialty of breeding the best. Prices to suit the times. Correspondence promptly answered. Write for catalogue.

M. STEWART, R. S. COOK, Pres't Kansas Swine Breeders' Assoc'n.

STEWART & COOK, WICHITA, KANSAS, Breeders of

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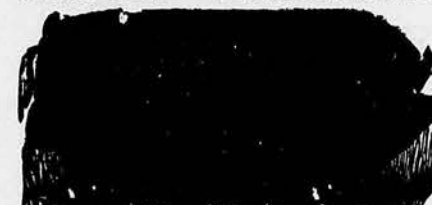
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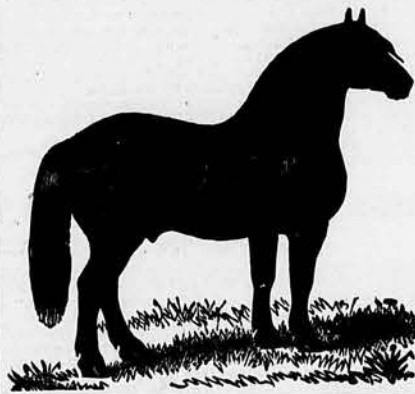


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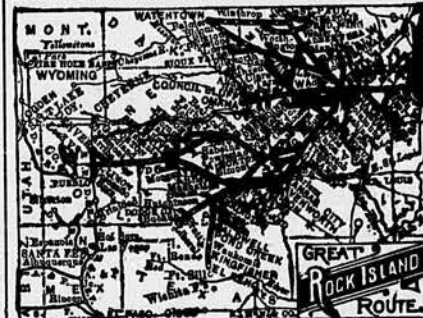
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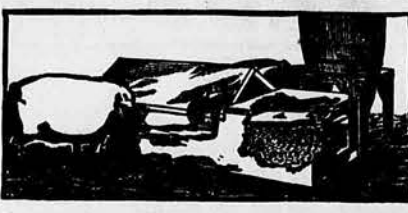
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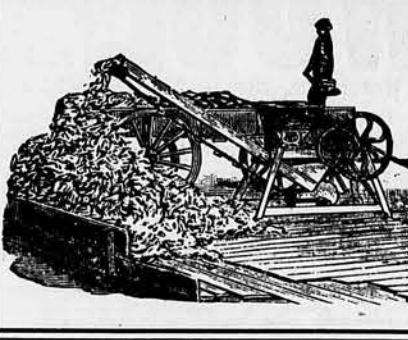
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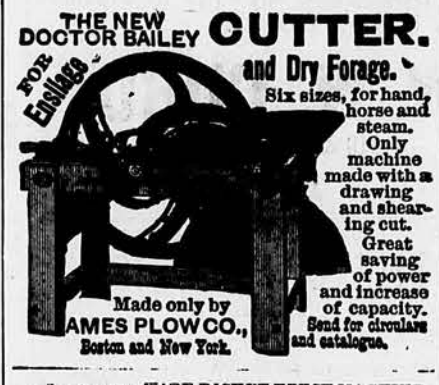
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