

KANSAS FARMER

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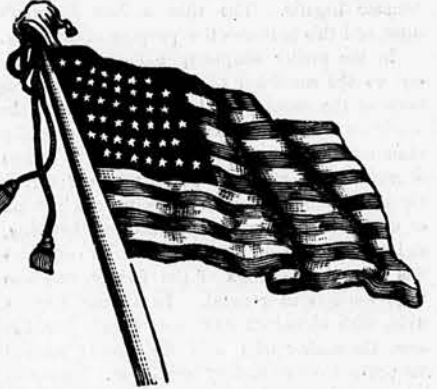
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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- PAGE 3—Current News. Progress in Barber Good Roads—Bonds. The Too Wise Hen. PAGE 4—THE STOCK INTEREST.—Preservation of Health of Swine. Dorset-Horn Sheep Breeding Association. Oldenburg Coach Horse Association. Live Stock Husbandry. PAGE 5—AGRICULTURAL MATTERS.—Is Corn the Most Profitable Crop? English Blue Grass Culture. Wheat in Tradition and History. PAGE 6—ALLIANCE DEPARTMENT.—Value vs. Fiat Dollars. The National Union Company. National Labor Conference. PAGE 7—THE HORSE.—Science in Breeding for Speed. PAGE 8—THE HOME CIRCLE.—Looking Forward (poem). The Vision of Dr. Saunders. Famine. PAGE 9—THE YOUNG FOLKS.—Bugle Song (poem). Alfred Tennyson. Stories of Famous Girls. Current Events. Questions and Answers. PAGE 10—EDITORIAL.—The Political Horoscope. No War Spirit. The Farmer's Share. Is This Complimentary. Not Inconsistent. To Increase the Currency. As a Washington Official Saw Us. PAGE 11—EDITORIAL.—Attention, Sheepmen. Make it Pay. Map of Kansas. Publishers' Paragraphs. THE FAMILY DOCTOR.—Current Topics. Irrigation. PAGE 12—HORTICULTURE.—Notes on Grapes in Central Kansas in 1891. Missouri Valley Horticultural Society. Horticultural Notes. THE POULTRY YARD.—Poultry Notes by a Correspondent. PAGE 13—IN THE DAIRY.—The Profitable Cow. Kansas Dairymen. PAGE 14—The Veterinarian. Gossip About Stock. Market Reports.

CURRENT NEWS.

JANUARY 19.—A telegram from Chill intimates that there is now a disposition upon the part of that government to settle the question by arbitration. A prominent foreign power, believed to be England, has requested to be permitted to act as peace-maker between this government and Chill. The Louisiana Republican State convention met at New Orleans. The platform declares devotion to Republican principles and party; denounced the Democrats; demands the enforcement of the fifteenth amendment to the national constitution, and opposes the Louisiana lottery. United States Senator Gorman was elected by the Maryland Legislature to succeed himself. Secretary Blaine was taken suddenly ill at a Cabinet meeting. Later reports state that the attack was not serious, but his friends are not at ease about the condition of his health. A report from St. Petersburg says the famine fever is increasing at a terrible rate in Kasan, Simbisk and Santaroff. The writer tells a story of terrible suffering among the famished people where the malady has made its appearance, and says this disease is more widespread and devastating now than during the epidemic which raged in Russia at the time of the Crimean war. The Philadelphia Democrats elect anti-Hill delegates to the national convention.

JANUARY 20.—The W. C. T. U. presents petitions against war with Chill. James Brennan, the murderer of Col. Sam Wood, was set at liberty on application of the State. When the case was called, Attorney General Ives announced that the State was convinced that it could not secure an unprejudiced jury in Stevens county, where the killing took place, and moved to dismiss the case without prejudice. An order to that effect was entered, and the Sheriff was empowered to release the prisoner. Secretary Rusk issued notice that on account of the existence of splenic or Southern fever among cattle in North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas and Indian Territory, no cattle are to be transported from February 15 to December 1, 1892, from this area, to any portion of the United States north or west of it, except by rail for immediate slaughter, and then only under certain stated, rigid regulations. Upon the suggestion of Senator Peffer the Senate set apart Saturday, February 20, as the day upon which special services in memory of the late Senator Plumb are to be held in the Senate.

JANUARY 21.—Attorney General Ives began proceedings in the Supreme court of Kansas to test the constitutionality of the organization of Garfield county. Great fears of a water famine in Chicago caused by an ice blockade of the entrance to the tunnel. Senator Peffer breaks over the long established usages of the Senate, and while yet a new member makes a speech in favor of Senator Stanford's land loan bill. Chicago captures the next Democratic convention.

JANUARY 22.—A fire occurred in a surgical institute at Indianapolis, wherein nineteen persons, most of whom were helpers, lost their lives. Justice Bradley, of the United States Supreme court, died.

JANUARY 23.—Several earthquake shocks were felt in Rome, during which many houses collapsed. Congressman Broderick introduces two bills for the relief of two Kansas women, one a widow

of a late Third Lieutenant in the revenue cutter service, and the other a daughter of a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Geo. Clark, son of Hon. Sidney Clark, found dead in his bed at Lawrence, Kas. The cause of his death is unknown.

JANUARY 24.—Simple funeral services were held at the late residence of Justice Bradley, and the body was taken to Newark, N. J., for burial. Orders given to the Santa Cruz Powder Company for a large amount of powder. President Harrison's special message submitted to Congress, in which complaints of the United States against Chill is elaborately set forth, and Congress asked to act. Minister Eagan's official course defended and endorsed. Official correspondence in the Chilian controversy at last made known. The Chilian government purchases a new war ship from England. The United States government purchased the big Southern Pacific steamer San Benito, and will dispatch her to Chill with a cargo of 4,500 tons of coal.

JANUARY 25.—All Kansas Congressmen, except Jerry Simpson, indorse President Harrison's message on Chilian affairs. While not particularly for war, they say the President is right in declaring that the honor and dignity of the nation must be upheld. Congressman Davis said: "It is certainly an able document; it is patriotic and will receive popular support. I believe Congress will sustain him in this matter. I do not think there will be war; but Chill must make reparation." Senator Peffer: "The message is patriotic and American. I believe a declaration of war would be a mistake, if everything could be fairly and honorably adjusted by other means."

Progress in Barber.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—The cold wave struck us in good shape. Medicine Lodge will have a good supply of ice, and of fine quality. Feed is plenty and stock doing nicely. Corn, 25 to 30 cents; wheat, 60 to 65 cents; hay, \$4 per ton; cane seed, 33 to 40 cents per bushel.

Barber will be an immense wheat field, nearly every acre of cultivated land is sown to wheat. The fall was not favorable to the growth of the plant, but the winter has been very favorable, with exception of snow. We have had no snow yet.

There is considerable talk of English capital being invested at this point.

The Sterling United States Seed Station is to be moved to this point, with C. I. Hinman in charge.

Henry Hinze is fitting up the old creamery building, and soon you will be purchasing maple sirup manufactured at Medicine Lodge (new process). S. Medicine Lodge, January 19, 1892.

Good Roads--Bonds.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—What is the meaning of the effort of the metropolitan press to create an interest in good roads? Is the object to get really good roads, or find investment for the money of our Eastern capitalists? The farmers of our country should be cautious about accepting the calculations intended to prove the feasibility of building good roads and bonding our counties to pay for them. County bonds make a very good investment for Eastern money, but they have always been found to be a galling burden to the tax-payer. Figures won't lie, but they are very useful to the man

who will. If people will agree not to be very skeptical, one can easily prove not only that good roads would be a paying investment for borrowed money, but that a two-story frame house and a large barn, with a basement, would also pay dividends to the farmers on such money. Such figuring as this is responsible for much of our farm indebtedness to-day. Experience is a thorough teacher, and I don't think our farmers will be fooled by this zeal in the cause of good roads.

We are all in favor of good public roads, but I would suggest that we would better build them with means on hand and stop borrowing. The mania for borrowing has resulted in improving farms for others to enjoy, and I submit that if we build our public roads with borrowed money, we shall soon find ourselves in condition to get little benefit from them. The work now expended on our public highways can be increased without increasing indebtedness, and if the work we are able to pay for be continuously applied to our roads, according to some rational system, we can get good roads without leaving a burden of indebtedness to posterity.

Our farmers will do well to beware of the voice of the siren speaking through the subsidized press of the large cities. It will lure them onto the rocks of destruction. M. J. WELLS. Woodston, Kas.

The Too Wise Hen.

When poultry becomes a nuisance on the farm by scratching in the garden, eating the strawberries, etc., there is a reason for it and a cure. The reason is your hens are too old, they have learned too much, they know where the strawberries grow and are on the lookout for the first one that ripens, and will find out what is in the bottom of every hill you plant. The older they get the wiser they grow. The cure is to raise enough pullets each year so you can kill off the old hens in the fall. The pullets will lay much better and your gardens will not be spoiled. I keep a fine flock of pure-bred fowls, and I have had my neighbors tell me they wanted some of my kind because "your hens don't scratch," but they do if I keep the same flock year after year, for I have tried it.

The World's Columbian Exposition.

Send 50 cents to Bond & Co., 576 Rookery, Chicago, and you will receive, post-paid, a 400-page advance Guide to the Exposition, with elegant engravings of the grounds and buildings, portraits of its leading spirits, and a map of the city of Chicago; all of the rules governing the exposition and exhibitors, and all information which can be given out in advance of its opening. Also, other engravings and printed information will be sent you as published. It will be a very valuable book and every person should secure a copy.

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Sold by all music dealers. Manufactured by Lyon & Healy, Chicago. Catalogue free.

Automatic Stock Waterer.

We want agents to represent us in Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Illinois, to sell our automatic stock waterer. Write for particulars and terms to Perry & Hart, Abilene, Kas.

One and three-quarters ounces of salt to one pound of butter is the correct proportion.

If you want the earliest potatoes, start them in cold frame or hot-house and transplant them.

The next meeting of the Shawnee County Horticultural Society will be held at Board of Trade rooms, Knox building, on Saturday, January 30, at 1:30 p. m. All interested in fruit, cordially invited. A good programme will be carried out.

Governor Hoard's Dairymen says: "The thinnest veneering of self-righteousness that we ever heard of is that of a man who imagines that he 'scores' higher in the moral world because he eats pale, sickly-looking butter, rather than that artificially tinted to a golden June color."

Speaking before the Iowa Butter, Cheese and Egg Association, of his four years' experience with ensilage, C. L. Gabrielson said: "The advantages of the silo from our standpoint lies in economy of space; economy of labor; satisfaction of having this food convenient for feeding; palatability, and benefit of a succulent addition to the ration at a time when stock is ordinarily restricted to dry food."

Speaking of Paraguay, a recent report issued by the Department of Agriculture says: "The orange is understood to have been introduced by the Jesuits, and the seeds to have been widely distributed by birds. The orange has spread all over the country, from the river banks to the tops of the hills, and from the cottages even to the deepest solitudes of the virgin forests. Paraguay is the land of orange trees." Mr. Child states in 1890: "Whether wild or cultivated, orange trees abound, and spread over the landscape a warm golden tinge of singular intensity. And what oranges? Juicy, perfumed, and of a delicacy that Spain and Italy have never attained." From May to August this fruit is shipped in heaps upon the steamers, from ports along the Paraguay river, to the number of about 60,000,000; as many more are consumed at home, and far the largest amount rots upon the ground, often in heaps also, and is destroyed by birds and monkeys."

The Stock Interest.

THOROUGHBRED STOCK SALES.

Dates claimed only for sales which are advertised or are to be advertised in this paper.

FEBRUARY 17-18, 1892.—Breeders' Combination Sale of Standard-bred horses, Holton, Kas.
FEBRUARY 18, 1892.—Geo. W. Falk, Poland-Chinas, Richmond, Mo.
FEBRUARY 29 AND MARCH 1-5, 1892.—Grand Spring Combination Sale, City Stock Yards, Denver, Colo.
APRIL 20, 1892.—Col. W. A. Harris, Cruckshank Short-horns, Dexter Park, Chicago.

Preservation of Health of Swine.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—There is probably no problem in connection with breeding and raising swine, that is of like importance to those engaged in this industry. To have healthy swine, there are four things to be constantly kept in view, namely, proper breeding, proper general apartments, proper sleeping apartments, and judicious feeding.

Breeding.—In this no animal should be bred except he or she be in a perfectly healthy condition. Females should be active, having large chest capacity, and good length. Males should be large, having bone, strong loins, large, smooth and active.

General Apartments.—Swine should have large range with plenty of water and shade. Never allow so many swine in one lot or pasture, that their droppings will accumulate to any extent on the ground.

Sleeping Apartments.—For winter, this should be a good house, which may be constructed very cheaply, by setting fence posts in the ground, leaving them three and one-half feet above ground, putting four or five strands of wire upon them, six to eight inches apart, this to surround as large a lot as desired for this house. Cover by putting brush, corn fodder or cheap lumber over it. Then add twenty-four inches of straw. Set a second row of posts about four feet from the first, placing on them strands of barbed wire six inches apart. Fill this space with straw, packed firmly. The entrance to this house should be from the south. In summer, this straw should be removed. The covering should be left on to protect them from the rays of the sun, as they will frequently lie in this house during the daytime. Great care should be given to the sleeping apartments in winter. All bedding should be removed once a week. The bedding should always be dry. Dust should not be allowed to accumulate to any extent, as it is likely to produce lung trouble.

Feeding.—Swine should always be fed plentifully. A hog kept in a thrifty, growing condition, is much less liable to disease than the poorly fed, care being taken not to feed any one diet exclusively, especially corn, as by so doing, the digestion becomes impaired. Green feed is always desirable, especially clover, but unfortunately that is limited in this State. Young, and also breeding swine, should have only a limited supply of corn. They should be fed bran and middlings, well soaked, but never sour. Once a week, swine should have a portion of oil cake meal, say one quart of meal to a pall of bran mash. There should always be kept in the pasture or lot, a good supply of rock salt. In case any hog shows signs of being sick, it should at once be removed from the others. P. A. PEARSON.
Kinsley, Kas.

The Dorset-Horn Sheep Breeding Association.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—The first annual meeting of the Dorset-horn Sheep Breeding Association was held at the Monongahela house, Pittsburgh, Penn., January 13, 1892. Fifty-nine members were present and voting by proxy. The membership fee of the association was increased to \$10, and the records were left open until April 1, 1892. It was decided by unanimous vote to appropriate the sum of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 to the Columbian exposition, at Chicago for the advancement of the interests of the Dorset-horn sheep, and the money to be distributed among its exhibitors as directed by the Executive committee.

Mr. Wylie offered a resolution on the behalf of the association that the exhibition be closed on the Sabbath. The Secretary's report showed that the first sheep was admitted to record in the association on the 23d day of June, 1891; that from that day to the 1st day of January, 1892, 1,036 were admitted of record. Of this number 598 were imported; 437 American-

bred. Of the American-bred, 138 were reported to be twins. During the year, 1,213 letters and circulars were sent out by the association by the Secretary. The membership numbers sixty-nine, representing sixteen States, and one member each from Canada and England. The States were represented as follows: Pennsylvania, 21; New York, 16; Connecticut, 6; Massachusetts, 5; Minnesota, 3; Indiana, 3; Ohio, 2; New Jersey, 2; Virginia, 2; Wisconsin, 1; Oregon, 1; Colorado, 1; West Virginia, 1; Iowa, 1; Kentucky, 1; Maryland, 1.

The report further says, that Dorset-horn sheep, to far as is known, was first introduced in the United States by Wm. Daley, of Lockport, New York, on March 25, 1887, he having purchased one ram and two ewes from U. E. Fuller, Hamilton, Canada, for the sum of \$170. The first importation of Dorsets into the United States was by E. F. Bowditch, of Framingham, Mass., in July, 1887.

During the year the Dorset-horn Flock Book was established in England, which will be of great assistance to the American association by protecting it from that class of sheep known as "culls."

The old officers were re-elected, and on motion it was agreed to hold the next annual meeting at the Fifth Avenue hotel in New York City, on the second Wednesday of January, 1893.

M. A. COOPER, Secretary.

Washington, Pa.

Oldenburg Coach Horse Association.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—At the meeting held at the Sherman house, Chicago, on the 12th day of January, 1892, for the purpose of organizing an association for the registration of the pedigrees of Oldenburg coach horses in the United States, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Oldenburg coach horse has become a favorite with the American horse breeders, and has proven himself of pure blood and superior breeding qualities, and

WHEREAS, There is at the present time no reliable record in the United States for the registration of the pedigrees of the Oldenburg coach horse, the society heretofore known as the "Hanoverian Oldenburg and German Coach Horse Association of America," having been illegally organized and contrary to the laws of the State of Illinois, incorporated for \$50,000, when in fact there had been but thirty-six (or about that number) of shares subscribed and paid for, at \$10 each, all of which action was illegal and void, as has been acknowledged by the officers of the said association, in their circular letter issued to its members December 14, 1891, and

WHEREAS, Said organization has been run improperly by its officers, who keep themselves in power by proxies obtained by them, principally by persons who do not import horses and do not attend the meetings, and

WHEREAS, There has been an attempt made to organize anew the said defunct association on the same unjust basis by the same parties, but few of whom are importers of horses, and

WHEREAS, Said officers have not run the same for the benefit of the public nor the breeders and importers of coach horses, that its acts have in our opinion been illegal and contrary to the laws of this State, and that it is not deserving of the patronage of those who desire an authentic record of Oldenburg coach horses; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we proceed at once to organize a new society, wherein all breeders and importers shall have equal rights for the preservation of the pedigrees of the Oldenburg coach horse in this country, and that said organization be incorporated in accordance with the law, and that the same be known as the Oldenburg Coach Horse Association of America. [Signed]

SPRINGER & WILLARD,
BOWLES, HADEN & CO.,
HARRISON WOLF,
ED. KNOTT & CO.,
D. F. STUBBS & SONS,
J. J. JOLIDAN & SON,
J. W. KAMSEY.

In pursuance of said resolutions, a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and the following officers were elected: W. M. Springer, President; Ed. Knott, Vice President; C. E. Stubbs, Secretary and Treasurer; Ed. F. Jolidan, Harrison Wolf and Wm. Hadden, Directors.

The Oldenburg Coach Horse Association of America is now incorporated and received its certificate of incorporation on January 15, 1892. It is at present the only incorporated society for Oldenburg horses in this country.

C. E. STUBBS, Secretary.

Fairfield, Iowa.

Live Stock Husbandry.

Now is the best time to purchase good stock that we have seen for quite a while. Prices are low and prospects good.

Keep a supply of fresh lime scattered around the pens, feeding floors and troughs. It is one of the best and cheapest disinfectants.

A. Coleman, of Birley, Chase county, writes the KANSAS FARMER as follows, regarding mule-raising: "I have raised and handled mules all my life and I don't believe that there is any team as good as mule teams. Two years ago I came to Chase county and located on an 1,800-acre

stock ranch and now raise different kinds of stock, but I find most profit in mules. I have sixteen head now, and break four every spring to work. Be kind to the mule and he will return the favor. I bred twelve mares last season and they are with mule. I am in favor of mule-raising and recommend other farmers to try it."

Jacob Reusch, Clearfield, Kas., writes the *Western Stock Journal*: "I keep a small flock of sheep, and have for the last four years. I don't believe any breed better than the Southdowns in this climate. I have grades of that breed, but keep only the best. If I get a small lamb I sell it, and in that way keep my flock well culled. I don't think there is any profit in sheep any other way. I use clover and timothy pasture, and never let the pasture get short. My clover went to seed in the sheep pasture last summer, and the sheep were so fat that the butcher wanted to buy some of the ewes that were suckling lambs. In the winter they have good shedding, and a hay rack to eat from. I feed prairie hay and oats twice a day, and let them roam on the wheat when the weather is fit. I don't think corn is good for sheep. In four years I have lost four ewes. I never lost any from dogs or wolves."

A correspondent of the *Homestead* who seems to have had considerable experience in feeding roots to stock, says: "For several years past I have been raising thoroughbred Poland-China hogs, and have also been experimenting on raising beets or mangel wurzels to help out their bill of fare. I have tried about a dozen kinds of beets and mangels, and have come to the conclusion that for my use I prefer the Mammoth mangel for early fall feed and some good kind of red turnip beet for winter use. For the latter many would prefer a sugar beet. I begin to feed the mangels in July or August, according to whether my pastures are dried up or not. My hogs greedily eat tops and all. By the time winter sets in I generally have the mangels all fed out and store the turnips and sugar beets for winter use. I consider beets for hogs a paying investment. I have thought several times that feeding beets kept my hogs from having cholera."

H. H. Metcalf, Secretary of the Colorado Cattle-Growers' Association, in his report at the annual meeting at Denver, a few days since, says: "At twenty-five years of age we begin what I firmly believe will be a new era in prices, and we must acknowledge that the prospect looks brighter in every way for those who have held on during the past season of depression and still have faith in the years to come. Since my report of one year ago, nothing of unusual interest has transpired. Our cattle have brought more in value than the previous year; it may have been by increased weight more than higher prices, although some have sold at a better figure than formerly. A steady reduction in numbers still continues, by shipment and slaughter, which has not been offset by importation. The grass on the eastern portion of the State, is abundant, and we might say that all over the State the cattle went into the winter in the very best of condition. The agricultural interests of the West have had a very successful season. The corn crops are immense, but owing to the scarcity of that cereal in other countries, producers had rather sell it than feed it to cattle. Therefore, our market at home for feeders, as they are termed, has not been as brisk as we would like to have seen."

Prof. W. A. Henry, of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, says that when steers have been heavily fed sudden changes are often very disastrous to profits. I think feeders do not always reason this matter out correctly. For example, when a lot of steers was changed for reason or accident from one kind of feed to another, or from food prepared one way to the same prepared another way, a break in the gain of the animal is almost sure to follow, and the feeder draws the conclusion that the form of the change produced the bad results, when the truth is that any sort of change would probably have had the same effect. In repeated instances we have had one lot of steers on shelled corn and another lot on corn meal at the same time, both progressing satisfactorily. For the purpose of the experiment we reversed the feeds and invariably both lots have done poorer for weeks following the change. Had we been feeding but one lot, or had less experience, we would have probably jumped to the conclusion that the second form of food was not as valuable in steer-feeding as the first. In these changes we found that a steer getting shelled corn did not take kindly to corn meal for some time. Likewise a second lot, that were doing nicely on meal, did not at first take kindly to shelled corn, and for a period of a few weeks neither lot could be induced to consume so much feed as during the first period.

ALARMING MORTAL STATISTICS.

A Destroying Epidemic Abroad in Our Land.

La Grippe and its Consequences More Destructive than War and Famine Combined.

Synopsis of a Lecture at the Surgical Hotel by Dr. S. B. Hartman.

Reported for the Press.

It was stated by the great recorder of Jewish history, speaking of the land of Egypt after the seventh plague had been sent upon them; "And there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where was not some one dead."

Not quite so tragic an utterance is true of our own country at the present time, but certainly it is true that a great plague is abroad in the land; that the first born and last born has been slain in countless households; that parents and infants, without regard to station or circumstances, have fallen a prey to the fell destroyer, La Grippe. Never was there a plague so insidious, so omnipresent, to defy the skill of the physician and the strength of the patient as this pestilence. It does not seem to spread like an ordinary epidemic; it seems to spring from the ground spontaneously everywhere at once. It finds its victims at mid-day; or, like the destroying angel in Egypt, it unsheathes its sword to strike the unwary asleep in the dark watches of the night. It enters the hovels of wretchedness and poverty, and easily crosses the threshold of wealth and luxury. Doctors seem to be wholly unable to prevent its onset, to stay its ravages, or mitigate its consequences. Is there no balm in Gilead? No succor for the oppressed?

Without hesitation or fear of successful contradiction I answer: Yes, there is a preventive for those who have remained, as yet, untouched with this disease, a cure for those who are already its victims, and a complete and permanent restoration for those who have lately escaped its clutches with weakened and deranged bodies from which recovery seems impossible. To those who have thus far escaped this dreadful ailment, but are trembling with constant fear of it, I desire to say that a tablespoonful of Pe-ru-na, taken before each meal, is absolutely reliable as a preventive against La Grippe; and no one need have any fear of an attack of this disease so long as this treatment is continued. It is absolute recklessness, for which there is little or no excuse, for any one, during the unsettled weather at least, to omit to take this precaution. To those who are already attacked by this disease I would advise: At the appearance of the first symptoms treatment should be begun at once, and keep strictly to the house for a few days. No treatment, however effectual it may be, will always prevent quite a long siege with this disease, but no other medicinal treatment is necessary than Pe-ru-na. The directions, as they are given on the bottle, are more applicable to chronic diseases, and it is advisable, during the acute stages of the disease, to take smaller doses, but oftener. I would direct a tablespoonful of Pe-ru-na every two hours for adults, and a correspondingly less dose for children, until the acute stage is ended.

There are a great multitude of people in all parts of the land who have entirely lost their health as a result of La Grippe; who have recovered from an attack, but find themselves with weakened nerves, deranged digestion, and with but very little of their former powers. There is no disease known to man that leaves the system in such an outrageous and exasperating condition, as La Grippe. The student finds it is impossible to return to his books, the professional man to his routine of office work, and the working man to his labors, with anything like their old vigor. It is even worse with the housewife and the devotee of fashion, whose debilitating employments make recuperation slower. For this class of sufferers Pe-ru-na is a specific; I do not hesitate to guarantee that if any one will take Pe-ru-na according to the following directions that in a few weeks they will be entirely restored to their accustomed health: Add two ounces of rock candy to each bottle of Pe-ru-na before using. Take a tablespoonful before each meal and at bedtime. Gradually increase this dose until at the end of one month, you are taking two tablespoonfuls at a dose. This dose should be continued until every vestige of the symptoms disappear.

Any one desiring further particulars should write The Pe-ru-na Drug Manufacturing Co., of Columbus, O., for a free copy of The Family Physician No. 2—a most admirable treatise on La Grippe, acute and chronic catarrh, coughs, colds, and all other climatic diseases of winter.

Agricultural Matters.

IS CORN THE MOST PROFITABLE CROP?

Read before the Marshall County Farmers' Institute.

You will doubtless be much surprised at my being brought before you to read a discourse on a subject that is absorbing the thought of the philanthropist, as well as the economic thinkers of the day. It is the question of bread and meat, which is second only to life itself.

Now, the great problem before us, as tillers of the soil, is, in what way we can produce the greatest amount of healthful food at a profit to us. This is the problem, the solution of which is not only desired by us as producers, but also by the consumers, which includes the remainder of mankind.

We are here by appointment to have a kind of experience meeting, an interchange of views which may be made profitable to all, but I desire to say before proceeding further, and without casting any reflections on your very able committee, that they made a great mistake in urging me to attempt to do that which I know I am unable to do in a creditable manner. I said we are here to have an experience meeting, and experience to many of us means something very expensive, so I am glad this is a free school, and that we have able instructors with us who have been digging down into the bowels of the earth and analyzing the elements and swelling their brains for our mutual benefit.

The question to which I desire to call your attention is, is the growing of corn profitable? or, in other words, is corn the most profitable crop for us in this part of Kansas? Well, I think it is. Although it may be a debatable question now, it will be a demonstrated fact in the near future. My experience in growing corn goes back to a very early date in my existence—about the year 1847. When we had the potato rot in Ireland, corn was introduced there, and I procured two grains and planted them in the garden, where they made a fine growth of stalk, but no ear. Now, about this time, there was a great deal of talk about a great uncle we had over in America, and as I did not have any very near relatives except a godfather and a godmother, I came over to America to see my "Uncle Sam," and I have been growing corn in a small way in different parts of his dominion ever since, except for a short time when I went South to settle a little unpleasantness he had with his nephews down there. But as I do not want to tire you, I will hasten along.

In the year 1870, I planted some corn where I now reside, but the yield was not satisfactory, it being too dry; and 1874, we all remember that, when we bade good-by to so many of our friends who wanted to go East to see their wife's folks, but I staid and fed out several hundred bushels of wheat to my hogs, an experiment I have no desire to try again. Wheat is good for bread alone, but we can make bread and meat of corn. The benefits of corn are only equalled by its varied uses. I believe ever since 1874 the corn on my farm would average forty-five bushels per acre. Now if any one has beat that for seventeen consecutive crops, I will guarantee he lives in Kansas. In 1882, I planted a field of twenty-two acres, that averaged ninety-three bushels per acre. It was a piece of fall plowing. I plowed it over closely with the cultivator, harrowed, and planted with planter, following wheelmark with corn plow, then harrowed again, and when it was about three inches high, rolled and cultivated it three times. Had no weeds. Have raised seventy to seventy-five bushels per acre with the lister several seasons.

There are various reasons why corn is the most profitable crop for the

average farmer, a few of which I will mention. First, it is not subject to scab and blight and the ravages of insects, as wheat is, to say nothing of the chances you take on your wheat being winter-killed; and then the expense is less than one-half that of wheat, if you include seed wheat. To plant and cultivate an acre of corn with the implements now in use, requires just three-fourths of a day. To mature an acre of corn now, at \$2.50 a day for a man and team, you have \$1.81. It will cost you \$1.50 to put it in a crib, so you see to mature and crib an acre of corn it costs \$3.37. Now add to this \$2.50 for interest on \$25 invested in land, and you have \$5.87. Now take your crop of this year, which will average forty bushels, at 30 cents a bushel, and you have \$12, a net profit of over \$6 per acre left. Well, brother farmers, if we declare such dividends as this, we must either water the stock or quit throwing stones at J. Gould. But some one will say, that will do for this year, but how about your 15-cent corn? Well, I have been in Kansas for twenty-two years, and I never had any of that kind of corn. I have seen it down about that low three times in twenty-two years, but I was always too busy to haul any. Then the crop of 1881, which was a partial failure, was a paying crop for me. It made thirty-six bushels, and sold for 75 cents, making \$27 per acre. My crop of 1889 made sixty bushels per acre, which I sold with that of 1890 at 45 cents and 62 cents, an average of over 56 cents. My crop for 1890 made thirty bushels, the poorest yield I have had since 1874. According to the agricultural report, the entire State has averaged thirty-three and one-half bushels for the past twenty-two years. Now at 25 cents per bushel, which is a low estimate, it would make \$8.37. Take \$3.37 from it for labor, and you have \$5 left, which is more than the first cost of some of the land. If you could make our merchant prince, W. L. Souders, believe that he could invest in a line of goods that would give such a dividend as this he would think he had found a bonanza, and yet we find men bewailing the deplorable condition of things in Kansas.

I am satisfied with the past, and think we are on the threshold of a new era, and as Col. Murphy and Minister Phelps have pushed the door ajar, we can have a glimpse of even better things through their efforts. The German War Department has recommended the use of corn as food for the imperial army. Now, if we are called on to furnish the armies of Germany and Russia with bread, with the influx of immigration and the increase of population, we must utilize every acre, for the corn field of the world is not very large. You can count on your fingers—and you need not count your thumbs, either—the States that grow three-fourths of all the corn, and Kansas is one of them, and Marshall is the banner county, with a record that has never been beaten. In 1882 the average yield for the entire county was fifty bushels per acre.

English Blue Grass Culture.

Read by S. H. Ayres, before the State Board of Agriculture, January 13, 1892.

In the month of July, 1874, I commenced to plow ten acres of fair Kansas soil, about four inches deep, for the purpose of "trying my hand" in raising the English blue grass as an experiment. I plowed, harrowed and dragged the ten acres of land in what I thought to be good shape to sow grass seed in. On August 15, I took my team and drill and twenty pounds of English blue grass seed to the acre, and I drilled it in as best I could, which took me one good day's work; then I waited for my returns. In about five days I began to see some of the grass coming through the ground in good shape. When it had all got up I thought it was too

thick, and I still think so. Therefore for the last twelve years I only sow twelve pounds per acre. Sometimes I sow it with winter wheat. When I sow English blue grass with wheat, I mix twelve pounds of grass seed with one bushel of wheat, and drill them together, and I have never failed to get a good stand of grass. Once the wheat winter-killed, but the blue grass came through all right and made a fair crop, which was about 240 pounds per acre, and that year I sold to F. Barteldes & Co. the seed from fifty acres, which made me sixteen bushels per acre, or 384 pounds per acre, for which F. Barteldes & Co. paid me 7½ cents per pound, which made me \$28.80 per acre for the seed from the fifty acres in one year. Now I think the straw and pasture will pay all expenses, so you can see that the \$28.80 is for rent. I have sold to F. Barteldes & Co. as much as \$2,000 worth of English blue grass seed in a single year, of my own raising. For the last seventeen years I have sold English blue grass seed to the amount of \$500 to \$2,500, each and every year.

Some years I have sold from 100 to 1,000 bushels of timothy seed. I have got from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per bushel, usually about \$1.50, and the yield has been from three to ten bushels per acre, and it costs more to harvest and thresh timothy than it does English blue grass, because it has more straw to handle. The price has been 12 cents for threshing timothy, while for threshing blue grass it is 4 cents per bushel. Timothy, with a little clover, will produce more hay than English blue grass will, but the quality of the English blue grass pasture is much the best.

I think the proper time to sow English blue grass seed is in August, September or October. Early seeding is the best. The ground should be in the best possible condition, if you expect a good return for your seed and labor and a good rent for your land.

Now, I have given you some of the facts about the English blue grass as it has proven to me under my management. Now, to back this up, I will produce a contract that I entered into with F. Barteldes & Co. for the raising of the English blue grass seed:

This agreement, made and entered into this 8th day of August, A. D. 1885, by and between S. H. Ayres, of Edgerton P. O., Johnson county, State of Kansas, party of the first part, and F. Barteldes & Co., of Lawrence, Douglas county, State of Kansas, party of the second part, witnesseth:

That the party of the first part agrees to grow for the party of the second part, a crop on from one hundred to two hundred acres, of English blue grass seed, every year for three successive years, and deliver all the crop of said English blue grass seed to the party of the second part at their store in Lawrence, Kas., at the price of six and one-half (6½) cents per pound, the said seed to be reasonably clean, as it comes from the threshing machines herewith.

The party of the second part agrees herewith to take all the crop of English blue grass grown on from one hundred to two hundred acres, reasonably clean, for three successive years, and pay therefor the sum of six and one-half (6½) cents per pound.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this 8th day of August, A. D. 1885.

S. H. AYRES.

F. BARTEDES & Co.

I think I am "ahead of the hounds" and no one hurt, for I have good value received for everything that I have sold in the way of English blue grass seed. And English blue grass and S. H. Ayres are friends yet, so far as I know.

In September, 1891, F. Barteldes & Co. consummated a big seed deal. The farmers in west Johnson and east Douglas counties lumped all of their blue grass area and offered the seed for sale. Several Eastern firms were on the ground but were afraid to tackle such a stupendous purchase. Mr. Barteldes was not. He paid \$20,000 for an estimated amount of 17,000 bushels of blue grass and timothy—15,000 bushels of the former and 2,000 of the latter. This grass is threshed in ordinary wheat threshers. The farmers really get three crops—seed, hay and pasture.

Popularly called the king of medicines—Hood's Sarsaparilla. It conquers scrofula, salt rheum and all other blood diseases.

Indigestion! Miserable! Take BEECHAM'S PILLS.

Wheat in Tradition and History.

Where did wheat originate? how long has it been known? who first used it? are questions which have doubtless been asked thousands of times by the sower and reaper. The following from the St. Louis Republic gives in brief space a large part of what is known of the traditions and history of wheat:

"The Chinese cultivated wheat 2,700 years before the beginning of the Christian era, always considering it as a gift direct from heaven. Scientific agriculturists are of the opinion that it was widely known and cultivated by prehistoric man. At the present time it is the principal bread corn of the leading European nations and is fast supplanting the use of maize or Indian corn in the American States. The Egyptians attributed its origin to Isis and the Greeks to Ceres. A classic account of the distribution of wheat over the primeval world shows that Ceres, having taught her favorite, Triptolemus, the art of agriculture and the science of bread-making, gave him her chariot, a celestial vehicle, and that in it he traveled night and day distributing this valuable bread grain among all nations of the earth.

"Ancient monuments show that the cultivation of wheat had been established in Egypt before the invasion of the shepherds. There are numerous varieties of this useful grain. Col. Le Couteur, of the Isle of Jersey, cultivated 350 varieties on his estates at one time, and Darwin mentions a French experimenter who had 322 distinct sorts growing at one time. Vilmorin-Andrieux et Cie, seed merchants at Paris, have collected upwards of 700 different types of wheat, or more than twice as many as the great Jersey experimenter.

"Three small-grained varieties of common wheat were cultivated by the first lake dwellers of Switzerland. It was also cultivated by the people of Italy and Hungary in the time of the stone age and by the Egyptians as long ago as 3,359 years B. C., this latter fact being proved by a grain of wheat found imbedded in one of the bricks of the pyramids to which the above date has been assigned.

"The existence of names for wheat in the most ancient languages confirms the evidence of its great antiquity and of its cultivation in the more temperate parts of Europe, Asia and Africa. From the evidence adduced by botanists of high standing it seems highly improbable that wheat has ever been found growing persistently in a wild state, although it has often been asserted by poets, travelers and historians. In the Odyssey, for example, we are told that wheat formerly grew in Sicily without the aid of man. Diodorus repeats the tradition that Osiris found wheat and barley growing promiscuously in Palestine, but neither this nor other reputed discoveries of wheat growing wild seem at all credible, seeing that it does not appear to be endowed with the power of persistency, except under continued culture."

Money in Cabbage and Celery.

"Blood will tell." Good crops can not be grown with poor strains of seed.

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To a true lover of fruits the mere description of many novelties is the most interesting fiction of the day.—*American Garden.*

Alliance Department.

VALUE VS. FIAT DOLLARS.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—In your issue of December 30, 1891, you publish an article under the above heading, from Dr. E. P. Miller, of Medicine Lodge, Kas.

There are two points in the article which the writer labors to sustain. The one is, that gold and silver cannot be kept at par with each other except through the medium of compulsory coinage of the cheaper metal. The other is, that in order to make money circulate at par, when made of any cheap material, it must be made redeemable in gold.

Let us examine the language of the constitution of the United States, which is the fundamental law of our government, upon this subject, which is as follows: "The Congress shall have power to coin money, regulate the value thereof," etc. This language either means something or it means nothing. And as it is the supreme law of the land, all loyal citizens of the government who have read this section of the constitution will not be ready to accept any other interpretation touching its meaning than that so plainly and so forcibly expressed by its language. It does not intimate in any manner whatsoever that money is to be, and must be, made of gold and silver, or of either. The matter of selecting material out of which to make money is left to Congress quite as fully as the matter of coining and regulating the value of money. Mr. Miller's argument is to the effect that this language of the constitution must be without force, except through the medium of a law compelling the coinage of silver (if coined at all) when it is cheaper than gold, and that nothing is money at all except it be redeemable in gold. If this argument be accepted as sound logic, the language of our constitution is at once annihilated, and the power of saying what shall or what shall not constitute money, and fixing its value, must be regarded as belonging to such as own and deal in gold bullion. Mr. Miller states that the 5-cent nickel coin made from 2 cents worth of nickel is only kept in circulation by the purchase and coinage of the nickel, and because the government makes such coins redeemable in gold coin. Let us read the law, and see if Mr. Miller has not gratuitously made the above statement with regard to the redemption of the nickel coins. Section 5 of the act of May 16, 1866, reads as follows: "And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Treasurer and several Assistant Treasurers of the United States to redeem in national currency, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, the coin herein authorized to be issued, when presented in sums of not less than one hundred dollars." It will be seen that the term gold does not occur in the law touching this subject, and is another point that Mr. Miller must surrender.

But again, Mr. Miller states that those who imagine that the money of a great nation can be maintained in circulation, when made of material that has no value, and irredeemable, will discover their mistake if they should ever be so unfortunate as to have their theories adopted. He does not say redeemable in gold, but this is evidently what he means. If not, his entire argument is reduced to a blank. Let him state to us what kind of money the demand notes were redeemable in, the issue of which was authorized by the acts of July 17, 1861, and of February 12, 1862. There were in all \$60,000,000 of these notes, and the term gold does not occur in the law which provides for their issue or redemption. But further, in next to the last paragraph of his article, he states that money is the legal tender for the debt of a nation (and he should also state that it is the legal tender for the debt of an individual if for any), and it must, he says, be made of or redeemable in some material that has in it a value that is an equivalent for the debt it pays, in order that justice be done.

Let me ask Mr. Miller what we are to do in case we, as a nation, owe another nation a debt, in which our gold coin could not be considered a legal tender for such debt, for no foreign power is bound to respect or recognize our coinage law? So that his legal tender argument is a failure in all such cases. In fact, he very well knows that there is no such thing as an international legal tender money,

but both gold and silver coined in this country are worth the price of gold and silver bullion and no more, except as foreign nations may see proper to honor the same. Let it be understood that gold, silver and all other substances are entirely destitute of money value, except through the sanction of the law of a government, and the stamp or fiat of the same, and the position that the government can make a dollar out of any quantity of silver which it may fix by law, or of any other substance, is correct, and to assume that it is at all practicable to attempt to regulate the value of a dollar by the commercial value of the gold and silver out of which it may be made is an absurdity, for the reason that it is an impossibility. To-day gold and silver bullion may command a certain price, and to-morrow it may command more or less. That the amount of silver in a dollar may, as bullion, command a greater price as bullion than it would pay the silver producer to have it coined into dollars, under a free coinage law, I shall not attempt to contradict; yet I think it extremely doubtful as to Mr. Miller's ability to prove beyond question that such an occurrence was ever recorded as a fact. At any rate, when silver was about to be demonetized in 1873, the line of argument advanced by Mr. Miller was not used before our people; but, on the contrary, the most rigid secrecy was maintained in regard to the matter until several months had elapsed before the people knew that they had been deprived of silver as money. But by far the strongest probability is that many of the arguments touching this silver question are gotten up in the interest of gold and silver speculators. But if free coinage of both gold and silver should have the effect of driving both of these metals out of the money market, and forever banish them from any such use as mediums of exchange, it would prove a godsend to humanity, as it would prevent the same from ever cursing mankind again.

The Supreme court of the United States (Wallace's Reports, Vol. 12, page 548,) says: "Contracts for the payment of money are subject to the authority of Congress; they are engagements to pay lawful money of the United States, and Congress is empowered to regulate the money. It cannot, therefore, be maintained that the legal tender acts impair the obligation of contracts."

No one ever doubted that a debt of \$1,000 contracted before 1834 could be paid by one hundred eagles (\$1,000) coined after that year, though they contained no more gold than ninety-four eagles (\$940) such as were coined when the contract was made, and this not because of the intrinsic value of the coin, but because of its legal value. The constitution does not ordain what metals may be coined, nor does it prescribe that the legal value shall correspond at all with the intrinsic value in the market.

Legal decisions and the definition of money by many writers on finance might be referred to, but at this time I deem it unimportant, as the above case, it would seem, is sufficient, coming from the highest authority in the country, and most certainly should outrank the labored efforts made by the money power and their satellites to hoodwink the people. Let all bear in mind that money is a creature of law, and that gold depends at last upon the credit of the government, its products and its fiat for all the value it possesses. The ridicule which Mr. Miller indulges in he knows to be of no force as argument, but as ridicule it may, with the totally uninformed, answer a good purpose. He says, in substance, that if a dollar does not depend upon the substance of which it is made for its value, why should not the government issue \$64,000,000,000,000 of such money, and give each man, woman and child a million dollars, thus making all millionaires? But as he forces it upon us, I say in reply that from \$50 to \$80 per capita has been found quite a convenient amount of money to keep in circulation. This amount has proved sufficient to carry on the commerce of the country in quite a satisfactory manner, while \$7 or \$8 per capita has been found to be too limited a quantity, this being about the amount per capita now in circulation. So said the late Senator Plumb. Secretary Foster, however, in a statement for partisan purposes, states that there is more than I have named, but Foster has not given us a correct statement. G. BOHRER, Chase, Kas.

The National Union Company.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—The history, purposes and ultimate results of the organization known as the National Union Company are matters but poorly understood by the public. A so-called plan of business has been widely published and unfavorably commented upon by the press generally, both by the so-called monopolistic and reform press.

The plan of the National Union Company was originated by the National Business Agents' Association of the Alliance. It was approved by certain extensive manufacturers, who agreed to furnish the capital to start and keep in operation the stores as contemplated in the plan, the National Union Company to appoint three of the five directors who have control of the business and affairs of the company, and the Alliance National Business Agents' Association to appoint the other two.

The purpose of the company is to own and control a large number of stores in all parts of the country; to operate these stores upon a co-operative plan; to make an equitable division of the net profits of the business at the end of the year between the capital invested and the trade of the customers. It seems to me that the proposed division is not only equitable, it is even generous to the customers. Let us examine this. The customer is assured of a dividend of 2 per cent. upon his gross purchases at the end of the year. He has not a cent at risk, and is assured of goods as cheap as they can be had anywhere, less the above reduction. The customer, being entirely independent, will compel the company to sell as cheap as other stores do to secure trade. At the end of the year the net profits are divided in the ratio of \$1 of capital stock receiving the same share of profits that \$10 of trade does. This is upon the basis of a 10 per cent. profit on goods and capital turned ten times a year. I cannot conceive of a reasonable objection to this plan of the division of the profits of the business.

I understand it is the purpose of the company to handle principally serviceable, substantial goods; to handle no inferior or adulterated goods; to sell at a fair profit for cash only, and equitably divide the profits between the business done by customers and capital furnished by the company. By the immense volume of business the company will be enabled to furnish directly from manufacturers and greatly lessen the enormous expense of distribution by dispensing with the locust horde of commercial travelers, jobbers, agents and go-betweens generally for whose services we are paying so much. It is an admitted fact that at least three persons are now engaged in commercial pursuits (distributing the products of labor) where one could do the work.

The policy of the National Union Company will dismiss two of these from trade to industry, and thereby prove a great public benefactor. I have no quarrel with unnecessary, superfluous agents of commerce any more than I have with the old scythe and cradle that the mower and tinner have superseded. I only say that the intelligence of this nineteenth century ought to be equal to the task of cheapening commerce or distribution. Production has been cheapened by the invention and use of improved machinery, and in my judgment this will be the next step in the social and industrial progress of the world, and the National Union Company is a long step in that direction.

Another objection to the National Union Company, to answer, is that it would be a gigantic monopoly which would crowd all other merchants to the wall and then extort exorbitant prices from the consumer. This assumption is not borne out by facts in commercial history. The Standard Oil Co. certainly has a monopoly of its business, and yet coal oil is better in quality and costs but a fraction of what it did when the business was in the hands of numerous little companies competing with each other for the trade. The fact is, the vast economies of production and distribution possible in immense enterprises greatly tends to cheapen, and in the end the people receive the benefit. But the assumption that the National Union Company would monopolize commerce is fallacious. The country and its business is too large to be controlled by one commercial company, and the fact is that alongside of the most successful co-operative stores are located good private stores doing a good trade. This is true in Utah, where

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the Zion co-operative stores are so successful. It is true at Olathe, where the great Grange Co-operative Association has achieved and is achieving such wonderful results.

I have but one other objection to the National Union Company to answer, and that is the opposition of the press, both the so-called reform and monopolistic. Said the editor of a political paper to me (and it was not a People's party paper, either): "Why, we are obliged to fight it. Our bread and butter is in it. Why," he said, "if your National Union Company goes, I can see my advertising glistening."

My answer to this is that a few years ago the harvest hands were burning self-binders in the wheat fields because they believed their use would take away their employment. That the invention and use of the self-binder has greatly cheapened the "staff of life," benefiting the consumer thereby, and at the same time increases the farmers' profits by enabling him to multiply production and benefit the farm laborer by giving him steadier employment and better average wages, is beyond question. As the self-binder has cheapened production, the National Union Company will cheapen distribution and immensely benefit the general public.

Individual happiness depends largely upon general prosperity, and when the people are generally prosperous, newspapers need borrow no solicitude about their advertising patronage.

Oskaloosa, Kas. EDWIN SNYDER.

National Labor Conference.

The Passenger Association has made a half fare on railroads east of the Missouri river, on account of the National Labor Conference to be held at St. Louis, February 22, 1892. It is thought that the Trans-Missouri Passenger Association will make a similar rate before the meeting.

All parties intending to attend the convention are requested to send their names and postoffice addresses to me immediately, so that I may make arrangements for their accommodation. J. B. FRENCH, Secretary F. A. & I. U. of Kansas. Topeka, Kas., January 6, 1892.

W. F. Rightmire, having returned from Ohio, is now attending to his law practice. Parties having important cases in the different courts of the State wishing to employ a competent attorney will do well to correspond with Mr. Rightmire, of Topeka, Kas.

People's Party Convention.

The Wabash railway announces a rate of one fare (.65) for the round trip from Kansas City and return for all who wish to go to St. Louis. H. N. GARLAND, Western Passenger Agent, Kansas City, Mo.

One of the Finest.

Here is one of the many letters the Chicago, St. Paul & Kansas City railway is constantly receiving in commendation of its superior facilities in the way of brand new coaches and superior sleeping-car accommodations:

"What you said about the cars on your road was true. They were the finest I saw on my way here, and the most roomy and comfortable. Should I have occasion to travel east, I shall try to use your part of the road, and shall recommend it to others."

It will be remembered this line is the only line in the West running the celebrated vestibuled compartment Pullman sleeping-cars, in which the price for exclusive use of a drawing-room is no more than that of a section in the ordinary sleeping-car. The dining-car service is beyond comparison and its express trains are run on the fastest schedules.

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The Horse.

Edited by W. P. Popenoe, Jr., Berryton, Kas., to whom all communications relating to this department should be addressed.

SCIENCE IN BREEDING FOR SPEED.

By O. B. Hildreth, Newton, Kas., and read before the Improved Stock Breeders' Association, at Topeka, January 13, 1892.

What I don't know about breeding would fill a big book, and what I really do know, or rather think I know, is open to questionable comment. I think I readily understand how, from the fleet Arab and Barb, a continuous breeding and blending of pure blood has resulted in the production of the grandest form of equine animals, and the fastest, gamest, handsomest horses in the world, the Thoroughbred. Don't think I mean a "thoroughbred Hambletonian," or a "thoroughbred Morgan," or a "thoroughbred Norman," for such do not exist. I hear men talk about them, and men, too, who think they know all about it, and when I hear them, I don't dispute them, or argue the matter to show them my ignorance; but I say to you in this paper, there is only one class of horses entitled to the name of Thoroughbred, and that is the horse that traces back through sire and dam in blood lines pure and without shadow, to oriental ancestry. I mean the race horse, the running horse. I said I thought I understood how this horse was produced and perpetuated. I can see no other reason why the uniform excellence is maintained in this class but that of inheritance: by transmission from sire to son, from dam to daughter, under the hereditary law that "like begets like."

Let us compare the relative speed of this class over the distance of one mile—1:35 $\frac{1}{2}$, 1:39 $\frac{1}{4}$, 1:39 $\frac{3}{4}$, the fastest being on a straight course. We are safe, I think, in calling this extreme speed, as only three horses in the history of the running turf have beaten 1:40. A great many cover the distance in from 1:40 to 1:45, and I hazard the opinion that nine out of every ten Thoroughbred horses, if sound, if put in training, would be able to run the distance in 1:50 or better, so that at the running gait, there is only about a possible fifteen seconds between the fastest and the slowest.

Is the breeding of the trotting horse, as carried on, a matter of experiment, or guess-work, or luck, or is it science; and if the latter, where does it come in? In this class we have a "Standard," and to get into this charmed circle the animal must come under certain prescribed rules. It don't have to be, as a matter of fact, of much account itself, but it must have some pretty good relation.

The trotting horse may cover a mile in 2:08 $\frac{1}{4}$, or I will again hazard an opinion that nine out of ten of the so-called trotting-bred or standard-bred horses cannot be made to trot a mile in three minutes, a difference of over fifty seconds between the extreme speed and the best capabilities of nine-tenths of the standard-bred or trotting-bred horses. Was there any science in mating Electioneer with Dame Winnie, the Thoroughbred daughter of Planet? The result of that union was Palo Alto, a horse with the fastest stallion trotting record in the world to date—2:08 $\frac{1}{4}$. True, Electioneer was a sire of trotters, and in his veins was trotting inheritance predominating over his running blood, but in Dame Winnie we have nothing but hereditary running blood. How are you going to account for this result, only on the theory of a lucky experiment? I know a man that went to breeding trotters. He got together a harem of choice mares of the approved blood, according to the prescribed theory, placed with them a stallion to match, and of course expected to raise trotters. Some of the produce of his gilt-edged stallions from some of his elaborately-pedigreed matrons, after prolonged and careful training, could not trot fast enough to head a cow, a few showed a good road gait, but not one to beat the low mark of 2:30 in a race. It remained for an old mare, without pretensions to rank, or royalty, to produce (with one exception) the only animal ever raised on that farm that gave promise of ever receiving the plaudits of the grand stand. On what line of theory will you reconcile these results?

Common sense teaches me to breed the race horse to the race horse to get a race horse, or if I want to perpetuate anything in kind, to breed to that kind; but neither

common sense or common practice or hereditary law suggests the union of the running blood with the trotting blood to produce the fastest trotting horse in the world, yet it has done it. The accepted theory is, breed the trotter to get the trotter. To what extent the result approves the theory I leave for you to conclude.

I do not present this paper as teaching anything. I pass it to you as an enigma for solution; a conundrum to be answered. Is there any science in breeding for speed?

As the foregoing was written before I received a program, giving the topic on which I was expected to address you, I will briefly add a supplemental paper to bring the matter a little more in harmony with the theme. I shall try and avoid getting in a row with the disciples of Wallace, who, on finding evidence of Thoroughbred blood in a trotter, rake the earth with a fine-tooth comb for something to throw doubt upon it, and falling in that, try to consign it to oblivion by the non-committal term of "S. T. B.," or "unknown," in small letters.

In regard to the value of the Thoroughbred blood in what we call the common horse, and by that I mean the horse of every-day use, the horse that is hauling the physician to his patient, the preacher to his pulpit, the plow and harrow of the farmer in the field, and his wagon or family carriage on the road, I am not going to hunt for proof. I am simply going to have you refer in your own minds to animals that you know have one-fourth or one-half of the blood of the running horse in their veins; and their comparison with the ordinary horse show to you a brighter eye, more intelligent head, finer neck, truer conformation, smoother, sounder, better legs and feet, with finer action and corresponding endurance, show to you the added value from that source, and you, admitting the correctness of your own judgment, no proof is required.

As to the Thoroughbred blood as a factor in the trotting horse, I am going to call your attention to a few cases—dams or granddams Thoroughbred. The case of Palo Alto stands supreme—2:08 $\frac{1}{4}$, dam, Dame Winnie, Thoroughbred. Amigo, 2:16 $\frac{1}{4}$, dam; Ansel, 2:20, dam; Azmoor, 2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$, dam; Express, 2:21, dam; Gertrude Russel, 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$, dam; Aldena, 2:25, dam; Hugo, 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$, dam; Idle May, 2:27, dam; Ah There, 2:28 $\frac{1}{4}$, dam; Cubic, 2:28 $\frac{1}{4}$, dam; Laura C., 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$, dam; Linnet, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$, dam; Miss Maud, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$, dam; Wild May, 2:30, dam; Sunol, 2:08 $\frac{1}{4}$, granddam; Anteo, 2:16 $\frac{1}{4}$, granddam; Antevolo, 2:19 $\frac{1}{2}$, granddam; Coral, 2:25, granddam; Wellington, 2:30, granddam; Campbell's Electioneer, 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$, great-granddam—all by Electioneer, who in his own breeding traces quickly to Thoroughbred ancestry.

There is no question about the breeding of the dams of these performers. Let me call your attention to Beatrice, the dam of Patron 2:14 $\frac{1}{4}$, Prodigal 2:17 $\frac{1}{2}$, and of Patronage, a sire of trotters. The second to the remotest trace of the maternal ancestry of this great mare was nearly Thoroughbred racing blood of the four-mile kind, to Woodbine, dam of Woodford Mambrino and Wedgewood, both race horses and sires of rare merit. Woodbine by Woodford, Thoroughbred.

What more need I add? The list is too long to weary you with. The matter is one for study, and for each one to apply as he sees fit. Consider, however, that the granddam of the fastest trotter in the world was Thoroughbred, being Sunol 2:08 $\frac{1}{4}$. Don't forget that the two next fastest trotters in the world, Palo Alto and Maud S., both 2:08 $\frac{1}{4}$, have Thoroughbred dam and granddam, respectively. Don't lose sight of the fact that more than 20 per cent. of the performers of Electioneer had dams or granddams purely Thoroughbred, and that in many others the running blood is close up. So we may safely conclude there is no serious detriment at least from the co-mingling of the Thoroughbred horse with that of the trotter or of the common horse.

Geo. Wolff is authority for the statement that he will train and drive Grace W. 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ in her races this season.

We have received the annual catalogue of Mound farm, Carbondale. It contains the pedigrees of the high-class trotting stock owned by Duncan & Co., with Integrity 9096, (record 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$), at the head. We notice they have lately added to the list of stallions at this farm by the pur-

chase of Motioneer, a son of Eras by Electioneer.

Frank D. Stout, owner of the great stallion Nutwood, G. B. Burch, a wealthy lumberman and banker, and C. E. Wales, landlord of the Hotel Julien, have secured control of the Driving Park Association at Dubuque, Iowa, and will lay out a mile track and offer large purses for a trotting meeting.

J. Malcolm Forbes, of Boston, has purchased the great two-year-old, Arlon 2:10 $\frac{1}{4}$, for the sum of \$150,000. This is the highest price ever paid for a horse, and will have a tendency to boom prices in trotting-bred stock. Everybody was astonished when \$105,000 was paid for Axtel, but the limit was not then reached, nor do we think it is yet.

And, now, why is the trotting horse popular? Because he is the horse of civilization. He is the horse of the people and for the people. He brings with him that charm of usefulness which secures recognition, not only on the turf and from the man of leisure, but from the man of industry and business, and, in fact, everywhere that the horse is useful. He has a place in every house and in every place on the farm, on the road, or as an all-purpose horse he is at home. He is the companion of gentlemen, a horse for men of wealth and elegant leisure, and a horse for the man not cumbersomely supplied with this world's goods. He is a necessity to the rich, a boon to the poor, and a luxury to the middle classes. It is the quality of adaptation that has made him the first animal of his kind. He comes bearing claims to practical utility in the industrial arena, a sphere the Thoroughbred never can enter.

This year promises to be the greatest in the history of the trotting horse. There will be at least 25 per cent. more race meetings than ever before, and the money offered in stakes and purses will be fully 40 per cent. greater than last year, which was the greatest in the history of the light harness horse. The decrease in entrance money will be at least 50 per cent. No business ever had a brighter future than has the breeding and racing of trotting and pacing horses at the present time. The remarkable reduction of records and the large number of sales at good prices has given the business a substantial boom, and at no time have transfers of trotting stock been so numerous as now. New farms for the breeding of this class of horses are being fitted up in all sections of the country. The demand for good trainers is unprecedented. Independence, Iowa, reports the trainers located there as unable to care for all the horses sent them, and this condition prevails throughout the country, wherever mile tracks are located. With the present advancement in the business the old half-mile rings must give place to the regulation or kite track, where speed can be made quicker and in larger bunches.

The fastest yearling trotting filly bred outside of Kentucky and California was bred in Kansas.

Chas. Marvin, who drove the Palo Alto horses to their world's records was formerly a resident of Kansas.

Walter E. 2:18, the grand circuit campaigner, was bred in Kansas.

Kansas has three first-class mile tracks, and will soon have another.

A Kansas-bred three-year-old pacer sold recently for \$5,000.

A horse called Banquo, bought out of an emigrant team at Junction City, Kansas, and shipped to Boston, became a campaigner and trotted to a record of 2:21.

A Kansas-bred colt won the twelve

heat race at Independence, Iowa, the longest contest on record.

Ethan Allen, the founder of the family which bears his name, spent his last days, and died, in Kansas.

Smuggler 2:15 $\frac{1}{4}$, champion of his class from 1876 to 1884, was trained in Kansas.

Robert McGregor 2:17 $\frac{1}{2}$, one of the great sires of trotters was a resident of Kansas a number of years.

One of the curiosities sent out by Kansas was a trotting mare whose sire was a saddle-gaited pony from Missouri, and whose granddam was a broncho pony. She took a record of 2:27.

Eleven Kansas horses have entered the 2:30 list who traced to no known source of trotting blood; and one Kansas mare whose dam was a broncho is the dam of two 2:30 trotters.—Resources.

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The Home Circle.

To Correspondents.

The matter for the HOME CIRCLE is selected Wednesday of the week before the paper is printed. Manuscript received after that almost invariably goes over to the next week, unless it is very short and very good. Correspondents will govern themselves accordingly.

Looking Forward.

The miller dreams not at what cost
The quivering millstones hum and whirl,
Nor how for every turn are lost
Armfuls of diamond and of pearl.

But summer cleared my happier eyes
With drops of some celestial juice,
To see how beauty underlies
Forever more each form of use.

And more; methought I saw that flood,
Which now so dull and darkling steals,
Thick here and there, with human blood,
To turn the world's laborious wheels.

No more than doth the miller there
Shut in our several cells, do we
Know with what waste of beauty rare
Moves every day's machinery.

Surely the wiser time shall come
When this fine overplus of might,
No longer sullen, slow and dumb,
Shall leap to music and to light.

In that new childhood of the earth,
Life of itself shall dance and play;
Fresh blood in Time's shrunk veins make
mirth,
And labor meet delight half way.

—James Russell Lowell.

THE VISION OF DR. SAUNDERS.

BY PHEBE PARMELEE.

(Continued from last week.)

"I wonder what sort of a vision she wishes me. Now there are visions which I wouldn't like to have—which come to—Bah! I'll stop before it comes to that? Will I, honestly? If I could have a vision now instead of then! A vision! What is a vision?"

He made his professional call, ate his supper, and half reluctantly went out to meet his friends to "see the New Year in," all the time hearing his other friend's words, "I wish you might have a vision this very night which would show you a danger to which you now are blind."

"Here comes Dock now!" He was greeted hilariously, if not affectionately. "We want some prescriptions filled out." "So we do." "Some prescriptions—pretty good!" "My stomach has been 'dry' for a week," sounded almost jarringly in his ears.

"I will be careful myself," he commented. "Of course I shall never be so bad as Mother Watson predicted; but I'll be careful."

His preoccupied manner invited comment. "Lost a case, old man? You look as if you expected to attend a funeral." "Maybe it's his own funeral." And thus his unwonted, serious thoughts were driven away and another set had taken their place before he was hardly aware of the change.

Perhaps he was careful—more careful than he had been of late, but not so wisely careful as to abstain altogether from his own "prescriptions;" and they acted upon him in a peculiar, unusual manner. He felt dull; the close, warm room was dense with the smoke which exhaled from pipes and cigars. The "medical" odors combined with the smoke to lull his senses to rest, and as his services were no longer needed, he lay down with a sense of relief upon a counter behind his comrades, unnoticed by them. At first he could hear the laughter following the jokes, and the discordant notes of one or two mouth-organs; he was conscious that he was pretty close to the edge of the counter and wondered if he might not fall off. He closed his eyes, helplessly, but suddenly he thought he opened them again, his senses all alert. He was astonished to find that the scene had changed. He was lying upon the edge of a precipice now, and the danger that he might fall off had increased. Was there no one to help him? There was some one moving softly about just out of the range of his vision. By the rustle of garments he concluded that it was a woman; but he had no power to turn, nor even to call out. A horrible sensation seized him that some one was pushing him forward instead of drawing him back. He struggled to call the name of his chief friend, who had sometimes played practical jokes upon him. Instinct told him, or did some words spoken that very day, "Surely, your chief friend will not hinder you!" The words repeated themselves until they shrieked in his ear, and in their ring was his own horror and despair repeated. The woman was slowly

moving into the dim, hazy light; but her face was averted, and she would not see his shame nor his danger. He watched her with feelings which were changing to curiosity, for she was carrying his office slate in her hands. With a sponge she was erasing the words written thereon. Strangely enough, he could see the names just before they left the surface of the slate. He saw the name of Mrs. Watson, then saw it disappear. The woman turned her head slowly and looked at him and he saw that it was Mrs. Watson herself. Several other names disappeared in the same manner; he felt resentment growing in his heart that she should thus interfere with his business; but some more familiar words sounded in the space above him: "It is my business; it is the business of every man, woman and child who may ever need your services." The thought came, "This is terrible! How can I save myself—how can I save my good name—my practice, which was increasing?" With the struggle for freedom and safety, more light seemed to shine on him; as he was irresistibly pushed to the brink of the precipice his face bent downward and he saw the steep side over which he looked was but the side of a ditch. At first he felt relief because he had so little distance to fall; then, as the light grew stronger, he saw the forms of his late companions just below him—only a step, as it were. He heard some exultant laughter; he heard some one behind him laugh. He summoned all his strength and threw out his hand to grasp some object which might save him. Like a drowning man, he grasped a straw; the straw changed to a pen. He could not understand why it seemed to hold him from falling; but as he looked around for some solution to the mystery, he saw his own familiar office slate held before his face. Indelibly marked into the black surface were words which no sponge could wipe out. They were these: "I promise, by the help of God, never to drink alcoholic liquors in any form." He could easily reach the slate, and the impossibility of writing upon a slate with a pen did not occur to him. He remembered with keen remorse that he had signed just such a pledge in years gone by. Should he write the name "Harvey Saunders" down here. What more appropriate place than the surface which represented his success in life—or his failure? He groaned in spirit and its echo sounded on his lips.

A hand moved him roughly; his circulation started; he awoke to the scene which was before him when he first lay down upon the counter. "Too much of his own medicine!" "It was a fit." "No, a nightmare; see, he is all right now," were the words which sounded in his hearing as he arose and sat up on the counter. Mrs. Watson, his slate, the pen, had all disappeared. He felt around for the pen which had seemed to him a help in time of need; he felt disappointed that he could not find it. Some one offered him a glass of stimulant. For the first time in years he felt an uncontrollable aversion to the potion and to the one who offered it. He waved it away and went to the stove, looking with wide unseeing eyes above the heads of his companions.

"Was it a fit?" some one asked. From force of habit he answered, mechanically and professionally: "A man of full habit would be subject to apopleptic attacks. I am of another build. I have had a—vision."

A maudlin voice said, huskily: "A vision! Your granny!" But the eyes of the young physician were upon him with grave earnestness, and he moved backward from the gaze with superstitious dread.

The New Year was just coming in; a few voices hailed it hilariously; but for the most part there was silence around the stove in the drug store, and many furtive glances rested upon the abstracted face of Harvey Saunders. One by one the crowd dispersed and left him to the companionship of the druggist. He aroused, and looked shudderingly around upon the remnant's of that night's revelry. The floor was discolored and dotted here and there with cigar-stumps, pieces of pipes and broken glass. The fire was getting low, the lamps burned dimly, and the cheerless scene brought to his mind the words, "And the end thereof is death."

"Well," said the proprietor, "are you going to stand there all night? Come! I want to shut up now."

There was nothing enticing in the surly tones, and Harvey Saunders went out into

the biting night air, a sober, thoughtful man. His thoughts were his companions and his memory brought some more of Mrs. Watson's words to him: "I wish you might have a vision to-night which would show you a danger to which you are blind now." Was it only the previous afternoon when those words had been spoken? His vision had come and gone; but he could not forget its horror. Did he wish to forget it? As he felt now, he did not wish to. Would the morning light dispel his new aspirations? He went to his office, and from habit looked at his office slate. How it thrilled him to see the name of Mrs. Watson still plainly written there. It was with a sense of gratitude that he thought he could still merit her patronage and the patronage of other old friends. An impulse seized him; carefully moving the slate lest the talismanic name should be erased, he made bare and clean the opposite side, and searched table and floor for some hard, pointed object by which he could write some ineradicable words. With a gesture of surprise, not unmixed with glee, he seized a cork-screw which was lying near an empty beer bottle: "You, shall write my pledge for me—you—you!" Before his mind was the pledge of his vision, with its smooth, even characters. Less smoothly, less evenly the cork-screw made its way across the slate, until in plain language were written the words beginning, "I promise, by the help of God." The solemn pledge was taken; the young man sat back in his chair, trembling, and with great drops of water standing upon his forehead. "What had he done? Could he keep it?" the tempter spoke in his heart. "I will hang it up in its old place, where all may read it," he answered the tempter.

The next day he made an unprofessional call, and he took his slate with him, which was entirely unprofessional.

"If here doesn't come Harvey Saunders!" said one of Mrs. Watson's boys.

"That means he isn't coming; oh, I understand that little joke," said the mother. "But he is, really, though—hear, he is knocking."

Mrs. Watson studied the doctor's face for signs of the last night's dissipation while she said, "I wish you a happy New Year, Harvey."

His cheerful response and happy manner sent a thrill of unexplained gladness through her anxious heart. "See, I have brought my slate with me," he said, smilingly.

"Your slate?" she repeated, with another searching glance at his face. His eyes were clear and he had a very self-respectful manner; so she silently took the proffered slate into her own hands. When she handed it back there were tears of joy in her eyes and she said with trembling voice, "I am so glad, Harvey, so glad! so glad!"

Some weeks later Dr. Saunders told Mrs. Watson about his vision, only he spoke of it as "nightmare."

Some months later Mr. Watson came in with some gratifying news: "Our young doctor is going to give a lecture in Mercy school house; let's all go over."

"Indeed we will!" responded Mrs. Watson.

Famine.

The subject has not a very pleasing sound. One hates to think of starving people, or of even the fact that there are those in this world who have to go hungry at times for want of something to eat.

So much has been said recently concerning the famine now prevailing in Russia, that public attention has not only been drawn to it, but also to other disasters of the same kind which have overtaken portions of the people of this world in times past.

The first great famine we have historical evidence of is recorded in Genesis, xlvii, 13-26: "And there was no bread in all the land; for the famine was very sore, so that the land of Egypt and all the land of Canaan fainted by reason of the famine. And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, for the corn which they bought. * * * And when the money failed, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, 'Give us bread, for the money faileth.' And Joseph said, 'Give your cattle.' And they brought their cattle unto Joseph and Joseph gave them bread in exchange. They came unto him the second year and said: 'Our money is spent; my lord also hath our cattle; there is nought left but our bodies and our



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lands; buy us and our land for bread.' And Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh. * * * Then said Joseph unto the people, 'I have bought you and your land for Pharaoh; here is seed for you, and ye shall sow the land.'

Surely the proverbial shrewdness of Jewish financial enterprise has never had a more shining example than that displayed by Joseph during those years of starvation.

The next great famine noted in history was in Italy 2,328 years ago. Thousands of starving ones threw themselves into the sea and rivers to escape further sufferings from the gnawing of hunger.

Sixteen hundred and twenty years ago famine prevailed in the British Islands, and the people ate grass, roots and the bark of trees. Thousands died in Scotland from the effects of starvation in the year 306, and four years later over 40,000 persons perished from the same cause in Britain.

In A. D. 450 famine prevailed all over the south of Europe, raging worst in Italy, where parents ate their children, and in 739 England, Scotland and Wales were again ravaged, also in 823, when thousands starved, and in 954, when the crops failed for four successive years. In 1016 an awful famine raged throughout all Europe, and again from 1193 to 1195, when crop failures caused terrible suffering. In England and France the people ate the flesh of dogs and cats, and many cases of cannibalism were recorded. There were famines in England in 1251, 1315, 1336, 1348 and 1565, and general distress prevailed also in England and France in 1693, 1748, 1789 and 1795. The great Irish famines of 1814, 1816, 1822, 1831 and 1846 were in consequence of the failure of the potato crop, and no doubt in each thousands of persons starved to death.

European calamities of this kind, however, dwindle into insignificance when compared with the colossal dimensions of a famine in the crowded countries of Asia. In 1837 over 800,000 human beings starved to death in northwest India, and in 1860 another famine carried off 500,000. In 1865 1,000,000 people were supposed to have starved in Bengal and Orissa, and in 1868 the death-roll from famine in Rajpootana exceeded 1,500,000. Even as late as 1877 about 500,000 perished in Bombay, Madras and Mysore. The worst calamity of this kind ever recorded took place in the years of 1877 and 1878 in China. Complete crop failure took place in all the northern provinces, and the number of those who perished from want of food was estimated at 1,500,000.

There is no doubt that a great deal of the suffering now endured in Russia from want of food would not long exist if the means of transportation were like those of this country or in western Europe. As the internal communications of a country are improved, the danger of wholesale starvation is much lessened. In Russia and the overcrowded countries of Asia there may be danger in the future of similar loss of life in vast numbers owing to crop failures, but the spirit of modern improvement, stimulated by healthy competition, will soon open up these countries to the facilities of western means of transportation; and then, though there might be successive crop failures in certain countries, the loss of life and great suffering such as have been endured in the past will not prevail.

Send \$2.00 to C. C. Blake, Topeka, Kas., for letter of weather predictions for your locality for next twelve months.

The Young Folks.

A Department for the Boys and Girls of the District Schools.
EDITED BY MAMIE M. BRUNER.

Bugle Song.

The splendor falls on castle walls,
And snowy summits old in story;
The long light shakes across the lakes,
And the wild cataract leaps in glory.
Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying;
Blow, bugle; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O hark, O hark! how thin and clear,
And thinner, clearer, farther going;
O sweet and far, from cliff and scar,
The horns of Elf-land faintly blowing!
Blow, let us hear the purple glens replying;
Blow, bugle; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O love, they die in yon rich sky;
They faint on hill, or field, or river;
Our echoes roll from soul to soul,
And grow forever and forever.
Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying,
And answer, echoes, answer, dying, dying, dying.
—Alfred Tennyson.

ALFRED TENNYSON.

Alfred Tennyson, the third of a family of seven boys, was born January 12, 1809. He began to rhyme when he was a little boy. His first verses of baby poetry were written upon a slate, which his brother Charles—himself a poet—gave him to amuse himself while the family were at church. When Charles returned, little Alfred brought the slate all filled with lines of blank verse, modeled after Thompson's "Seasons," the only poetry he had read. His brother gave him back the slate, saying, "Yes, you can write."

His first money was earned a little later by writing an elegy on his grandmother. His grandfather gave him ten shillings, saying, "There, that is the first money you have ever earned, and take my word for it, it will be the last."

Alfred's father was a clergyman, fond of painting, music and poetry, and his mother was a beautiful woman, with a strong imagination.

The Tennyson boys played at tournament, like King Arthur's Knights, and wrote romances like those they loved to read.

Alfred and Charley were sent to Louth grammar school, and soon after they began to prepare a volume of poems for the press. In 1850, Tennyson published his first volume of poems, and since then he has never been idle.

He is very quiet now, and of late years dislikes meeting with strangers; yet, like the most of his countrymen, he is very fond of his pipe, and enjoys a social chat and a social smoke.

A number of years ago Lord Tennyson was visiting in Cornwall. He had been given a letter of introduction to the Vicar of Morwenstow, who was a writer of charming verse. Tennyson mislaid the letter and forgot the name of the person to whom it was addressed. The local doctor thought it was Mr. Hawker, and Tennyson went to the vicarage. Mr. Hawker (for that proved to be his name) was very hospitable, as he often entertained people without troubling to know their names. Just as Tennyson was leaving, after a pleasant chat, he said: "Perhaps, Mr. Hawker, you would like to know who I am. My name is Tennyson." "Any relation to the Tennyson?" asked Mr. Hawker. The poet replied: "I don't know what you mean by the Tennyson, but I am Alfred Tennyson." "You must stay and finish the day with me," said Mr. Hawker. "No, I cannot," was the reply; "the fact is, I am dying for a pipe." Mr. Hawker, not being a smoker, could not offer his visitor a pipe, but a laborer was found near at hand who furnished both pipe and tobacco. I suppose they sat down again and had another cozy chat.

Perhaps no poet is more universally known and loved than the poet-laureate.

Some of his best poems are "Maude," "The Idyls of the King," "Locksley Hall," "The Lotus Eaters," "The Princess," and "Queen Mary," a drama.

Stories of Famous Girls.

Louisa M. Alcott once told the following story of her early experience as an author: "One of the memorable moments of my life is that in which, as I trudged to my little school on a wintry day, my eyes fell upon a large yellow poster with these delicious words: 'Bertha,' a new tale by the author of 'The Rival Prima Donnas,' will appear in the *Saturday Evening Gazette*. I was late; it was bitter cold; people

jostled me; I was mortally afraid I should be recognized; but there I stood feasting my eyes on the fascinating poster, and saying proudly to myself, in the words of the great Vincent Crummies, 'This is fame!' That afternoon my sisters made a pilgrimage to behold this famous placard, and, finding it torn by the wind, boldly stole it, and came home to wave it like a triumphal banner in the bosom of the excited family. The tattered paper still exists, folded away with others of those early days, so hard and yet so sweet, when the first small victories were won, and the enthusiasm of youth lent romance to life's drudgery."

When Helen Hunt Jackson was a little girl, she and her sister were allowed to go to the woods to gather berries. Helen had such a good time that she decided to stay in the woods all day instead of going to school. She coaxed her sister to stay with her, but Annie would not disobey her mother. Nothing daunted, Helen coaxed a schoolmate to go back to the woods with her, and they wandered around picking berries and enjoying themselves until they were hungry. Arriving at a farm-house, just as the farmer and his wife were going away, they asked for food. The kind woman got them each a bowl of bread and milk, telling them to put the bowls and spoons under a lilac bush when they were through eating. After finishing their luncheon, the bowls were carefully deposited under the lilac bush and they trudged on. Coming to a church, they went in to see what was going on, and here they were picked up by some friends who were searching for them. At 10 o'clock Helen reached home, and said, "O! mother, I've had a perfectly splendid time." But as a punishment for her good time her father shut her up in the garret.

When a very young girl, Rosa Bonheur helped support the family by copying pictures from the old masters. She was paid very little for her pictures, but she worked so fast that she earned a neat little sum of money. One day she painted a goat, and was so pleased with her work that she determined to make animal painting a specialty. She had no money to pay for models, so she took long walks to farms, where she worked all day, forgetting to eat the scanty lunch she carried in her pocket. At 19 she sent her first picture to the art exhibition, and the critics praised it very kindly. She soon became famous, and before long the family had plenty of money.

Current Events.

Thomas A. Edison has perfected and patented the "sea telegraph." It is a system by which telegraphic communications can be carried on between ships at sea, between ships and the shore, and between distant points on land without using wires. The telegraphic circuit between two ships is had by means of the water and the air, the molecules in the air being utilized to complete the circuit, based on the conductivity of the water.

C. A. White, one of America's most famous writers of popular songs, died at Boston not long since. Among his most popular songs are "Marguerite," "Put Me in My Little Bed," "The Old Home Ain't What It Used To Be," and "Moonlight on the Lake."

Rudolph Rogers, the celebrated American sculptor, died January 15, at his residence, Rogers Villa, in Rome.

The government is actively at work in the navy yards, preparing for an emergency in case of a war with Chili.

The Garza trouble apparently subsided as far as open hostilities are concerned. United States soldiers have been stationed at the ford of the Rio Grande river to guard it. Garza has disappeared and nothing seems to be known of his whereabouts. It is thought by some the revolutionists may rise up again.

Edward, Duke of Clarence and Avondale, son of the Prince of Wales, died January 15.

The negotiations between Spain and France for a treaty of commerce failed. After the 1st of February next the maximum tariff of each country will be applied to imports from the other.

Andrew Carnegie has added \$100,000 to his previous gifts to Pittsburg for its great library, making the total amount of his donation \$2,100,000. Fifty thousand dollars is to be spent annually in the purchase of American works of art, the largest sum ever given for such a purpose.

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Questions and Answers.

What is the most elevated city in the world?

Answer.—Potosi, in Bolivia, S. A.

Before what battle of the Revolutionary war were the dogs killed to keep them from giving the alarm?

Answer.—The battle of Stony Point.

As I saw the boys and girls were asked to send questions to the FARMER, I thought I would send some. EDITH M. BAUGH, Pleasanton, Kas.

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Several inquiries have been received at this office about the reports of the State Horticultural Society. The applications should be made to the Secretary, George C. Brackett, Lawrence, Kas.

The total number of immigrants to the United States from foreign countries for the eleven months ending November 30, 1891, was 562,073, against 368,300 for the corresponding months last year.

The report comes from Baltimore that potatoes are being imported from Germany. They bring higher prices than are asked for the home-grown product. The potato crop of Germany is larger than that of any other country.

A series of experiments with potatoes to test the comparative advantages of using Northern and home-grown seed has been in progress for three years at the Missouri Experiment Station. The results are in favor of the Northern-grown seed.

There is no prospect of war with Chili. Since the President's message to Congress, that country replies, acceding to almost all our government's demands, and proposes that the affair of the Baltimore sailors be submitted to the arbitration of some neutral nation or the Supreme court of the United States.

The tendency of breeders is to reduce the age at which stock can be got into the best condition for market. It has been shown by the experience of those stockmen whose accounts enable them to determine the matter that the greater profits are made on the stock which is ready for the block at an early age.

In this week's issue we have an article from Edwin Snyder, of Oskaloosa, one of the directors of the Kansas Alliance Exchange Company, and formerly live stock agent, favoring the much-talked-of National Union Company. While the *KANSAS FARMER* is a forum for the different views and opinions of its readers, it is in no wise responsible for the utterances of any of its correspondents.

Many of our readers will be pained to learn of the death of W. H. Utely, of Parsons, one of the able and brilliant Alliance leaders in Kansas. He was a strong candidate for the Presidency at the last annual meeting of the State Alliance, and was one of the delegates appointed by that organization to the national conference, to be held at St. Louis, February 22. The simple announcement of his death is all the information that we have at present.

THE POLITICAL HOROSCOPE.

Politicians' troubles will never end. The question of "fusion" is just now claiming a good deal of thought from the managers of two of the three political parties in Kansas. Their grimaces and contortions are observed with interested amusement by the other party. "To fuse or not to fuse?" "that is the question" which the Democratic managers would like to consider. "Will they fuse?" is a question of great importance to the Republican managers. "Shall we fuse?" is not yet openly asked by the People's party managers.

It is generally to be assumed that party managers will pursue such course as is likely to secure the offices for the candidates of their respective organizations. This assumption is always to be made of a party of age and experience. Sometimes a new party, organized for the advocacy of principles to which its managers and members are devoted, will sacrifice none of these for office, but the case is not on record where a party old in experience and in sin has ever failed to follow the direction of its craftiest leaders along the road to office.

A review of the political situation will, therefore, generally indicate the course which political managers will take if they can.

In Kansas it is to be conceded that each of the three parties is under able management, capable of seeing advantages even a long way off.

Now the Democrats constitute only a moderate percentage of the voters. They have no hope of electing any but local officers, and these in a few counties only. But there are in Kansas a great many federal officers, the placing of which will depend upon the result of the Presidential election. The Democrats can have no reasonable hope of choosing any of the Presidential electors in Kansas, so that if a Democratic President be chosen it must be without Kansas votes. But in figuring up the strength of the two great parties in the electoral college, it is apparent that enough electors are to be chosen from constituencies which are nearly evenly balanced between the two old parties to make the result doubtful. The successful party must have a majority of the votes of the electoral college or the election in this manner fails, and under the provisions of the constitution, the House of Representatives chooses the President from the three candidates having received the highest number of votes.

Now both Democrats and Republicans expect that the contest will be between their parties, and that the People's party will at most carry but few States. If, however, the Democrats cannot elect a majority of the electoral college, they can still elect the President if they can succeed in making a deadlock in the electoral college and thereby throwing the election into the House. That party has an overwhelming majority in the present House, and it is this House to which the election will be submitted in case of no choice by the electoral college. In such case the vote of the House is taken by States, the delegation from each State having one vote.

It is quite possible that the coming contest will be so close that a choice by the electoral college will require the vote of Kansas for the Republican candidate. It is therefore manifest that, selfishly, the Democrats of Kansas can well afford to allow their organization to slumber, while they help actually to elect the People's party candidates for electors, and thus take the State out of the Republican column. Indications point to this as their policy. The People's party managers are also shrewd and well informed of the situation, and see no reason to make any sacrifice of either principles or places in order to secure the full strength that can be commanded by the Democratic managers; while the Democrats well know that the success of any such flank movement against their old enemy, the Republicans, means the distribution of a large number of lucrative federal offices among the members of a party of rather small numbers.

The anxiety of the Republican managers as to fusion has, therefore, abundant foundation, especially when it is remembered that, as is apparent from the tone of the representative People's party papers, the demands of this party are likely to be made sufficiently conservative to be more easily accepted by persons not willing to

insist on the more radical planks of former platforms.

It seems scarcely probable from the above glance at the situation that actual fusion will take place, but that the result of adding a large part of the Democratic vote of the State to the People's party vote will be effected in another and more effectual way.

NO WAR SPIRIT.

The talk indulged in last week about war between this country and Chili was as absurd as it is discreditable, and it emanated chiefly from writers whose compensation is reckoned by the space they fill, and it represented the element which hopes for some chance for speculation or for camp-followers' profits. The sensible, steady-going people of the United States have neither desire nor expectation of war with Chili on account of any little row of sailors, and they expect those in charge of such matters to maintain the dignity of the country without dishonoring it by rushing to arms over a small matter.

It is not improbable that there is a real war spirit in the little republic on the west coast of South America. Two parties have recently contended at arms for supremacy in that country. The victorious party has deposed the former regularly constituted government. It would be strange if factional division should cease immediately under these circumstances. But if the Chilean government could show to the people that a big, strong, wealthy government from the north was making war on it on account of an incident, such as the sailors' row in this case, the natural effect would be to consolidate public sentiment with the new government and to consign all opposition to the position of traitors.

This phase of the case may complicate the work of our State department, but the country has great confidence in the sagacity and tact of Mr. Blaine, and will be disappointed if he shall not handle this matter in such a way as to avoid war.

A recent dispatch from Washington intimates that President Harrison is less inclined than Secretary Blaine to deliberation in this matter. But should precipitate action on the part of the President lead to other than pacific results there will be a presumption that political necessity had an influence in the matter, in a different way to be sure from that of the Chilean authorities, but not more creditable.

The people of this country want no war and expect none.

THE FARMER'S SHARE.

The United States Treasury department has just issued a statement showing the exports and imports of the country for the eleven months ending November 30. From this it appears that exports of domestic merchandise was composed as follows: Agricultural products, \$631,415,041, being 75.28 per cent. of the whole; mining products, \$19,587,184, being 2.34 per cent. of the whole; forest products, \$24,970,728, being 2.98 per cent. of the whole; fisheries products, \$5,573,203, being .66 per cent. of the whole; miscellaneous, \$3,843,900, being .45 per cent. of the whole; manufactures, \$153,365,078, being 18.29 per cent. of the whole. The total exports of domestic merchandise for the eleven months was \$838,755,134.

The farmer is seen to be the largest exporter, his contributions being over four times as large as those of the manufacturer, his largest competitor. The exports are nearly \$100,000,000 more than for the corresponding months of 1890, and the increase is almost all in farm products.

It further appears that about \$80,000,000 of this increase was in exports of wheat and about \$9,000,000 was in exports of flour.

Our best foreign customer is the United Kingdom, *i. e.*, Great Britain and Ireland, to whom we sent in eleven months domestic merchandise valued at \$389,544,323, or nearly as much as to all other countries combined.

The average yield of wheat per acre in the United States for 1891 was the largest for many years, *viz.*, fifteen bushels. This is not more than half as large as the averages in England, where the lands have been cultivated for a much longer period than in this country. The difference is believed to be owing chiefly to better farming in the older country.

IS THIS COMPLIMENTARY?

In a recent number of the *Railway Age*, comment is made on the Kansas railroad law and railroad commission. Whether it is complimentary or otherwise to the commission, a good many people will consider the comment a doubtful compliment to the legislation which enacted the law. The following is the comment:

We have more than once expressed a great deal of respect for the Kansas board of railroad commissioners. As a judicial body it has always been considerably more intelligent and more just than the great majority of the Western commissions—than the Iowa commission ever has been, for instance, or than the Minnesota commission used to be until two or three years ago, or than the Texas commission dreams of being to-day. It had the advantage of being established under a moderate law—a law which at the time of its passage in 1882, was regarded as a victory for the railway interests. The commissioners seem accordingly to have generally guided themselves with moderation, and they have for the most part succeeded in retaining the respect of the railway companies without forfeiting the good will of the people.

NOT INCONSISTENT.

Senator Peffer of Kansas thinks it is absurd that "sixty million people, the biggest, richest and most prosperous nation on earth, should entertain an idea of war with a little country like Chili." The Senator is probably right, but his declaration that the United States is the most prosperous nation on earth does not consist with some of his previous utterances. He evidently has a bad memory, and ought to keep a scrap-book of his own speeches.—*Kansas City Star.*

The above quoted allusion of Senator Peffer is not inconsistent with any speech he ever made. What he has claimed is that in this big, rich, prosperous nation the opportunities for sharing the riches and the property are not as open to farmers and laborers as they ought to be; that these riches and this prosperity are being monopolized by various combinations, trusts, etc., which ought to be legally shorn of some of their power. If the senior Senator were expressing his views as to similar matters in other countries, he would probably make a more telling arraignment of abuses than he ever uttered as to his own country.

TO INCREASE THE CURRENCY.

That the late Senator Plumb was a persistent advocate of increasing the currency, has been well known to Kansans for a long time. That he expected the present Congress to do something to bring about such increase is apparent from the following letter recently published in the *Leavenworth Times*:

UNITED STATES SENATE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 3, 1890.
Hon. D. R. Anthony, Leavenworth, Kas.
DEAR COLONEL:—I have been glad to notice, in recent editions of *The Times* that you have not abandoned the views which you have so often and forcibly expressed on the currency question. It is more than ever necessary that these views shall obtain, and I hope you will keep up the fight, thereby adding to give proper direction to public sentiment in Kansas and elsewhere. There is abundant evidence that this question is coming to the front in a national way. Men who, for the past fifteen years have been treating with contempt all the propositions that I have made in that direction are now seeking me out to say that I have been right, and that they will co-operate in the future; in fact, the feeling is very strong to shift the issue from tariff to currency. Something will happen one of these days which will open the eyes of a good many people, and when it does happen you will be in a condition to take a large part of the credit. Before this Congress is over, in my judgment, you will find a large majority of the Republicans perhaps all of them, voting for a much more comprehensive measure in the direction of enlarging the currency than has ever yet been proposed. The seed sown is bringing forth good fruit. I write this entirely in confidence, but meanwhile, I hope you will strengthen yourself and the good cause by giving to the readers of *The Times* the benefit of frequent and emphatic expression of your views. Truly yours, P. B. PLUMB.

AS A WASHINGTON OFFICIAL SAW US.

After returning from his trip to Kansas, during which he attended the annual meeting of the State Board of Agriculture, Dr. D. E. Salmon, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, reported that the meeting was one of the best agricultural meetings he has ever attended. He took occasion to make careful inquiry as to the actual condition of the agricultural interests of Kansas and says he is satisfied there has been a very great improvement in the past year. His investigation leads him to believe that Kansas is at the present time one of the most prosperous of the Western States. He thinks the farmers of Kansas have made more money in the last year or two than at any other time since the State was organized. There can be no question, he says, that they are getting out of debt, and that they start off with the year 1892 in better shape than they ever were. He says that a more thrifty or industrious class of farmers cannot be found in any country, and he believes they will soon make of Kansas one of the great agricultural empires of the world.

ATTENTION, SHEEPMEN.

The KANSAS FARMER will this year devote considerable attention to sheep husbandry, and every sheep-owner in the West will need this paper, and as an inducement to subscribe now and send us one other new subscriber with one dollar each, we will send free, every week for one year, the Chicago *Wool and Hide Shipper*, a sample of which accompanies this paper.

Or for \$1.65 we will send the KANSAS FARMER and the *American Sheep-Breeder* for one year. If there ever was a time when it was important for sheep-owners to keep thoroughly posted on the industry, it is now, and the way to do it is to take such papers as the above, which will keep you posted.

MAKE IT PAY.

The late Senator Plumb was known by his personal friends to be prodigal of sound, business advice. He gave this freely whenever asked and often volunteered it unasked. No one ever had reason to regret having followed his suggestions. A case in point is remembered by the writer, who, several years ago, before Mr. Plumb's election to the Senate, had started a paper in a small town.

"Make your paper pay. Nothing will give you influence as will the certainty that you will be right here year after year, and that certainty based on the fact that you are making money. Politicians will know that they must take you into consideration, and instead of trying to get around you they will want to co-operate with you." "Don't start a little daily," continued Mr. Plumb. "Of course there'll be a pressure to have a daily when the town grows and a boom is on. Let the other fellow get rid of his surplus that way, while you go right on making a good weekly. You will be here to publish the Sheriff's notice of sale of his outfit."

MAP OF KANSAS.

The following letter from a friend of the KANSAS FARMER is appreciated:

Do you know what a help the little map of Kansas in the head of the KANSAS FARMER is to many of your readers? and could you not by some means enlarge it just so the county names would be perfectly plain? I think you could make no other one improvement in the "old reliable" that would begin to compare with it.

Nearly the whole neighborhood is familiar with the KANSAS FARMER through my efforts, but money with most of farmers here is hard to spare. Still I have hopes that some day the good seed may spring into an abundant harvest.

We would be glad to heed the suggestion and make the map larger, but it would involve considerable expense to the publishers. The map would have to be drawn by an artist, then engraved, then electrotyped, all of which kinds of work are quite costly. But we are enabled to offer to our readers something much better. We have arranged with Rand, McNally & Co. to use their maps in connection with subscriptions to KANSAS FARMER. They are the best of the kind published and will ornament any room where hung.

Please notice our offer in another column of "a grand prize," and if you can not get one under that offer conveniently, write us for our special price at which we will supply our subscribers for cash. Every family in Kansas should have this map.

Publishers' Paragraphs.

In our notice last week regarding the Sumatra Tobacco Co.'s offer of one hundred cigars and a watch for \$5, it should have read fifty cigars.

The Kansas City Grain & Seed Co., of Kansas City, place their advertisement in this week's issue. It is one of special interest to most of our readers. The manager of this company is Mr. J. I. Reynolds, formerly of Trumbull, Reynolds & Allen, which is a guaranty of fair treatment.

Some rare bargains are offered weekly by patrons of this paper in our "Two-Cent Column." Watch the short-time advertisements every week for something interesting. If any of our patrons has any wants, anything for sale or exchange, this column evidently does the business every time, at very little cost to our subscribers.

The *Practical Farmer*, of Philadelphia, of December 5, gives an intensely interesting article of two columns, descriptive of the great seed house of Wm. Henry Maule, one of our advertisers, and any of our readers desiring detailed information

about the modern seedsman and the minutia of his business operations, will be much interested in reading this article, which no doubt will be sent to any one on request.

Do any of our readers desire first-class books of any kind? If so, send for our special supplement, which contains all of our various lists of books, magazines, premiums, etc., which we supply our subscribers at special prices. Our object is to supply standard books and papers and give our subscribers advantages which non-subscribers are unable to get.

It pays in various ways to procure your seeds as early in the spring as practicable. Seedsmen's catalogues furnish interesting reading and study during the long winter evenings. Our readers should not fail to secure the handsome book issued by Northrup, Braslan & Goodwin Co., of Minneapolis, Minn., which contains the cream of good things in vegetable, field and flower seeds, bulbs and plants. Mailed free on application.

The "Twice-a-week" St. Louis *Republic* contains more and fresher news than any weekly paper published in America. It is issued each Tuesday and Friday and consists of from fourteen to sixteen pages every week, yet the price is only \$1 a year. It is the leading Democratic paper of the country, and has a special Tariff department, edited by Hon. Wm. L. Wilson, M. C. It will be indispensable during the great political campaign of 1892. Send for free sample copy to the *Republic*, St. Louis, Mo. We send it and the KANSAS FARMER one year for \$1.75.

A RED EAR CALENDAR.—Calendars are more certain to fly at this season than snow itself. The crop is always large, but the individuals generally lack utility. One of the very best we ever see comes from N. W. Ayer & Son, Newspaper Advertising Agents, Philadelphia. It is the red ear of the crop. It looks and talks business. Its size is generous, its figures very plain, while it is printed so handsomely as to make one willing to keep company with it the entire year. Like the other productions of the firm, this bears their famous phrase, "Keeping everlastingly at it brings success"—a text which they both preach and exemplify. The calendar is sent by them, postpaid, for 25 cents, and what is again unusual in such cases, it is so packed as to pass through the mails uninjured.

\$500 FOR ONE TOMATO.—A prize was offered last spring by F. B. Mills, Ross Hill, N. Y., to any person producing a three-pound tomato of his mammoth prize strain, and it was won by T. R. Harris, Abbott, Nebraska, with one weighing three pounds and three and one-half ounces. It measured over eight and one-half inches in diameter, and was the greatest sight of anything in the line of tomatoes. Mr. Mills' catalogue for 1892 contains full particulars of mode of culture and how he grew it, with an illustration of the original tomato cut in two showing inside sections; also the plant and Mr. Harris himself. This information is of interest to every one who has a garden, and our readers ought to have his new catalogue. Mr. Mills offers \$500 this year for a tomato weighing three and one-half pounds, also many other costly premiums.

Oregon, Washington and the Northwest Pacific Coast.

The constant demand of the traveling public to the far West for a comfortable and at the same time an economical mode of traveling, has led to the establishment of what is known as Pullman Colonist Sleepers.

These cars are built on the same general plan as the regular first-class Pullman sleeper, the only difference being is that they are not upholstered.

They are furnished complete with good comfortable hair mattresses, warm blankets, snow-white linen curtains, plenty of towels, combs, brushes, etc., which secure to the occupant of a berth as much privacy as is to be had in first-class sleepers. There are also separate toilet rooms for ladies and gentlemen, and smoking is absolutely prohibited. For full information send for Pullman Colonist Sleeper Leaflet. E. L. Lomax, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Omaha, Neb.

A. M. FULLER,
Agent Union Pacific System,
525 Kansas Ave., Topeka.

It is estimated that 100,000 new bee hives were sold in Iowa in 1891.

The Family Doctor.

Conducted by HENRY W. ROBY, M. D., consulting and operating surgeon, Topeka, Kas., to whom all correspondence relating to this department should be addressed.

The Family Doctor.

"The Family Doctor" department of the KANSAS FARMER is established in the hope of doing a large amount of good to the readers of this journal. It will not be medically sectarian, although the editor must of necessity have medical and sanitary opinions that are at variance with some other men's opinions. But the editor will endeavor to give his readers such suggestions and information as he would give his own private patients under similar circumstances. Having been educated in and practiced both the leading medical systems of the world, he will endeavor to present the science and wisdom of the ablest workers in both, and he alone will be responsible for any opinions published in his department, unless specially attributed to others.

The aim of the department will be to give practical hints in hygiene and sanitary science, rather than make it a free dispensary of medical prescriptions. The minor and daily ills of the people may justly call for practical suggestions as to their care and management, and to that end written inquiries will be carefully considered and careful answers given as far as practicable. The greatest good any medical writer can do in such a department is to teach his readers how to eat, drink, sleep, labor, rest, dress and perform the daily routine of life to the best advantage—in short, how to live well and long. If you need such information, ask for it.

Current Topics.

The Kansas State Board of Agriculture, at its annual meeting, last week, had presented for its consideration a number of able papers, upon topics closely related to health and longevity.

The first of these was a paper on "Lumpy-jaw in Cattle," by Professor Mayo, of Manhattan. To the man who has the dollar cataract in his eye, and who places the making of money before all other human endeavors, there is no question of human health in the matter. It is only the question of getting the affected animal off his hands at the market price of good steers. But to the physician and sanitarian, the subject presents an entirely different aspect and question. The philanthropist, the lover of his race, asks first of all, is human life jeopardized, or human health endangered by the marketing of such an animal? The one argues that the disease is local and does not affect the body and flesh of the steer, but only his head, which may be severed and sent to the rendering establishment. And if you force him to answer, why it is to go there, he will be compelled to say that there is money in extracting and selling the fat and the glue and the bone meal and horns of that severed head. The other argues, that a disease which is generally incurable, especially in its advanced stages, and is held by some authorities to be of a cancerous nature—though it is of apparently local origin and circumscribed development—must still produce a deleterious effect upon the health of the whole animal.

From the humanitarian standpoint, as well probably as the scientific, the latter presents by far the stronger argument. Every ounce of blood in the animal's body goes surging through the circulatory apparatus like the flow of a rapid river. The blood that is one moment in the diseased part is the next moment in the lungs, and the next in the heart, and from there is rapidly distributed to the body again, and nobody will pretend that the same identical globules of blood go straight back to the lump on the jaw that came from it. The blood is commingled and churned together in lungs, heart, aorta and veins, and the globule that enters the eye at one heart-beat, may enter the tongue or the foot a few beats later. And these blood globules are constantly being taken up and incorporated into bone, muscle, nerve, brain, hide, hair and horns of the animal, until the globule that left the lump on the jaw an hour ago, may be an hour hence a part and parcel of the steak you eat to-morrow or next week. And as the single blood cell is the type and essence of all tissues of the body, who can or who dares to say that the subtle

poison of a cancerous jaw is not incorporated into every tissue of the body from day to day? Do you say, the microscope does not reveal it? Possibly not, nor the chemist's test-tube, nor the spectroscope. But these are not the ultimate tests. God has devised finer and more delicate ones. You go along the street and pass a house where a smallpox patient lies, and you contract the disease. Neither microscope nor test-tube nor spectroscope could detect the subtle poison with which you were inoculated, and yet God's finer detective, your nervous system, cries out Eureka, Eureka, and your friends and your doctor respond, aye. You have found what these less sensitive detectives failed to find.

Chemical purity and physiological purity are two separate and varying verdicts, the one proclaiming what the other disclaims.

As "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," so is it the price of life. Mankind by thousands is plunging into untimely graves from want of due and possible vigilance.

Shoot the lump-jaws and burn them.

IRRIGATION.

The next paper, with a noticeable sanitary element in it, was that on "Irrigation," by L. J. Willits, of St. Francis. Kansas farmers are very quick to grasp the dollar in sight, and some of them, at least, are endowed with long vision or farsightedness, and can see the dollar that is over the hill, or hidden in next year's wheat stack. During the discussion of the irrigation problem the writer heard many eloquent short speeches, portraying the grand results to be derived from irrigating the arid plains of Kansas, but he heard no voice converted into an interrogation point as to whether human life or health would be affected by inundating the plains. In the midst of this almost universal cry of the plains for water, water, the scientist who loves his fellow man must sound his note of warning. He must stand like a faithful sentinel and warn mankind of approaching dangers.

Irrigation holds this problem in its grasp—the change of climate. And what other problems hinge upon that? Western Kansas is already being heralded all through the East and all over Europe as the greatest God-built sanitarium of the world for consumptives, and the American Health Resort Association has been organized to turn the tide of consumptive men and women from the great East and the old world towards the great dry plains of western Kansas and New Mexico. And why? Because it has been found by many experiments that incipient consumption is spontaneously cured by a residence and good sanitary conditions on our great plains.

The very hot-bed of consumption lies along our damp sea coast and lake regions, especially the cold and damp regions of the New England coast. Those people acquire a new lease of life on our sunlit, wind-swept plains, where ozone is abundant and moisture is deficient.

Inundate the plains, and what will result, besides increased crops? Crops of corpses! Land which nature does not water copiously herself, is for some inscrutable reason deprived of its most wholesome conditions by transforming it into wet ground. Water held in pools and ditches rapidly becomes stagnant and the breeding-ground of innumerable malarial zymotic emanations. How many thousands of people have been shaken nearly to death by the ague on the banks of new-made mill ponds? Would an irrigation pond be any safer? If you water that region copiously, as some propose to do, how long will it be until the increased dampness will give an impulse to and become the exciting cause of an invasion of consumption where now it is practically unknown, except when it is imported?

Draining the Pontine marshes about Rome cleared up one of the worst scourges of malarial fevers the world ever knew. And who can tell how seriously the conversion of dry to wet land will affect the health of our people?

Saratoga Association.

Mr. Chas. Wheatly, Secretary of above Racing Association writes: "From the experience of many years' use of Quinn's Ointment I unhesitatingly recommended it for the cure of Curbs, Blood Spavin, Windpuffs and other blemishes." Trial box 25 cents, silver or stamps. Regular size \$1.50 delivered. Address W. B. Eddy & Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

Horticulture.

NOTES ON GRAPES IN CENTRAL KANSAS IN 1891.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—With the exception of a late frost, which destroyed the fruit on about one-third of my vines, the past season has been very favorable for grapes, and vines have borne heavily. While in 1890 there were several kinds that bore better than the Concord, in 1891 there was no kind that exceeded the Concord.

The Jewell fruited for the first time the past season, and ripened a few days after Champion, and about with Moore's Early. In size it is about the same as Early Victor, but the cluster is smaller. The quality, when fully ripe, is excellent. On account of its small size, and as it does not ripen any earlier than Moore's Early, I doubt its being of much value for market, but would recommend it for home use.

The Witt fruited for the first time in 1891, and proves very promising. It ripened about with the Pocklington; is large and of excellent quality, superior, I think, to Pocklington.

The Oriental bore a full crop and was especially fine. This variety is vigorous and healthy, but requires winter protection.

The Berckmans did very well, and one vine that was allowed to overbear, though a young vine, bore nearly one hundred bunches, and consequently the fruit did not ripen well. This kind being vigorous, healthy and hardy, and the fruit of fine quality, should be in every collection. In size and quality of fruit, it is much like Brighton.

The Antoinette bore well, and seems to be a promising kind. I think it is rather larger than Martha, and similar in quality.

The Jefferson was injured by the previous unfavorable season, and bore but very little fruit.

The Duchess bore well, and promises to be a variety of considerable value. Of fine quality, a long keeper and a good shipping grape.

The Herbert bore well, and the fruit was of excellent quality and of large size. The Telegraph, as usual, was inclined to overbear; the fruit should be thinned. This is one of our most reliable kinds.

The Early Victor has disappointed me somewhat. It bears well but does not ripen well; should be thinned vigorously.

The Pocklington has borne well and proves to be one of our very best late market grapes, perhaps the best.

The Etta, as usual, bore heavily, is of good quality, and is of decided value. It ripens the latter part of September.

The Worden has fully sustained its reputation as the best black grape for general culture. I would recommend planting it in place of the Concord. With me it ripens with Concord.

Eldorado bore lightly. It is vigorous and healthy, but not sufficiently productive for profit. Its fine quality may recommend it as of some value for the home garden.

The Mills bore well, and the fruit is of very fine quality. It is especially valuable as a long-keeping and good shipping grape. It ripens with Concord and will keep till October.

The Niagara has borne nearly a full crop. It will, no doubt, succeed here, and prove a valuable market grape. It ripens with Concord, about ten days after Diamond.

The Diamond was injured by the late frost, but a few vines bore, and the fruit, as last season, was fine. It will, I think, prove a very valuable early market grape.

The Goethe has not done as well as usual, many of the vines having been injured by the previous very hot dry season.

Moore's Early has borne well and ripened well. It seems to be the best early market grape, all things considered.

The Wilder, as usual, bore well, and the fruit was large and fine.

The Iona bore heavily, too heavily to ripen its fruit well. It should have been thinned. If given winter protection, this kind will probably prove valuable.

The Victoria bore a fair crop. It may prove a valuable late grape, but I do not consider it equal to Witt, either in size or quality.

The Jessica bore a fair crop, but was injured by the dry weather. It is of good quality, but too small for market.

The Prentiss bore well and ripened its

fruit well. In favorable seasons, if covered in winter, this variety does well and produces perfect clusters of excellent fruit. It is a good keeper.

The Vergennes, as usual, has borne heavily, and made a good growth. As in the case of several other kinds mentioned, it was allowed to overbear, and so did not ripen well. This is one of the most valuable of the red kinds for home use and market, its only weak point being a lack of hardiness to endure severe winters. E. P. FISHER. Sterling, Kas.

Missouri Valley Horticultural Society.

The January meeting of the Missouri Valley Horticultural Society was held on the 16th inst., at the rooms of Blair & Kauffman, 432 Blatto building, Kansas City.

The President-elect, J. C. Evans, in a neat speech thanked those present for the honor conferred by re-electing him to the office, and predicted that on account of the great exhibition to be held at Chicago, the coming year will be the most important in the history of the society.

The Treasurer's accounts were found to be all right, and \$248.84 in the treasury.

In the discussion of "Whole-Roots vs. Piece-Roots in Grafting," Major Holsinger, of Rosedale, took the position that there was nothing in it. That under the same conditions, each does equally well. J. C. Blair, nurseryman, followed with remarks of the same tenor. Thought all there was in the "whole-root" theory was the opportunity for humbug advertising. So far as practicability and expense in growing nursery stock goes, everything is in favor of short or piece roots. Colonel Evans stated that the variety of the scion used determined the kind and style of the root. A Ben Davis scion will make a Ben Davis root, but should the top be changed to Winesap, immediately the Ben Davis style of root will disappear, and in its place will appear the Winesap style. L. A. Goodman, of Westport, Mo., thought that the root influenced the scion quite as much as the scion influenced the root. That if scions were grafted upon whole roots from approved seed, that hardiness and other qualities sought might be better obtained than from the present practice of piece-root grafting. Mr. G. F. Espenlaub, of Rosedale, Kas., stated that he had found from careful experiment that piece-root grafting produced much better roots when ready for market than those that were stock-grafted or grafted upon whole roots, without removing from the ground. **

Horticultural Notes.

The more small roots on a tree, when transplanted the better.

The theory of deterioration from long propagation has at least its exceptions. The Bartlett and Seckel pear are illustrations.

Have a system of rotation in the garden as elsewhere.

Raising vegetables is too small business for some farmers, yet it pays.

Mr. J. J. Gregory says it is a mistaken notion that dark-colored beets are sweetest; the yellow turnip variety is "good as the best."

In Germany, where first-class celery is desired, instead of burying up the plant in the earth they simply tie up the leaves and then wrap them in coarse brown paper. It is said that much better celery can be obtained this way than by any other method of blanching.

A large grower of small fruits says that he always makes the most money in bad years. Careful culture tided him over drought and other evils, and the crops that resulted gave a much better profit than those that were more easily grown in ordinary years. Perhaps this idea would apply equally well to some things besides fruit.

A Big Regular Army.

The mightiest host of this sort is the army of invalids whose bowels, liver and stomachs have been regulated by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. A regular habit of body is brought about through using the Bitters, not by violently agitating and griping the intestines, but by reinforcing their energy and causing a flow of the bile into its proper channel. Malaria, la grippe, dyspepsia, and a tendency to inactivity of the kidneys, are conquered by the Bitters.

LABORING MEN! TAKE CARE!
LOSS OF TIME IS COSTLY!
ST. JACOBS OIL,
 THE GREAT REMEDY FOR PAIN,
 CURES
RHEUMATISM,
 Sprains, Bruises, Cuts, Wounds, Soreness,
 Stiffness, Swellings, Backache, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Burns.



The Poultry Yard.

Poultry Notes by a Correspondent.

If you have a desire to introduce new blood, buy a few well-bred pullets, mating them with some of your best cockerels. Introducing new blood through the cock sometimes proves the best course to pursue. Very often, however, the combination of blood through such an introduction spoils your season's work, and is not so reliable as the plan we suggest.

Incubators should be put in a room, or place away from noise and where the temperature is even. The cellar is a very suitable place for it if dry, because it is handy for you. An outside building, where the temperature is likely to go below freezing at night and rise to 40° or 50° during the day, is not a suitable place to expect to realize good results in hatching.


Fowls, when confined, must be supplied as far as possible with such food as they obtain when at liberty. They cannot be expected to do well unless this is done. The farmer often wonders why it is that in midsummer his fowls do so much better than at other seasons of the year, when insect food is what does so much towards making the fowls more profitable. The fruits and grain they pick in the orchard and fields, also tend to keep them in better condition. Meat food in some form is an absolute necessity. Fresh meat scraps, beef and sheep's heads, and the various offal found about a butcher's shop, can be had at a moderate cost. A good meat chopper is necessary to have about your poultry house, to chop up meat and bone a size that will be right to feed to the hens. Meat is used simply as an occasional stimulant; it should never be a regular daily food. Once a week is often enough to feed it.

The ovary of a hen in her laying state contains dozens of little yellow unformed "eggs" of all sizes, waiting their turn until nature starts them, one at a time, into the oviduct or egg passage, thence into the outer world. These rudimentary eggs are constantly coming to maturity in due succession, and as the yolk becomes fully matured and liberated (surrounded by a very thin membrane) is received by the oviduct or egg passage and receives the shell. It will be seen how easily two yolks may become detached and enter and become enveloped in the oviduct at the same time, frequently being enveloped in the same shell, thus causing the double-yolk egg, with which we are all familiar. Once in the oviduct, the yolk becomes enveloped in a slimy fluid called albumen, which is secreted by the mucous membrane of the oviduct, and added layer after layer as the egg passes on. Later the egg becomes invested with a skin, or parchment-like covering, which is found inside the shell. The last stage or portion of the oviduct, the egg takes on its last coating, which forms the shell, after which it passes into the cloaca and is ready for expulsion.

Rose-comb Plymouth Rocks are noted, and also Pea-comb White Plymouths. These are what are termed new additions to the large number of new breeds that make their appearance nearly every season. The Rose-comb Plymouth Rocks are possibly produced by crossing a Wyandotte or a Hamburg with a Plymouth Rock hen. A comb is not a very hard thing to put on the head of any fowl, but it takes some patience to produce accuracy in color and marking. We often think it is running the new breed question "into the ground." So many oddities and monstrosities are annually produced, that if it keeps up, the number of varieties one can choose from will be well up in the hundreds, and the beautiful characteristics of a thoroughbred fowl be entirely obliterated, and a mongrel or something not far from it be the result. When we have a good farm fowl like the Barded Plymouth Rock, Langshan, Light Brahma, Houdan, Wyandotte or Red-Cap, let them remain as they are. Improve their own standard points, but please omit the multitude of offshoots incidental in trying to do something worth absolutely nothing to the poultry fraternity at large. Be sensible farmers, not children that trifle to kill time only. J. W. C.

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Some Children Growing Too Fast
 become listless, fretful, without energy, thin and weak. But you can fortify them and build them up, by the use of
SCOTT'S EMULSION
 OF PURE COD LIVER OIL AND HYPOPHOSPHITES OF Lime and Soda.
 They will take it readily, for it is almost as palatable as milk. And it should be remembered that AS A PREVENTIVE OR CURE OF COUGHS OR COLDS, IN BOTH THE OLD AND YOUNG, IT IS UNEQUALLED. Avoid substitutions offered.



Rose Lawn Fruit Farm
 All kinds of small fruit plants for sale. Seventy-five varieties to select from. Strawberries our specialty. Plants at lowest prices. Write for catalogue—free. Address: DIXON & SON, Netawaka, Jackson Co., Kas.

Douglas County Nursery.
 For spring sale, 600,000 We'ge plants, cheap. Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Cherry, Quince, and Grape Vines. All kinds of nursery stock. Write for list. WM. PLASKET & SON, Lawrence, Kas.

THE CHAMPION PEACH.
 The Largest and Best EARLY FREE-STONE known; hardy and productive; has no equal. For description and prices of this and all other kinds of FRUIT TREES, GRAPE VINES, FOREST SEEDLINGS, and SHRUBBERY, Address: HART PIONEER NURSERIES, FORT SCOTT, KANSAS.

ROSES, EVERGREENS, SHRUBS, VINES, Small Fruits, Fruit & Ornamental Trees.
 Good assortment of varieties for the West. "Live and let live" prices. Correspondence solicited. Address: CECIL'S FRUIT FARM & NURSERY, NORTH TOPEKA, KAN.

EVERGREENS
 Fruit and Forest Trees.
 50,000,000 trees for spring trade. All trees sold direct from the nurseries. Send for catalogue and receive HOW TO GROW EVERGREENS, and a coupon good for 50 cents worth of trees FREE!
 Address: E. H. RICKER CO. ELGIN, ILL.



Rust-Proof Oats for Seed.
 Offered by Kansas City Grain & Seed Co. (J. I. Reynolds, Manager, formerly of Trumbull, Reynolds & Allen). Red Oats have become so hybridized with other varieties that it is difficult to secure enough in this section to fill our Southern orders, so that we are constrained to offer for seed good Red Rust-proof Oats at 50 cents per bushel delivered at Kansas City depot in uniform sacks of five bushels each. Special prices on large lots. Cash to accompany order. Oats like ours command 5 to 10 cent per bushel more than common oats, and farmers tell us yield twice as much.
 KANSAS CITY GRAIN & SEED CO., Kansas City, Mo.
 Highest market price paid for Ge man Mill- and Borghum Seed (send samples). Also handle grain and seed on consignment.
 Reference:—National Bank of Kansas City.

In the Dairy.

THE PROFITABLE COW.

In an address before an Ontario Farmers' Institute, Dairy Commissioner J. A. Robertson said:

The cow the farmer should keep should have three powers: the power to breathe well, first, because by her breathing she purifies her blood, and takes in enough oxygen from the air to keep herself warm. She should have strong heart action, so as to circulate her blood well; and should have vigorous stomach power for good digestion. This she must have to have a good constitution. You look for evidence of this in the cow having a deep chest. In getting good lung power you look for a deep chest, not a broad chest; if you have a broad chest you have lung room in breadth, and then a mountain of beef and bone on top of that. That means you have a Polled Angus. It is a good breed, but I do not want a Polled Angus for my dairying. I want a cow with a broad nose, and oblong nostrils; I want a cow that is very full behind the fore legs.

She wants heart room and heart power, and the best indication of heart power will be found in the skin of the animal. The better the heart pumps the more effectually it will circulate the blood to the very extremities of the cow's body. The skin of the beast is one of the best evidences of its heart power. The best evidence of stomach power will also be found in the skin of the animal. If there is vigorous circulation, and the blood is defective in nourishment, then you have a skin that is hard and tight, and bristly hair, because the digestive action or heart action are interfered with and are not regular. Many men contend that the milk veins should be very large. I consider that to be immaterial, but the milk veins should be prominent. A cow's nose should be dewy and moist; when it is dry it is an indication of ill-health. It means bad digestion, waste of feed and waste of profits. She should have flat ribs, and wide apart.

You want beyond those three powers the peculiar power in an animal of directing her energy to do what she is kept for. You want the directive power towards beef if you keep the animal for beef; you want the directive power towards milk if you want to keep her for milk.

The directive power in an animal is the valuable power whereby you find her directing her energies to where you are to find the biggest profits. A scrub has good lungs as a rule. A scrub hog will often outrun a dog. You will have heart power in a scrub; sometimes you have very powerful digestion, but she lacks the digestive power that will concentrate those three powers to service, and not to waste. In the milking cow you will find first evidence of the directive power in the kind of face she has—a rather long, lean face, with no superfluous skin; no indication of flabbiness; large, lustrous eyes, standing very wide apart and very prominent, with a forehead dished downward; a long and broad forehead; a large muzzle; a wide mouth, indicating large eating powers—the only coarse part of a cow's head that is justifiable. It indicates the power to keep on grinding her food, and indicates a strong constitution. She should have a long, thin, tapering neck; as a bulky, beefy neck indicates a short milking season.

Her shoulder bones should be right above the leg and wide apart and the joints loose; the wider these are apart the better indication you have of a large flow of milk when the cow is doing her best. I do not think it indicates anything of the length of the season. Thick beefy hips mean beef, not milk. The cow's udder should be long and shapely, with a long line of attachment

between the udder and the cow's body. You never find a coarse cow a good milker. I like a cow to have all the angles possible, but the bones themselves and skin ought to be fine in quality.

Having a cow of this kind, it is possible to make her serve you well, but she never could do so without getting care, right feed and proper handling. Begin the habit of long milking with a heifer, and persist in it, and she will keep it up afterwards. She should be kept in a comfortable stable. If a man will write one word over every stall in his stable, and observe it, he will become a successful feeder and stockman. That one word is "comfort." Whatever will increase the cow's comfort will increase her productive power; whatever in watering, or feed, or care, lessens her comfort, lessens also her milking capacity. She should have lots of water in the summer time, and have access to salt every day.

A cow should have the right kind of feed and should get a properly balanced ration when possible. A man might as well, in a certain sense, live on bread and potatoes, as live on bread and butter, potatoes and beefsteak; but if he had only potatoes to live on, he would come to be, in a short time, "small potatoes" of a man. A man must have well balanced food if he is to do hard work. He cannot continue to do hard work unless he gets his energy from some outside source. Bread and butter make well balanced food; potatoes and beef are well balanced food for a man. Corn and clover, or corn and peas, in the same way, make a balanced ration for the cow. You must remember that a cow should have her bread and butter—albuminoids and carbohydrates.

Kansas Dairymen.

At the annual meeting of the Kansas State Dairymen's Association, at Clay Center, the announcement was made that a paper to be devoted exclusively to the dairy interests had been started at Kansas City. J. S. Soule, associate editor of the KANSAS FARMER, then arose and said: "Mr. President and gentlemen of the convention: It is well known to the rank and file of the great army of Kansas farmers, and especially the members of this association, that the 'old reliable' KANSAS FARMER has been a warm and most constant friend of this organization from its birth. But being an agricultural journal, devoted to the general interests of the greatest and most important of all industries, including agriculture, horticulture, stock-raising, dairying, poultry-raising, bee-keeping, etc., it could not, of course, devote its entire attention to the dairy. Therefore, I, with the rest of you, hail with joy the glad tidings that *The National Dairyman* has been born in the very midst of what promises to be the greatest dairy country on the globe, and in behalf of that unselfish, broad-gauged journal which I have the honor to represent, I most cordially welcome the new enterprise, and bespeaking for it your most earnest support, move that *The National Dairyman* be declared the official organ of the Kansas State Dairy Association."

Amidst the enthusiasm engendered by Mr. Soule's remarks the motion was put and unanimously carried. Mr. E. F. Davis, of the Kansas City Creamery Package Company, then moved that a vote of thanks be given Mr. Soule for his magnanimous remarks, and to the KANSAS FARMER for its ever faithful friendship and valuable services.

Price "Worth a Guinea a Box." 25c.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

(QUICKLY SOLUBLE PLEASANTLY COATED;) cure Sick-Headache, and all Bilious and Nervous Diseases.

Renowned all over the World. Ask for Beecham's and take no others. Made at St. Helens, England. Sold by druggists and dealers. New York Depot, 365 Canal St.

"August Flower"

For two years I suffered terribly with stomach trouble, and was for all that time under treatment by a physician. He finally, after trying everything, said stomach was about worn out, and that I would have to cease eating solid food for a time at least. I was so weak that I could not work. Finally on the recommendation of a friend who had used

A worn-out Stomach. your preparations with beneficial results, I procured a bottle of August Flower, and commenced using it. It seemed to do me good at once. I gained in strength and flesh rapidly; my appetite became good, and I suffered no bad effects from what I ate. I feel now like a new man, and consider that August Flower has entirely cured me of Dyspepsia in its worst form. JAMES E. DEDERICK, Saugerties, New York.

W. B. Utsey, St. George's, S. C., writes: I have used your August Flower for Dyspepsia and find it an excellent remedy.

I CURE FITS!

When I say cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office. H. G. ROOT, M. C., 183 Pearl St., N. Y.

Tickle The Earth

With a Hoe, SOW FERRY'S SEEDS and nature will do the rest. Seeds largely determine the harvest—always plant the best—FERRY'S. A book full of information about Gardens—how and what to raise, etc., sent free to all who ask for it. Ask to-day. D. M. FERRY & CO., P. O. Box 1133 DETROIT, MICH.



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PEACH—A Specialty. A full selection of all the leading varieties. A correct descriptive and finely illustrated Catalogue FREE and Trees by mail. Address JOS. H. BLACK, SON & CO., Village Nurseries, Hightstown, N.J.

SEEDS FRESH! RELIABLE! Celebrated for Purity and Strong Germinating Qualities. Only 2 & 3c per large pkg. 5,000,000. Novelty Extras with orders this year. Beautiful Illus. Color'd Seed and Plant Catalogue, Free to all who address at once, H. W. BUCKBEE, Rockford Seed Farms, No. 207 Main St. Rockford, Ill.

EVERGREENS

AND FOREST TREES. For Wind-breaks, Ornament, etc. Hardest Varieties, Nursery grown Scotch Pine, 2 to 3 feet, \$10 per 100. Scotch and Austrian Pine seedlings, 12 to 15 inches, \$10 per 1000. Other sizes and varieties in proportion. Over 10 million for sale. Good local AGENTS WANTED. D. HILL, Evergreen Specialist, Dundee, Illinois.

ALNEER'S SEEDS

RELIABLE. If you want Pure Fresh Seeds Cheap, direct from growers, send for our Beautiful Illus'd Catalogue mailed Free. Pkt's only 2 and 3 cts. Market Gardeners ask for Wholesale Price List. ALNEER BROS., ROCKFORD, ILL.



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Grandest Illustrated Garden Guide. SEEDS 1 cent a packet. Up if rare or costly. Cheapest. Best of all. Free by mail, 500,000 packets of extras to Customers. Send at once for Free BOOK. R. H. SHUMWAY, Rockford, Ill.

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GARDEN, FLOWER AND FARM PLANTS, BULBS AND TOOLS. Catalogues Sent Free on Application. W. W. BARNARD & CO., Chicago, Ill. Successors to HIRAM SIBLEY & CO.

FAY CURRANT HEADQUARTERS. NEW GRAPES

BEST & CHEAPEST. Esther, Rockwood, Eaton, Meyer and all other New and Old. Small Fruits. Catalogue Free. GEO. S. JOSSELYN, FREDONIA, N.Y.

NEW TOMATO TRUCKER'S FAVORITE.

For Main Crop. Very large, smooth and solid. Good shipper, extra quality, ripens even and don't crack. Color purplish red. 25c. per pkt. 5 for \$1. For full descriptions, testimonials and col'd plates of these valuable entirely new vegetables send for our 1892 Descriptive Catalogue of Seeds and Plants, a full list of tested Seeds, Grape Vines, Early Westbrook and other Strawberries, Blackberries, Raspberries, Currants, Champion Peach, &c., and all desirable Flower Seeds. It should be read by every one that plants seeds. THE BEST LIMA BEAN. MOST PROFITABLE. For MARKET GARDENERS and FAMILY. Earlier than Early Jersey and matures farther North—extra large. Most prolific. Grows very compact, and shells more quarts to the bushel of pods than any other. Quality absolutely the best. 25c. per pkt. 5 for \$1. Sold by us only. JOEL HORNER & SONS, Delair, Camden Co., N.J.

BUY NORTHERN GROWN SEEDS

Over 100,000 Farmers will tell you that Salzer's Northern Grown Seeds are BEST for all soils and climates. Their unsolicited testimonials attest to yields of 40 bu. Spring Wheat, 64 bu. Barley, 120 bu. Corn, 184 bu. Oats, 400 bu. Potatoes and 5 tons Hay per Acre. Its great prolificness is due to my care in growing. Only Seedsman in America making FARM SEEDS a Specialty. Cultivate 5,000 acres. Magnificent stocks. Prices low. Freight cheap. When you sow you want to reap. That's eternally right. You can't reap big crops from poor seeds. That you may have glorious harvests I offer you my Vigorous, Prolific SEEDS. FOR 12 cts. In order to introduce my splendid NORTHERN GROWN SEEDS everywhere, I offer postpaid: 1 Pkg. Melon, 1 Pkg. Radish, 1 Pkg. Lettuce, 1 Pkg. Tomato, 5 Pkgs. Elegant Flower Seed. 9 Packages listed in no Catalog in America under 50c. (Flower Seed.) Fine Catalog, contains 4 Col'd Plates, 5c. stamps. Catalog and above 9 Pkgs., 17c.

JOHN A. SALZER LACROSSE, WIS.

The Veterinarian.

We cordially invite our readers to consult us whenever they desire any information in regard to sick or lame animals, and thus assist us in making this department one of the interesting features of the KANSAS FARMER.

RING-BONE.—I have a twelve-year-old mare badly affected with ring-bone on one hind foot; it does not show much on smooth roads, but on hilly or rough ground she is very lame.

ANSWER.—Have it fired by a competent veterinarian. Sign your name in full when writing to this department.

INQUIRY.—I have been told that a mixture of sulphur and soda, or of sulphur and common wood ashes would turn to arsenic and poison stock. If such be the case, it should be generally known.

ANSWER.—You need have no fear of the mixture turning to arsenic. There is, sometimes, a small trace of sulphide of arsenicum found in sulphur, but it is not a result of the mixture nor is it present in sufficient quantity to poison stock.

STEERS SLABBING.—I have several two and three-year-old steers that have been slabbering at the mouth for about two months; they are swollen under the jaws and are now swelling at the brisket; they cannot eat very well, and the trouble seems to be in the mouth.

ANSWER.—We are not able to determine anything from the symptoms given. It would be well to have the steers examined by a qualified veterinarian if you can; if not, then examine them carefully yourself, and if you find anything new you can write us again if necessary.

LAME MARE.—I have a five-year-old mare, unbroken to work, that went lame last spring; she ran in the pasture all summer, and, in October, I discovered about three inches of the cord, just above the fetlock joint on the right fore leg, swollen and tender.

ANSWER.—If you are certain the lameness is in the tendon of the fore leg, then the foot should be dressed off at the toe all it will bear, leaving the heel as high as possible, for the purpose of taking the strain from the tendon.

POLL-EVIL.—My father has been taking the KANSAS FARMER for a number of years, and we think there is no other paper like it. We have an eleven-year-old mare that has had the poll-evil for fifteen months.

ANSWER.—We advise you to let your veterinarian see the mare again, and as one side is healed up, he may be able to heal the other also. The poll-evil, when deep-seated, is very difficult to cure, and the veterinarian is not always to blame if he fails to make a speedy and permanent cure.

healed by using the same solution one-eighth as strong. Just as long as any of the pipes remain the cure will not be permanent.

FISTULA.—I have a mare that has had the fistula since last fall. As soon as there was pus in it I had it cut open by a veterinary surgeon, and he told me to keep it washed clean and it would get well; but it only heals up to break out in the same or some other place.

ANSWER.—As fistula and poll-evil are precisely the same in character, only differently located, we refer you to our reply to A. F. B. in this issue.

PREMATURE BIRTH.—I have a six-year-old Holstein cow that calved about two months ahead of time; the calf was alive when it came but died in about an hour afterward, and she shows no signs of any afterbirth.

ANSWER.—As you say the cow has a good appetite and is doing well, we are somewhat puzzled to know just what you want. If there is no discharge from the vagina, the chances are the afterbirth (placenta) came away when you did not know it.

SICK COLTS.—The colt that I wrote you was stiff, is not any better. I have another one that is affected in the same way. They have a good appetite, but when they lie down they get up on their hind feet first.

ANSWER.—You should have stated that your former inquiry was answered in the issue of the KANSAS FARMER for January 6, and saved us the trouble of looking it up.

Catarrh Can't be Cured with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you have to take internal remedies.

Consumption Cured. An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints.

Advertisement for a medicine to cure consumption, listing symptoms like cough, chest pain, and weakness, and mentioning the name F. J. Cheney & Co.

Gossip About Stook. Hon. T. A. Hubbard, Rome Park, Kas., in a recent letter says: "I have a large supply of extra good things of both breeds of swine for sale. They are the best lot, as a whole, I ever raised, and are good enough to suit the Queen's taste."

Every breeder or farmer who contemplates the purchase of a thoroughbred Clydesdale horse this season, should attend the annual sale of the American Clydesdale Association, to be held at the Union stock yards, Chicago, February 17, 1892.

The attention of stockmen is directed to the new and attractive advertisement of Messrs. Larimer, Smith & Bridgeford, in this issue. They are one of the wide-awake firms of live stock commission merchants that deserve patronage because they aim to earn their commission by giving service commensurate with the pay.

Our Chicago manager reports a visit to the Lake Bluff poultry yards, Lake Bluff, Ill., where the genial proprietor, Mr. B. E. Rogers, presides with due dignity to the profession. Mr. Rogers has one of the best equipped poultry farms in the country, and his knowledge of the poultry business is the result of a number of years practical experience.

Send \$2.00 to C. C. Blake, Topeka, Kas., for letter of weather predictions for your locality for next twelve months.

MARKET REPORTS.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS. Kansas City.

CATTLE—Receipts 2,168. Dull, weak, hesitating market, and run light. Shipping steers, \$3 30a4 20; fed Texas, \$2 70; corn-fed Indian, \$2 50a3 00; corn-fed steers, \$3 00a3 75; cows, \$1 40a2 75; Colorado cows, \$2 25; bulls, \$1 60a2 50; heifers, \$1 60a2 60; stockers and feeders, \$3 00a3 40; Colorado feeders, \$2 30a3 15.

HOGS—Receipts 5,370. Active, firm market. Range of packers, \$4 00a4 35; bulk of sales, \$4 20a4 30.

SHEEP—Receipts 870. Good demand for choice muttons and fat lambs, and values of such ruled firm. Muttons, \$5 00a5 85; stockers, \$4 00.

Chicago. January 25, 1892. CATTLE—Receipts 15,000. Market steady. Good to choice steers, \$4 25a4 70; others, \$3 15a4 15; stockers and feeders, \$2 25a3 15; cows, \$1 70a2 90.

HOGS—Receipts 35,000. Market active, 10c higher. Rough and common, \$4 15a4 25; mixed and packers, \$4 35a4 50; prime heavy and butcher weights, \$4 50a4 67 1/2; light, \$4 25a4 50.

SHEEP—Receipts 6,000. Market slow, weak to lower. Native ewes, \$3 40a4 50; mixed, \$4 30a4 75; wethers, \$5 00a5 50; fed Texans, \$4 40; Westerns, \$5 00a5 20; lambs, \$5 50a6 10.

St. Louis. January 25, 1892. CATTLE—Receipts 1,000. Market strong. Fair to good native steers, \$3 00a4 60; Texas and Indian steers, fair to choice, \$2 75a4 60.

HOGS—Receipts 3,700. Market higher. Fair to prime heavy, \$4 00a4 60; mixed ordinary to good, \$3 00a4 50; light, fair to best, \$4 30a4 50.

SHEEP—Receipts 2,200. Market steady. Fair to choice muttons, \$4 00a5 60.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE MARKETS.

Kansas City.

January 25, 1892. WHEAT—Receipts 63,000 bushels. Good, steady market. By sample on track: No. 2 hard, 78c; No. 3 hard, 74c; No. 4 hard, 72c; No. 2 red, 80c; No. 3 red, 82c; No. 4 red, 72a76c.

CORN—Receipts for the past 48 hours, 64,200 bushels. By sample on track (local): No. 2 mixed, 84a84 1/2c; No. 3 mixed, 33 1/2c; No. 2 white, 35 1/2a36c; No. 3 white, 35c.

OATS—Receipts for the past 48 hours, 41,000 bushels. By sample on track: No. 2 mixed, 29a29 1/2c; No. 3 mixed, 28 1/2c; No. 4 mixed, 27 1/2c; No. 2 white, 30 1/2c; No. 3 white, 30c; No. 4 white, 29c.

RYE—Receipts for the past 48 hours, 3,000 bushels. By sample on track: No. 2, 78c; No. 3, 75c.

FLAXSEED—84c per bushel. CASTOR BEANS—Crushing, in car lots, \$1 60 per bushel on basis of pure.

HAY—New prairie, fancy, per ton, \$8 50; good to choice, \$5 50a6 00; prime, \$4 50a5 00; common, \$4 00. Timothy, fancy, \$9 00; choice, \$8 50.

Chicago. January 25, 1892. WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 87 1/2c; No. 3 spring, 81 1/2a82c; No. 2 red, 80 1/2a80c.

CORN—No. 2, 37 1/2c. OATS—No. 2, 28a28 1/2c; No. 2 white, 29 1/2c; No. 3 white, 28 1/2a29c.

WOOL—Market stronger, prices firmer, and both demand and inquiry greater than for some time past. Kansas and Nebraska are in good demand. Fine, 18 20c; medium, 19a23c; low medium, 20a22c; coarse, 18a20c.

St. Louis. January 25, 1892. WHEAT—No. 2 red, cash, 89a89 1/2c.

CORN—No. 2 cash, 30 1/2a36 1/2c. OATS—No. 2 cash, 29 1/2c. HAY—Prairie, \$7 75a10 00; timothy, \$10 50a14 00.

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A SAFE, SPEEDY AND POSITIVE CURE for Curb, Splint, Sweeney, Capped Hoof, Strained Tendons, Founder, Wind Fuff, Skin Diseases, Thrush, Diptheria, all Lameness from Sprain, Ringbone or other Heavy Tumors. Removes all Branches of Bleaches from Horses and Cattle.

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THE KANSAS FARMER FOR 1892.

The "old reliable" KANSAS FARMER for 1892 will be more indispensable to the farmers of Kansas than ever before. It is already recognized as the strongest agricultural paper west of the Mississippi, and it is the purpose of the publishers, by hard work and the expenditure of money, to not only maintain this position but to win fresh laurels during the coming year.

The especial field of the KANSAS FARMER is Kansas agriculture and the interests of the farmers of the State. But the fact that the lists of subscribers in other States are large, shows that the paper has proven its value to others as well as to the farmers of Kansas.

The business of the paper is such that the publishers are not only able but actually compelled to enlarge it by the addition of four pages, making it a twenty-page paper.

The KANSAS FARMER discusses subjects which interest the farmer and every other citizen, giving the views of the paper without party bias or prejudice. Public measures are discussed without fear or favor for the purpose of ascertaining the truth and arriving at correct conclusions, without attempting to make either facts or deductions from them conform to party dictum. In this spirit of fairness it considers economic questions and assists in determining economic policies.

There will be fourteen departments in each number of the KANSAS FARMER for 1892, each of which will be carefully and ably conducted.

The editorial department will keep closely in touch with the people, studying their demands and observing closely the situation as it affects their interests. Politicians of all parties find it essential to carefully read the broad-gauged, impartial and fearless discussions of the editorial pages. Six people in every town in Kansas are engaged in agriculture. The editorial pages of the KANSAS FARMER represents, speaks for and defends the interests of this great majority.

The live stock department has always been a strong feature of the KANSAS FARMER. It is edited with great care by a member of our staff who is known not only throughout Kansas, but in all the West, as without a superior in his knowledge of live stock matters. This department is given more space in the enlarged paper, and will be of special interest to breeders and to feeders, and at the same time be invaluable to the general farmer. The best practical live stock writers will contribute to this department, and it will contain reliable and authoritative matter pertaining to every branch of live stock husbandry.

The "Horse Department" is a new feature added for 1892, and will be conducted by the best posted writer on horse matters in the West. There is no class of live stock that is making greater progress than roadster horses, and Kansas especially is well to the fore in this respect. This branch of the animal industry promises more profit to the general farmer than almost any other class of stock. We propose to keep our readers posted on horse matters, as well as other things.

Agricultural matters are treated in a special department in which is given editorially and otherwise information and discussions covering both practical and scientific ground. In this will be found valuable papers read at farmers' institutes and other farmers' gatherings, in which purely agricultural matters are discussed.

Correspondence will be made a department. In this will be presented letters from farmers. It is hoped that what is ascertained by practical experience will be contributed to this department, so what is learned by each, may be placed within the reach of all.

Horticulture will continue to be an important feature. This department contains the best thought and the experience of the best horticulturists in the State. The valuable papers read before the State Horticultural Society, and before the various institutes, appear in this department and are alone worth more than the subscription price of the KANSAS FARMER for a year.

"The Home Circle" furnishes each week three or four columns of pure and elevating literary matter, carefully prepared by a member of our staff for the entertainment of every member of the family. Whoever reads this department will find his aspirations growing nobler and himself growing wiser as well as better.

"The Young Folks" department will be

prepared with especial reference to interesting and benefiting the boys and girls. Recognizing the fact that the young folks constitute a most important part of the farming as well as every other well regulated community, and that to interest them a special effort is necessary, the publishers have determined to devote even more care and effort than heretofore to this department.

The dairy interests in Kansas are becoming continually more important. Some of the closest figuring on methods and their profits that is done in connection with agriculture is done by dairymen. The breeds, the care, the feed of dairy cows, as well as the handling of the milk and butter, receive careful attention in this department. The subject of butter frauds will also receive attention.

The Apriary department has been placed under the care of one of the best apiculturists in the West. This department will be one of interest and information.

The Veterinary department is one of recognized authority, being edited by Dr. S. C. Orr, of Manhattan, a very successful veterinarian. He has no superior in this department. It has been the means of saving many valuable animals for the readers of the FARMER. No owner of live stock can afford to do without it.

The Alliance department will contain able discussions of economic questions from thinking people. All sides of these questions are presented by those who are directly interested. These discussions are candid and able. They contain much valuable information and cannot fail to help in arriving at correct conclusions. This department will contain all official, State and national matter as well as the general Alliance news.

The market reports are prepared with extreme care to make them reliable. They give the quotations for Kansas City, Chicago and St. Louis, both live stock and produce, and will be a valuable feature of the paper.

A new department of agricultural miscellany has been added. This contains a great variety of information, conveyed in editorial and selected paragraphs, comprising the best practical thought and observation on general agricultural matters.

From the above brief outline it will be seen that the KANSAS FARMER proposes to furnish to its readers a great deal for a little money. It is only on account of the very large subscription list that the paper can be afforded at the low price of one dollar per year. Let every farmer who wishes to prosper subscribe and induce others to do likewise. Nothing is more encouraging to the publishers than to have every old subscriber renew and add one or more new subscribers.

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This paper has many more readers this year than ever before, and yet we want still more, and we will have more than double the present number during the next thirty days if every subscriber will only secure for us one or more new subscribers. Will you do it? We believe you will find sufficient inducement offered if you will look over this premium supplement and take advantage of some of our grand offers.

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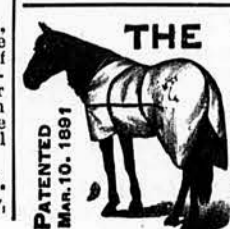
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