

SPIRIT OF KANSAS

A Journal of Home and Husbandry.

VOL. VI.—NO. 52.

LAWRENCE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING, DECEMBER 27, 1877.

WHOLE NO. 308.

YULE-SONG—A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

BY A. CLEVELAND COXE.

All hail to Christmas-Eve!
To-night, from hearth and home
Begone all thoughts that grieve;
The gladness feast is come!
The Holy Child once more
Renews our Christmas mirth;
Welcome to every door
The joy of Jesus' birth.

Shut out the winter's din,
And let the curtains fall;
Now bring the candles in
And praise we God for all!
As o'er the ivory keys
Our darling's fingers go,
In cheerful harmonies
Let Love's sweet fountains flow.

Now let the hearth be bright,
Sing Yule and bring the clog;
Our Christmas fire we light
With last year's cinder-log;
Crackles the sparkling brand!
Praise God we all are here—
The dear unbroken band
That was so glad, last year.

Holly and pine we set
Above, around, below
The portrait of our pet
That's gone where angels go;
With choicest flowers beside
We crown the lovely one
Among the glorified
That hymns the Virgin's Son.

Fragrant the forest scent
That breathes thro' every room,
December's redolent
As with the garden's bloom!
The pictures on the wall
Look down thro' wreaths of green;
Not ours the lordly hall,
But oh! how fair the scene.

Some say at dead of night
On Christmas-Eve, each year,
As though they saw the light
Or might the angels hear—
The sheep and oxen kneel;
Kneel down, by crib and stall,
As if they too might feel
That Christ was born for all.

So down the faithful knee
We bow before we sleep;
Our loving Shepherd He
And we his pastured sheep!
Before we sleep, to-night,
So let us hat His birth—
The Prince of Peace—the Light
And Joy of all the Earth!

THE RIGHT OWNER.

It was Judge Lurlington's own expression. Half a dozen lawyers, fresh from their studies and just admitted to the bar were listening to his advice. The old jurist had a bottle of wine at his elbow, and was in a communicative mood.

"Young men," he said, "whatever may be your strait never take a case before a jury, unless you have a right bower for a lead."

If the reader surmises from this that the judge was fond of such he will not have surmised amiss.

The young man looked at him inquiringly. "I mean," he added, "that you should never advocate a cause into the work of which you cannot enter with a clear conscience. You should never accept a client whose cause you do not believe to be just."

"Can that rule always be adhered to?" asked one of the listeners.

"It can," answered Lurlington, emphatically. "It's a lawyer's firm rock of foundation, and the only sure point of departure to the respect and confidence of his fellows."

"Have you always followed that rule, Judge?"

"I was never tempted from it but once," he replied. "I will tell you the story if you would like to hear it."

Of course they would like to; and having laid aside his pipe the old man began:

"One day I was waited on by a man who gave his name as Leban Sarfurt. He was of middle age, well dressed, and at first sight appeared to be a gentleman; but the illusion was to be dispelled when approaching business. He was hard and unfeeling, and naturally a villain. Success in speculation had saved him from becoming a thief or highwayman. I heard of him as a heavy dealer in the up-river lands. He asked me if I was willing to undertake a job which would call me to Shireton. I told him I was open to anything legitimate that would pay."

"Mr. Lurlington," said he, tapping me with course familiarity on the arm, "I want to secure your services; you must not be engaged on the other side."

"I told him if he would explain to me, the case I might be better able to give him an answer. He took an enormous quid of tobacco from a black plug, and having got it into shape between his jaws, he went on with his story. "The case was one of ejectment. An elder-

ly man, named Philip Acton, had died, leaving a large estate. There was nearly a thousand acres of land, with opportunities for developing immense water power, and ere many years that land would be worth more than a million dollars. At present upon the estate, and claiming it as a son of the deceased, was a man calling himself William Acton.

"But," said Sarfurt, "he is not a legitimate child at all. His mother was Betsy Totwood, at one time a girl in Acton's employ. Acton, I know, was never married. He brought the boy up and educated him, and now the fellow thinks he will step into his protector's shoes. I can prove that I am the only living relative of Philip Acton. He was my uncle (my mother's brother), and, to a lawyer as smart as you there can be no difficulty in proving my title. I can bring the witnesses to your hand."

"He told me he would give me five hundred dollars if I would undertake the case and an additional thousand if I gained. That was a big fee—far more than I had then made in all my pleading. It was tempting. And yet I saw that it was not perfectly clear—not entirely honest. The probability was that this William Acton was Philip's child; and it was impossible that Philip had married Betsy Totwood. It struck me that Leban Sarfurt was a villain, and that he fancied that he had young Acton so far in his power that he could eject him from the title. But what had I particularly to do with that? If I accepted a client, I must serve him. I had no business but to serve his interest. I finally told Mr. Sarfurt that I would think the matter over. I should probably have business in Shireton during the sessions of the court, and I would call on him then and examine more fully. I could not take his retainer until I had further light.

"But," said he, "will you promise not to take up for the other side?"

"I told him I would do nothing without further consultation with him."

"Because," he added, "if you are for me I am sure to win. Acton can't find a lawyer that can hold a candle to you. I know them all."

"No matter whether I believed him or not, I did not feel flattered."

"Two weeks later I received a letter from Sarfurt, promising me \$5,000 if I won."

"The \$5,000 was a strong argument. Was not law really a game of chance, in which the strongest hand and longest purse must win? I told myself yes. Yes—and I sat down and wrote a reply, saying that I would take the case. But I did not mail it at once. That night I put it under my pillow and slept over it, and on the following morning I threw it into the fire. I would not make up my mind until I had seen other parties—until I had been on the grounds. And I wrote Leban Sarfurt to wait."

"Two weeks later I harnessed my horse to the wagon, and with my wife and child started for Shireton. I had been married two years, our little babe, a girl, was a year old, our pride, our pet and our darling. Shireton was a distance of about thirty miles. We had been having rainy weather for about a week or so, and it had now cleared off bright and beautiful. We stopped and took dinner at a wayside inn, four miles beyond which was a stream which must be forded. The innkeeper told me that the stream was somewhat swollen from the late rains, but that if my horse was trusty there could be no danger."

"Arrived at the stream, the Wampatuck river, I found the water indeed risen and the current strong, but I saw that others had recently gone over, and I resolved to venture. I knew my horse and had faith in him. My wife was anxious, but she trusted my judgment. A third of the way across the water was over the hub of the wheels. A little more and it would have reached the body of the wagon. I began to be alarmed; I feared I had left the true track. Presently my horse stumbled and staggered, having evidently stepped on a moving stone. The wagon swayed and tipped, and the flood poured in upon us. My wife slipped, and in a moment more we were in the water. With one hand I grasped the harness upon the horse, and with the other I held my wife. I was thus struggling when a wild cry from her lips startled the air. Our child was washed away."

"Oh, my soul! I cannot tell you what I suffered during those moments. I could not help our darling. If I left my wife she was lost. I clung to the horse and clung to my shrieking wife—shrieking to God for mercy to her child. In the distance, upon the boom of the surging flood I could see our little one, her white dress gleaming in the sun, being borne swiftly

away. A moment more, and I saw a man plunge from the bank into the river. I saw this much, and then an intervening point of land shut out the scene. The horse was now nearing the shore, and ere long my wife and I were on dry land with the horse and wagon. As soon as I was sure my wife was safe, I left her to care for the horse, while I posted down the river in quest of the swimmer and the child.

"You may well understand that all this time I was frantic. I was a machine being operated upon by a surging and agonizing emotion. How long or how far I wandered I do not know, but at length I met a man, wet and dripping, with my darling in his arms—my darling, safe and sound. He told me that he had caught the child within a few rods of the falls, and that in landing he had cleared the abyss by not more than two yards. He was a young man, not more than twenty-five, handsome and stalwart. He said he had seen my wagon tip, and was coming to my assistance when he saw the child washed away. "I threw my life into the balance," said he, with a genial smile, "and thank God! both the lives were saved!"

"I asked him how I should ever repay him. He stopped me with an imploring gesture: "If you talk of more pay than I have already received," he said, "if you can rob me of the only solid reward I can claim, mercy! If saying the life of such a cherub is not enough of reward in itself, then hard is the heart that craves more." And with moistened eyes he told me he had a child of his own at home—an only child, of nearly the same age.

"I asked if he would tell me his name. With a smile he answered that his name did not matter—he was not sure that he had a name. I then asked him if he knew me. He nodded and said he thought I might be Mr. Lurlington, of Walbridge. When I told him he was correct, he said he must hurry home. And with that he turned away. I was too deeply moved to stop him, and when he had disappeared I started to rejoin my wife with a dawning impression that the man might be slightly deranged. But my darling was safe—the broad, fleecy cloak had floated out and kept her head above water—and I went on my way rejoicing, resolved that the preserver of my child should not be forgotten."

"I will not tell you of the emotion of my wife when she held her child once more in her arms. We reached Shirewood before night, and found quarters at a comfortable tavern."

"On the following day Leban Sarfurt called upon me and was about to spread his evidence for my inspection, when I interrupted him. I told him I could not accept his confidence until I had made up my mind to take his case in hand. Something seemed to whisper that there was danger ahead. I did not feel comfortable in that man's presence. I felt as though he was trying to buy me. The court would sit in four days. I told him I would give him a final answer in two days from that."

"That evening I made a confidante of my wife and asked her what I should do. "If I take the case," I said, "I am sure of \$5,000. She bade me do what was right. "God has been very kind to us," she said; let us look to him for guidance."

"After this I called on the clergyman of the place whose son had been my classmate in college, and whom I had once before visited. He received me heartily, and by-and-by I asked him about Wm. Acton. The result of all he told me was summed up in his closing sentence; "I am sure Wm. Acton was Philip Acton's child—in fact, I know it, and I think the father and mother were married. Betsy died very soon after her child was born, and we know that Philip always treated the boy as a legitimate child; and that he loved him as such I can confidently affirm."

"On the following morning, after breakfast, as I sat by the window in the bar-room, I saw coming from the street the man who had saved my child. He was walking slowly, as one in trouble. I pointed him out to my host, and asked him who he was."

"That is William Acton. Perhaps you have heard of the trouble he is likely to have with Leban Sarfurt!"

"I said I had heard."

"I hope he may come out all right," the host added; "but I am fearful. He has got a hard and heartless customer to deal with."

"I shut my mouth and held my peace until Leban Sarfurt called for his final answer. I said to him:

"Mr. Sarfurt, I have been considering all this time whether I could undertake your case with a clear conscience—whether I should be helping the side of justice and right in help-

ing you. I had concluded I could not do so before I had seen William Acton to know him by name. I now know him for a man who nobly risked his own life to save the life of my child. I have not as yet accepted one of your private disclosures; I have gained from you nothing which you could wish to keep from the public. I cannot take your case, but I tell you frankly that if you prosecute, I will defend William Acton."

"I did not mind Sarfurt's wrath. He raved and swore and stamped, and then he went off and engaged two lawyers from Herkimer to take his case. I called upon Acton and told him I would defend him if he would accept my services, as I had accepted his. He took my hand and thanked me."

"I have made a great many pleas in my life, but I think I never made a better one than I made to that jury on that occasion. They were not out over five minutes. By their verdict William Acton was the lawful possessor of the estate his father had left."

"From that day I never hesitated to refuse to accept a case to which I could not give my heart. Such a stand on the part of a lawyer becomes known and the people feel it; and what the public feels juries are sure to feel."

Concerning William Acton, I will only add that he became my bosom friend. He always felt that he owed his title to his valuable property to me; and I knew that to him I was indebted for the home that was mine for forty years. He was very delicate in the gift of that piece of property. He deeded it to my wife.

The husband of my eldest daughter is his eldest son.

Evils of Gossip.

We have known a country society which withered away to nothing under the dry rot of gossip only. Friendships once as firm as granite, dissolved to jelly, and then ran away to water, only because of this; love that promised a future as enduring and as stable as truth, evaporated into a morning mist that turned to a day's long tears, only because of this; a father and a son were set foot to foot with the fiery breath of an anger that would never cool again between them; and a husband and a young wife, each straining at the hated lash which in the beginning had been the promise of a God-blessed love, sat mournfully by the side of the grave where all their love and all their joy lay buried, and all because of this. We have seen faith transformed to mean doubt, joy give place to grim despair, and charity take on itself the features of black malevolence, all because of the fell words of scandal, and the magic mutterings of gossip. Great crimes work great wrongs, and the deeper tragedies of human life spring from the larger passions; but woful and most mournful are the uncalculated tragedies that issue from gossip and detraction; most mournful the shipwreck often made of noble natures and lovely lives by the bitter winds and dead salt waters of slander. So easy to say, so hard to disprove—throwing on the innocent all the burden and all the strain of demonstrating their innocence, and punishing them as guilty if unable to pick out the stings they never see, and to silence words they never hear—gossip and slander are the deadliest and cruellest weapons man has ever forged for his brother's heart.

—All the Year Round.

Intemperance.

A very thoughtful editorial in a recent issue of the Sun calls attention to the high scientific opinion that can be quoted in favor of reducing the passion for intoxicants by the use of vegetable diet, instead of meat, i. e., animal food. The experiment, we happen to know, has been made in a loose way in a small institution in England, without any scientific knowledge, and only on general principles, and from observation, and so far it sustains the opinion that vegetable food is less fitted to excite the terrible craving than animal. No country in the world is richer in vegetables than ours. Why should not this point be tested in some of our asylums? The evil is so crying as to render any remedy welcome.

A Large Pigeon Roost.

In Camden county, Missouri, the wild pigeons congregate in millions, often breaking down by their weight the limbs of the tall trees on which they roost.

We have heard aged men say that in their boyhood wild pigeons congregated in this manner in the Eastern states, where nothing of the kind is ever heard of now.

Evil speaking does not make us friends nor bring us happiness, therefore we should avoid the practice.

Young Folks' Column.

In our next issue we will announce to our young friends who is the winner of the silver cup.

MR. EDITOR:—I have written one letter for your paper and I seat myself to write again. This is a very windy day and very pleasant also. I have returned from my uncle's and my uncle and cousin came home with me and I was very glad to get home. We had a nice time going home except I had a chill and was very sick. This is a mining country where we live. We have a very fine prospect for lead. I will close my letter for this time. Yours truly,

MARY PALMER.

GALENA, KANS., Dec. 8, 1877.

MR. EDITOR:—I take pleasure in writing for our column again. I see the "Children's Column" was full last week; I am glad of it. I have not written for a long time. I have been going to school this winter; I study reading, spelling and arithmetic. "We have a good teacher; his name is Charlie White. I helped pa gather one load of corn, but it hurt my hands so much I did not want to go with him again. My pa and ma are grangers; when there is open grange ma says I may go. I got a pretty wax doll as a premium for getting up a club of subscribers for the Dew Drop; and I don't know of a better way to get a silver cup than to write for the "Young Folks' Column." I am nine years old, and if I get the silver cup, will be the happiest little girl in this state. I must close for this time. Your little friend,

EVA A. FOSTER.

EMPORIA, KANS., Dec. 7, 1877.

MR. EDITOR:—I have written for the "Young Folks' Column" once before, and as you were kind enough to print my letter I thought I would try and do better this time; I have no hopes of getting the cup, but think it no harm to write. I see Alice Roser wrote last week; why don't you write often, Alice? Your letters are so interesting. Martha Campbell sent quite an interesting little game last week, I intend to try it some time. I know lots of puzzles, and I will send you one: Hicomore, Hocomore, on the king's kitchen door; all the king's horses and all the king's men can't drive Hicomore, Hocomore, off the king's kitchen door? Ida Shields has two pets; I have a pet which I suppose you will think queer; it is a chicken; when she was little the rats bit one of her legs off, and she hops around on one leg; her name is Nora and she will come when I call her. Well I will say no more this time, for my letter is too long already. So good-by.

EFFIE SMITH.

P. S.—Horace, why don't you write? EFFIE.

DEAR EDITOR AND YOUNG FOLKS:—It has been so long since I met you before. Since I last wrote I had a little brother get killed—long ago; he was such a dear little fellow; he would have been seven years old now. I spoke of him in one of my letters before as being the baby. I suppose you saw an account of his death in THE SPIRIT. It is so lonesome for me now because we always played together, but we know that he is better off. I was ten years old last month. I think the editor is very kind to let us have a column; it learns us so much. I like to read what other little children have to say though we cannot express our thoughts very well now, we hope to do better sometime. "Tell oaks from little acorns grow." I would like to hear often from Mrs. Mack, Aunt Helen, Aunt Margery and Aunt Martha. Aunt Margery spoke of a little girl that spoke "The Dead Doll." I spoke the same piece when I was nine years old—I spoke it three times; every one thought it was so good. I will send another one I spoke:

LITTLE CHATTERBOX.

They call me "Little Chatterbox,"
My name is little May;
I have to talk so much, because
I have so much to say.

And oh! I have so many friends;
So many I and you see
I can't help loving them, because
They every one love me.

I love papa and my mamma,
I love my sisters too;
And if you're very, very good,
I guess that I'll love you.

But I love God the best of all;
He keeps me all the night,
And when the morning comes again,
He wakes me with the light.

I think it is so nice to live;
And yet if I should die,
The Lord would send his angels down
To take me to the sky.

Good-by. CAROL E. BROOKS.

RENO, KANS., Dec. 21, 1877.

THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

LAWRENCE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1877.

Patrons' Department.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

Master—John T. Jones, Helena, Arkansas. Secretary—O. H. Kelley, Louisville, Kentucky. Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, Wayne, N. Y.

OFFICERS OF THE KANSAS STATE GRANGE.

Master—W. Sims, Topeka, Shawnee county. Overseer—J. B. Willis, Oskaloosa, Jefferson county. Lecturer—J. T. Stevens, Lawrence, Douglas county.

OFFICERS OF THE KANSAS STATE GRANGE.

Secretary—P. B. Maxson, Emporia, Lyon county. Chaplain—W. H. Jones, Holton, Jackson county. Gate-keeper—Geo. Amey, Bourbon county. Pomona—Mrs. H. M. Barnes, Manhattan, Riley county.

POMONA GRANGES.

- 1 Shawnee county, Geo. W. Clark master, H. H. Wallace secretary, Topeka. 2 Cowley county, William White master, C. C. Coon secretary, Little Dutch. 3 Sedgewick county, J. E. Mumford master, Mrs. J. Davis secretary, Junction City.

DEPUTIES

Commissioned by Wm. Sims, master Kansas State Grange, since the last session: W. S. Hanna, General Deputy, Ottawa, Franklin county, Kansas.

MASTER SIMS' ADDRESS.

Delivered before the Kansas State Grange at its Sixth Annual Session.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS:—Pursuant to the requirement of our constitution, we have again convened, in this the sixth annual session of the Kansas state grange. We have met for the purpose of reviewing some of the more important events connected with the organization and history of this individual grange, and to note the progress made in the work of our order in this state.

Since our last annual meeting abundant harvests have rewarded the husbandman. The tillers of the soil have found remunerative employment in the cultivation and production of abundant crops. Doubt and uncertainty no longer exist. Industry, perseverance and economy, under the benign influence of an All-wise providence, are fast bringing to the agriculturists of this section of our country that substantial prosperity necessary to their permanent advancement in all things which contribute to our temporal peace, prosperity and consequent happiness.

permitted again to meet under such favorable circumstances.

As the chosen representatives of the membership composing our organization, you, the delegates now here assembled, are charged with grave and important duties; duties more closely connected with the interests and future welfare of those directly interested in agricultural pursuits than any similar body heretofore convened in this state, under our organic law; and trusted that, aided by the light of the past and guided and directed by wisdom and that calmness, justice and love, which should ever characterize a true Patron, your action at this session may be such as to meet the demands of our organization and merit the commendation of our fraternity.

It will become your duty, as the legislative branch of our state organization, to provide by appropriate legislation or at least to give direction as to details necessary to put into practical and successful operation the business arm of our organization; also to provide for some general systematic plan of diffusing among our membership all that kind of information necessary for the development of the true principles of our order.

Ours is a work of education, and successful results can be attained only through continued and persistent effort, as evidenced by the fact that the progress made in the work of our order has been in proportion to our education in the grange principles. It is not practical for one or two persons to travel and properly instruct the subordinate granges in the state. The field is too large and the expenses, necessarily incurred, too great.

While I am deeply impressed with the evils resulting from frequent changes in our organic law, my experience convinces me that some further amendments are demanded. Permit me, therefore, to recommend the following:

Amend section 2, article 3, by directing who shall designate the place and give notice of county meetings for the election of delegates to the state grange.

Amend section 1, article 3, by striking out the word "second," where it occurs in the first and second lines of said section and insert in lieu thereof the word "first."

Amend section 1, article 10, so as to provide for an equal and just representation from each subordinate grange. The representation should be so restricted as to make our county and district granges efficient business organizations.

Amend section 3, same article, by adding thereto the following: All applications for dispensations shall be made to the secretary of the state grange and be signed by the person applying for the same, and be accompanied by a fee of one dollar.

Amend section 6, same article, by striking out all after the word "degree," where it occurs in the fourth line of said section.

Amend section 7, same article, so as to make it conform to the requirements of section 2, article 1, national constitution; prescribe form of application and kind of evidence of "good standing" to be required; also membership and degree fee. And I should further recommend that said section be amended so as to permit a majority to elect to membership and the degree, and that application may be made for membership or the degree, balloted for, and, if elected, the degree conferred at same meeting.

Amend section 11, same article, so as to read as follows: Section 11. District or county granges shall have charge of the education and business interests of the order in their respective districts, and shall encourage, strengthen and aid subordinate granges represented therein, and shall have appellate jurisdiction of all cases brought by appeal from subordinate granges within their jurisdiction.

The officers of each Pomona grange shall be elected annually, at such time as may be prescribed by the grange, and installed at its regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose; and each such district and county grange shall, at the same time the officers are elected, elect a board of trustees, consisting of three members, who shall act as a board of arbitrators, to hear and decide, subject to the approval of the grange, all differences or disputes which may arise between its members, or between members of different granges, or between two or more subordinate granges within its jurisdiction, and to hear and decide, subject to the appeal of the grange, as aforesaid, all cases brought by appeal from the decision of any subordinate grange within its jurisdiction.

It shall be the duty of the board of trustees, hereinafter provided for, to cause all testimony, given before them, to be reduced to writing, and submit the same, together with their finding and recommendation in the case, to the grange.

All cases tried in a district or county grange may be appealed to the state grange.

All district or county granges shall have the right to try a case on appeal on its merits.

Amend section 6, article 2, by striking out all after the word "cents," where it occurs in the third line of said section, to the end of the paragraph, and by striking out all of said section after the word "membership," where it occurs in the fourth line of second paragraph of said section.

Amend section 8 of same article, by striking out all of said section after the word "paid out," where it occurs in the sixth line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words, "into the state grange treasury through the state secretary six cents per quarter since his subordinate grange last paid dues to the state grange, and a dime fee of twenty-five cents."

All applications for dismit from state grange, may be recommended by the deputy of his county, or by the master and secretary of some working grange in the same county.

My reasons for recommending the foregoing amendments are too lengthy to be recited here. I shall, however, take pleasure in giving them in brief to the committee on constitution and

by-laws, or to grange, when the report of that committee comes up for final action, if desired.

In this connection I desire also to call your attention to the following very important amendments to the constitution, proposed and submitted at the eleventh annual session of our national organization, which closed its labors in Cincinnati, on the 28th of last month, to wit: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—FEES FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Article 6. The minimum fee for membership in a subordinate grange shall be, for men, three dollars, and for women one dollar, for the four degrees.

Amend preamble, under the head of "organization of national grange," by adding the following at the close of the first paragraph under said head: "Each state shall be entitled to two votes in the National grange, and an additional vote for every ten thousand paying members in excess of ten thousand."

The foregoing amendments will be submitted to you for ratification or rejection during your session. The object and importance of the above amendments being apparent, I refrain from any explanation or comment upon them, believing that this body should adopt or reject without any recommendation or suggestion from one, who, like myself, has voted on the question of submitting the proposition.

At the last annual session of this grange the master was directed, by resolution, to attend the next meeting of the executive committee of the National grange, for the purpose of adjusting our National grange dues, amounting, at that time, to about twelve hundred dollars. Immediately after the adjournment of said session I opened correspondence with the chairman of said committee and learned from him that said committee had no power to adjust our dues on the basis I had been directed to insist upon. This being the case, nothing could be done until the meeting of the National grange, except as provided for by resolution of the National grange for the adjustment of dues for 1876.

This was attended to by our worthy secretary, by filing amended reports, which gave us credits sufficient to reduce the claim the National grange held against us to \$928.78, and thus matters rested until the meeting of our National grange last month.

Pending our negotiations, however, for the adjustment of dues the annual word was secured, through the proper channel, and communicated to the granges entitled to receive it.

Attended the meeting of our National grange last month, and presented our claim for adjustment of dues, upon the basis indicated in your resolution of last session, and have the pleasure of reporting that our claim for \$994.62, overpayment on dues for 1874, was allowed and an order drawn in our favor on the fiscal agency for the amount. I then paid the amount due from us to the National grange, on dues for 1876, and placed the balance—\$65.84—to our credit for the quarter ending September 30, 1877, and have turned the receipt, therefore, over to our worthy treasurer.

This, I trust, will be accepted as a sufficient and satisfactory reason for my disregard of the order of this grange, passed at its last session, directing me to attend the meeting of executive committee of the National grange, for the purposes indicated in the resolution.

By the adoption of the report of the committee on co-operation, at the last session of this body, the master and executive committee were directed to procure a charter and proceed at once to organize and establish "a state commission and wholesale house at Kansas City, Kansas, on the Rochdale plan."

The charter has been secured, the company organized, and canvassers appointed to solicit subscription to the capital stock, with not very encouraging results. For details as to the progress made in the work, and the probability of success, I refer you to the report of the president of our State Co-operative association.

While on this subject I cannot refrain from expressing my belief that this move was premature; that our membership were not at that time, and are not now, sufficiently informed as to the true principles underlying co-operation to warrant the belief that such an association would be supported if it were practical to establish it, and that no sufficient demand for such an organization now exists, as evidenced by the fact that we have not as yet secured a sufficient concentration of trade through our local retail co-operative associations to render necessary or proper the establishment of a wholesale house of the character indicated in the report above referred to. The error, if any, seems to have grown out of what I conceive to be an erroneous opinion entertained by some of our best members, to wit, that the American farmer is ready to take hold of co-operation at the point reached by the English co-operatives, after thirty years teaching and experience.

I am much interested in, and in favor of co-operation, and believe the Rochdale plan to be the best yet presented to our order; but think the same line of policy will have to be pursued in its establishment in this, as was practiced in the old country, where the plan originated. That is, commence the work in our subordinate granges. (In England it was commenced among the operatives.) Inform our membership fully as to the plan proposed and results aimed at; give them a well defined plan of operation, and thereby induce them to try it on a small scale, which, if successful, will induce the organization of other associations of like character. When a sufficient number of local retail associations shall have been established to make it profitable for them to concentrate their trade on a wholesale house in the profits of which they are to share, then, but not until that time arrives, will there be any necessity for the establishment of such houses.

Profitable hence successful co-operation, in the purchase of our needed supplies and the sale of our surplus products, can be counted upon with as much certainty in localities

where the following questions can be answered in the affirmative, as any venture in ordinary commercial transactions, to wit:

First—Have you the numerical strength, on whose trade you can depend, sufficient to support the business you propose to engage in? If so, can your customers command the cash at the time of making their purchases?

Second—Can you secure an amount of paid-up stock sufficient to guarantee a capital ample to conduct the business you propose to establish?

Third—Can you secure the services of an individual to conduct your business, possessing the requisite qualifications of honesty, integrity and business ability, with the addition of experience, if possible.

Having answered all these questions in the affirmative, the only remaining element essential to success, will be secured, and I think you are ready to commence the work of organization. Then adhere strictly to the Rochdale plan and I have no fears as to results.

In this connection permit me to commend to your thoughtful consideration the propriety of requesting those who are not members of our order—but consumers of our products—to become associated with us in our business relations. This, it seems to me, would be found to be profitable to both parties, and in entire harmony with our "declaration of purposes," in which we declare that "we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers, into the most direct and friendly relations possible."

In view of the fact that success in agriculture and stock growing depends largely upon the amount of information gained from each other, as to our success and failures and the means employed in bringing about the former, and the causes and conditions to which can be attributed the latter, I deem it of importance that some general plan should be devised, at this session, for bringing about among our membership a general discussion of all questions relating to those subjects in which our agricultural population have so great and so common an interest. Information of the simple fact that any one individual has been successful in the production and marketing of any given crop, or in the rearing and sale of stock, without giving in connection with that information the means employed in its production, sale, etc., is of no practical value to the public. Means employed as well as results arrived at should be given in detail.

I therefore very respectfully recommend the appointment of a committee, whose duty it shall be to prepare and submit to this body a series of questions suited to the demands of the seasons of the year, including "the house and the home as well as the farm and the field;" and that this report, after having been passed upon by this body, be incorporated in the published proceedings of this grange and submitted to the subordinate granges for action.

This series should, in my judgment, be composed of such questions as relate to the kind of soil best suited to the production of the several crops grown in this state, and the best time and manner of preparing the ground for the same—the time for planting, and the better modes of cultivating, harvesting, marketing, the relative profit arising from grain growing, etc.; the relative value of the crops, and as compared with stock raising; the more profitable kinds of stock and valuable varieties of different kinds of grain; the cheapest, best and most profitable manner of handling, sheltering, feeding, fitting for and marketing our different kinds of stock; the kinds of fruit and ornamental trees, vines, etc., best suited to our climate and the time and manner of transplanting, cultivating, pruning and protecting the same, and such questions as relate to household affairs and domestic economy.

When we assumed the duties of master of this grange, one year ago, we found our state organization indebted to the National grange in the sum of about twelve hundred dollars; also a large amount of outstanding orders unprovided for, no money in our treasury and our annual expenses in excess of our receipts.

Retrenchment was commenced at our last sessions by the reduction of salaries of officers, followed by a general system of economy, adopted and carried out by those having the management of our financial affairs, resulting in the following:

Total receipt during the year.....\$3,673 27

Total expenses during the year..... 2,684 00

Balance over and above all expenses for the year..... \$989 18

For details as to receipts and disbursements I refer you to the report of our worthy secretary.

As no reports are required of our state agent, except the annual report made to this body, I am not in possession of sufficient information to warrant me in making any suggestions or recommendations as to the future management of this important branch of our organization, and would, therefore, very respectfully refer you to the report of our worthy agent for all needed information relating to this subject.

The secretaries of the fire and life associations will submit to you their annual reports, giving in detail all the information necessary to a correct understanding of the practical workings of their respective associations.

For information as to receipts and disbursements during the year, and the general financial condition of the grange, I refer you to the reports of our worthy secretary, treasurer and auditing committee.

I have not considered this the proper time or place for lecturing on grange principles, and have therefore confined my remarks to such subjects only as it seems to me should engage your attention at this session. In conclusion, however, permit me to say that ours is the only organization, of any considerable magnitude, known in this country, having for its object the mental, moral and social improve-

ment of those directly interested in agricultural pursuits.

The founders of our order labored to perfect an organization suited to the work of elevating the standing, by adding to the general intelligence of the tillers of the soil, and as a means necessary for the accomplishment of its main objects, the better protection of our material interests. We have accepted it in good faith, and only need to study well its lessons and practice its precepts to make it not only a blessing to those connected with the organization but all other classes as well.

Wm. Sims, Master.

From Lyon County.

EDITOR SPIRIT:—Perhaps it may be of interest to many of your readers to know how the Patrons of Lyon county are getting along in co-operation. We organized on the Rochdale plan about nine months since, with a paid-up capital of about eight hundred dollars, rented a building and put in a stock of groceries, and at the end of the first quarter, after the running expenses were paid and 12 per cent. in on stock, a handsome dividend was declared to purchasers. At the end of the second quarter, there being some trouble in regard to balancing the books, a dividend was not declared until the end of third quarter, when, after the running expenses were taken out and 12 per cent. interest paid on the capital, a dividend of 13 per cent. was paid to purchasers. How is this for co-operation? We sell goods at about 10 per cent. above St. Louis wholesale prices; have done a business of \$30,000 in the nine months. Pretty good for the "peanut stand." Our paid-up stock is increasing quite rapidly; the majority of the members leave their interest and dividends in the concern and take it out in stock, so as to build up the institution. We buy strictly for cash and sell for cash or its equivalent. Patrons are now seeing the benefit and are making arrangements to take stock, and we predict that the time is not far distant when a co-operative trade will be built up in Emporia that will astonish the natives.

We had a reunion at Grange hall, Saturday the 14th; it was a very enjoyable affair. Brother Jackson, delegate to the state grange from Wilson county, Bro. Dumbaugh, of Lyon county, member of the executive committee of the state grange of Kansas, Bro. P. B. Maxson, secretary of state grange, and many other Lyon county brethren were present. Speeches were made by Brothers Jackson, Maxson, Dumbaugh and Hlox. Co-operation seems to be the all-absorbing topic down here. All or nearly all of us agreeing that the business feature of our order is essential to our growth and prosperity as an order. There is no use denying the fact that, under the present isolation of our members from one another, and the difficulty of getting them together, there must be something more than the social and educational feature of the grange to bring them together. The almighty dollar will do it. When we can teach our members that by co-operation they can benefit themselves financially, without a doubt, then you will see co-operation spring up in every town and village. But it takes time to educate the masses; large bodies move slowly.

A few words in regard to the financial question and we close. We have been reading General Tom Ewing's speech on the financial question and think it one of the ablest and most comprehensive productions we have ever read on the subject, and we firmly believe that if every legal voter of the laboring and producing class would read it carefully, and forget that he ever was a Republican or Democrat, they would go to the polls the first opportunity and settle this matter as it should be and thereby throw off the shackles that the moneyed powers are fastening upon us. This is a question that must be settled either at the polls or by violence. The former mode is the way to settle it and we hope and pray that the laboring people and all that have the greatest good to the greatest number at heart will throw away their partisan prejudice and go to the polls like little men and vote for representatives that will carry out the doctrine taught in Ewing's speech in the congress of the United States; this in our judgment, after careful investigation, is our road to prosperity.

W. B. R.

EMPORIA, Kans., Dec. 21, 1877.

Resolutions of Summerfield Grange, No. 232.

Believing it to be to the interest of the people to have a change in our financial system, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we are opposed to national banks because they are unnecessarily expensive, and have created a moneyed monopoly that is not in harmony with the interest of the people.

Resolved, That we are in favor of a government currency, issued by the government, the same to be a legal tender for all debts, and receivable for custom dues, and to be issued in such quantities as the business of the country demands.

Believing that the present volume of currency is not sufficient to carry on the varied industries of this country, and as the resumption act, which is to take effect January 1, 1878, necessitates a further contraction of the currency, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we are in favor of the immediate repeal of the resumption act.

Resolved, That we are in favor of the remonetization of silver, because it is a measure that tends to the relief of the people.

Resolved, That we are in favor of paying the government bonds according to original contract, and are also in favor of the repeal of all laws that have changed the original contract.

Resolved, That we will work and vote to secure the adoption of these measures.

Resolved, That we request the county papers and THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS to publish these resolutions; also requesting Patrons and the working people to give their views on the financial question; also ask our congressmen to work for the same.

T. L. BRIDGEMAN, Com.

JOHNSON COUNTY, Kans., Dec. 18, 1877.

A ROMANTIC LAWSUIT.

LaVenture vs. Jacob Smith and Others.

The Jury Return a Verdict for the Plaintiff.

[Topeka Commonwealth.]

It is not often that the proceedings of a court of justice are anything but dry and uninteresting to the laity. But it sometimes happens that the facts, adduced in evidence, so far transcend the commonplace as to attain the interest of romance; and in no class of litigation is this exceptional interest so frequently aroused as in actions involving title to lands. Questions of pedigree and rights of inheritance, when relevant to an issue in court and controverted, bring to the surface the private and personal history of individuals whose acts would seem to have been utterly obscured by time and forgetfulness. However insignificant and humble these persons may be, it is nearly always demonstrated that every life has in it dramatic elements, arising often almost to the dignity and pathos of tragedy. The case of *LaVenture vs. Smith* will be shown to have fairly demonstrated its right to a place among such cases celebrated in the brief and cursory notice which our space permits us to give it. It brings into bold relief what might be called the prehistoric period of Kansas, when the territory now comprising our state was the Indian country, and its only white inhabitants were agents, missionaries, Indian traders and the nomadic voyagers from Canada and the upper lakes. The curious feature of this case is that the branch of it relating to pedigree and pedigree which takes us back to the time when the sons of old Pierre Chouteau first established the trading posts of the American Fur company among the Kansas Indians, depends wholly upon the testimony of living witnesses. We cannot undertake to give even a resume of this testimony, but confine ourselves to a brief narrative of facts so adduced, in the order presented.

Sometime before or during that epoch of our history known as the war of 1812, two of those hardy adventurers, called French voyagers, journeyed from Canada towards the lower Mississippi. Their names were Francis and Joseph LaVenture. They came to St. Louis, which was then a small French settlement, deriving its chief support from trade with the various tribes of Indians which inhabited this part of the continent. Shortly after their arrival in St. Louis, Francis traveled westward to the mouth of the Kansas river, and there falling in with the Kansas tribe of Indians, followed the custom of his class and became a member, by such aboriginal rites of matrimony as obtained among the Kaws. He set up his wigwam where Kansas City now stands. The fruit of this marriage was Louis LaVenture, who afterwards grew up (so the testimony shows), to be a very well-favored young man, with brown hair, blue eyes, and very unlike his maternal ancestor in appearance or disposition. Before the year 1835 the father and mother both died, and Louis was reared by one of the brothers Chouteau, who had located in the neighborhood some ten or twelve years previously, and were trading with the Indians for peltry.

About the year 1845, when young LaVenture was about the age when the young man's fancy gently turns to thoughts of love, a fascinating widow descended upon and began to interest the French-Indian war. Her name, she gave out, was Mrs. Trapp, a very suggestive name for a young widow. All the inherited stolidity of the native Kaw did not serve the young Louis as an armor against her blandishments, and without inquiry as to her antecedents, and against the wishes of his self-constituted guardians and friends, he led her, or was led by her, to the nearest missionary and bowed his neck to the yoke. In the fall of the same year Louis began life as a freighter across the plains to the ancient settlements of New Mexico, and in the year 1847, on one of these journeys he died and was buried. Previously, however, he had enlisted in Col. Doniphan's regiment, and had served for a short time in the Mexican war. So much for the simple annals of Francis LaVenture and his son.

By the treaty of June 3, 1825, with the Kansas tribe of Indians, there was granted or reserved to certain half-breeds by name a mile square each of lands along the banks of the Kansas river. Among these reserves was the son of Francis LaVenture, the Louis whose history we have briefly recounted. The land reserved to him was known as Kaw half-breed reserve, No. 9, and is situated in Jefferson county, about opposite Tecumseh, and four miles down the river from Topeka. This is the land in controversy in this action, which is one of ejectment against those now in possession, by the heirs of one Drayton LaVenture, the only surviving descendant of Joseph LaVenture, the brother of Francis. To be coherent in our statement it would be proper to relate here the facts of Joseph's career. After parting with his brother Francis at St. Louis, Joseph went eastward from St. Louis and in the year 1813 was working as a carpenter at Chillicothe, Ohio, where he married one Anna Frew. After various wanderings, during which time several children were born to him, he returned in 1842 to St. Louis, where he died in 1843. His wife followed him in 1849 and one by one the children died, without issue, until the sole representative of these two hardy pioneers was Drayton LaVenture. Death, which seems to have had a grudge against the LaVentures, removed him, also, May 1, 1876, after the commencement of this action, which has been revived in the name of his wife and her four children, all having arrived at the age of maturity. Drayton followed the river and filled the position of mate and pilot. In 1843 he came up the

Missouri on the steamer John Aul, and his father charged him before leaving with the duty of making some inquiries as to his brother Francis, of whom his last tidings were that he had wed a forest maiden, and was father of a dusky race. On his arrival at the mouth of the Kaw, Drayton found that his uncle Francis was dead, but the young Louis was pointed out to him by one of the Chouteaus and an interchange of greetings in which the relationship was recognized followed between them. In 1847, shortly before Louis' last journey across the plains, Drayton made another voyage up the Missouri on the steamer Amelia, and on his return took his half-breed cousin to St. Louis with him for a visit, which lasted a month. Meanwhile, the festive Mrs. LaVenture, nee Trapp, goes on marrying and to marry, and after filling the conjugal cup of three men to repletion, without resting during any of the intervals to apply for a divorce, finally settled down to permanent felicity as the wife of one John Brown (not our historic John, else we might have an obvious solution of the festiveness of his soul) and such she has remained ever since. In 1857, she and her husband, Brown, moved on to Kaw reserve No. 9, which contains about 670 acres of the finest bottom land in the West, claiming it, as the widow of Louis LaVenture, and it is the truth of this claim, which is one of the pivotal points on which this curious case turns. Before proceeding further it will simplify matters to state the grounds upon which her claim to being the widow of Louis is contested by the plaintiffs. Before marrying Louis, she married in 1842 or 1843 one Martin Trapp. Since the commencement of these proceedings, she has sworn that Martin Trapp died while crossing the plains in 1844, on his way to Oregon. Martin Trapp's brother and brother-in-law have appeared in their own proper persons as witnesses in this case and have sworn that they learned of his marriage with this woman, and afterwards heard from him that he had parted from her. That he came to Buchanan county, Missouri, after parting from her, remained for some time and remarried there, and died in 1852, somewhere near the present site of Marysville, Kansas, while on his way to Oregon, and not in 1844, as stated by Mrs. Brown.

Shortly after Mrs. Brown settled upon these lands, an action of ejectment was begun against her in Jefferson county by one Adel Belmarde, who claimed to be a maternal cousin of Louis LaVenture. This case was tried twice in Jefferson county and appealed to the supreme court where the decree was reversed. [See *Brown vs. Belmarde*, 3 Kan., 42.] The parties afterwards compromised, each taking half the land, and the persons now in possession, some ten or twelve in number, derive their titles from one or the other of these occupants.

A vast quantity of testimony as to the identity of the LaVenture proof of pedigree, etc., has been introduced and has brought to the surface a long series of entertaining facts preserved solely by the memory of old men. Taken together it presents a graphic picture of the rude frontier life among the Indians; of the days when a few adventurous white men penetrated these almost unexplored wilds, to live among the savage, to trap and hunt, and after a year or two to return to St. Louis with a flotilla of canoes laden with peltry, the fruit of their perilous industry. There appeared upon the witness stand a well preserved relic of these times in the person of Cyprian Chouteau, seventy-five years of age. His father, Pierre Chouteau, who settled in St. Louis in 1788, had seen the great chief Pontiac. Here was a visible living link connecting the present time directly with the remote epoch of the French-Indian war. The testimony of steamboat captains and pilots, and of the old French residents of St. Louis, who but for such use would be thought to lag superfluous on the stage of our busy modern life, was brought in the form of depositions, some of which consumed several hours in the reading.

On behalf of the defendants, a number of tax deeds were introduced, involving some very nice and important questions of law. As there was no controversy as to the facts of these deeds, the questions arising out of their admissibility were reserved by the court for further argument. The jury went out on Saturday evening and on Sunday morning returned a verdict for the plaintiff. This is a case which illustrates in a large degree on both sides the patient and tireless research required in an important lawsuit. The case was commenced by Major John S. Wilson, of Lawrence, Kansas, who has devoted over two years of time to collecting the evidence and the preparation of the case. It is a monument to his industry and patience as a lawyer. He was ably assisted in the trial and argument of the case by Capt. George R. Peck, W. W. Nevison, Esq., of Lawrence, and W. P. Douthitt, Esq., of this city. Capt. Peck made the opening argument, and Mr. Nevison summed up for the plaintiff. A. L. Williams, Esq., had the management of the defense, which contested every inch of debatable ground, and seemed to have been as formidably prepared as the plaintiff, in the matter of testimony. He was ably sustained by John Martin, John Guthrie, and L. McArthur, Esqs. The questions involved in the tax titles have not yet been argued.

The Kansas senators have positions on the following standing committees: Hon. John J. Ingalls is chairman of the pension committee; sixth on privileges and elections; third on Indian affairs; and third on the District of Columbia. Col. F. B. Plumb is fifth on public lands; fourth on military affairs and also on mines and mining.

The state auditor, Mr. Bonebrake, has been at work making calculations which are of interest. He says that the increase in population since 1871 in the state is 79 per cent.; in taxable property, 49 per cent.; and state taxation per capita has decreased 91 per cent.

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Will be found to possess those qualities necessary to the total eradication of all bilious attacks, prompt to start the secretions of the liver and give a healthy tone to the entire system. Indeed, it is no ordinary discovery in medical science to have invented a remedy for these stubborn complaints, which develop all the results produced by a heretofore free use of calomel, a mineral justly dreaded by mankind, and acknowledged to be destructive in the extreme to the human system. That the properties of certain vegetables comprise all the virtues of calomel without its injurious tendencies, is now an admitted fact, rendered indisputable by scientific research; and those who use the Mandrake Pills will be fully satisfied that the best medicines are those provided by nature in the common herbs and roots of the fields. These pills open the bowels and correct all bilious derangements without salivation or any of the injurious effects of calomel or other poisons. The secretion of bile is promoted by these pills as will be seen by the altered color of the stools, and the disappearing of the salivary complexion and cleansing of the tongue. Ample directions for use accompany each box of pills. Prepared only by J. H. Schenck & Son, at their principal office, corner Sixth and Arch streets, Philadelphia, and for sale by all druggists and dealers. Price 5 cents per box.

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GOLDEN MACHINERY OIL adapted to all kinds of machinery and is free from gum; its high reputation warrants us in assuring our patrons that the quality of this oil will be kept up to the highest standard. It is equal to hard oil and much cheaper.

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Keep constantly on hand a full stock of WALL PAPER, SCHOOL BOOKS, WINDOW SHADES, BOOKS, STATIONERY, CROQUET SETS, BABY WAGONS. ALSO A LARGE VARIETY OF PICTURES, PICTURE FRAMES AND NOTIONS. Next door north of Simpson's bank.

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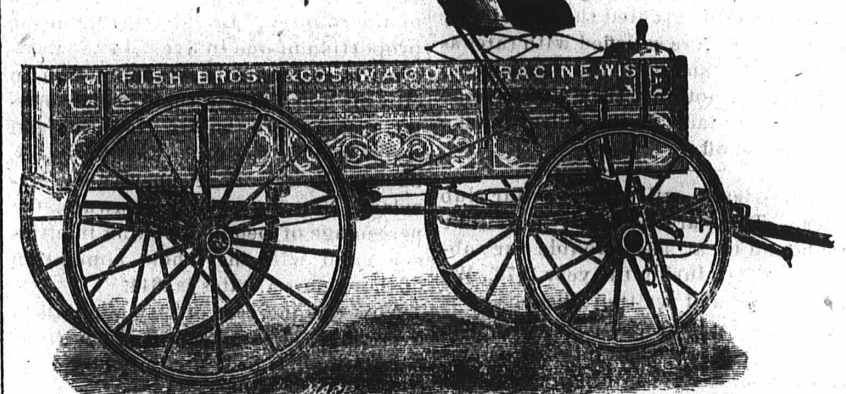
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THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

LAWRENCE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1877.

We offer to any one who will obtain for THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS, prior to January 1, 1878, the largest list of cash subscribers, provided said list shall not contain less than twenty-five names, a pair of pure-bred Berkshire pigs, boar and sow, of not less than two months old.

CLUBS! CLUBS! CLUBS!

This is the season for renewing subscriptions and increasing the circulation of THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS. Our terms for 1878 are—

Ten copies.....\$ 12 00
Twenty copies..... 23 00
Fifty copies..... 55 00
One hundred copies..... 100 00

One copy extra to the one who gets up any of the above clubs.

Last week we published a petition to the governor to call a special session of the legislature for the purpose of passing some laws regulating the tariff charged by railroads.

The petition published is being circulated all over this county for signatures. We would call the attention of the readers of THE SPIRIT to this matter. The petition was published last week. Let us hear from all the counties in the state on this subject. Send to us for publication what you have done in regard to it. We want to know just how the farmers in the state feel about it. If nothing is done, we shall take it for granted that a majority of our people are satisfied with rates as they now stand. If the farmers sit still and do nothing, they will have no right to find fault if the railroads take the hide all off.

OUR friends will observe our club rates. They are certainly low. We are bound to at least double our subscription list during the year 1878. We have talked and written the past year a great deal about co-operation. The coming year we shall put our principles of co-operation into practice. We shall do all we can to help our patrons and friends by making THE SPIRIT contribute largely to their pleasure and profit during the coming year. We mean to make it an indispensable adjunct to the family circle, so that its weekly visits will be hailed with joy. We mean to make it so profitable to the farmer, so helpful in his work, so compact with information, so inspiring in its language of cheer and hope, that he will be stimulated to help us by promptly paying his dues, giving a wider circulation to the paper, and increasing its value by the communication of those facts of an important character which come under his observation, and by contributing the results of his experience, so that others may be benefited both by his successes and failures. We urge this kind of co-operation. Do not hesitate a moment to make our paper a medium for making known to your brother farmers any important methods of agriculture which you have brought into practical operation on your own farm, or which you have seen carried out on the farms of your neighbors. Such information is all important to the success of our paper. Its value to its readers depends greatly on just those facts and figures which the practical farmers of our state can give. It is for their interest to give them. The cost of giving them will be small and the gain large. Patrons of Husbandry, farmers of Kansas, THE SPIRIT is yours, take it, read it, pay for it, write for it, circulate it, commend it if you can, criticize it if you must; tell us wherein it is faulty; suggest to us the particulars in which it can be made better. In short, co-operate with us to make THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS just what you wish it to be, and what we wish it to be, the best agricultural paper of the West. Co-operation, helpfulness on your part, kind reader, work and care on our part, will bring up THE SPIRIT to just this standard of excellence.

OUR reformers and philanthropists have had their attention turned for many years towards the removal of the poorer working classes from our cities to the sparsely settled sections of our country, for the purpose of having them engage in the sure and remunerating business of farming. Organizations have recently been formed in the large cities of the East for effecting this purpose; and we at the West wonder why those who are able and willing to work

will persist in clinging to the cities where work is hard to be found and their living is poor and expensive, in preference to trying their fortunes in those agricultural districts where land is cheap and food abundant and where with the habit of industry and the will to work they will be sure of at least a good living.

And yet with all the talk and preaching about the beauties and advantages of country life and rural pursuits, the instincts of the whole civilized races of the world are steadily carrying them to cities, to those great centers of trade commerce and manufacturing industries, where there is life, energy, a boundless field for enterprise and a bare chance for a large prize in some grand lottery scheme of life. The fact is that these universal instincts of man towards society, towards association man with man, towards large aggregations of individuals in towns and cities, are too strong and universal to be successfully resisted or thwarted. This massing of people in cities has been going on in a regular increasing ratio for the last century. In 1800 the percentage of city population to the aggregate population of the whole country was 037 per cent.; in 1810, .046 per cent.; in 1820, .048 per cent.; in 1830, .061 per cent.; in 1840, .081 per cent.; in 1850, .118 per cent.; in 1860, .142 per cent.; in 1870, at our last census, .191 per cent. That is to say, in 1800 the population comprised in cities with over 10,000 was about one to twenty-five of the whole population of the country. In 1870 it was in the proportion of one to five. In the Eastern states the ratio of population in cities is much larger than in the country at large. In the six New England states, and the five other Eastern states, namely, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey and Delaware, the percentage of people dwelling in cities compared with the whole population of those eleven states is .314.

Now this increase of city population over the increase of our agricultural population has been not only large but it has been regularly increasing from decade to decade. This law of increase is just as sure to be carried out during the decades succeeding the year 1870 as it was in the decades preceding.

The ocean tides or the flowing waters of our great inland streams might just as easily be arrested and turned back to their source, as this hurrying of human beings towards the cities and great centres of business can be arrested and turned back to the rural districts from whence they flow regularly, constantly and in ever increasing numbers. From these facts we will attempt to deduce a moral for our next issue.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

We wish our Patrons and friends a happy New Year. We extend to them the friendly hand; we meet them with cordial greetings; we regard all our readers as personal friends. We have talked to them from week to week through THE SPIRIT so long that they have become to us familiar acquaintances—tried friends with whom we have summered and wintered. And really why shouldn't we be on the best of terms? Why shouldn't we feel a kindly interest in our Patrons, readers and friends? And why shouldn't they feel an interest in us? They do, and our feelings of good will are mutual. There is sympathy between us. We are linked together by ties, not of interest only but of friendship. This is just as it should be; and as the swift-footed years pass by we wish this chain of sympathy to grow brighter and stronger. And to this end, we wish here to say, that THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS shall not be to you, the coming year, a dead letter but a living SPIRIT. It will come to your homes every week with eyes to see, and ears to hear; it will be wide-awake; it will observe and take note of what is going on in kitchen and parlor, at the barn and in the fields; but it will not come to your homes as a spy to catch you in your sins, but as a friend to make report of your good works; of your progress and improvements; of your carefully pruned orchards; of your improved breeds of cattle; of your nicely cultivated gardens; of your corn fields free from weeds; of your barns filled with plenty; of your dwelling houses kept clean and tidy, and your door-yards well sowed with grass and ornamented with roses. Yes, we shall certainly be among you and take note of your doings, and whatever is worthy the ex-

ample of others we shall report and publish.

Ours, too, is the co-operative "spirit." This spirit we shall aim to cherish and make more fruitful of good. The individual alone and unsupported, is weak and almost without power; joined with his fellows he is strong. This union, man with man, we shall do all we can to bring about. We shall work for it with whatever strength is given us. We believe in it with a faith unwavering, and strong enough to remove mountains. We can see no good sense in the farmer trying to work alone. This job which the good Lord has committed to our hands, of subduing the earth; of making it fruitful, is quite too large to be done by any one man. It is the work of all combined. It must be the work of humanity. All nations and tongues and people must have a hand in it. Yet the time for this universal combination of forces has not now come. We can only begin the work here and now on a small scale; we can organize the grange; we can, as farmers, meet together and plan together and work together for mutual benefits; we can lay aside our merely selfish aims and purposes and consult for the public weal; we can form more intimate relations with each other and begin in earnest co-operative work. And we will, with hearty greetings to all.

GENERAL NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The following circular has been posted up in the treasury department under the heading of "No vacancies." "Persons honorably discharged from the military or naval service by reason of disability or sickness incurred in the line of duty shall be preferred for appointment to civil office, provided they are found to possess the business qualifications necessary for a proper discharge of the duties of such offices."

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Efforts to bring to justice a gang of forgers who last spring endeavored to negotiate \$200,000 in forged bonds of Quincy county, Ill., and St. Louis county, Mo., culminated last night in the arrest of Joel N. Hayes, broker, of New street, Ferdinand Hartog, broker, No. 14, Broadway, and Win. Muir, 115 Broadway, who were locked up. The detectives hold warrants for the arrest of four other Wall street operators, but their names cannot be published until the arrests are made. The arrests were made on the confession of J. H. Husted and Wm. Carrere. It is understood that Husted and Carrere will be used as state's evidence, and that the case, when fully divulged, will present some sensational feature.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—A correspondent telegraphs: "Gen. Skobeloff, with a division of infantry, two regiments of cavalry, and half a brigade of artillery, has occupied Trajan, near Trajan's pass."

A correspondent writing from Plevna says: "When the Turks made their sortie they left thousands of sick and wounded starving and unattended. These unfortunates remained in this state three days, and hundreds of them died. Over 1,000 have been already buried, and about a hundred corpses came from the hospital to-day. Undoubtedly many who were not quite dead have been buried. Those killed in battle were buried on the 17th. The Turkish prisoners are encamped among them, and are almost starving. Plevna is one vast charnel house, surpassing in horror anything imaginable."

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 26.—The Times' Washington special says: "The investigation in South Carolina of the Patterson and Butler cases by Republican promises to be the principal feature of the Senate proceedings after reassembling. The plan agreed on in conference is that Edmunds shall offer a resolution for an investigation by the judiciary committee of the evidence against Patterson, and of Butler's alleged efforts to shield him. Patterson's friends are badly scared, and are appealing to the Democratic senators to save him. It is probable that Patterson will act with the Democrats hereafter if he continues in the senate, but he is still very sick, and is going away for two months as soon as he is able to be removed. Edmunds has had some correspondence with Hampton in regard to the continuance of legal proceedings against various persons in South Carolina, and Patterson's friends claim that Edmunds is trying to make an arrangement with Hampton which shall result in getting rid of both Patterson and Butler."

A TERRIBLE explosion in a candy factory occurred in New York City on the night of December 20th. The building in which the factory was situated was blown all to pieces, also several other buildings which stood adjacent, were very much injured. The total loss of property is estimated at a half million dollars, and about fifty lives were lost by the accident. The Evening Post says the wife of the engineer says that her husband, on his return from work on Monday night, told her that one of the tubes of the boiler or some pipe connected with it, he was not sure which,

had burst. That he had spoken to Greenfield, saying the break was dangerous, and might cause an explosion if it were not repaired, and that Greenfield told him that they must try to get along with it as it was until Sunday, owing to the pressure of business. Mrs. Hertzbach said her husband was greatly disturbed in mind on account of this, often referring to it during the week, and saying he was afraid every morning to go to work. Yesterday morning, when he left home, he told her he never expected to see her again. Hertzbach was thirty-five years old, and lived on Fifty-second street. Two men who rescued two girls say they had been told by workmen in the starch room, on the second floor, that the fire was occasioned by the upsetting of a kerosene lamp in the room. They asserted that the finely powdered starch used in the manufacture of gum drops was explosive, and that the explosion was caused in this way.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 24.—At a meeting of the chamber of commerce to-day a resolution was offered by Jacob Reese and adopted calling for a National convention to meet at Washington City, on the 22d day of January, 1878, to consider the question of improving the American merchant marine. The following circular, addressed to boards of trade and other commercial organizations, was unanimously adopted: Believing that the time has come when it is essential to the business prosperity of the country that an enlarged export market should be secured for the over-production of manufactured goods, and deeming it advisable that our commercial treaties with foreign governments should be revised and so amended as to more fully foster and protect our commerce at foreign ports, and conceiving it to be the duty of the government, as well as a matter of political economy, that arrangements should be made at an early day for the improvement of our merchant marine, so that the United States merchandise may be carried in American vessels, and efficient marine revenues be established for the transit of our excess of productions to foreign ports on the American continent, we have concluded to call a national convention to be held in Washington, D. C., on Tuesday, January 22, 1878, for the consideration of this important matter, and we most earnestly invite the co-operation of all boards of trade, industrial, commercial and financial organizations who agree with us as herein specified, and request them to appoint three delegates to represent them in said convention, and appreciating the wisdom and power of the public press, we cordially invite its co-operation in such manner as may seem most proper. This chamber has appointed Jacob Reese, G. W. Hallman and Wm. F. Reese as their representatives, and have instructed them to make all such arrangements for holding such convention. [Signed] J. K. MORREHEAD, Pres. G. A. KELLER, Secretary.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 24.—The Porte has issued a proclamation deposing Prince Milan, of Servia. It is rumored that on Thursday the sultan ordered Edhin Pasha, the grand vizier, to take steps to procure peace.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Germany and Austria have replied to the Turkish note, that it is not practicable to mediate on the basis therein contained. Constantinople telegrams state that the Turks would be willing to treat with Russia for the free passage of the Dardanelles were it not for English opposition. This, together with the hasty summoning of parliament, has created a strong impression among the Turks that at least England intends to interfere in their behalf. Whatever may be the intention of the British cabinet, their action in assembling parliament and hastening large military and naval preparations has been regarded in Constantinople as meaning war, and no more talk of peace is heard there. Even here many persons believe that the time previous to the opening of parliament will be so employed as to make war inevitable.

It is learned from high authority that the queen intends opening parliament in person, and that after the transaction of the specified business for which the session was called, an adjournment will take place until February 7th or 11th. This means that money is to be asked for, and parliament then to be prorogued for two or three weeks without learning how the money is to be used. The London Times will resume its alarming style of editorials, holding that there is nothing to account for the action of the cabinet except warlike intentions. The roads south of the Balkans are good. The winter there does not much interfere with operations, and should Sofia be captured, the advance of the Russians to Philadelphia will be easy and rapid. The Turks would then have no alternative but to concentrate all their troops in Roumelia to defend Adrianople.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—A Constantinople dispatch says: "It is declared that the Porte is determined to carry on the war to the last extremity, should the request for mediation fail." Layard, the British ambassador, has not yet received Lord Derby's reply to the Porte's note.

PERA, Dec. 24.—The arrival of Suleiman Pasha in Constantinople means resistance, and the grand vizier supports him.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—No special preparation is going on at the Woolwich arsenal, except the manufacture of field

guns. Only 4,000 hands are employed. The war force is from 10,000 to 13,000. It should, however, be added that an equipment is already in store for two army corps.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Stanley, the African explorer, has arrived at Aden.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Mr. Pierrepont presented his letters of recall to the Queen at Windsor Castle on Saturday, and Mr. Welch presented his credentials as Minister of the United States. They were both introduced by Earl Derby.

STRASBURG, Dec. 24.—The Alsac-Lorraine Provincial Committee passed a resolution expressing the wish that Alsac-Lorraine should receive its own constitution as a federal state, and have a representative in the Federal Council of the German Empire.

THE LATEST MARKETS.

Table with columns for Produce Markets (St. Louis, Dec. 26, 1877) and Live Stock Markets (St. Louis, Dec. 26, 1877). Includes items like Wheat, Corn, Oats, Pork, Beef, and various stock prices.

Table with columns for Live Stock Markets (St. Louis, Dec. 26, 1877). Includes items like Cattle, Hogs, and various stock prices.

In Kansas City leading articles of produce are quoted as follows: Butter, best, 12@14c., common, unsalable; cheese, 11@12c.; eggs, 17@18c.; white beans \$1.00@1.50, hand picked, \$1.75@2.25; castor beans 90@95c. 3/4 bu.; hay, baled, per ton, \$7.50@8.50; poultry—chickens, dressed, 4@5c. per lb.; potatoes, 45@70c.; sweet potatoes 3/4 bush., 30@35c.

Broom-corn is quoted in Kansas City at \$40 @50 per ton.

Wheat is unsettled; has fluctuated considerably during the week, but is a little higher than it was this time last week. We think present indications are favorable for an advance.

Corn has risen a cent or two during the week in sympathy with wheat. Old corn in Baltimore has risen a cent, but new corn has fallen as much, being five cents apart. The warm, damp weather so prevalent during this month has been unfavorable to the drying of new corn.

Oats, rye and barley nominal. Corn in Baltimore is 65 cents for Western mixed—old; new, 60 cents.

Cattle are quoted the same as last week in Kansas City, but are dull—few receipts or shipments. Quotations of cattle in St. Louis, as sent out in the telegraphic reports, and also as found in their daily papers, are habitually too high for "prime to choice" cattle—far higher than in Chicago. The quotations in St. Louis for the best grade is almost every day, fully a dollar higher than the best price realized in the actual sales. The figures telegraphed from St. Louis for choice cattle are what animals weighing 1,500 to 2,500 would bring, if they were in the market. The figures telegraphed from Chicago, though some days very low, are taken from the actual sales.

Hogs are still low, owing, no doubt, to the continued warm weather.

Gold in New York is \$1.02 1/2. Flour in Kansas City is quoted as follows: XX, 3/4 sack, \$2.00; XXX, \$2.40; XXXX, \$2.80; fancy, \$2.90@3.00. Corn meal, 3/4 cwt., 75@85c. Rye flour, \$2.00.

The holidays have so interfered with market reports that it is difficult to get late reliable quotations. On provisions, etc., we have made few alterations; if there has been other changes probably the figures should be a little lower.

There seems to be a good deal of difference between the bulls and bears as to the "future" of wheat and corn, and the transactions in "futures" is very lively. A few days ago a man in Kansas City offered 100,000 bushels of February corn at 29c. His offer was instantly taken. The total number of sales of February corn on that day reached a quarter of a million bushels. Somebody will grunt when February comes.

The total number of bushels of wheat exported from Atlantic ports for four months ending with November, were about 25,000,000, and about 450,000 barrels of flour. This is nearly three times greater than for the same time last year.

The prices of grain in England have stiffened under the possible contingency that England may drift into a war with Russia.

THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

BY JAMES T. STEVENS.

LAWRENCE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1877.

TERMS: 1.50 per year, in advance. Advertisements, one inch, one insertion, \$3.00; one month, \$5; three months, \$10; one year, \$30.

City and Vicinity.

The residence of G. Grover, Esq., was the scene of a very pleasant Christmas party on Tuesday night. It was a surprise for Charley Grover.

ATTENTION is called to the offer made by the National Silver-Plating company, 704 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, in our columns. Their silverware is beautiful and fully up to standard, and their generous offer is available to all the readers of this paper for ninety days after date.

RELIABLE help for weak and nervous sufferers, chronic, painful and prostrating diseases cured without medicine. Pulvermacher's electric belts the grand desideratum. Avoid imitations. Book and journal, with particulars, mailed free. Address PULVERMACHER GALVANIC CO., Cincinnati, Ohio.

DR. ANDERSON, his son Will and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Coffin enjoyed a Merry Christmas at Topeka. They went up to witness the marriage of Mr. Frank Anderson to a Miss Gilman of that city. The bridal party came down to Lawrence on the afternoon train yesterday, and are the guests of Dr. S. B. Anderson, father of the happy groom.

Farmers' and Mechanics' Institute. There will be a meeting at the court-house January 2, 1878 at 1 o'clock, for the purpose of organizing the above named institute, if thought best. Its purposes are educational. It is for the discussion of practical questions of the day, questions vital to the interests of all classes. All friendly to such a move are earnestly invited to attend this meeting.

Notice. Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of stockholders of the First Central Co-operative association of Patrons of Husbandry of the state of Kansas, for the election of officers and other business, will be held in Miller's hall, in the city of Lawrence, Douglas county, Kansas, on Wednesday the 9th day of January, A. D. 1878, at ten o'clock a. m. S. M. ALLEN, Secretary.

BROTHER STEVENS—Dear Sir:—I wish you a merry Christmas, and I am not unmindful of what I told you when you told me you had put me upon your dead-head list, and as long as you see fit to send me your paper I hope I shall think of you at least once a year.

Please accept of these few apples and one-half dozen brooms as a token of reciprocity hoping that you and your family will enjoy eating the apples on Christmas day, and that you will use the brooms to sweep all loafers, knaves and fools from the range.

Yours Truly, E. A. COLEMAN. KANWAKA, Kans., Dec. 24, 1877. Thanks to friend Coleman for the brooms and apples. Call and see us often. You are always welcome in our sanctum.

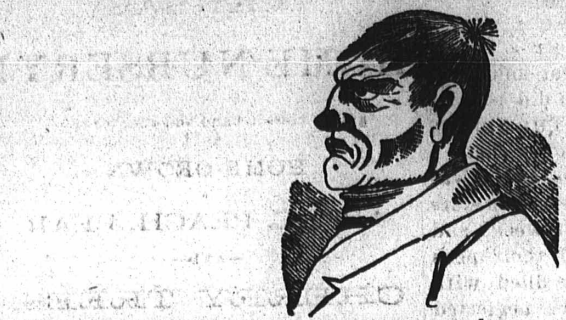
A Merry Christmas at the Residence of Thaddeus Wheaten. Our old friend Thaddeus Wheaten living on the Wakarusa, about five miles south of this city, got up a splendid supper for his friends on Christmas day, and while everything looked so propitious, Mr. Martin L. Meairs, eldest son of Mr. Wm. Meairs, who was present, thought this about the time he had been waiting for and, taking by the hand Miss Florence Wheaten, eldest daughter of the host, stood up before the Rev. James Bryson and in a moment there was another married couple. Mr. Meairs is a prosperous young farmer of this county, and his bride a farmer's daughter, who knows how to keep house and make home cheerful. We wish the bride and groom a long, prosperous and happy life. There were present on this enjoyable occasion a large number of the friends of both families.

THE Y. M. S. C. held a reception Christmas afternoon. The rooms were crowded. Mr. Geo. Hall, president, in the following speech welcomed the "friends" and opened the exercises:

FRIENDS:—We are glad to see you here, and in the name of "the club" I extend the usual compliments, and I trust the hour passed with us will be agreeable. Ladies and gentlemen, more than eighteen hundred years ago was inaugurated "the day we celebrate," and while tens of thousands reverently worship, millions respect the cause that has given to the world a day in which with common consent, communities may forget their differences. To tradition we owe the beautiful custom of exchanging Christmas gifts and making merry; therefore this reception. It is not necessary to refer to the ways of other lands or other years, because you are probably better posted than the speaker. We have invited our friends to see that there is a fair distribution, and I hope if they notice things going wrong they will "speak up." Sixteen days hence this club will celebrate the anniversary of its natal day, and when we shall meet to do ourselves and "the club" that honor, so surely as we see the smoke from yonder cigar, on the banner, curling gracefully to the zenith; so surely as we behold the "raging Kaw," on whose banks we live, and on whose banks we hope to rest, "gliding on its winding way to the sea," so surely may we hope to see the banner of "the club" floating triumphantly from the highest pinnacle of prosperity.

"Shake." Mr. N. O. Stevens followed with a bass solo, accompanied on the new piano by Prof. Ehrigott, and judging from the applause which followed, the effort was highly appreciated.

Messrs. Herson and Zerby then unveiled the Christmas tree, while the band played and the



The Eastern papers are just now making a great fuss over a man in New York City who picked up a horse recently and carried him across the street. Now it is easy enough to pick up a horse if you only know how. Take, for instance, a large, well-kept thoroughbred. The best way to pick him up is to let the lines gently down under his tail, and then lift. It will certainly surprise you to see how easily you can raise a horse over the dashboard and into your lap.

TEN YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN THE SHOE BUSINESS Has taught us that people like to trade best where they find GOODS FULLY UP WITH THE TIMES And where they can get the best goods for their money. We do keep

The Best and latest styles of Boots and Shoes

In Lawrence, and our prices are lower than our neighbors, as we have no expenses.

TO-DAY WE CALL ATTENTION TO OUR RUBBER BOOTS,

That we warrant never to crack. If cracked before the sole is worn out, we will give you a new pair instead. Also to our Ladies'

NEW, HIGH, WARM OVERSHOES--THE MONITOR.

This is the nicest one you ever saw. Come and see it. On our full stock, hand-made, warranted Kip Boots, at \$3.00 to \$3.50, we defy the world.

Call and examine our goods.

ABBOTT & MINARD, 81 Massachusetts Street.

fireworks exploded. There was a present for each member of the club, and amid applause each took his little prize, and like Oliver Twist, "looked for more." Mr. Davis sang two solos in fine style, which pleased the guests. Refreshments being in order, to musical accompaniment, all indulged in a way that would have done a "granger" good to have witnessed. The remaining hours were passed in dancing, singing and general exchange of social courtesies.

Christmas Personal.

E. BIERER, JR., of Hiawatha smiled a holiday smile on his Lawrence friends Christmas day.

MR. JOHN H. OGDEN, of Topeka, was among the list of Christmas visitors to the Head Center.

DR. J. H. COWAN of St. Louis, assisted in the destruction of a Douglas county turkey on Christmas day.

MANY university students have taken their departure from the city to spend the holidays under the paternal roof.

MR. GEORGE ALLEN, an old Lawrence boy is in the city. He came up from Southern Kansas for a holiday vacation.

MISS ADDIE LESCHER who has been teaching a shawnee county school for several months past, is home for the holidays.

M. SUMMERFIELD, Esq., landed in the historic city from Little Rock, Arkansas, on Tuesday. He came to enjoy Christmas with the old folks at home.

MR. W. L. COOPER and family of Kansas City, came up on Saturday to spend Christmas with old friends. Mrs. Cooper will remain until after the year 1877 is no more forever.

A. T. STEWART, Esq., the efficient business agent at Kansas City for our state grange, made THE SPIRIT a brief call yesterday morning. He was on his return from the South-west.

Douglas County Bank.

On Monday, November 12, 1877, the undersigned opened, under the above title, a banking and exchange office, in the building lately occupied by the Lawrence savings bank.

We are fully prepared to properly care for any business we may be favored with, on terms consistent with conservative dealing and good banking. While we have no extraordinary inducements to offer in the way of accommodations or large interest on time deposits, we feel assured that with upwards of two hundred thousand dollars assets entirely unencumbered, and no liabilities, we do offer safety and security to those who may intrust their accounts and business with us.

GOWER & BOWERSOCK.

Refer to

First national bank, Kansas City.

Iowa City bank, Iowa City.

Samuel J. Kirkwood, U. S. senator from Iowa.

Field, Leiter & Co., Chicago.

Dr. W. S. RILEY's Heart Oil, for the Human Family.

Use for nasal catarrh, bronchitis, hoarseness, colds, rheumatism, diseases of the urinary organs and liver. Sure cure for piles if used in connection with the Pile Ointment. It has been used with success and has given entire satisfaction to those that have tried it, and they are willing to recommend it to the public. For burns either of these remedies have no equal; or any sore that is inflamed, or foul ulcers that need cleansing and brought to a healthy condition, then they are very easy cured. I would recommend these remedies to the public as a cheap and safe remedy. Every bottle of oil and box of salve warranted to give satisfaction if used as directed, by reasonable people.

DR. W. S. RILEY, Lawrence, Douglas county, Kansas.

DR. HIMOZ's medicines will be sold to grange stores, at sixty days cash, to yield a profit of 100 per cent. All readers of THE SPIRIT know these medicines to be unrivalled. All orders, under this offer, must be sent to this office.

Fine Stock for Sale.

A full-blood Jersey bull eighteen months old. Also full-blood Berkshire pigs; best stock in country. L. BULLENS.

It's a sight to call on Leta's Bro's and examine their fine stock of lamps just opened out new from the manufacturers.

MARK ANTHONY and partner are the best barbers in the city. Call at their shop on Warren street, two doors west of Massachusetts, shaving ten cents. Other prices in proportion.

FAMILY PROCESS OF TANNING.

Invented by an old Tannor and Secured by Act of Congress.

It is adapted to farmers and others not skilled in the art, for dressing their own glove leather out of deer and other skins; also nice kid leather out of light calf skins; also tan the toughest kind of string leather; also dress all kinds of skins with the hair, fur, or wool on for wearing apparel, robes, etc., and makes them fine, soft and silky and yet very tough. Process cheap; material conveniently obtained. Also a map of glove and mitten patterns, of different sizes, with directions for cutting out to use, all printed in pamphlet form, blanks written in. The above will be promptly forwarded by mail, properly conveyed according to law, on receipt of \$3.00. Agents wanted. Territory allowed. GEO. W. HATCH, Lawrence, Kansas.

"The Golden Belt" Route.

The quickest, safest and most reliable route to all points East or West is via the Kansas Pacific railway, through the famous "Golden Belt" (the finest wheat region in the world). Passengers for Denver and the Rocky mountains should remember that this is the shortest, 22 hours the quickest, and the only line running through to Denver without change of cars. Going east, close connections are made at Kansas City and Leavenworth with all the great through routes for all points East, North and South. The lavatory line to the San Juan, Missouri river and all points on the Denver and Leavenworth with the Westinghouse improved automatic air brake. Freight shippers, attention! The Kansas Pacific fast freight express makes the best time and affords the most rapid transit of freight between the Missouri river and all principal points in Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, San Juan and Arizona.

For information concerning rates, maps, guides, pamphlets, etc., call upon or address, D. E. CORNELL, Gen'l Pass'r Ag't. JOHN MUIR, Gen'l Fr't Ag't. T. F. OAKES, Gen'l Sup't. Kansas City.

For Kansas and Colorado

Take the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad, extending from Kansas City and Atchison, on the Missouri river, via Topeka, the capitol of Kansas, through the fertile Arkansas valley, to Pueblo, where direct connection is made with the Denver and Rio Grande railway for Colorado Springs, Manitou, Denver, and Atchison, daily, on the arrival of trains from the East, and run through to the Rocky mountains, with Pullman sleeping cars attached. For maps, circulars and detailed information send to T. J. ANDERSON, General Passenger Agent, Topeka, Kansas.

For sale.

Will be sold at a bargain, one very fine jack. For information apply at THE SPIRIT office.

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Cash assets.....\$519,008 41

Reinsurance reserve, unpaid losses and all other liabilities.....117,635 55

Surplus as regard policy-holders.....\$402,393 86

Losses incurred in Kansas in 1876.....4,000 00

Losses paid in Kansas in 1876.....1,000 00

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Horticultural Department.

KANSAS SOILS.

An Essay by Joseph Savage, Read Before the Douglas County Horticultural Society at its December Meeting.

It is quite common in our horticultural discussions to hear it said that fruits vary according to the variety of soil on which they are grown. For instance, at our last meeting our secretary said that the Yellow Bellflower apple had the present year borne a bountiful crop on some soils, while on others it had shown its usual shyness in bearing.

It is my purpose in this paper to present in a brief manner some intelligent idea of the varieties of soil we possess, and also to show their relation to each other in age and position.

As all soil is made from disintegrated rock, and as we have represented in Kansas one-half, and that the upper half of all the rock formation which compose the earth's crust, it follows as a natural consequence that our soil will present an equal amount of variety and kind as the rocks do.

Another important fact is, that our rock formations rise one above the other ascending as we go westward, so that each lower formation receives the worn of material from the one above it.

The next lower formation is of chalk, and consequently lime predominates in its soil freely mixed with the sand from the area above. This is becoming our best wheat soil. It should however be noted that there is present also in this division a large amount of plaster of paris or sulphate of lime in addition to the chalk, which is carbonate of lime.

We in the eastern portion of the state not only enjoy the fertility of our own worn down rocks but also in a great measure, along our low bottoms and second bottoms, the richness of all the higher formations above us; a soil, as we often have it remarked, as fertile as one could wish if we could only have plenty of rain upon it.

This much will suffice my purpose in speaking of the more general composition of Kansas soil and will serve well enough for an introduction to what I propose to make the more important branch of my subject.

Two important geological changes took place just preceding the present order of things. These two changes are the glacial or ice period and the deposition of the yellow marl. Only a brief sketch of each of these changes can here be given, but it is hoped that enough can be said to show their intimate relation to our agricultural and horticultural pursuits.

The ice or glacial period was ushered in first, and occurred after the Rocky mountains were elevated to their present position. Our river channels and water courses had all been indicated and the general face of the state was much like that of the present time with this exception—the bluffs and river banks were both precipitous and steep, and the face of the country was rugged and broken.

During this ice period a sea of ice about one hundred miles in width passed over this part of the state, planing and smoothing down its inequalities, and bringing along with it large quantities of sand, small pebbles, mud and large boulders or rocks, which we now call "hard-heads;" all of which are aliens and foreigners to our state, their homes being several hundred miles to the north and east of us, along the shores of Lake Superior and in Dakota territory.

When the ice melted away this debris of rock and soil was left stranded where we now find it all along the surface of our country. It was however left in actual thickness much over fifteen or twenty feet, but since that time some of our streams have collected this drift material along with our native rock, in masses from fifty to seventy-five feet in thickness, and much of this foreign drift material is often so freely commingled with our native soil as to be scarcely distinguishable except by the practiced eye of the scientist.

The value of this drift material is found in its excellence as vintage ground, as shown in the vineyards around Leocompton, and as furnishing a considerable portion of iron, available for plant food, as well as reserving an excellent reservoir for water, as many of our best springs flow from beneath it. It also furnishes perhaps one of our best sites for the successful culture of the pear, as well as being, from its very nature, rich in silicious material so essential to the growth of both our grains and grasses. The most extensive deposit of drift in this county can be seen near the little town of Clinton and vicinity.

This much concerning the drift of our soil will serve our present purpose and we will turn our attention to the next—the yellow marl period. This period followed that of the drift and was ushered in by an important geological change, namely, a great depression of the land in this region, so great that

the month of the Missouri river receded inland to near the southern line of Dakota territory. Indeed, the whole valley of the Missouri river was one vast fresh-water lake and all the tributaries of this river shared in this inundation. Our own Kansas river valley was flooded as far west as Manhattan and all the smaller streams and ravines bordering it shared the same fate.

Such were the circumstances that ushered in the deposition of the yellow marl. The fossils found in it show the waters in which it settled to have been fresh. What barrier kept back the salt water is not now known. The animals which lived upon the highlands, and whose remains are now found fossilized in the marl, are all living species; the buffalo, gopher, beaver and other land animals of the present time are most of them represented in it. There are also found in it, the stone arrow-heads and spear-points belonging to prehistoric man. The sediment brought in to this vast fresh-water lake by the streams flowing into it seems to have settled in quiet water and to have been very uniform in its character.

In fact, they were what we now know as Missouri river mud (and I dare say that nearly every one present will vividly remember how tenaciously the mud of Kansas City or Leavenworth sticks to one's feet during a wet time). This mud or clay is the yellow marl of which we are now speaking, and it covers more or less of the surface in our own county. One would readily see that it would naturally attain its greatest thickness in the immediate valley of the Missouri river, on account of its being on a lower level, its greatest thickness along this river being two hundred feet. At our own river bank, in front of the Douglas County mill, it is about thirty-five feet in thickness at this point and gradually thins out as we travel westward. It entirely disappears near the meridian at Manhattan.

The duration of the yellow marl period is, as calculated by scientific men, supposed to be about twenty thousand years. The gradual elevation of the land then drained off this great lake, and the waters flowing in the Mississippi and its affluents then commenced to cut their present channels through it, leaving the peculiar shaped bluffs which border these streams with their unique form and outline, composed of this yellow mud, as we see them today.

In analyzing the soils of our bottom lands, it is found the yellow marl has entered largely into its composition, hence its great fertility. All present, no doubt, are aware of the famed fertility of the valley of the Nile, in Africa, and how the annual overflow of the river enriches the adjoining intervals; but here we have our fertilizing sediment piled up in huge bluffs and hills bordering all our streams.

We of the Eastern states, accustomed as we were to consider all subsoil as barren or hard-pan, are slow and loth to allow this yellow marl very much fertility; but nevertheless it is fertile and rich in plant food to the very bottom layer as well as being a remarkable reservoir for holding moisture. Many years ago the first man to recognize the value of this marl was a German at Herman, Missouri—George Hussman—and his vineyards are still noted for their excellence. Stranger still, perhaps, is the fact that the home of our German friends, along the valley of the Rhine, is composed of this same yellow marl, or loess, as it is called there.

Here I will give you the chemical analysis of the yellow marl from the banks of the Rhine, and also that of our own:

Rhine marl—Silica, 78; alumina, 13; peroxide of iron, 4; magnesia, .9; soda, 3.31; lime, 11.

Missouri river sediment (or mud)—Silicious, 81; fenic oxide, 3; alumina, 1.70; lime (carbonate), 6.5; lime (phosphate), 3; magnesia, 1.10; potash, .50; soda, .22; organic, 1.2.

Analysis of marl from the bluffs near Omaha, Nebraska—Silica, 81.28; fenic oxide, 3.86; alumina, .75; lime (carbonate), 6.07; lime (phosphate), 3.58; magnesia, 1.29; potassa, .27; soda, .15; organic, 1.07.

These analyses show the intimate relation each bear to the other. I have been desirous for some time to say this much upon our marl deposit, for this reason: Our first real experience in pear blight occurred near Leavenworth City, upon the rich, fertile, marly soil, and has since spread westward to near the border of Riley county, where the marl deposit ceases. Here Gov. Harvey and others report no blight in their pear trees. A further investigation of this subject in relation to blight I consider of much importance to our fruit interests.

One thought more in this connection and I will close. One of the best strawberry beds I have ever seen in Kansas was that of C. H. Cushing, at Leavenworth, planted upon a deep deposit of marl, and was reported by Mr. Cushing to have yielded him a profit of over eight hundred dollars per acre. This suggestion may be of importance to some of our members who are engaged in strawberry culture.

Prof. W. Foster, of the Hilledale nursery, Louisiana, Mo., writes us he is getting out a colored plate of the celebrated Thwaek raspberry in fruit. This is said to be one of the best shipping red raspberries we have in cultivation.

The Household.

MR. EDITOR:—I have been a reader of your paper almost a year and wondered quite often why you did not invite the ladies to write for THE SPIRIT, and when at last you did offer them a column how rejoiced I was, and I was almost sure the sisters all over the state would gladly respond; but weeks and months have rolled by and their pens lay idle; their column is filled with other matter and they have neglected the golden opportunity offered them of improving their talents. I claim that all persons have some good and noble thoughts worthy to be written, and although many, like myself, may write them in a simple and awkward manner it is better than to bury them in oblivion.

In THE SPIRIT of November 29th Sister Cornu (I say sister because we are both grangers) says there might be many questions discussed, many suggestions made and encouraging words spoken which would be a great benefit. She is not alone in this; doubtless there are hundreds who think the same but are unwilling to take the lead owing to that natural timidity of our sex which causes us to always be in the background. I would like Cornu to propose a question and then, sisters, rally either to support or oppose her and get up a lively discussion; the ice will then be broken and you can freely write on any subject you choose after that. Eleanor, in THE SPIRIT of December 13th, wants to hear from the pioneer women of Kansas. How many could write items of real interest of their first years in the sunset land? In four more years I will have lived here a quarter of a century. Those emigrating here from the far East think it a wild country; what would they have thought then? I have been very much interested in the children's letters for THE SPIRIT; I think most of them very good for the ages; it surely will be a great benefit to them. If so many children can write for the paper why not their mothers and sisters? The most interesting part of Colman's Rural World is the ladies' department known as the home circle, and we can have just as good a column if we try. Mr. Editor, for fear I've occupied too much space for so little I close, and if this does not go to the waste basket I will try again.

Yours truly, EGLANTINE SMITH. STRAWN, Kans., Dec. 21, 1877.

R. G. Ingersoll on Wedlock. Referring to women, Col. Ingersoll advised men to go to their homes on an evening. It seemed to him that folks gave up courting when they got married. The best way is to keep courting right straight ahead. Take just as much pains to look clean and manly, and be full of love. Think how you need to talk, and how full of life you were when you went to see her; now you go moping, and wonder why it is that wife is not in raptures. It applies to both sexes. It is not necessary to be a king to be happy, provided you are the king of one heart.

He believed in giving the women all the rights that he claimed for himself. He wanted to see more happy homes, more kindness, more real affection in the homes of this world. There is no happiness in this world unless with the woman you love. He pronounced marriage the grandest and the highest institution among men, and that no man was a man who would not live up to the marriage contract. On the rearing of children Col. Ingersoll enunciated the views that they should be dealt with tenderly, never brow-beaten or whipped for faults, but caressed and guided into habits of obedience in all that is essential to their welfare, and allowed a fair amount of latitude to develop individuality and independence of nature.

HOW TO GIVE SICK CHILDREN MEDICINE.—When it becomes absolutely necessary to force the little patient to take the dose, do so quietly and firmly; hold the hands and nose, while the spoon presses down the tongue; in the effort to breathe, the medicine, which should in such cases be in liquid form, will be swallowed. A medicine glass is much better than a spoon and less apt to spill the contents; it may be used also as a means of compulsion, by turning it up so as to stop the supply of air; at the first gasp for breath the medicine will be taken, and the glass may be removed. Often a struggle with the patient will do more harm than the medicine does good, and medicine thus given is apt to be rejected by the stomach; in such cases the physician must be appeased to.

BEAN SOUP.—Soak one quart of beans over night. Put them to boil in three quarts water; boil four or five hours, putting in a small piece of sweet pork. Sometimes a little onion is added, or a carrot chopped fine. Season with red peppers and salt. Strain through a colander, as the skins of the beans are not healthful. A little milk put in at the last is very nice.

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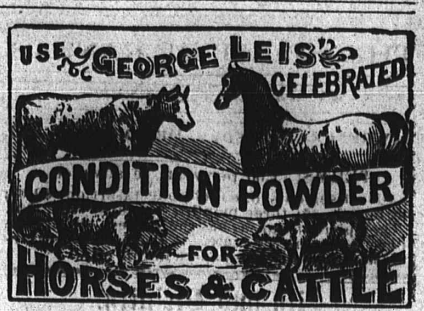
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Whatever may be said as to the relative profits as between the raising of cattle and horses, the breeding of these latter animals will always be carried on to a greater or lesser extent upon large and medium sized farms. Even the forty acre farm will like to raise a yearly colt. It is a seductive pursuit to the growing youth, and those of maturer age seldom lose their liking for the young and growing colts. Every boy ten years old and upward, takes kindly to this young stock, and, as a rule, the colts take as kindly to the boys, albeit they, both colts and boys, are sometimes rough with each other in their play. Nevertheless, boys understand colt talk, and colts seem to have an appreciative glimmering of what the boys mean. There is a good deal in this "talk." The more colts are talked to—and, for this matter, the rule will apply to all farm animals—the easier they will in the end come to understand what you want of them.

The first lesson a colt should be given to learn is, man is its master, and yet its friend. This lesson must be given by the man, and while yet the animal is quite young. No boy should be allowed to put his mere brute strength against that of a colt, however young. The animal is pretty sure to come out ahead, and the lesson here learned is never forgotten.

The education of the colt may well be commenced while yet it is a young suckling. If the mare is to be driven to the wagon, on the road, the colt should be haltered, and taught to walk quietly tied by the side of the dam. In haltering, always use a halter the animal cannot by any means break. Let the first lesson be given when the colt may be securely and successfully haltered, and when it may not injure itself. In nine cases out of ten, the colt, finding it cannot get away, will quietly give up and be submissive. Occasionally, an exceedingly high strung colt gives more trouble. If so, have patience; never lose your temper. Talk to it, soothe it, and wait until the animal gets over its fright if it be an hour. Once it begins to walk by your side, with one hand grasping the halter, the other employed in soothing it, the trouble is over. Thereafter it will soon get to like the exercise, and soon it may be left to the care of an intelligent boy. Above all, educate the colts to come about you in the barnyard, to be petted. Thus they will grow up familiar, and in nine cases out of ten, if they have first been accustomed to lead quietly beside the mare, when they finally come to be harnessed, they will give but little trouble; very often they will go right along, seeming to like the light work to which they may be put.

In breaking to harness in the saddle never use violent measures. Accustom them first to stand quietly under the saddle, or harness. They may then be learned to bear a light weight, one that they cannot displace, and may be thus exercised, never, however, out of the reach of the handler. When finally mounted, it must be by a thorough horseman, one who will never lose his temper or use violence. Soon the colt will come to enjoy the canter as much as the rider. Then it may safely be trusted to an intelligent lad who has a pretty firm seat. Then with gentle but firm care, the young horse may be made to easily act at the will, and by the direction of the rider.

In working to harness, the colt should be hitched alongside an old and steady animal. In hitching to the vehicle, be sure the young animal be not allowed to start until all is ready. Use no haste in this matter. Be deliberate in all you do. It is easier to keep the animal quiet while being hitched to the wagon, than many think. Talk to it while holding it firmly by the head; but, when the driver is all ready, then at the word, let go promptly. A sensible driver will easily manage what follows.

Horses—Hints in Regard to the Legs and Feet.

There is nothing more fatal to the horse than the diseases of the feet and legs; for once a horse loses the power of traveling, he is useless, except for the stud, and even then he or she is worth but very little. The buyer should insist on driving the horse rapidly on a hard road, and if there is any lameness in him it will crop out immediately. When white hairs are discovered in small spots, except on the face and feet, they are signs of wounds; and wounds of greater depth are often proven by bare spots, where the roots of the hair have been destroyed. If white spots are seen on the knees, it is morally certain that the horse at some time or other has broken his knees by falling; but this is nothing if it be healed, as it does not cause unsoundness. Still, a horse that has fallen once will, in all likelihood, fall again, and it is best to pass on all such.

When examining the legs of a horse, the buyer should stand with his face broadside to the horse, and see whether he stands with his legs straddled, or with all drawn under his belly, or stands with the natural proportion of his weight on each leg squarely, or whether he favors one leg more than another, by placing it in a position where no weight is thrown on it. A horse may, from accident or impatience, point a toe forward once or twice, but he should be instantly brought back to his former position, and if he is then

found to favor the same foot, there will be cause for suspicion; and if it is the toe of the fore foot, it may be put down as disease of the coffin bone, which is almost incurable. If the horse has ever been foundered, he will show it by throwing both front feet forward and stretching the hind feet backward; and if he stands with all his feet drawn together, he is sure to be gone up. Should he bend his knees forward, and his legs become nervous, it is certain that he has been knocked all to pieces by hard driving or overwork; but if he stands squarely and truly, leaning his weight on all his legs, then it may be taken for granted that he is all right as far as his pins are concerned.

Curbed horses, or those having hocks curbed, must not be thrown aside because he has curby hocks; for if his early hard work did not bring them out, there is no danger that he will do so now. The purchaser must now stand facing the horse's head and observe whether the horse moves his legs regular without favoring one or the other, and see if he is knock-kneed or bow-kneed, and if either, he is always sure to strike one leg with the hoof of the other, a bad and often dangerous fault. Cat-hammed horses are those whose hocks are drawn in, and this is a sign of weakness. This examination being over, the buyer will look to the several legs for marks of unsoundness, such as splints, ringbones, and damaged sinews in the fore legs, and in the hind legs; bone, blood or bog spavins; curbs, thoroughpins and ringbones. These are the points the buyer should look at; but, even if he is a good judge, my advice is never to buy without a guaranty that all is right.—*Helps and Hints to Horsemen.*

High Grade Beef Cattle.

Not long since M. B. Bateham, of Ohio, well known by his writings to many of our readers, visited the Scioto valley in that state. He took notes of what he saw and published his observations in the *Country Gentleman*. The cattle breeders and feeders in that famous section could not pass without notice. In his letters Mr. Bateham refers to the views expressed by a very intelligent man on the subject of raising cattle and says:

He said the cattle farmers of this country need to learn that none but first-class beef will pay for shipping to Europe; and the style of cattle wanted for that purpose is such as are best produced by high grade Short-horns with continuous good feeding, so as to keep them growing thriftily until about two and a half years old, when they should weigh not less than 1,500 pounds, which they will easily do if given such feed and pasture as this blue grass and corn region affords. The chief secret of profit is in the avoidance of feeding over the winter after the animal is two years old, which of course cannot be done with the common breeds of stock; and with even a whole year's additional cost of feeding, the animal is not often suitable for the export trade.

Here, then, is the lesson which our cattle-men are beginning to learn, and which those who reduce it to practice, will no doubt find advantageous. At the meeting of the breeders, before referred to, Mr. Haggerty spoke of the advantages of good feeding, and said he considered it essential to the proper development of the Short-horns. He was proud of the improvement that had been made, and is still going on. Our steers now go off at two and a half years old, and at much larger prices than they used to at four or five.

Mr. Renick told me, from his long experience, that all this is true, and that with the present and prospective prices for beef cattle, there is a large chance for profit in breeding and feeding grade steers for the shipping trade, if done in the manner above suggested. With good milking cows, selected from common stock, and thoroughbred bulls, he would have the calves come in March or April, let them suck all they will the first week, then, for the summer; half the cow's milk, and the addition of a little corn meal or ground provender, will keep the calf in good order, while the other half of the milk will pay the cost of keeping the cow. In winter, the feeding of calves should be well kept up, using some hay and corn meal, or scalded cut feed, as may be preferred. In the Scioto valley, corn and corn fodder are more relied on than hay, and constitute the staple food of the larger animals; some grinding the corn, and others feeding it in the ear and stalk, having hogs in the yard to prevent waste. The main points to be observed are to keep the animals thriving, by good care and feeding, so that no check of their growth shall occur. On turning the stock out to pasture in the spring it is especially useful to feed a little corn for a week or two, or there will be a loss of flesh from the lack of nutriment in the early grass.

How a Successful Farmer Feeds His Cattle.

Stock doing well; have exercise and sunshine (when there is any) every day; no abortions, and losing no calves, so far; young stock growing like weeds in a corn field in June. Six bushels meal, two bushels light oats, seven quarts oil-cake meal, and one pint of salt, mixed with three times as much cut hay as there is in bulk of grain, makes one day's rations for seventy-five head of cattle, young and old. Feed is dampened, and stands (when weather is not too cold) twelve to twenty-four hours before feeding, and is apportioned to the stock according to age and condition.—*Pliny Nichols.*

Castor Beans.

J. C., of Osawatimie, Kansas, in a communication to the *New York Tribune* writes:

The castor bean crop in much of the country contributory to Kansas City is of no small importance. Single counties of Eastern Kansas have this year raised as high as 100,000 bushels, and they are always in demand at as high values in cash, and not liable to be destroyed by the locust, they are thought

by many to be quite as profitable as any crop produced. The yield this year has ranged from ten to twenty bushels per acre, and the price so far since selling began has been from 90 cents to \$1.25. In some counties farmers who raise castor beans have held meetings and organized themselves as a "bean club," for co-operation in selling their crop to the best advantage, and through a selling committee they receive bids from manufacturers, shippers and dealers for a certain number of bushels to be delivered within a certain time. One county club has contracted a quantity of its beans to a firm of local buyers at \$1.15 a bushel, the minimum quantity specified being 30,000 bushels, and the maximum 45,000 bushels, the buyers furnishing sacks at wholesale prices. One firm has sent off as high as twenty car loads of beans in one day.

From the National Live-Stock Journal we take the following sensible remarks on the subject of "wintering calves."

How do our calves look? Are they in good, thrifty, stout condition to begin the winter? If not, we should lose no time and spare no expense to make them so. Oats and corn ground together are, perhaps, the best feed. Shelled corn is very good, and young calves are very fond of it; to this may be added bran and shorts. If the calf is out of condition, or lousy, a little oil-cake with bran is excellent. To kill the lice nothing is better than plenty of lard or other grease, with a little petroleum—if the weather is cold we must use more petroleum, say one-half. The great point we wish to press in these observations is, that all stock should be kept growing in winter as well as in summer; that if it is not kept growing, the food it consumes brings us no return—is a dead loss—while if we add, say one-third or one-fourth to the expense, we have a profit on the whole. This is more especially true, and more strikingly illustrated in the keeping of young stock the first winter, than in any subsequent period.

Fine Stock for the South.

It is with great pleasure that we see a growing interest in live stock matters in the Southern states. A great deal of fine stock is going every week southwards. We have daily inquiries almost from our readers and others in the Southern states for some of the improved breeds of stock. As the South regains its prosperity, the demand will increase. In no section of our country can stock be raised at as great profit as in the South. With proper attention to pasturage, stock will thrive without hay or grain the year round. The Southern people heretofore have mainly depended upon bacon for meat, which has mostly been purchased in the Western states. They are getting tired of buying everything they have to eat, and are going to work to raise enough to supply their own wants. They want as good, fresh mutton beef and pork as anybody, and are going to raise it. Hence they are ordering our best breeds of sheep, cattle and swine. They like good butter and cheese, and are going to produce it. Give them a little time and a fair show, and we shall see generally as good stock, as good farms and farming in the South as we shall see anywhere.—*Colman's Rural World.*

The extra price received for a superior article is nearly all profit. And this is especially the case with the farm. It costs no more to raise a good horse than a poor scrub. No more food, care or time is required. And if the plug horse can be raised so as to pay expenses, there is a profit in raising first-class horses. The same is the case with neat cattle. In fact it costs more per pound to raise such a steer as would sell for three cents per pound than one which sells for six cents per pound. In this case there are nearly double the number of pounds, and double the price per pound, and yet the choice steer takes no more food or care than the other. In this case not only the extra price is the profit, but the extra weight also.—*Iowa State Register.*

Veterinary Department.

Cure of Bloody Murrain.

I noticed in your issue of the 14th inst. an inquiry as to the nature and treatment of bloody murrain in cattle. Having had considerable experience with the disease, as well as success in its treatment, I thought it not amiss to give my view of the disease generally known as murrain. In the first place, I look at it as a blood disease, brought on by the animal feeding on unnutritious grasses, or those that contain a large quantity of water and disproportionate amount of nutritious principles. For example, the second growth of clover in a wet season, or wheat early in the spring; in fact, any vegetable growth that is brought to a rapid maturity by wet weather. It has been a notable fact that grain-fed cattle are never affected by this disease. The blood in murrain animals always contains a large amount of water, which lessens its consistency to such a degree that it permeates the coats of the vessels at their weakest point, and is diffused among the surrounding tissues, causing, when the skin is removed, the bruised appearance invariably found in some part of the animal's body when dead, and which gives the name of bloody murrain to the affection. In its treatment the indications are to lessen the amount of water in the blood, and cause the absorption of the effusion that has taken place. The first is only to be combated by bleeding, carried to such an extent that the animal will faint—to use a common expression. In bad cases, I always bleed the second time, say six or twelve hours after the first bleeding. After convalescence has set in, feed on nutritious diet, which, as vitality returns, will cause absorption of any effusion that may have taken place. I have never failed in any instance to effect a cure where I saw the animal before in a moribund state. As a preventive, I find nothing to answer so well as sulphate of iron (copper) given in tablespoonful doses once or twice a month in meal. Iron fulfills the first indication by enriching the blood, and thereby prevents the occurrence of the second. I never knew milk cows to be affected with murrain.—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

I have a horse six years old next spring; his eyes have been running water for two months; the eyeballs do not seem to be affected in the least, but considerable matter gathers about the corners; his eyes are bright; he has not executed much work or driving of late, nor has he been fed high on grain food.

ANSWER.—Give your horse a laxative drench composed of twelve ounces raw linseed oil, two drachms powdered cape aloes and one drachm tartar-emeti; mix well together and give. Repeat this drench three times or more if found necessary, allowing five days to intervene between each dose. Wet sponges should be applied to the eyes and kept constantly wet during the day with a solution made by dissolving one drachm of sulphate of zinc into one pint of rainwater. If the inflammation of the eyes and palpebra do not subside within from eight to ten days, setons inserted underneath the skin, four inches below each eye, will greatly facilitate in making a cure, if a cure is possible. Throw loose in his grain box daily, without mixing with the grain food, half a pound of glauber salts. Give him in each pailful of drinking water morning and evening one large tablespoonful of cream of tartar and two drachms of powdered niter; stir with a clean piece of wood while the animal is drinking his water. Feed bran, with a small quantity of oats added, made into a mash with cold water, and liberally on carrots or turnips, but no corn or other heavy grain whole or ground. The membrana nictitans, or haw, is what horsemen call hooks in the eye, and may be thickened, as in this case of your horse, and project on the forepart of the eye. The eye is drawn back by the retractor-muscle to relieve it from the painful influences of the light; and the haw being thus pushed forward thickens, and the neighboring parts also thicken; this membrane by these results is unable to retract. It should not be cut.

I have a very valuable filly, two years old. She has recently come out all over, especially on the neck and about the breast, with little bunches from the size of a pea to that of a twenty-five cent silver piece.

ANSWER.—Your description of symptoms very plainly indicates this cutaneous affection to be scurf. The treatment adapted to this attack will be, first, to give a laxative drench composed of eight ounces raw linseed oil and thirty grains each of calomel and tartar-emeti; mix thoroughly and give. Repeat this drench three times, allowing six days to intervene between each dose, then stop. Feed mash food made with cold water, composed of equal parts of oats and bran, with half a pint of bruised flax seed meal added morning and evening; into each mash mix in a powder composed of thirty grains each of tartar-emeti and finely powdered carbonate of iron and lobelia; one drachm each of powdered lac-sulphur, gentian root and Jamaica ginger root. Mix these well together and thoroughly through each mash. Feed liberally on carrots or turnips, but no heavy grain—no corn, rye, wheat or barley whole or ground. Put into each pail of drinking water, and stir with a clean

piece of stick, while the animal drinks, one large dessert-spoonful of cream of tartar. Wash over the parts where the bunches appear thoroughly, three times a day, with a solution composed of two ounces of sulphuric acid mixed thoroughly with eight quarts of chilled water. Apply the solution with a sponge and rub it in well with the hand.

What is the best and most simple remedy for colic in horses?

ANSWER.—Colic is caused by the food fermenting in the stomach and from spasmodic irritation of the muscular coat of the intestines. As soon as the colic pains are perceptible give the patient a drench composed of eight ounces raw linseed oil, one ounce of laudanum, one drachm of powdered niter and a half pint peppermint water. If not relieved entirely in one hour repeat the drench again in the same quantities and way.

What is the most simple remedy for a horse that has eaten too many oats?

ANSWER.—Total abstinence from food or drink until the stomach is relieved is the most simple treatment for glut. There are instances where this treatment would be of but little avail, and the treatment necessary for such cases must be adapted and applied by a skilled veterinarian.

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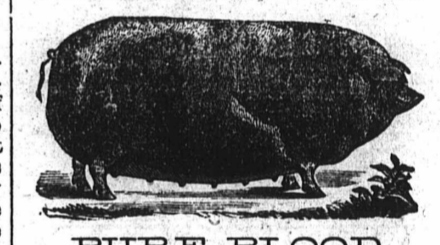
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Attachment Notice. John L. Taylor, plaintiff, vs. Charles Duncan and H. J. Jewett, partners, defendants. Complaint in attachment—plaintiff's demand, \$20.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON THE 27th day of November, 1877, W. W. Silsby, Justice of the peace of Butler township, Douglas county, Kansas, issued an order of attachment in the above named case for the sum of sixty-two dollars, and that said cause will be heard on the 12th day of January, 1878, at 9 o'clock a. m.

Administratrix's Notice. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I WILL make final settlement of the administration of the estate of Abel Yates, deceased, before the probate court of Douglas county, State of Kansas, on the 10th day of January, A. D. 1878.

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PUBLICATION NOTICE. JOHN ROBY, JOHN M. BALDWIN, AND JOHN NEWTON A. BALDWIN, defendants. Notice is hereby given that you are hereby notified that on the 28th day of December, A. D. 1877, one J. E. Cartwright, plaintiff, filed his petition in the office of the clerk of the District Court of Douglas county, Kansas, against you and each of you defendants, setting forth that said defendant has the legal title to and is in the peaceful possession of the following described real estate, to-wit:

The southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 18, in township thirteen (13) of range eighteen (18), except five (5) acres land in the south-west corner thereof, heretofore conveyed to one William M. Wiley; also the following described real estate, to-wit: The northeast corner of section 18, in township thirteen (13) of range eighteen (18), to-wit: Commencing at the northeast corner of the southeast section, thence west sixty (60) rods, thence south eighty (80) rods, thence west one hundred (100) rods, thence east one hundred and sixty (160) rods, thence north one hundred and sixty (160) rods to place of beginning, all being situated in Douglas county, Kansas. That said defendant set up and claimed an estate and interest in and to said premises adverse to the estate and interest of the said plaintiff so as above averred and praying that said defendants may be compelled to show their said title, and that it may be determined to be null and void as against the title of said plaintiff. You are further notified that you must answer said petition on or before the 14th day of February, A. D. 1878, or judgment will be rendered as above prayed.

PUBLICATION NOTICE. THEODORE HYATT, WHOSE PLACE OF residence is unknown, will take notice that on the 28th day of December, A. D. 1877, one J. E. Cartwright filed his petition in the district court of Douglas county, Kansas, against the said Theodore Hyatt setting forth that said Cartwright has the legal title to and is in the peaceful possession of the following described real estate to-wit: The northwest quarter (1-4) of the northwest quarter (1-4) of section twenty-nine (29) in township (13) of range nineteen (19) in Douglas county, Kansas. That said Theodore Hyatt sets up and claims an estate and interest in and to said premises adverse to the estate and interest of said Cartwright, and that said Cartwright denies the interest of said Hyatt in or to said premises or any portion thereof, and praying that said Hyatt be ordered to show his interest in or to said property, and that it may be determined null and void as against the title of said Cartwright, and that he be forever barred from selling of any interest in or to said property or any portion thereof.

Said Hyatt is further notified that he must answer said petition on or before the 14th day of February, A. D. 1878, or judgment will be rendered as above prayed.

DANIEL S. ALFORD, Attorney for Plaintiff.

DANIEL S. ALFORD, Attorney for Plaintiff.

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