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FUTURE OF AMERICAN FARMING.

American Farmer.

The American Farmer is sanguine as to the future of American Agriculture. It does not take a particle of stock in the doleful jeremiads which many newspapers and orators delight in singing about the "depression in agriculture," the "gloomy outlook for the farmer," etc. It does not believe for an instant that all the bright, progressive men are being lured from the farm by the prospect of less laborious and more gainful pursuits in the city. It refuses utterly to accept the assertion that farming is less lucrative than other business, or that a man of ability and energy buries his talents in devoting himself to agriculture, since he would succeed much better in some other calling.

We hold just the reverse of all these propositions. We believe that, as a whole, farming pays as well, if not better than any other business; that the man of ordinary ability succeeds fully as well in it as he would in anything, and the phenomenal money-makers accumulate just as large fortunes in it as they would in merchandising or manufacturing.

So far from progressive, enterprising men leaving the farm they are rather going back to it. An entirely new era has developed, and will continue to develop. The old ones, in which results were accomplished by "main strength and stupidity," is passing away. Hard work is not now the main thing in farming, but intelligence and practical education. The highly successful farmer needs just as much education as the highly successful lawyer, physician, minister, merchant or manufacturer. He must be just as thoroughly trained in all the details of his grand profession. He must know the theory and practice of every feature of his business, and be able to make a true estimate of its value. There is no calling followed by men which requires more exact knowledge than farming, and a recognition of this fact by the world, as well as by the farmers themselves, helps to retain learned men on the farm. When it is felt that the successful farmer is in mind and education the intellectual peer of the successful, professional man, merchant or manufacturer, we will keep on the farm the young men who are ambitious of social distinction, which they have heretofore been prone to feel could only be gained by entering one of the "learned professions." The weight of learning is not now with those who acquire a knowledge of law, medicine or theology, but with those who master in a fair degree the liberal science of husbandry.

We have said that on the whole farming is more lucrative than any other business, and that can be said with good reason. Short crops, low prices, drouths, grasshoppers, mildew, frosts, etc. People who suffer from these forget that every other calling which men follow has an equal number of chances of disaster. The manufacturer has a constant, unremitting struggle with changing fashions and methods, improvements by competitors to cheapen production or raise quality. He is liable any day to have some new discovery, or some change of fashions or methods, render his whole manufacturing plant next to worthless. He may make large profits for a term of years, and the next have some unexpected development sweep away his entire income. Even manufacturers of staple articles must fight constantly to keep up with the times. We see this in the milling business, which is as near a staple industry as can be mentioned. Yet the man who runs his mill as he did twenty-five years ago, or even ten years ago, has hard work meeting competi-

tion and making both ends meet. The money in milling, as in farming, is made by the live, wide-awake men, who keep abreast of the times, both in their own knowledge and the introduction of new machinery and methods.

We hear constantly of the men who have made great success in merchandising or manufacturing, and but little, if anything, of those who fall or barely escape failure. There is no doubt that a much larger percentage of merchants, manufacturers and professional men fail utterly, or achieve a success so limited as to be next door to failure, than among farmers.

We assert that the same amount of ability and energy devoted to merchandising or manufacturing will more certainly succeed if applied to farming, and that the financial rewards will be greater.

The future of American farming is very bright. The best minds, and the best science of the country are now being directed to determining just what our wonderfully diversified soil and climate are capable of, and just what are the best methods of developing production to the utmost. There is rapid progress in all the sciences, but in none more rapid than in the science of agriculture. Every day we are learning more and more what we can get out of the soil, and the animals fed upon it, and how to do this with the least labor, the least danger of loss, and the greatest amount of profit.

The returns from the best managed farms are fully equal to those of the successful factories with the same investments.

To-day the American farmers are the most intelligent and best educated in the world, and they are rapidly becoming more so. They are learning and practicing every valuable idea which those of the Old World have developed in centuries of experience, and they add to these a multitude of their own. They are not slaves of routine, of political degradation, of social customs but are free, independent, thinking, learning men, who hold their calling to be as high as any that men follow, and worthy of the best intellect and education that can be afforded to it. The effect of this in developing the science of agriculture is marvelous. Public appreciation is a powerful stimulus in the progress of any art, when men feel, as they are now doing in this country, that there is just as much reputation to be made by trebling or quadrupling the production of the soil, or improving a breed of animals, as in conducting a great law suit, inventing a labor-saving machine, or getting elected to congress. The more thoroughly this is understood the greater will be the progress in agriculture, and the more prosperous will be the farmers and the entire country.

THE FARMER'S INSTITUTE.

Farmer's Call.

The farmer's institute is the best agricultural school. It is a better school for the farmer or his son than "any agricultural college" ever can be. The agricultural college will always be more theoretical than practical; will run more to big words than hard work; will import learning that is pretty, but not easily convertible into square meals and trousers and household furniture. The farmer's institute is practical, or, at least, should be. If it is not, no one is to blame but the programme committee. The institute can be made practical. It is easy to make it practical. Politics must be rigidly excluded. The long-winded, glib-tongued office seeker or fellow dying to air his cranky opinions must be kept off the programme. To keep such off requires a programme committee

with backbone, but such committee can be got easily. Further, the presiding officer must be a man of firmness and not without tact; for the fellows glib of tongue, cranky of view, and hungry for notoriety, will bob up though kept off the programme; the chairman must have the stamina to "sit down on them" when they become nuisances.

The city lawyer, the school teacher, the preacher and the doctor should be used very sparingly in making up the programme. The farmer's institute is for the farmer, and the more nearly it is purely agricultural the better. The best institute is not the one always that has the largest attendance. It is the one that teaches the most farmers the best and fills them with a worthy ambition to improve their practices.

The practical simon pure farmer is the man the persons having in charge of farmers' institutes should reach out for. Usually he is a modest, retiring fellow, and will not come to the front in the institute unless encouraged. Sometimes to get the most valuable aids it is necessary to do some real, down-right coaxing. Very likely it is the fellow that does not do much talking that has the most valuable practical information to communicate.

We wish that many farmer's institutes would discuss good roads. We need this as an antidote for the foolishness about good roads indulged in by road conventions, road congresses, etc.,—composed largely of and altogether engineered by broken down politicians. These fellows are going to build a million miles of solid metal roads right away. The call is honestly and earnestly enlisted in the movement for good roads, and it thinks that our present temporizing policy should be stopped at once; but it realizes that road talk must be practical and suggested road improvements practicable, and it knows that the farmers will be practical in their discussions and recommendations.

A BLASTING POLICY.

Clarke Irvine, in Coleman's Rural World.

Even to this day no country on earth can raise such excellent cotton as our Southern States, and at such a low cost. We could be producing as much again as we do, and at least eight million more of our people could be profitably employed in this business, had it not been for our tariffs. By our refusal to trade with Great Britain and other manufacturing states of Europe on fair terms, and thus exchange our cotton for their goods, we have not only put them to very great inconvenience and suffering, but have driven them to hunt other regions and there encourage cotton growing until one-half of their supplies are now derived from those other regions. But for this they would have been delighted to have poured it into our own states the almost infinite millions of dollars they have been compelled to advance to other countries in order to encourage cotton growing there. The losses we have thus sustained by our "dog in the manger" policy are incalculable. And it now looks as though we shall lose nearly all of our cotton trade with foreign nations in a few years, and what have we got in return? The cotton mills of New England, and at a cost of a thousand times more than their value to us as a people.

To-day we have not over fourteen million spindles running, whereas from four to five states in Europe have some eighty million. Without any tariff we must have had a very respectable number of cotton mills anyhow, but to force the business we have done it at an immense cost.

Moreover, manufacturers naturally spring up near the raw material, or wher-

ever it pays best. In order to divert our labor into unprofitable channels we have neglected several great and important industries that were right to our hand. Among these are corn-starch and glucose and cotton seed oil, in which we are doing not one-fifth what we might. So with fifty other manufactures.

Our folly in trying to manufacture silk is an instance in point. This properly belongs to regions where very low wages prevail, such as China and Italy where men work for ten to twenty cents. But we must envy them and put a great tax on these velvets and silks merely in order to build up half a dozen factories that employ but few hands. In the days of 1848 every person in the United States could wear the best velvets and silks. Now only the richest can afford them. This silk business is a fair example of the workings of the tariff throughout. To encourage these few factories we have actually put a prohibition on the wearing of velvets and silks against some sixty million of our people. But worse than that, we have destroyed the great and growing trade we had in the exchange of our native products for the silk goods of foreign states.

There never was anything so disturbing, so fatal to all manner of natural and native industries as this attempt by law to force labor into various channels to please the caprices of a few speculators. It is like all other violations of natural law. Let nature and the nature of things alone. Had we free trade, many of these proud hot-house industries would perish while a thousand new native and natural ones would rise up in their places. As to reciprocity or free trade with the South American states, it is a mockery. All of these states have what is called export tariffs on all their products. There are county or provincial taxes at every state line, and road taxes, stamp, land and hospital taxes and an imperial tax at the end of the route before the goods leave the country. This last alone is abolished under our reciprocity treaties. The others stand, and thus we are supporting their governments when we trade with them.

Greenville Banner: A dispatch in another column tells of a boy being killed by vicious dogs. We have always believed that the man who keeps a dog known to be vicious is guilty of criminal disregard of the lives of others. The owner of the dog that destroys human life should be tried and convicted of murder. Of all species of brutality and selfishness, that which prompts a man to keep a dangerous dog which is a menace to the lives of women and children, merely because it may please his fancy to keep a dog, we know of none more gross and inexcusable. The country needs some stringent laws on this point. A man should no more be allowed to keep a dangerous dog than a pet tiger.

Rural New Yorker: They tell a story of a Southern gentleman who drove into town with a load of cabbage, which he offered at two heads for five cents. The negroes would not buy because they "had no meat to boll with the cabbage." The farmer went to a store and bought a side of pork, which he cut into small slices. Then he put a slice on each cabbage and offered the combination for five cents. The negroes fell over themselves in their haste to buy, though they paid four more at the former price. Here we have a practical illustration of the wisdom of supplying what customers want. The wise man finds what his customers need and then offers it—the unwise man gets mad because people won't buy what he thinks they should.

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Texas farmers will come pretty near "living at home and boarding at the same place," next year.

SOME of our defeated office seekers do not care a continental whether Bella's comet strikes the earth or not.

A SURE way to increase the value of a farm is to build a good road to it—or from it, just as you please to take it.

ON Friday last O. P. Bowser was appointed receiver of the Times Herald Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas.

ABOUT the 8th of this month was not a successful time for hog killing, but we trust that a successful hog killing time is soon to be with us.

THE Hon. Olin Welborn was defeated for Congress from California by a small majority. His numerous friends in Texas will regret to learn of his defeat.

DR. LOEFFLER, a German scientist, has succeeded in ridding the Greek province of Thessaly of a great plague of rats by communicating to them the bacillus of the typhus fever of rats.

MR. LUTZ WILCOX, of the Field and Farm, of Denver, Colorado, is at the head of a new manufacturing company with \$20,000 capital. The company will manufacture vinegar, sauces, catsups, etc., and canned fruits and vegetables.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH has a special correspondent with the rainmakers, and in next issue will give the facts as developed up to time of making report. The facts are what the people want, without any romancing. They are paying the fiddlers and they want to hear the music.

THE Supreme Court has decided that lawyers are not exempt from the payment of occupation taxes. The plea set forth that they are officers of the court, and consequently cannot be taxed, is no good, the court holds, because they are not officers of the court in any such sense as they claim. The plea that by taxing a lawyer a criminal might be deprived of his legal right to defense, is equally unfounded, because, as the court well says, there will always be plenty of lawyers

who will comply with the law, pay their occupation taxes, and hold themselves in readiness to defend all persons requiring legal services. This decision will prove eminently satisfactory to all except those limbs of the law who desire to evade the law. Lawyers already have more special privileges than common justice sanctions.

AT the meeting of the National Alliance at Memphis, last Friday, Dr. C. W. Macune withdrew from the order, saying "I resign because it is being diverted from its original purposes and being made a tail to the Third party kite. This being the case, non-partisan alliance members can not longer remain in the order."

AT Bowling Green, Ky., last week, two young men fought a duel about a girl. The weapons chosen and used were fists. For thus violating the traditions of the State a justice of the peace fined each of the principals, and every person connected with the un-Kentuckian affair, \$150. Kentuckians are not prize-fighters. They are Colonels, Sir.

ROAD improvement has never been so prominently before the American people as at the present time. Everybody and every paper has something to say on the subject, if it is only to swear at the roads we have, and wonder how we are to ever have better ones. Road-building is a science but few people understand, hence much of the discussion on the subject is without value, except to "keep it before the people." Our Texas A. & M. College should teach road-making as a branch of mechanical and agricultural education. There will soon be a demand for all the available skill of the country in improving our country highways, and building new and enduring ones.

IT has now transpired that the late Sam Randall, Democratic congressman from Pennsylvania, after serving his State faithfully and with distinction for many years, died in absolute poverty. The widow was commanded by the probate court, at the instance of a creditor, to render an account of the effects as administratrix. Her answer was that her husband left no real or personal estate, save a few personal effects, and that after the payment of the funeral expenses and the setting aside of her \$300, widow's exemption, there was nothing to account for, nor enough money of the estate left to pay the costs required in the accounting. Thus, while many serve in positions of honor and trust but a few years and become wealthy, others, their superiors in all except the acquisitive faculty, remain in poverty. This instance is a refutation of the old chestnut, that a business man is required to properly transact public business. Honesty—the Sam Randall stamp of honesty—is what is wanted.

A GRAND scheme to tax the people of this country for the benefit of the commercial class is the Nicaragua Canal scheme. Very considerably the promoters only want \$100,000,000—want the government to guarantee the company's bonds for that small amount. Then, when the government has redeemed the bonds, as would inevitably be the case, she would have so much money interest involved in the work that she must guarantee another \$100,000,000 of bonds to "save herself." In the meantime, the company would handle these enormous amounts, wrung from the people, and they and their favorites becoming enormously rich out of the legitimate or illegitimate profits, would not care two straws whether the canal was ever completed or not. If the constitution anywhere says, "The Congress shall have power to guarantee the bonds of canal schemes, and to levy and collect taxes to pay the same," just as soon as the clause is pointed out to us, we will write an editorial advising our people to demand of Congress the passage of the Nicaragua Canal subsidy bill, but not until then.

SOMETHING PRACTICAL.

IT is almost a certainty that during the next session of congress a proposition will be made to reduce the present rates of postage from two cents to one cent on sealed letters, and proportionately on other classes of mail matter. The subject of free delivery and collection of mail in the rural districts will also come up for consideration. In favor of the former will be arrayed the business interests of the cities, and as we cannot have both, these interests will necessarily be opposed to free rural delivery. The question for farmers to decide is whether they will have rural delivery with postage at present low rates, or whether they will prefer the saving of a cent on each letter, and go to the nearest town or post office, or trust to uncertain chance to get their mail matter, and to mail their letters. To reduce the rates of postage one-half would not save the average farmer twenty-five cents a year, while to the business man who sends and receives a hundred, or probably a thousand letters to the farmer's one, it would be a matter of considerable importance, while he already has his mail delivered from one to four times per day, and has only to send to the next corner to deposit his outgoing mail. At no time has the interest of the farmer been consulted in modern postal legislation, and it is now time he was demanding consideration. As a matter of course, daily delivery in every section would be impracticable at present. In the most densely populated regions this could and should be done. Elsewhere tri-weekly, semi-weekly and weekly deliveries would soon prove so great a convenience that country people would wonder how they ever got along in the old way. Free delivery would do much to bring country people into actual contact with the world and to dispel the illusion that farmers are behind the general advancement of the age. Farmers should make their wants known in this matter. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH believes that rural mail delivery and collection should be made a permanent policy of the government, and will, consequently, oppose any further reduction of letter postage.

WHAT THE PEOPLE WANT.

IT will be absolutely necessary, for the party which the people have called into power in this country for four years from the fourth of March next, to manifest its sincerity and redeem its promises of relief from the burdens of class legislation, of which the people have been loudly and justly complaining. That party will have full control of both houses of congress and a president of its choice.

If now, the power of combined wealth shall succeed, as it will surely try to do, in rendering the recent great political victory a barren one, and shall prove itself able to bend any and all parties to suit its will, Then it will be time for the masses to lay down their implements of industry and wipe off the modern blackboard and begin anew. In what manner this will be done it is not for us to say. It is not certain that in the supposed case, the new would be any improvement upon the old. It would be different, and that is about all that can be safely conjectured. The people have signified their desire, that tariff taxes be levied only for the purpose of public revenue, and that whatever taxes they are called upon to pay, shall go into the public treasury instead of the vaults of corporations, that protection be eliminated as far as possible from all taxation. The people have also signified by their votes that the lavish prodigality and imperial magnificence with which the party in power since the war has invested every feature of the national government, be curtailed to proportions consistent with Democratic propriety. The people have spoken loudly their disapproval of class legislation, of subsidies to corporations, of pensions for political effect. If those who

are called into power, shall turn a deaf ear to the demands of the people for just and wise and impartial laws, and for the prompt suppression of the evils that have accumulated from political corruption long continued, and shall listen to the song of the Wall street siren until they are transformed into unscrupulous time servers, like their predecessors, then their lease of power will be brief, and the people will try some other make-shift, "for better or for worse." It is to be hoped, above all things, that the party coming into power, will not let success make a fool of it.

FARMERS, remember that anything worth having is worth asking for. Apply this to the want of Texas for an A. & M. College situated in North Texas.

THIS is the season of the year when the thrifty North Carolina mother wakens the future president and says: "Jump up, sonny, wash your face, and climb the persimmon tree and eat your breakfast."

WHO will give TEXAS FARM AND RANCH a real good receipt for putting up bacon, hams, etc? Remember hog killing time is close at hand and if you know how to cure bacon you ought to tell the others.

TWO of a kind from the Bryan Eagle: "The cotton crop of Texas is said to be a million bales shorter than last year." "The people [of Texas] have endorsed a policy directly antagonizing prosperity, and we say, so be it." One is as true as the other.

THE president elect, has given the hungry pack of office-seekers who have been worrying him ever since midnight of election day, some plain talk. He tells them that to press their claims now will be considered sufficient cause to consign their letters to the rubbish heap and themselves to the outer darkness of the unsuccessful office-seekers. This is the best thing he has done since he defeated the field. The politicians will vilify him for it, but the people who elected him will honor him the more.

BELIA's comet is again approaching the earth from the direction of the constellation of Cassiopeia in the northern heavens. It was only discovered by telescope a few days ago, and is already visible to the naked eye. To find the comet, draw, or imagine a line drawn from the "pointers" through the North star and continued through Cassiopeia's chair to the constellation Andromeda where the comet will be found. The comet is now about as far from the chair (a well-known stellar figure) as the chair is from the pole star.

IT does not follow because TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is published in Texas that it is necessarily a Texas paper. It is a Louisiana paper, an Arkansas paper, an Indian Territory paper. In short, it aims to cover as much southern territory as possible. But to do this or any considerable part of it, it is necessary that we have correspondence from the states named, and others as well. Who will respond? From our long lists of subscribers in those states we ought to have more correspondence every week than the paper can contain.

THE Harris County Game Protective and Sportsmen's Association, after consulting kindred organizations and interested persons, are circulating a petition to be presented to the next legislature asking for certain amendments to the present game law. The association solicits suggestions from persons interested as to these or other amendments. One of the proposed amendments contemplates doing away with the county exemption feature of the present law, and another the appropriation of half the fines collected to the road and bridge funds of the counties. Farmers are deeply interested in the preservation of game and should give this matter the attention it deserves.

EDUCATE MEN AS WELL AS HORSES.

Journal of Agriculture.

Animals in their wild state regard man as their enemy. Whether this feeling was implanted in them at the creation or has been developed by man's treatment of them since the fall, I shall not now discuss, says a writer in an exchange. However, it seems to me that here is a field for investigation worthy the efforts of the naturalist. Science might develop facts in this line which would very materially aid ever true horseman in the solution of the problem of how to overcome the spirit of fear and yet retain the respect of his horse, and how to overcome the spirit of antagonism without destroying the horse's self-respect. Some may smile at the idea of attributing self-respect to a horse, but every true lover of animals can see this trait in every well-used beast he meets.

Volumes have been written upon the subject of horse training, but comparatively little has been said upon the education of drivers. Many years ago education in our schools talked much more about methods and formulas than they do today. The best teachers have discovered that the most important science in the normal course is human nature, and the best horsemen and trainers are fast falling into the same line of thought, only they substitute horse nature for human nature. Just as the horsemen and horses advance in the scale of intelligence, will the whalebone, the blacksnake and the club be relegated to the rear to keep company with the rattan and ferrule. I do not mean to say that punishment can be dispensed with altogether in either school or stable, but I do say that the man who has to be continually punishing his horse had better seek some other employment.

The reckless, daredevil horseman may be of use on the ranch, but he certainly should not be permitted to have anything to do with a well-bred stallion. I verily believe that many sensitive mares, and stallions too, are rendered shy or uncertain breeders by ignorant and inhuman treatment. I am glad to see that several writers among our horsemen, and I hope to see the crusade carried on until dishonesty, profanity, intemperance and vulgarity will not be tolerated about any respectable breeding stable, or racing stables either, for that matter.

That there has been a wonderful reform in this respect we are all glad to admit, but we cannot close our eyes to the fact that there is yet much room for improvement. Stallion owners have this matter in their own hands and their patrons have a right to hold them responsible for the conduct of their employees, as well as themselves. There is no reason why horsemen should be more immoral than any other class of men, especially now when many of the most substantial men in every community are engaged in the business. If we would command the respect of our horses, our employees and our neighbors, we must make our business respectable. If the time has come that the scrub stallion must go, the scrub owner and groom must go to keep him company.

The well-bred horse is kind, intelligent and level headed. We have a right to insist that all who have control over him shall at least equal him in these characteristics. The time has come when the successful horsemen must be an extensive reader, and a deep thinker. No man's fixt will be accepted as fact unless it is based on reason and common sense.

THE QUESTION OF PIN-MONEY ON A FARM.

Farm and Fireside.

"I never have five cents, even for postage-stamps, without asking for it." The speaker was a young wife who in her girlhood earned regular wages as a seamstress, and when married found her financial position changed. Even held the purse strings and made plenty of money. But new machinery was often needed, improvements had to be made; hired hands cost a good deal, and so no allowance was thought of for the wife, who had the position of "nurse, seamstress, housemaid, cook," with the added duties of motherhood.

"I always have a lump in my throat when I ask for a dollar," she said, "and used to go to his pocket-book for spare change, for at the marriage service he said, 'With all my worldly goods I thee endow.' But when little Tom began to start pennies because he wanted something and could not get it, I began to wonder if I had done wrong and the sin was visited on him."

It was a sad contrast—this little mother's tender conscience, with a world of trickery and knavery.

Nowhere is this lack of pocket money felt so much as among farmers' wives and daughters. Many of them go from pos-

sessions in the city—teachers, typewriters, saleswomen, with a regular salary—a good cook can earn her fourteen dollars a month. She may marry a young farmer, and with all her life before her decide to be his helpmate and money saver. How they work and struggle to pay off the farm, to get the necessary improvements made! But when the fight is partly over, sometimes the young wife has a feeling of envy on Saturday nights when her husband pays the "hands" who have worked for him, and has not a dollar for her, for she knows that they have been fed while she has served; that they have slept while she lost hours of slumber with the precious babe in arms, and that they can buy clothes that she would feel it extravagant to wear.

THE MILKING-MACHINE.

Mercantile and Exchange Advocate.

Uncle Jerry Hayseed, up in Sullivan county, New York State, had a fine dairy and a hard-working wife and two daughters, who did all the milking and churning, and a worthless son Joe, who would not work enough to earn his salt, but to whom Uncle Jerry was holding up his mother and sisters for models, especially in the art of milking.

Joe, though no worker, was an honest fellow, and Uncle Jerry had often sent him to the village to make purchases, and when he heard of the new milking-machine he gave Joe a nice round sum of money and sent him to New York to buy one of those new English milking-machines, as he thought anything in the world could be found in the great city of New York. Well, Joe came down to New York and hunted around, but could find no milking-machines, and as his last resort he went to an English steamer and cautiously asked if they had brought over in her cargo any English milking-machines. The captain was a jolly old tar and full of fun, and told him they had about two hundred of them, and taking Joe on board, showed him the machines.

"Why," said Joe, "those there are good."

"Well," said the captain, "what kind of milking-machines have you got at home?"

"Milking-machines at home?" said Joe.

"Why, mother and the girls."

"And don't these look very much like them?" said the captain. "Only they are English, you know."

"Yes," said Joe. "But what is the price of one of them?"

"I can't exactly tell you that," said the captain. "But you just pick out the machine that suits you the best, and tell her how many cows you have to milk and then ask her the price, and I guess you can drive a bargain."

So Joe selected his machine, told her how many cows she had to milk, and showed her the pile he had in ready cash to pay down and then asked her the terms.

The machine took him up to the captain, and between them the bargain was soon made, and a minister was called upon who put the finishing touches upon the bargain and purchase, and then the happy Joe and the English machine for his bride started on their journey to Sullivan county, and when he got home he presented her to Uncle Jerry as the best English milking-machine that he could find in New York.

Of course Uncle Jerry was full of wrath for a time, but honest Joe told him to keep cool and just test the machine before condemning it.

And this fall Uncle Jerry has the finest dairy butter in Sullivan county, and though a little sore on the milking-machine subject, says that his son Joe is an "expert judge" of milking-machines, and Joe is now full partner with the old man.

If you go up to Sullivan this fall, don't fail to visit Uncle Jerry Hayseed and get honest Joe to tell you what a fine dairy they have, and watch his proud smile when he winks knowingly at the old man and tells you that the prospects are also good for a Hayseed crop this season.

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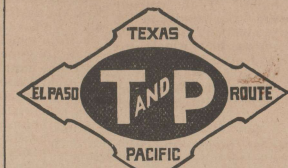
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Orchard and Garden.

Edited by Dr. A. M. RAGLAND, Pilot Point, Denton County, Texas, to whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Now is the time to renew your subscription for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH!

We observe with pleasure the distinction shown our friend, T. V. Munson, by the Board of Managers of the World's Fair in selecting him to make a complete exhibit of the grapes of America to be placed upon exhibition next year. None more worthy the honor than he, none more competent.

For an early spring appetizer you may plant onion sets any time before hard freezing weather sets in. A slight covering of strong manure will give all the protection the bulbs will need. Thus, when your neighbors are only beginning to plant in February and March, you can have nice, sweet onions to go with your breakfast bacon or ham.

Through the courtesy of Mr. E. L. Huffman, Secretary of the Texas State Horticultural Society, we are in receipt of a copy of the proceedings of the Missouri State Horticultural Society. It is a valuable contribution to the growing mass of horticultural literature. We are due Mr. Huffman our thanks, and through him also to the urbane Secretary of the Missouri Horticultural Society, M. J. L. Goodman.

Chrysanthemums are among the most beautiful flowering plants we possess, and the fact that they are in bloom late in the season, after most other outdoor plants have gone into winter quarters for their annual rest, enhances their value to the florist, whether a professional or amateur. Wonderful advances are being made in the production of varieties and multiplicity of colors, so that any one whose taste for flowers demands variety can have their desire gratified in a bed of "mums."

A great many people do not seem to know the value of common wood ashes. They are thrown away without a thought of their value. They contain one of the most valuable manure elements for the orchard or garden, namely, potash; besides this, other fertilizing material in smaller quantity. For the orchard, ashes are almost invaluable, especially for the peach, plum, apricot and apple. One wagon load of ashes contains more of the elements of fertility than a half dozen loads of barnyard manure. Save them for your orchard.

With the earliest sharp cold snap, which may be expected any day from this time forward, the rabbits that inhabit orchards may conclude to try their teeth on your young apple or peach trees, so that to make sure of their safety from attack it is well to use some preventive, either the lath protection or an application to the trunk that will render the bark distasteful, such as soft soap, with a little crude carbolic acid in it, applied with an old paint brush; or soft soap, sulphur and clay, with water sufficient to reduce it to the consistency of paint before application. Don't let the rabbit sharpen his teeth on your trees if you can help it.

Pigs may be allowed to range the orchard over with benefit to themselves and the orchard; they pick up a great deal of fruit as it falls that contains the larvae of injurious insects that, if allowed to be undisturbed, would produce a large crop of insects to deplete upon the fruit of coming seasons. It is no wise, however, to allow old hogs in the orchard, because of their disposition to root up the soil, injuring the roots of the trees. They are apt, too, to learn the trick of shaking the trees to obtain their fruit. Give the pigs a chance; they take a friendly interest in the orchard, and help its owner to better results. They are safe scavengers.

Prof. J. C. Newbury, President of the State Horticultural Society, has been elected Principal of the Cleveland Academy. He proposes incidentally to teach the arts of horticulture. This we think a most excellent idea. Give the farmers some insight into the mysteries of horticulture. Let them become familiar with methods of propagating fruits, and the varieties adapted to the soil and climate of their vicinity, with practical knowledge of packing and shipping, etc., and there will be less disposition on the part of our young men to desert the farm for the slippery mazes of city life.

Are there two varieties of the Wild Goose plum? The experience of our correspondent, Mr. Hurley, is quite different from that of many others. Mr. James Nimmon, of Denison, made the statement over a year ago that the Wild Goose plum was not fruitful, unless pollinated by some other variety. The experience of the writer corresponds with Mr. Nimmon's, and that of Mr. Wier, of California, recently

quoted in these columns, agrees with opinions expressed by writers who have observed a lack of fruitfulness in the Wild Goose planted alone. And now comes Mr. A. D. Webb, of Bowling Green, Ky., who takes ground in favor of the opinion that two distinct varieties of plums are passing under the name of Wild Goose. He claims to have a Wild Goose that bears under all conditions freely. This matter is worthy of further study, and we shall be glad to have notes from the experience of other fruit growers. The only fault we have to the Wild Goose, as far as our experience goes, is its shy bearing. It is beyond question one of our most valuable market varieties if we can overcome that serious defect.

SUN SCALD VS FROZEN SAP.

W. W. STELL.

Mr. J. L. Nunn, of Ballinger, Texas, in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH of 12th instant, says: "I positively deny there ever being a tree scalded or burned by the heat of the sun." *** "Agreeable to my experience, when the sun shines two, three or more days very warm on southwest side of fruit trees in winter, it causes the sap to start up that side of the tree. Then a cold spell (or rather) comes up suddenly and kills the tree on southwest side, or rather freezes or chills the sap and the tree dies on that side." For several years I have investigated this matter closely. It is no new thing with us. I am prepared to agree with Mr. Nunn in part, but not entirely. In other words I agree with him as regards many fruit trees being killed—not alone on the southwest side, but killed outright by warm spells in winter and sudden cold snaps, sap freezing, etc. But I cannot agree with him in denying there ever being a tree scalded or burned by the heat of the sun. But on the contrary, I am most thoroughly satisfied that millions of fruit trees have been scalded by the summer's sun when they had been trimmed so high that the foliage did not shade the body. While Mr. Nunn may not wish to get mixed up in a controversy on this subject, in my judgment he deserves much credit for bringing up the subject in the way he has; for it is an important subject and a discussion of it may result in good. In the last ten or fifteen years I have known many apple and peach trees affected by the sudden cold snaps after warm spells, sap freezing. In these cases the bark splits from or near the ground up the body for six to twelve inches as a rule, rarely, if ever, splitting the bark of the trunk of the tree above fifteen inches of the ground. I have also known many limbs on these trees killed by the sudden changes and the entire tree also, generally of the tenderest varieties. In cases of sun scald the tree is affected on southwest side as far up the trunk as is exposed, let that be two or five feet. Twelve years ago I had a very fine young apple orchard of eight acres and of about eighty varieties, it had been in bearing three or four years. I concluded the trees needed a little pruning to remove cross limbs, water sprouts, etc. I began the work in a nice spell of weather early in March. After pruning two rows—fifty trees, I was called away on important business, and entrusted the work to one of my best men, but unfortunately he was from Virginia, and I suppose one of the "Y's," at any rate he thought he knew best how the trees should be pruned and trimmed all limbs off to about five feet from the ground. When I returned home the orchard was nearly all pruned. I stopped the pruning altogether. As I fully believed the trees trimmed so high had been ruined. I noticed the effect closely, and discovered before the next cold winter many of the trees had the bark badly cracked on the southwest side, while those not pruned high were not affected. In three years after this pruning the trees that were pruned so high were in a dilapidated condition, so much so, they were dug up, while those that had short bodies, low heads and leaves shaded their trunks were in first-class condition. I have examined fruit trees in many sections of this State, some far South, and everywhere I have found when the trees were pruned high, say from two feet up, and the under limbs that made out on the main limbs had been removed. I have found sun scald and on the other hand, when the trees had short bodies, low heads and the foliage of each tree shaded its own body and bark, I have invariably found no sun scald. Mr. Nunn says to prevent sap freezing: "Do not have the body of your trees more than two and one-half feet from the ground to the first limbs, or where the top is formed. You want shade on southwest side to shade your trees in winter." I ask, can the southwest side of a fruit tree be shaded in the winter, when there are no leaves on the tree, by having limbs two and one-half feet of the ground? My experience

is that fruit trees, although planted perpendicular, or leaning a little to the southwest, after a few years, owing to the prevailing winds, lean to the North or northeast, and limbs so high will not afford any protection to the body near the ground. From my experience I would certainly advise that the first limb from the ground be left on the southwest side, and if possible, not more than one foot from the ground, six inches would be better. In discussing this subject, and finding two causes for fruit trees being affected somewhat similar, reminds me of the complaint of so many that their Japan persimmons are being killed by cold snaps, or sudden cold spells. While I admit that this may be the case, and doubtless is, with the tender varieties. I am fully convinced that upon close inspection, it will be found that the borers are killing two trees to every one that is killed by frozen sap. Paris, Texas.

DANGEROUS FOOD PRESERVATIVES.

Of recent years the use of fruit preservatives that are deleterious to the health seems to increase. Every year some enterprising peddler visits the farmers and sells for one dollar sometimes, a wonderful recipe for preserving fruit without cooking, retaining natural flavor, etc. Salicylic acid is the drug most popular just now. We clip the following from the Fruit Growers' Journal, and add our endorsement of its correctness. If you value your health give such drugs a wide berth:

"The health of the household finds a new menace in the rapid increase in the use of powerful drugs, especially salicylic acid and boric acid, in the preservation of food. Manufacturers of mince meat, put up in wet cans or jars, are using as much as ten grains of salicylic acid to the pound. Great quantities are used in elder, fruits, vegetables, pickles, preserves, etc. Among the recipes claiming to be patented and guaranteed to be perfectly harmless, which are sold by thousands to private families and manufacturers, are the following:

"For small fruits, as currants, strawberries, raspberries, etc., 18 grains salicylic acid to one quart of water; for hard fruit, as peaches, pears, watermelons, etc., 35 grains; for vegetables, as beans, peas, green corn, asparagus, etc., 53 grains to one quart.

"The New Jersey State Board of Health has condemned this practice. One of the members, Mr. Albert R. Leeds, recently called attention through the Philadelphia Public Ledger to the extensive use of this dangerous drug and the attendant evils. He says:

"Medical authorities ascribe to salicylic acid five different kinds of toxic action. Its influence in producing difficulty of breathing and palpitation of the heart is so marked that it should be a rule never to prescribe it as a medicine in cases of heart or lung troubles. The drug is principally used for rheumatic disorders, the ordinary dose being 10 to 20 grains. One case of death is reported after four doses of only 15 grains had been taken. Considering that there are methods of preservation which render its use unnecessary; that its action is cumulative, and that article after article of food may be taken, each of which contains it, the plan would be to restrict the use of this drug to medicinal practice, where it is most valuable, and to prescribe it entirely in food, where it is altogether unnecessary, certainly dangerous and possibly fatal."

FLANKING THE WEATHER.

Vick's Magazine.

Two or three days after the terrible frost of May 17, I was looking over some loose papers when I found an old writing pad covered with this memorandum on it: "Write for Vick an article on Combating the Weather." Probably a more careful attempt at expressing what I was aiming at would have resulted in my writing "Flanking the Weather;" but expressed either way the words seemed a mere mockery. In view of the fact that the weather had just mocked me out of several hundred dollars, and I was powerless to prevent it.

In spite, however, of this discouraging fact, there are many ways of mitigating and combating the eccentricities of the weather, that are worth considering. There are ways of fighting late spring frosts, but they are not always practicable. The most efficacious is seeking an elevated site which abruptly descends to lower ground, affording atmospheric drainage, the colder air seeking the lower ground. An illustration of the value of elevation was revealed on the writer's place in the case of frost alluded to. I have a peach orchard occupying a sidehill where the difference of elevation between the highest and the lowest is about the same as the height of the seat. On the highest rows very little injury was done, but on the lowest no fruit at all was left. The same is true of cherries and other tree fruits. I had the cur-

osity to climb a pear tree before the frost was melted and found that at twenty-two feet from the ground there was only a trace, while at the bottom, both foliage and fruit were frozen stiff. The foliage of hickory trees was seared to a height corresponding in a measure to the elevation of the ground.

ASHES FOR TREES.

Irrigation Age.

Ashes constitute one of the most natural fertilizers for fruit trees. While not containing all the elements of the trees, what is contained in the ashes comes from the tree and all the tree food is left in such form as to be easily appropriated by the tree. The ashes should be spread broadcast in the orchard in a thick layer, they will give a good return of grass and at the same time make a good fertilizer for the trees. Where the orchard is in need of immediate fertility, the ashes can be worked into the soil by plowing and the water applied at once after the work is complete will carry the substance, in solution, to the roots of the trees.

They are more beneficial when a 'ded to the leaf mold of the orchard. Leaves contain all the elements of the tree life and although not as quickly assimilated as ashes will in course of time become a valuable fertilizer. If the leaves are heaped up in a pile and permitted to remain till thoroughly rotted the fertilizer thus formed, mixed with wood ashes, will be a great benefit to the trees when properly applied. This same method of fertilization could be used upon the garden by adding the waste from the vegetable crop to the heap of leaves. Many dollars worth of valuable fertilizers can thus be annually made in every orchard and garden.

PREVENT ONIONS FROM SPROUTING

Green's Fruit Grower.

An acknowledged authority on onions writes that he has made the following discovery which may prove of great value: "Many onions are lost from sprouting after the warm weather of spring sets in. This can be prevented in the following manner: A short time before the sprouting is expected to commence, or say any time in February or March, take the onions in hand, one by one, and with a sharp knife cut off the hard lump at the bottom of the onion, thus removing the roots. Care should be taken not to injure the residue of the onion. I am not certain whether it will be better to cut off the root level with the surface or to take out the hard portion about an eighth of an inch below the surface. Either plan will I presume, give satisfaction. The residue of the onion does not appear to suffer in the least from the operation. Treated thus they will keep in good condition for several months longer than they otherwise would. It is deemed better to spread them where air can have free access to them."

TOMATOES.

American Garden.

The most serious disease of tomatoes forced under glass in winter that I have yet encountered is what, for lack of better name, I propose to call the winter blight. This disease has not yet been carefully studied in the laboratory, but various attempts have been made to check it; and it is likely to prove a serious disease, the attention of both growers and experimenters should be called to it. It first appeared in our houses in the winter of 1890-91, when about a dozen plants, were somewhat affected. At this time the trouble was not regarded as specific, the plants were old and had borne one crop and it was thought that they were simply worn out. In some of our experiments it became necessary to carry about a dozen plants over the summer, and these were introduced into the house when the forcing season opened last October. From this stock the trouble again spread, and in six or eight weeks it had become serious and there was no longer any doubt that we were contending with a specific disease.

This blight attacks the leaves. The first indication of the trouble is a dwarfing and slight fading of the leaves, and the appearance of more or less ill-defined yellowish spots or splashes. These spots soon become dark, or almost black, and the leaf curls and becomes stiff, the edges drawing downward and giving the plant a withered appearance.

LAND TOO RICH FOR STRAWBERRIES.

Vick's Magazine.

I was recently talking with a friend who lives only two miles from Mr. C., and who marketed last year \$500 worth of strawberries from an acre and one-half, and he told me that his crop would have been more satisfactory and he yielded more money if the land had been poorer. It was a piece which had been heavily manured

nearly fifty car loads have been shipped during the past year." It proves that the industry is not a "fancy" one, but a business that pays in dollars and cents. When farmers fully realize this they will be yet more ready to push horse raising to the front.

The Legislature of Maryland has passed a law making the failure, by any person who shall advertise or offer the services of a stallion to the public, without first having the animal recorded with the County Recorder and taking out a license to do business, punishable by a fine of \$1000, or imprisonment for one year. The law requires the owner to give the name, age, pedigree, and record, if any, also description, terms and conditions upon which the stallion shall stand for service. Let us have something similar in Texas.

Clark's Horse Review: Marcus Daly may be going to retire from the trotting horse business, but his recent purchases do not indicate such a determination. Electricity, 2:23 1-2, Franchise, sister to Velocity and Cara Mia, 2:29 1-2, for \$21,500 does not look much like the purchaser is soon to quit the business. It took good money to secure those animals, but they are excelled by none in point of breeding and general worth.

We have a brother to these fillies, by Electioneer, here in Texas.

CULTIVATING HORSES.

Heavy Draft Horses in Demand, and Specific Breeding Pays.

Farmer's Home.

French breeders pay attention to the development of long distance trotters, horses that can keep their gait for ten or twenty miles at a stretch. The nearest we come to this is in our road horse, and for that we are not breeding very steadily toward a distinctive purpose. There is more practical utility in such animals than in mere short distance trotters, and we believe it would pay to give closer attention to producing them. Next to draft horses, there is no class for which there is a better demand at paying prices than for good roadsters. The claim that very heavy draft horses are not well adapted for use on the paved streets of the cities is amply refuted by the number employed in every city in Europe. In Liverpool, London and Paris are found the largest horses in the world, and the great traffic of those centers could hardly be handled without them. Our American cities are rapidly improving in this respect, but thousands upon thousands of good draft animals must yet be grown to take the place of the many light ones still in use. There is plenty of room in this line for the good breeder. Hanover is admitted to possess the most uniformly good breed of horses of any country in the world. The explanation of this probably lies in the fact that the government long since lent its encouragement to breeding, establishing a government stud as early as 1735. The Hanoverian cavalry is the best mounted of any military force in Europe, the horses being large, strong and courageous. It furnishes a striking example of the result of thorough and persistent work in breeding. A heavy draft horse sells in our Eastern markets for an average of at least 50 per cent more than a fair to good driving horse. It goes without saying that it does not cost anywhere near 50 per cent more to produce, so that no argument is needed to show where the most profit lays. The fame of Kentucky as a horse breeding center has penetrated to even far Japan, a number of fine animals having been purchased there by an agent of the Mikado's Government. It pays to get a reputation for a specialty established for a given district. Then buyers come direct to that center.

A WORD FOR THE TROTTER.

Kansas Farmer.

"The trotters that go out to do battle in three-in-five heat races are a very substantial class of horses," says a writer in the National Stockman and Farmer. "There are none, or very few, of those delicate, slim-waisted creatures which some people seem to consider race horses seen in trotting contests these days. The breed of trotters is being built up on a race-horse foundation; horses that belong to race-horse families, have produced, or are themselves race horses, are being used in breeding to the exclusion of all others. Those that rely on their family connections to give them patronage are becoming scarcer, even when their blood has been proven on the turf. Performance and race performance is becoming more and more sought after. A good race horse must have stamina, must be sound and strong built and possess courage and all the qualities that make horses valuable anywhere. This breeding from race horses, continued for generations, is making the trotting-bred horse in point of

soundness, speed, endurance, ability and willingness to work and work hard. The superior of all for general purposes of the American people. There is nothing frail or delicate about this descendant of warriors. He can take the farmer's buggy to town and back in half the time it can be done by a horse of any other breed. He can pull the rake, the reaper, the cultivator, the harrow and the farm wagon more miles in a day than any other horse that can be hitched to them. He is a handy horse, docile, steady at work, and willing to do his best under reasonable conditions. He is not a cart horse, nor can he be treated like a mule and give satisfaction, but for the farmer who appreciates the best qualities of the horse, and knows how to use him, the trotter will continue to be the horse above all others."

SOME HORSE LAW.

Clark's Horse Review.

The Court of Appeals of Texas has decided as follows regarding the authority of a pasturist of horses.

Where an agister or pasturist of a horse, without the owner's knowledge, delivered the animal to the keeper of a livery stable, the latter acquires no lien on the animal for its keeping. In order for the statutory lien to attach, it is necessary that the animal be placed with the livery-keeper by its owner or some one having authority from him. To hold otherwise would render it exceedingly dangerous and hazardous for owners to part with their property, no matter what the object or purpose of the change of possession. Under a contrary rule, the borrower of an animal could go away and dispose of the animal or mortgage the same, and thus deprive the owner, without any fault on his part, of not only the possession, but the use and value of the same. While possession is prima facie evidence of ownership, yet it is always subject to explanation, and one who acts upon the same as the sole proof of ownership does so at his peril. No one can convey a greater title than he himself has, and where the real owner has been at no fault and committed no act which would operate as an estoppel, one buying his property from another, relying upon possession entirely for his title, secures none as against the owner.

The report of the Wisconsin Experimental station at Madison contains three pages about the experiment of the John March Chemical Dehornor. This is a very strong endorsement of the John March invention. The report is accompanied by illustrations of photo cuts. Letters patent on the process of applying anything to the embryo to prevent growth of horns have been granted to the John March Co., and from the looks of things they have not only the best chemical dehornor, but the entire rights to its use. Our Chicago manager recently interviewed Mr. Stearns of the John March Co., and was told that their business had developed very satisfactorily and that the results had been gratifying far beyond their expectations.

McDade, Texas, August 22, 1892
David Bradley Mfg. Co., Chicago.

GENTLEMEN—In reply to your favor of August 18th will say that I am the sole owner of your Riding Disk Cultivators, which gave our customer the best of satisfaction in every particular.

(Signed) Gus Eschberger

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Household.

Address all letters for this department to Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, Dallas, Texas.

THE SIMPLE TRUTH.

New York Herald.

When he had walked the floor all night,
At last he was inspired
To say these words, and they were true,
"That baby makes me tired."

HER WISH.

Puck.

The tanned and freckled summer girl
Has one absorbing dream—
She wants to own that kind of cow
From which they get cold cream.

MIRAGE.

Edith M. Thomas in Nov. Lippincott's.
Treasure the shadow. Somewhere, firmly based,
Ariste those turrets that in cloud-land shine;
Somewhere, to thirsty fountains of the waste,
Yon phantom well-spring is a living sign.

Treasure the shadow. Somewhere, past thy sight,
Past all men's sight, waits the true heaven at last;
Tell them whose fear would put thy hope to flight,
There are no shadows save from substance cast.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

Mrs. S. asked recent y for ways of using the plemelon. A friend tells us they make an excellent substitute for apples in pie making. Peel and take out the seed; cut in small pieces and stew until tender enough to mash, season with sugar and the juice of a lemon, or in the absence of a lemon flavor with vinegar and add grated nutmeg; bake one crust, which has previously been set in the stove and lightly browned that it may not become so gummy; cover with a verligue.

In answer to Mrs. J. who asks for recipe for making citron preserves, we give one taken from Mrs. Rorer's book, "How to Cook Vegetables," which is a guarantee that it is good:

TO PRESERVE CITRON

Pare off the outer skin, cut the citron in halves, remove the seeds, then divide each half into a number of small pieces. These may be cut into fancy shapes or left plain. Put them in a stone jar, add a half cup of salt to every five pounds of citron, cover with cold water, stand aside five hours. Drain cover with fresh cold water, soak two hours, changing the water three or four times. If you wish them crisp, dissolve one teaspoonful of powdered alum in two quarts of boiling water, add the citron and bring to boiling point. Drain, throw into cold water fifteen minutes and drain again.

Make a syrup of four cups and a half pounds of granulated sugar and one and a half quarts of boiling water. Boil and skim. This is to fifteen pounds of citron. When the syrup is perfectly clear put in the citron and simmer until you can pierce it with a straw, then lift it carefully with a skimmer and spread on large platters. Stand in the hot sun two hours to harden. Chop the yellow rind from one large lemon, add the syrup, then add the strained juice of two lemons, and one and a half ounces of green ginger root cut into thin slices. Boil gently ten minutes and set aside until wanted. When the citron hardens, put it, cold, into jars. Bring the syrup again to boil, pour over the citron; cover the jars and keep in a cool, dry place. Watermelon rinds may be preserved in precisely the same manner.

Magpie, you are most welcome. Come again, and thanks for your kind wishes and recipes. Will some one send a remedy for the destruction of ants for the benefit of Magpie? and will Magpie please send her name next time?

Mrs. R. P. Cochran, we cordially extend our hand, and are pleased to record your name as one of the Household.

We hope that the members of the Household will remember that our door is open every Tuesday, and a chair is set for each member, and we would be delighted to see them all occupied, at least once a month. You need never fear crowding or a closed door.

ECHOES FROM THE FAIR.

The flower show surpassed that of any former Fair which we have attended, not in the number of blossoming plants, but in the number of exhibits, and the great variety and excellent condition of plants shown. All the space allotted for floral exhibits was fully occupied. Several amateur collections were especially noticeable, because of the large variety of hot-house plants. Quite a lively trade was carried on in the sale of cut flowers, and we also noticed many persons buying bulbs. These beautiful and easily grown flowers are becoming very popular, and deservedly so, for almost all kinds are hardy in this climate, and will grow and

increase with very little attention, other than a liberal dressing of well rotted manure, each fall. We must mention one delight in a hanging basket, which was very handsome. The basket was made of wire in the form of a ship, about two feet long, filled in first, with moss, then the light rich soil, in this was planted ferns, which were trained up into the wires forming the sails, and drooped gracefully over the sides. Around the stick representing the mast, and then wires simulating ropes, was trained and closely twined, smilax. It was a charming design, and evidently very carefully trained and tended. It should have worn the blue ribbon, to our way of thinking. The same lady took first premium on a cross, grown in the same way, of ferns and delicate white flowers.

Of fancy work there was an endless variety in all styles, as usual, some very handsome and artistic, and some so crude in color and design as to make an æsthetic nature shiver. There were quilts galore, log cabin, crazy laid-work, and one with ten thousand small pieces, representing a singular sort of folly and vanity. Better anything than wasting time that way. There were exquisite throws, napkins, handkerchiefs and many other articles, in drawn work and Roman embroidery. One scarf for the dresser, was made of very fine linen lawn, beautifully hemstitched all around. One bud was ornamented with six different stitches, exquisitely fine and lacy, and the other was enriched with twelve patterns. There was so much that the eye was tired out, before the half was seen, and persons passed along getting only a kaleidoscopic view of brilliant colors and forms.

One of the most unique and entertaining side shows, and by the way the only one we saw, was the Columbian clock, made by a jeweler of Cleveland, Ohio, who spent eight years in its construction. It far surpasses the famous Strasburg clock, which has for centuries been the wonder of the world in clocks.

There are sixty figures, eleven inches in height, which appear and perform their various parts, with the greatest automatic precision. These are intended to represent the progress of America from its discovery to the present time, and are very entertaining. Aside from these the clock has a dial which gives the time of the day in any part of the world, the time of the day with us, day of the week, and of the month, time of sunrise and sunset each day, also illustrates the movements of the earth and the sun's orbit, gives the position of the planets of the principal constellations and the signs of the zodiac each month in the year. It is a wonderful piece of mechanism, which might be studied with profit and pleasure.

One of the most popular sources of amusement and pleasure was the music furnished by Liberator's band, and the singing of Madam Decca, a charming young cantatrice, who won the people of Dallas at the Sengerfest, and who still holds a high place in their esteem. A little girl, perhaps ten years old, who sang and danced with such artless infantile grace, that it seemed only the impulse of the moment, drew each day hundreds of spectators, when the hour for "Baby Deavor's" performance came round, one could not sigh though while watching her graceful steps, as the thought of how the bud must expand before its time, and the dew of youth and the blush of the rose be brushed away, by constant contact with the motley crowd, who cheered so loudly to the little feet dancing away from childhood and from home.

The fair is now a thing of the past, and had the weather been propitious, it would have been a great success. So far as we are able to judge, the exhibits excelled any previous year, in every department. The first week Jupiter Pluvius, with seeming malice, sent such floods, that the timid feared to venture out, but with the gathering of the veteran knights of the lost cause, Heaven smiled, and a week of sunshine followed, so that thousands came to enjoy the sights.

KIND WORDS FOR TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

MRS. R. P. COCHRAN.

Will you allow a new comer, but an old reader, to your much prized circle in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH? I am in love with it, as are my family also. Out of six or eight papers it is the favorite. It is the only one I read that exposes fraud to the public eye. I think we have a safe guide and firm friend in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. I would ask, is it right for papers to give fraudulent, obnoxious stuff a glowing advertisement in their columns, thereby misleading unsuspecting readers, causing them to throw away their hard earnings in taking agencies and innocently misleading their neighbors? I thought, until a few years ago, when I saw an advertisement in our own standard, Texas Baptist and Herald, it was reliable. But alas, by sad experience, I learn differently. I think those that have exposed California Gold Process. If there are any of the sisters who can get sea shells, I will be more than glad to get them in any way reasonable. Will refund all postage, and remunerate in any satisfactory way. I also would like flower seed, shrubs or bulbs suitable for country planting. I want to decorate the graves of my two, and only precious daughters.

I would ask of Mrs. F. W. Vanderhoef, please to send me a few seed of her petunias. I will return postage, and favor if I can.

If the kind editor will pardon scribbling and publish this, and admit me as one of the Household, (if only to bring chips) I will thank her very much.
Cottolanda, Texas.

A FIRST LETTER FROM MAGPIE.

Dear Sisters—Seeing that letter of Minnie's about "Comforts in the Kitchen and Short Skirts," it is too good, and I can't keep still any longer. Being rather timid of your waste basket, I have put off writing. Is it not the ladies' fault that her widow lights are out, and her wood not where it ought to be in the kitchen? How can any one get breakfast quickly when she has to get wood, etc., before starting the meal? She ought to tell her husband, father or brother, and I am sure if they have any heart at all they would look to all these things, and not let them injure their health in that way, for wading around in mud and water does do just that.

What Minnie says is only true, and there is no denying it, but all men are not that way, for my kitchen is the coziest little nook in the whole house. It is cooled, and the stovepipe is fitted just exactly, so there is no water running down, wetting things, and the window lights are all in. Now, in my opinion, if the ladies would call the attention of their husbands to these things there would be less worry for these poor, tired women. These rainy mornings my husband will not let me venture out of doors (though I can protect myself in my waterproof garments as well as he) but attends to my chicks and other chores that every busy wife has on a farm.

Well, I fear I have talked too long, and this may find the waste basket. Much love for the kind editress and sisters, from Magpie.
Calcasieu, La.

RECIPES.

BY MAGPIE.

GINGER SNAPS—One cup of molasses, half cup of butter or shortening heated and put in the molasses, fourth cup of water, one teaspoon soda, one and one-half teaspoon of ginger, flour enough to roll rather soft; bake in quick oven.

CREAM CAKE—Beat two eggs in a tea-cup and fill the cup with sweet cream, one cup sugar, one cup flour, one teaspoon cream tartar, half teaspoon soda, flavor with lemon and bake in moderately heated oven.

Will some one be kind enough to tell me how to get rid of ants of all kinds? They are in my garden so bad they eat every seed that I sow. I have tried a good many remedies.

Calcasieu, La.

THE CHILDREN—BLESS THEIR HEARTS.

HESTER KIRKE.

They worry us day in and day out; yet, let us imagine they are lost, or let them come to us with fevered hands and head, and we forget all their faults. Is it not so? If, then, our love for them is so very strong, why are we as mothers, so impatient with them? Some of us like to think that our praises will all be lavished on us when we are dead. Let us love our children, and let them know we do. A spoiled child is often disagreeable, but ten to one a child that has been petted will be more lovable than one that has never had an affectionate word or caress given it. Why not let us strike a happy medium?

No adage was ever truer than that "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." Little ones need to be employed, but their little play tasks should often be changed to make them enjoyable. I find it a good plan to hide dolls, dishes, etc., and bring them out again when books, slates and pictures have become monotonous. The best set of children I ever saw were those having a father willing to make swing, play-houses, and also willing to talk to his boys and girls about the birds and trees around them. Their faithful mother managed by decision and kindness to get their aid without their complaining. Some children are probably born horribly bad, but I believe most of them are made better or worse by the circumstances surrounding them. Don't scold! none of us like it, nor ever will, but let us try to be firm. The poorest mothers are gener-

ally those that can be teased out of their Noes. Our work will always seem unsatisfactory. Let us try as did that mother who raised such a nice family. Her secret was, "To take one day at a time."
Galveston, Texas.

WOMEN!

Some Things Which Lord Tennyson Said of Them

Detroit Echo.

"The woman's cause is man's; they rise or sink together, dwarfed or godlike, bond or free; if she be small, slight-natured, miserable, how shall man grow?"

That places quite a burden of responsibility upon women, but elsewhere he remarks:

"As the husband is, the wife is," which again places the burden on the masculine shoulders. Probably the poet meant to divide it.

About the esteem in which she should be held, he speaks in no uncertain manner:

"Who does not honor his wife dishonors himself," and "It is the low man thinks the woman low."

Somewhat equivocal is this:

"It is hard to wive and thrive in a year"

Which probably merely means that so much good fortune does not befall a man in so short a time.

His various heroines were all a little above the ordinary.

"Her eyes are homes of silent prayer."

"Eyes not down-dropped nor over-bright, but fed with the clear-pointed flame of chastity."

"By common clay, taken from the common earth, molded by God and tempered by tears of angels to the perfect form of woman"

"Pure vestal thoughts in the translucent fane of her still spirit."

"Happy be with such a mother. Faith in womankind beats with his blood, and trust in all things high comes easy to him; and though he trip and fall, he shall not blind his soul with clay."

"She stood a slight to make an old man young"

THE LEISURE HOUR—A WORD TO MOTHERS.

Farm and Fireside.

Home has been called woman's kingdom, and fitly so, because within its walls she who is wife, mother, daughter or sister, holds the scepter. "The many make the household, but only one the home," says a poet, and in a sense his words are true, for in every home the house-mother is the one who gives the tone to the family. The family life seldom rises higher than the mother's ideal will let it rise. What ever is her predominant aim, the ultimate desire of her heart is revealed in her sons and daughters. If she is selfish, frivolous, and full of worldly ambition, her children are in a fair way to become the same. If she is cheery, earnest and consecrated in her purpose to live the best and highest life possible to a Christian woman, her children usually follow in her steps.

Few leisure hours are possessed by mothers with their little ones around them. The days are crowded with cares. The cooking, the sewing, the tying of strings and fastening of buttons, the training of children, the hearing of lessons, the many many things which make up the very little show, but consume a great deal of time, fill up a mother's day, so that her resting spell seldom arrives till evening. Then, when the older boys and girls are busy with their maps and slates, when father is indulging himself with the paper or a favorite book, when the little ones have said their prayers and the baby has gone to sleep, the mother feels that she has earned the right to a little bit of recess. She is wise if she takes it. Far too often she seizes upon that hour instead to finish Susie's new frock or patch Tommy's trousers, to put new wristbands on father's shirt or a patch on the old table cloth. She works on with nervous energy, when she ought to be reading an entertaining story, or listening to her daughter's music, or playing an air or two herself. She reluctantly lays aside her basket and needle when the clock strikes eleven, and draws herself wearily to bed. This is poor economy. We would persuade, if we could, all the mothers who read this paper to take the leisure hour or half hour whenever they can, even though they let something else go. It will be better for their families and themselves in the coming days when the children shall be grown up, and even more than at present their guide, companion and friend.

A new year is about to dawn. It is a good time for beginning over again, reforming what has been wrong and starting aright. Do you wish it to be a happy year in your home? Then determine to be yourself, dear mother, as happy, as contented, and as well as you can be! You sometimes

STATE NEWS BOILED DOWN

It rained recently at El Paso.

In the United States 800,000 men work in coal mines.

The Terrell bottling factory has commenced work.

Snow fell at Paris Tuesday night, but not enough to count.

There was a heavy hailstorm at Liberty Hill last week, doing some damage.

The Wichita Falls Investment Company has been chartered. Capital \$350,000.

One farmer severely cut another at Corsicana, for thirty cents. Cheap work.

Kusper Dugorb, of Bandera, lost an arm in a cotton gin accident, last Saturday.

A heavy snow storm is reported at Denison Tuesday night and Wednesday morning.

About five car loads of pecans have been received at Cisco, three of which have been shipped.

The artesian well at the Terrell Asylum has reached a depth of 2,458 feet, without finding a flow of water.

There were severe hailstorms in Houston, Walker and adjoining counties last week. Also tremendous rains, stopping both travel and traffic.

In the Dallas mock marriage case against J. D. Taylor, particulars of which have been widely published, the jury rendered a verdict, Saturday, of not guilty.

Two boys, Bryan Butler and Louis Mantooth, students of the East Texas College at Lufkin, quarreled, when Butler was shot and killed by Mantooth.

The Pandhandle is reported more thoroughly soaked than it has been for several years, and this is thought a sure indication of fine crops the ensuing season.

A Santa Fe train was held up at Wharton, a lonely station in the Cherokee strip. They blew open the safe, but got no money. They took the arms of the train men and rode off.

J. E. Young, a farmer living ten miles west of Waco, went to that city on last Saturday, and disappeared mysteriously, leaving his horse hitched on the square. Foul play is suspected.

There was a destructive cyclone on Galveston Island, last Saturday. A number of houses were destroyed, several persons killed and a larger number injured more or less. It did not touch the city.

Texarkana had a three-killing tragedy, on Wednesday. Shack Faw shot and killed J. B. Barkman; Barkman's son shot and killed Faw, and during the melee Frank Cassidy was accidentally shot and killed.

E. Sippel, a student at Hill's Business College, Dallas, from New Braunfels, while showing a companion how he once came near killing himself accidentally, made the illustration too realistic and killed himself in reality. The weapon was a pistol, and he died in less than five minutes.

A characteristic fight occurred at Field's Store, Waller county, that reminds a whiffling resident of that locality of the first five or six years after the war. Tom Wallingford, Reuben Bulwark, Joe Woods, C. A. Quinn and Cal. McConnell participated. The two latter will fight no more. The three former are in custody.

Wm. Gomer, of Caldwell, Texas, has been arrested on a charge of murdering his son. The father's story is, that while returning from Rockdale with his son in a wagon, while going down a long incline his son jumped from the wagon, and when he (the father) stopped the wagon and went back, he found his son dead, with several knife wounds in his body. The tale is not considered satisfactory.

HONESTY IN BUSINESS.

Dodd City, pectorator.

No matter what else the young man of today be or say not be, he must be as honest, and of as strong principles as were his father or grandfather before him. No more allowance is made for dishonesty to day than was made a hundred years ago. The only reason why in the eyes of older people, dishonesty is more prevalent in 1892 than it was in 1802, is because the world has grown larger, not because the people of the present year love or countenance dishonesty the more. To say that there is more dishonesty practiced in business to-day than there was forty, fifty, or eighty years ago, finds its strongest refutation in the fact that commercial intercourse points to but one conclusion, and that is progress and dishonesty never go hand in hand. A young man of dishonest tendencies, or who allows himself to "blink" at dealings which he knows to be "shady," is as certain of ultimate failure

to-day as he was a hundred years ago. The rope at which he clings may be a little longer than it was some time ago, but the end is there just the same, and the fall will be just as great. I do not think our mothers need to teach our sons so much the value of honesty in matters which are manifestly dishonest, because pure and undiluted dishonesty always wars more than it invades. The great lesson to be taught to the young man of to-day is the full meaning of that honesty which will teach him to recognize dishonesty clothed in the garb of honesty, and then shun it. A thief is never made in a day; the beginning is generally found at a point which was not recognized as dishonesty, simply because it was shrewdly hidden. It is this "blinking" at dishonesty, this playing with honesty, that is ruinous to most young men; this engaging in things which are just a trifle "shady," and which the public does not even associate with the real article for a time. It is dishonesty just the same, only it is called by another name—"shrewdness" as a rule. This form of dishonesty has, perhaps, increased, as it is bound to increase with times tuned to such a high tension as ours, when men's honest wits are taxed to their utmost and finally overtaxed. But a young man, carving out the way for himself cannot afford to "blink" at dishonesty and allow it to go on identified with his interests, simply because it is not apparent to the naked eye, any more than he can afford to openly steal. Dishonesty is dishonesty, even if it is ever so small that it can only be seen through a powerful telescope.

SOUTHWEST SILVER CONVENTION AND MASS MEETING OF MINERS.

EL PASO, TEX., AUG. 15, 1892.—In obedience to the will and instructions of the Southwest Silver Convention and mass meeting of miners held in this city, on the 15th, 16th and 17th days of December 1891, your executive and sub-committee, charged with the duty of perpetuating the annual assemblage of the miners of the Southwest in El Paso, do, in virtue of the authority vested in them, announce that the second Annual Southwest Silver Convention and mass meeting of miners, will convene in El Paso, December 15, 1892, at 9 a. m.

Miners are urged to be present upon the occasion and to otherwise lend their assistance to a cause that may, if ever, requires friends and advocates.

CHAS. LONGREAR, President Executive Committee.

A LARGE DAIRY.

Dairy World.

Mr. D. F. Wilber, Ocala, N. Y., is one of Ocala county's largest and most successful dairymen as well as breeder of Holsteins of highest quality. He is milking this season, says the Register, about 450 cows, which are kept on different farms, each worked by a tenant, but all under the supervision of one general manager. Cleanliness, kindness, regularity, sanitation, and everything else that tends to insure milk of the highest quality are insisted on, and it is little wonder that the butter, most of it made at one central creamery, finds ready sale at top prices. Mr. Wilber's herd of thoroughbred numbers something near one hundred animals and includes Pauline Paul, world's champion, with a year's record of 1 1/2 pounds and 15 3/4 ounces; Pieterje 4. n, 453 pounds in 150 days; and others scarcely less famous.

THE RAZOR-BACK AGAIN.

About the razor-backed, fast-running hogs lately touched on in Life, another story comes to us from Hanover county, in Virginia. It was there that one of the new settlers, used to the ponderous and slow-stepping Berkshire and Poland porkers of Pennsylvania, was seriously enjoying on one of the "poor white" natives the folly of trying to lay meat on the bones of razor-backed hogs that wandered at will in the fenceless region.

The native heard him through plainly, and then answered: "That's all you know 'bout it, stranger, but when you've lived here as long as I, you'll know that 'taint worth while to have no 'awg 'round here that can't outrun a nigger."

Texas Home Corner: In a few days, no, to use the expression of the political newspapers, the agony will be over. The said newspapers will, in about five days, write editorial about "Now that the smoke of battle is cleared away." Everybody will be glad when it is over. Everybody is preparing to draw a long breath. However it ends, it will be a relief to have done with the campaign has been a bitter one, filled with personal animosities and sharp speeches and sharper retorts. It has done the State no good. When the

forementioned smoke of battle shall have removed itself from the atmosphere, the average Texan will watch the loading of the Salt River packet with perfect indifference. True he may have been shown himself hoarse for some of those passengers all during the campaign, but after all, he doesn't care anything about them. It was a "principle" which he was fighting for, or something that he called a principle, but which was, perhaps, only an attack of diseased imagination. Now that it is all over, he dismisses it airily from his mind and goes back to his office or shop or farm, quite satisfied to let the world wag along as it is. This game of politics is a great game, and the people who play at it are great people.

LOCAL AND GENERAL MARKET REPORTS.

(Carefully corrected from the most reliable sources up to Friday of each week.)

Cotton Market.

GALVESTON, November 10.—Spot cotton closed steady.

Low ordinary	7 9-16
Good ordinary	7 3/4
Low middling	7 1/2
Middling	8 1/4
High middling	8 3/4
Receipts and Exports at all United States Ports	
Receipts thus far this week	158,406
Receipts the same time last year	344,767
Receipts this day	35,191
Receipts this day last year	51,138
Exports to foreign ports	1,877,089
Total receipts thus far last season	5,679,428
Difference	842,139
Exports to Great Britain	38,849
Exports to France	21,231
Exports to continent	22,538

Stocks at all United States Ports

Stocks this day	1,024,924
Stocks this day last year	1,114,875

Dallas Live Stock.

Common to fair steers	\$1 50 @ 2 00
Choice fat cows	1 30 @ 1 65
Butter	1 00 @ 1 20
Choice veal	1 00 @ 1 20
Common to fair veal	2 30 @ 2 75
Sub-corn	18 00 @ 25 00
Choice milk cows, per head	18 00 @ 25 00
Bulls	75 @ 1 00
Choice fat hogs	3 50 @ 3 75
Common to fair hogs	3 25 @ 3 50
Choice fat muttons	3 25 @ 3 50

Produce

Potatoes—40@50c per bushel.	
Onions—35c per lb.	
Beans—Navy, 4@4 1/2; Lima, 4@4 1/2; Texas butter, 4c.	
Cabbage—Solid heads, 2 1/2 @ 3.	
Butter—Good country, 30@35c; common, 13c; fancy creamery, 32@34c; Kansas dairy, 30@32c.	

Grain and Feed-stuffs.

Quotations below are on grain from store.	
Corn—Wholesale, 45c per bushel in sack; retail, 50c; in ear 35c per bushel.	
Oats—Sacks, 27@28c per bushel in ear lots; 33 single bushel.	
Wheat—45c per 100 lb in ear lots; retail, 70c per 100.	
Cotton seed—Per bushel, 25c retail; wholesale, 12c.	
Hay—Loose, local, 50 @ 60; best prairie hay, baled, \$9 00 per ton; in carload lots, f. o. b., \$9 00; small bales, best, 45c; best Forney, \$8 00 per ton in carload lots.	
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Amber cane seed—\$1 00 per bushel.	
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Wheat—Low grade, new paying: No. 1 to No. 3, 65c f. o. b. at Dallas.	

Poultry and Eggs.

Prices paid by dealers—Old hens, \$2 75 per doz.; spring chickens, small, \$3 00; spring chickens, large, \$2 50; roosters, old, \$2 00; turkey hens, 75c; turkeys, gobblers, spring, 85c; Eggs, 30c per doz.	
Retailers get—Old hens, \$3 25 per doz.; spring chickens, small, \$2 25; spring chickens, large, \$2 50; roosters, old, \$1 50.	

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Hides—Buyers are paying: Dry flint, heavy, 65c; light, 45c; dry salt, 4 1/2c gr. salt, 3c; butchers' green, 3c; and other grades, 2c.	
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spread over the division of the roots, after removing soil, and up the body for a foot will be efficient for several years. After applying the paint level back the earth around the tree. The division of the large roots need not be exposed more than four to six inches, and at the time all borers are at work—shown by the brown gum filled with brown nibblings—the borers should be scratched out and killed by probing with a wire.—T. V. Munson.

Springfield, Ill., Nov. 5th, 1892
Dear Sir:—Owing to the abandonment of the Fat Stock Show, the meeting of the National Swine Breeders' Association, appointed to be held in the Sherman House, Chicago, Ill., November 22nd, 1892, is by direction of the executive committee, postponed.

As it seems important that a meeting of the association be held at an early day, the executive committee will give notice of time and place for such meeting as soon as possible. The proceedings of the meetings held in 1890 and 1891, now being printed, will be sent members at an early day.

Yours truly,
JNO. G. SPRINGER, Sec'y.

THE COUNTRY HOME.

Farm and Fireside.

Notwithstanding the rush to the towns and cities in recent years, there is still a "goodly company," an immense host, who love the country and find delight in the daily pursuits and surroundings of the farm, the orchard and the garden. This, too, in the full activity of mature manhood and womanhood. But the passing years bring a time when less activity becomes imperative. Concerning this time Garden and Forest discourses as follows:

"The desire of rest in declining years comes naturally to almost every man. The idea seems to be inseparably connected with rural scenes. The paradise to be regained is never within the walls of cities. This is true even of the city-born and city-bred; and it is doubly true of one reared in the country, and when such a one takes up with renewed interest the occupations of his boyhood he finds, to his surprise, that in addition to the flowers and fruits which reward his care, there is an ideal harvest of associations which may make his closing years rich, with a beauty and a pathos all their own."

GOOD ROADS.

Bos. lar [La.] Banner.

A country's common roads are the best evidence and most trustworthy measure of its advancement. Seldom, however, is the importance of this factor recognized and accredited. It is true, nevertheless, that the first advance was made when the woodman's axe and spade created an outlet from his seclusion in the construction of the first road. That was the beginning of the transportation of agricultural products a source of profit, and hence arose commerce.

To the farmer is the construction of good roads pre-eminently important. It means money in his pocket. It means fewer horses and mules, the saving of their daily feeding, the employment of fewer drivers, fewer wagons, the saving of time, labor, trouble and money. To the farmers again, good roads are of especial concern, because bad roads have too often been the direct cause of fearful agricultural losses. The vast wheat crops of the West have been more than once left unharvested, because of the exorbitant cost of transportation over few and bad roads. The mines of New York have been left unworked, and the entire crop of wheat in Spain one year left to rot for the same reason.

Good roads are therefore the very best investment for material progress a state, parish or community can make. They diminish the first cost of every article put on the market—a reduction which every subsequent consumer or handler feels; they invite cultivation to thousands of acres now idle because almost inaccessible; they make communication with the market so easy that its fluctuations may be avoided or taken advantage of; they enhance adjacent land values; they make for the independence of the planter in countless different ways, to say nothing of the secondary benefit to all who use good roads for the pleasure of travel.

And the maintenance of good roads is not without a moral benefit—Marshal Wade's military road through the Scottish Highlands, is said to have done more for the Highland civilization than all the efforts of the British Monarchs together. Good roads are a community's or a state's best recommendation for progressiveness and financial stability, and identification with the spirit of improvement. They inspire pride in the ownership of adjacent lands as well as pride in residences near

them; they are the assurance that the state or parish will meet the farmer more than half way in his effort to gain subsistence and independence.

Like the sun's rays, good roads exist for all impartially—for the rich and the poor.

The European roads—especially those of England and France—are the admiration of the world. No traveler on the Continent ever fails to speak their praise. And well they may, for France has spent \$600,000,000 in the construction of her common roads, and spend now \$18,000,000 each year on repairs. The common roads have done more than the railways for the French peasant. In this matter of public spirit, the United States is far behind. Her roads are a constant challenge to her progressiveness.

MARVELS OF INSTINCT.

St. Louis Republic.

Did you ever stop to consider the marvels of instinct as exhibited in insects, birds and animals? Take the solitary wasp, the "mud-dauber," if you please, as an illustration of instinctive sense which seems to me to be equally as desirable as mind and reason. In providing for the maggot or worm that is to be hatched from her egg, this lowly insect brings soft spiders and grubs, a species of food which she has never tasted since she became a wasp, and deposits them directly over the eggs from which the children she is doomed to never see will finally issue. What inward sense of motherly duty tells this creature that her soon-to-be motherless children will need a meat food during the time they are preparing for their first transformation? Yet the life history of every species of insect shows wonderful exhibitions of instinct or marvelous foresight. The butterfly lays her eggs on the plants best calculated to furnish food for the grub that will hatch from them; the seventeen-year locust, *Cicada septendecim*, lays its eggs in holes bored in the ends of limbs, the boring always, or nearly always, being done in such a manner as to cause the limb to break off with the first wind, thus bringing the insect into immediate contact with the earth, his future home, as soon as he is hatched. The young chicken is another good illustration of the marvels of instinct. In releasing himself from the shell he does not do so by bursting his prison walls asunder, as many persons imagine; on the contrary, he cuts his way out by a regular series of strokes. For this cutting operation the bird has an instrument specially provided, an instrument for which there is no other earthly use—a sharp, hard, toothlike horn on the top of the upper mandible. This cutter, having served its purpose, wholly disappears within a few days. Isn't it wonderful how a bird in an eggshell, one that has never breathed the breath of life in the true sense of the word, understands the use of an instrument that will soon become useless to it, and how that marvelous faculty called instinct directs the imprisoned creature how and where to cut in order to most easily and effectually free itself?

IS THE WORLD MADE OF SALT?

St. Louis Republic.

Near the village of Sprenenberg, about twenty miles from Berlin, Germany, is situated the deepest salt mine in the world. At last accounts it was 4,194 feet deep, the first 1,200 being sixteen feet in diameter. It was begun in the year 1869, government authorities having charge of the work, the avowed purpose of the work being to ascertain the exact thickness of the rock salt vein known to exist beneath the gypsum substrate abounding in that vicinity. The salt rock was reached before the shaft had passed the 300 level, but the size of the mammoth shaft was not lessened until it had reached a depth of nearly one-fifth of a mile, after which the boring was continued with an auger bit thirteen inches in diameter. When the boring was discontinued at the depth of 4,194 feet, 3,000 feet of which was pure rock salt, the end of the auger bit was cutting away on the saline deposits, which is still of unknown thickness.

MODERN ORATORY.

St. Louis Globe Democrat.

"Oratory is by no means a lost art, but the power to address vast audiences properly is exceedingly rare," said Tylor A. Cowton. "Now, an oration that cannot be heard by an entire audience is worse than labor wasted. In the golden age of Grecian oratory speakers addressed entire armies, and if we are to believe the historians, did so successfully. They trained their voices for just such occasions, and the result was that they possessed the lungs of a Stentor and their thoughts were written in thunder. One Greek orator, we are told, used to exercise his voice on the sea coast during storms, and could make

himself understood at a considerable distance despite the roar of the wind and the pounding of the breakers.

"It is a pity that modern orators do not take like pains to fit themselves for their labors instead of popping up with penny-whistle voices and performing occult pantomimes to the disgust of several thousand people. The gestures and grimaces of nine-tenths of our modern orators are so clumsy and ill timed that no man or woman born can divine their thoughts from their dumb show."

Field and Farm: The Apache Indians are the worst of the aborigines that exist on this continent. Vindictive, cruel, treacherous and bloodthirsty, they are cordially detested by settlers, soldiers and Mexicans, and they reciprocate this sentiment thoroughly. Last week a band of murderous Apaches were chased into Mexico by a company of United States cavalry after having committed a score or so of murders. The Apache on the warpath expects no mercy for he gives none. No human being ever came nearer being a

devil than an Apache Indian. The Pawnees, Blackfeet and Cheyennes are wicked enough, but the Apache has traits of his own—a devilishness which other tribes might imitate but could not equal.

He was born crafty and cruel. He never had the slightest feeling of mercy or pity from the cradle to the grave. He is never so much amused as when assisting to torture some living thing. He is never so satisfied as when planning to take life.

When in doubt refer to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. It tells all who read it just how to get the best results of their labor. Published weekly; \$1 per year.

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Should have and use an imported Floating Thermometer. It costs 50 cents; and a Cream Tester, which costs 85 cents, both for 75 cents, or both and TEXAS FARM AND RANCH one year for \$1.50.

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WHY

Spend hours in churning when you can do it in from five to ten minutes if your cream is of the proper temperature? The only way to determine this is to have a good Dairy Thermometer. You can have the best for 50 cents, or both for 75 cents. **TEXAS FARM AND RANCH** one year and the Thermometer and Cream Tester for \$1.50.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

CORRESPONDENCE

ON THE WING.

RICHARDSON, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

Having spent a whole week at the Texas State Fair, seeing, hearing and feeling many things which I hope to see, hear and feel again, and a great many which I hope never to see, hear or feel again, I shall not attempt to speak of all, but only just a few things. I hope to see again, only more of them, fine county agricultural exhibits, for those exhibited this season certainly did great credit to the respective counties, and the state at large. I hope to again meet and shake the hands of the broad gauged farmers who gathered up and brought to the Fair their exhibits, many of them mainly at their own expense. I say broad gauged because there are thousands of men who run through life on a two by four track without sidings or switches, and only stop at flag stations for selfish purposes, and who never see, appreciate or enjoy anything unless "me and my wife, my son John and his wife" had something to do with it. I hope to see again the same deep interest manifested in the stock, which brought together this season such vast numbers which we Texans believe would compare with the stock of any state in the Union. I hope to see again such displays of poultry and pet stock, and the grand displays of farm implements, farm machinery, wagons, buggies, etc., and, in fact, the "hundred and one" beautiful things too numerous to mention, and which the great crowds seemed to so much enjoy. But I do hope to never see again every available spot of ground inside the grounds occupied by every conceivable catch-penny fraud in tents, with men, women and boys standing at the entrance, screaming and yelling at the crowds as they pass, to step in and see the wonderful sights which no mortal eye did or ever will see. I do hope that I will never again see that highly entertaining (?) troupe called Indians, prancing, patting, and howling about on our Fair grounds—a disgrace to civilization, and a burlesque on native Indian life. I do hope that I will never again see the boy with the bird whistle, and the boy with the thing that he blows into and then turns it loose and lets it squall, and the boy that goes everywhere, screaming at everybody, pretending that he wants to sell something, but in reality only wants to be a boy.

Well, having seen heard and felt until I was tired, I turned from the Fair and hit the road for Alvarado, the little black mud town which Johnson county is proud of, and well she may be, for it is a neat little town, surrounded by a fine country, filled up with a class of good farmers, some of whom will rank among the best in the State. The second day that I spent at Alvarado was the big barbecue day, and though the mud was pretty deep "and a-rising" it was not "past fording," and the people came. They came from every quarter, and kept coming until there were at least 3,000 people on the grounds, and a little after eleven o'clock the speaker of the occasion opened his mouth and began "specifying," and about two o'clock the horn blew for dinner and he "took out," then the boys about faced and charged upon that long solid line of barbecued meat and loaf bread, and I now wish to say that I have never seen a charge made so fearlessly and sustained so unflinchingly as was this. But finally the line was broken and then entirely demolished, and the boys retreated back to the little grove without the loss of a single man. To the credit of the Johnson county boys I now say that I have never seen such a vast crowd of men behave more nicely and orderly in my life.

The farmers seem prosperous and happy, and it is pleasant to be among them. Being so well pleased with Alvarado and its surroundings, I decided to move to Cleburne, the county site of Johnson county. Cleburne is one among the prettiest towns in Texas. Near the center of the county, in the edge of the cross-timbers, not on a sand-bed, but with a nice sandy soil that is almost entirely free from mud and slush even in rainy weather, with a nice little creek running through the west side, near the business portion of the town, which furnishes fine drainage at little cost. This is one of the fortunate towns in Texas which was not struck with the modern town and city killer called a "boom," hence there is no heady and steady. There seems to be no little silly prejudice in the minds of the farmers against the town, but on the contrary every farmer that I talked with seemed to be proud of his county town. The main trouble seems to be that many of the surrounding farmers think too much of their town, and hence spend too much of their time there, though I guess it is all right, for I have often

heard that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," but I have lived long enough to learn, by observation, that the farmer who spends much of his time gadding about town when he really has no business there, is liable to be struck and swept along down to poverty by the current of hard times. I am truly glad to know that the wall of hard times is growing fainter and weaker among our farmers. The splendid all-round crops this year, and the reasonably fair prices have relieved the pressure and inspired new confidence, and have given a new impetus to our working masses generally.

UNCLE SKORT.

IN THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOE COUNTRY.

WINNVIEW, OKLAHOMA.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

The opening of this country should have been in February instead of April 19, as corn was planted in the older Oklahoma the latter part of March and early part of April. Of course it was May before the homesteaders could get on their claims and get to work. For a week it was dry, and the breaking plow could not be started, then rains came, and except at short intervals work was pushed until the middle of June, then dry until the last week of the month when breaking was resumed for a week or two, then came a protracted drouth through the last half of July and August; in fact there was no rain in either month except local showers, but the effects were not noticeable only for the time given. The first days of September the drouth was broken by splendid rains, and breaking and replowing for wheat was pushed everywhere, the last rains being about September 10, but plowing could be done until the last week of the month, then dry weather again, with only one shower, until October 18, when very heavy rains came, thoroughly soaking the ground. This will give a fair idea of the season which the squaw men who have lived here many years say has been the driest for the past nine. If it was not for the strong winds prevailing much of the time the rainfall would be more nearly commensurate with the needs of growing crops. But the spring warm winds cause the much more speedily evaporation of the moisture in the soil than would be in a section where the agitation of the air was but slight.

The first plantings of crops was that of common corn, which, of course, was very late for it. Very little of it has made any ears, as the drouth of last half of July and August came just at the critical time. There were limited areas where they had heavy local showers. In such places corn has made as much as twenty bushels per acre. These earliest breakings of soil were generally in long warm strips leading across a quarter section, and as the grass on either side was infested with hoppers, considerable damage was done by them in cutting the blades and eating holes in the small ears. Then the boll worm destroyed most of the few ears that did set, as the growth was very slow during the dry period. With all it has made a fair amount of second grade forage and is generally taken care of in good shape, though there were some who did not cut it. We have ours all in the stack, cutting it early, before it dried out.

The next plantings were of the forage plants, both of the saccharine and non-saccharine sorghums, such as Kafir and Jerusalem corn, millo maize, and the common cane. Of these we have written before, and as they were successfully raised, we need not here refer to them further. A little millet was sown, and was a success or failure, owing to the fact whether damp or dry weather followed immediately after sowing. On the whole the rustler has plenty of feed, while the go-easy has a short supply. On the river and creek bottoms there is plenty of grass to cut for hay; in the uplands it is too short, but the mesquite grass sections will furnish good winter pasture. This country is about evenly divided as to mesquite and other grasses.

J. M. RICE.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.

BLOOMING GROVE, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I was greatly interested in an article in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH about insects, and especially the silken threads flying through the air. They cannot be seen by the naked eye, but our entomologists tell us nothing of a winged spider, and the webbs must be from the countless millions of moths or butterflies that we frequently see high up in the air. We need more agricultural schools. North Texas, by all means, needs one, and each school should have a learned entomologist to tell us ignorant farmers about the insects that swarm about our fields. We should be able to tell at sight what insect is de-

structive, and what insect is beneficial. The agricultural reports sent out every year by the parent government tells us about the many insects destructive to agriculture, horticulture, arboriculture, etc., but to hunt over these voluminous documents for the information desired is more than any ordinary farmer wishes to undertake, even if he has a complete file of reports in his library, hence the necessity for a State entomologist, whose duty should be to compile a work showing by word cuts every destructive insect in the State as well as those beneficial, so we could protect and multiply one and destroy the other. Prof. Riley, Missouri's able entomologist, did much in this line for his state, and for quite awhile has been employed by the National government to aid the farmers in battling with destructive insects. Our cedar trees were attacked by a moth early in the spring that deposited eggs all over our cedars, and the worm soon began to strip the trees and form cocoons of stout silken thread, and suspended from the twigs, they were hanging from every branch. Now, to tell what these moths are we might have to hunt for hours. If we had a work of the right kind we might know all about the destructive pest in a few minutes. To save our shade trees we constructed a tall ladder and pulled off the cocoons and burnt them, but if we had an entomologist he might have told us a better plan and saved the risk of an accident policy. Again, Mr. Editor, we wish to say that agricultural schools are things of necessity in this age of progress, and our great State, as I am sure within itself, should have at least four such schools. South Texas has one; North Texas, the finest agricultural region in the State needs one now, and our next legislature should start the plant that would soon infuse new life in the farmers' boys and would stop this great desolation on their part to want to go to town and cities surrounded by vice and immorality. It would improve the morals of the country and lessen crime.

B. F. CARROLL.

BUILDING FOR TIME.

Hempstead, Texas.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

A few days ago I was at the house of a neighbor, who lives upon a new owns one of the oldest settled places in this section. He began after the war, and has done much work in the way of improvement, buildings, out houses, fences, etc., and yet the best structures of the kind on the place, are those put there by his father thirty-five years ago, or thereabout. The old double log house with wide hall and front porch, with the large stone chimneys and broad open fire-places; the stables and corn-cribs of the same material; the old gate posts 14 inches square, of hewed heart post oak, set four feet in the ground, are there to stay as immovable as if they had roots spread over one hundred square yards.

The present owner, after coming into possession, erected several light frame tenements on the farm, built a commodious box barn and a gin house of the same light character. These have nearly disappeared after swallowing up more than their original cost in repairs.

There is nothing very strange about this. Similar examples may be found in every rural neighborhood, where farmers undertake to improve a place by erecting temporary structures, that only serve a temporary purpose. The shortsighted farmer concludes that he needs a large house, when he is only able to build a small one in a substantial manner; he wants a large barn, and attempts to build it of just lumber enough to build one half the size as it ought to be built; he undertakes to fence fifty acres when his material is only sufficient to fence twenty-five acres "bull strong and hog tight." He has not time to go to the woods and get out substantial gate posts, so he cuts some stout poles, takes the bark off and flattens one side, or he hunts up some large, straight rails and sets them about twenty feet apart in the ground and swings his gates, promising to get better posts when his crop is laid by. The result is, that when he reaches a certain point, repairs of his ramshackle work takes all the time and expense which he might otherwise devote to permanent improvements. This is a superficial generation anyway. "A lick and a promise" is about all we can devote to any work, and the proverb is rarely performed. We are in too big a hurry, we have so much to do that we can't spare time to do anything well. In cities immense structures are erected, so unsubstantial that they cannot stand alone, but solid blocks combine to hold each separate building up. But this is not so shortsighted a policy as that of the farmer, who builds only for present needs and expects to do the work over and do it better at some future time. After awhile he finds his time

fully occupied with repairing. All such works are an actual expense on a farm. A bad fence is worse than none; a poorly built house is worse than a good camp or drouth.

That farmer who will do his work in such a manner, that when finished, it is finished for good, so that work once done will not have to be done over, is like unto the man who built his house upon a rock—it stood all the storms of time, and did not have to have a new roof every three years, and a new foundation every year when it did not require a new roof. The other sort are like unto the foolish man, who built his house upon the sand, "the rains descended and the winds blew and beat upon the house" and the next day it had to be rebuilt. A farmer, above all men, should avoid temporary work. He is supposed to be rooted to the soil, and when he builds, should build for posterity. Every house should be built for durability, the manence should be the leading feature of every structure. Every building, every gate, every fence, every post on the farm must stand alone if it stands at all. The farmer who builds as for eternity, is the successful farmer. He may do but little in any given time, but the accumulated works of years will make all the difference between a substantial success and a flimsy failure.

P. GREEN.

WHY NOT HAVE THEM?

BLOOMING GROVE, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

We visited Neptune the other day, and were taken on board of his golden ship, and enjoyed a ride amid the sweet-scented *Nelumbo luteum*, *Nymphaea odorata*, *Zizania aquatica*, etc., and had a view of life upon the water. Here we are telling our life away to fill the greedy maw of our heartless masters: dig, dig, dig, digging away amid the blazs of a summer's sun and winter's blast, giving no time for thought or recreation, or even thinking what the God of nature has placed within the reach of all, and how it is possible for us to convert many waste places into pleasure resorts, where our sons and daughters could spend hours of pleasure and happiness instead of flitting their time away in silly butterfly fashion in our towns and cities. Winter is upon us and a few spare days might be found to start a fish pond or lake, and to gather a few bulbs and seed to start a veritable water-garden, where we could not only grow food for our physical support, but food for the mind, botanical food that would captivate all lovers of nature and nature's God.

Reader, have you ever visited the ponds of South Texas in early summer and viewed the gorgeous display of our native water lilies and exclaimed, "Oh, what Beauty!—born to blush unseen" and waste their sweetness on the unsightly marsh? There is scarcely a home in Texas that could not have one of these lakes and let the girls and boys convert it into a park and flower garden. Upon the banks of the lake I would say plant weeping willows, weeping ash and elms. Out in the park a variety of our native forest trees; among them is the pecan, for shade and profit. In the pond in addition to those plants above named I would suggest, *Nymphaea flava*, *Nuphar advena*, *Lilium*, *Juncus effusus*, *Glyceria obtusica* and *lulians* and many other plants that would give you pleasure in growing. A few white swans with black necks and wings would be like diamonds in a maiden's breast pin, a joy forever. Instead of gadding about the streets of your town spouting platitudes, be at home working on your pond and park, and in a short time you will begin to love your place better, your wife better, and your sons and daughters will be jewels that none but a neighbor's son or daughter can take from you.

B. F. CARROLL.

SHORT CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Sir:—Here I am again, knocking at the door of admittance of the best paper in the South on farming and stock care. I think every man in the South should have this paper in his house. I can't get along without it. We have had fine rains, and grass is fine. We have one farm up here with 180 acres of alfalfa growing and in fine shape. Would like to correspond with some one who has sheep to let out on the shares or for sale.—W. L. RAY, Santa Lucia, Texas.

T. V. MUNSON, Denison, Texas.

Dear Sir: I am having so much trouble with borers on my peach trees that I intend, after cleaning, to give the trees a good coat of tar. As I never read in any paper that tar has ever been used to keep borers away, or if it will be injurious to the trees, I would be very glad to get your advice about it.—JULIUS J. HOFFMANN, Mesquite, Texas.

For the prevention of the attacks of the peach tree borers, the painting of coal-tar

not grow as fast, during the next two years; and it is so with other trees that have natural grown or cut roots. Nature abhors cutting roots off from the growing tree at any time, and it will check its growth afterwards.

Peaches are and can be grown in nearly every part of Texas, and with profit at 50 cents a bushel, and in some others even at 25 cents a bushel, and the planter has no good excuse for not raising peaches; and of plums, it is the natural home of all species or varieties of American plums, while with the European varieties it is questionable about them doing so well here.

So no excuse against raising plums here. Cherries of the acid kind can be raised, but not with much profit, the trouble is that their blossoms do not fertilize well and set fruit much of their flowers seem to be deficient; and with the apricot, the best of all these, scarcely any are now raised for sale in Texas, whereas they should be raised in every man's orchard here. And as for grapes, some of them would grow everywhere, every family should plant them for home use. And now, I come to the last and best of all the pears, it is an old saying and was a true saying once: "that he who plants pears plants them for his heirs." That was said when people planted the seed to grow their pears and the saying is not true when all pear trees, as now, are raised by grafting or budding system, as it is a well-known fact that the earliness or lateness of the bearing, or longevity of that tree is governed to a great extent by the place on the tree from whence that bud or graft is taken, and age the tree is and in transferring it to form a new tree, you bring the perfections or imperfections to the new growing tree; hence comes the change in earliness of bearing from its once late bearing, and as a consequence the early decay of the pear tree. As I have in one of my experiments, by grafting in the winter on pear stock, grown a pear on that scion that same year. These are facts that speak for themselves, and the inquiry may well be asked where will the effects of this lead to. Still, I would say to all, plant pears, as it is well-known that in the month of January, of this year, at retail at Dallas, Texas, at a store on Main street, pears sold for twenty cents a piece, and they were raised in California. I have had men follow me in Dallas two blocks trying to buy some that I had carrying in buckets of my own raising much to their disappointment because they could not buy them. Pears can be raised about as cheap as apples and with the same success.

Forney, Texas.

THE WILD GOOSE PLUM.

JOHN HURLEY.

In last issue of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH some remarks from the experience of Mr. R. D. Wier on plum culture, in which he states that he bred the Wild Goose plum for fourteen years, found it hardy, but that it failed to fruit. Now, the Wild Goose is my favorite and I cannot hear it maligned without saying a few words in its favor. My experience differs altogether from that of Mr. Wier. But perhaps our stock was different. Mine are seedlings; perhaps his were budded.

In the fall of 1877 I gave an order to the Commercial Nurseries of Nashville, Tenn., through their agent, Mr. Lowe, for fruit trees amounting to \$23. Among the trees ordered were two Wild Goose plum trees. Trees arrived in good condition at Arlington, Tarrant county, on or about the 12th of November. I had the ground well prepared and got all trees in good shape. They grew, bloomed, bore and died, their average life being about seven years from time of planting. All died with the exception of one of my Wild Goose trees. When planting those trees I noticed that one of the Wild Goose trees was budded; the other showed no signs of being budded, consequently I considered it a seedling of no account. I gave both the same care in planting and after cultivation. On the second year both trees bloomed and matured a few plums, each perhaps about twenty to the tree, those on the seedling equal in every respect to those on budded tree. The third year a late frost caught both trees in full bloom. I got no fruit that year, but both trees made an immense growth. On the fourth year I got about one-half bushel to the tree. When fruit ripened I noticed that my budded tree looked sickly. I hunted around base of trunk for borers. Could find none, yet my tree, without any apparent cause, after maturing its fruit, died. The other tree, the seedling, looked as if it was perfectly healthy. Through the year I noticed some young sprouts springing up under the seedling, perhaps where I cut the roots in cultivating. That fall I planted some of those young sprouts and waited anxiously to see them fruit, which they did on the fourth year, and reproduced fruit the

exact counterpart of that produced by the parent tree. That old tree, planted in November, 1877, is still alive and perfectly healthy. It is now about ten or twelve inches in diameter at base of stem, and has a spread of top of over fifty feet. It is over fifteen years old and has only failed twice to produce a full crop in all those years. This year it had over five bushels of marketable fruit. In addition to this tree I have now over sixty trees, varying in age from five to nine years old, all scions from this old tree, neither of which bore this year less than one bushel of fruit. My neighbors can testify to the prolificacy of this stock, for all of them have more or less bearing trees, scions from my old stand-by.

Last year I planted twenty of the Japan varieties. I will tell you by and by how they do in this neighborhood (three miles west of Arlington, Tarrant county). But for a never-failing stand-by, commend me to the Wild Goose.

A NEW QUESTION RAISED.

J. L. MUNN.

I see in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH of May 23 last, a question asked by Mr. Nat Stevens. He says: Sun scald affects our peach, apple, nectarine and cherry trees, and as a consequence in a few years they are ruined unless they are protected. Now the first question is, how best to do this? I propose to tell you. All I ask is to give my theory a trial. If theory is to be Plant your trees any distance you wish—ten, fifteen, twenty or thirty feet. I positively deny there ever being a treescaled or burned by the heat of the sun. As I do not wish to get mixed into a controversy with reference to the above, I will tell you how to avoid the sun or anything else killing the bark on fruit trees on southwest side. Set the trees any distance you desire. Do not have the body of your trees more than two and one-half feet from the ground to the first limbs, or where the top is formed. You want shade on southwest to shade your trees in winter. Agreeable to my experience where the sun shines two, three or more days very warm on southwest side of fruit trees in winter, it causes the sap to start up that side of the tree. Then a cold spell (or norther) comes up suddenly and kills the tree on southwest side, or rather freezes or chills the sap, and the tree dies on that side. The freeze does not kill the bark. The bark is green until the hot sun of the next summer dries it up for the want of sap to support it, but you suppose it was killed the year before and you only found it a year afterwards. When you find bark dead look and see if there is not new growth started.

In conclusion I will say, if you have any young fruit trees in good condition set when the top does not protect the body, you can protect them with a board, brush or vines on southwest side in winter. Let the sun shine on the body in summer, if you wish, and you will have no dead bark on southwest side from sun scald or freeze. I raise figs, and have no trees to scald or freeze; protecting the southwest side in winter saved them.

Ballinger, Texas.

THE BEST FRUIT.

Mr. James Regan, in the American Farmer, tells how to secure the best results in gathering fruit in the following extract: "You have often noticed the large, juicy-looking fruit which is sold at a fancy price near the end of the fruit season. You wonder and marvel how such luscious fruits are grown. You would probably think that they belonged to some almost unknown varieties, yet these are perhaps the product of the same varieties of trees which you have on your farm. I will tell you just how you can grow fruit equally as nice as this.

"As I said at the beginning, I do not believe in cleaning a tree at one picking. I have three pickings for all my apples, peaches and pears. In my first picking, which is quite early in the season, I select all the fruit which is fit to send to market. The fruit is ripe, or almost so, though not so large as the later fruit, and it brings a fair price, depending altogether at what time it reaches the market. The first picking, of course, somewhat thins the fruit remaining on the trees. This is very good; the remaining fruit receives more nourishment, has more space in which to grow; consequently, it ripens quickly and reaches a better size than those first picked. Near the middle of the season I make my second picking, which almost clears the tree of fruit.

Now, from my third crop is where the size, shape, and lusciousness of the fruit comes in. I let the fruit remain on the tree as long as possible, so that the fullest maturity can be reached. Every day is favorable for the proper maturing of this third crop, and the fruit has plenty of

space in which to develop its fine quality. You will be surprised at the product of this crop. You can readily distinguish your varieties of fruit by their size, shape, and taste; but, aside from the similarity in shape, it would be difficult to tell if this third picking came from the same variety. Its size is greatly increased, and its flavor is far superior to the ordinary fruit.

Any energetic person can have all their expenses paid, including railroad fare, etc., to the World's Fair and return by securing subscribers to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

HAVE YOU GOT PILES?

ITCHING PILES known by moisture, heat, perspiration, cause intense itching when warm. This form and BLEND, BLENDING or PROTRUDING PILES YIELD AT ONCE TO DR. BO-SAN-KO'S PILE REMEDY, which acts directly on parts affected, absorbs tumors, allays itching, effecting a permanent cure. Price 50c. Per bottle or mail. Dr. Bosanko, Philadelphia, Pa.

SHERMAN NURSERIES—18th Year.

First-class stock Home Grown Trees. Low prices, fair dealing. I pay the freight if desired. Choice trees by mail. Write to JOHN S. KERR, Prop'r, Sherman, Texas.

T. V. MUNSON'S NEW CATALOGUE

Free by mail to all applicants, contains more valuable information to planters of Fruits, Shrubs, Evergreens, etc., than can be found elsewhere for VARIETIES in the Southwest. His Hybrid and Seedling Grapes open a NEW ERA IN GRAPE GROWING. Address T. V. MUNSON, Denison, Texas.

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Oldest and most reliable Import House offering No. 1 stock of Hardy Orange "UNSHU," Japan Persimmon, Plum and Mandarin Chestnut trees, CITRUS TRIFOLIATA, Camphor trees and seed Ornamental stock, Bulbs and seeds in large assortment. French Fruits, Pears, Vines, Olives. Safe delivery guaranteed. Freight, Mail, Express. Send for our Catalogue, Address above. Any information cheerfully given.

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\$160.00 IN PRIZES.

Half a million fruit Trees, including standard sorts and new introductions of many varieties adapted to Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama a specialty. Fruit Trees of all kind for the South. New Illustrated Catalogue for 1892, free on application. Address G. L. TABER, Glen St. Mary, Florida.

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GRAPE VINES. BERRY PLANTS. Finest hardy ornamentals, such as Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Evergreens, etc.

All home grown and thoroughly tested.

No doubtful high priced varieties to offer. Large bearing orchards to propagate from. Wholesale and retail. No traveling agents employed. Catalogues free on application. STELL & CLARK, Successors to Paris, Tex.

For Sale--Nursery Grown

Paper Shell Pecan Trees 1 year old, \$15.00 per 100
Paper Shell Pecan Trees 2 years old, 25.00 "
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Paper Walnut Trees 1 year old, 15.00 "
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Le Conte Pear Trees 1 year old, 15.00 "
Niagara Grape Roots 3 years old, 15.00 "
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Soft Shell Almonds, 3 years old, 15.00 "

Native Persimmon, Wild Peach, Holly, Water Oaks, Pin Oaks and Sycamores for sale, free on board. Please send for our Catalogue. Office 1016 Congress Avenue, Houston, Texas. T. J. COLLINS.

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Telling what to plant and where to plant it, and how to have

Fruit, and Plenty of it, in any Part of Texas.

E. W. KIRKPATRICK, McKinney, Texas.

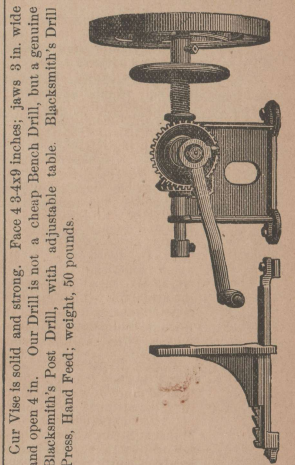
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Our Special Prize Packet of 20 Exquisite ASSORTED Monster Bulbs for Planting.

THIS MONSTER PACKET contains 3 choice Hyacinths 30c.; 4 choice Tulips 20c.; 1 Chinese Bell 10c.; 2 choice Narcissus 10c.; 2 choice Jonquills 10c.; 1 choice Calla Lily 20c.; 1 choice Snowdrops 10c.; 1 choice Crocus 10c.; 2 choice Freesias 10c.; 1 large packet choice imported Fancy Seed lilies. Total \$1.50. Our special introduction price \$1.00 for entire packet, free by mail to any address, together with our complete and beautiful New Fall Catalogue of Bulbs, Seeds and Plants. Make your Home Beautiful. This packet is the best value for the money. You can plant them in the yard or in vases or pots in the house. Please send for our CATALOGUE for full planting. THE TEXAS SEED AND FLORAL CO., 300 Main St., Dallas, Tex.

"Scientific" Kit of Tools.

FOR FARMERS, STOCKMEN, PLANTERS AND MECHANICS—THE BEST IN THE WORLD.



Our Vise is solid and strong. Face 4 1/2 x 9 inches; jaws 3 in. wide and open 4 in. Our Drill is not a cheap Bench Drill, but a genuine Blacksmith's Post Drill, with adjustable table. Blacksmith's Drill Press, Hand Feed, weight, 50 pounds.

Blacksmith's Tongs, Wrought Iron, 18 in.

Blacksmith's Cold Chisel 1 1/2 lbs. Solid Cast Steel

Blacksmith's Hammer Hot Chisel, 1 1/2 lb.

Farrier's Pincers, Cast steel, 12 inches.

Adze-Eye Shoeing Hammer and Handle, wt. 9 oz.

Farrier's Knife, Wootenholm.

Screw Plate, 3 Taps, 3 set Dies, Cut 3-8, 1-2 and 5-8 inch.

Combination Anvil and Vise, Hardened face, Finely polished, weighs 50 lbs.

Farmer's Forge No. 5, B, will heat 1 1/2 inch Iron. Our Forge is built especially for our Kit, 15 inches high to top of bowl, 14 inches in diameter. Ten 5 inches in diameter, weighs 45 pounds.

Every tool on this list is the best the market affords, and so guaranteed. This kit of tools, freight prepaid to any R. R. Depot in the U. S., as a premium for a club of 35 subscribers at \$1 each, or for \$35 cash.

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Poultry and Bees.

Will you or some one of the readers of your valuable paper give me a remedy for my chickens? The comb begins to get sore, and in a few days the entire head is perfectly blind—one sore. They get perfectly blind.—J. T. WILLIAMS, Loan Oak, Texas.

[Scabs Pick them off in time and apply carbolic ointment; grease afterwards with lard. One part crude carbolic acid, ten parts lard, well mixed will do for ointment. Phenol Salique one part water, four parts, is better. This will answer the inquiry of Sug Thomas, also.—Ed]

Winter weather is almost here, and as the weather cools the hen's shackle and labor and the grocer marks his second hand eggs five cents higher. The cook, or the housewife, or both combined in the same person, berates the breeder because the shells of the eggs adhere to the yolks or per chance are dried until they rattle like dice on the bar of the beer vendor. Those who would avoid these unpleasant circumstances and have eggs fresh and fragrant, delivered by the hen with her cheery cackle instead of the delivery cart, must prepare food suitable to the purposes of egg production. In the absence of good clover hay which our Northern brethren depend upon, we may use alfalfa, or peas, or pea vines "cut to fit" or mustard tops or shallots or scallions, or other food fresh, green and nitro-genous.

FARMERS' FOWLS.

Any person who will purchase a Partridge Cocker or two, or buy eggs and raise them, and then get a good Brown Leghorn cock and mate with these hens, and then select the best laying pullets each season as breeders, and mate them with the same Brown Leghorn cock, and continue this process, purchasing a new pure blood Leghorn cock about once in two years, he will have a farm fowl which no pure breed will excel. And all without the careful handling necessary to keep a breed pure. When so many chickens are kept that several male birds will be needed, a few Leghorn hens may be kept and the needed male birds raised at home. This cross will improve year after year; the progeny will be almost as large as the pure Cockerins, and they will partake largely of the activity and laying capacity of the Leghorns. By close observation and selection of best laying hens to breed from, a remarkable degree of proficiency may be developed. They will also be good sitters and good mothers. Another excellent cross is Black-breasted Red Games on Partridge Cockerins. The Games, however, are good enough without any adulteration, and may be crossed with any family of Games without losing the character of a pure breed.

A good plan for many—perhaps a majority of farmers—is to procure the best common hens he can and give them Brown Leghorn males, and continue to select the best for breeders and breed only to pure Leghorns. There can be no improvement without some care, or trouble, or intelligent work (or whatever you may call it), and for those who are not willing to pay that price the commonest dunghills are good enough. The selected common hens mated with good Leghorn cocks, and the same selection and mating continued, will bring a flock of fowls more and more uniform every generation, and they will give more satisfaction on the average farm than any pure breed.

WHY THEY FAIL.

R. S. DEENER.

It seems strange to a practical business man that so many people should have such impractical ideas about the poultry business, or should indulge such visionary schemes in undertaking poultry raising as a business. You rarely hear a man ask, "What are the qualifications necessary to success in the mercantile business?" or "How can a man best succeed in the practice of law or medicine?" The average man has sense enough to know some of the constituent elements in the make-up of a successful merchant, mechanic or lawyer, and yet I dare say there is not a man in this county actually engaged in trying to make poultry pay but what is beset by this same class of people with such questions as, "What steps are necessary for a beginner to take in order to make a success of poultry raising?" To such people the poultry industry seems the only short cut under the sun to immense wealth. They imagine that the merest tyro may certainly raise chickens—plenty of them—and sell them, too, and all that is necessary is to begin, and to begin at once. The

failures in the chicken business—and they are legion—are due largely to an entire misconception of what is required in the successful management of a poultry establishment. They will admit it takes brain and brawn, and lots of it, to manage an Arkansas or Texas cotton plantation; or to run a big cattle ranch or gold mine. They know all that without telling, but they have to be told repeatedly that it takes as much brain and "git up and git," and hard work and eternal vigilance and bull dog tenacity to succeed in poultry raising as in horse or cattle raising.

We have much faith in a "call" to certain work, in that natural bent to certain pursuits which gives a man peculiar fitness for that particular vocation or occupation. It is so in every calling. He succeeds best who is best qualified for success in that line. It is so with poultry raising. The man who undertakes poultry on a large scale without any knowledge of or particular love for the business would save time, trouble and expense by moving at once to the poor-house, for that is where his friends will have to take him. A man can no more successfully manage a poultry farm without experience and adaptation than he can manage a banking institution with the same lack. We think we know something of this business, but we are free to acknowledge we have not acquired it. We have been in it all our life, and we learn something new in it every day. There are problems ever asserting themselves too hard for us to solve.

Our advice to every breeder of fowls is, that if chickens are raised at all, for good-ness sake, raise thoroughbreds, but don't go into the business as a business until you know what you are doing.

Batesville, Ark.

INCUBATORS.

Southern Farm.

These machines receive more attention every year. The shows held in fall and winter are usually made up of young stock and the early hatched birds generally get there in the race for premiums, because of size and plumage. Each year biddy seems less inclined to sit early in the season, a necessary thing for success in poultry raising, if there were no exhibitions. For a number of years we have kept none but pure bred stock, and during the last two seasons the pen-up stock has laid without much thought of incubation till about April 20th, which is too late to produce show chicks, except the smaller varieties. These things naturally bring the incubator to our minds, and the wish is indulged, if not materialized, for a good machine and a March hatch of fine, healthy chicks. That the incubator will hatch and produce as strong, healthy chicks as biddy can by the natural process is no longer a question to those who have tested the machines. We mention this because many people think the hatch is not a success and the chicks that do appear are weak and soon die, an idea that has no foundation in fact or experience. If chicks do come weak or are tardy in the hatch it is because the machine was run too low; the operator depended too much on the machine and the methods that go with it, and forgot the rule of common sense. Incubators are like every other new machine—brains, study and good attention are necessary adjuncts for success.

The large claims and high sounding names used by incubator men are misleading to a degree. The claims are perfect, "self-regulating," "automatic," etc., and guaranteed to hatch more chicks from a given number of fertile eggs than any other machine. In school these words have a definite positive meaning, but in this case the meaning is only relative and must be thus considered. A moment's reflection will convince any one that an incubator is no more a self-regulating machine than a steam engine, and who would put on the steam and turn an engine loose unattended for an hour, to say nothing of a day, or twenty-one days. There are a number of good machines put on the market, in fact most any of them will hatch a few chicks but not all are successful.

The incubator is a success on general principles and has come to stay. More machines are in use now than ever before, and as they advance toward perfection, the breeders and farmers will take more stock in them.

As it takes time and patience to learn to use these machines, they should invariably be purchased in the fall or winter and you should do your experimenting when eggs are cheap. A spoiled hatch in spring means more loss than the machine is worth. A successful hatch will more than pay for the machine with reasonable success in rearing the brood.

Good points, no deserting the nest; no breaking of eggs; no lice from the hen, and a good sized brood. The early chick

brings the best price and we have to depend on the wooden hen or keep a good many scrubs to incubate as they seem to set earlier now than fine stock. The history of the incubator has just commenced with us, my neighbors are inquiring every year about them and the time will soon come when they will be as common as the sewing machine. We close by saying that although three machines have been tested at our place, we are not maker, agent, stockholder, or in any way interested in any make or maker of machines, but only say that they can, are, must, and will be successfully used. A trial will convince the most skeptical.

KINDNESS.

Poultry World.

It certainly makes a difference whether fowls take wing, and cackle and flutter, on the approach of their keeper, or on the contrary, gather about him, expecting some new favor at his hand. It is best, in the arrangement of your buildings, to have this idea of quiet prominent. By beginning aright with your chicks, you will soon have this contented, happy family about you. The pecuniary advantage to be gained by this method is no small item. It will take less feed to put and keep them in condition than when the opposite method is pursued.

A good farmer knows well enough that his horse, cows and young animals are in better heart every way, besides giving less trouble if they have been trained so carefully that they know his voice and his step, and expect a pat from his hand, instead of a blow, whenever he comes in their neighborhood; while the flocks and herds of a cruel man learn bad tricks, become unruly and inclined to break pasture. Fowls half kept, who have to steal from all unguarded places to keep life within must become demoralized and contemptible. Mean, sly ways; terrified flight from the presence of the cruel and neglectful owners; deftly hidden nests, which yield small harvests of eggs; lank; careworn visages, unsightly plumage and general vagabondage of appearance—these are some of the consequences of criminal neglect in regard to fowls kept with the vain hope that in some way they may prove a source of profit. It pays in dollars and cents to be kind.

A STUDY OF THE BREEDS.

Western Farm Journal.

To give a general report or description of all the breeds, would consume too much space, but the following points of information are so frequently asked about by journal readers that we give a general reply.

Beginning with the Asiatic, we will start with the Dark Brahmas. At maturity the cock should weigh eleven pounds, and the hen nine pounds. They are good layers for the Asiatic family, and very hardy. Excellent for roasting purposes.

Light Brahmas, cocks weigh twelve pounds, hens ten pounds. They are the largest of all varieties of poultry, and also excellent for roasting purposes.

Buff Cockerins, cocks weigh eleven pounds; hens eight and one-half pounds. This breed is a beautiful and a hardy fowl, and excellent for roasting purposes.

White Cockerins compare in weight and qualities to the Buff variety, only differing in color as their name implies.

Partridge Cockerins, probably the most popular of the entire Cockerin family, cocks weigh eleven pounds; hens nine pounds. Their name, likewise, is derived from their color, being very much like the partridge.

Black Cockerins (see description of buffs), only differing in color.

Langshans (black and white), cocks weigh ten pounds, hens eight pounds. They are by far the best winter layers of any of the Asiatic family, and are excellent as roasting fowls.

Then come our American varieties: Plymouth Rocks, cocks, nine and one-half; hens seven and one-half. Wyandottes, cocks, eight and one-half; hens six and one-half. Javas, cocks, ten; hens, eight. American Dominiques, cocks, eight and one-half; hens, six and one-half. Jersey Blues, cocks, ten; hens, eight. Houdans, cocks, seven; hens, six. White Dorkings, cocks, seven and one-half; hens, six and one-half. Colored, cocks, nine and one-half; hens, seven and one-half.

Thus it will be seen about what is the value of each of the above varieties for market purposes, and the compilation should help beginners to select the variety best adapted to their wants.

Of the laying fowls, Italy boasts of her Leghorns and Anconas; England of her Red Caps; Spain of her Minorcas and Spanish; France of her Houdans; China of her Langshans; while here in America we are not ashamed of our Wyandotte family for egg production.

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Reasons of the superiority of Wintersmith's Tonic over Quinine and other Remedies.

The remedies usually given have reference only to preventing the paroxysm or breaking the chill, without regard to the condition the system may be left in after the chills have been removed; whereas the mere breaking of the chills is but a small part of what is required to effect a radical cure. The various organs of the body, more especially the liver and the stomach, must be brought into a healthy condition, otherwise a return of the chills will be probable.

A proper use of Wintersmith's Tonic never fails to remove the cause and cure the most obstinate case of fever and ague.

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reproach yourself for impatience, irritability, and petulance of temper. These faults which so distress your conscience and domestic sunshine, often spring less from the original sin which works out into actual transgression, than from jaded nerves and overburdened physical strength. Somewhere in the day secure and hold fast your leisure hour.

THE WOMAN OF GRIT.

Memphis Examiner.

Without grit and stocktiveness no woman will ever succeed. She may have the talent of a second Raphael or she may have rare inventive genius, faculties of the highest order, rare as they are precious, yet without genuine grit and determination to stick to her chosen work at all hazards, sick or well, warm weather or cold, she might just as well be as mediocre as the multitude, for she will never do one whit better than the woman who is not endowed with one-half her talent.

Of course it is hard, for, say what you will, women are not made for work—they are more easily tired than men, says the Philadelphia Times. Their sensitive natures feel the effects that come from contact with the world which a man can cast behind his back if he observes them, and it is one chance in a hundred if he would even notice at all what has made a deep and lasting impression on the tender heart of the weaker member struggling in the tossing surf of life's great sea.

When a woman determines on her line of action she must learn to bear what would seem absolutely barbarous in the shelter of her own home, surrounded by friends who have only words of praise for her efforts. She must expect rebuffs and still stick to it. Be not discouraged. If there is anything in her it will rise to the top and she will be all the stronger for the struggle, but she must stick. Day in and day out must see no let up in her energies. She must be ever in the thick of the fight, and unless she goes forth prepared to stand by her colors the host of wage-earners will sweep over her prostrate form and she will be forgotten in the great struggle for existence. Stubborn, plain, unalterable grit will place a woman in the first ranks, where genius, without this much cruder quality, could never stand.

ANOTHER USEFUL FAD.

St. Louis Republic.

One of the fads of the present season and one which promises to become more or less popular among the ladies, is the manufacture of their own trimmings for underwear.

In England and France during the last season, at the afternoon teas and at the meetings of ladies' clubs and societies, the making of lace was distinctly popular. The ladies who visited abroad have come home bringing with them dainty patterns, and the disease is sure to spread. The knitting and crocheting of lace is the most liked of these occupations. The dainty, cobwebby patterns which our grandmothers used to create with two knitting needles and a spool of fine linen thread are all being revived, and from them the ingenious fair ones are evolving new and more intricate patterns.

A young society lady who is to become a bride just after next Easter, announces with pride that she is to make all the lace for her trousseau with her own fingers. More than this, she is to do much of the needlework for underwear of fine materials, made entirely by hand.

Hems, tucks and puffs are not now the correct thing. A waste of time? Well, why? These fair ladies have been in the habit of being busy at nothing. They simply utilize time which otherwise would go to waste. Is it not rather to the young lady's credit to be able to display beautiful specimens of her own handiwork? Then, too, think how charming she may appear in the eyes of her devoted admirers of the other sex—those gentlemen who think strong-minded women are so unwomanly, and that this sort of thing is much more suited to the display of women's talents.

There is another thing to be taken into consideration. Nothing will so effectually display dainty jeweled fingers and pink tinted polished nails as the handling of the knitting needles. They are learning to knit, too, these fair ones, and a very popular Christmas gift this winter from young ladies to their gentlemen friends will be silk socks which they have knitted, every stitch with their own fair fingers.

Globe-Democrat: Mrs. E. B. Granits, editor of the New York Church Union, is probably the only woman who has successfully carried for nearly twenty years the whole burden, financially and editorially, of a large religious journal. A New York paper describes Mrs. Granits as "a quiet little bundle of energy," and adds that "in her team of assistants, she drives

seven doctors of divinity tandem." The paper is devoted especially to the advocacy of church union; the D. D.s are of the most various theological tenets, and the paper invites contributions from all evangelical denominations. In addition to the Church Union Mrs. Granits for many years edited the Children's Friend and Kindergarten. She is president of the National Christian League for the Promotion of Social Purity, and an active member of many benevolent societies.

Globe-Democrat: Pretty seats for bed rooms or the small sitting room of the house are the short wooden benches sold in the house-furnishing shops. These are painted in white or delicate shades of enamel paint and cushioned. An extremely pretty one is of white enamel with light English violets painted on the legs and along the side pieces. The cushion is covered with white silk dotted with bunches of heliotrope violets. The cushion is merely laid on the bench and held in place by a broad band of heliotrope passed in the bunch at either end and tied on top in a handsome flat bow. Some stripes of an old quilt, washed and cut into the right length and width, make an excellent filling for the cushion; a muslin cover is fitted over it before the silk one is slipped on.

Christian Union: In the year 1849 the Baroness von Bulow—a noble woman in every sense of the word—inquired of her landlady in a little Thuringian town what was happening in the place, and was told that a few weeks before, a stranger had settled on a small farm in the neighborhood, who played and sang with the village children, and therefore was known as the old "fool." Some time after, on one of her walks, the Baroness met a tall, spare man, with long, gray hair, leading a company of children, who marched in order until they reached the summit of the hill, where he played and sang with them. The beautiful simplicity, imperturbable patience and lovely spirit of the strange teacher, as revealed in his attitude towards his pupils, deeply impressed the spectator, who said to her companion that this man was perhaps one of those who are ridiculed and stoned by their contemporaries, but to whom later generations build monuments. This winning teacher with his eccentric methods had his trials of neglect and ridicule, but he lived to be recognized as a prophet, even by his contemporaries; and to no modern man has society built more beautiful monuments than to Froebel, the father of the kindergarten.

Froebel's system rests on nature. It turns work into play and seeks objectively and by concrete illustration of the truths of life to guide children to "the realization of a faithful, pure, inviolate and hence holy career."

Woman's Chronicle: The manner of man who sent his son out in the world with the admonition, to get money—honestly if he could—but anyway—get money—is losing ground. The evidences of a better sentiment is getting abroad. Some people are waking up to the knowledge that money gotten by fraud, or money gotten at the expense of tarnished honor, or money gotten at the expense of a brother man's downfall, or his moral or spiritual undoing, is money that is not likely to bring with it any blessings. The evidence of this better knowledge and care as to money getting is evidenced by the fact that only very recently Mayor Grant of New York city has refused a salary of forty thousand dollars a year to become the president of a great brewing association. Forty thousand dollars a year is a great sum of money, large enough to tempt the souls of most men, but his refusal was a great victory—it was a literal command of "Get thee behind me, Satan," which must have made his Satanic majesty quail and shrink back with trembling fears for the reign and perpetuation of his darksome dynasty.

All honor to Mayor Grant of New York. America is the land to which the whole world is looking for men who are unselfish enough, and strong enough in moral courage, to turn their backs upon the liquor traffic with all its promises of golden gain, simply because they love their fellow-men and would not ruin them for money.

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The number of Bushels and pounds in a load of Wheat, Corn, Rye, Oats, or Barley, and the correct amount for same, at any price per bu. The correct amount for a lot of Hogs or Cattle, from 1 lb. to a car load, at any price per Cwt. The correct amount for a load of Hay, Straw, Coal or Coke, from 25 cents to \$20 per ton. The exact value of a bale of Cotton, at any price per lb. Also the Toll for ginning it. The correct amount of articles sold by the Bushel, Pound, Yard or Dozen, from 1/4c to \$1. The exact Wages for any time, at various rates per month, per week, and per day. The equivalent of Wheat in Flour, when exchanging same, from 25 to 40 lbs. to the bu. The only correct Rule and Table for estimating the exact contents of Logs of all sizes. The exact contents of Lumber, Cisterns, Bins, Wagon-beds, Corn-crisps, Cord-wood, and Carpenters', Plasterers' and Brick-layers' work.

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The equivalent of two or more discounts: as for instance, 33 1/3, 10, and 5 off, equals 43 1/3 off.

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FARM AND STOCK.

The more grass a hog eats, the less is he in danger from cholera.

It don't pay to sell hogs in the fall and save the money till spring to buy bacon and lard with.

No animal should be kept on a farm after it ceases to be profitable. That is what they are kept for.

This is a pertinent question: Where and in what condition are your farm implements, Mr. Farmer?

The Iowa dairy school has greatly decreased the proportion of bad to good butter, and has added largely to the value of the butter crop of that state.

Pork made entirely of corn is neither the best nor the cheapest. To have nice streaked meat, streaked food must be furnished. Grass, peas, pumpkins, corn, make the delicate streaks, and which consumers so much desire.

A farmer who has a few fairly good common cows can quadruple the value of their calf crop by buying and using a good Jersey bull, and we are glad to say that in Texas many are taking hold of this truth with a practical grip.

Governor Hoard, who knows, says that the three essentials in a dairy barn, are plenty of sunlight, plenty of ventilation and sufficient warmth. It don't matter how cheaply the building may be constructed, if it has these requisites it is all right.

Those who have neglected to sow a few acres of rye for winter pasture have not treated their stock properly. Fine winter grazing may be had in South Texas from rye-sown early in the present month. It is a good thing for horses, cows and pigs to revel in.

Successful farming requires as careful calculation of every element of profit and loss as manufacturing or trading. It was not always so, and some have not yet learned that a change has taken place in circumstances that renders a change in habits necessary.

If the recent Texas State Fair shall, as seems probable, result in converting a number of small cotton farms into dairy farms, the good will amply alone for any deficiency in gate receipts. Jersey and Holstein cows are being widely disseminated, and that means butter.

FEEDING THE BROOD SOW.

N. J. SHEPHERD

To begin with, the essential item is to supply the rations that will best meet the demands upon the system while carrying the pigs. The pig should come out full of strength and vigor as possible and this can best be secured by keeping the sow in good thrifty condition. If given a proper ration the natural tendency of the sow is to store up flesh against parturition, and if she is well fed during gestation she will be able to feed her pigs. It is not fat forming feeds that she needs, as an excess of these is rather a detriment than otherwise. She wants to develop bone and muscle, and these cannot be supplied unless a proper ration is supplied. If given too much fat forming foods her pigs will be fat enough but they will lack vigor, and in many cases, even with good treatment, will fall to thrive as they should. Pigs with a good development of bone are harder, and if they are not quite so fat will do better than if very fat. It is never advisable to keep a sow closely confined when it is possible to avoid. While there is grass she needs a supply, and in giving her a good range she will pick up much that she needs, and will help to make up a variety. During the winter, if they can have the run of a patch of rye or wheat all the better, but if no green feed can be readily supplied give clover hay. It will, in a measure at least, take the place of grass, and with the brood sows will be of considerable benefit. Too much grain should not be given, as more bulky food will be better. In winter, when the weather is cold, corn can be given, for the reason that it is one of the very best materials that can be supplied to maintain animal heat, and heat is necessary to comfort during the winter. But as a leading or preferable ration oats is preferable to corn, as it is one of the very best grains to aid in the development of bone and muscle. Middlings is another good feed for the brood sows. Barley and oats in equal proportion make a good ration; generally the better plan is to grind together. Oat meal and middlings make a very good ration, and can be used to a good advantage in making up a variety, but oat meal is very rich, and care must be taken not to feed too much. With sows as with

other animals kept for breeding or growth, the condition of the animal should determine the amount of food that should be supplied. Good feeding will keep her thrifty during gestation, and if fed liberally she can be kept from running down too much while suckling her pigs. All reasonable care should be taken to keep her thrifty, as fully as possible. With this condition she will farrow better and thrifty piglets and this is an essential item in keeping the brood sow.

Eldon, Mo.

THE SUPPLY OF HOGS.

Kansas City Drivers' Telegram.

There is a great deal of speculation at present as to the course hog values will pursue this fall. It is generally accepted that no such deluge of hogs as came to this market last fall and winter will strike us this fall. In the face of this there are many people who are holding to the idea of high values. And yet, there is something in the way of the prices which over-confident persons expect. The packers are not able to figure out a profit in provisions by paying such high values for hogs, and they now refuse to take hold of the marketings very freely on that account. If they are determined to operate lightly until the relative position of hogs and provisions is adjusted on a paying basis, one of three things must happen. Provisions must advance, hogs must come down, or the supply of hogs must be abnormally small.

THE STOCK TO KEEP.

Farmer's Home.

Generally speaking, the profit in keeping an animal decreases or wholly disappears shortly after the prime of life is past. If kept long after this point is reached the profit that has accrued from feeding through the earlier stages may be lost. Farmers are not usually much given to sentiment in this matter, and do not retain animals after the period of profitable use is past, not from any especial affection, but simply because they do not recognize the fact that they are on the down grade. Go into the barns and fields of men who are thoroughly successful stock raisers and you will find mainly young animals, very rarely any that are much past their prime. On the other hand, look over the stock of men who think that live stock does not pay, and you will often see the reason plainly written in the too great age to which the animals are kept.

The best time to sell an old or aging animal is direct from good pasture. If you cannot get it in good shape for market on grass you cannot do so with profit in any other way. To put it up and feed grain would cost more than you would gain, and very often an animal can be made moderately fat on grass that could hardly be fed up at all on grain and hay because of the impaired condition of both its teeth and digestive apparatus. Save your winter feed and winter care for young and thrifty stock that can pay you a good return, even if some of the old stand bys have to be sold for canners' stock in the fall for a little less than you think it is really worth. Keep nothing during winter that does not show good earning power.

THE BULL.

George Appleton in Farm and Fireside.

It must be admitted that the bull is a neglected animal—an animal subjected to great ill-usage, if not cruelty. Twenty or thirty years ago, comparatively few farmers kept bulls, but to-day a great many have bulls of their own. The farmer may provide himself with a bull without much expense; he has opportunity to buy a high grade calf or thoroughbred, or raise one of his own from a registered animal.

This is commendable if the farmers will take care of their bulls—give them a chance to live a fairly comfortable life, and not make them eyecores to every one who visits the place. As soon as the bull begins to show his temper (and he begins to show it very early if treated in the ordinary way), he is discovered to be "cross," a ring thrust through his nose, and he is kept in the stall month after month, year after year, only going out as service requires.

In a great many cases the bull never leaves the stall except when led by the pole attached to the ring in the nose. He is not even allowed the freedom of the yard, because he has shown an ugly disposition. Why should he not show an ugly disposition? He cannot be otherwise than ugly under such treatment as is meted out to him; it would not be natural for him to have a gentle disposition.

Within a week I have seen two bulls, one not yet two years old, that have not been out of the stall, except when led by the pole and ring, for seven months. The bulls are held by the old-style "anchons," so that they cannot reach with their head any part of the body. They cannot

rub or lick themselves. Any one with a knowledge of cattle knows that such treatment of stock is contrary to nature, the nature of the animal, and that is little less than torture. Throughout the country are a great many bulls treated in the same way, and their owners wonder why they are cross. Who or what would not be cross, even mad, frantic, under such circumstances? Some farmers appear to think that because a bull is a bull, he is not entitled to any consideration.

The question has been asked often, "What shall we do with the bull?" and it has as often been answered; namely, "Work him." There is no reason why the bull should not be yoked and worked like the ox. He makes a good draft animal, and his working does not impair his vitality or usefulness in other respects.

"GIVING DOWN" MILK.

Farmer's Record.

A cow carries her milk from one milking to the next, held firmly in little reservoirs distributed all through the udder. The valves which open and close the passages from these reservoirs to the teats are under control of the will, but like the neck of the bladder, they are naturally and constantly kept closed, and are only relaxed by a special effort of the will. At milking time these valves, by a relaxation of the cords which control them, are opened and the milk let down in a flood into the teats. This relaxation does not last long. After a little the special effort to hold open the valve ceases, and they instinctively close again, shutting off the flow from the reservoirs and retaining in them any milk which may not have passed out. The habit of not "giving down" consists in shortening the time of this relaxation, thus stopping the flow from the reservoirs to the teats before the milk is all drawn. The circumstances which tend to make a cow shorten this period of relaxation are rough treatment, fear, grief, solitude, loud noises—in short, anything which attracts attention and makes the cow uneasy. The things inducing prolonged relaxation are comfort and quietude and freedom from disturbance and excitement, together with the relief which the flow of milk occasions. When a cow has, from any cause, acquired a habit of shortening the time of "letting down" it is very difficult, and sometimes impossible, to overcome it. The best way is to avoid all occasions of disturbance, and observe well those which promote pleasure for the cow, and to milk as rapidly as possible, consistent with comfort, with a view to getting the milk out before the "letting down" ceases milking rapidly does not mean jerking down sharply, or moving with hasty or irregular motions in the presence of the cow. Such a course would counteract the very thing aimed at. The motion of the milker should not be such as to attract suspicion. They should be deliberate and cool, but nothing should be allowed to interrupt or retard the work. This will produce constant relief to the udder. The milker should bear constantly in mind the fact that the "letting down" is short, and that every moment should be used to the best advantage. When the milk ceases to flow the milking should stop at once, whether it is all out or not. There is no good in hanging on after the milk stops coming, as it only cultivates the habit of "holding back."

PECAN CULTURE.

Atlanta Constitution.

Pecan growing is not an entirely new feature of agriculture, yet it is only within the past twenty-five years that people have begun to extend the culture of the tree into regions where it does not grow in the wild state. There is a large area in Texas, where the tree has been known as native or indigenous for many years. There are large forests there, growing wild, and enormous sums of money have been received for the product of the nuts. It is nothing unusual at certain seasons of the year to see whole droves of wagons and teams with loads of nuts on their way to the marketing places from these native resorts.

The tree is a variety of the hickory, and it will flourish in the soils where that growth abounds. It requires, however, a longer season for the maturing of its fruit than it does for the ordinary hickory nut. All over our gulf states there are large bodies of river and creek bottoms that, in recent years, have been so subject to overflows and washout that it has been found impracticable to devote them to general agricultural purposes. I would recommend that these lands be set in pecan trees. The occasional overflows will not seriously effect the growth of the tree, but on the contrary, such lands are said to grow the tree to perfection.

For the information of those who desire to experiment in this line, I would state that for growing in such lands there should

be a replanting of scions from the nursery. Beginning with the seed in such grounds is not recommended. Use trees only one year old and set them 40x40; and then give them such cultivation as will keep down all other growth near the tree. Between spaces Benning's grass may be grown. Thorough fertilization will be required on soils that are poor.

The pecan tree is remarkable as the most profitable of all the nut-bearing trees. A single tree has been known to produce as many as 1,000 pounds of nuts, and of the fine varieties of the fruit, as much as \$350 has been realized from a single tree.

The most profitable variety to cultivate is considered by many as being the paper shell pecan. Of this there are two kinds—those known as the Stuart and Van Deman. The latter is named in honor of Professor H. E. Van Daman, United States pomologist, Washington, D. C., an enthusiast on the subject of pecan culture. The Stuart is named for that extensive grower of the fruit, Col. W. R. Stuart, of Ocean Springs, Miss., who is regarded as the pioneer in professional pecan culture in the south. Col. Stuart has one of the finest and best pecan groves in the country. He is largely interested in introducing and extending the culture of the tree in other regions, and persons who desire information on the subject will find in him, ready cheerful, and authoritative communication.

Southern Live Stock Journal: The low price of wheat in the West should not figure with the cotton farmer who needs to raise his own flour. Bought bread is dear at any price to the farmer, especially when bought with the proceeds of 7 cent cotton.

HORSE DEPARTMENT.

Edited by J. E. LITTLE, Waxahachie, Texas, to whom all communications pertaining to this department should be addressed.
Official paper of the Texas Trotting and Pacing Horse Breeders' Association—S. B. Hovine, Secretary, Dallas, Texas.

Fine horses, nice buggies and harness, and good roads, will go far toward settling the question, "How are we to keep the boys and girls on the farm?"

The weather was very unfavorable for racing during the term of the State Fair. However, it is the first year since its organization that the weather clerk has not given the very best of weather for such sport.

The drivers of trotting and pacing horses have organized an association for mutual protection. They disclaim any intention of antagonizing the Trotting Associations, as has been charged by some of the horse papers.

An offer of \$850, cash, was recently refused for a pair of grade Percheron mares in Waxahachie. How is this, when it costs no more to raise them than the animals for which from \$40 to \$60 is considered a good price?

Is there anything in the platforms of any of the political parties of this State in regard to good roads? We think them of more importance to the public than some of the matters to which the politicians are paying so much attention.

H. B. Sanborn's Primont, by Belmont, and out of daughter of Principles, got a record of 2:32 at Independence, Iowa, recently, in a tilt against time. We are glad to hear of any Texas horse doing well, and congratulate both the owner and driver of the horse.

For years trotting horse owners lost lots of sleep in devising some way to keep the public from finding out how fast their horses could go, while now they are nearly all after fast records. The present season has seen the most wonderful progress in this direction.

In the selection of a trotting sire to which to breed, the majority of small breeders will find it to their advantage to select such as possess "roadster qualities" in a high degree, i. e., kind and tractable in disposition, with the ability to show speed without the aid of weights and boots, in preference to those that are regarded more as race horses, but are peculiar in their dispositions and require mechanical appliances to balance them.

We take the following from the Spirit of the Times, and ask our Texas readers what is to prevent Texas people from doing likewise, since Nature has done her part for us. "Few realize the extent of the horse raising industry in Central Kansas. The influence of the men who have exerted themselves to show what can be done by good breeding and training has gone abroad to such a degree that counties like Dickinson, Geary, Saline, Ellsworth and McPherson, ship hundreds of roadsters East every year. From the first mentioned

FARM MACHINERY

THE CHESTNUT TREE.

Monroe H. Rosenfield, in the New York Clipper.

Oh, a wonderful thing is the chestnut tree,
And it bloometh the whole year round;
When its branches are shaken with fenshish glee,
What a harvest of joy is found.
There's the "Mother-in-law with her busy jaw,"
And the "Booing-house full of hash;"
There's the "Dude with his cane and his delicate
train,"
And the "Bald head" who tries to mash:
Then it's Ho! Ho! Ho! and it's He! He! He!
What a wonderful tree is the chestnut tree!

Oh, its branches have grown many thousands
years;

It was planted before the flood;
In vitality it will outlast the spheres,
And endure when the sun is mud!
There's the "Beefsteak tough" and the "Church
fair stew,"

And the "Plumber's gigantic bill;"
There's the "Bathing suit" that is made so cute
That an "Envelope" it'll not fill!
Then it's Ho! Ho! Ho! and it's He! He! He!
What a wonderful tree is the chestnut tree!

There's the "Hubby who steps on the pin at
night,"

While he's holding the twins that squall;
The "Chicago girl's foot" which ne'er fades from
sight,

And the "bustle" that's never small;
There's the "goosey sound" that "is it warm enough?"
And the "Pie" with the half-spring,

And the "Hi-cuts of lead" that will never be
dead—

We encounter them every minute!
Oh, it's Ho! Ho! Ho! and it's He! He! He!
What a wonderful tree is the chestnut tree!

GIN MANUFACTURING IN DALLAS.

But few Texans outside those directly interested know or realize the magnitude of the cotton machinery manufacturing interests located at Dallas. R. S. Murray and E. Van Winkle are among the leading inventors and manufacturers of this class of machinery, and their factories have been kept busy to their utmost capacity to supply the demand for the meritorious goods bearing their names. These factories should be the pride of every Dallas citizen, not only because of their success as manufacturers, but as well for the reason that the inventors have given to the cotton growing and consuming world the best improved machinery, evolved from their own brains.

Now, without noise or soliciting a pension, a new factory has sprung up, located in Dallas to manufacture another proven successful Texas invention. Mr. Murray comes to the front with inventions and patents, the merits of which were immediately recognized by practical gin men, and as a consequence the Murray Ginning System Manufacturing Company was organized during this year, and found ready purchasers for every outfit they could build with their limited facilities. They have now fully organized, and are ready to begin operations on a splendid basis for next year's demand, which is certain to be very large by reason of the splendid success of the few outfits put in use this season.

The display of cotton gin machinery at the late Texas State Fair equaled anything of the kind ever before seen in the South; and a marvel of simplicity was the ginning outfit put on exhibition by the Murray Ginning System Manufacturing Co. It is likely to mark the beginning of a new era in the cotton ginning business. It is a system of machines that reduces the business to a common sense basis, by dispensing with the necessity of a great labyrinth of shafting, counter shafting, belts, pulleys, rollers, etc. In a nutshell, the gin having a capacity of thirty-five bales per day, and is operated by one belt only. The machine is immensely rigid and firm and cannot be twisted nor sprung, and at any time all its parts are accessible and easy to get at. The elevator and distributor are all one machine without a moving part, and yet doing its work perfectly, never clogging or choking, and the feeders! the most simple and neatest working affairs imaginable; nothing but vertical chutes with three simple rollers at the bottom through which the cotton passes into the gin breasts—for remember this gin has several breasts, saw cylinders and brushes, the whole operated as one machine or separately, as desired. This company builds ginneries up to a capacity of thirty-five bales per day without the use of any line shaft, and with less than one-fifth the moving parts found in any other system of the same capacity. Think of this outfit as occupying a house but little more than half the size required with any other system. Think of the abridgement of the usual innumerable belts, pulleys, etc., of the saving in first cost, of the saving in wear and tear, the saving in fuel, in running expenses. Think of all this and then remember that the machine cannot be worn out in a life time, that every detail of its construction has been carefully thought out. The large and simple bearings, the raising or lowering of all the breasts at once or separately; the instantaneous adjustment of feed at once in

all the feeders alike; the manner of building the saw cylinders so that any one of them can readily be slipped out of the machine; the quick and easy change from one bale to the next without any loss of time. These and many other splendid features attract the attention and command the admiration of practical gin men. We say to our ginner friends, investigate, examine into this; there is business in it for you. Some time when in Dallas use your own eyes and judgment on it. For the system must be seen to be fully appreciated.

F. B. Jones, Dallas, state representative for the Rock Island Plow Co., has placed one hundred and sixty-two Rock Island sulky plows in Texas since harvest, and every plow has been settled for, and not a single complaint made by any one using or selling them.

The Munger Improved Cotton Machine Manufacturing Co., of Dallas, made seven entries at the late State Fair and got six first premiums as follows:

Best elevator and cleaner—diploma.

Best leveling and feeding system for a battery of gins—diploma.

Best system of handling lint cotton—diploma.

Best press for public ginning—diploma.

Best self packing press suited to screw, hydraulic or steam power—diploma.

Best and most complete system for handling, cleaning, ginning and pressing cotton, from wagon to bale—gold medal.

The Eagle Cotton Gin Co. got the other, a diploma, for best gin for upland cotton.

CORRECTION.

DALLAS, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

Dear Sir:—In your issue of October 29th, under head of "Machinery at the Fair," you say "the well known Winship Cotton Gins are exhibited by Hunter & Boos?" This is an error. The Winship Cotton Gins are exhibited by W. T. Adams Machine Co., state agents. Please make correction and oblige.

W. T. ADAMS MACHINE CO.
By R. T. ADAMS, Manager.

MARVELOUS IMPROVEMENTS IN FARM MACHINERY.

Farm Machinery.

Notwithstanding the wonderful advancement that has been made in the way of improved machinery in almost every other industrial branch, inventive genius has in no wise slighted that of agriculture, which has been developed until now it stands among the very foremost industries of importance, and hand in hand with all others it is being aided and helped forward by the brain and brawn of the mechanic, the inventor, the chemist, in fact by all that employs thought and muscle and courage. Half a century ago, when it may be said the present amazing mechanical development began, the farmer had a poor plow, made chiefly of wood, the hoe and the scythe only for his tools, and very little else was needed, after the ax, to run a farm. Then the farmer was everything for himself, and was much as a packhorse might be compared to the flying railroad train or the great steamship of to-day. But about that time the inventor and the mechanic began to put in their work, and improved plows led the van of a wonderful course of improvement. Then came the seed drill, the corn planter and other machines for sowing and planting the seed in better prepared soil. The increased crops called for something better than the scythe, the sickle and the grain cradle, and these were quickly displaced by the mowing machine, the horse rake, and later by the hay loader and the hay elevator, by which the crop is now put in the barn without the touch of a hand. The harvest improved year by year, has led to the self binder, a machine as intricate and effective as the woman's sewing machine, and which goes through the great wheat fields with its wide swath, cuts the grain, gathers it and binds it into sheaves as nimbly and knots the twine as tightly as the strongest human fingers can do, and then tosses the sheaf aside, taking twenty acres for its day's work, and thus doing the work of twenty men. And thus with the gang plow, the modern harrow, the seed drill and the self binding harvester, the wheat is grown for 13 cents a bushel, or one-eighth of the cost of the former method of work, the whole cost of the grain being now reduced to that of the plowing alone under the methods of fifty years ago. With other primal custom and device the clod-hopping and moss back farmer is fast becoming a thing of the past and soon will be entirely removed from the scenes of activity. The workman rides and merely guides his machine, holding the reins, as the engineer the lever, in his hands; and he may, if he will, hitch the locomotive to the plows and cover twenty-five acres a day. The perfection of machinery is now

almost complete, for machines are in use on which the driver does nothing but guide it while a boy feeds it with plants, and a big finger takes these and sets them in the ground, and others press down the soil, while something else spits a quart of water on the plant, and a hundred plants are thus set while the story of it is being read. Or another takes the whole potatoes and cuts them, and drops and covers the cuttings and a quantity of fertilizer all ready for the young plants. Thus the tobacco, the cabbage and the potato crops are planted or, may be, at less than one-tenth of the former cost and with ten times the rapidity. And of the harvested crop is taken in hand, so to speak, by machinery is separated from the straw, cleaned, drawn into spouts, stored in elevators, run into cars, carried 2,000 miles in the time it formerly occupied in cartage for a hundred, and is in a constant stream like a river pours itself out over the breadth of a continent. And it is never touched by the hand of a man, except that the engineer who controls the whole work touches a magic wand, which sets in motion all the various machinery by which the work is done. And it is for this that railroads have been built, reaching out gigantic arms embracing the whole world, and gathering in all this wealth of field and farm. The powerful steamships, by which the ocean is transformed into a mere way for other railroads, are but different vehicles for all the commerce set in motion by the new agriculture, as different from the old as the reasoning animal of the present is from the original germ from which by gradual evolution he has grown to the ability to originate and conduct the most complex enterprises which make up the work of mankind of the present day.

Inasmuch, however, as the soil by the more modern culture undergoes a greater exhaustive drain, means had to be devised by which it could be fed and the drafts repaid, and for this reason the chemist, the smelter of iron, and the men who dig into the bowels of the earth, are constantly contributing to these needs of the soil. The use of artificial fertilizers and the manufacture of them are by no means of small account in this category. Millions of tons of phosphates from various sources are gathered, and not a small part of them is procured from the slag of the iron furnaces, and farmers owe that much at least to the skillful inventors of new and improved methods of making iron and steel by which the injurious phosphoric acid is taken from the iron and saved for the use of the farmers in growing increased crops. And the potash, which is needed to replace the thousands of tons of it removed from the land each year in the form of wheat and other food crops, is now almost wholly supplied by the salt mines, of which it is refuse and a waste otherwise. In fact, there is not an industry which has any refuse or waste that does not supply something for the use of the farmer. He feeds the world, but the world is contributing its share of work and material to enable him to do this. This mutual dependence of man upon man and interest upon interest, is not by any means to be ignored in this connection, for as each becomes more highly developed it is perceived how each one is called upon to assist the other, and the more intricate the new methods are the more it is that mutual aid becomes an absolute necessity.

Thus, with the same common end in view, namely, the advancement of civilization to a high plane, the great work goes on. Mechanical ingenuity is busy lightening the labors of the farmer and at the same time rendering them more productive. In the laboratory and experimental fields valuable and interesting discoveries continue to be made by students of science. A better knowledge of the soil, of plants, of the vital functions of all living things has been acquired, and the revelations have opened a vast book in which the tiller of the soil, the fruit grower, and all the industrious workers in the broad field of agriculture may read the secret processes by which the soil and the covering atmosphere furnish all the needs of organic life and make the earth a fitting habitation for the human race. From a remotest age the progress in intelligence and mental culture is marked and its standard of excellence adjudged according to its mechanical improvements and devices. It is self-evident that the man who uses a machine cannot be a machine himself—he must be a man who uses his mind—and while the labor is lightened and made more efficient, the head work, the brain—man's intelligence—is made to grow and take on greater strength. The outcome of it all is that in every other part of life and work mankind is lifted in the scale of intellectual activity and the great end and purpose of man's existence more nearly reached.

The following general rules for the conduct of the World's Fair have been adopted: The gates will be open to employees at 6 a. m. and to the public at 8 a. m. They will be closed at 7 p. m., unless in case of some special exhibition or event, when they will close not later than 11 p. m. Admission will be in all cases 50 cents per head, except that of children under 6 years, accompanied by a parent or guardian. These will be admitted free. A limited amount of power will be furnished gratuitously to exhibitors, but where a large amount of power is required a charge will be made. The expenditure will exert reasonable care in the protection of exhibits, but will not stand responsible for any loss or damage. No patent medicines or nostrums whose ingredients are concealed will be accepted for exhibition. Catalogues will be printed in English, French and Spanish, and will be published by the exposition exclusively.

STEAM ON THE HIGHWAY.

Stockton Mail.

Peter Chalmers, a farmer of Farmington is a genius in his line. When anything new comes out he studies to see whether it cannot be adapted to use on his farm.

For one thing he has applied the helmet oil cups to greasing wagon wheels. He has a score of grain wagons, all of them supplied with these cups, and all of the wheels can be greased by means of them in ten or fifteen minutes a job which would require an hour or more without them.

All the plowing done on Chalmers' big ranch is done with a traction engine, and during the last plowing season he ran the engine day and night, having three shifts of men. A locomotive headlight was employed to illuminate the path ahead and another was used to throw light on the plows.

Now the farmer is hauling wheat to town with his engine. He brought a load in recently and stowed it at the Stockton warehouse. There were nine wagons in train, and each carried sixty-eight sacks of grain. Each sack weighed on an average 137 pounds, so each wagon load was 9,816 pounds, and the aggregate of all the wagon loads 88,344, or nearly forty-two tons.

The farmer has 30,000 sacks of wheat to haul, some of it belonging to his neighbors.

"Is it much cheaper to bring the wheat this way than it would be to ship by rail?" asked a Mail reporter of Mr. Chalmers.

"Well," was the reply, "I can't say positively that it is any cheaper at all, but I think it is. You see, this is only my third trip and I haven't been able to cast up accounts yet. The wheat I'm bringing now comes from near Farmington, which is seventy miles from Stockton, and it would cost \$1.10 a ton to get it here by rail. Some of the wheat I'm going to haul is farther away, and to transport it on the railroad would cost \$1.50 a ton. I don't think it will cost me \$1 a ton on the longest haul."

"Where does the saving come in?"
"Well one has to load his wheat anyhow, and if he ships it by cars, he's got to unload, and then load it on the cars. That requires men and time. This way all we've got to do is to load it in the field—the warehouse men do the rest. It requires only three men to take care of our train—an engineer, a fireman, and a man to look out for the wagons and see that they don't get 'hot boxes.' The only expense of hauling, therefore, is the wages of the three men and the cost of the coal used."

"But," said the reporter, "there's the interest on the money in the engine, which cost—"

"\$4,500."

"And then there's repairs, and the steady wear of the machine; and you've got to have a lot of money invested in wagons. You would only need a couple of wagons to haul to the railroad, but this way you need a dozen."

"Oh, I need the wagons and engine on the farm, anyhow," was the reply.

In further conversation, Mr. Chalmers said it would not be feasible to haul grain as he is doing except on level and good roads. The only trouble he experienced was in crossing small bridges, which he had to brace up on the first trip. The tender carries water sufficient for only twelve hours' consumption, but water is pumped into it from watering troughs along the road.

It might seem foolish to say that the wagons follow one another around corners in the same path, since as a matter of course they would do so, but the people often ask the farmer what sort of gearing he puts on his wagons to make them follow the lead.

The engine can haul the train at the rate of four and a half miles an hour, but to prevent jolting, the speed is regulated to about three miles an hour.

The following general rules for the conduct of the World's Fair have been

CHEAP WHEAT.

Farmer's Review.

The price of standard wheat in New York has touched 74 cents per bushel, the lowest ever reported in that market; a fact partly due no doubt to cheap transportation rates from the wheat raising centers. In Chicago prices are almost as low as they were after the collapse of the notorious Harper corner. The current price in Chicago is about 20 cents per bushel less than a year ago when reports of foreign shortage boomed the market. We are now face to face with the disappointing fact that the price of wheat to the farmer is ruinously low; indeed, perhaps as low as it has ever been since about thirty years ago. The chief reason for this decrease in prices would seem to be explained by the fact that an unusually large part of our wheat crop this year passes into the lower grades of inspection. It has recently been estimated that the average price now paid the farmers of the northwest for their wheat, taking in all grades, does not exceed 42 cents per bushel.

Regarding the depression a well-informed authority writes: "This extreme depression is due to the unprecedented rate at which the wheat crop of the present year has been marketed, combined with the important fact that the home deficiencies of Europe are much less than twelve months ago. The 115,757,000 bushels received at the seven principal Western points since the close of June exceed by 10,000,000 bushels the quantity received in the same time for the much larger crop of 1891. At the same time the exports for the four months were 65,000,000, against 80,000,000 last year. Of course this must mean a big piling up of the visible supply, and it accounts for the report that elevators everywhere, both in the city and country are full to running over, while cars by the thousands are standing full on the railroad tracks waiting for a chance to load. The charge is freely made by some Eastern papers that the farmers of the West held back their wheat last year, and afterwards suffered a loss by selling at lower prices than they could have obtained earlier in the season. There may have been some of this, but not enough to effect the general result. The movement of wheat from the farm last year was far more liberal than ever before, and if it exceeded this year it is only because the magnificent weather has permitted the threshers to work night and day for weeks in succession, and the transportation companies have been able to move more than they could last fall, partly for the same reason of good weather and partly because of some increase in facilities and experience in handling. The present glut is also to a small extent increased by the shipment of old wheat from the crop of 1891, but even that fact does not prove the wheat could have been marketed a year sooner. The wonder is that on a crop which exceeded by 100,000,000 bushels the biggest previously known there should have been so little left over at the close of the crop year."

Now this does not by any means explain the low price received by the farmer for his wheat. There is a wide margin between 42 cents per bushel at the country elevator and 74 cents per bushel at New York, or 70 3/4 cents per bushel in Chicago. Between the farm and Chicago nearly thirty cents per bushel has been added to the value of the wheat, and the farmer gets none of it. The average price is said to be 42 cents on the farm for all grades of wheat. It is, therefore, very evident that the grading of farm wheat into low grades explains the low average price. It would be interesting to learn just how much wheat is bought below standard and sold as standard. There is something rotten here, and we suspect that much of it exists at the ring elevators of the northwest, which it is openly alleged, purposely degrade wheat when buying it from the farmers.

HIGH INTEREST.

Farmer's Voice.

The money loaning leech has bled the West unmercifully. He has cut away his pound of flesh with extreme relief. Many of our Western States, in their liberal interest laws, allow the fellow his full pound, but in many cases dissatisfied with the generosity of the law's provisions, the fellow has demanded even more than a pound and has taken it. We presume that there have been millions of dollars paid in usurious interest by the farmers of the West. When it has been safe to charge usurious interest outright, it has been done. When there has been some danger in collecting the interest openly, it has been done by hook or crook. The laws against usury should be severe. In most of our States the legal rate is entirely too high. When money can be borrowed by municipal corporations at even from two to three per cent,

there is no sort of justice in permitting the money grabbers to charge the unreasonable interest that prevails through the rural districts of the West. There are mortgages drawing such a frightful rate of interest that the payment of the principal is utterly out of the question. Farm property is good security. It is the very best of security. There need be no fear of capital refusing such security at much lower than the present rate of interest. Capital is very glad to get 6 per cent interest. Our legislators should cut down the rates.

FAIR LOGS.

Pacific Lumberman.

Recently the tug Hip Van Winkle towed down from Port Blakely to Tacoma the ten largest logs ever cut on Puget Sound for shipment in one consignment. The logs are to form part of the foundation of the State of Washington's World's Fair Building. All the logs are 122 feet long. The largest one is 42 inches square at the large end, the others being slightly smaller. This largest log weighs about 1,500 cubic feet of timber, and weighs computing at 48 pounds per cubic foot, something over thirty tons. The aggregate weight of the ten timbers is nearly three hundred tons.

One of the most interesting things about the timbers is the manner in which they will be shipped to Chicago. It will require a train of thirty-five cars to ship them across the continent, and only air-brake cars will be used. The thirty-five are at the Edison shops, where ten of them are being fitted with 'bunks' or cross pieces on which the ends of the timbers will rest. It will take seven cars to carry each two logs, whose weight will be borne entirely by the first and last of the seven. This arrangement is necessary to allow the middle five cars to swing out from under the timbers when rounding curves, their only use being to connect the end cars.

To load the timber on the cars a strong chute has been constructed at the end of the ocean dock. They will be hauled up out of the water by a Northern Pacific locomotive, and kept straight in the chute during the operation by means of a pile driver, to which their water ends will be attached with chains.

In all 174 logs will be shipped for the foundation, and the other construction material will include between 500,000 and 600,000 feet of lumber.

New York World: Not long before his death, the story runs, Barnum summoned his lawyer to the side of the couch where he was lying.

"I am very much worried," he said, about a certain matter, and I want to consult you. My neighbor keeps peacocks. Suppose some of them should fly over into my yard—which they are doing all the time—and lay some eggs here. Would those eggs belong to me, or could my neighbor compel me to give them up?"

The lawyer having duly scratched his head, answered:

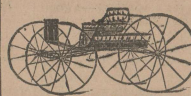
"Well, Mr. Barnum, I must take time to look into this matter. But the best thing for you to do would be to keep the eggs and let your neighbor sue for the possession. In that way your rights would be determined, and we should have a very valuable test case."

"Well," said Mr. Barnum, "while you are looking into the matter will you find out how it would be if the eggs were laid by peacocks?"

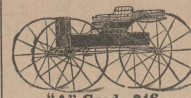
The lawyer swore softly to himself, but never made any investigation.

Farm Life: You may look the country over and you will find that good farmers invariably have good teams. In short, the team is indicative of the farmer, and good teams, like good farmers, are the exception rather than the rule. As long as farmers cut grass with a scythe, wheat with a cradle, and cultivated much of their crops with the hoe, the necessity of having good, reliable teams was not so great; but now that horse power is used in most of our farm operations, too much importance cannot be given to the item of teams. More attention should be given to horse-breeding if any efforts are to be made to improve farm methods. So large a part of farm work is now done by horse labor that the efficiency of farm help is necessarily measured by that of the teams they use. It does not pay to hire first-class men to follow second-class teams; in fact, a first-class man won't do it, and the poor farmer with poor teams is left with poor help to worry along as best he can. Strength is very important in the farm team. Much of the improved farm machinery now used is very heavy, and often requires three strong horses to draw it to good advantage.

Wet weather has injured cotton in the field in many parts of the state.



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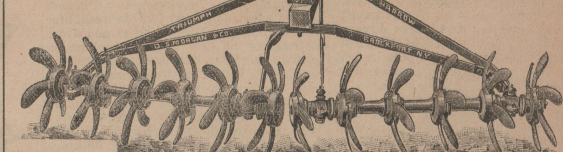
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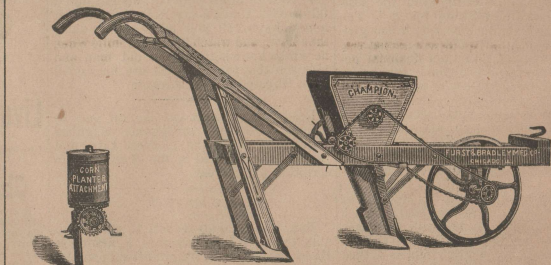
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Vol. XI.--No. 41.

DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 12, 1892.

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FUTURE OF AMERICAN FARMING.

American Farmer.

The American Farmer is sanguine as to the future of American Agriculture. It does not take a particle of stock in the doleful jeremiads which many newspapers and orators delight in singing about the "depression in agriculture," the "gloomy outlook for the farmer," etc. It does not believe for an instant that all the bright, progressive men are being lured from the farm by the prospect of less laborious and more gainful pursuits in the city. It refuses utterly to accept the assertion that farming is less lucrative than other business, or that a man of ability and energy buries his talents in devoting himself to agriculture, since he would succeed much better in some other calling.

We hold just the reverse of all these propositions. We believe that, as a whole, farming pays as well, if not better than any other business; that the man of ordinary ability succeeds fully as well in it as he would in anything, and the phenomenal money-makers accumulate just as large fortunes in it as they would in merchandising or manufacturing.

So far from progressive, enterprising men leaving the farm they are rather going back to it. An entirely new era has developed, and will continue to develop. The old ones, in which results were accomplished by "main strength and stupidity," is passing away. Hard work is not now the main thing in farming, but intelligence and practical education. The highly successful farmer needs just as much education as the highly successful lawyer, physician, minister, merchant or manufacturer. He must be just as thoroughly trained in all the details of his grand profession. He must know the theory and practice of every feature of his business, and be able to make a true estimate of its value. There is no calling followed by men which requires more exact knowledge than farming, and a recognition of this fact by the world, as well as by the farmers themselves, helps to retain learned men on the farm. When it is felt that the successful farmer is in mind and education the intellectual peer of the successful, professional men, merchant or manufacturer, we will keep on the farm the young men who are ambitious of social distinction, which they have heretofore been prone to feel could only be gained by entering one of the "learned professions." The weight of learning is not now with those who acquire a knowledge of law, medicine or theology, but with those who master in a fair degree the liberal science of husbandry.

We have said that on the whole farming is more lucrative than any other business, and that can be seen in the bad years, short crops, low prices, drouths, grasshoppers, mildew, frosts, etc. People who suffer from these forget that every other calling which men follow has an equal number of chances of disaster. The manufacturer has a constant, unremitting struggle with changing fashions and methods, improvements by competitors to cheapen production or raise quality. He is liable any day to have some new discovery, or some change of fashions or methods, render his whole manufacturing plant next to worthless. He may make high profits for a term of years, and the next have some unexpected development sweep away his entire income. Even manufacturers of staple articles must fight constantly to keep up with the times. We see this in the milling business, which is as near a staple industry as can be mentioned. Yet the man who runs his mill as he did twenty-five years ago, or even ten years ago, has had work meeting competi-

tion and making both ends meet. The money in milling, as in farming, is made by the live, wide-awake men, who keep abreast of the times, both in their own knowledge and the introduction of new machinery and methods.

We hear constantly of the men who have made great success in merchandising or manufacturing, and but little, if anything, of those who fall or barely escape failure. There is no doubt that a much larger percentage of merchants, manufacturers and professional men fail utterly, or achieve a success so limited as to be next door to failure, than among farmers.

We assert that the same amount of ability and energy devoted to merchandising or manufacturing will more certainly succeed if applied to farming, and that the financial rewards will be greater.

The future of American farming is very bright. The best minds, and the best science of the country are now being directed to determining just what our wonderful diversified soil and climate are capable of, and just what are the best methods of developing production to the utmost. There is rapid progress in all the sciences, but in none more rapid than in the science of agriculture. Every day we are learning more and more what we can get out of the soil, and the animals fed upon it, and how to do this with the least labor, the least danger of loss, and the greatest amount of profit.

The returns from the best managed farms are fully equal to those of the successful factories with the same investments.

To-day the American farmers are the most intelligent and best educated in the world, and they are rapidly becoming more so. They are learning and practicing every valuable idea which those of the Old World have developed in centuries of experience, and they add to these a multitude of their own. They are not slaves of routine, of political degradation, of social customs but are free, independent thinking, learning men, who hold their calling to be as high as any that men follow, and worthy of the best intellect and education that can be afforded to it. The effect of this in developing the science of agriculture is marvelous. Public appreciation is a powerful stimulus in the progress of any art, when men feel, as they are now doing in this country, that there is just as much reputation to be made by trebling or quadrupling the production of the soil, or improving a breed of animals, as in conducting a great law suit, inventing a labor-saving machine, or getting elected to congress. The more thoroughly this is understood the greater will be the progress in agriculture, and the more prosperous will be the farmers and the entire country.

THE FARMER'S INSTITUTE.

Farmer's Call.

The farmer's institute is the best agricultural school. It is a better school for the farmer or his son than "any agricultural college" ever can be. The agricultural college will always be more theoretical than practical; will run more to big words than hard work; will import learning that is pretty, but not easily convertible into square meals and trousers and household furniture. The farmer's institute is practical, or, at least, should be. If it is not, no one is to blame but the programme committee. The institute can be made practical. It is easy to make it practical. Politics must be rigidly excluded. The long-winded, glib-tongued office seeker or fellow dying to air his cranky opinions must be kept off the programme. To keep such off requires a programme committee

with backbone, but such committee can be got easily. Further, the presiding officer must be a man of firmness and not without tact; for the fellows glib of tongue, cranky of view, and hungry for notoriety, will bob up though kept off the programme; the chairman must have the stamina to "sit down on them" when they become nuisances.

The city lawyer, the school teacher, the preacher and the doctor should be used very sparingly in making up the programme. The farmer's institute is for the farmer, and the more nearly it is purely agricultural the better. The best institute is not the one always that has the largest attendance. It is the one that teaches the most farmers the best and fills them with a worthy ambition to improve their practices.

The practical simon pure farmer is the man the persons having in charge of farmers' institutes should reach out for. Usually he is a modest, retiring fellow, and will not come to the front in the institute unless encouraged. Sometimes to get the most valuable aids it is necessary to do some real, down-right coaxing. Very likely it is the fellow that does not do much talking that has the most valuable practical information to communicate.

We wish that many farmer's institutes would discuss good roads. We need this as an antidote for the foolishness about good roads indulged in by road conventions, road congresses, etc.,—composed largely of, and altogether engineered by broken down politicians. These fellows are going to build a million miles of solid metal roads right away. The call is honestly and earnestly enlisted in the movement for good roads, and it thinks that our present temporizing policy should be stopped at once; but it realizes that road talk must be practical and suggested road improvements practicable, and it knows that the farmers will be practical in their discussions and recommendations.

A BLASTING POLICY.

Clarke Irvine, in Coleman's Rural World.

Even to this day no country on earth can raise such excellent cotton as our Southern States, and at such a low cost. We could be producing as much again as we do, and at least eight million more of our people could be profitably employed in this business, had it not been for our tariffs. By our refusal to trade with Great Britain and other manufacturing states of Europe on fair terms, and thus exchange our cotton for their goods, we have not only put them to very great inconvenience and suffering, but have driven them to hunt other regions and there encourage cotton growing until one-half of their supplies are now derived from those other regions. But for this they would have been delighted to have poured it into our own states the almost infinite millions of dollars they have been compelled to advance to other countries in order to encourage cotton growing there. The losses we have thus sustained by our "dog in the manger" policy are incalculable. And it now looks as though we shall lose nearly all of our cotton trade with foreign nations in a few years, and what have we got in return? The cotton mills of New England, and at a cost of a thousand times more than their value to us as a people.

To-day we have not over fourteen million spindles running, whereas from four or five states in Europe there are some eighty million. Without any tariff we must have had a very respectable number of cotton mills anyhow, but to force the business to be done it at an immense cost.

Moreover, manufacturers naturally spring up near the raw material, or wher-

ever it pays best. In order to divert our labor into unprofitable channels we have neglected several great and important industries that were right to our hand. Among these are corn-starch and glucose and cotton seed oil, in which we are doing not one-fifth what we might. So with fifty other manufactures.

Our folly in trying to manufacture silk is an instance in point. This properly belongs to regions where very low wages prevail, such as China and Italy where men work for ten to twenty cents. But we must envy them and put a great tax on these velvets and silks merely in order to build up half a dozen factories that employ but few hands. In the days of 1848 every person in the United States could wear the best velvets and silks. Now only the richest can afford them. This silk business is a fair example of the workings of the tariff throughout. To encourage these few factories we have actually put a prohibition on the wearing of velvets and silks against some sixty million of our people. But worse than that, we have destroyed the great and growing trade we had in the exchange of our native products for the silk goods of foreign states.

There never was anything so disturbing, so fatal to all manner of natural and native industries as this attempt by law to force labor into various channels to please the caprices of a few speculators. It is like all other violations of natural law. Let nature and the nature of things alone. Had we free trade, many of these proud hot-house industries would perish while a thousand new native and natural ones would rise up in their places. As to reciprocity or free trade with the South American states, it is a mockery. All of these states have what is called export tariffs on all their products. There are county or provincial taxes at every state line, and road taxes, stamp, land and hospital taxes and an imperial tax at the end of the route before the goods leave the country. This last alone is abolished under our reciprocity treaties. The others stand, and thus we are supporting their governments when we trade with them.

Greenville Banner: A dispatch in another column tells of a boy being killed by vicious dogs. We have always believed that the man who keeps a dog known to be vicious is guilty of criminal disregard of the lives of others. The owner of the dog that destroys human life should be tried and convicted of murder. Of all species of brutality and selfishness, that which prompts a man to keep a dangerous dog which is a menace to the lives of women and children, merely because it may please his fancy to keep a dog, we know of none more gross and inexcusable. The country needs some stringent laws on this point. A man should no more be allowed to keep a dangerous dog than a pet tiger.

Rural New Yorker: They tell a story of a Southern gardener who drove into town with a load of cabbage, which he offered at two heads for five cents. The negroes would not buy because they "had no meat to boll with the cabbage." The farmer went to a store and bought a side of pork, which he cut into small slices. Then he put a slice on each cabbage and offered the combination for five cents. The negroes fell over themselves in their haste to buy, though they paid more at the former price. Here we have a practical illustration of the wisdom of supplying what customers want. The wise man finds what his customers need and then offers it—the unwise man gets mad because people won't buy what he thinks they should.



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It is not true that "any fool can farm." Thousands of them try it, but they fail. There is more difference between a fool and a farmer than many suppose.

Now let us get down to the real business of life, the pursuit of rational happiness—every man in his own way—after rejecting for a few days over the result of the election.

COL. STREETER has been acquitted of the charges in the Iams case. This means, evidently, either that he did not let Iams up by the thumbs, or that it was no offense to do so. Which?

Now let every one of us turn our attention more than we have ever done to counteract, contradict and disprove the derogatory claptrap about our great State that has been published by unscrupulous politicians, who would blacken the fair name of their State for base political purpose.

As an indication of the dearth of interesting local news in our Texas exchanges on the eve of the election it may be said with truth that our exchange editor examined two hundred State papers and failed to find a line suitable for the columns of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. After the political excitement subsides, perhaps it will be different.

NEW ORLEANS is in the throes of a widespread strike; no street cars running, no gas or electric lights, no freight being handled, no type being set. The governor is contemplating the situation, and it is thought will take charge, in case of riot. Anarchy, it seems, is breaking out in spots. Agriculture, alone, seems to be free from any similar trouble.

"GEN. DYRENFORTH and party left Washington on the 4th for some rainless region in Texas," is the way the dispatch reads. The General (or whatever may be his title) will learn that it is about as difficult to find a "rainless region" anywhere in Texas as it would be to make it rain therein if he should find it. The outfit may be expected to locate in some inaccessible precinct, where jack rabbits and chapparal cocks afford good sport and whence announcements of the "tremendous downpours, in response to the party's

efforts," can be thrust upon a credulous public without fear of a prompt disclosure of the facts. The General has wisely chosen a season of widespread precipitation, and he will find it much easier to make it rain in wet than in dry weather.

THE ELECTION.

The result of the National election is a signal victory for the people over the politicians. It is well known that Cleveland's disregard of the customary spoils policy during his previous presidential term alienated from him the office-hungry portion of the party, while the rank and file—the voting strength, not only of his own party, but of all parties, honored him for his sterling integrity and promptly made him their ideal of political morality. Long before the Chicago convention met it was known that Cleveland was overwhelmingly the choice of his party, and that the would-be leaders could no more stay this tidal wave of public approval than the ancient King of Denmark could stop the inflowing tide of the sea. The result was that the spoilsmen of the party had to fall into line or remain without a party. A triumphant election has followed. This result is a mighty protest against magnificent extravagance in public expenditures; against federal interference in State elections for party or other purposes, and in favor of equal rights to all and special privileges to none. It has probably been the cleanest canvass and fairest presidential election since the war, partaking largely of the character of the leaders of the two principal contending parties. It has been a campaign of decency and education from the beginning, and the result is apparent. In many of the States the Australian secret ballot system prevailed, thus preventing any wholesale corruption of voters by either party. At the present time it seems probable that the Democracy will control both houses of Congress. This will give that party an opportunity—which it has not had for more than thirty years—of redeeming its pledges to the people, and the people will hold the party responsible accordingly. The populists who have so heroically, and against such fearful odds, fought the party in the South throughout this canvass and suffered defeat, will have just cause of complaint if the victors do not furnish all reasonable relief, consistent with the tenets of the party.

The result in the state has been an additional assurance that any effort, real or supposed, to break up the solid Democratic South is predestined to failure in Texas. It is also a declaration in favor of an efficient railroad commission, and the honest, firm and impartial enforcement of the laws, which principles, whether in danger or not, were assumed to be so by a majority of the voters, and they very naturally acted promptly upon that conviction.

Now, let us get off each other's political corns. Let the victors not insist upon the traditional feast of crow, and let those who failed only for want of votes console themselves with the assurance that their failure was no fault of their own. If there be any political sores, just let them alone, and they will heal over all right. Those who cannot agree in politics can drop the subject and work together for purposes better and nobler than the election of any man to office. Let us all rejoice that the election is over, and that both state and nation "still live."

THE ONLY SAFEGUARD.

This country has always had men of wealth who were patriotic to the core, and who have spent lavishly of their substance for their country's good. It is altogether different with wealthy corporations. These creatures of the law care nothing for the government except as it facilitates their accumulations of wealth. Patriotism, fellow-feeling for humanity, sympathy for human suffering, pride of country, or joy at the pleasing spectacle of human happi-

ness, are feelings unknown to corporations. With political power in the hands of such creatures the perpetuity of republican government, here or elsewhere, depends entirely upon the extent to which it can be used by them for their own selfish purposes. This was exemplified by the banks of New York, when the life of the government was at stake. The ultimatum proposed by the banks was, that the government practically turn over to them its money-making power or perish. They candidly stated that not one dollar would they put up to save the country unless their terms were submitted to; and these terms were not a whit higher in the moral scale than those of the highwayman with his victim covered with a Winchester.

In the midst of prosperity it is well enough for the people to reflect. Every good citizen desires that his children and grandchildren inherit the liberties we and our forefathers have enjoyed for more than a century. Liberty is not safe except in the hands of its friends. Corporations are friends only to themselves, or to those who serve them. The people, the common people, if you will, are the only custodians of liberty who care one snap of the finger for their charge. Therefore, as we see giant combinations every day augmenting their power, we must prepare the people to hold their own against the tremendous power of combined wealth. This can only be done by education. From the period of the revolution to the present time, the rural population has been the nation's defenders and preservers, and it may be safely assumed that when they fall to be such, the nation as they made it will no longer exist. Therefore, again, as the rural is decreasing in its relation to the entire population, numbers can no longer be depended upon for safety, and education and the influence it yields must be invoked. Then it is in order to agitate for agricultural and mechanical education until ample facilities are placed within the reach of all upon terms available to every person. Then, and not until then, will liberty be assured even to the rising generation.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH wishes to see this policy inaugurated by the establishment of a first-class A. & M. College in the northern part of the State.

NOW FOR BUSINESS.

Now let us begin, right away, to sound our newly elected members of the State Legislature in regard to the extension of agricultural education. They should be made acquainted with the wishes of the people on this subject before they assemble at Austin and have their attention pre-occupied with matters of less real concern to the people. At present the great agricultural section of North Texas is practically without the facilities for the education of the rising generation of farmers. A few farmer boys, it is true, are sent to the present A. & M. College, but the soil, climate and agricultural methods taught and pursued there are supposed to be so far different from those applicable to North Texas that those who do send their sons there, with rare exceptions, do not send them to take the agricultural course.

Within a radial sweep of 100 miles from Dallas as a center, there are more than two thousand farmers' boys who would be glad to avail themselves of such a school if within their reach, and it is the opinion of many of our most intelligent farmers that such an institution, properly located and equipped by the State, would be promptly filled, no matter what its probable capacity. There is probably no section of the United States, of similar extent, containing a larger proportion of progressive, intelligent, and consequently prosperous farmers, than the region known as North Texas. These are the people to be depended upon to fill the ranks of the agricultural class in an A. & M. College, and they are ready and waiting to do it as soon as the facilities are provided. Such

an institution would do more to develop that section of the State than any other agency. Texas wants an A. & M. College in which the agricultural shall not be overshadowed by the mechanical feature in the proportion of three or four to one.

BILLY MULDOON, well known in fistic circles, is trying to make a reputation as a humorist. His last bon mot is the following: "I think there are still several years of pugilistic usefulness in John L. Sullivan."

TE DEUM LANDAMUS, the election is over, and has resulted just as the people would have it. As usual, those who were defeated are busily engaged in accounting for the unexpected result. This is technically called "eating crow," and none but those who are born philosophers can eat the dish with any degree of relish.

PROF. T. V. MUNSON, of Denison, has been solicited by the Horticultural Department of the World's Fair to furnish a National grape exhibit, consisting of all the native species of America, with their leading varieties and hybrids, to be shown in life-size photographs, herbarium specimens and fresh fruit in season. There is probably no man in the United States more fully qualified for such a work, by long study and actual experience than Prof. Munson.

The following letter from C. W. McCune is to the point and its advice is timely, though late:

Hon. Daniel Smith, Mobile, Ala.:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 3, 1899—Dear Sir and Brother: I take the liberty of writing you as an influential Alliance man of your State, to say that I now think it necessary, if we are to preserve the order, that we at once go to work and urge all Alliance men, regardless of their political affiliations, to again come into the ranks and put their shoulders to the wheel, assuring them that we will make it in fact, as well as in name, a non-partisan organization. The complete defeat of the People's Party, which has every day been more apparent ever since the Georgia election, must not be allowed to destroy the Alliance, and we can prevent it by timely and wise action. Let the spirit of intolerance cease. Fraternally, C. W. McCUNE.

I would like to see a cartoon in your paper showing how the farmers look in the eyes of the candidates after the election, as you show how big he is in your August 6th, paper. Give us a picture of the cotton picker and an article on gathering cotton by machinery—if a man ever succeeds in harvesting cotton by machinery—and what would be the result, could the machines gather enough to throw out labor of hand picking. L. McLEARD, Belleville, Texas.

Yes, we had thought of such a cartoon, but as a large majority of the candidates have been defeated the farmer would be too small in their eyes to show up in a picture, and with those who are elected he will not be full size until the opening of another canvass. The intelligent farmers are fast learning to regard the professional politician at all times as being about the size the defeated candidate considers farmers after the election.

A HAPPY MAN.

Greenville Banner.

"I am happier than I have been in several years," remarked a man to the Banner scribe the other day, "and the reason is that I am out of debt. I have skrimished lively, economized, worked hard and managed the best I possibly could and now I have just paid the last cent I owed. My clothes are not very fine and my home does not look like a palace, but, thank the Lord, they are mine—they are paid for and I feel like a free man once more. Some of my creditors would have waited with me longer if I had asked them. But I didn't want them to wait. I was tired of paying interest. I was tired of feeling like somebody else had a mortgage on me. I was tired of feeling like a slave, for the man in debt is not absolutely free. So I strained a point to pay the last cent, and I shall be very happy when I go home this evening and tell my wife and little ones that we owe not a cent in the world." And his honest face was radiant with genuine happiness that was a delight to see.

EDUCATE MEN AS WELL AS HORSES.

Journal of Agriculture.

Animals in their wild state regard man as their enemy. Whether this feeling was implanted in them at the creation or has been developed by man's treatment of them since the fall, I shall not now discuss, says a writer in an exchange. However, it seems to me that here is a field for investigation worthy the efforts of the naturalist. Science might develop facts in this line which would very materially aid over true horseman in the solution of the problem of how to overcome the spirit of fear and yet retain the respect of his horse, and how to overcome the spirit of antagonism without destroying the horse's self-respect. Some may smile at the idea of attributing self-respect to a horse, but every true lover of animals can see this trait in every well-used broken horse.

Volumes have been written upon the subject of horse training, but comparatively little has been said upon the education of drivers. Many years ago educators in our schools taught much more about methods and formulas than they do to-day. The best teachers have discovered that the most important science in the horse's course is human nature, and the best horsemen and trainers are fast falling into the same line of thought, only they substitute horse nature for human nature. Just as the horsemen and horses advance in the scale of intelligence, will the whalebone, the blacksnake and the club be relegated to the rear to keep company with the rattan and ferrule. It does not mean to say that punishment can be dispensed with altogether in either school or stable, but I do say that the man who has to be continually punishing his horse had better seek some other employment.

The reckless, dare-devil horseman may be of use on the ranch, but he certainly should not be permitted to have anything to do with a well-bred horse. No one who believes that many sensitive mares, and stallions too, are rendered shy or uncertain breeders by ignorant and inhuman treatment. I am glad to see that several writers among us have taken up the question of morals among horsemen, and I hope to see the crusade carried on until dishonesty, profanity, intemperance and vulgarity will never be tolerated about any respectable breeding stable, or racing stables either, for that matter.

That there has been a wonderful reform in this respect we are all glad to admit, but we cannot close our eyes to the fact that there is yet much room for improvement. Stallion owners have this matter in their own hands and their patrons have a right to hold them responsible for the conduct of their employees, as well as themselves. There is no reason why horsemen should be more immoral than any other class of men, especially now when many of the most substantial men in every community are engaged in the business. If we would command the respect of our horses, our employees and our neighbors, we must make our business respectable. If the time has come that the scrub stallion must go, the scrub owner and groom must go to keep him company.

The well-bred horse is kind, intelligent and level headed. We have a right to insist that all who have control over him shall at least equal him in these characteristics. The time has come when the successful horseman must be an extensive reader, and a deep thinker. No man's ipse dixit will be accepted as fact unless it is based on reason and common sense.

THE QUESTION OF PIN-MONEY ON A FARM.

Farm and Fireside.

"I never have five cents, even for postage-stamps, without asking for it." The speaker was a young wife who in her girlhood earned regular wages as a seamstress, and when married found her financial position changed. Eben held the purse strings and made plenty of money. But new machinery was often needed, improvements must be made; hired hands cost a good deal, and so no allowance was thought of for the wife, who had the position of "nurse, seamstress, housemaid, cook," with the added duties of motherhood.

"I always have a lump in my throat when I ask for a dollar," she said, "and I used to go to his pocket-book for spare change, for at the marriage service he said, 'With all my worldly goods I thee endow.' But when little Tom began to steal pennies because he wanted something and could not get it, I began to wonder if I had done wrong and the sin was visited on him."

It was a sad contrast—this little mother's tender conscience, with a world of trickery and knavery.

Nowhere is this lack of pocket money felt so much as among farmers' wives and daughters. Many of them go from post-

itions in the city—teachers, typewriters, saleswomen, with a regular salary—a good cook can earn her fourteen dollars a month. She may marry a young farmer, and with all her life before her decide to be his helpmate and money saver. How they work and struggle to pay off the farm, to get the necessary improvements made! But when the light is partly over, sometimes the young wife has a feeling of envy on Saturday nights when her husband pays the "hands" who have worked for him, and has not a dollar for her, for she knows that they have been fed while she has served; that they have slept while she lost hours of slumber with the precious babe in arms, and that they can buy clothes that she would feel it extravagant to wear.

THE MILKING-MACHINE.

Mercantile and Exchange Advocate.

Uncle Jerry Hayseed, up in Sullivan county, New York State, had a fine dairy and a hard-working wife and two daughters, who did all the milking and churning, and a worthless son Joe, who would not work enough to earn his salt, but to whom Uncle Jerry was holding up his mother and sisters for models, especially in the art of milking.

Joe, though no worker, was an honest fellow, and Uncle Jerry had often sent him to the village to make purchases, and when he heard of the new milking-machine he gave Joe a nice round sum of money and sent him to New York to buy one of those new English milking-machines, as he thought anything in the world could be found in the great city of New York. Well, Joe came down to New York and hunted around, but could find no milking-machines, and as his last resort he went to an English steamer and cautiously asked if they had brought over in her cargo any English milking-machines. The captain was a jolly old tar and full of fun, and told him they had about two hundred of them, and taking Joe on board, showed him the machines.

"Why," said Joe, "those there are girls."

"Well," said the captain, "what kind of milking-machines have you got at home?"

"Milking-machines at home?" said Joe. "Why, mother and the girls."

"And don't these look very much like them?" said the captain. "Only they are English, you know."

"Yes," said Joe. "But what is the price of one of them?"

"I can't exactly tell you that," said the captain. "But you just pick out the machine that suits you the best, and tell her how many cows you have to milk and then ask her the price, and I guess you can drive a bargain."

So Joe selected his machine, told her how many cows she had to milk, and showed her the pile he had in ready cash to pay down and then asked her the terms.

The machine took him up to the captain, and between them the bargain was soon made, and a minister was called upon who put the finishing touches upon the bargain and purchase, and then the happy Joe and the English machine for his bride started on their journey to Sullivan county, and when he got home he presented her to Uncle Jerry as the best English milking-machine that he could find in New York.

Of course Uncle Jerry was full of wrath at a man, but honest Joe told him to keep cool and just test the machine before condemning it.

And this fall Uncle Jerry has the finest dairy butter in Sullivan county, and though a little sore on the milking-machine subject, says that his son Joe is an "expert judge" of milking-machines, and Joe is now full partner with the old man.

If you go up to Sullivan this fall, don't fail to visit Uncle Jerry Hayseed and get honest Joe to tell you what a fine dairy they have, and watch his proud smile when he winks knowingly at the old man and tells you that the prospects are also good for a Hayseed crop this season.

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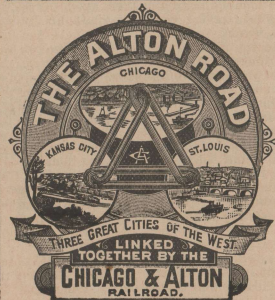
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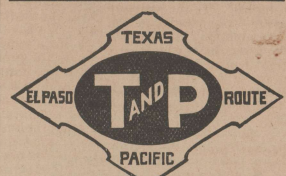
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Orchard and Garden.

Edited by DR. A. M. RAGLAND, Pilot Point, Denton County, Texas, to whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

Too much rain over a large belt of North Texas seems now likely to interfere with fall planting of trees, though it is possible that we may have a good spell of weather during November and December, which the wide-awake fruit grower should utilize. Trees planted this fall will be prepared to make vigorous growth the coming spring. Never leave until spring, work that can be done during fall.

The November number of that always reliable magazine, Review of Reviews, is even better than usual. It is splendidly illustrated with portraits of many leading men and women, and fine pictures of such notable characters as Miss Francis E. Willard, B. Jonson, Mrs. Maybrick, the noted American victim of English law, whom Mr. Steel believes is innocent of the crime for which she is suffering solitary confinement—with a review of the great presidential campaign just closed, makes, withal, a most readable periodical.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH desires to thank its good friends who have contributed so much toward making the horticultural department so valuable to its readers. The experience of such men as Stoll, Munson, Stringfellow, Kirkpatrick, Watson, Stubenrauch, Onderdonk and others has been worth more than the subscription price to every cultivator of garden or orchard. We hope to make this department still more valuable, and to that end we earnestly solicit the co-operation of every lover of Texas horticulture. Give us your experience with fruits and vegetables of every kind. Don't wait for a personal invitation, please; the latch string of the Orchard and Garden hangs out to all our friends.

My plum trees are affected like enclosed leaves. I have no microscope. What is it, and what remedy?—H. B. HILLYER, Belton, Texas.

The leaves of Mr. Hillyer's plum trees are affected by a form of "black rust," a fungus disease, quite common. When the disease appears early in the season it affects disastrously the maturity of the fruit. Its presence at this time of the year may check the healthy development of fruit buds for the next year's crop. This disease, like most fungus diseases, should be treated with the copper salts, in combination with lime or ammonia, applied with a spraying machine. The solution may be made of about the same strength as the Bordeaux Mixture, used for grape diseases. It may be necessary to make several applications. The first should be made before the appearance of rust. As Mr. Hillyer does not give the date of the appearance on his trees, we cannot say just when the treatment should begin.—ED. ORCHARD AND GARDEN.

Lady readers of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH will thank us for putting before them a simple means of destroying plant lice and mildew of the rose in house culture. It is given on authority of Edgar Sanders, the well known horticultural editor of Prairie Farmer:

"One of the worst enemies the florist has to contend with in the house culture of the rose, particularly some sorts of the monthlies, is the mildew. A correspondent of the Florist Exchange says: 'Prevention is better than cure,' and I will give my remedy to accomplish this to those who are not too suspicious to try sulphur burned with moistened tobacco stems. Any florist knows the beneficial effect of sulphur burned with dry material in a house, and possibly some have had sad experience with it. I take an ordinary twelve-quart milk pan, heap it full of tobacco stems and wet them good; for sulphur measure, I use a two and a quarter inch pot, and have repeatedly used a two and a half inch pot full and mixed with the tobacco stems. I burned the whole in a house of 1200 feet of glass roof. It answers a double purpose—kills aphids, and is the best and most simple prevention of mildew I know of. I burn the sulphur each time I fumigate for aphids, and my roses are clear of mildew. I feel sure most old florists would be afraid to try this, but such can rest assured it will do no harm."

BETTER ROADS.

There is no question that is attracting wider and more deserving attention than that of road making. The various plans and suggestions with which the press teems are indicative of the near approach of a period of internal improvement that will directly benefit the farming class and small tradesmen of country towns. The government, both State and National, have appropriated fabulous sums for the

building of railways and improvement of harbors and waterways, out of which great fortunes have been amassed by corporations and wealthy individuals. The next great move on the political checker board is most likely one which will develop a system of public highways, connecting towns and adjacent country with great cities and railroad towns. It is more than likely that the National government may take a hand in this class of public improvements, and then states and counties will fall into line, and some time in the early years of the twentieth century we shall begin to travel on macadamized and graveled highways.

HORTICULTURE AT THE FAIR.

The growing interest in fruit culture in this great State is gratifying, and no better criterion of its development is observed anywhere than in the display of fruits, grown upon Texas soils. In the county exhibits were many varieties of fine fruits—enough to convince the most skeptical that fruit growing is an established success in Texas, and that every variety from tropical fruits, like the banana, orange, pomelo, grape, figs, etc., of South Texas, to the apple, pear, peach, plum, cherry and grapes, of North, West and East Texas, with an infinite variety of small fruits—strawberries, blackberries, dewberries, etc.

Personally, we were greatly interested in the exhibition made by the county of Aransas under the direction of Prof. A. L. Water and Friend Kirkpatrick. The great quantity of marine products in Prof. A. L. Water's collection would be a study for a week's contemplation. Mr. Stringfellow's pears from Galveston were the wonder of all beholders, and established the claim of the coast country to their ability to contest with California the palm of victory, which the rapid development of that region will soon enable them to do.

Smith county, from the pine woods of East Texas, the home of the great Hogg, was on hand with an excellent show of fruits of every description grown in a temperate latitude. This county has so often demonstrated its superiority as a fruit growing county, as to only mention the fact is to state that what it has is of superior merit.

Dr. J. T. Whitaker, of Tyler, was one of the largest exhibitors, and his Japan pears and plums were very attractive.

The Western county, Comanche, had a very interesting exhibit of fruits; not so large as from older counties.

Hunt and Ellis, the two leading black land contestants for first prize, had excellent exhibits of fruits. Ellis bore away the honors for an all-round exhibit, but it is not certain that she surpassed all others in her fruit exhibit.

Hopkins and Van Zandt counties both made very creditable exhibits of fruit, showing that there are splendid opportunities for enterprising fruit growers in the timber belt counties.

TO PREVENT POTATOES FROM SPROUTING.

The following method of preserving Irish potatoes in the South is worthy of trial test on a small scale. Sulphuric acid, the commercial grade, is very cheap, costing only 10 or 15 cents per pound. So any one disposed to test the method can do so at small expense:

Prof. Schribaux, of the National College of Agriculture of France, has recently devised a very simple, cheap and successful method by which he has been able to preserve potatoes in edible condition for over a year and a half. This process has been adopted by the French Government for preserving potatoes for the army. The French Minister of Agriculture publishes the details of the process in the official Bulletin du Ministère de l'Agriculture.

The following is a translation of the essential part of the scheme:

1. The method of preserving consists in plunging the tubers before storing them away for ten hours in a 2-per cent solution of commercial sulphuric acid in water; two parts of acid to 100 parts of water.
2. The acid penetrates the eyes to the depth of about one-fourth inch (two millimeters), which serves to destroy their sprouting power; it does not have any appreciable effect upon the skin of the potatoes.
3. After remaining in the liquid ten hours, the tubers must be thoroughly dried before storing away.
4. The same liquid may be used any number of times with equally good results.
5. A barrel or tank of any kind will do for the treatment. The acid is so diluted it does not affect the wood.
6. Chemical analysis shows that potatoes treated by this process are as nutri-

tious and healthful after eighteen months as when freshly dug.

7. Potatoes thus treated are, of course, worthless for planting.

SUN SCALD vs. FROZEN SAP.

Mr. J. L. Nunn, of Ballinger, Texas, raises an interesting question as to the cause and prevention of a condition commonly called sun scald, which he with much reason contends is a misnomer. He takes the position that the real trouble is caused by winter's sun rather than summer's heat. The tree exposed to the afternoon sun during warm days in winter, of which we frequently have several in succession, causes the sap to begin to flow on the side exposed to the evening sun; then comes a norther, with the rapid decline of temperature below the freezing point. The thoughtless tree is like a thoughtless man, caught out without an overcoat; when the norther comes both are frost bitten.

Mr. Nunn's theory is both ingenious and plausible. We shall be glad to have the observations of others, for this is an important question raised by Friend Nunn. If, as he argues, the diseased condition of the bark is produced by frozen sap and not the effect of summer's heat, we shall have to revise our treatment. Personal observation and experience alone can settle the mooted point. So the discussion is open; let us have the facts.

NEW SEEDLING PEACHES.

Every orchardist will find it profitable in Texas, where land is not as yet an object, to plant some peach pits from choice fruit trees, and in this way probably secure new varieties that will better suit soil and climate than anything purchased from nurserymen. The following statement is first considering in this connection. The Elberta peach is the result of such experimental orcharding. We think such results should encourage us to expect the production of something equally valuable to our fruit growers:

"The Country Gentleman recommends to those who have the spare land, the planting of the pits of fine and choice varieties of peaches. The seedlings, when they bear, do not produce, on an average, as fine fruit as the original, yet occasionally a very fine variety will be obtained, and on the whole a strong interest will be felt in watching the many kinds as they bear and ripen. It is said that the Elberta, a peach scarcely equalled, was originated in this way, and that Mr. Rumph, the originator, planted and raised 12,000 seedlings from select sorts, retaining only the best."

"Many years ago, another experiment was made on a smaller scale. A peck of selected peach stones, obtained from a distance, was planted in a row across the garden, so that when they came up they were a foot or two apart. In a few years they bore, and several good ones of various sizes, shapes and shade of color were produced, almost, but not quite enough to propagate from, but one was distinctly excellent and was afterward widely known as the White Imperial."

JAPAN ORANGES FOR THE SOUTHWEST.

G. L. TABER.

I notice that in a recent issue of your valuable paper you solicit further information in relation to the Japan orange, Satsuma, or Onshu. I have been experimenting with this variety for nearly ten years, and have now settled upon it as the one variety by far preferable to all others for planting in this section of the State, namely, extreme North Florida. I have found it harder by far than any other of the numerous varieties that I have tested. During the great freeze of 1896 all of my other budded varieties were killed outright, while the Satsuma remained practically unharmed, and during the different cold spells which we have experienced since its superior ability to withstand frosts that were damaging to other varieties. During recent years I have increased my grove of this variety until I now have about 500 trees of them that are either bearing or just commencing to bear, and I consider them as valuable as any kind of fruit we can raise in this section, and this is saying a good deal, as this section is particularly adapted to the growing of general fruits, such as peaches, pears, plums, etc. As I am engaged in the nursery business, I have made a careful practice of testing different varieties of all kinds of fruit that promise well for this section, and it is upon the basis of the results of these experiments that I write so confidently in relation to the Satsuma orange.

Any one who shipped any oranges of any kind last year will remember that, taken as a whole, the season was disastrous, owing to heavy frosts and consequent low prices from surplus of fruit shipped early in the season, and yet my Satsuma oranges

brought \$4.50 per box at auction, in Boston, in November. The account sales of these oranges is before me, together with a memorandum of prices received by the same auction house on over one hundred different lots of oranges of other kinds sold by this house on the same day; and an investigation of these prices shows that oranges of other varieties, marked, "Choice Bright," "Choice Bright and Fancy," and "Fancy Bright," sold all the way from \$1.62 1/2 to \$2.87 1/2 per box, while, as above stated, my Satsuma, sold at \$4.50 per box. The Satsuma ripens so early in the season that it can be shipped before any danger of frost, and this is of particular advantage in the northern limit of the orange growing section, as frosted fruit does not stand up well in transit and never brings the equivalent in market of fruit that has not been frosted. Another great advantage possessed by the Satsuma, is its perfect freedom from thorns and the consequent absence of loss of a portion of the crop from being thorned. In all sections where there is no danger from frost, there are many varieties that are suitable for planting, but, as above stated, for the northern limit of the orange growing belt, I am confident that the Satsuma is the variety to plant. For the past three years, the number of Satsumas that I have planted have averaged about 95 per cent of the whole number of orange trees, and the only variation that I would make in the proportion for future planting in this locality would be to increase the Satsumas to 100 per cent.

Glen St. Mary, Fla.

MORE FRUIT AND LESS COTTON CALLED FOR.

NATT STEVENS.

Less cotton and more fruit is my request of the farmers of Texas. Something to live on, more self-protection at home to our families and own State at large. You can eat the fruit and in part live on it. It is a healthy diet; one of the very best that we have, use it as we may, with or without other standard ingredients for our subsistence. Then why not raise more of it to fill the demands of both the planter and our city markets, and if necessary, to send to the markets elsewhere. The farmer does not and cannot eat cotton even after he raises it. Does he manufacture anything out of it for family use? No, not in Texas. Then why is it so, when improved cards and hand-spinning machinery and looms exist and are for sale at about \$50 apiece, that a boy or girl twelve years old can weave by hand from fifteen to twenty-five yards of cloth per day and do the best of nearly all kinds of cloth goods on the same machine? Then there are good knitting machines run by hand that do good work, but there are none of these in Texas. Verily, if the planter continues to raise cotton or wool, he by all means should have these machines to supply his own family's needs and afford them some way to utilize their labor to the best advantage and not be forced to patronize northern made goods so much as they do now.

Now, in regard to fruit raising. There is hardly a piece of ground in all Texas that will not raise some kind of fruit tree, and some that will raise nearly all kinds that are in use here, and some that are not as yet in use here. Many say that cotton cannot raise the apple on our black soils. I declare that we do raise it regardless of these old chestnut sayings, and I have raised apples here on black waxy soil every year for the last twelve years and good ones, too, but I am free to confess that some soils are better adapted to the growth and fruiting of the apple tree than others, and so it is the case with many other kinds of fruits. It is a law of nature that the richer the soil is the more wood growth a tree will put on, other conditions being equal. But as a rule, a slower growth of wood is apt to produce more fruit than the extreme rapid grower does, while the slowest growth of tree or wood will produce less fruit and the smallest in size and the poorest in quality. When our planters in clearing up our creek and river bottom lands and cut down and destroy the pecan trees—little or big—then they are destroying the best tree friend that they have, only, perhaps, to grow that over production plant called cotton, to make a slave of him by doing it, when these trees could be made in a little while a continuous paying investment for a long time, perhaps seventy-five years. Our river bottoms are the natural home of the pecan tree, because they are composed of soft, porous, made land, and the long roots can penetrate down deep into the earth, for its first seasons growth of root is, as a rule, as long as its whole top, and often it has no side roots and whenever the tap root is severed, by cutting it as the tree diggers often do, that much of its vitality is destroyed and it will

nearly fifty car loads have been shipped during the past year." It proves that the industry is not a "fancy" one, but a business that pays in dollars and cents. When farmers fully realize this they will be yet more ready to push horse raising to the front.

The Legislature of Maryland has passed a law making the failure, by any person who shall advertise or offer the services of a stallion to the public, without first having the animal recorded with the County Recorder and taking out a license to do business, punishable by a fine of \$1000, or imprisonment for one year. The law requires the owner to give the name, age, pedigree, and record, if any; also description, terms and conditions upon which the stallion shall stand for service. Let us have something similar in Texas.

Clark's Horse Review: Marcus Daly may be going to retire from the trotting horse business, but his recent purchases do not indicate such a determination. Electrix, 2:28 1-2, Franchise, sister to Velocidad and Cara Mia, 2:29 1-2, for \$21,500 does not look much like the purchaser is going to quit the business. It took good money to secure those animals, but they are excelled by none in point of breeding and general worth.

We have a brother to these fillies, by Electioneer, here in Texas.

CULTIVATING HORSES.

Heavy Draft Horses in Demand, and Specific Breeding Pays.

Farmer's Home.

French breeders pay attention to the development of long distance trotters, horses that can keep their gait for ten or twenty miles at a stretch. The nearest we come to this is in our road horse, and for that we are not breeding very steadily toward a distinctive purpose. There is more practical utility in such animals than in mere short distance trotters, and we believe it would pay to give closer attention to producing them. Next to draft horses, there is no class for which there is a better demand at paying prices than for good roadsters. The claim that very heavy draft horses are not well adapted for use on the paved streets of the cities is amply refuted by the number employed in every city in Europe. In Liverpool, London and Paris are found the largest horses in the world, and the great traffic of those centers could hardly be handled without them. Our American cities are rapidly improving in this respect, but thousands upon thousands of good draft animals must yet be grown to take the place of the many light ones still in use. There is plenty of room in this line for the good breeder. However is admitted to possess the most uniformly good breed of horses of any country in the world. The explanation of this probably lies in the fact that the government long since lent its encouragement to breeding, establishing a government stud as early as 1735. The Hanoverian cavalry is the best mounted of any military force in Europe, the horses being large, strong and courageous. It furnishes a striking example of the result of thorough and persistent work in breeding. A heavy draft horse sells in our Eastern markets for an average of at least 50 per cent more than a fair to good driving horse. It goes without saying that it does not cost anywhere near 50 per cent more to produce, so that no argument is needed to show where the most profit lays. The fame of Kentucky as a horse breeding center has penetrated to even far Japan, a number of fine animals having been purchased there by an agent of the Mikado's Government. It pays to get a reputation for a specialty established for a given district. Then buyers come direct to that center.

A WORD FOR THE TROTTER.

Kansas Farmer.

"The trotters that go out to do battle in three-in-five heat races are a very substantial class of horses," says a writer in the National Stockman and Farmer. "There are none, or very few, of those delicate, slim-waisted creatures which some people seem to consider race horses sent to trotting contests these days. The breed of trotters is being built up on a race-horse foundation; horses that belong to race-horse families, have produced, or are themselves race horses, are being used in breeding to the exclusion of all others. Those that rely on their family connections to give them patronage are becoming scarcer, even when their blood has been proven on the turf. Performance and race performance is becoming more and more sought after. A good race horse must have stamina, must be sound and strong built and possess courage and all the qualities that make horses valuable anywhere. This breeding from race horses, continued for generations, is making the trotting-bred horse in point of

soundness, speed, endurance, ability and willingness to work and work hard, the superior of all for general purposes of the American people. There is nothing frail or delicate about this descendant of warriors. He can take the farmer's buggy to town and back in half the time it can be done by a horse of any other breed. He can pull the rake, the reaper, the cultivator, the harrow and the farm wagon more miles in a day than any other horse that can be hitched to them. He is a handy horse, docile, steady at work, and willing to do his best under reasonable conditions. He is not a cart horse, nor can he be treated like a mule and give satisfaction, but for the farmer who appreciates the best qualities of the horse, and knows how to use him, the trotter will continue to be the horse above all others."

SOME HORSE LAW.

Clark's Horse Review.

The Court of Appeals of Texas has decided as follows regarding the authority of a pasturer of horses:

Where an agister or pasturer of a horse, without the owner's knowledge, delivered the animal to the keeper of a livery stable, the latter acquires no lien on the animal for its keeping. In order for the statutory lien to attach, it is necessary that the animal be placed with the livery-keeper by its owner or some one having authority from him. To hold otherwise would render it exceedingly dangerous and hazardous for owners to part with their property, no matter what the object or purpose of the change of possession. Under a contrary rule, the borrower of an animal could go away and dispose of the animal or mortgage the same, and thus deprive the owner, without any fault on his part, of not only the possession, but the use and value of the same. While possession is prima facie evidence of ownership, yet it is always subject to explanation, and one who acts upon the same as the sole proof of ownership does so at his peril. No one can convey a greater title than he himself has, and where the real owner has been at no fault and committed no act which would operate as an estoppel, one buying his property from another, relying upon possession entirely for his title, secures none as against the owner.

The report of the Wisconsin Experimental station at Madison contains three pages about the experiment of the John March Chemical Dehornor. This is a very strong endorsement of the John March invention. The report is accompanied by illustrations of photo cuts. Letters patent on the process of applying anything to the embryo to prevent growth of horns have been granted to the John March Co., and from the looks of things they have not only the best chemical dehornor, but the entire rights to its use. Our Chicago manager recently interviewed Mr. Stearns of the John March Co., and was told that their business had developed very satisfactorily and that the results had been gratifying far beyond their expectations.

MCDADE, TEXAS, August 22, 1892.

David Bradley Mfg. Co., Chicago.

GENTLEMEN—In reply to your favor of August 18th will say that I only sold one of your Riding Disk Cultivators, which gave our customer the best of satisfaction in every particular.

(Signed) GUS ESCHBERGER.

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Household.

Address all letters for this department to Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, Dallas, Texas.

THE SIMPLE TRUTH.

New York Herald.
When he had walked the floor all night,
At last he was inspired
To say these words, and they were true,
"That baby makes me tired."

HER WISH.

Puck.
The tanned and freckled summer girl
Has one absorbing dream—
She wants to own that kind of cow
From which they get cold cream.

MIRAGE.

Edith M. Thomas in Nov. Lippincott's.
Treasure the shadow. Somewhere, firmly based,
Arise those turrets that in cloud-land shine;
Somewhere, to thirsty tollers of the waste,
Yon phantom well-spring is a living sign.

Treasure the shadow. Somewhere, past thy sight,
Fall all men's spirit, waits the true heaven at last;
Tell them whose fear would put thy hope to flight,
There are no shadows save from substance cast.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

Mrs. S. asked recent y for ways of using the pie melon. A friend tells us they make an excellent substitute for apples in pie making. Peel and take out the seed; cut in small pieces and stew until tender enough to mash, season with sugar and the juice of a lemon, or in the absence of a lemon flavor with vinegar and add grated nutmeg; bake one crust, which has previously been set in the stove and lightly browned that it may not be soft or gummy; cover with a meringue.

In answer to Mrs. J., who asks for recipe for making citron preserves, we give one taken from Mrs. Rorer's book, "How to Cook Vegetables," which is a guarantee that it is good:

TO PRESERVE CITRON

Pare off the outer skin, cut the citron in halves, remove the seeds, then divide each half into a number of small pieces. These may be cut into fancy shapes or left plain. Put them in a stone jar, add a half cup of salt to every five pounds of citron, cover with cold water, stand aside five hours. Drain, cover with fresh, cold water, soak two hours, changing the water three or four times. If you wish them crisp, dissolve one teaspoonful of powdered alum in two quarts of boiling water, add the citron and bring to boiling point. Drain, throw into cold water fifteen minutes and drain again.

Make a syrup from two and a half pounds of granulated sugar and one and a half quarts of boiling water. Boil and skim. This is to fifteen pounds of citron. When the syrup is perfectly clear put in the citron and simmer until you can pierce it with a straw, then lift it carefully with a skimmer and spread on large platters. Stand in the hot sun two hours to harden. Chip the yellow rind from one large lemon, add the syrup, then add the strained juices of two lemons, and one and a half ounces of green ginger root cut into thin slices. Boil gently ten minutes and set aside until wanted. When the citron hardens, put it, cold, into jars. Bring the syrup again to boil, pour over the citron; cover the jars and keep in a cool, dry place. Watermelon rinds may be preserved in precisely the same manner.

Magpie, you are most welcome. Come again, and thanks for your kind wishes and recipes. Will some one send a remedy for the destruction of ants for the benefit of Magpie? and will Magpie please send her name next time?

Mrs. R. P. Cochran, we cordially extend our hand, and are pleased to record your name as one of the Household.

We hope that the members of the Household will remember that our door is open every Tuesday, and a chair is set for each member, and we would be delighted to see them all occupied, at least once a month. You need never fear crowding or a closed door.

ECHOES FROM THE FAIR

The flower show surpassed that of any former fair which we have attended, not in the number of blossoming plants, but in the number of exhibits, and the great variety and excellent condition of plants shown. All the space allotted for floral exhibits was fully occupied. Several amateur collections were especially noticeable, because of the large variety of hot-house plants. Quite a lively trade was carried on in the sale of cut flowers, and we also noticed many persons buying bulbs. These beautiful and easily grown flowers are becoming very popular, and deservedly so, for almost all kinds are hardy in this climate, and will grow and

increase with very little attention, other than a liberal dressing of well rotted manure, each fall. We must mention one design in a hanging basket, which was very handsome. The basket was made of wire in the form of a ship, about two feet long, filled in first, with moss, then the light rich soil, in this was planted ferns, which were trained up into the wires forming the sails, and drooped gracefully over the sides. Around the stick representing the mast, and then wires simulating ropes, was trained and closely twined, smilax. It was a charming design, and evidently very carefully trained and tended. It should have worn the blue ribbon, to our way of thinking. The same lady took first premium on a cross, grown in the same way, of ferns and delicate white flowers.

Of fancy work there was an endless variety in all styles, as usual, some very handsome and artistic, and some so crude in color and design as to make an aesthetic nature shiver. There were quilts galore, log cabin, crazy laid-work, and one with ten thousand small pieces, representing a singular sort of folly and vanity. Better anything than wasting time that way. There were exquisite throws, napkins, handkerchiefs and many other articles, in drawn work, and Roman embroidery. One scarf for the dresser, was made of very fine fluen lawn, beautifully hemstitched all around. One bud was ornamented with six different stitches, exquisitely fine and lacy, and the other was enriched with twelve patterns. There was so much that the eye was tired out, before the half was seen, and persons passed along getting only a kaleidoscopic view of brilliant colors and forms.

One of the most unique and entertaining side shows, and by the way the only one we saw, was the Columbian clock, made by a jeweler of Cleveland, Ohio, who spent eight years in its construction. It far surpasses the famous Strasburg clock, which has for centuries been the wonder of the world in clock.

There are sixty figures, eleven inches in height, which appear and perform various parts, with the greatest automatic precision. These are intended to represent the progress of America from its discovery to the present time, and are very entertaining. Aside from these clock has a dial which gives the time of the day in any part of the world, the time of the day with us, day of the week, and of the month, time of sunrise and sunset, and day, also illustrates the movements of the earth and the sun's orbit, gives the position of the planets, of the principal constellations and the signs of the zodiac each month in the year. It is a wonderful piece of mechanism, which might be studied with profit and pleasure.

One of the most popular sources of amusement and pleasure was the music furnished by Liberti's band, and the singing of Madam Decca, a charming young cantatrice, who won the people of Dallas at the Seengerfest, and who still holds a high place in their esteem. A little girl, perhaps ten years old, who sang and danced with such artless infantile grace, that it seemed only the impulse of the moment, drew each day hundreds of spectators, when the hour for "Baby Deavor's" performance came round, one could but sigh though while watching her graceful steps, as the thought of how the bud must expand before its time, and the dew of youth and the blush of the rose be brushed away, by constant contact with the motley crowd, who cheered so loudly to the little feet dancing away from childhood and from home.

The fair is now a thing of the past, and had the weather been propitious, it would have been a great success. So far as we are able to judge, the exhibits excelled any previous year, in every department. The first week Jupiter Pluvius, with menacing malice, sent such floods, that the timid feared to venture out, but with the gathering of the veteran knights of the lost cause, Heaven smiled, and a week of sunshine followed, so that thousands came to enjoy the sights.

KIND WORDS FOR TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

MRS. R. P. COCHRAN.

Will you allow a new comer, but an old reader, to your much prized circle in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH? I am in love with it, as are my family also. Out of six or eight papers it is the favorite. It is the only one I read that exposes fraud to the public eye. I think we have a safe guide and firm friend in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. I would ask, is it right for papers to give fraudulent, obnoxious stuff a glowing advertisement in their columns, thereby misleading unsuspecting readers, causing them to throw away their hard earnings in taking agencies and innocently misleading their neighbors? I thought, until a few years ago, when I saw an ad-

vertisement in our own standard, Texas Baptist and Herald, it was reliable. But alas, by sad experience, I learn differently. I thank those that have exposed California Cold Process. If there are any of the sisters who can get sea shells, I will be more than glad to get them in any way reasonable. Will refund all postage, and remunerate in any satisfactory way. I also would like flower seed, shrubs or bulbs suitable for country planting. I want to decorate the graves of my two, and only precious daughters.

I would ask of Mrs. F. W. Vanderhoef, please to send me a few seed of her penitents. I will return postage, and favor if I can.

If the kind editor will pardon scribbling and publish this, and admit me as one of the Household, (if only to bring chips) I will thank her very much.
Cottondale, Texas.

A FIRST LETTER FROM MAGPIE.

Dear Sisters—Seeing that letter of Minnie's about "Comforts in the Kitchen and Short Skirts,"—It is too good, and I can't keep still any longer. Being rather tired of your waste basket, I have put off writing it in that way for wading around in widow lights are out, and her wood not where it ought to be in the kitchen? How can any one get breakfast quickly when she has to get wood, etc., before starting the meal? She ought to tell her husband, father or brother, and I am sure if they have any heart at all they would look to all these things, and not let them injure their health in that way for wading around in mud and water does so just that.

What Minnie says is only true, and there is no denying it, but all men are not that way, for my kitchen is the coziest little nook in the whole house; it is celled, and the stovepipe is fitted just exactly, so there is no water running down, wetting things, and the window lights are all in. Now, in my opinion, if the ladies would call the attention of their husbands to these things there would be less worry for these poor, tired women. These rainy mornings my husband will not let me venture out of doors, (though I can protect myself in my waterproof garments as well as he) but attends to my chicks and other chores that every busy wife has on a farm.

Well, I fear I have talked too long, and this may find the waste basket. Much love for the kind editress and sisters, from Magpie.

Calcasieu, La.

RECIPES.

BY MAGPIE.

GINGER SNAPS.—One cup of molasses, half cup of butter or shortening heated and put in the molasses, fourth cup of water, one teaspoon soda, one and one-half teaspoon of ginger, flour enough to roll rather soft; bake in quick oven.

CREAM CAKE.—Beat two eggs in a tea-cup and fill the cup with sweet cream, one cup sugar, one cup flour, one teaspoon cream tartar, half teaspoon soda, flavor with lemon and bake in moderately heated oven.

Will some one be kind enough to tell me how to get rid of ants of all kinds? They are in my garden so bad they eat every seed that I sow. I have tried a good many remedies.

Calcasieu, La.

THE CHILDREN—BLESS THEIR HEARTS.

HESTER KIRKE.

They worry us day in and day out; yet, let us imagine they are lost, or let them come to us with fevered hands and head, and we forget all their faults. Is it not so? If, then, our love for them is so very strong, why are we, as mothers, so impatient with them? Some of us like to think that our praises will all be lavished on us when we are dead. Let us love our children upon that hope instead to finish Susie's new frock or patch Tommy's trousers, or a child that has been petted will be more lovable than one that has never had an affectionate word or caress given it. Why not let us strike a happy medium?

No adage was ever truer than that "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." Little ones need to be employed, but their little play tasks should often be changed to make them enjoyable. I find it a good plan to hide dolls, dishes, etc., and bring them out again when books, slates and pictures have become monotonous. The best set of children I ever saw were those having a father willing to make swing, play-houses, and also willing to talk to his boys and girls about the birds and trees around them. Their faithful mother managed by decision and kindness to get their aid without their complaining. Some children are probably born hopelessly bad, but I believe most of them are made better or worse by the circumstances surrounding them. Don't scold! none of us like it, nor ever will, but let us try to be firm. The poorest mothers are gener-

ally those that can be teased out of their Noes. Our work will always seem unsatisfactory. Let us try as did that mother who raised such a nice family. Her secret was, "To take one day at a time."
Galveston, Texas.

WOMEN!

Some Things Which Lord Tennyson Said of Them

Detroit Echo.

"The woman's cause is man's; they rise or sink together, dwarfed or godlike, bond or free; if she be small, slight-natured, miserable, how shall man grow?"

That places quite a burden of responsibility upon women, but elsewhere he remarks:

"As the husband is, the wife is," which again places the burden on the masculine shoulders. Probably the poet meant to divide it.

About the esteem in which she should be held, he speaks in no uncertain manner:

"Who does not honor his wife dishonors himself," and "It is the low man thinks the woman low."

Somewhat equivocal is this:

"It is hard to wive and thrive in a year."

Which probably merely means that so much good fortune does not befall a man in so short a time.

His various heroines were all a little above the ordinary.

"Her eyes are homes of silent prayer."

"Eyes not down-dropped nor over-bright, but fed with the clear-pointed flame of chastity."

"By common clay, taken from the common earth, molded by God and tempered by tears of angels to the perfect form of woman"

"Pure vestal thoughts in the translucent fane of her still spirit."

"Happy be with such a mother. Faith in womankind beats with his blood, and trust in all things high comes easy to him; and though he trip and fall, he shall not bind his soul with clay."

"She stood a sight to make an old man young"

THE LEISURE HOUR—A WORD TO MOTHERS.

Farm and Fireside.

Home has been called woman's kingdom, and fitly so, because within its walls she is wife, mother, daughter or sister, holds the scepter. "The many make the household, but only one the home," says a poet, and in a sense his words are true, for in every home the house-mother is the one who gives the tone to the family. The family life seldom rises higher than the mother's ideal will let it rise. Whatever is her predominant aim, the ultimate desire of her heart is revealed in her sons and daughters. If she is selfish, frivolous, and full of worldly ambition, her children are in a fair way to become the same. If she is cheery, earnest and consecrated in her purpose to live the best and highest life possible to a Christian woman, her children usually follow in her steps.

Few leisure hours are possessed by mothers with their little ones around them. The days are crowded with cares. The cooking, the sewing, the tying of strings and fastening of buttons, the training of children, the hearing of lessons, the many, many things which make very little show, but consume a great deal of time, fill up a mother's day, so that her resting spell seldom arrives till evening. Then, when the older boys and girls are busy with their maps and slates, when father is indulging himself with the paper or a favorite book, when the little ones have said their prayers and the baby has gone to sleep, the mother feels that she has earned the right to a little bit of recess. She is wise if she takes it. Far too often she seizes upon that hour instead to finish Susie's new frock or patch Tommy's trousers, to put new wristbands on father's shirt or a patch on the old table cloth. She works on with nervous energy, when she ought to be reading an entertaining story, or listening to her daughter's music, or playing an air or two herself. She reluctantly lays aside her basket and needle when the clock strikes eleven, and drags herself wearily to bed. This is poor economy. We would persuade, if we could, all the mothers who read this paper to take the leisure hour or half hour whenever they can, even though they let something else go. It will be better for their families and themselves in the coming days when the children shall be grown up, and even more than to present their guide, companion and friend.

A new year is about to dawn. It is a good time for beginning over again, reforming what has been wrong and starting aright. Do you wish it to be a happy year in your home? Then determine to be yourself, dear mother, as happy, as contented, and as well as you can be! You sometimes

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spread over the division of the roots, after removing soil, and up the body for a foot will be efficient for several years. After applying the paint level back the earth around the tree. The division of the large roots need not be exposed more than four to six inches, and at the time all roots are at work—shown by the brown gum filled with brown nibblings—the borers should be scratched out and killed by probing with a wire.—T. V. MUNSON.

Springfield, Ill., Nov. 5th, 1892
Dear Sir:—Owing to the meeting of the National Swine Breeders' Association, appointed to be held in the Sherman House, Chicago, Ill., November 22nd, 1892, is by direction of the executive committee, postponed.

As it seems important that a meeting of the association be held at an early day, the executive committee will give notice of time and place for such meeting as soon as possible. The proceedings of the meetings held in 1890 and 1891, now being printed, will be sent members at an early day.
Yours truly,
JNO. G. SPRINGER, Sec'y.

THE COUNTRY HOME.

Farm and Fireside.

Notwithstanding the rush to the towns and cities in recent years, there is still a "goodly company," an immense host, who love the country and find delight in the daily pursuits and surroundings of the farm, the orchard and the garden. This, too, in the full activity of mature manhood and womanhood. But the passing years bring a time when less activity becomes imperative. Concerning this time Gardent and Forest discourses as follows:

"The desire of rest in declining years comes naturally to almost every man. The idea seems to be inseparably connected with rural scenes. The paradise to be regained is never within the walls of cities. This is true even of the city-born and city-bred; and it is doubly true of one reared in the country, and when such a one takes up with renewed interest the occupations of his boyhood he finds, to his surprise, that in addition to the flowers and fruits which reward his care, there is an ideal harvest of association which may make his closing years rich with a beauty and a pathos all their own."

GOOD ROADS.

Bos. Her [La.] Banner.

A country's common roads are the best evidence and most trustworthy measure of its advancement. Seldom, however, is the importance of this factor recognized and accorded. It is true, nevertheless, that the first advance was made when the woodman's axe and spade created an outlet from his seclusion in the construction of the first road. That made communication with the neighboring dwellers, and hence the beginning of a society possible. It made the transportation of agricultural products a source of profit, and hence arose commerce.

To the farmer is the construction of good roads pre-eminently important. It means money in his pocket. It means fewer horses and mules, the saving of their daily feeding, the employment of fewer drivers, fewer wagons, the saving of time, labor, trouble and money. To the farmers again, good roads are of especial concern, because bad roads have too often been the direct cause of fearful agricultural losses. The vast wheat crops of the West have been more than once left unharvested, because of the exorbitant cost of transportation over few and bad roads. The mines of New York have been left unworked, and the entire crop of wheat in Spain one year left to rot for the same reason.

Good roads are therefore the very best investment for material progress a state, parish or community can make. They diminish the first cost of every article put on the market—a reduction which every subsequent consumer or handler feels; they invite cultivation to thousands of acres now idle because almost inaccessible; they make communication with the market so easy that its fluctuations may be avoided or taken advantage of; they enhance adjacent land values; they make for the independence of the planter in countless different ways, to say nothing of the secondary benefit to all who use good roads for the pleasure of travel.

And the maintenance of good roads is not without a moral benefit. Marshal Wade's military road through the Scottish Highlands, is said to have done more for the Highland civilization than all the efforts of the British Monarchs together. Good roads are a community's or a state's best recommendation for progressiveness and financial stability, and identification with the spirit of improvement. They inspire pride in the ownership of adjacent lands as well as pride in residences near

them; they are the assurance that the state or parish will meet the farmer more than half way in his effort to gain subsistence and independence.

Like the sun's rays, good roads exist for all impartially—for the rich and the poor.

The European roads—especially those of England and France—are the admiration of the world. No traveler on the Continent ever fails to speak their praise. And well they may, for France has spent \$600,000,000 in the construction of her common roads, and spend now \$18,000,000 each year on repairs. The common roads have done more than the railways for the French peasant. In this matter of public spirit, the United States is far behind. Her roads are a constant challenge to her progressiveness.

MARVELS OF INSTINCT.

St. Louis Republic.

Did you ever stop to consider the marvels of instinct as exhibited in insects, birds and animals? Take the solitary wasp, the "mud-dauber." If you please, as an illustration of instinctive sense which seems to me to be equally as desirable as mind and reason. In providing for the maggot or worm that is to be hatched from her egg, this lowly insect brings soft spiders and grubs, a species of food which she has never tasted since she became a wasp, and deposits them directly over the eggs from which the children she is doomed to never see will finally issue. What inward sense of motherly duty tells this creature that her soon-to-be motherless children will need a meat food during the time they are preparing for their first transformation? Yet the life history of every species of insect shows wonderful exhibitions of instinct or marvelous foresight. The butterfly lays her eggs on the plants best calculated to furnish food for the grub that will hatch from them; the seventeen-year locust, *Cicada septendecim*, lays its eggs in holes bored in the ends of limbs, the boring always, or nearly always, being done in such a manner as to cause the limb to break off with the first wind, thus bringing the insect into immediate contact with the earth, his future home, as soon as he is hatched. The young chicken is another good illustration of the marvels of instinct. In releasing himself from the shell he does not do so by bursting his prison walls asunder, as many persons imagine; on the contrary, he cuts his way out by a regular series of strokes. For this cutting operation the bird has an instrument specially provided, an instrument for which there is no other earthly use—a sharp, hard, toothlike horn on the top of the upper mandible. This cutter, having served its purpose, wholly disappears within a few days. Isn't it wonderful how a bird in an eggshell, one that has never breathed the breath of life in the true sense of the word, understands the use of an instrument that will soon become useless to it, and how that marvelous faculty called instinct directs the imprisoned creature how and where to cut in order to most easily and effectually free itself?

IS THE WORLD MADE OF SALT?

St. Louis Republic.

Near the village of Spennberg, about twenty miles from Berlin, Germany, is situated the deepest salt mine in the world. At last accounts it was 4,194 feet deep, the first 1,200 being sixteen feet in diameter. It was begun in the year 1869, government authorities having charge of the work, the avowed purpose of the work being to ascertain the exact thickness of the rock salt vein known to exist beneath the gypsum substrata abounding in that vicinity. The salt rock was reached before the shaft had passed the 300 level, but the size of the mammoth shaft was not lessened until it had reached a depth of nearly one-fifth of a mile, after which the boring was continued with an auger bit thirteen inches in diameter. When the boring was discontinued at the depth of 4,194 feet, 3,000 feet of which was pure rock salt, the end of the auger bit was cutting away on the saline deposits, which is still of unknown thickness.

MODERN ORATORY.

St. Louis Globe Democrat.

"Oratory is by no means a lost art, but the power to address vast audiences properly is exceedingly rare," said Tylor A. Cowton. "Now, an oration that cannot be heard by an entire audience is worse than labor wasted. In the golden age of Grecian oratory speakers addressed entire armies, and if we are to believe the historians, did so successfully. They trained their voices for just such occasions, and the result was that they possessed the lungs of a Stentor and their thoughts were written in thunder. One Greek orator, we are told, used to exercise his voice on the sea coast during storms, and could make

himself understood at a considerable distance despite the roar of the wind and the pounding of the breakers.

"It is a pity that modern orators do not take like pains to fit themselves for their labors instead of popping up with penny-whistle voices and performing occult pantomimes to the disgust of several thousand people. The gestures and grimaces of nine-tenths of our modern orators are so clumsy and ill timed that no man or woman born can divine their thoughts from their dumb show."

Plead and Fawn: The Apache Indians are the worst of the aborigines that exist on this continent. Vindictive, cruel, treacherous and bloodthirsty, they are cordially detested by settlers, soldiers and Mexicans, and they reciprocate this sentiment thoroughly. Last week a band of murderous Apaches were chased into Mexico by a company of United States cavalry after having committed a score or so of murders. The Apache on the warpath expects no mercy for he gives none. No human being ever came nearer being a

devil than an Apache Indian. The Pawnees, Blackfeet and Cheyennes are wicked enough, but the Apache has traits of his own—a devilishness which other tribes might imitate but could not equal.

He was born crafty and cruel. He never had the slightest feeling of mercy or pity from the cradle to the grave. He is never so much amused as when assisting to torture some living thing. He is never so satisfied as when planning to take life.

When in doubt refer to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. It tells all who read it how to get the best results of their labor. Published weekly; \$1 per year.

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TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

ON THE WING.

RICHARDSON, TEXAS.
Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

Having spent a whole week at the Texas State Fair, seeing, hearing and feeling many things which I hope to see, hear and feel again, and a great many which I hope never to see, hear or feel again, I shall not attempt to speak of all, but only just a few things. I hope to see again, only more of them, fine county agricultural exhibits, for those exhibited this season certainly did great credit to the respective counties, and the state at large. I hope to again meet and shake the hands of the broad gauged farmers who gathered up and brought to the Fair their exhibits, many of them mainly at their own expense. I say broad gauged because there are thousands of men who run through life on a two by four track without sidings or switches, and only stop at flag stations for selfish purposes, and who never see, appreciate or enjoy anything unless "me and my wife, my son John and his wife" had something to do with it. I hope to see again the same deep interest manifested in fine stock, which brought together this season such vast numbers which we Texans believe would compare with the stock of any state in the Union. I hope to see again such displays of poultry and pet stock, and the grand displays of farm implements, farm machinery, wagons, buggies, etc., and, in fact, the "hundred and one" beautiful things too numerous to mention, and which the great crowds seemed to so much enjoy. But I do hope to never see again every available spot of ground inside the grounds occupied by every conceivable catch-penny fraud in tents, with men, women and boys standing at the entrance, screaming and yelling at the crowds as they pass, to step in and see the wonderful sights which no mortal ever did or ever will see. I do hope that I will never again see that highly entertaining (?) troupe called Indians, prancing, patting, and howling about on our Fair grounds—a disgrace to civilization, and a disgrace to native Indian life. I do hope that I will never again see the boy with the bird whistle, and the boy with the thing that he blows into and then turns it loose and lets it squall, and the boy that goes everywhere, screaming at everybody, pretending that he wants to sell something, but in reality only wants to be a boy.

Well, having seen and heard and felt until I was tired, I turned from the Fair and hit the road for Alvarado, the little black mud town which Johnson county is proud of, and well she may be, for it is a neat little town surrounded by a fine country, filled up with a class of good farmers, some of whom will rank among the best in the State. The second day that I spent at Alvarado was the big barbecue day, and though the mud was pretty deep, "and a-riding" it was not "past fording," and the people came. They came from every quarter, and kept coming until there were at least 3,000 people on the grounds, and a little after eleven o'clock the speaker of the occasion opened his mouth and began "speechifying," and about two o'clock the horn blown for women and he "look out," then the boys about faced and charged upon that long solid line of barbecued meat and loaf bread, and I now wish to say that I have never seen a charge made so fearlessly and sustained so unflinchingly as was this. But finally the line was broken and then entirely demolished, and the boys retreated back to the little grove without the loss of a single man. To the credit of the Johnson county boys I now say that I have never seen such a vast crowd of men behave more nicely and orderly in my life.

The farmers seem prosperous and happy, and it is pleasant to be among them. Being so well pleased with Alvarado and its surroundings, I decided to move to Cleburne, the county seat of Johnson county. Cleburne is one among the prettiest towns in Texas. Near the center of the county, in the edge of the cross-timbers, not on a sand-bed, but with a nice sandy soil that is almost entirely free from mud and slush even in rainy weather, with a nice little creek running through the west side, near the business portion of the town, which furnishes fine drainage at little cost. This is one of the fortunate towns in Texas which was not struck with the modern town and city killer called a "boom," hence its growth is healthy and steady. There seems to be no little silly prejudice in the minds of the farmers against the town, but on the contrary every farmer that I talked with seemed to be proud of his county town. The main trouble seems to be that many of the surrounding farmers think too much of their town, and hence spend too much of their time there, though I guess it is all right, for I have often

heard that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," but I have lived long enough to learn, by observation, that the farmer who spends much of his time gadding about town when he really has no business there, is liable to be struck and swept along down to poverty by the current of hard times. I am truly glad to know that the wall of hard times is growing fainter and weaker among our farmers. The splendid all-round crops this year, and the reasonably fair prices have relieved the pressure and inspired new confidence, and have given a new impetus to our working masses generally.

UNCLE SNOOT.

IN THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOE COUNTRY.

WINNVIEW, OKLAHOMA.
Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

The opening of this country should have been in February instead of April 19, as corn was planted in the older Oklahoma the latter part of March and early part of April. Of course it was May before the homesteaders could get on their claims and get to work. For a week it was dry, and the breaking plow could not be started; then rains came, and except at short intervals work was pushed until the middle of June, then dry until the last week of the month when breaking was resumed for a week or two, then came a protracted drouth through the last half of July and August. In fact there was no rain in either month except local showers, but the effects were not noticeable only for the time given. The first days of September the drouth was broken by splendid rains, and breaking and replowing for wheat was pushed everywhere, the last rain being about September 10, but plowing could be done until the last week of the month, then dry weather again, with only one shower, until October 18, when very heavy rains came, thoroughly soaking the ground. This will give a fair idea of the season which the squaw men who have lived here many years say has been the driest for the past nine. If it was not for the strong winds prevailing much of the time the rainfall would be more nearly commensurate with the needs of growing crops, but the spring warm winds cause the much more speedy evaporation of the moisture in the soil than would be in a section where the agitation of the air was but slight.

The first plantings of corn were that of common corn, which, of course, was very late for it. Very little of it has made any ears, as the drouth of last half of July and August came just at the critical time. There were limited areas where they had heavy local showers. In such places corn has made as much as twenty bushels per acre. These earliest breakings of sod were generally in long warm strips leading across a quarter section, and as the grass on either side was infested with hoppers, considerable damage was done by them in cutting the blades and eating holes in the small ears. Then the boll worm destroyed most of the few ears that did set, as the growth was very slow during the dry period. With all it has made a fair amount of second grade forage and is generally taken care of in good shape, though there were some who did not cut it. We have ours all in the stack, cutting it early, before it dried out.

The next plantings were of the forage plants, both of the saccharine and non-saccharine sorghums, such as Kaffir and Jerusalem corn, millo maize, and the common cane. Of these we have written before, and as they were successfully raised, we need not here refer to them further. A little millet was sown, and was a success or failure, owing to the fact whether damp or dry weather followed immediately after sowing. On the whole the rustler has plenty of feed, while the go-easy has a short supply. On the river and creek bottoms there is plenty of grass to cut for hay; in the uplands it is too short, but the mesquite grass sections will furnish good winter pasture. This country is about evenly divided as to mesquite and other grasses.

J. M. RICE.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.

BLOOMING GROVE, TEXAS.
Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I was greatly interested in an article in Texas Farm and Ranch about insects, and especially the silken threads flying through the air. They cannot be seen by spiders, for our entomologists tell us nothing of a winged spider, and the webbs must be from the countless millions of moths or butterflies that we frequently see up in the air. We need more agricultural schools. North Texas, by all means, needs one, and each school should have a learned entomologist to tell us ignorant farmers about the insects that swarm about our fields. We should be able to tell at sight what insect is de-

structive, and what insect is beneficial. The agricultural reporter sent out every year by the parent government tells us about the many insects destructive to agriculture, horticulture, arboriculture, etc., but to hunt over these voluminous documents for the information desired is more than any ordinary farmer wishes to undertake, even if he has a complete file of reports in his library, hence the necessity for a State entomologist, whose duty should be to compile a work showing by wood cuts every destructive insect in the State as well as those beneficial, so we could protect and multiply one and destroy the other. Prof. Riley, Missouri's able entomologist, did much in this line for his state, and for quite awhile has been employed by the National government to aid the farmers in battling with destructive insects. Our cedar trees were attacked by a moth early in the spring that deposited eggs all over our cedars, and the worm soon began to strip the trees and form cocoons of stout silken thread, and suspended from the twigs, they were hanging from every branch. Now, to tell what these moths are we might have to hunt for hours. If we had a work of the right kind we might know all about the destructive pest in a few minutes. To save our shade trees we constructed a tall step-ladder and pulled off the cocoons and burnt them, but if we had an entomologist he might have told us a better plan and saved the risk of an accident policy. Again, Mr. Editor, I wish to say that agricultural schools are things of necessity in this age of progress, and our great State, an empire within itself, should have at least four such schools. South Texas has one; North Texas, the finest agricultural region in the State needs one now, and our next legislature should start the plant that would soon infuse new life in the farmers' boys and would stop this great desire on their part to want to go to towns and cities surrounded by vice and immorality. It would improve the morals of the country and lessen crime.

B. F. CARROLL.

BUILDING FOR TIME.

Hempstead, Texas.
Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

A few days ago I was at the house of a neighbor, who lives upon and now owns one of the oldest settled places in this section. He began after the war, and has done much work in the way of improvement, buildings, out houses, fences, etc., and yet the best structures of the kind on the place are those put there by his father thirty-five years ago or thereabout. The old double log house with wide hall and front porch, with the large stone chimneys and broad open fire-places; the sables and corn-cribs of the same material; the old gate posts 14 inches square, of hewed heart post oak, set four feet. In the ground, are there to stay as immovable as if they had tools spread over one hundred square yards.

The present owner, after coming into possession, erected several light frame tenements on the farm, built a commodious box barn and a gin house of the same light character. These have nearly disappeared after swallowing up more than their original cost in repairs. The present owner is making a very strange about this. Similar examples may be found in every rural neighborhood, where farmers undertake to improve a place by erecting temporary structures, that only serve a temporary purpose. The shortsighted farmer concludes that he needs a large house, when he is only able to build a small one in a substantial manner; he wants a large barn, and attempts to build it of just lumber enough to build one half the size as it ought to be built; he undertakes to fence fifty acres when his material is only sufficient to fence twenty-five acres "bull strong and hog tight." He has not time to go to the woods and get out substantial gate posts, so he cuts some stout poles, takes the bark off and flattens one side, or he hunts up some large, straight rails and sets them about twenty inches in the ground, and swings his gates, promising to get better posts when his crop is laid by. The result is, that when he reaches a certain point, repairs of his ramshackle work takes all the time and expense which he might otherwise devote to permanent improvements. This is a superficial generation anyway. "A lack and a promise" is about all we can devote to any work, and the promise is rarely performed. We are in too big a hurry; we have so much to do that we can't spare time to do anything well. In cities immense structures are erected, so unsubstantial that they cannot stand alone, but solid blocks combine to hold each separate building up. But this is not so shortsighted a policy as that of the farmer, who builds only for present needs and expects to do the work over and do it better at some future time. After awhile he finds his time

fully occupied with repairing. All such works are an actual expense on a farm. A bad fence is worse than none; a poorly built house is worse than a good camp or dugout.

That farmer who will do his work in such a manner, that when finished, it is finished for good, so that work once done will not have to be done over, is like unto the man who built his house upon a rock—it stood all the storms of time, and did not have to have a new roof every three years, and a new foundation every year when it did not require a new roof. The other sort are like unto the foolish man, who built his house upon the sand, "the rains descended and the winds blew and beat upon the house" and the next day it had to be rebuilt. A farmer, above all men, should avoid temporary work. He is supposed to be rooted to the soil, and when he builds, should build for posterity. Every house should be built for durability; permanence should be the leading feature of every structure. Every building, every gate, every fence, every post on the farm must stand alone if it stands at all. The farmer who builds as for eternity, is the successful farmer. He may do but little in any given time, but the accumulated works of years will make all the difference between a substantial success and a flimsy failure.

P. GREEN.

WHY NOT HAVE THEM?

BLOOMING GROVE, TEXAS.
Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

We visited Neptune the other day, and were taken on board of his golden ship, and enjoyed a ride amid the sweet-scented Nymphaeum luteum, Nymphaea odorata, Nelumbium aquatica, etc., and had a view of life upon the water. Here we were telling our life away to fill the greedy maw of our heartless master: dig, dig, dig, digging away amid the blazes of a summer's sun and winter's blast, giving no time for thought or recreation, or even thinking what the God of nature has placed within the reach of all, and how it is possible for us to convert many waste places into pleasure resorts, where our sons and daughters could spend hours of pleasure and happiness instead of flitting their time away in silly butterfly fashion in our towns and cities. Winter is upon us and a few spare days might be found to start a fish pond or lake, and to gather a few bulbs and seed to start a veritable water-garden, where we could not only grow food for our physical support, but food for the mind; botanical food that would captivate all lovers of nature and nature's God.

Reader, have you ever visited the ponds of South Texas in early summer and viewed the gorgeous display of our native water lilies and exclaimed, "Oh, what beauty!—born to blush unseen" and waste their sweetness on the unsightly marsh? There is scarcely a home in Texas that could not have one of these lakes and let the girls and boys convert it into a park and flower garden. Upon the banks of the lake I would say plant weeping willows, weeping ash and elms. Out in the park a variety of our native forest trees; among them is the pecan, for shade and profit. In the pond in addition to those plants above named I would suggest, Nymphaea filix, Nuphar advena, Iris versicolor, Juncus effusus, Glyceria obtusa and fluitans and many other plants that would give you pleasure in growing. A few white swans with black necks and wings would be like diamonds in a field of gadding about the streets of your townspouting politics, be at home working on your pond and park, and in a short time you will begin to love your place better, your wife better, and your sons and daughters will be jewels that none but a neighbor's son or daughter can take from you.

B. F. CARROLL.

SHORT CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Sir:—Here I am again, knocking at the door of admittance of the best paper in the South on farming and stock care. I think every man in the South should have this paper in his house. I can't get along without it. We have had fine rains, and grass is fine. We have one farm out here with 160 acres of alfalfa growing and in fine shape. Would like to correspond with some one who has sheep to let on the shares or for sale.—W. L. RAT, Santa Lucia, Texas.

T. V. Munson, Denison, Texas.

Dear Sir: I am having so much trouble with borers on my peach trees that I intend, after cleaning, to give the trees a good coat of tar. As I never read in any paper that tar has ever been used to keep borers away, or if it will be injurious to the trees, I would be very glad I got your advice about it.—JULIUS J. HOFFMANN, Mesquite, Texas.

For the prevention of the attacks of the peach tree borer, the painting of coal-tar

not grow as fast, during the next two years; and it is so with other trees that have natural growth or cut roots. Nature abhors cutting roots off from the growing tree at any time, and it will check its growth afterwards.

Peaches are and can be grown in nearly every part of Texas, and with profit at 50 cents a bushel, and in some other even at 25 cents a bushel, and the planter has no good excuse for not raising peaches; and of plums, it is the natural home of all species or varieties of American plums, while with the European varieties it is questionable about them doing so well here. So no excuse against raising plums here. Cherries of the acid kind can be raised, but not with much profit, the trouble is that their blossoms do not fertilize well and set fruit much of their flowers seem to be deficient; and with the sprout, the best of all these, scarcely any are now raised for sale in Texas, whereas they should be raised in every man's orchard here. And as for grapes, some of them would grow everywhere, every family should plant them for home use. And now, I come to the last and best of all the pears, it is an old saying and was a true saying once: "that he who plants pears plants them for his heirs."

That was said when people planted the seed to grow their pears and the saying is not true when all pear trees, as now, are raised by grafting or budding system, as it is a well-known fact that the earliness or lateness of the bearing, or longevity of that tree is governed to a great extent by the place on the tree from whence that bud or graft is taken, and as the tree is and in transferring it to form a new tree, you bring the perfections or imperfections to the new growing tree; hence comes the change in earliness of bearing from its once late bearing, and as a consequence the early decay of the pear tree. As I have in one of my experiments, by grafting in the winter on pear stock, grown a pear on that scion that same year. These are facts that speak louder than words, and the inquiry may well be asked where will the effects of this lead to. Still, I would say to all, plant pears, as it is well known that in the month of January, of this year, at retail at Dallas, Texas, at a store on Main street, pears sold for twenty cents a piece, and they were raised in California. I have had men follow me in Dallas two blocks trying to buy some that I had carrying in buckets of my own raising much to their disappointment because they could not buy them. Pears can be raised about as cheap as apples and with the same success.

Forney, Texas.

THE WILD GOOSE PLUM.

JOHN HURLEY.

In last issue of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH are some remarks from the experience of Mr. R. D. Wier on plum culture, in which he states that he bred the Wild Goose plum for fourteen years, found it hardy, but that it failed to fruit. Now, the Wild Goose is my favorite and I cannot hear it maligned without saying a few words in its favor. My experience differs altogether from that of Mr. Wier. But perhaps our stock was different. Mine are seedlings; perhaps his were budded.

In the fall of 1877 I gave an order to the Commercial Nurseries of Nashville, Tenn., through their agent, Mr. Lowe, for fruit trees amounting to \$22. Among the trees ordered were two Wild Goose plum trees. Trees arrived in good condition at Arlington, Tarrant county, on or about the 12th of November. I had the ground well prepared and got all trees in good shape. They grew, bloomed, bore and died, their average life being about seven years from time of planting. All died with the exception of one of my Wild Goose trees. When planting those trees I noticed that one of the Wild Goose trees was budded; the other showed no signs of being budded, consequently I considered it a seedling of no account. I gave both the same care in planting and after cultivation. On the second year both trees bloomed and matured a few plums, each perhaps about twenty to the tree, those on the seedling equal in every respect to those on budded tree. The third year a late frost caught both trees in full bloom. I got no fruit that year, but both trees made an immense growth. On the fourth year I got about one-half bushel to the tree. When fruit ripened I noticed that my budded tree looked sickly. I hunted around base of trunk for borers. Could find none, yet my tree, without any apparent cause, after maturing its fruit, died. The other tree, the seedling, looked as if it was perfectly healthy. Through the year I noticed some young scions springing up under the seedling, perhaps where I cut the roots in cultivating. That fall I planted some of those young sprouts and waited anxiously to see them fruit, which they did on the fourth year, and reproduced fruit the

exact counterpart of that produced by the parent tree. That old tree, planted in November, 1877, is still alive and perfectly healthy. It is now about ten or twelve inches in diameter at base of stem, and has a spread of top of over fifty feet. It is over fifteen years old and has only failed twice to produce a full crop in all those years. This year it had over five bushels of marketable fruit. In addition to this tree I have now over sixty trees, varying in age from five to nine years old, all scions from this old tree, neither of which bore this year less than one bushel of fruit. My neighbors can testify to the prolificacy of this stock, for all of them have more or less bearing trees, scions from my old stand-by.

Last year I planted twenty of the Japan varieties. I will tell you by and by how they do in this neighborhood (three miles west of Arlington, Tarrant county). But for a never-failing stand-by, commend me to the Wild Goose.

Arlington, Texas.

A NEW QUESTION RAISED.

J. L. NUNN.

I see in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH of May 23 last, a question asked by Mr. Nat Stevens. He says: Sun scald affects our peach, apple, nectarine and cherry trees, and as a consequence in a few years they are ruined unless they are protected. Now the first question is, how best to do this? I propose to tell you. All I ask is to give my theory a trial, if theory it be. Plant your trees any distance you wish—ten, fifteen, twenty or thirty feet. I positively deny there ever being a treescaled or burned by the heat of the sun. As I do not wish to get mixed into a controversy with reference to the above, I will tell you how to avoid the sun or anything else killing the bark on fruit trees on the southwest side. Set the trees any distance you desire. Do not have the body of your trees more than two and one-half feet from the ground to the first limbs, or where the top is formed. You want shade on southwest to shade your trees in winter. Agreeable to my experience where the sun shines two, three or more days very warm on southwest side of fruit trees in winter, it causes the sap to start up that side of the tree. Then a cold spell (or norther) comes up suddenly and kills the tree on southwest side, or rather freezes or chills the sap, and the tree dies on that side. The freeze does not kill the bark. The bark is green until the hot sun of the next summer dries it up for the work of sap to support it, but you suppose it was killed the year before and you only found it a year afterwards. When you find bark dead look and see if there is not new growth started.

In conclusion I will say, if you have any young fruit trees in good condition set when the top does not protect the body, you can protect them with a board, brush or vines on southwest side in winter. Let the sun shine on the body in summer, if you wish, and you will have no dead bark on southwest side from sun scald or freeze; I raise figs, and have no trees to scald or freeze; protecting the southwest side in winter saved them.

Balling, Texas.

THE BEST FRUIT.

Mr. James Regan, in the American Farmer, tells how to secure the best results in gathering fruit in the following extract:

"You have often noticed the large, juicy-looking fruit which is sold at a fancy price near the end of the fruit season. You wonder and marvel how such luscious fruits are grown. You would probably think that they belonged to some almost unknown varieties, yet these are perhaps the product of the same varieties of trees which you have on your farm. I will tell you just how you can grow fruit equally as nice as this.

"As I said at the beginning, I do not believe in cleaning a tree at one picking. I have three pickings for all my apples, peaches and pears. In my first picking, which is quite early in the season, I select all the fruit which is fit to send to market. The fruit is ripe, or almost so, though not so large as the later fruit, and it brings a fair price, depending altogether at what time it reaches the market. The first picking, of course, somewhat thins the fruit remaining on the trees. This is very good; the remaining fruit receives more nourishment, has more space in which to grow; consequently, it ripens quickly and reaches a better size than those first picked. Near the middle of the season I make my second picking, which almost clears the tree of fruit.

Now, from my third crop is where the size, shape, and lusciousness of the fruit comes in. I let the fruit remain on the tree as long as possible so that the fullest maturity can be reached. Everything is favorable for the proper maturing of this third crop, and the fruit has plenty of

space in which to develop its fine quality. You will be surprised at the product of this crop. You can readily distinguish your varieties of fruit by their size, shape, and taste, but, aside from the similarity in shape, it would be difficult to tell if this third picking came from the same variety. Its size is greatly increased, and its flavor is far superior to the ordinary fruit.

Any energetic person can have all their expenses paid, including railroad fare, etc., to the World's Fair and return by securing subscribers to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

HAVE YOU GOT PILES

ITCHING PILES known by moisture like perspiration, cause intense itching when warm. This form of PILES BLEEDING or PROTRUDING PILES YIELD AT ONCE TO DR. BO-SAN'S PILE REMEDY, which acts directly on parts affected, cures hemorrhoids, allays itching, effecting a permanent cure. Price \$50. Druggists or mail, Dr. Bosanko, Philadelphia, Pa.

SHERMAN NURSERIES—18th Year.

First-class stock Home Grown Trees. Low prices, fair dealing. I pay the freight if desired. Choice trees by mail. Write to JOHN S. KERR, Prop'r. Sherman, Texas.

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Free by mail to all applicants, contains more valuable information to planters of Fruits, Shrubs, Evergreens, Shrubs, etc., and a BETTER LIST OF VARIETIES than can be found elsewhere for \$1000 IN THE SOUTHWEST. His Hybrid and Seedling Grapes open a NEW GRAPE GROWING. Address: T. V. MUNSON, Denison, Texas.

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Oldest and most reliable Import House offer a No. 1 stock of Hardy Orange and Lemons, Japan Persimmon, Plum and Nanking Chestnut trees, CITRUS TRIFOLIATA, Camphor trees and seed, and many other stock, bulbs and seeds in large assortment. French Prunes, Pears, Vines, Olives. Safe delivery guaranteed. Freight, Mail, Express. Send for our Catalogue. Address as above. Any information cheerfully given.

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Half a million Fruit Trees, including standard sorts and new introductions. Many varieties adapted to Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama specialties. Fruit Trees of all kinds for the South. New Illustrated Catalogue for 1892-93 free on application. Address G. L. TABER, Glen St. Mary, Florida.

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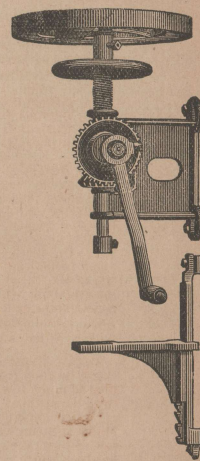
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FOR FARMERS, STOCKMEN, PLANTERS AND MECHANICS—THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

Our Vise is solid and strong. Face 4 3/4x9 inches; jaws 3 in. wide and open 4 in. Our Drill is not a cheap Bench Drill, but a genuine Blacksmith's Post Drill, with adjustable table. Blacksmith's Drill Press, Hand Feed; weight, 50 pounds.



Blacksmith's Tong, Wrought Iron, 18 in.

Blacksmith's Cold Chisel 1 1/2 lbs. Solid Cast Steel

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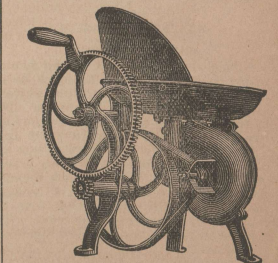
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Adze-Eye Shoeing Hammer and Handle, wt. 9 oz.

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Screw Plate, 3 Taps, 3 set Dies, Cut 3-8, 1-2 and 5-8 inch.

Combination Anvil and Vise, Hardened face, Finely polished, weighs 50 lbs.



Farmer's Forge No. 5, B, will heat 1 1/2 inch Iron. Our Forge is built especially for our Kit, 15 inches high to top of bowl, 14 inches in diameter. Fan 8 inches in diameter, weighs 45 pounds. Every tool on this list is the best the market affords, free to you guaranteed. This kit of tools, freight prepaid to any R. R. Depot in the U. S. as a premium for a club of 35 subscribers at \$1 each, or for \$25 cash.

Poultry and Bees.

Will you or some one of the readers of your valuable paper give me a remedy for my chickens? The comb begins to get sore, and in a few days the entire head is perfectly raw.—J. T. WILLIAMS, Loan Oak, Texas.

[Scabs Pick them off in time and apply carbolic ointment; grease afterwards with lard. One part crude carbolic acid, ten parts lard, well mixed will do for ointment. Phenol Sodique one part water, four parts, is better. This will answer the inquiry of Sug Thomas, also.—Ed.]

Winter weather is almost here, and as the weather cools the hens slacken their labors and the grocer marks his second hand eggs five cents higher. The cook or the housewife, or both combined in the same person, berates the breeder because the shells of the eggs adhere to the yolks or per chance are dried until they rattle like dice on the bar of the beer vender. Those who would avoid these unpleasant circumstances and have eggs fresh and fragrant, delivered by the hen with her cheery cackle instead of the delivery cart, must prepare food suitable to the purposes of egg production. In the absence of good clover hay which our Northern brethren depend upon, we may use alfalfa, or peas, or pea vines "cut to fit" or mustard tops or shallots or scallions, or other food fresh, green and nitrogenous.

FARMERS' FOWLS.

Any person who will purchase a Partridge Cochins or two, or buy eggs and raise them, and then get a good Brown Leghorn cock and mate with these hens, and then select the best laying pullets each season as breeders, and mate them with the same Brown Leghorn cock, and continue this process, purchasing a new pure blood Leghorn cock about once in two years, he will have a farm fowl which no pure breed will excel. And all without the careful handling necessary to keep a breed pure. When so many chickens are kept that several male birds will be needed, a few Leghorn hens may be kept and the needed male birds raised at home. This cross will improve year after year; the progeny will be almost as large as the pure Cochins, and they will partake largely of the activity and laying capacity of the Leghorns. By close observation and selection of best laying hens to breed from, a remarkable degree of prolificacy may be developed. They will also be good sitters and good mothers. Another excellent cross is Black-breasted Red Games on Partridge Cochins hens. The Games, however, are good enough without any adulteration, and may be crossed with any family of Games without losing the character of a pure breed.

A good plan for many—perhaps a majority of farmers—is to procure the best common hens he can and give them Brown Leghorn males, and continue to select the best for breeders and breed only to pure Leghorns. There can be no improvement without some care, or trouble, or intelligent work (or whatever you may call it), and for those who are not willing to pay that price the commonest dunghills are good enough. The selected common hens mated with good Leghorn cocks, and the same selection and mating continued, will bring a flock of fowls more and more uniform every generation, and they will give more satisfaction on the average farm than any pure breed.

WHY THEY FAIL.

R. S. DENNER.

It seems strange to a practical business man that so many people should have such impractical ideas about the poultry business, or should indulge such visionary schemes in undertaking poultry raising as a business. You rarely hear a man ask, "What are the qualifications necessary to success in the mercantile business?" or "How can a man best succeed in the practice of law or medicine?" The average man has sense enough to know some of the constituent elements in the make-up of a successful merchant, mechanic or lawyer, and yet I dare say there is not a man in this country actually engaged in trying to make poultry pay but what is beset by this same class of people with such questions as, "What steps are necessary for a beginner to take in order to make a success of poultry raising?" To such people the poultry industry seems the only short cut under the sun to immense wealth. They imagine that the merest tyro may certainly raise chickens—plenty of them—and sell them, too, and all that is necessary is to begin, and to begin at once. The

failures in the chicken business—and they are legion—are due largely to an entire misconception of what is required in the successful management of a poultry establishment. They will admit it takes brain and brawn, and lots of it, to manage an Arkansas or Texas cotton plantation; or to run a big cattle ranch or gold mine. They know all that without telling, but they have to be told repeatedly that it takes as much brain and "git up and git," and hard work and eternal vigilance and bull dog tenacity to succeed in poultry raising as in horse or cattle raising.

We have much faith in a "call" to certain work, in that natural bent to certain pursuits which gives a man peculiar fitness for that particular vocation or occupation. It is so in every calling. He succeeds best who is best qualified for success in that line. It is so with poultry raising. The man who undertakes poultry on a large scale without any knowledge of or particular love for the business would save time, trouble and expense by moving at once to the poor-house, for that is where his friends will have to take him. A man can no more successfully manage a poultry farm without experience and adaptation than he can manage a banking institution with the same lack. We think we know something of this business, but we are free to acknowledge we have not acquired it all. We have been in it all our life, and we learn something new in it every day. There are problems ever asserting themselves too hard for us to solve.

Our advice to every breeder of fowls is, that if chickens are raised at all, for goodness sake, raise thoroughbreds, but don't go into the business as a business until you know what you are doing. Batesville, Ark.

INCUBATORS.

Southern Farm.

These machines receive more attention every year. The shows held in fall and winter are usually made up of young stock and the early hatched birds generally get there in the race for premiums because of size and plumage. Each year biddy seems less inclined to sit early in the season, a necessary thing for success in poultry raising, if there were no exhibitions. For a number of years we have kept none but pure bred stock, and during the last two seasons the pent-up stock has laid without a thought of incubation till about April 30th, which is too late to produce show chicks, except the smaller varieties. These things naturally bring the incubator to our minds, and the wish is indulged, if not materialized, for a good machine and a March hatch of fine, healthy chicks. That the incubator will hatch and produce as strong, healthy chicks as hatched by the natural process is no longer a question to those who have tested the machines. We mention this because many people think the hatch is not a success and the chicks that do appear are weak and soon die, an idea that has no foundation in fact or experience. If chicks do come weak or are fairly in the hatch it is because the machine was not properly used or the operator depended too much on the machine and the methods that go with it, and forgot the rule of common sense. Incubators are like every other new machine—brains, study and good attention are necessary adjuncts for success.

The large claims and high sounding names used by incubator men are misleading to a degree. The claims are perfect, "self-regulating," "automatic," etc., and guaranteed to hatch more chicks from a given number of fertile eggs than any other machine. In school these words have a definite positive meaning, but in this case the meaning is only relative and must be thus considered. A moment's reflection will convince any one that an incubator is no more a self-regulating machine than a steam engine, and who would put on the steam and turn an engine loose unattended for an hour, to say nothing of a day, or twenty-one days. There are a number of good machines put on the market, in fact most of them will hatch a few chicks but not all are successful.

The incubator is a success on general principles and has come to stay. More machines are in use now than ever before, and as they advance toward perfection, the breeders and farmers will take more stock in them.

As it takes time and patience to learn to use these machines, they should invariably be purchased in the fall or winter and you should do your experimenting when eggs are cheap. A spoiled hatch in spring, means more loss than the machine is worth. A successful hatch will more than pay for the machine with reasonable success in rearing the brood.

Good points: no deserting the nest; no breaking of eggs; no lice from the hen, and a good sized brood. The early chick

brings the best price and we have to depend on the wooden hen or keep a good many scrubs to incubate as they seem to set earlier now than fine stock. The history of the incubator has just commenced with us, my neighbors are inquiring every year about them and the time will soon come when they will be as common as the sewing machine. We close by saying that although three machines have been tested at our place, we are not maker, agent, stockholder, or in any way interested in any make or maker of machines, but only say that they can, are, must, and will be successfully used. A trial will convince the most skeptical.

KINDNESS.

Poultry World.

It certainly makes a difference whether fowls take wing, and cackle and flutter, on the approach of their keeper, or on the contrary, gather about him, expecting some new favor at his hand. It is best, in the arrangement of your buildings, to have this idea of quiet prominent. By beginning aright with your chicks, you will soon have this contented, happy family about you. The pecuniary advantage to be gained by this method is no small item. It will take less feed to put and keep them in condition than when the opposite method is pursued.

A good farmer knows well enough that his horse, cows and young animals are in better health every way, besides giving less trouble if they have been trained so carefully that they know his voice and his step, and expect a pat from his hand. Instead of a blow, whenever he comes in the neighborhood; while the flocks and herds of a cruel man learn bad tricks, become unruly and inclined to break pasture. Fowls half kept, who have to steal from all unguarded places to keep life within must become demoralized and contemptible. Mean, sly ways; terrified flight from the presence of the cruel and neglectful owners; deftly hidden nests, with yield small harvests of eggs; lank, careworn visages, unsightly plumage and general vagabondage of appearance—these are some of the consequences of criminal neglect in regard to fowls kept with the vain hope that in some way they may prove a source of profit. It pays in dollars and cents to be kind.

A STUDY OF THE BREEDS.

Western Farm Journal.

To give a general report or description of all the breeds, would consume too much space, but the following points of information are so frequently asked about by Journal readers that we give a general reply:

Beginning with the Asiatic, we will start with the Dark Brahmas. At maturity the cock should weigh eleven pounds, and the hen nine pounds. They are good layers for the Asiatic family, and very hardy. Excellent for roasting purposes.

Light Brahmas, cocks weigh twelve pounds; hens ten pounds. They are the largest of all varieties of poultry, and also excellent for roasting purposes.

Buff Cochins, cocks weigh eleven pounds; hens eight and one-half pounds. This breed is a beautiful and a hardy fowl, and excellent for roasting purposes.

White Cochins compare in weight and qualities to the Buff variety, only differing in color, as their name implies.

Partridge Cochins, probably the most popular of the entire Cochins family, cocks weigh eleven pounds; hens nine pounds. Their name, likewise, is derived from their color, being very much like the partridge.

Black Cochins (see description of buffs), only differing in color.

Langshans (black and white), cocks weigh ten pounds, hens eight pounds. They are by far the best winter layers of any of the Asiatic family, and are excellent as roasting fowls.

Then come our American varieties: Plymouth Rocks, cocks, nine and one-half; hens seven and one-half. Wyandottes, cocks, eight and one-half; hens, six and one-half. Javas, cocks, ten; hens, eight. Ameraucans, Dominiques, cocks, eight and one-half; hens, six and one-half. Jersey Blues, cocks, ten; hens, eight. Houdans, cocks, seven; hens, six. White Dorkings, cocks, seven and one-half; hens, six and one-half. Colored, cocks, nine and one-half; hens, seven and one-half.

Thus it will be seen about what is the value of each of the above varieties for market purposes, and the compilation should help beginners to select the variety best adapted to their wants.

Of the laying fowls, Italy boasts of her Leghorns and Anconas; England of her R. d. Caps; Spain of her Minorcas and Spanish; France of her Houdans; China of her Langshans; while here in America we are not ashamed of our Wyandotte family for egg production.

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FOR THE FARM, GARDEN, HOUSE.

Without Expense of Time or Labor.

SUPPLY YOUR Cattle Crops House Lawn

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FARM AND STOCK.

The more grass a hog eats, the less is he in danger from cholera.

It don't pay to sell hogs in the fall and save the money till spring to buy bacon and lard with.

No animal should be kept on a farm after it ceases to be profitable. That is what they are kept for.

This is a pertinent question: Where and in what condition are your farm implements, Mr. Farmer?

The Iowa dairy school has greatly decreased the proportion of bad to good butter, and has added largely to the value of the butter crop of that state.

Pork made entirely of corn is neither the best nor the cheapest. To have nice streaked meat, streaked food must be furnished. Grass, peas, pumpkins, corn, make the delicate streaks, and which consumers so much desire.

A farmer who has a few fairly good common cows, can quadruple the value of their calf crop by buying and using a good Jersey bull, and we are glad to say that in Texas many are holding hold of this truth with a practical grip.

Governor Hoard, who knows, says that the three essentials in a dairy barn, are plenty of sunlight, plenty of ventilation and sufficient warmth. It don't matter how cheaply the building may be constructed, if it has these requisites it is all right.

Those who have neglected to sow a few acres of rye for winter pasture have not treated their stock properly. Fine winter grazing may be had in South Texas from rye sown early in the present month. It is a good thing for horses, cows and pigs to revel in.

Successful farming requires as careful calculation of every element of profit and loss as manufacturing or trading. It was not always so, and some have not yet learned that a change has taken place in circumstances that renders a change in habits necessary.

If the recent Texas State Fair shall, as seems probable, result in converting a number of small cotton farms into dairy farms, the good will simply stay for any deficiency in gate receipts. Jersey and Holstein cows are being widely disseminated, and that means butter.

FEEDING THE BROOD SOW.

N. J. SHEPHERD

To begin with, the essential item is to supply the rations that will best meet the demands upon the system while carrying the pigs. The pig should come as full of strength and vigor as possible and this can best be secured by keeping the sow in good thrifty condition. If given a proper ration the natural tendency of the sow is to store up flesh against parturition, and if she is well fed during gestation she will be able to feed her pigs. It is not fat forming feeds that she needs, as an excess of these is rather a detriment than otherwise. She wants to develop bone and muscle, and these cannot be supplied unless a proper ration is supplied. If given too much fat forming foods her pigs will be fat enough but they will lack vigor, and in many cases, even with good treatment, will fall to thrive as they should. Pigs with a good development of bone are harder, and if they are not quite so fat will do better than if very fat. It is never advisable to keep a sow closely confined when it is possible to avoid. While there is grass she needs a supply, and in giving her a good range she will pick up much that she needs, and will help to make up a variety. During the winter, if they can have the run of a patch of rye or wheat all the better, but if no green field can be readily supplied give clover hay. It will, in a measure at least, take the place of grass, and with the brood sows will be of considerable benefit. Too much grain should not be given, as more bulky food will be better. In winter, when the weather is cold, corn can be given, for the reason that it is one of the very best materials that can be supplied to maintain animal heat, and heat is necessary to comfort during the winter. But as a leading or preferable ration oats is preferable to corn, as it is one of the very best grains to aid in the development of bone and muscle. Middlings is another good feed for the brood sows. Barley and oats in equal proportion make a good ration; generally the better plan is to grind together. Oat meal and middlings make a very good ration, and can be used to a good advantage in making up a variety, but oat meal is very rich, and care must be taken not to feed too much. With sows as with

other animals kept for breeding or growth, the condition of the animal should determine the amount of food that should be supplied. Good feeding will keep her thrifty during gestation, and if fed liberally she can be kept from running down too much while suckling her pigs. All reasonable care should be taken to keep her thrifty, as fully as possible. With this condition she will farrow better and thrifty pigs and this is an essential item in keeping the brood sow.

Eldon, Mo.

THE SUPPLY OF HOGS.

Kansas City Drivers' Telegram.

There is a great deal of speculation at present as to the course hog values will pursue this fall. It is generally accepted that no such deluge of hogs as came to this market last fall and winter will strike us this fall. In the face of this there are many people who are holding to the idea of high values. And yet, there is something in the way of the prices which overconfident persons expect. The packers are not able to figure out a profit in provisions by paying such high values for hogs, and they now refuse to take hold of the marketings very freely on that account. If they are determined to operate lightly until the relative position of hogs and provisions is adjusted on a paying basis, one of three things must happen. Provisions must advance, hogs must come down, or the supply of hogs must be abnormally small.

THE STOCK TO KEEP.

Farmer's Home.

Generally speaking, the profit in keeping an animal decreases or wholly disappears shortly after the prime of life is reached. It is kept long after this point is reached the profit that has accrued from feeding through the earlier stages may be lost. Farmers are not usually much given to sentiment in this matter, and do not retain animals after the period of profitable use is past, not from any special affection, but simply because they do not recognize the fact that they are on the down grade. Go into the barns and fields of men who are thoroughly successful stock raisers and you will find mainly young animals, very rarely any that are much past their prime. On the other hand, look over the stock of men who think that live stock does not pay, and you will often see the reason plainly written in the too great age to which their animals are kept.

The best time to sell an old or aging animal is direct from good pasture. If you cannot get it in good shape for market on grass you cannot do so with profit in any other way. To put it up and feed grain would cost more than you would gain, and very often an animal can be made moderately fat on grass that could hardly be fed up at all on grain and hay because of the impaired condition of both its teeth and digestive apparatus. Save your winter feed and winter care for young and thrifty stock that can pay you a good return, even if some of the old stand-bys have to be sold for canners' stock in the fall for a little less than you think it is really worth. Keep nothing during winter that does not show good earning power.

THE BULL.

George Appleton in Farm and Fireside.

It must be admitted that the bull is a neglected animal—an animal subjected to great ill-usage, if not cruelty. Twenty or thirty years ago, comparatively few farmers kept bulls, but to-day a great many have bulls of their own. The farmer may provide himself with a bull without much expense; he has opportunity to buy a high grade calf or, thoroughbred, or raise one of his own from a registered animal.

This is commendable if the farmers will take care of their bulls—give them a chance to live a fairly comfortable life, and not make them eyecores to every one who visits the place. As soon as the bull begins to show his temper (and he begins to show it very early if treated in the ordinary way), he is discovered to be "cross," a ring thrust through his nose, and he is kept in the stall month after month, year after year, only going out as service requires.

In a great many cases the bull never leaves the stall except when led by the pole attached to the ring in the nose. He is not even allowed the freedom of the yard, because he has shown an ugly disposition. Why should he not show an ugly disposition? He cannot be otherwise than ugly under such treatment as is meted out to him; it would not be natural for him to have a gentle disposition.

Within a week I have seen two bulls, one not yet two years old, that have not been out of the stall, except when led by the pole and ring, for seven months. The bulls are held by the old-style ranch-folks, so that they cannot reach with their head any part of the body. They cannot

rub or lick themselves. Any one with a knowledge of cattle knows that such treatment of stock is contrary to nature, the nature of the animal, and that is little less than torture. Throughout the country are a great many bulls treated in the same way, and their owners wonder why they are cross. Who or what would not be cross, even mad, frantic, under such circumstances? Some farmers appear to think that because a bull is a bull, he is not entitled to any consideration.

The question has been asked often, "What shall we do with the bull?" and it has as often been answered; namely, "Work him." There is no reason why the bull should not be yoked and worked like the ox. He makes a good draft animal, and his working does not impair his vitality or usefulness in other respects.

"GIVING DOWN" MILK.

Farmer's Record.

A cow carries her milk from one milking to the next, held firmly in little reservoirs distributed all through the udder. The valves which open and close the passages from these reservoirs to the teats are under control of the will, but like the neck of the bladder, they are naturally and constantly kept closed, and are only relaxed by a special effort of the will. At milking time these valves, by a relaxation of the cords which control them, are opened and the milk let down in a flood into the teats. This relaxation does not last long.

After a little the special effort to hold open the valve ceases, and they instinctively close again, shutting off the flow from the reservoirs and retaining in them any milk which may not have passed out. The habit of not "giving down" consists in shortening the time of this relaxation, thus stopping the release of the reservoirs to the teats before the milk is all drawn. The circumstances which tend to make a cow shorten this period of relaxation are rough treatment, fear, grief, solitude, loud noises—in short, anything which attracts attention and makes the cow uneasy. The things inducing prolonged relaxation are comfort and quietude and freedom from disturbance and excitement, together with the relief which the flow of milk occasions.

When a cow has, from any cause, acquired a habit of shortening the time of "letting down" it is very difficult, and sometimes impossible, to overcome it. The best way is to avoid all occasions of disturbance, and observe well those which promote pleasure for the cow, and to milk as rapidly as possible, consistent with comfort, with a view to getting the milk out before the "letting down" ceases milking rapidly does not mean jerking down sharply, or moving with hasty or irregular motions in the presence of the cow. Such a course would counteract the very thing aimed at. The motion of the milker should not be such as to startle. They should be deliberate and cool, but nothing should be allowed to interrupt or retard the work. This will produce constant relief to the udder. The milker should bear constantly in mind the fact that the "letting down" is short, and that every moment should be used to the best advantage. When the milk ceases to flow the milking should stop at once, whether it is all out or not. There is no good in hanging on after the milk stops coming, as it only cultivates the habit of "holding back."

PECAN CULTURE.

Atlanta Constitution.

Pecan growing is not an entirely new feature of agriculture; yet it is only within the past twenty-five years that people have begun to extend the culture of the tree into regions where it does not grow in the wild state. There is a large area in Texas, where the tree has been known as native or indigenous for many years. There are large forests there, growing wild, and enormous sums of money have been received for the product of the nuts. It is nothing unusual at certain seasons of the year to see whole droves of wagons and teams with loads of nuts on their way to the marketing places from these native resorts.

The tree is a variety of the hickory, and it will flourish in the soils where that tree flourishes. It requires, however, a longer season for the maturing of its fruit than it does for the ordinary hickory nut. All over our Gulf states there are large bodies of river and creek bottoms that, in recent years, have been so subject to overflows and washout that it has been found impracticable to devote them to general agricultural purposes. I would recommend that these lands be set in pecan trees. The occasional overflows will not seriously effect the growth of the tree, but on the contrary, such lands are said to grow the tree to perfection.

For the information of those who desire to experiment in this line, I would state that for growing in such lands there should

be a replanting of seedlings from the nursery. Beginning with the seed in such grounds is not recommended. Use trees only one year old and set them 40x40, and then give them such cultivation as will keep down all other growth near the tree. Between spaces Bermuda grass may be grown. Thorough fertilization will be required on soils that are poor.

The pecan tree is remarkable as the most profitable of all the nut bearing trees. A single tree has been known to produce as many as 1,000 pounds of nuts, and of the fine varieties of the fruit, as much as \$250 has been realized from a single tree.

The most profitable variety to cultivate is considered by many as being the paper shell pecan. Of this there are two kinds—those known as the Stuart and Van Daman. The latter is named in honor of Professor H. E. Van Daman, United States pomologist, Washington, D. C., an enthusiast on the subject of pecan culture. The Stuart is named for that extensive grower of the fruit, Col. W. R. Stuart, of Ocean Springs, Miss., who is regarded as the pioneer in professional pecan culture in the south. Col. Stuart has one of the finest and best pecan groves in the country. He is largely interested in introducing and extending the culture of the tree in other regions, and persons who desire information on the subject will find in him, really cheerful, and authoritative communication.

Southern Live Stock Journal: The low price of wheat in the West should not figure with the cotton farmer who needs to raise his own flour. Bought bread is dear at any price to the farmer, especially when bought with the proceeds of 7 cent cotton.

HORSE DEPARTMENT.

Edited by J. E. LITTLE, Waxahachie, Texas, to whom all communications pertaining to this department should be addressed.

Official paper of the Texas Trotting and Pacing Horse Breeders' Association.—S. B. HOPKINS, Secretary, Dallas, Texas.

Fine horses, nice buggies and harness, and good roads, will go far toward settling the question, "How are we to keep the boys and girls on the farm?"

The weather was very unfavorable for racing during the term of the State Fair. However, it is the first year since its organization that the weather clerk has not given the very best of weather for such sport.

The drivers of trotting and pacing horses have organized an association for mutual protection. They disclaim any intention of antagonizing the Trotting Associations, as has been charged by some of the horse papers.

An offer of \$350, cash, was recently refused for a pair of grade Percheron mares in Waxahachie. How is this, when it costs no more to raise them than the animals for which from \$40 to \$60 is considered a good price?

Is there anything in the platforms of any of the political parties of this State in regard to good roads? We think them of more importance to the public than some of the matters to which the politicians are paying so much attention.

H. B. Sanborn's Princeton, by Belmont, and out of daughter of Principles, got a record of 2:32 at Independence, Mo., recently, in a tilt against time. We are glad to hear of any Texas horse doing well, and congratulate both the owner and driver of the horse.

For years trotting horse owners lost lots of sleep in devising some way to keep the public from finding out how fast their horses could go, while now they are nearly all after fast records. The present season has seen the most wonderful progress in this direction.

In the selection of a trotting sire to which to breed, the majority of small breeders will find to their advantage to select such as possess "roadster qualities" in a high degree, i. e., kind and tractable in disposition, with the ability to show speed without the aid of weights and boots, in preference to those that are regarded more as race horses, but are peculiar in their dispositions and require mechanical appliances to balance them.

We take the following from the Spirit of the Times, and ask our Texas readers what is to prevent Texas people from doing likewise, since Nature has done her part for us: "Few realize the extent of the horse raising industry in Central Kansas. The influence of the men who have exerted themselves to show what can be done by good breeding and training has gone abroad to such a degree that counties like Dickinson, Geary, Saline, Ellsworth and McPherson, ship hundreds of roadsters East every year. From the first mentioned

FARM MACHINERY

DOES THE COTTON PICKER PICK?

THE COTTON PICKER AT WORK—HOW IT GATHERS THE STAPLE—RESULT OF AN HOUR'S WORK.

"Another experiment, which has been reported as being very successful, was made yesterday with the Todd cotton harvester at Mr. D. O. Samuels plantation, about one mile east of the Fair Grounds, in the presence of Major R. V. Tompkins, Capt. C. M. Wheat, Messrs. B. Blankenship, Frank Holland, Philip Sanger, A. H. Harris, H. C. Graler, S. Munger, and the following Chicago gentlemen: T. H. Ball, G. W. Blossom, D. M. Powell, T. S. Cruttenberg, E. W. Pike and A. B. Robinson. Messrs. Harris, Munger and Graler were appointed a committee to record the work of the machine. The result was, cotton picking at the rate of 350 pounds an hour. Going over the stalks the first time, 67 per cent of the cotton was picked, and going over it a second time, 18 per cent, leaving 9 per cent on the stalk and 6 per cent on the ground. It is claimed that the machine, a description of which has been published in the News, will cover five acres in a day and pick the staple as clean as it can be collected by hand. With the substitution of such machinery for human labor the difficulties of the labor problem seem to increase—at least as regards the colored citizen."

The above from the Dallas News of November 16th is in keeping with the reports usually made by the Todd cotton harvester people, and leans away from the truth 90 degrees. The work of the machine on this occasion did not excel in any respect the tests formerly reported by TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

D. M. Powell, Chicago, President of the Cotton Harvester Company, T. H. Ball, of Aurora, Ill., a member of the same company, and others, whom the writer supposed to be "interested in seeing the machine a success," sent out numerous invitations and secured the presence at the trial, among others, the following practical and well known machinery men: R. V. Tompkins, S. I. Munger, Wm. Robinson, H. W. Graler, W. N. Stroud, W. H. Haggard, and more of them, will endorse the wild statement above made, and only a few of the many, if any, who were not practical machinery men will do so.

Mr. Powell, the President of the Company, told the writer that they were not making the tests with a view of getting up certificates for the purpose of selling stock in the Company, but that the tests were being made in order to satisfy themselves whether they had or had not an invention possessing the right principle, which, with proper improvement, could be made a successful cotton picker. The method they adopt of using what they paid to have inserted in a newspaper as a bona fide statement and endorsement by the paper, together with a certificate from a dry goods merchant that the statements in said paid article are true, does not augur sincerity on the part of Mr. Powell or his scheme. At any rate, a branch or district company for Texas, located at Dallas, with a hundred thousand capital stock, with leading Dallas citizens as stockholders, officers, etc., will be very hard to get up.

In connection with the above the following to the Dallas News publishers is self-explanatory:

DALLAS, TEXAS, Nov. 16, 1892.
A. H. Belo & Co., City-Gentlemen:

In your issue of to-day you report what purports to be the result of a test, or field trial, made yesterday by the Todd cotton harvester. While you do not report it as a report of a committee, yet you put it in such shape as it is so construed, and speaking for myself only, I wish to state that you nor any one else had authority to use my name in any such connection. I have made no report as to time the machine was at work, rate per hour of picking, per cent gathered, character of work, or condition of cotton gathered, and have said nothing favorable to or against the working or mechanical construction of the machine. Trusting you will allow this correction space in your paper, I remain, yours truly,
S. I. MUNGER.

This correction, in answer to above letter, appeared in the Dallas News of November 17th.

"Mr. S. T. Munger states that he was not on the committee which timed the cotton harvester at the Samuels farm, east of the city, last Tuesday."

The following additional note to the news from Mr. Munger appeared in the News of November 19th, and at last places

Mr. Munger right on the cotton picker question:

DALLAS, NOV. 17.—[TO THE NEWS.]—In your issue of to-day you again do me an injustice, or put me in the wrong light. By reference to my letter to you of yesterday, you will see that I do not deny serving on the committee, but only deny making any such report as appeared in your paper, in regard to the test made by the cotton harvester. I think you will be just to me, put the matter right.

S. I. MUNGER.

MORE OF THE SAME SORT.
TODD COTTON PICKING MACHINE.

[Paid advertisement in Dallas News, November 17th, 1892.]

Field trial of the Todd cotton picking machine held on the Samuel farm near Dallas, Texas, Nov. 16, 1892:
Per cent picked first round - - - 75
Per cent picked second round - - - 20
Per cent left - - - 5

Damage to bush, none.
Amount picked per hour, 390 pounds.
Signed:

C. A. COUR, Secretary Texas State Fair.
J. W. McMANIS, Tex. Rep. Committee
B. F. Avery & Sons.
R. Q. SMITH, Tex. Rep. Am. Road Machine.

The field from which the above cotton was picked was picked over by the Todd machine Oct. 10 to 16 last, when it gathered 90 per cent of the open cotton, picking at the rate of 600 pounds per hour. The cotton picked at this trial has opened since that time.

The Todd machine will be running in the same field until all the cotton is gathered, and parties interested in seeing it work will be furnished with all necessary information on application to Sidney Smith, Exall building, Dallas, Texas.

FREE ADVERTISEMENT IN TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

ANANIAS, SAPHIRA CO., S. I.

DEAR DOCTOR HUM BUGG:

I feel it my duty to state, for the benefit of all afflicted candidates for coffins, the particulars of my miraculous restoration to health by the use of your wonderful Compound Patagonian Elixir. In infancy I was accidentally hit by lightning, which entirely destroyed my liver and lights. After worrying along as best I could for years, I was induced to try a bottle of your famous remedy. I have used only one bottle, and now I have a liver on each side and a pair of electric lights, and am in better health than I was before I had anything the matter with me.
Yours for truth,
E. Z. GULIBLIE.

AND THIS IS NOT ALL.

We notice in the Cincinnati Post a seven-inch, three column display advertisement of the Lone Star cotton picker, stating that a large number of the machines will be manufactured in that city in time for the next harvest, and closing with these words: "For the purpose of manufacturing machines the Company has offered a limited amount of its capital stock for sale; single share \$10, or blocks of any size are for sale at 199 Elm street, where the machine is on exhibition daily. Subscription to the stock can also be made at the office of W. E. Hutton & Co., No. 53 West Third street."

Selling a "limited" amount of its stock "in blocks of any size" may sound paradoxical, but that is none of our business. In relation to the above we have received the following letter of inquiry:

CINCINNATI, O., Nov. 16, 1892.

F. P. Holland, Esq., Texas Farm and Ranch, Dallas, Texas:

DEAR SIR—Mr. F. B. White, of Chicago, Illinois, has referred me to you for full information regarding the Lone Star Cotton Picking Company of your State. They are here trying to float stock of the Company, and claim the machine to be doing perfect work in your State, picking cotton for \$1.50 per bale, and does not injure the plants. They claim to have a large factory at Waco, Texas, where they are turning out machines at less than \$100 each. What do you know of them? Mr. White tells me that you wrote the Company up, and can give full information about the machine, and also the men who are connected with the Company. Can you also send me a copy of the paper in which you made the write-up? Yours truly,
R. G. WOOD.
Room 85 Johnston Building.

In reply to the above, we can only say that, if there was a demand for Lone Star cotton picking machines, the market would not be glutted with the output of the Waco factory. If there are any of the machines for sale we have not heard of it. Neither have we heard of any one wanting to purchase, nor have we any reliable information of the machine having been en-

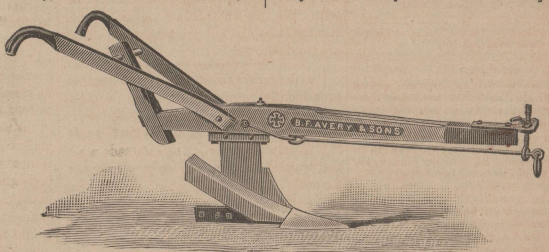
gaged in picking cotton—at least not in public.

A SUGGESTION.

The cotton picker contests, it seems to us, have been badly managed. There was too much publicity, too many witnesses present. The scene of the operations was too accessible. The machine is too diffident, not being accustomed to work in public. A better plan, let us suggest, would have been to have selected some far away cotton patch, some secluded agricultural nook, say about nine miles from Waco, or some other town; where they might have been driven up and down the rows, leaving its tracks deeply imbedded in the fertile soil. When everything was ready, including a few bottles of champagne and paper and pencil, the witnesses who, for additional force, may be members of a board of trade, or president of the city, or secretary of that, or general manager of something else. How easy, under such circumstances, it

troubles, and more, to overcome that there would be in inventing a machine to pick blackberries, ripe ones only.

Some of the machines which have been tried have a series of brushes which are pressed against the cotton bolls by the operator, these brushes drawing out the cotton and delivering it to a belt which in turn carries it to a receptacle in the machine. Another form has a hose through which a strong current of air is drawn. This also is placed against the cotton and draws it from the boll up into a bag. Still another form has a number of arms with little steel fingers which catch the cotton and deliver it into the machine. All have had the same objection, however, either injuring the plant or requiring more time and skill to operate than is necessary for hand picking. A good field hand can pick from 150 to 200 pounds of seed cotton per day when the stand is good—that is where a large number of bolls are open—and even an ordinary hand can get from 100 to 125 pounds. While it is impossible to foretell to what perfection mechanical skill can bring a machine it does not seem likely that the many conditions necessary



would be to triumphantly point to the work just completed by the machine, and to proclaim that the "machine as at present perfected, picks a larger per cent of cotton and a cleaner staple, and in all respects superior to human hands," and get all, or several, or some of the witnesses to sign the same, under the influence of bottled enthusiasm, and the representations of the cotton picker men. But it seems the signatures were obtainable without these preliminaries. But our plan has the advantage of being practically indisputable.

Mr. Ames, of the Ames Iron Works, Oswego, New York, has been down on a visit to Mr. Wm. Burr, Dallas, their State representative.

Col. L. D. Kingsland, of the Kingsland & Douglas Manufacturing Company, St. Louis, has been in Texas during the past month interviewing the many dealers who handle the popular goods made by his company.

Billy Robinson took his Democratic Cyclone cotton picker, which we mentioned in our last issue, out and tried it in the same field with the Todd cotton picker, and, as after a fair and impartial trial, it failed to do any better than the other cotton pickers he decided to put it away until its services were demanded for some other purpose than cotton picking. Billy got lots of certificates, such as he had arranged before going into trial, signed, and the failure of the machine to pick cotton, will have nothing whatever to do with the ten million dollars stock in the "Democratic Cyclone Cotton Picker Company, of Dallas, Texas." This stock is now on the market, and is made a safe investment by reason of the fact that for every dollar you pay in you receive in return at least two dollars, in actual value, of the splendid goods manufactured and sold by the Parlin & Orendorff Co., and everybody knows they will work and give satisfaction, if no cotton picker ever does.

MECHANICAL COTTON PICKING.

Southern Farmer.

To perfect a machine which will pick cotton from the stalk in the field has been the desire of many inventors and numerous appliances have been constructed on as many different principles, but thus far none have proven sufficiently satisfactory to be put into practical use. Unfortunately all the cotton on a stalk does not ripen at one time. There may be twenty bolls in various stages of ripening and only two or three fully ripe, and these may be at the top, bottom or any of the four sides of the plant. A machine, therefore, to pick this cotton without injuring either the plant or the remaining bolls, must be able to reach to any part of the plant, pluck the cotton from the bolls and carry it to a receiving chamber or bag in which it is stored. Those who have never seen a cotton plant will better appreciate the difficulty by knowing that there would be the same

to successful mechanical cotton picking can soon be realized, though the inventor who could do it would become as famous as Whitney, the originator of the cotton gin.

Among the worthy manufacturing enterprises of Dallas, none is more deserving than that of John J. Conroy, corner of Market and Collin Streets. This establishment makes a specialty of farm wagons, dump carts, and machinery for railroad contractors, brick makers, etc. Mr. Conroy had an attractive exhibit at the Fair, and every article was awarded a blue ribbon.

On this page we give an illustration of the new patent sub-soil plow, manufactured by B. F. Avery & Sons, Louisville, Ky. The mold-board, being concave as to its outward shape, permits free circulation of air between it and the soil turned, thus preventing a vacuum, and reducing draft of plow from 25 to 50 per cent. This saving of labor for the team is not theory simply—it is a fact being constantly demonstrated. It is designed to follow in the furrow of an ordinary turning plow and loosen the hard sub-soil to a good depth, allowing it to fall back in its own furrow thoroughly pulverized, and leaving the soil in excellent condition for free access of moisture and air to the roots of growing crop. It has a high standard, and permits deep plowing without clogging. It is strongly built, but very light in weight; the best made. The "Avery" is protected by letters patent. Abandoned or worthless land can be reclaimed with Avery's Sub-soil Plow. For full particulars address B. F. Avery & Sons, manufacturers, Louisville, Ky., or Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Texas.

AN OLD FAMILY FRIEND.

Philadelphia Times.

An old man was leading a thin horse across the commons in the northern part of the city, when a passer-by asked him where he was going.

"I'm searching for a bit of green for the poor beast," he answered.

"I'd send him to the boneyard or the glue factory," said the other contemptuously.

"Would you?" asked the old man in a trembling voice, "if he had been the best friend you had in the world, and helped you to earn food for your family for nearly twenty-five years? If the children that's gone and the children that's livin' had played with their arms around his neck and their heads on him for a pillow, when they had no other? Sir, he's carried us to mill and to meetin', an', please God, he shall die like a Christian, an' I'll bury him with these old hands. Nobody'll ever abuse old Bill, for if he goes after me there are those for who are paid to look after him."

"I beg your pardon," said the man who had accosted him; "there's a difference in people."

CHEAP WHEAT.

Farmer's Review.

The price of standard wheat in New York has touched 74 cents per bushel, the lowest ever reported in that market; a fact partly due no doubt to cheap transportation rates from the wheat raising centers. In Chicago prices are almost as low as they were after the collapse of the notorious Harper corner. The current price in Chicago is about 20 cents per bushel less than a year ago when reports of foreign shortage boomed the market. We are now face to face with the disappointing fact that the price of wheat to the farmer is ruinously low; indeed, perhaps as low as it has ever been since about thirty years ago. The chief reason for this decrease in prices would seem to be explained by the fact that an unusually large part of our wheat crop this year passes into the lower grades of inspection; it has recently been estimated that the average price now paid the farmers of the northwest for their wheat, taking in all grades, does not exceed 42 cents per bushel.

Regarding the depression a well-informed authority writes: "This extreme depression is due to the unprecedented rate at which the wheat crop of the present year has been marketed, combined with the important fact that the home deficiencies of Europe are much less than twelve months ago. The 115,737,000 bushels received at the seven principal Western ports since the close of June exceed by 10,000,000 bushels the quantity received in the same time for the much bigger crop of 1891. At the same time the exports for the four months were 65,000,000, against 80,000,000 last year. Of course this must mean a big piling up of the visible supply, and it accounts for the report that elevators everywhere, both in the city and country are full to running over, while cars by the thousands are standing full on the railroad tracks waiting for a chance to unload. The charge is freely made by some Eastern papers that the farmers of the West held back their wheat last year, and afterwards suffered a loss by selling at lower prices than they could have obtained earlier in the season. There may have been some of that, but not enough to effect the general result. The movement of wheat from the farm last year was far more liberal than ever before, and if it exceeded this year it is only because the magnificent weather has permitted the threshers to work night and day for weeks in succession, and the transportation companies have been able to move more than they could last fall, partly for the same reason of good weather; and partly because of some increase in facilities and experience in handling. The present glut is also to a small extent increased by the shipment of old wheat from the crop of 1891, but even that fact does not prove the wheat could have been marketed a year sooner. The wonder is that on a crop which exceeded by 10,000,000 bushels the biggest previously known there should have been so little left over at the close of the crop year."

Now this does not by any means explain the low prices received by the farmer for his wheat. There is a wide margin between 42 cents per bushel at the country elevator and 74 cents per bushel at New York, or 70 3/4 cents per bushel in Chicago. Between the farm and Chicago nearly thirty cents per bushel has been added to the value of the wheat, and the farmer gets none of it. The average price is said to be 42 cents on the farm for all grades of wheat. It is, therefore, very evident that the grading of farm wheat into low grades explains the low average price. It would be interesting to learn just how much wheat is bought below standard and sold as standard. There is something rotten here, and we suspect that much of it exists at the ring elevators of the northwest, which it is openly alleged, purposely degrade wheat when buying it from the farmers.

HIGH INTEREST.

Farmer's Voice.

The money-lending leech has bled the West unmercifully. It has cut away his pound of flesh with extreme relish. Many of our Western States, in their liberal interest laws, allow the fellow his full pound, but in many cases dissatisfied with the generosity of the law's provisions, the fellow has demanded even more than a pound and has taken it. We presume that there have been millions of dollars paid in usurious interest by the farmers of the West. When it has been safe to charge usurious interest outright, it has been done. When there has been some danger in collecting the interest openly, it has been done by hook or crook. The laws against usury should be severe. In most of our States the legal rate is entirely too high. When money can be borrowed by municipal corporations at even from two to three per cent,

there is no sort of justice in permitting the money grabbers to charge the unreasonable interest that prevails through the rural districts of the West. There are mortgages drawing such a trifling rate of interest that the payment of the principal is utterly out of the question. Farm property is good security. It is the very best of security. There need be no fear of capital refusing such security at much lower than the present rate of interest. Capital is very glad to get 6 per cent interest. Our legislators should cut down the rates.

FAIR LOGS.

Pacific Lumberman.

Recently the tug Rip Van Winkle towed down from Port Blakeley to Tacoma the ten largest logs ever cut on Puget Sound for shipment in one consignment. The logs are to form part of the foundation of the State of Washington's World's Fair Building. All the logs are 123 feet long. The largest one is 42 inches square at the large end, the others being slightly smaller. This largest log contains about 1,500 cubic feet of timber, and weighs computing at 43 pounds per cubic foot, something over thirty tons. The aggregate weight of the ten timbers is nearly three hundred tons.

One of the most interesting things about the timbers is the manner in which they will be shipped to Chicago. It will require a train of thirty-five cars to ship them across the continent, and only all-brake cars will be used. The thirty-five are at the Edison shops, where ten of them are being fitted with 'bunks' or cross pieces on which the ends of the timbers will rest. It will take seven cars to carry each two logs, whose weight will be borne entirely by the first and last of the seven. This arrangement is necessary to allow the middle five cars to swing out from under the timbers when rounding curves, their only use being to connect the end cars.

To load the timber on the cars a strong chute has been constructed at the end of the ocean dock. They will be hauled up out of the water by a Northern Pacific locomotive, and kept straight in the chute during the operation by means of a pile driver, to which their water ends will be attached with chains.

In all 174 logs will be shipped for the foundation, and the other construction material will include between 500,000 and 600,000 feet of lumber.

New York World: Not long before his death, the story runs, Barnum summoned his lawyer to the side of the couch where he was lying.

"I am very much worried," he said, about a certain matter, and I want you to suit you. My neighbor keeps peacocks. Suppose some of them should fly over into my yard—which they are doing all the time—and lay some eggs here. Would those eggs belong to me, or could my neighbor compel me to give them up?"

The lawyer having duly scratched his head, answered:

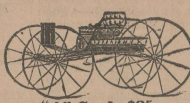
"Well, Mr. Barnum, I must take time to look into this matter. But the best thing for you to do would be to keep the eggs and let your neighbor sue for the possession. In that way your rights would be determined, and we should have a very valuable test case."

"Well," said Mr. Barnum, "while you are looking into the matter will you find out how it would be if the eggs were laid by peahens?"

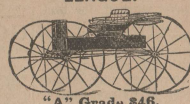
The lawyer swore softly to himself, but never made any investigation.

Farm Life: You may look the country over and you will find that good farmers invariably have good teams. In short, the team is indicative of the farmer, and good teams, like good farmers, are the exception rather than the rule. As long as farmers cut grass with a scythe, wheat with a cradle, and cultivated much of their crops with the hoe, the necessity of having good, reliable teams was not so great; but now that horse power is used in most of our farm operations, too much importance cannot be given to the team of teams. More attention should be given to horse-breeding if any efforts is to be made to improve farm methods. So large a part of farm work is now done by horse labor that the efficiency of farm help is necessarily measured by that of the teams they use. It does not pay to hire first-class men to follow second-class teams; in fact, a first-class man won't do it, and the poor farmer with poor teams is left with poor help to worry along as best he can. Strength is very important in the farm team. Much of the improved farm machinery now used is very heavy, and often requires three strong horses to draw it to good advantage.

Wet weather has injured cotton in the field in many parts of the state.



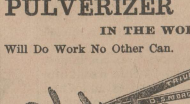
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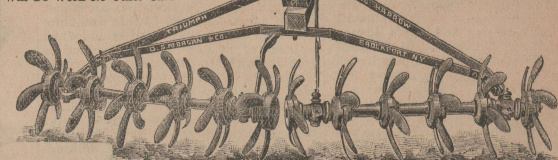


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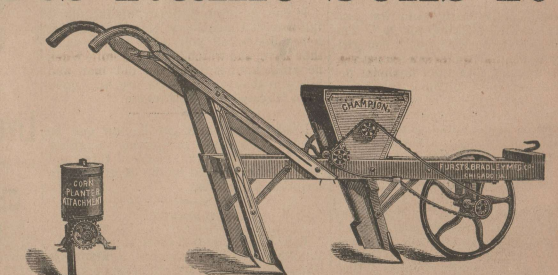
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