

sweet and Irish potatoes yielded 200 for the former, and about 100 bushels for the latter. Vegetables, such as turnips, carrots, onions, beans, lettuce, all did well, but cabbage were good only where protected from insects. Corn is not injured by the weevil until it has been cribbed more than a year, and not then to any great extent except where farmers have failed to properly clean out their bins before cribbing it. The corn worm, which Professor Mally says is the same as the boll worm (and I believe it) has perforated the ends of the ears this year to an unusual extent, rendering the feeding of it to horses dangerous when anyone fails to carefully nub it. The smut in the corn produced by the worm is apt to give the animal blind staggers.

Numerous writers, and many farmers say that the time has arrived to abandon cotton culture, that nobody but an African, Hindoo or Portuguese can afford to raise 4-cent cotton. I claim, from a true knowledge of the character of cotton raisers that such a view is untenable. In the first place, statistics prove that India only raises 2,000,000 bales of very inferior cotton; Brazil, 700,000 bales of same common sort; Australia, 1,000,000 bales, not much better; Egypt, 1,000,000 bales of long staple, which does not cut any figure in coming into competition with our cotton. Does anybody deny the fact that out of the 3,000,000 bales raised this year in the South the whites raise $\frac{2}{3}$ and the negroes only $\frac{1}{3}$? Therefore, as we raise three-fourths of all the cotton of the world, and of a grade superior to any other cotton except the one million bales of Egypt's long staple, which, as I have stated, does not enter into competition except with only a small quantity of Sea Island cotton; then who is to blame for this great 3,000,000-bale American cotton crop creating an "over-production," and such low prices? I answer, the Southern whites. A short crop of 7,500,000 bales last year sold for 7 to 8 cents. A decreased acreage of 25 percent ought to occur next year, and cotton will certainly rise again to a remunerative price. Suppose our merchants were to purchase more goods than their customers' demands require, would they not act as unwisely as do our cotton raisers, and suffer likewise?

We do not assert that over-production is the only cause which has brought middling upland cotton in Liverpool down to 3.72 pence—lower even than in 1848, when same grade of cotton sold then at 3½ pence—for there are other causes which had their influences in aiding to produce such extreme low prices. The war which has been raging between Japan and China doubtless has its influence to lower the price of cotton by cutting off all demand for cotton goods by the English and American manufacturers, coupled with one of the most destructive panics that ever happened in this country. If the worst comes to the worst, and 4-cent cotton be the rule, what part of the country must abandon cotton raising first? It will naturally be in those states where they are compelled to purchase fertilizers; not in the rich fertile lands of Texas. The advice given by **TEXAS FARM AND RANCH** to plant less cotton and raise more "hog and hominy" is correct; for by reducing the acreage of cotton and working it better, we will lessen the cost of raising, and the price will be more remunerative. He is unwise and ignorant of his own interest, who neglects to raise plenty of corn, grain, sorghum and big fat hogs. The farmer who is content to raise 25 bushels of nubbins, 12 bushels of wheat, 30 bushels of light weight oats, 1½ tons inferior hay, a poor scrub hog and $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a bale of cotton per acre on our rich Collin county lands, instead of 50 bushels corn, 25 wheat, 75 bushels of oats, 3 tons hay per acre, a good Poland China or Berkshire hog 11 months old, weighing 250 pounds, and a bale of cotton per acre, must either quit the business or eke out a miserable existence.

McKinney, Texas.

BROOM CORN.

Will you give me the address of parties that handle broom corn? I want to plant a crop next season. When is the best time to plant? How to prepare it for market?

The above information will be gladly received.—J. W. ALLISON, Dan, Texas.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH would be glad to publish a good original article or two by Texas farmers who have had practical experience in raising and preparing broom corn for market. We are fully convinced that it can be made a

profitable crop in Texas. Indeed we know of farmers who have made good money on broom corn, and now that the distressingly low price of cotton forces a diversifying of our agriculture, we think this is one of the best crops with which to begin the new departure.

We were forcibly struck with a large placard which was hung upon the broom exhibit of Mr. A. H. King of this city, at our late State Fair, which read:

"WANTED.
FARMERS TO RAISE BROOM CORN."

Our impression is that broom corn will make an average yield of about three tons per acre in Texas, and that the average price is from \$80 to \$100 per ton; but let us hear from men whose experience will enable them to give full information on the subject.

LAMBS.

N. J. SHEPHERD.

In the making of the keeping of sheep profitably on the farm there are three means of success of income. One of the three is the wool, another the wethers and the third the lambs. To make the most out of the sheep all three of these must be considered. On the average farm where but few sheep are kept, one of the best plans of management is to have them all good thrifty ewes, unless it be one or two good rams for breeding. Keep the ewes in a good thrifty condition and take pains to see that they are all bred. Of course when proper arrangements, are made in good season for breeding and a comfortable shelter provided for the lambs when they come, the raising of early lambs can, in a majority of cases, be made very profitable.

But it is quite an item, first, to keep good ewes, and then to see that each ewe brought at least one lamb. Where no special effort is made to have early lambs, the latter part of March or in April are good seasons for the lambs to come, yet it is better to have the lambs come, in May rather than to winter the ewes and secure no lambs.

By selecting out the best ewes and mating them to a thoroughbred ram a gradual improvement can be made and that at a low cost, and good thrifty lambs can in nearly all cases be more profitable, but with them as with nearly all classes of stock on the farm it will pay to breed, feed and care for them so that the best returns can be made. It costs but little more to feed and care for the ewes when they bring good lambs than when they do not, and it is better even not to breed them and have lambs ever as late as May rather than not, and make the most of this opportunity of income.

Eldon, Mo.

ALFALFA, GREEN AND CURED.

Chicago Evening Journal.

Considerable discredit has been cast upon alfalfa as a pasture grass by feeding it to the animals when too green. If the animals are allowed to eat their fill of it in this unripe stage it very frequently causes them to bloat. Most stock are so fond of green alfalfa that they will gorge themselves with it as they do of clover, and in both instances the results are sometimes very harmful. If alfalfa is to be pastured when green, the animals should be turned on the field only a short time each day. The rich, luxuriant growth of grass gives the stock so much food that they eat more in an hour than one readily imagines.

Some stockmen claim that alfalfa should never be fed when it is green or growing, as it will cause bloat. This is extreme advice. There is not much more danger in feeding a small amount of alfalfa to stock when it is green than if it were so much clover. It is never safe to turn the animals on the field and let them eat all they want. A number of cattle have been killed by being turned into an alfalfa field where they have gorged themselves with the grass. They have bloated up and died in great agony.

The more luxuriant and green the grass the greater the danger, but when the growth is fully matured and ready to produce seeds, there is no danger. The reason of this is the alfalfa is not then so juicy and attractive to the animals. They eat less, and the juices of the grass accumulate less actively in the stomach. But even in this state, if the cattle are starved and eat considerable of the grass they will show a tendency to bloat.

Those who would condemn alfalfa because of some supposed poisonous quality of the grass should first analyze the green and cured grass and compare

it with the other hay grasses that are considered harmless. The fact is that alfalfa being a coarser and ranker grass than many of our other cultivated kinds, accumulates faster in the stomach, and is harder to digest. It is really a coarse food, though a nutritious one, and if fed properly either in the green or dry stage it will nourish animals, and not injure them. To get the most benefit out of the grass some kind of grain should be fed with it. This is especially true in the winter time when the grass is cured into hay. It mingles nicely with fine meal in the stomach, and acts as an aid to digestion.

In pasturing stock on alfalfa, horses are very rarely injured, and swine never, some say, but other animals invariably suffer. The hogs can be summered on alfalfa very well, and then be fattened up in a few weeks on corn before killing time. But a conservative breeder would hesitate about turning swine on the alfalfa pasture when very young and green, and as for horses, no sane man would do green alfalfa, are exactly similar to several letters which have recently appeared in **TEXAS FARM AND RANCH** with reference to green sorghum, particularly young and immature sorghum. Any very juicy and immature green feed is dangerous to pasture horses and cattle upon; for should it not cause them to bloat, and perhaps die, the chances are that they will suffer from a severe attack of scours upon such diet.—Ed.]

TO KEEP THE BOYS.

Metropolitan and Rural Home.

Many writers and orators are interested, apparently, in keeping the boys on the farm, and have made various suggestions as to solving the problem. Doubtless all are good, but there is one fact that has not been kept in the foreground always; namely, that it costs very little to induce a boy to stay on the farm.

Here is an actual occurrence. The boy, seventeen years of age, wanted to stay on the farm, but he wanted a little more than he was getting—something more than board and clothes. He pleaded for wages.

"Give me," he said, "my board and so much a month, and I will clothe myself, like a hired man."

But his father would not consent to the arrangement, saying that with a mortgage and small profits, he could not allow him a regular salary until he was twenty-one. This working until "you are twenty-one" has sent a great many boys to a worse fate in cities.

The boy went away, and the farmer was obliged to hire a man to take his place. Now, he could have hired the boy for less than he paid the hired man; probably for half as much.

Here is another actual occurrence. A boy, sixteen years of age, a good boy, who loved his home and wanted to stay, but he was not content. Some of his friends had gone to the city; they had better clothes than he had, and they had money in their pockets and jingled it.

The boy and his mother tried to induce the farmer to give him regular wages, but he said he could not afford to. At length, however, he offered the boy ten cents a day, and made this arrangement: The boy was to be paid every Saturday night, when possible; if the seventy cents was not paid on Saturday night, one cent a day was to be added until the whole was paid.

This appears to be a very small inducement, but it was sufficient; the boy became a different boy immediately. Seventy cents a week to do with as he pleased. His father did not pay every week, and at one time was six weeks behind, but this gave the boy more money when he was paid. He opened a set of books, keeping an account with each week's work and "posting" every day the one cent for non-payment on time. The bookkeeping was an interesting feature in itself—interesting for anyone to keep an account of gains. That boy will not leave the farm, and it costs ten cents a day to keep him.

I was riding in the country when I saw a man approaching on horseback—on a high-spirited, iron-gray horse. Anyone could see as they approached

that the horse and rider were terms, the rider occasionally leaning forward to pat the horse on the neck. As they came up I recognized the rider, the son of a man I knew, but had not seen for a long time. The last time I heard of the family, the boy—the boy now before me—was going away from the farm, and the father was in despair.

"Are you on the farm yet?" I asked. "When I saw your father he said that you were going away, and that he would have to sell the farm, and take up some other business."

"Yes, he did talk that way, but not now. The fact is," said the boy eagerly, "about the time I thought of going away, this colt appeared on the farm, and the old mare died. Father said I could have the colt if I'd raise him. I tell you I couldn't leave the colt. I've been offered \$200 for him. We are running the farm together now, and last year we cleared about \$1400, and I had half of it. The farm is good enough for me. Come to see us."

The colt saved the boy. Every man cannot offer his boy a colt, perhaps, but in most cases there is a way to keep some boys on the farm, and if the farmer must make some sacrifice to accomplish it, it will pay in the long run.

TRANSFERS OF JERSEY CATTLE.

The following is a list of Texas transfers of Jersey cattle for week ending Oct. 23, 1894, taken from report of the Secretary A. J. C. C.:

BULLS.

Alliance Beauty 38133—R C Campbell to W C Martin, Winsboro.
Herstine's Hal 37355—S C Bell to J A Pirie, Sayers.

Hidalgo of Texas 34502—G Hamilton to D D Ireland, Webberville.

Hop's Exile of St Lambert 38080—P G Cogswell to S B Hopkins, Dallas.

Laosa's Sawnee 37983—G W Cross to D V Wilbanks, Mt Sylvan.

Lord Scott 33363—M H Schluter to J F Jones, Daingerfield.

Signal Texas 24466—J R Lancaster to Mrs J J Jarvis, Fort Worth.

Texas Riverside Prince 37984—S C Bell to C M Rounds, San Antonio.

Tyosa's Prince 37982—G W Cross to J A Pool, Mt Sylvan.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Annie Eva Fay 82734—M H Schluter to J F Jones, Daingerfield.

Belle of Glen Cove 54471—H B Hooper to W Cavel, Bowie.

Swanalea's Signal 99390—J W Barret to Mrs L C Barret, Houston.

Sylvia Foster 99450—G W Foster to A T Irvine, Georgetown.

Verona Jones 90013—J F Jones to J L Jones, Daingerfield.

HOLSTEIN CATTLE FOR SMALL FARMERS.

Farm, Stock and Home.

In order to arrive at a proper conclusion in regard to this subject, one should first decide just what the small farmer wishes to use the cattle for. The phrase, "small farmer," means, generally speaking, and for the use of this article, a farmer of small means, living on 40 to 160 acres of land. We will suppose him to be an honest, industrious laboring man, with the average family of, say five persons. He looks around to see what kind of a cow he wishes to buy. He has not acreage enough, nor force enough to expect to make much raising beef. His ordinary market for butter, at 10 or 12 cents a pound, precludes the idea of buying a cow, expecting to gain much income by that means.

Now, what does he do? Unconsciously he is forced to adopt Henry Clay's great "American system," and dispose of his products by providing a home market. This he does by being forced to supply the demand of his little ones for food. A good, strong, healthy cow, one that gives the year round a good, generous flow of milk, will do this. As the farmer himself is, in a majority of cases, obliged to work in the fields early and late, some female member of the household is expected not only to milk, but to care for the milk in all its details. Hence the cow should be a kind, docile animal. His little ones demand a large quantity throughout each twenty-four hours for their existence; therefore the small milker is not sought after. His barn is small, and several cows must be put into it. Butter and cheese are almost a necessity; therefore he will look for a herd that will the nearest meet all these requirements. He also would, when his steers grow up, have one he could put into beef for home consumption. Occasionally a veal is relished by the small farmer.

Taking all these positive necessities,

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

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Orchard and Garden

Edited by Dr. A. M. Ragland, Pilot Point, Texas, to whom all communications for this Department should be addressed.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

One of the leading causes of low prices for the products of the orchard is pushing them upon the market without reference to whether the supply is too large or not. This is precipitated by the fact that whenever fruit is gathered in the fall and bulked, (it still being warm weather), rot sets in. On this account apples and pears are pushed upon the market. Low prices are the inevitable result of this glutting of markets.

The fruit grower who is making a business of growing apples or pears for market in quantity, would do well to prepare for carrying a few hundred bushels at least, in cold storage. The cost of a cold storage house need not be large. An ice cellar may be built at small expense. If convenient, a hill side should be selected with a north exposure, and provision made for drainage. Ice for such a refrigerator can be obtained anywhere in North Texas from ponds or creeks during the winter. Apples ripening in the fall months can thus be carried till a market is secured. During summer it will be possible to carry a lot of peaches, apples or plums over a temporary glut in the market. Every fruit grower who has ten or more acres should provide such a cold storage room. We give in this connection an editorial from the *Prairie Farmer* which we commend to readers of *TEXAS FARM AND RANCH*:

HOW TO MAKE APPLES PAY BETTER.

"The average grower of apples, if must be admitted, receives such a low price for his fruit per barrel, especially his winter fruit, that it is no wonder he complains of there being no money in the business," says a well known writer. "As a rule, they only realize \$1 to \$1.50 per barrel for their best fruit. The reason for such low prices is partly their own creation from dishonest or careless selecting and packing. The use of the old barrel has greatly to do with it as well, but the principal trouble have to make chances of the markets for months, as well as the matter of deterioration of the fruit in holding. As a natural consequence they want to buy as low as possible. Growers have no idea of the frightful losses in quantity of fruit between the time of packing and that of consumption.

This low value at time of picking and packing, as well as that through deterioration, are avoidable, and resolutely, or largely so, with growers, as I will endeavor to show; not on a basis of theory, but from experience of actual results.

The period for disposing of his fruit the grower should extend over a greater length of time, and a change in method of selecting, packing and style of package, as well as keeping his fruit at a low temperature, will make him independent of market conditions.

The whole secret is simply in the matter of selecting fruit, not bruising it; wrapping each piece of fruit in paper and packing in cases, (as I have advocated in your columns before), then placing them in cold storage at a temperature not over 38 degrees, and as nearly 32 degrees as possible. The fruit needs to be picked, packed and put into cold storage within a week. The sooner they are under the influence of the cold storage after picking the longer they will keep.

Fall fruit will keep all winter, if put into this low temperature immediately after picking. The reason of the quick decay of fall fruit is simply the matter of the warm weather it is exposed to as now handled.

MARKETING FRUIT.

Akin to the subject of cold storage and holding for a more favorable time to sell, is that of preparing the fruit for market. There is no questioning the fact that a great deal of the trouble the fruit growers find in disposing of their products at remunerative prices, is due to the slovenly methods of gathering and packing. The practice so common everywhere of putting into the same package, fruit of all sizes, or too green, or too ripe, has much to do in producing glut in the markets. The utmost care should be used in gathering the fruit, to avoid bruises or other injury; and the

fruit should be carefully graded, so that the package, when opened, will disclose fruit alike at top and bottom. We give elsewhere a very valuable paper on this subject from the pen of President Parker Earle, of the American Horticultural Association, than whom America has no higher authority. We trust the readers of *Orchard and Garden* will treasure up the words of wisdom from his pen to be put in practice later on.

Our observation leads us to a daily growing conviction of the absolute necessity of a thorough revision of our Southern fruit catalogues. Many of the trees kept in stock and sold by our nurserymen, are of little value, because of their want of adaptability to our climatic conditions. Trees bloom too early, or are incapable of standing the long hot drouths of our summer; and often on this account drop their leaves, and thus fail to mature either vigorous fruit or leaf buds for the next season's growth. There is no question that varieties originated at the South are more vigorous, and resist the adverse conditions of our climate better than varieties brought from northern latitudes.

Some of our most experienced fruit growers are becoming discouraged at the uncertainty which seems in some localities to be growing more pronounced with each returning season. Dr. W. W. Stell, whom we had the pleasure of visiting a few days ago, told the writer that with him the growing of fruits was unsatisfactory; that he had recently dug up a great part of an apple orchard of twelve or fifteen acres. With the orchardists in the neighborhood of Paris this apple crop was nearly a total failure.

These expressions are emphasizing the absolute necessity of a thorough re-modelling of our Southern horticulture. We are of the conviction that with the collecting and aggregation of all the successful types and varieties of fruit of Southern origin, or of such as are thoroughly acclimated, that we will very soon recover any lost ground, and build up a distinctive Southern horticulture that will give us a prestige in the world's markets to which we can rightfully aspire. The editor proposes to send out a series of questionnaires designed to gather from every available source, the information which may constitute the basis of such a collection. We earnestly urge each grower to respond in detail to its qualities, both good and bad. More upon this subject later on.

It is a pleasure to us to note that the executive committee of the State Horticultural Society is already looking ahead and laying plans to make the next meeting, which is to be held at Bowie in the summer of 1895, the greatest gathering of fruit growers and truckers ever brought together in the State. To this *TEXAS FARM AND RANCH* stands ready to do all possible things to make it a grand success, both in point of numbers, and in making it an object lesson to the masses, who are expected to be in attendance. With such a team of workers as Munson, Huffman, Watson and Kerr, it cannot fail to materialize. They being our leaders, all can fall into line and everybody work with a will.

On a recent visit to Paris we visited the Paris Nurseries, and met the genial proprietor, Mr. H. L. Clark, successor to Dr. W. W. Stell in that business. In a ramble over his grounds we found much to interest us; particularly a lot of seedling pears of Japanese origin, which struck us by the vigor of their growth and complete freedom from any appearance of disease. We can but believe that from these something of value may be evolved. This is an open field for him in this line of development. Mr. Clark's nursery stock, as a rule, is of excellent quality, and no disappointment will follow the planting of trees he sends out.

DIVERSIFY.

Nowhere is the absolute need of a diversified agriculture so strikingly exemplified as in all-cotton farming. The present year, 4-cent cotton is a knock-down argument, and there is some hope that enough of the more intelligent farmers will decide in favor of a change in the system of farming so long in vogue. Let cotton be made a subordinate crop; let every farmer first produce all the corn, wheat and oats he needs to keep stock well supplied with food, and also to produce all the pork he needs at home; let cotton be a surplus crop, filling the place on the farm not occupied

by other crops. Thus the acreage will be largely reduced, and the yield brought within the limit of actual consumption. Such a system of diversifying will stimulate an increased production of fruits and garden crops.

Dr. Stell, of Paris, recently assured the writer that pork could be produced at a cost of 3 cents per pound, and from our observation of his methods, we are prepared to accept his statement without question. We hope the Doctor will give to the readers of *TEXAS FARM AND RANCH* his plan for producing pork at so low a cost. Let us begin at once to reform our methods, and adopt sensible plans, not forgetting that the production of at least an abundant home supply of fruits is an essential feature of diversified farming.

The thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Missouri State Horticultural Society will be held in the Library Hall, Trenton, Mo., December the 4th, 5th and 6th, 1894. One hundred dollars will be given for premiums on fruits and flowers. Railroads will give reduced rates.

BLIGHT OF NORWAY MAPLE.

Editor *Orchard and Garden*: Enclosed please find a leaf of a Norway maple from a tree which I planted last November. I had just then, throwing they came out in the spring, throwing it shot not to exceed an inch long, when this spotted appearance commenced and they have never grown any more; nor have they actually died, but are "hanging fire." The two trees were raised in Southern Pennsylvania and transplanted when about two years old. I was very careful to trim off any diseased roots. Other maple trees in the neighborhood seem to thrive. These of mine, however, did not make over twenty or twenty-five leaves each all the way through. Can you tell me what sort of blight it is, and what treatment would be best for them. I first thought they needed water and manure; but giving these did no good. The soil is about four feet of black semi-sandy, semi-waxy clay, with a sort of purple clay below that is a sort of purple clay, which crumbles when exposed, etc. Fruit trees, cotton-woods, etc., are all fine. Chinas, poplars, etc., do well. We have natural growth is mesquite on the prairie.

Ans.—From sample received judge that Mr. Roberts' trees are attacked by the maple scale or insect which has sucked the life out of his trees. Further, we suspect the trees from a distant state, of different climate, are not able to stand the heat and drouth of a Texas summer.

REPLY ON THE BLACKMAN PLUM.

NATT STEVENS.

Editor *Orchard and Garden*: My friend Linsley, in *TEXAS FARM AND RANCH* of November 10, 1894, says that "no tree of any kind was ever produced by the union of the stock and the scion, that was a fraud like the Blackman plum; nor can Mr. Stevens establish the fact that his tree was the product of the peach and plum." In this, Mr. Lackey, you seem to be misleading, or misled, I don't know which. First of all, you acknowledge being humbugged in the plum yourself; second, disgusted, you cut them down, even without fruiting them to prove whether your trees are actually frauds or not. As for me, I got twelve trees of them, and I tried them all six years, when I cut all down but one, and that is alive now, and one of the most healthy trees that I have of the plum kind, but it has never borne any plums, and I now keep it only as a study and contrast to other plum trees, to study nature with.

As soon as I found out that my trees were frauds, I wrote to the company from whom I got them (at Nashville, Tenn.) and received this answer: "This variety was first produced by Dr. Blackman, by a union of the plum on peach root, and we are astonished that they do not bear fruit; but as long as they do not bear, we cannot make them do so." This was, as usual in all such cases, very consoling to an injured party. Now, Mr. Lackey, you can take the Blackman plum case and work it up and make what you can out of it as to how it was produced as a tree. You will find that many very strange things occur in vegetable life as well as in animal life, that are not accounted for, as in olden times when miracles abounded, and things not understood were ascribed to the doings of God. Until very lately I saw the Blackman plum catalogued

among other varieties of fine plums for sale, and one Tennessee nurseryman says there are two varieties of this plum, one false, the other true, and that he has the true Blackman for sale. My advice would be to shun them both. Forney, Texas.

WORDS OF WISDOM TO FRUIT GROWERS.

Parker Earle, in *Farmer and Fruit Grower*.

The next great thing to do after the crop is grown—after the mysterious chemical affinities and agencies of the soil and the air and the sunshine have done their work under your protection against enemies—and you have your crop of noble fruit before you, is to gather the fruit very carefully and pack it with the greatest care, so that every package will be perfect of its kind, and just what it seems to be—the middle just as good as the top—or a little better. That kind of fruit surprises the trade; but it is a pleasant surprise and one that will pay the orchardist. If I have ever accomplished anything worth mention in my fruit growing life, it has been mostly in this simple matter of handling fruit with extreme care, and in dealing honestly with my customers.

To begin with, we use no baskets for gathering tree fruits but what are cushioned on the bottom and lined on the sides with cloth. This costs but a few cents for each basket and it will pay its cost every hour it is used, in saving the bruises, scratches and chaffings which later on cause disfigurement and decay. All fruits should be handled as carefully as eggs—always—everywhere.

No other than standard sizes of packages should be used, and they should be new, sweet, clean and smooth. No damaged or inferior fruit should ever be packed in the standard packages. The fruit in each package should be alike in quality and clean through. It is fatal foolishness to try and cheat the buyer in the size of try and cheat the buyer in the size of package or by stuffing the middle with inferior rubbish while the ends are fair. Almost the whole fruit packing fraternity has become disgraced by these silly attempts to cheat and rob the fruit buyer until the fruit packers, and the world of honesty and truth and quality. I will not waste that dishonest and careless packaging that does not pay—it ought not

ing of fruit worth to pay. It is unworthy of men who work with nature in producing the most beautiful and glorious creations which the Goddess of Horticulture ever smiled to see.

There are too many sluggards, slovens and low grade cheats in the fruit business. There is a plenty, any more than a plenty, of wormy, rotty, scabby, bruised and decaying fruit grown and sent to market. The whole thing should be reformed or discouraged. There is plenty of demand for the best of fruits, honestly and carefully packed; and fair prices will ever await the man who meets this demand.

THE ART OF PRUNING.

Farm Gardening.

To be a good pruner requires imagination, the same faculty that is needed to make an artist. The pruner must be able not only to see the tree as it is, but as it will be, twenty years afterwards. On a little tree, four or five years old, branches two or three inches apart do not seem too near, but how, when those little half-inch branches become each three or four inches in diameter? It is plain that they would have all run together in a mass, with rotten bark and rotting wood between. The good pruner, therefore, must be able to picture in his mind the future tree, so as to allow proper space for its development. It is much better to have the head of a young tree appear too thin, than to allow it to become crowded.

Trees growing freely tend to put forth a branch from every bud. In order to forestall this propensity, disbudbing must be resorted to. The best time to practice this is in the spring, while the buds are starting. While a tree is quite young, this disbudbing must be freely done since no fruit spurs will be formed there. But later, when a good sized trunk, with a duly proportioned head has been formed, many buds will start which will not try to become branches, but will merely grow to be spurs, bearing fruit. If all trees had the same or similar habits of growth it would be much easier to teach pruning in fruit than it is. An experienced orchardist

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF STATIONS ON
THE S. A. & A. P. RY.Showing the Counties in Which they
are Located.

Alice, Nueces County.
Altair, Colorado County.
Aransas Pass, Aransas County.
Aue, Bexar County.
Beeville, Bee County.
Ben Arnold, Milam County.
Boerne, Kendall County.
Burlington, Milam County.
Calaveras, Wilson County.
Cameron, Milam County.
Cheatham, Colorado County.
Chilton, Falls County.
Comfort, Kendall County.
Corpus Christi, Nueces County.
Cuero, DeWitt County.
Downs, McLennan County.
Eagle Lake, Colorado County.
Edgar, DeWitt County.
Elmendorf, Bexar County.
Falls City, Karnes County.
Flatonla, Fayette County.
Floresville, Wilson County.
Fulshear, Ft. Bend County.
Hallettsville, Lavaca County.
Houston, Harris County.
Karnes City, Karnes County.
Kenedy, Karnes County.
Kerrville, Kerr County.
Leon Springs, Bexar County.
Lexington, Lee County.
Lockhart, Caldwell County.
Lott, Falls County.
Luling, Caldwell County.
Mathis, San Patricio County.
Marie, Colorado County.
Minerva, Milam County.
Moulton, Lavaca County.
Muldoon, Fayette County.
Palomas, San Patricio County.

Pettus, Bee County.
Portland, San Patricio County.
Rosebud, Falls County.
Rockdale, Milam County.
Rockport, Aransas County.
Runge, Karnes County.
San Antonio, Bexar County.
Shavano, Bexar County.
Shiner, Lavaca County.

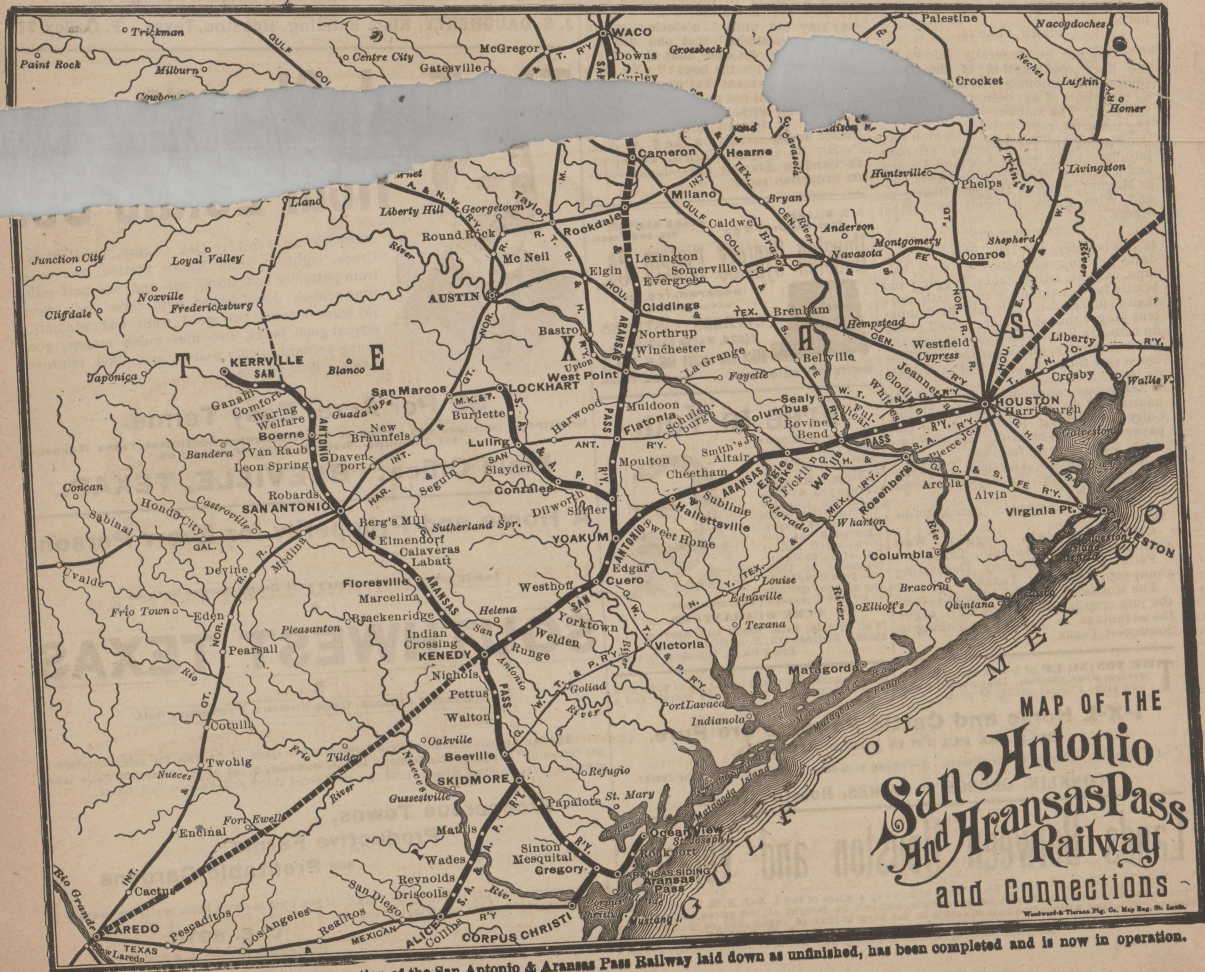
Sinton, San Patricio County.
Skidmore, Bee County.
Sublime, Lavaca County.
Sweet Home, Lavaca County.
Tanglewood, Lee County.
Van Raub, Bexar County.
Waco, McLennan County.
Walton (Normanna) Bee County.
Wallis, Austin County.

Waring, Kendall County.
Welfare, Kendall County.
West Point, Fayette County.
Winchester, Fayette County.
Yoakum, Lavaca County.
Yorktown, DeWitt County.

Copano Bay is noted for its oysters, the
largest grown on the American coast.

The exhibit made below of Counties on the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway was made from the reports of the State Agricultural Bureau and the Comptroller's Office of 1892-93, and is authoritative. Careful scrutiny will show that the Counties between Kerrville and the coast possess unusual advantages as regards Low Taxation, Cheap Lands, Good Schools, and productive quality of soil. What the older Counties have done in the way of immense crops of Corn, Cotton and Cereals, can be done here.

Counties on San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway.	Am't Collected for School Fund, 1893.	School Fund Ap- portioned by the State, 1893.	Am't of Taxes per \$100 Valuation, 1892.	Assessed Value of Counties.	Amount of Farm Mortgages.	Acres in Cot- ton and Bales Produce ⁴ , 1893.		Acres in Corn and produced, 1893.	Acres in Other Crops.	Av. Assessed Value of Land.	
						ACR'S	BALES				ACR'S
Aransas	\$ 2,022.47	\$ 2,485.00	.55	\$ 2,230,910.00	\$ 83,321.00	74	25 1/2	96	1,355	456	\$ 5.14
Austin	8,312.62	20,555.00	.50	4,023,036.00	16,279.45	54,820	25,510	31,438	691,550	7,084	5.55
Bee	5,993.11	7,175.00	.37 1/2	3,853,145.00	146,065.00	14,207	4,488	13,670	99,670	4,099	4.06
Bexar	44,154.39	70,875.00	.61 1/2	30,031,532.00	1,720,176.14	15,236	6,739	21,462	216,027	15,327	5.54
Caldwell	7,662.96	21,120.00	.65	4,424,004.00	99,840.00	43,834	24,671	22,737	563,359	3,468	5.77
Colorado	9,971.19	23,530.00	.50	5,807,840.00	101,892.00	44,356	26,418	30,065	699,818	3,450	5.57
DeWitt	10,420.51	19,035.00	.46	5,893,932.00	177,168.20	19,126	15,821	29,333	569,150	4,658	4.96
Fayette	18,558.97	45,395.00	.50	8,413,323.00	65,721.77	96,146	54,832	53,236	1,039,084	9,739	6.93
Falls	12,010.22	32,745.00	.57 1/2	8,009,550.00	219,346.76	77,037	38,274	42,228	1,139,366	9,045	8.77
Fort Bend	6,746.76	12,765.00	.50	5,107,990.00	23,205.51	20,653	17,153	16,978	464,350	6,239	4.91
Gonzales	8,937.90	26,305.00	.50	5,693,321.00	121,293.13	44,381	22,643	36,505	708,027	4,532	4.62
Harris	30,029.90	53,650.00	.65	25,886,244.00	850,000.00	5,661	3,509	10,407	166,873	7,562	6.14
Karnes	4,706.44	5,590.00	.42 1/2	3,193,204.00	34,932.45	10,261	4,749	9,150	146,450	536	4.63
Kendall	2,766.09	4,125.00	.37 1/2	1,702,113.00	27,513.87	3,337	1,637	4,532	93,942	3,476	2.04
Kerr	3,030.23	5,450.00	.53	1,965,626.00	5,627.50	3,315	730	2,317	32,600	2,174	1.95
Lavaca	10,765.54	26,130.00	.52 1/2	5,201,015.00	75,106.00	50,631	27,765	29,451	620,143	5,748	5.17
Lee	5,252.32	15,510.00	.32 1/2	2,883,310.00	16,530.20	29,963	15,116	18,451	342,395	2,489	3.92
Milam	11,829.22	32,070.00	.60	7,565,107.00	226,271.82	49,968	25,989	31,347	790,789	5,360	6.13
McLennan	30,308.97	54,790.00	.34	20,631,319.00	1,269,481.00	79,807	40,527	58,325	1,726,230	31,041	10.04
Nueces	7,947.72	13,350.00	.49	6,220,442.00	369,751.00	2,322	775	3,040	25,000	644	1.70
San Patricio	2,330.57	2,600.00	.33	2,478,514.00	101,132.00	3,296	1,026	695	3,292	702	3.61
Wilson	4,915.77	14,455.00	.65	3,938,330.00	\$5,321.00	29,814	9,811	6,276	269,979	1,945	5.49



VETERINARY.

When veterinary advice is desired by mail and without delay, Dr. Folger should be addressed directly, and one dollar enclosed to secure prompt attention. Queries addressed to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH for publication will be answered, each in its turn.

Please tell me how to treat a horse for quarter crack. He is a stallion that has not had much fast work this year; certainly not enough to have caused the injury. He carries a very light shoe forward, and has been shod with a pretty high heel on account of a tendency to go over in his knees. His feet appear to be in excellent condition, and the quarter cracks have never seemed to cause him any inconvenience, although blood has run (in very small quantity) from the top of the crack, at the coronet.

—FRANK A. RYAN, Sherman, Tex.

ANS.—To treat a quarter crack successfully, and restore the foot to a normal and sound condition, requires a special practical knowledge on the part of the blacksmith, or the one directing the shoeing. No two horses' feet being alike, they cannot be treated alike. Consequently it requires a wide range of experience and observation on the part of the operator to decide as to the best course of treatment to pursue after an examination of the case. Raising up the heels on a knee-sprung horse only makes the case worse. This ideal fad was started some years ago by some the-orist or would-be veterinarian, and has been going the rounds of the papers and among a class of horsemen that allow these animals to be often tortured by submitting them to "Smart Alecks," that a 10-year-old school boy should know are not common sense. Elevating the heels of a knee-sprung horse only throws the knee further out of a true perpendicular line, and in this case, not unlikely the cause of the quarter cracks is paring the foot, toe, and heels, well down all it will stand. Hollow out the sole well, especially at the desired quarter, till it yields to pressure of the thumb. Leave the shoes off for two months, and blister with cantharidene ointment three times, and then shoe for four or five months with a three-quarter shoe, allowing no pressure on the diseased quarter whatever.

My calves are dying; appear to be affected in the heel, jaws and throat. Also swollen in bowels. Name the disease and give treatment.

—M. DONSON, Gilbert, Tex.

ANS.—Can form no idea of what the trouble is, from your description. There is no disease known to the veterinary profession that any one could recognize by such a limited description. Be more specific, and give us a more extended history of your cases. Also symptoms governing them, and we will try and help you with our advice.

I have a mare and horse that have a severe case of distemper. The mare has broken out under the jaws, and is discharging freely at the nose. She swallows her food with considerable difficulty. The horse is running a whitish looking pus at the nose, and coughs, but is not enlarged under his jaw, and does not seem to have been advised to smoke them freely with tar and feathers, but the remedy seems inhuman to me. Both refused to eat till I physiced them with Mitchell's Condition Powders. Now they have a moderately good appetite. They are Missouri stock, just arrived from St. Louis, and the drover says they took a severe cold from overcrowding in the car.—J. T. BRYANT, Calhoun, La.

ANS.—You were right not to smoke your horse. It is not only inhuman; it is not good common horse sense to do so, and none but an ignorant, thoughtless owner would either do it, or allow it to be done. If your horses could talk, and they recognized the fundamental principles of Christianity, they would thank God that they had fallen into the hands of an owner that did his own thinking, and did not listen to the crossroads windbag that holds down the goodbox in front of the country store, airing his knowledge of sick horses. The practice of smoking horses cannot be too forcibly condemned, and is often followed by bad results. Give your horses good shelter at night and on bad days, good food, pure water, and one of the following powders twice a day: Two ounces of nitrate of potash, one ounce of chlorate of potash, three drachms of tartar emetic, two drachms of nuxvomica powder, and two drachms of powdered gentian made into twelve powders, and given as directed. If their throats are very sore, rub them with liniment made of equal parts of turpentine, ammonia and oil.

WITICISMS.

There is one thing to be said in praise of the doughnut, and that is that the vacuum in its center will not distress the weakest stomach.—Farm and Home.

The late Bishop Selwyn delighted to tell the following racy incident in his varied experience: While Bishop of Litchfield he was walking one day in

the Black Country, and, observing a group of colliers seated by the roadside in a semi-circle, with a brass kettle in front of them, inquired what was going on.

"Why, yer Honor," replied a grave looking member, "it's a sort of wager. Yon kettle is a prize for the fellow who can tell the biggest lie, and I am the umpire."

Amazed and shocked, the good Bishop said, reprovingly, "Why, my friends, I have never told a lie that I know of since I was born." There was a dead silence, only broken by the voice of the umpire, who said in a deliberate tone, "Give the Bishop the kettle."—Smith, Gray & Co's. Monthly.

Those who bite at the bait of the "green goods" men discover when too late that they themselves are the green goods.—Western Plowman.

Some people who "get" religion content themselves with getting it. They don't give it out to the world to a revolutionary extent.—Western Plowman.

Banks: What do you think of the story about Jonah being three days inside of the whale? Tanks: It's a good thing. I've given my wife worse excuses than that.—Life.

He: "Funny, isn't it, how we men get baldheaded and you women don't." She: "I don't think it's strange. You know we never get to be old enough for that."—South Boston News.

H. R. Hearne, of Hearne, Texas, the largest cotton planter in Texas, who bought, last year, fourteen single disc Hancock Rotary Plows, said lately, after seeing the new double disc plow work, "Send me nineteen of them," and laid down his check for the amount. Keating I. & M. Co., Dallas.

SOMETHING FOR THE HOUSEWIFE.

The Enterprise Meat Chopper, advertised in this paper, is especially adapted to family use, and is unexcelled for chopping sausage and mince meat. Hamburg steak for dyspepsia, tripe, scrap meat for the poultry, corn fritters, etc. The appreciative and economical housewife will find so many points of merit in this labor and time saving article as to find time to wonder how she ever got along without it. For further information, we would advise our readers to send to the Enterprise Manufacturing Co., Third and Dauphin Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., for one of their illustrated catalogues, which are cheerfully furnished on application.

A FINE YOUNG JERSEY.

In another column will be found the advertisement of Mr. Fred T. Hookday, who offers for sale the fine Jersey yearling bull, Ida's Highland Pogie No. 38064. The Pogie strain of Jersey cattle is too well known to all breeders to need any commendation from us, and the purchaser of this fine animal will possess a Jersey jewel. Read the advertisement.

REMEMBER

Holiday excursion tickets to all points in the Southeast will be sold over the Texas & Pacific Railway, at one fare for the round trip, December 20th, 21st and 22d, 1894; limited to return passage to 30 days from date of sale.

GASTON MESLIER,
General Passenger and Ticket Agt.

HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS TO THE "OLD STATES."

For the Holiday excursions to the Old States, the Cotton Belt Route will sell tickets December 20th, 21st, and 22d, 1894, at one fare for the round trip, limited good to return within thirty days from date of sale, to Memphis, Nashville, Birmingham, Atlanta, Chattanooga, Bristol, St. Louis, Cairo, Louisville, Cincinnati, New Orleans, and a large number of other points. If you anticipate paying your friends a holiday visit, write to us and get the lowest rates and through connections.

Nothing will be spared in the way of fast trains, extra equipment, and sure connections to make your trip an enjoyable one.

Write your friends in the Old States, who are all anxious to make their home in this land of good things, to get ready and come back with you where a hearty welcome awaits them. All lines sell via the Cotton Belt Route, the only line with double daily trains from Texas to Memphis and return without change.

T. P. A., Ft. Worth, Tex. G. P. A., Tyler, Tex.

A Thanksgiving Disappointment.



1—"Dar's a rabbit in de trap ter day, sho' nuff."

Pen, Pencil, Ink & Stamp 10¢ or name, town & state on, 10¢
BOYS OWN POCKET STAMP
Mark paper, clothing, etc.
50 styles Rubber Type. Outfits from 15¢ up
Rubber Stamp Co., P.O. New Haven, Conn.

A TAILOR-MADE SUIT We'll make you measure a Frock or
Or OVERCOAT Sack Suit or Overcoat of All Wool
Goods, equal to any local tailor's \$15.00 garments for \$10.00.
• For \$10.00. • Dress Charges Paid.

Other Suits, Overcoats and Trousers just as cheap. We save 50 per cent by buying big lots of material from makers—that accounts for it. Sent for samples of cloth and full particulars—free. LOUIS. O. VEHON, Tailor, 223 Dearborn St., CHICAGO.

EVERY FARMER should see a copy of *The Western Edition of THE NATIONAL STOCKMAN AND FARMER*. It gives Chicago's live stock and produce markets in detail, and is printed and mailed Tuesday evening—you get it Wednesday. This paper—17 years old, 24 pages big and brim full of just what the Business Farmer wants—in the paper by whose quotations Farmers and Feeders all over the country sell their products. In order to introduce it everywhere, we are making a **SPECIAL OFFER** of 15 weeks for only 25 cents. Send a postal for a copy and terms to agents to.

The National Stockman and Farmer, 649 THE BOOKERY, CHICAGO, ILL.

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MOST RELIABLE MADE FOR
COTTON, CORN and VEGETABLES.

Pure Ground Bone, ACID PHOSPHATE, Sulphur, Etc.

Standard Guano & Chemical Manfg. Co.
714 UNION STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Write for Almanac and Price List.

EVERYBODY WANTS THE
LIVE STOCK JOURNAL
And our WORLD'S FAIR 50¢
PREMIUM SPRING CURRY COMB
FREE to Every Subscriber.
\$1.10 A YEAR.
Write for FREE SAMPLE COPY.
Liberal Cash Commission to Agents.
Western Agriculturist and Live Stock Journal,
334 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill., or

We will club the Western Agriculturist and Live Stock Journal and the spring curry comb with TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, both papers one year, for the low price of \$1.75. Send your subscriptions to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.



2—"Yes, dar he is; I see his eyes a shinin'."

WILL YOU

Gifts \$14 KARAT GOLD PLATE. CUT THIS OUT and send it to us with your name and address and we will send you this beautiful gold finished watch by express for examination. You examine it at the express office, and if you think it a bargain pay our sample price \$2.75, and it is yours. It is magnificent, comes engraved and equal in appearance to a genuine Solid Gold watch. A guarantee for 5 years and beautiful gold plate chain and charm sent free with every watch, write to-day, this may not appear again; mention whether you want "gent's" or "ladies'".
THE NATIONAL W.F.C. & IMPORTING CO.
334 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.



3—"Jus' flink ob de rabbit stew."



4—"Lize, set de pot a bilin', Ise got a big one."

OUR CLUBBING LIST.

We will send TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and any one of the following publications, one year at the very low rate given below. No paper will be sent at less than publisher's full price unless taken in connection with TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. The price of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is One Dollar a year.

	Regular With T.	price. F. & R.
Atlanta Constitution, weekly.....	1 00	1 75
American Gardening.....	1 00	2 00
Breeder's Gazette, weekly.....	2 00	8 00
Courier-Journal, weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Colorado Poultry Journal.....	50	1 25
Cosmopolitan Magazine.....	1 50	2 00
Dallas News, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Detroit Free Press, weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Fort Worth Gazette, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 50
Farm Implement News, weekly.....	2 00	2 50
Farmer's Call.....	50	1 25
Galveston News, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Green's Fruit Grower.....	50	1 25
Guardian, The.....	2 00	8 00
Godey's Magazine.....	1 00	1 50
Houston Post, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 75
Hoar's Dairyman.....	1 00	1 75
La. Planter and Sugar Manufacturer.....	8 00	2 50
Memphis Commercial Appeal.....	1 00	1 50
Munsey's Magazine.....	1 00	1 75
New York World, semi-weekly.....	1 00	1 75
New York Ledger, weekly.....	2 00	2 50
New Orleans Picayune, weekly.....	1 50	2 25
Peterson's Magazine.....	1 00	1 75
St. Louis Globe-Democrat, w'kly.....	1 00	1 75
Scribner's Magazine.....	1 00	1 75
Southern Cultivator & Dixie Far.....	1 00	1 75
Southern Fancier.....	50	1 25
Texas Sittings.....	4 00	1 25
Texas Farmer.....	1 00	1 75
Texas (German) Post.....	2 50	8 00
Texas Baptist and Herald.....	1 00	2 50
Texas Christian Advocate.....	2 00	2 50
Wool and Hide Shipper.....	1 00	1 50
Western Poultry Journal.....	50	1 50

At these rates TEXAS FARM AND RANCH must be taken with every order. Any number of club papers may be ordered in conjunction with TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. If you want any other paper not given, write us for our club rate. We can order any paper in the U. S. for you. Papers can be sent to distant places at a great discount money by postoffice order or registered letter if possible. Stamps taken when order cannot be obtained. Address TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

Correspondence.

OVER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY.

EDDY, N. M.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I left Mineral Wells on the 14th, intending to stop a day or two at Pecos. Reached that place at 3 a. m. the 15th, and started, grip in hand, to hunt a hotel. Three hundred yards up the street—halted, reflected—returned hurriedly to the Pecos Valley depot; secured ticket, and retired to sleeper. Enough of Pecos. An hour later rolled away for Eddy. The moon here is similar to her Texas namesake, but is a little more brilliant and deceptive. By the pale light of Fair (but tickle) Luna, you can't tell where earth and sky meet. Any place, far or near, will do for a horizon. And all the other side, between the two, you can see anything the time or place may suggest—lakes of shining water, fathomless chasms, towering cliffs—all delineated, like the artist's landscape, and dead level alkali plain. Oh, for a tinge of sunshine, to show things as they are. This is "Neu-eva Mejico," a suburb of the "land of Manana," where even the sun is so lazy he does not rise until half past 7. But sunrise, though late, came at last, and the magic landscape faded from view and left the dead canvas of the plain marred here and there with a distant mountain range, or nearer, glistening areas of alkaline incrustation, interspersed with the pallid hue of outcropping gypsum.

But, presto! In the twinkling of an eye, in the single shake of a sheep's tail (or other phrases of the same import) the sun changes. What are those in the dim distance, so different from the sage brush and mesquite? Ah, ha! cottonwood trees, as I am a live Texan from the banks of the Trinidad! And where cottonwoods are, there also is water. But Nature never planted trees in long lines and avenues. Surely somebody has been here, since my last visit forty years ago, and solved the rain-making problem, for, behold, here is water! and further on, more trees, and beyond a habitation and a smoke. Has the season changed? Surely I have not crossed the equator during the long and tiresome night—nevertheless, there is a vast plain of emerald. Are those mountains in the distance? I asked of the dreamy conductor. "Them's alfalfa stacks." Ah, we are now in the famous Pecos Valley irrigated district, and that, and the full light of an 8 o'clock sun explains it all.

A little after 8 a. m., by the traditional time of the country, but a little after 9 by my Rockford regulator, we reached Eddy. The scenery for 300 miles last past had not led me to expect greatly of Eddy. Ah, there—two ladies on bicycles. This reminds me of Dallas. At the first corner my shoes are spattered by water from the street sprinkler, and I begin to feel at home. Just ahead, I note the turret of a fine red sandstone and brick court house. It is said to be dedicated as a temple to the Goddess of Justice. If the ghost of the once noted Jim Basset could revisit the scene of his bloody exploits, it would express the opinion that under the priesthood of Judge Freeman, and the juries of Eddy County, New Mexico, a common murderer "don't stand no show," for his body recently dangled from the gallows at the gate of the city cemetery. There are no saloons in Eddy, and the city marshal's office is a sinecure. No police force is required. Phoenix, a disreputable precinct, just south of the town, has monopolized the saloon and cognate lines of this immediate vicinage. Eddy has an efficient electric light plant, water works, ice factory, fire department; a fine public high school, numerous churches, and the nearest residential suburb I have seen anywhere—La Huerta (the orchard)—on the east side of the Pecos river, and north of the town proper. It is laid off in 10-acre lots, and built up with fine residences, orchards, vineyard, and gardens, with a network of irrigating ditches, and is capable of being made an earthly paradise.

This is quite a health resort. R. W. Tansill, the wealthy Chicago cigar man, visited the valley two years ago on account of lung troubles, and was so well pleased that he invested largely in and around Eddy, and will continue to winter here. A fine brick block in town bears his name, and a magnificently equipped farm south of town, attests his sincerity, and his faith in the future of this valley.

This brief letter is merely to give an

account of my ramblings. A complete write-up of what I have seen, and will see would tax the space of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH until the chases are sprung.

In a day or two from this date, I propose visiting Roswell, where, among other interesting things, Parker Earle is planting 1000 acres in apples. The 15th and 16th I spent visiting the farms south of Eddy, and the lower reservoir six miles north. I am not equal to the task of describing these worst-to-day. Our friend, Roosevelt, the Eddy club, Mr. Tansill, and many other citizens of Eddy, have done everything possible to make my visit pleasant, and enable me to see what is to be seen. To-morrow I expect to visit a canaigre farm, and to learn much of that plant that I did not know before.

There are some things here I do not fully endorse: The sun sets at half past 4; water freezes at 38 degrees F., and boils at about 207 degrees. These facts seem strange, but are easily accounted for. Don't know when I will return. Recently I was sick a week, and was astonished to find that people bought and sold, the earth revolved, and generally things went on as they did before, and I suppose TEXAS FARM AND RANCH will continue to appear on time while I am temporarily absent.

PITTUCK.

CLAYS OF DALLAS COUNTY.

DALLAS TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

While our geologists are straining every nerve to educate us on the mineral resources of Texas, and publishing reports of their work, others, less scientific, but practical craftsmen, study the ways and means to give a marketable value to the materials discovered.

The Dallas Commercial Club has inaugurated a movement which cannot fail to be appreciated. So far the Texas State Fair Association has invited all the counties in the state to exhibit their products, and this institution has very properly offered premiums to the best exhibits of the kind, but Dallas county never made a show commensurate with its importance. This year, however, the tables were turned. To the Dallas county exhibit we now invite the student, the manufacturer and the capitalist.

Here we find ourselves right in front of Mr. Remond's artistic display of clays. This craftsman is a clay worker, and he has been a successful one for the past quarter of a century. He makes no pretension to deep science in connection with his business, but one can soon find that he has read a good deal and corresponded with many a scientific man on the subject of his business. All who saw his collection of Dallas county clays at the fair know what a perfect object lesson it was. Not only clays, but marls, in the shales and soapstone, silica, and lime, and sandstone, which lay around his neighborhood in great abundance, within three or four miles of Dallas were shown.

"Our French pioneers," says he, many of whom were thorough scientific men, selected, after much prospecting through this state, this particular spot, where I am yet living, because they found in it all the natural resources necessary to build up a town—not of lumber, but of mortar, cement, brick, tile, pipe, and stone; and I am now here to show that their selection was a wise one."

Dallas, if not French Town, has now reached that point in her existence where these lasting materials are imperatively demanded. Through Mr. Remond's representations, a large brick plant was recently established in his neighborhood. Bricks harder than even the St. Louis product are now made there, and the result is that orders are always ahead of the production.

He shows in his exhibit that ordinary and hydraulic mortars can be made here; that slow and quick hardening Portland cement can be made also. He shows paving blocks of his manufacture which are so hard that they strike fire on being hit with a file; bricks from the hardest kind to some so light and porous that they will float on water; others that 3,500 volts of electricity could not vitrify. We see flooring tiles of the finest grain and body. Roofing tiles which are meant to be everlasting, which ring like a bell. Pipes, jugs, and an infinity of objects of every day use are shown. Finally we are introduced to a water bucket which will certainly find a ready market in this state. It is made porous so as to allow the water it contains to ooze out in quantity just small enough to evaporate from the outside of the vessel in the same ratio

as the draft or heat of the atmosphere acts upon it. The result is that the water remaining in the porous bucket is made cool to a surprising degree. Henceforth our farmers and others who cannot enjoy the luxury of ice drinks will thank Mr. Remond for this cooler.

This exhibit was quite a revelation. Henceforth Dallas can produce out of the very soil it rests upon all the mortar, cement, bricks, earthenware, and chinaware, which it now imports at great expense from distant points. The only thing that remains to be done is to find some capital to start this industry, which is bound to multiply itself every few years. We could give the names of many cities which started this industry in a very small way, as Dallas is now invited to do, and which have become prodigiously successful, just because they had the materials and the men who knew how to handle them, as Dallas has, and as Mr. Remond knows. All interested in the development of our great natural resources in this direction should call on or address, Mr. E. Remond, this city. PAUL GEREAUD.

ATTENTION, SWINE BREEDERS.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I beg to thank the members of the Swine Breeders' Association for the generous manner in which they accepted our invitation to have them meet with us at their next meeting, February 19th, 1895. If they will endeavor to have a nice exhibit of their hogs made in these yards, I will very widely advertise the fact throughout the state, and will bring people from a distance, outside of the state, who are interested in the development of the hog industry in Texas, to see their exhibit. If the members of the Association will come in good numbers, as well as the members of the Farmers' Congress, whom, I understand will meet at the same time, I will ask the various lines of railway centering in Fort Worth for reduced rates for themselves, their families and their exhibits. I would be glad if you will advise me, and get an expression from the two Associations as soon as possible as to how many there will be here, and what kind of an exhibit they will make, that I may make ample preparation for them and begin advertising their meeting at once.

I will also offer premiums for different classes of killing hogs to be shipped in here on that date, to be purchased and killed by the Packing Company, and judged by the members of the two Associations as to merits for the best carload of heavy hogs, the best car of hogs averaging between 225 and 250 pounds, and then for the best carload of 200 pounds hogs. I have not decided whether we will make the premiums in cash or products, and will be very glad to have suggestions from you as to which you think would be most acceptable.

I desire to thank you personally for the manner in which you laid out our invitation before the members of the two Associations. It is needless for me to say that I will do everything in my power to make this meeting one of the greatest successes that the two Associations have ever had, if I get the co-operation of the members. Yours Respectfully, W. E. SKINNER, Gen. Mgr. Fort Worth Stock Yards.

ALLEGED FRAUD.

PARIS, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

Please kindly inform me what action, if any, you will take in case of an advertiser in your journal is practicing a fraud. Or, to put it mildly, of badly treating one of your old subscribers? I take several farm and swine journals, and notice the most of them propose to discontinue the advertisement of any one who, upon satisfactory proof, has imposed upon their subscribers. And when an advertisement is discontinued it is published in the journal giving the reason why it was done. Having known TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and TEXAS FARM AND RANCH people so long and so favorably, it may seem strange that I should ask such a question. Of course I have no thought that TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is a party to a questionable transaction, but on the other hand, I have always thought it was ever ready and willing to protect its readers from impositions by its advertisers. I have a serious complaint to make against one of your advertisers who has both my money and the goods, too, for which the money was paid. Now which should I do, make a public statement in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, giving all the particulars, the party's name, etc., or

make this statement privately to you that you may notify the party and hear his side of the matter before it is made public? I am willing to do either way you suggest. The matter has got to come to a head in some way, and that very soon. He has had ample time and opportunity, and has failed to straighten matters, nor does he make the slightest attempt to do it. He has everything in his own hands and sets back serenely contented, it appears.

W. W. STELL.

[Referring to the above complaint, we will say that we have no idea to which one of our advertisers our esteemed friend refers, but if he will give us his name, together with all the particulars of the alleged fraud, TEXAS FARM AND RANCH will promptly investigate the matter, and we will do all in our power to have things rectified. We use every precaution to publish nothing that is the least doubtful or "off-color" in our advertising columns; but when it is satisfactorily shown that any advertiser is not strictly reliable and honest, his ad. is discontinued at once.—Ed.]

SHORT CORRESPONDENCE.

Will some of the readers of your paper kindly inform me where I can procure two or three bushels of reliable peach seeds?—HERBERT M. PROUTY, Seymour, Texas.

I have received the grist mill in good order. Please excuse me for not answering sooner. I wanted to try the mill and let you know the result. Can say I am well pleased with it. Nothing like being your own miller.—C. J. CHRISTENSEN, Holliday, Texas.

I am well pleased with the TEXAS FARM AND RANCH family mill I got of you sometime since.—W. W. WALL, Goldthwaite, Texas.

The Farm and Ranch machine I ordered last month came all right. I have used it ten days, and am highly pleased with it. It is all you claimed it to be. I would like to know if you still have the same machine for sale, as some of my friends want a good sewing machine at so small a price.—J. N. VAUGHAN, Nesbitt Texas.

[For the information of all concerned, we will state that the Farm and Ranch Sewing machine can always be obtained of us at the price Mr. Vaughan paid—\$20.00—with TEXAS FARM AND RANCH one year. We receive numbers of commendations like the above, which we cannot publish, for lack of space.—Ed.]

Coughing.

For all the ailments of Throat and Lungs there is no cure so quick and permanent as Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil. It is palatable, easy on the most delicate stomach and effective.

Scott's Emulsion

stimulates the appetite, aids the digestion of other foods, cures Coughs and Colds, Sore Throat, Bronchitis, and gives vital strength besides. It has no equal as nourishment for Babies and Children who do not thrive, and overcomes

Any Condition of Wasting.
Send for Pamphlet on Scott's Emulsion. Free.
Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All Druggists. 50c. and \$1.

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Barley, Alfalfa, Winter Turt Onis.

Write for prices to

GANNON & NICHOLSON,
TEXAS SEED & FLORAL CO.
306 Elm Street, Dallas, Texas.

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Issued Dec. 18 next. Elegant illustrations of the greatest harness horses. Magnificent supplements for framing. Special articles, stories, poetry and statistics by best talent, included in an elegant, unique, handsome double cover, lithographed in 12 colors. Price 50c. Agents wanted—special terms. Regular weekly edition including Xmas No. \$2.00 per year. For free sample copy, THE HORSE REVIEW CO., Chicago, Ill.



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Texas Farm and Ranch Publishing Co.,
948 Main Street, Dallas, Texas.

Entered at the Postoffice, Dallas, Texas, as
Second Class Matter.

NOTICE!

No one has authority to contract debts, receipts for money, or enter into any contracts for this company, unless they can show written authority for doing same, signed by the President or Secretary. We do not accept drafts or orders made on us by canvassers, agents or employees.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH PUB. CO.,

F. P. HOLLAND, President.

In making remittances to Texas Farm and Ranch for subscriptions and premiums, always buy a Postoffice Money Order, Express Order, or send by Registered Letter; if either of the above orders cannot be obtained, money sent in ordinary letter, or Postal Note, cannot be recovered if lost or misappropriated.

In ordering the paper changed from one postoffice to another, subscribers should always give the names of the old as well as the new postoffice.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is the official medium of the organizations given below:

State Horticultural Society—T. V. MUNSON, President, Denison; E. L. RUFFMAN, Secretary, Fort Worth.

State Swine Breeders' Association—W. H. PIERCE, President, Denton; A. A. PITTCOCK, Secretary, Dallas.

Texas Trotting and Pacing Horse Breeders' Association—W. M. C. HILL, President, Dallas;

S. B. HOPKINS, Secretary, Dallas.

Texas Jersey Cattle Club—J. D. RUDD, President, Waskom; J. O. TERRELL, Secretary, Terrell.

State Farmers Institutes—R. F. BUTLER, Organizer, Waxahachie.

The better education of the agricultural classes will be the ultimate antidote for agricultural depression.

As long as Wall Street is consulted on national finance, the people may rest assured that the counsel given will tend to augment the power of that den of thieves and gamblers; a power that already has the nation by the throat, and with no intention of letting loose.

It makes no difference with the farmer whether it is over-production or under-consumption; whether it is his inability to sell, or other people's inability to buy. But he wants something done that will make a difference between prices of products as they are and as they ought to be.

THERE is no safer investment for surplus funds than in Texas farming lands. Compared with other sections with inferior advantages, Texas lands are still cheap, and will appreciate until they reach or exceed the land values of the older states. The demand for these lands is rapidly gaining on the supply, and in a few years men will wish they had bought while prices were in their reach, and will mourn because they are landless and left.

It has been suggested that next year each individual farmer will reason thus: "Farmers, generally, will plant less cotton the coming season, and this will bring the price up to 8 or 10 cents. I am not going to be left. I am going to plant all cotton and rake in the money. See the point?" This is a reflection on the common sense and common honesty of farmers. We admit that many have pursued this course on former occasions; but we contend that most of that particular kind of fools have either died or quit the business. No considerable number will ever do so any more.

ALL HANDS PLEASED.

A few days ago a friend remarked to the editor of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH: "This is the first election I ever saw in which all parties were pleased with the result. The Democrats are pleased because the Populists didn't carry Texas; the Populists are pleased because the Democratic loss was so great in Texas, and the Republicans are tickled nearly to death over the result in other states."

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH being strictly a non-political, agricultural paper, is pleased because everybody else is. We have friends—lots of 'em—of all political faiths. As Chas. A. Dana says, "we shine for all," and we rejoice with those who rejoice, and are glad to know they are many. It's a good thing to be in an amiable mood at all times if possible; especially about thanksgiving time when big fat gobblers and other autumnal fruits are ripe and ready to be pulled. Let us then laugh and be merry, sing songs of gladness and psalms of thanksgiving to God that we still have so many blessings in spite of 4 cents a pound for cotton, and the slim prospect for the editor to get a new overcoat this winter.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is not only glad that times are no worse than they are, but we are glad to think that the time has arrived when Southern farmers will more fully practice what the agricultural press has been so long preaching to them.

DIVERSIFIED FARMING.

So much has, time and again, been said upon this subject, that to say more would seem to be superfluous. Yet, in the poetic language of a contemporary:

"'Tis the constant drop of water
Wears away the hardest stone
'Tis the constant gnaw of Towser
Masticates the toughest bone;
'Tis the constant cooling lover
Carries off the blushing maid,
And the constant advertiser
Is the one that gets the trade."

It is by "line upon line, precept upon precept," that lasting impressions are made. Already the farmers of the South are practicing diversified farming to a much greater extent than ever before, and it is to the constant urging and exhorting and coaxing of the agricultural press, more than to anything else, that the credit is due. Those farmers who are diversifying their farming most, we find are the most prosperous. Those who have no bacon, nor lard, nor molasses to buy, do not feel the grinding pressure of low-price cotton anything like as much as those who do have to buy these things. The farmers who, while supplying their own wants with the above named necessities, have also raised a surplus to sell, (as they almost invariably do when they diversify), can now snap their fingers in the palid face of King Cotton, and tell him to keep on declining until death releases him from the environments of earth, for aught they care.

Farming, from a business standpoint, is a simple thing. It simply means to make more than you spend, in order to be successful. If you raise all, or nearly all that you and your family eat, you surely will not have to buy much in the way of groceries. If, while you are fattening two hogs for your own larder, you just put in two more to consume your overplus of grain, slops, etc., you will be long on pork, and able to lay by a few dollars for a nucleus. If you look well after your little herd of cattle, you will have one or two beef steers to sell in the fall, and this will be an addition to your little hoard. The same may be said of potatoes—raise a surplus to sell. Raise lots of turnips, too. Have something to take to town to sell whenever you go.

An acre or two in broom corn will not cost much labor to cultivate, and will pay well for the time you spend on it. If you live in a locality where you have

a few acres of moist bottom land, plant a patch of ribbon cane, and make a supply of the nicest home-made syrup you ever ate. On a two-acre patch of cane you should make from 100 to 150 gallons of cero. (Syrup from which no sugar is taken.) You can readily sell all you have over your own home supply, for from 60 cents to 75 cents per gallon, which will give you a good profit on its cost.

This is the sort of farming that will keep "all hands pleased," who follow it up. Our forefathers farmed after this style, and were, as a rule, as happy as lords. In our time, the Southern farmer has strayed away from the landmarks of true husbandry, lured by the, at one time, high price of a single product. To-day he is suffering in the flesh for his folly; but he is repenting and coming around to the correct orthodox doctrine. Then let us rejoice and be thankful for his future hopeful outlook, and continue to be pleased, and strive to disseminate the true gospel of diversified agriculture fill all the farmers of the south shall have been converted. This is one great piece of agricultural missionary work that TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is striving to advance.

TURN ON THE STEAM.

A railroad locomotive is as helpless as an infant, as powerless as a centenarian without steam. It is, however, a splendid piece of mechanism, perfect in every part, and capable of tremendous results; but without the power that puts it in motion, it is only worth its weight as junk. Many men of magnificent abilities and splendid opportunities, still lack the motive power, without which, all the intellect of a Bacon or a Huxley would have been useless to the world. An author truly says, that "Genius is merely a capacity to work." Many men make the mistake of supposing that because they possess no great ability, that they are doomed to a mediocre life, and with due humility accept a condition of comparative uselessness. There is not a man this side of absolute lunacy who has not in himself the power to do good if he will only put water in the boiler and fire in the furnace and get up a good head of steam. Did you ever interview a wood sawyer, a cowboy, or a loafer, without finding that he had some talent you do not possess? Some latent power for good, if the machine was only put in motion? Many of our most successful men have merely more energy than intellect, more push than mental power, more industry than sagacity; yet as successes in their various vocations they shine as stars of the first magnitude in the galaxy of practical achievements. Turn on the steam!

"OLD COTTON PLANTER."

Our esteemed correspondent, Old Cotton Planter (Col. Aaron Coffee, of McKinney, Texas), sends us an exceedingly interesting and timely article, which we publish elsewhere in this issue. His remarks upon the low price of cotton and the remedy therefor are to the point. There must be a reduction of cotton acreage, and it should naturally begin in those states where the cost of commercial fertilizers form a large part of the expense of making the crop.

Yet, TEXAS FARM AND RANCH believes that even here upon the fertile black lands of Texas where so many paying products can be made, our farmers would do well to reduce their area of cotton land 25 per cent or more, and raise more of the long list of commodities that Old Cotton Planter mentions as growing so well in Collin county. Texas already produces one-fourth or more of the entire cotton crop of North America, and surely it is in order for her to

at least join the procession, if not head the column in the march of reducing the production of the now unprofitable staple.

HAMILTON STUART.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, in common with the Texas press at large, joins in sincere condolence to the surviving relatives of one of the best known and most highly esteemed journalists in the South, Col. Hamilton Stuart, long known as "State Press" of the Galveston-Dallas News. Col. Stuart died at his home in Galveston, at 2:30 a. m., on November 16, 1894, at the ripe age of 81 years. The News says:

"Mr. Stuart was one of the most widely known men in Texas and his passing away marks an epoch in the history of Galveston. He was for many years connected with the editorial department of the News, and is known all over Texas as 'State Press.'"

"He leaves three daughters, one of whom is the wife of R. T. Wheeler, one the wife of F. D. Minor and one the wife of Mr. Moore, of Luling. He also leaves one son, Mr. Ben C. Stuart."

WEALTH is power. There never was a time in the history of the world when this truth was more thoroughly understood, or more heartlessly utilized. Those who now own or control the wealth of this country possess the power to tax the people to the utmost farthing, with nothing to restrain limitless greed. A dozen men met in Chicago not long since and levied a tax of several millions of dollars on users of coal. This was easily done, and the tax is collected without cost to them by raising the price of coal \$1 per ton, and waiting for a few days their privilege of doubling their prestamo. The present hoarding of gold in banks is merely a way the bankers have of compelling legislation in their favor. They wish now to levy an additional tax upon the people by means of government interest bearing bonds. One thousand of the most wealthy men of this country could bankrupt the Government in twenty-four hours, and this power they hold in terror over the Government to force favors. Characteristically these powerful barons of finance howl furiously at the proposition to tax their enormous incomes, and contend that the attempt to collect such tax will only demoralize them by causing them to commit perjury. Well, well, what are we coming to?

TO MEASURE CORN IN THE CRIB.

Will you please publish a rule by which to ascertain the number of bushels of corn in the shuck in a crib of given size?—J. G. OLDFIELD, Lake Providence, La.

ANS.—Level the corn, and multiply the length, breadth and depth in feet, together, which will give the product in cubic feet, and divide by twelve—the quotient will be in barrels of unshelled corn. Multiply the quotient by five, (the number of bushels in a barrel), and the product will be in bushels of shelled corn. (The Virginia "barrel" is ten bushels of ears.)

SEA ISLAND COTTON.

Would you kindly tell us what kind of soil is necessary for Sea Island cotton, also if the ordinary gin will clean the lint from the seed? Where can we obtain the seed? We would like to try it on our place even if it should turn out a failure. Where can we obtain the true Peterkin cotton seed? All cotton going by that name here is more or less mixed with other kinds.—ALDER BROS., Clyde, Texas.

Will our friends W. E. Kirkpatrick, N. S. Gullet, or some one else who has had practical experience in raising Sea Island cotton write us fully on the subject, covering the above questions? TEXAS FARM AND RANCH has received several questions of late referring to Sea Island cotton, and, while we could give the questions answers in a general way, we would prefer a reply from some one who is more intimately acquainted with the subject from practical experience.

KIRTLAND'S
GENUINE MEERSCHAUM PIPES.
 Cut from block Meerschaum. Warranted to
 color. Sample 35c. My agents coin money.
 E. F. KIRTLAND, Evanston, Illinois.

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The Only Line passing through the
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TEXAS,

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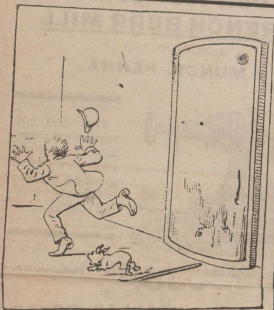
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TEXAS
TO THE WORLD!

The greatest commonwealth in the universe,
 whose soil teems with the products of the mart,
 and whose laws, constructed for the advance-
 ment of man, throw wide open its gates to the

People of the United States

and bids them enter for the purpose of invest-
 ment and settlement.

Capital and Labor

alike have equal advantages and thrive under
 a good and just government, controlling the
 richest section in the world.

TEXAS IN 1893

produced for home and foreign
 consumption,

1,848,333 bales of cotton,

3,424,441 bushels of corn,

24,595,169 bushels of oats,

6,553,575 bushels of wheat,

and made a correspondingly large record in the
 production of other staples. The **PRESENT**
YEAR is the most successful in its history
 and far exceeds the figures above.
 This great State is reached direct from St.
 Louis, Cairo and Memphis by the

IRON MOUNTAIN ROUTE,

which runs

4--DAILY TRAINS--4

FROM ST. LOUIS,

And Double Daily Service from Cairo
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For full particulars concerning Texas and
 for copy of pamphlet setting forth the wonder-
 ful achievements of its soil, address

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52nd YEAR.



The Great Farm, Industrial and
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ONE YEAR FOR \$1.

Sample copies and premium list will be mailed
 FREE on application to
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WAGNER PALACE BUFFET SLEEPING CAR

... AND ...

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From Texas

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Making close connection with fast trains of
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The "Katy" now runs to St. Louis over its
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TEXAS FARM AND RANCH FIRE EXTINGUISHER

This little machine, the result of careful
 scientific investigation, we are offering to our
 patrons as a premium for new subscribers, and
 will guarantee it the best protection against
 fire ever invented, and will be found thor-
 oughly reliable, very simple, amply strong,
 and should be in every home, business house,
 gin, barn and factory in the land.

In construction it is a copper vessel, firmly
 riveted together, highly polished and very or-
 namental in appearance. The chemicals with
 which it is charged can be obtained in any
 drug store at small expense, and when dis-
 charged from the machine form a gas which
 is the quickest destroyer of fire known to the
 human mind, but which is perfectly harmless
 to anything else. Its capacity is three gallons,
 which is equal when discharged on a fire to
 more than 500 buckets of water. It will ex-
 tinguish fires caused by the most inflammable
 substances, such as oils, varnishes, whiskies,
 etc., which water will not do. It solves the
 insurance question, which is seldom secured
 except at exorbitant rates, and when fires
 occur, insurance never covers loss of time,
 trouble, etc.

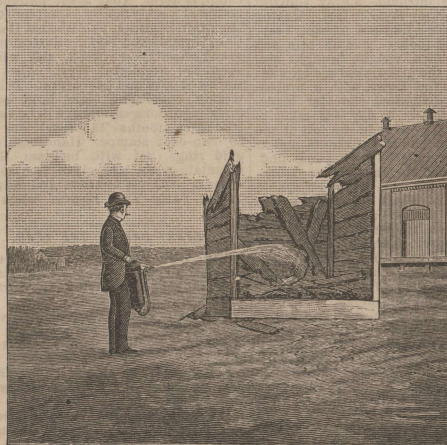


IT IS UNEQUALED IN SIMPLICITY.



Turn it upside down and it is ready for use, therefore is practical in the hands
 of women and children. The above illustration represents a test building erected
 of dry pine, then lined with cotton and saturated with five gallons of coal oil,
 making the most inflammable building that could be produced. This scene is as
 it actually occurred in the presence of over 100 spectators and photographed by a
 special artist with instantaneous camera.

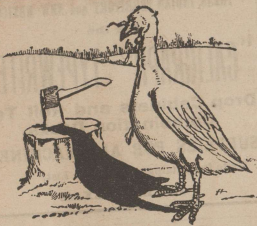
The cut below represents the same building after the fire has been extin-



guished with the contents of one machine in less than ten seconds—photographed
 by the same artist. Surely these demonstrations should satisfy the most skeptical.
 We guarantee the machine exactly as represented or money refunded. Full
 directions accompany each machine, which we will deliver to any express office
 in the United States and TEXAS FARM AND RANCH one year for \$10.00, or given
 away for twenty new subscribers at \$1 each. Send cash with order and address

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

Poultry.



"Coming events cast their shadows before."

As a rule it pays better to sell eggs than raise chickens for market.

If you would have your poultry pay, Get hens that know well how to lay; Select them from a pure good breed, And give good shelter, care and feed.

You would not turn your helpless children out to take care of themselves. Your fowls should receive something of the paternal care that prompts you to provide for and protect your little ones. It is not only humane to do this—it is also politic to give your birds good care, especially in winter.

The Mid-Continental Poultry Show and annual meeting of the American Poultry Association will occur in Kansas City, Missouri, December 13 to 26 proximo. This will be an important gathering of prominent poultrymen from all portions of the United States and Canada, who will come with the choicest specimens of their flocks. Among the prizes offered by the Association and its friends, are \$4,000 in cash, a \$700 piano, gold medals and silver cups. Competition open to the world and a cordial welcome guaranteed to all. Premium money will be paid before exhibits leave the hall.

For premium list and other information, address E. M. Slutz, Sec., 424 Ridge Bldg., Kansas City, Mo. Guarantees the payment of all the prizes and all expenses of the show. Mr. D. M. Owens, of Tennessee, an expert with a national reputation and a judge at the World's Fair, has been employed to do the judging. The railroads will make reduced passenger rates, and all fowls sent to the show will be returned by the express companies free. All leading breeders and fanciers in the state, and some from other states will show. Any one desiring information or the premium list should write J. G. McReynolds, Neches, Texas, the Secretary of the Association.

POULTRY DROPPINGS.

Farm and Fireside.

The droppings should pay for the labor of cleaning out the poultry house. Their value varies according to the food allowed, like all other manure, and it is impossible to prevent more or less loss and deterioration before spring. The droppings may be kept in boxes or barrels, secure from dampness. If mixed with equal quantities of dry dirt, and a peck of kainit (Potash salts-sulphate of potash) be mixed with every bushel of the dirt and droppings, the whole makes an excellent fertilizer.

Western Plowman: Avoid in-breeding, get new and better blood from time to time as may seem necessary.

Farmers' Voice: Are there any cracks in the poultry house? There certainly ought not to be when winter comes on.

Field, Farm and Fireside: Help the poor, ragged hens to get on their winter suits by the addition of a little oil meal or fresh meat to their daily ration.

Home and Farm: Use medicine and stimulants very moderately among your poultry. Remember, true strength and recuperation come from the digestion of nutritious food, and can come from no other source.

Southern Live Stock Journal: A successful poultry-raiser feeds wheat in the morning, barley at noon, and wheat in the evening. In addition to the barley he gives the slops from the kitchen, after boiling it. The wheat gives a rich yellow color to the yolks, which is so

much desired in the city, where eggs are sold in retail markets. He says one great mistake many chicken-raisers make is in feeding chickens too much, and this accounts for their becoming diseased.

Farmers' Voice: We have always had a prejudice against branching out in several kinds of business or into several kinds of breeds. Confine yourself to one thing. Get a good breed of poultry and stick to it.

Western Plowman: Poultry does not pay, and, moreover, is a nuisance where the farmer allows them to take care of themselves. This is a self evident fact so far as such farmers are concerned. Apple tree roosts and fence corner nests should be things of the past.

Western Plowman: It is necessary to watch the corners or there will be no profit with your flocks. How many old and worthless roosters are you feeding? They are not only useless and expensive, but annoy the hens and interfere with the egg product. Do not keep the old hens, either.

Field and Farm: A poultryman informs us that he has cured severe cases of roup with carbolated vaseline. He simply greases the head with it and makes the fowl swallow a pill of about the size of a hazel nut. Vaseline is an extract of petroleum and is cheap, while carbolated vaseline has carbolic acid added to it and can be had already prepared at any drug store.

Ohio Farmer: Do not delay it any longer, but if you have no modern house the old one is good if you only make it warm and clean. Warmth is essential to save food, and is cheaper by half. Nail strips of thin boards or lath over the cracks and places where the cold north wind will sweep over them. In this way you will save a good deal of food and more eggs will be the result.

Oklahoma Farmer: According to the census the United States produced 817,000,000 dozens of eggs in 1889. According to these figures our annual egg product amounts to \$100,000,000. If to this be added the poultry sold to-day cannot lower, change or debase to serve the great and powerful money centers of the world, as this useful food supplying industry is so distributed throughout the world in the hands of the honest masses that it is impossible for the money sharks to collect it in any commercial center that its value may be lowered or enhanced to suit their purpose. It beats ten times in profit four cent cotton, two cent beef or thirty cent wheat. Poultry does not fall in value when the fall in silver lowers the prices of beef, cotton and wheat, as its value is fixed and Wall street or London cannot control or change it, for it is the standard of gold or silver, as purchasers are always more than willing to pay \$10 in gold for first class thoroughbred birds

THE BOBOLINK.

Farm News.

The bobolink is one of my favorite birds as we see him in the North. Such a merry little fellow in his coat of black and white, singing as if he were bubbling over full of music, to his sober, brown little wife hidden down among the clover blossoms. No one would think he could make a glutton of himself, he seems to think so much about singing. At mid-summer he puts off his parti-colored coat and puts on one of rusty brown that looks as if he had kept it over from last year, and then starts South. Down in Kentucky he begins to eat until he is plump and fat, and they call him a "reed bird," down there, because he lives in the cane brakes so much of his time. He does not sing there, but puts in his whole time eating. Later he goes further South, and joining with his neighbors, they go in flocks to the rice fields, and again he changes his name and becomes a "rice bird." There his habit of over eating gets him into trouble, for he is hunted and shot without mercy, for a rice bird is a great delicacy, and we have seen thousands of them lying dead together in the markets of our great cities. There are few birds that change as many times in a year as the bobolink, and but few who begin as well in the spring and end as badly in the winter. When you see one of these birds fluttering above the meadow and singing so sweetly, it is hard to believe that the same bird may be shot in a

Louisiana rice field some day next winter, and eaten by some rich man in New York or Chicago, but this may be his fate.

HOW THE QUEEN BEE LAYS HER EGGS.

This is what C. O. Miller says about it in the American Bee Journal:

It would save a great deal of travel on the part of the queen if she were allowed daily to drop her two or three thousand eggs all in one spot, but perhaps the workers think that would leave her too little exercise for her health, so they let her go from one cell to another and put an egg in each. She doesn't spend as much time to lay an egg as a hen, and she never cackles—just goes straight along to lay another. The workers do all the work of cleaning out and polishing the cells for her. In the busy season, if you carefully lift out of a colony of Italians the comb having the queen, you may often see her go right along with her egg laying. First she puts her head down into the cell to see if it is all right. If the chambermaids haven't been around to slick it up to suit her, she goes on to another. If she finds that all right, she takes out her head, straddles her long legs over the cell, doubles up her long abdomen, thrusts the end down into the cell, and after a short time withdraws it, when you can look into the cell and find an egg.

Many married men who wear short hair point to their wives as the cause.—Trade Index.

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the Imperial Jewess, Rebecca calls to mind thoughts of a stately crimson rose, both set about with little willful thorns, and both so beautiful in their own way. But it is in the realm of poetry that Scott has singularly immortalized himself. Who, when reading his inimitable Lady of the Lake has not felt the charm of that beautiful story of love and war, musical with the echoes from the minstrel's harp and hunter's horn, as they vibrated among the mossy cliffs that sheltered lovely Loch Katrine. Scott is one of my favorite authors. I admire his character, and his poetry especially. He was a genius whose mind was well balanced, capable of descending from his haunts on the Perian hills to mingle with his friends and family as genial and kind as any, and loving a chase over his native heath with his horn and hounds as dearly as did his Fitz James.

In our reading club we will discuss all kinds of good novels not excepted. Will some one tell us of the last work of Mrs. Augusta Evans Wilson, "At the Mercy of Tiberius?" Who has read E. P. Roe's "Near to Nature's Heart?" The club will, no doubt, meet regularly once a week with dear Nellie Jones as President. She hopes to have a full attendance at each meeting. We make the request that no one will remain at home on account of the dear little folks, but bring them all along and teach each one to love books. We have Grimms' Fairy Tales and Mother Goose's Melodies ready for them.

Goliad, Texas.

ABOUT FLOWERS AND CHICKENS.

MRS. BETTIE BLISS.
Dear Household: As it has been some time since I called, I will drop in for a few minutes this eve. Enjoy reading the sisters' letters so much, and feel like I must have a say once in awhile. I have no objection to the women voting if they get the chance. As far as I am concerned, I don't care to vote. Man is the head of the house; let him also be the head of the government. I like Mrs. Thedford's system of housekeeping very much, as it is about the way I manage my work, especially on wash day.

Mrs. Fisher wants to talk to us about flowers. There is nothing that I admire more than flowers, or a pretty yard, but this is a new country, and people here have not taken much pride yet in flowers or shrubbery; but we have a beautiful country and good land, so when we get a little time and lots of money, then we are going to see what flowers and shrubbery will do here. I am more anxious about an orchard just now, as I am a lover of fruit as well as flowers.

By the way, I must tell you how many chickens I have raised this summer. I have raised one hundred, and only had eight hens to begin with last spring. I am going to see how many I can raise next spring, for I am a Methodist, and you know they all love chicken.

I see a recipe in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH for syrup custard. I will try it soon. I will give a recipe for bean custard: Cold beans left from yesterday's dinner, mashed well; add to them eggs, sugar and milk, also a little butter, so as to make them brown nicely. Bake without a top crust.

I will also give a recipe for putting up butter: To three gallons of strong brine add one teaspoonful of saltpetre,

boil and strain, let it get cold, roll butter in cloths, and keep it under the brine. I have been putting up butter this fall by this recipe, and it is keeping nicely.

Last, but not least, a recipe for buns: To three tablespoonfuls of turpentine add all the camphor gum the turpentine will dissolve; pare the buns closely, and bathe three times a day. Best wishes for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

Cordell, Ok.

A SAFETY VALVE.

V. H. G.

Dear Mrs. Buchanan: I come in and shut the door with a bang, indicating the state of my feelings. You are all too complacent, too happy. It vexes me. I want to stir you up. What is it? Well, did you ever long for a little country home, have your dream realized, live on it seven years, build, arrange, plan and fix, till everything from orchard to chicken coop bore the stamp of your individuality, then when you thought all was well, and felt that you were just beginning to live, have the crashing announcement break in on your brain, "I'll have to sell out; sell out, pay up and commence a new." What was it Byron said about his household gods? Well I can sympathize with him this morning. Then did you lose your appetite, the capacity to sleep, and almost the power of thinking? Well, that's me. But don't be alarmed; I'm not crazy. I've only one little bomb, and that's for Uncle Snort. Here it is: Buttermilk will kill mites. Blessed be the man or woman that invented these newspaper chats. We can all get acquainted. We are not bothered about how we are dressed, whether we are pretty or not, can give our best thoughts untrammelled.

Now as to the suffrage question: No doubt our grandchildren will open wide their eyes and wonder why their grandmothers had to struggle so hard over this question, and I wonder myself why it is? It is only a tag end of barbarity still sticking on to the skirts of civilization. The only strange thing about it is that it has not been torn off and dropped long ago. Woman's voting could not harm her. Man surely don't think that politics could be worsened. All honor to every effort that is made for this cause.

Now I will step and close the door gently. Feel better, thank you. Will call again if I survive this moving business.

Dacatur, Texas.

A GOOD PLACE TO REST.

Unidentified.

A man went into a store in a neighboring town and asked if he could rest four or five hours. The proprietor, who had just found a nest of new born mice in the coffee grinder, told him that he could and then asked him why he didn't go to the hotel. The man answered: "I am suffering from nervous prostration, and the doctor said to get a quiet place to rest, and I see you don't advertise. I knew that I couldn't find a quieter place." And with that he settled back in his chair and watched the swallows build a nest in the cheese case.

Sarah: She's worth a million, and just the right age for you. Jerry: Any girl worth a million is the right age for me.—Detroit Tribune.

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Household.

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

THAT THANKSGIVING DINNER.

Boston Courier.

How dear to our hearts is the Thanksgiving dinner.
As fond recollections present it to view.
When father'd come home from the battle a winner,
And bring along with him a goblet or two.
Ah! then in the kitchen was hurry and bustle,
Sis weeping at having the onions to shell,
And mother just making the whole of us hustle.
To hasten the dinner that filled us so well,
The Thanksgiving dinner, the gorgeous old dinner,
The big turkey dinner that filled us so well.
O, how can I tell the ingredients measure,
That dear bill of lading prescribed as our store,
That turk and his mystic abdominal treasure,
The beans and the giblets, the gravy galore,
The oler we brought in a jug from the depot,
The truck agricultural none could excel,
And ah! the lush fruit of carobita pepo—
The dear pumpkin pies that we garnered as well!
Yum, yum, what a dinner! The turk and punk dinner!
That Thanksgiving dinner that crammed us so well!

CHAT

An excellent letter from Mary Morris, echoing our sentiments in reference to the leader of our Reading Club, and we hope that Mrs. Nellie will not feel that it will trespass on other duties to assume the role of leader. We had the pleasure of a hand shake, only, with her during the Fair. Hope at least to hear from her semi-occasionally.

V. E. C. comes with a bang and a volley of small shot to wake us up. Thanks for your spicy letter. We are glad you feel relieved. We suppose every one of the Household can appreciate your feelings at having to turn your back upon the home you have made and loved. But, my dear V. E. C. suppose you had longed for this "little home in the country," and had never had that longing gratified, hoping as the years passed by that it might be realized, each year bringing a fresh disappointment, think you, it is not better to have had and lost, than never to have had at all? With you, I bless the originator of the Womans' column in our newspapers. It has opened such a delightful and informal manner of communication, and exchange of ideas among us women. Long may it continue and increase in interest and usefulness. Come again.

Mrs. Bettie Bliss sends us several recipes for which we return thanks. We wish to say this to her, that though she may be in a new country, with much to do, she is losing a great deal of pleasure in not growing some flowers, even if they be our commonest, annuals which thrive with so little care. They brighten the home and gladden the heart of the tired housewife, as nothing else can or will do. Try it sister, you will find time to water and look at them, when once they begin to grow.

Will "Ada the Dairyman's Wife," please send us her real name and address? We wish to write her personally. We hope that every member of the Household and its readers will have the pleasure of seeing the Cotton Palace, at Waco. The interior decorations are marvelous! beautiful, and will suggest to many, new ideas in decorating and beautifying the home, with the materials so abundant in every country home. The exhibits are few compared with our State Fair, but there are a great many beautiful things to be seen and enjoyed. The chrysanthemum show is now in progress, and is said to be very handsome. We think that this will awaken in many flower lovers the determination to have a lot of these beautiful flowers next fall. It is thus with us. The present late fall has brought to perfection an unusually large number of beautiful chrysanthemums, and many private gardens and the florists' windows are adorned with fine specimens in many shades of color, of this attractive flower. One of its greatest charms is its lasting qualities; when cut, it keeps in perfect condition from one to two weeks.

Now that diptheria and sore throat in many forms, is afflicting so many, we give a remedy suggested by one of our best physicians for the relief of those suffering from either, which is, flowers of sulphur blown through a quill into the throat, but a lady, fertile in suggestions, has fallen upon a much better plan for applying the sulphur. It is to use the small bellows in common use for applying Persian insect powder. This is a much better plan—the sulphur is more evenly distributed, and the disagreeable sensation of having some one else blowing into the mouth is obviated.

WHAT HAPPENED ON THANKSGIVING DAY.

The fire burned brightly in the open fire place, and around its cheerful blaze the family group had gathered closely. Outside the winds blew, and the clouds, dark and lowering were closing down upon the earth. The night promised to be wild and dark, and the children nestled closer to grandmother, when they heard the mournful wail of the wind, as it whirled around the corner, through the key holes, under the door, rattling the window shutters in its mad career. Grandmother seemed lost in thought as she gazed into the ruddy blaze on the hearth, while the boy lay in her lap unopened. Memory was busy with the past, and recalled just such a night, long years ago, when all nature was dark and wild—the elements at war—and a fearful strife raging between man and brother over all the land.

"Grandmother," said one of the little ones, "tell us a story."

"Oh, do!" cried another, "a story of a long time ago."

"Tell us what you are thinking about, for I know when you look as you do now you are thinking of the time when you were young."

Thus importuned, the grandmother replied: "Well, I will tell you of what I was thinking. It was of a November evening many years ago. Your grandfather and uncles were away in the army, for the war between the states was going on, and myself and your mother, then only ten years old, were at home alone, except for the negroes. It was a very sad time for us, we had not heard from our loved ones in weeks. They were in Virginia, and the winter was unusually cold, and we knew that they were poorly clad, and had but little food and that of the plainest kind. Our own larder was poorly supplied, for we had been raided by the soldiers, and our pigs and poultry carried away, yet if we had had every luxury at our command, we had not the heart to think even of preparing a good dinner."

For many days there had been rumors that General Stoneman's division of Federal soldiers was approaching, and our neighbors were trying to find a secure hiding place for provisions and valuables. I had packed the silverware, jewelry and other valuables, together with all the important papers in a box, which, before the yankees arrived, were to be confided to Uncle Ned's care, who would hide them in some secure place until all danger had passed. It was dark and raining when Uncle Ned brought in the last armful of wood, and depositing it in the wood-box, turned to me with a frightened look saying in a low tone:

"Miss Betsy, de yankees is cumin' sho' 'nuff dis time. Dey's over de creek, at ole Mas' Kunnel Joneses, an' you' better hide all dem things yo' waster away."

Of course this frightened us very much, and for a little while we were unable to think clearly. Uncle Ned's wife, Aunt Cinthy, was called into the house to protect us; and Uncle Ned, taking the box on his shoulder, after bidding us a hurried good bye, passed out into the stormy night, to seek a place of safety for our treasures. How our hearts sunk, and our fears increased as the long hours wore away, and Uncle Ned did not return. Every noise from without made us start and shiver. The barking of old Growler on the back porch about midnight, made a chill of horror creep over us, and our tongues clove to the roof of our mouths. But the old adage "Wait, until the dawn of day, and the longest night will have passed away," was verified. Dawn came at last, and with it a clear sky. The clouds and rain of the previous night had passed away and the sun rose bright and warm for the season, which gave us renewed courage. The yankees had not visited us, nor could we learn anything of their whereabouts. Our greatest anxiety now was for the safety of Uncle Ned. Why he had not returned was a mystery which perplexed and puzzled us sorely. Aunt Cinthy was sure the Yankees had caught him and carried him away, and the dear old darkey was fast becoming hysterical at his absence, and her sad preboding and moaning added no little to our anxiety and sorrow. Negroes from the neighboring plantation and our own quarters were sent out to look for him. All day long we watched while parties searched the woods for miles. How we grieved for him! His honesty nothing could make us doubt, for he had been our trusted, faithful protector and adviser ever since your grandfather had gone into the army. We felt that only death or force could

keep him away from us. About sun down, our worst fears were realized, when one of the searching parties returned bringing with them the dead body of our faithful old servant and friend. He had been shot and killed in a ravine, which after a hard rain rapidly filled to overflowing by the water running into it from the hillsides, through which it ran. Across this ravine a pine log had been placed, to be used as a bridge, to shorten the distance from one part of the plantation to another. It was supposed that in trying to walk the log while the storm was at its height he had lost his balance, been precipitated into the raging torrent below, and left stranded when the waters ran off, where he was found.

We were all so prostrated by grief and excitement, that Thanksgiving was forgotten. The next day his remains were buried in the family burying ground, and our usual life resumed. Aunt Cynthia became our protector, and was moved from her cabin to a small room in the house, that we might comfort and care for her too.

Ten years had elapsed, and again a Thanksgiving day had been proclaimed which brought vividly before us the events of that dreadful day and night. The war was over; peace and plenty once more reigned in our land. Our loved ones, save one, who slept in an unknown grave near Murfreesboro, had returned home, and one by one assumed the role of heads of families, and on this day, our youngest, your mother was to wed a neighboring young farmer, who had been her playmate in childhood and her schoolmate in later years. Quite a number of her young companions were guests in the house, and together they went out into the autumn woods to gather vines, autumn foliage and flowers to decorate the rooms. The day was beautiful, the sun shone brightly and the spicy odors of the pines, invigorated and led them on in their pleasant search quite a distance from the house. Down in the ravine where Uncle Ned had lost his life on that dark November night, their light footsteps led them, for it was there that the loveliest ferns grew, and quantities must be had to beautify the halls and dining room. With arms full, laughing and jesting they toiled up the steep bank, and panting from the exertion, sought rest upon the trunk of an immense pine tree, which had seemingly but recently been uprooted by a strong wind. Like a flock of magpies they settled along its rough trunk, all but your mother, who walked to where the great mass of roots, with the soil of yellow clay still adhering to them and upon which lay a large cluster of fall daisies in full bloom, uninjured by the shock, invited her to gather them. A sudden exclamation of surprise led the flock to leave their perch and gather around her. To their many questions, her only response was, "Tis the box! 'Tis the box! Poor old Uncle Ned!" Sure enough there was the box to which so many valuables had been hastily consigned where it had lain for years, and the fair young girl, her thoughts divided between joy and sorrow—joy, that so much that was valuable had been restored to her, and regret for the sad fate of the old man who had lost his life in serving her—could scarcely believe what she beheld. Two of the young ladies were dispatched to the house to carry the joyful news, and get assistance while the others remained to watch the treasure, lest some woodland elf or goblin should spirit the long lost box away in their absence.

A man was sent to carry the box to the home. When opened it was found that its contents were wonderfully well preserved. The papers were somewhat discolored from mildew, and the silver sadly in need of polishing; but the jewelry was received with the liveliest expressions of wonder and admiration, as the imperishable brilliants caught and reflected the sunlight, the lights sparkling and dancing through and around them, as if in delight at being released from their imprisonment. The gems greatly enhanced the bridal trousseau, and together with the massive silver service, were quite a valuable addition to her marriage portion. The next day, was Thanksgiving day also, a gay crowd gathered to celebrate your mother's wedding, and among the filmy folds of her bridal veil and upon her throat and arms, shone gems which had adorned another bride many years before. In the old dining hall, the polished silver flashed, reflecting the lights upon the sideboard mirror and dining room walls and windows, as if conscious of their old-time companionship, restor-

ing an unusual and long lost brilliancy to them.

There was great rejoicing that the mystery of Uncle Ned's death had been entirely revealed, his integrity and faithfulness established beyond a doubt, and that such valuable possessions were restored to our family at so propitious a time. Some of the papers were of great value, being deeds and titles to landed property, some in dispute at this time, and their timely discovery furnished the evidence upon which our rights were established. The morning's jaunt for decorations was a most fortunate event for us, and was more, the occasion for genuine heartfelt thanksgiving and rejoicing."

OUR READING CLUB.

MARY MORRIS.

Our reading club will certainly meet with the hearty approval and co-operation of our household band. I am very much interested in it, and hope to derive much pleasure and benefit from it. We are all improved by reading good books, and it impresses the lessons we glean from their pages to tell or write our thoughts about them, and if we can do this in an entertaining manner others are benefitted also. Let us all strive to do our best in this as in all other things, and that is all that can justly be expected of anyone.

I have not been reading much besides newspapers and magazines for a long time, but am determined to begin some good book soon, so that I, too may have something to tell when the club meets. I never have read a great deal, and yet I have read nearly everything I could "get my hands on," for I dearly love to read, and have from early childhood. Ben Hur, mentioned and approved by Mrs. Nellie is a truly first-class book, a fine book, a book with a mission, surely, and a valuable acquisition to anyone's library. The pen picture of "the chariot race" is vividly painted by a master hand. How very real and thrilling it all seems. Why we can almost hear the rapid breathing of the horses, and the rush and whir of the chariot wheels as they pass swiftly on! The Heart of Mid Lothian and Gulliver's Travels have been mentioned in the Household by some one, whose name I cannot recall, as good books for young people. I cannot refrain from differing. The first a popular novel, I read as I do all carefully, and this is my condensed opinion of it, expressed with all due honor to its gifted author: Considering the subject, it is a fine work, but I dislike the subject in almost every part. I am constrained to wonder why so gifted a novelist as Scott should have utilized such a low and unfortunate occurrence for a foundation upon which to erect a monument to his genius. I do not deny that it contains many solid grains of truth, real little nuggets of pure gold; but I do claim that you must handle too much that is worse than dross before you can find the gold. Robert Burns ennobled humble things by weaving the witcheries of his sweet songs about them, but in this instance, it seems to me Scott almost attempted to gild a sin. True enough, he caused the sinful to suffer and the good to find peace and love amid suffering, too; but still— But I will not attempt to say more. Will someone else who is familiar with the book pass judgment upon it for our mutual benefit? The other, Gulliver's Travels, I denounce as being unfit to deserve a place in a collection of choice books for home reading. I never read it, mark that, but I endured hearing it read aloud, and although I laughed when poor Gulliver fell headlong into the silver bowl of cream on the giant's table, and came near being drowned, I still can say nothing more in favor of it than that it is extremely ridiculous. Will some one point out its morals? I am not jesting, I assure you. I wish to recognize all the good there is anywhere, and there must be a lesson in Gulliver's Travels somewhere, else why would so many intelligent people recommend it as a good book for the young. I have disagreed with some, but I do hope not disagreeably. I do not want to be unpleasant to anyone.

"O wad some power the giftie gie us
To see ourselves as others see us."

Returning to the fictitious works of Scott, I wish to say that in my estimation his Ivanhoe, with which we are all familiar, is one of the masterpieces of English fiction. It is extremely fascinating, dealing as it does with a period so peculiarly interesting in the history of "Merrie Engleand." I think of the lovely Lady Rowena in connection with the sweet delicately tinted blush rose which bends upon its stem, while

Cousins' League.

The Cousins League will hereafter be merged in the Household Department. The cousins should address their letters to Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, care of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

"LIFE ON THE FARM."

There's hardly any calling tried
Which does not hold some charm,
And many persons turn with pride
To life upon the farm.

Some city merchants, broken down,
Would gladly give their wealth,
If they could be like Farmer Brown,
"The picture of good health."

He comes to town with eggs to sell,
Or honey from his bees,
With "How do you do or hope you well?"
And hearty ways like these.

Should any laugh about his hat,
Or "Hayseed in his hair,"
They too may cover much of that
Few people have to spare.

And should you call on Farmer Brown
While driving out in style,
He'll hail you with a "Git right down!"
"Come in and rest awhile."

Where you might find good Mrs. B.
And several little "Br-wahles,"
"Life on the farm, is don't you see?"
Ahead of what the town is.

You wander through the meadows fair,
You view the green grain,
You drink your fill of good, pure air,
Not poisoned from the drain.

You think when you are back in town
About your pleasant call
On steady going farmer Brown
Whose stocks don't rise nor fall.

And if you're making money fast,
And down from street to street,
Such riches may not always last,
Nor are they good to eat.

Sometimes the higher up we climb
The greater is our fall
We find ourselves with but a dime,
And "driven to the wall."

When hunger overtakes a man
He looks "this way and that,"
Sees Farmer Brown far in the van,
While he must eat his hat.
—"FARMER BOY," in Rural Northwest.

Dear Aunt Sallie: This is the first time I ever attempted to write, but hope you will accept me in your League. My father takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and we like it very much. Papa thinks it is a very good paper. The first thing I want to send to the cousins' letters. I have a good many pets—an old cat and a little black and white dog. Papa has a large farm and several heads of Jersey. I go to school at Winsboro, one mile from my home. I have four sisters and three brothers. Two of my sisters are married, and I am the oldest girl mamma has at home. I will be 14 years old next month. Well, I will bring my interesting letter to a close.—SALLIE MITCHELL, Winsboro, Texas.

Welcome, namesake, and thanks for your kind words. I should enjoy having a part of your pets myself. I love kittens and little sisters, and Jersey cows, too. Can you milk or churn?—AUNT SALLIE.

Dear Cousins: As my last letter was in print, I thought I would call again. I will be 14 years old the 11th of August. I have been to two picnics this year, and had a good time. We had a month's subscription school; it closed last Friday, but it was so I could not attend. Crops are looking nice. The Baptists had a good meeting, but the rain broke it up. I went to a singing school this summer. Oh, what a good thing the Cousins' League is. I enjoy reading the letters so much. Well, as my letter is not interesting, I will close. Good-by to all. Success to the League.—BIRTE REASNOYER, Palmer, Texas.

I suppose by this time you have had cotton picking and pecan hunting, and such other pleasures as the fall brings round, and you are now in the school room doing your level best, Bertin, which I hope is first-class.—AUNT SALLIE.

Mr Dick Naylor: As you asked all of the boys under 21 to write to you, I thought I would drop you a few lines. I am 17 years old. My father is a farmer, which I intend to be. The reason is, I have been a farmer all my life, and like it better than anything else. It is such an independent, healthy life. These are my reasons: I know I can make a success of farming, because I love it and aim to stick to it.—ROY NABERS, Comanche, Texas.

Hurrah for you, Roy! I hope you may make what your name indicates—a king among farmers, and a kingly neighbor, too. It is certainly the most independent life to live, and I have al-

ways believed, the happiest and purest. I hope a great many, if not all the League boys, feel as you do, and will remain on the farm.—AUNT SALLIE.

Dear Cousins: I am a little girl, 12 years of age. I have no pets, except four little calves. Papa gave \$125 for a Holstein; he died three days after he bought him. We had a nice rain yesterday. I go to school when it is in season. My teacher is Professor Boyd. My studies are geography, Kellogg's grammar and arithmetic, and large speller, and history. My papa is a physician, living in the country. I don't like to live in the country as well as I like to live in town. My papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and likes it very much. ADELAIDE WRIGHT PAYNE, Park Dale, Texas.

I hope some day you will like the country better, Adelaide, and you may become a famous dairy woman, or breeder of fine cows. Who knows what the care of these three little calves may develop in you? Quite a number of ladies have gone into such business, and are making money. I think it would be a fine business, don't you?—AUNT SALLIE.

Dear Aunt Sallie: I am a little boy, 11 years old. I can pick 250 pounds of cotton in one day. I can chop cotton, I can plow cotton and corn, and I can do most any kind of work. Questions: What is the largest river in the world? Answer—It is the Amazon river.

What were Washington's last words? Which is the highest mountain in the United States?

Which is the smallest state in the Union?—WILLIE WRIGHT, Sterrett, Texas.

Willie Wright, you are a brisk hand on the farm, and you do not seem to neglect your studies, either. By this time cotton picking is ended, and you have time to study more, I hope.—AUNT SALLIE.

Dear Aunt Sallie: Here I come a little boy from McLennan county. This is my first attempt to write to the League, and I will write to-day. It is a beautiful morning; the sun is shedding its bright rays of light all over the beautiful landscape. The birds are singing their sweet song, which makes my heart rejoice. We are situated on a little place. We have a society, say you, little boys and girls. I go to the society. I wish the cousins could be there. My father is a ginmer. I like to work at the gin. I have a pet calf, a pet chicken, and a pet dog. I have a saddle and a horse. So I can go to Sunday school and singing. I go to preaching now and ride my horse and new saddle, and I enjoy myself very much. Now, if I see this in print, I will write again. I wish much joy and happiness to the Cousins' League.—LUTHER E. HARPER, Hillside, Texas.

I am glad you employed your bright morning in writing to the League Luther, to which you are most welcome. You certainly never get lonely with so many nice pets to care for.—AUNT SALLIE.

Dear Aunt Sallie: I have been a reader of this paper for a long time, and have never written but once before, so will try to write a few lines to-day. I think this is such a nice farm paper. Every farmer should take it. I am a member of a very large family. There are ten of us children of which I am the oldest—16 years old. It does not seem like I am that old. I have been a member of the Church of God ever since I was 11. The other two oldest children and mamma and papa are also members. I have been having a nice time this summer, going to school and to preaching. If this is printed, I may write again. Good-bye.—HORTENSE NETTERTVILLE, Knoxville, Miss.

Yours is the halcyon time of life, Hortense; as one of our sweetest singers tells us, you are, "Standing where the brook and river meet," with childhood's memories behind you, and womanhood becoming you forward. May life be bright and happy.—AUNT SALLIE

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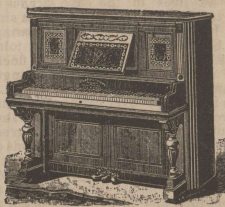
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MY GRANDFATHERS' DAY.

NATT STEVENS.

My friends have asked me how my grandfathers lived and farmed it, and I must say that I never saw either of them, as they both died before I was born. One of them left behind him two brothers who are alive now—one on each side of 100 years old—bale and hearty, and perhaps one of them would answer as well for an illustration of what my friends want to know.

He was born near the banks of the Schuylkill river, not far from the city of Philadelphia, Pa. He married while young. His furniture was made in England, and of mahogany, inlaid with a fine stripe of wood, and is worth more to-day than it was then. The dwelling house is about one and one-half centuries old, and is in good order for so old a building, having eight rooms in it. It is two stories high, with a cellar under the whole house. The cellar is "banked up" in winter to keep it from freezing, and at the commencement of winter it usually contained forty to fifty barrels of choice apple cider and five barrels of cider vinegar ready for use, three hundred bushels of Irish potatoes, three to five barrels of sour kroust, rootabagas, turnips, and parsnips without number; about twenty-five barrels of apples, and fifty cabbages headed and set out in the cellar for future use; also pumpkins and squashes for making pies.

This cellar was only the family's winter storehouse. The big barn was the stock and cattle's storehouse, for their winter supply. That barn is about three times as big as the house, and is a better looking building outside, but the house looks best inside for convenience and comfort. The farm at first was 200 acres; now it is about 120 acres. In addition to the various kinds of products we raised wheat, corn, oats, rye, flax, and two orchards of bearing fruits of different kinds, horses, cattle, sheep and a good garden. The wool was carded, spun, woven into cloth and made up into garments at home. The flax was raised, stalk-rotted, cleaned, separated, spun, woven and made into garments or other useful articles at home. The women raised hops and made beer for the household to drink when wanted, and with the hops they made their own wine, so that they were not dependent on the market for their own bread in the winter.

The corn was husked and hauled to the mill, and then out on the floor at the mill, and the family, or it made a neighborhood husking frolic for the boys and girls to congregate and enjoy a supper at its close of merry-making and recreation.

Now while the old folks' preparations were going on, the boys had theirs also for the winter evenings, which was the nut supply. The hazelnut, butternut, and hickorynut were the ones to be depended upon, and these the boys guarded with a covetous eye. Long shall I recollect one intruder—a gray squirrel—who was on my favorite tree. Taking my great uncle's flintlock musket, I sat down and took a bead on him and fired. His own weight brought him down, while the gun kicked me sprawling about a rod away, with a bruised head and a dislocated shoulder blade. But to my story: A day was taken to pick and sort away in the loft of the shed a wagon load of butternuts, and as many hickorynuts as they could find, hazelnuts, too, for the winter storehouse. Now for the truly enjoyable part of it all, which occurred in the long winter nights, after chatting or working, as we frequently did for two hours or more. The boy was sent down into the cellar for a mug of fine cider and a dish of apples. Another was sent for a dish of nuts and told to bring the hammers along. Then all hands would lay aside their work and follow out the scriptural injunction to "eat, drink and be merry." Thus we passed the long winter evenings with both profit and pleasure to all the household. Once a week the girls would hold a sewing circle, the old folks furnishing the goods and the girls making it up. No sewing machines then as now. In the afternoon we took supper at some neighbor's, and the boys collected afterwards and escorted the girls home. The work they did was strictly for charity, and given to the poor. These old people—four of them—have a mug of cider on their table for dinner, and all drink of it while they please. It is the pure juice of the apple, too. They also have their whiskey

toddy three times a day regularly when they can get it, and yet they are strictly temperate in the use of all alcoholic drinks, and drunkenness is not tolerated by them for a moment. Yet whiskey is kept, and is free to any one of the household, or in their employ.

This, my friends, is a lesson worthy of deep study, and worthy of emulation; for the planter should raise for himself everything that he consumes, and as many more as he can, that he does not consume, to sell; and quit buying anything that he can do without.

Forney, Texas.

IRRIGATION ESTIMATES.

The writer solicits correspondence with parties who desire to investigate irrigation. Will furnish estimates on power and pumps for irrigating large or small tracts of land. Correspondence promptly answered. Will send catalog of machinery recommended. Address W. S. MARSHALL, P. O. Box 85, Ft. Worth, Texas.

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The Improved Victor is the only absolutely self regulating incubator in the market—is the strongest, most neatly constructed, most easily operated and most durable.

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The Improved Victor Incubator and Brooder is the cheapest first-class hatching and raising outfit ever made, and can be bought with rivals in the dis-

old established and reliable. It can be purchased at once for catalogue, which can be purchased at all points in Texas without charge from St. Louis, Hannibal and Kansas City. The only through sleeping cars from Texas to Chicago without change.—THOS. G. HAMMOND, City Ticket Agent, Dallas, Texas.

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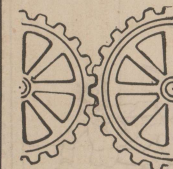
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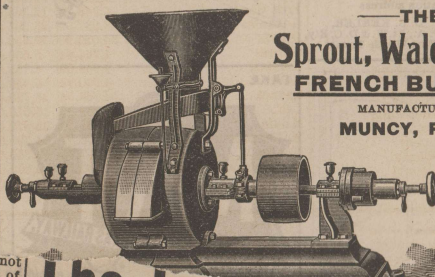
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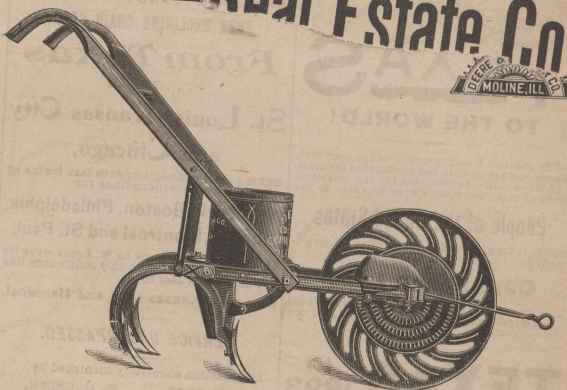
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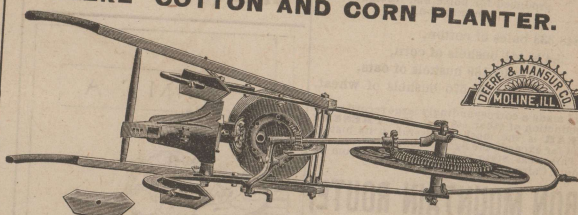


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—DEALERS—See our Stall Outer ad. in last issue.

Farm Machinery.

WHERE ADVERTISING PAYS.

DICK MATLOR.
Two dealers, who in conclusive met
For mutual advising
Discussed the means by which to get
The most from advertising.
Said Mr. Close: "My idea is
To spend but little money
In advertising, for it is
Sometimes to me quite funny,



THIS IS MR. CLOSE.

"How some men waste their hard-earned
cash
To see their names noted—
I wouldn't give a 3-4 cent dash
To be like them paraded.

"'Tis true they sell a lot o' stuff,
These advertising fellows;
But then they pay out cash enough
To set up Col. Sellers.

"I have a lot of hand-bills struck
To hand out to the grangers;
Then for the rest I trust to luck
To steer me clear of dangers.

"And yet, I really cannot say
That I have gained a dollar;
From money I have spent this way
No business seems to follow.

"In confidence (to tell the truth)
My trade is getting lighter;
While your prospects, my friend, for-
sooth,
Are daily growing brighter."

Then Mr. Practical arose
"The rising—
out
Are cast aside—discarded—
But you need never have a d—
MY AD'S ARE WFF
THEY ARE WELL RECORDED.

"They often pay a hundred fold—
(I know whereof I'm speaking,
For many carloads they have sold,
And trade they're ALWAYS SEEKING.

"To thousands happy rural homes
MY AD'S, each week are going;
No hand bill that the country roams,
The seeds of traffic sowing.

"Then, if your money you would cast
Like bread upon the waters,
That will return with profits vast
From many distant quarters,

"GO ADVERTISE AT ONCE, my friend
As scores of business sages
Have done, and will do to the end,
IN FARM AND RANCH'S PAGES!

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE.

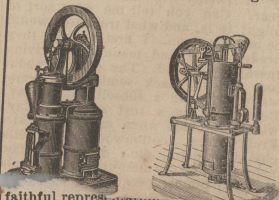
Twenty-eight years ago the writer
ran an Ericsson Hot Air Engine. There
were some admirable features embraced
in the modus operandi that commended
it to those wanting moderate power at a
moderate cost, and freedom from dan-
ger by explosions. It was a crude piece
of mechanism, but served the purpose
of running three or four printing presses,
and served it reasonably well. But this
was merely the pericarp containing the
germ of a far more perfect machine
founded on the same general principle,
and possessing the same advantages of
economy and safety, with added effi-
ciency especially directed to the work of
pumping on the farm for every possible
purpose.

The first essential article is usually at
hand—a good well, spring or pond.
The second necessity is an improved
De Lamater Rider or Improved De Lama-
ter Ericsson Hot-Air Pumping Engine.
With one of these engines a farmer can
water his stock, sprinkle his lawn, irri-
gate his crops, have running water in
every part of his house as well as his
barn, and, to crown all, save his home
from destruction by fire when threat-
ened. The saving of time and labor by
having running water wherever needed,
in the stable or the house, on the lawn
or in the garden, is very great; while
the luxury of the conveniences thus se-
cured can be obtained at comparatively
small cost.

There are means of water supply other

than this, but the wind mill is unrelia-
ble, because of its dependence upon the
elements for its power; hydraulic rams
also depend upon favorable conditions,
and waste as much water as they secure.
Steam pumps require skilled operators,
and hand pumps take up valuable time
with an expenditure of much manual
labor. The De Lamater Rider and De-
Lamater Ericsson Hot-Air Pumping En-
gines are specially designed for pump-
ing water. With the improvements the
present engines of both types
are the fruit and result of an expe-
rience and experiments extending over
forty years of the most widely and
favorably known industrial establish-
ment in the world, the De Lamater Iron
Works of New York. Their untiring
energy and ingenuity has completely
solved the question of domestic water
supply, especially as applied to the oc-
cupants of farms. These engines will
pump water from shallow streams or the
deepest wells, either dug, driven, or ar-
tesian. No labor is required, and no
time lost. They are extremely simple,
and can be operated by ordinary farm
help; are absolutely safe, require no
steam, have no valves, and are practi-
cally noiseless. They do not affect in-
surance. Fuel is an important consid-
eration, and a prominent feature of
these engines is the fact that they re-
quire but little heat to operate them,
and almost any kind of fuel will furnish
the necessary amount of heat to drive
them to their utmost capacity. Thus
they can be arranged to use the most
convenient fuel that is to be found in
any part of the civilized world. Nearly
all farmers would of course, find wood
the most convenient fuel, and these en-
gines run equally well with it. Wood
has the advantage of coal of being
easier to light, and heats up the engine
quicker.

The accompanying illustrations give a



faithful representation of the De Lama-
ter Rider and De Lamater Ericsson En-
gines, and, for more elaborate views of
each under varying conditions, and
photographs of the different parts, with
full explanations and descriptions, we refer
our readers to catalogues, which may
be obtained by writing to the manufac-
turers, the De Lamater Iron Works, 21
Corlies street, New York, N. Y.
The fame of this firm is world wide,
and whatever emanates from it has
something more than general excellence
to recommend it. They guarantee to
the purchaser of either of these pump-
ing engines, that it will be as repre-
sented; and will ship them to respon-
sible parties subject to approval.

PUT IT UNDER THE PLOW.

A correspondent, calling our attention
to the following incident, explains that
in Kentucky in the late election the of-
ficial ballot contained at the head of
each ticket an emblem to designate the
party. Thus the Democratic ticket had
a rooster at the top, the Republican
an eagle, the Labor party a plow, the
Prohibitionist a horse-shoe, etc. Ten
years ago Mr. Avery, the President of
B. F. Avery & Sons Plow Works, Louis-
ville, was a candidate for mayor. With
this explanation the following incident
will be appreciated.

He was a remarkable looking old
negro, and he had one of those kind
faces, which we sometimes see on the
old slave time type of negroes, which
is passing away so fast. He had a kind
and faithful heart, too, if we may judge
from what he was saying to another
negro as the Town Talker passed them
on the street yesterday. They were
talking about the election, and the old
man said: "Yas, sah, I voted fur Mis-
tah Avery agin, just lak I allus done
since he run for mayor eight years ago.
I just put de mark right under de plow,
where it ud count fur Mr Avery."

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sible farmers who buy the Hancock Ro-
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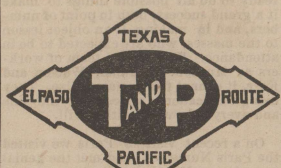
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can take a bright young person through his orchard, show the pupil all the various habits of growth peculiar to species and varieties and illustrate good practice with the reasons for it, ocularily demonstrable to the pupil. It would take a long, long time to teach these things in print. It could not, indeed be well done except by liberal illustration.

"You are cutting that tree all to pieces," is an anxious expression I have heard when I have been solicited to prune a little for a neighbor. "Well," I have to say, "if you had taken off two limbs a year, I should not now have to take off ten limbs at the end of five years of neglect." Nevertheless, such necessary pruning is a sort of butchery that is only less injurious to the tree than to leave it alone. These many large wounds and the removal of so much wood at once are very harmful, and should not be made necessary by careless negligence.

The habits of growth in different trees necessitate a varied practice in pruning. Some varieties call for very little attention in this way, compared with others. There is a variety of apple called the Naked Limbed Greening, which illustrates this peculiarity. Other varieties are voluntarily given to putting out branches from every square inch of stem. These are they which must have prompt and frequent attention, and pruning in their case can be anticipated by persistent disbudbing.

"How many limbs should I start with?" is a question often asked. Here, as elsewhere, we must take counsel with the tree itself. Three main limbs are better than more, as a rule; but five or seven are sometimes allowable. They should not start in a cluster, for then they are very sure to break down at the points of junction. From eight inches to a foot between the points of origin should be allowed. Secondary branches—branches from branches—must be managed on the same principle. If this is faithfully done, the heads may appear painfully thin and open during the youth of the trees, but they will be found quite thick enough as they get larger.

Some trees, by their habits of growth, need occasional shortening in, but other varieties must have elongation encouraged, in order to secure sufficient openness to air and sunlight. Allowing too many fruit spurs to form, is frequently the cause of "stopping" in the growth of an excessive crop of fruit, usually too small, imperfect and ill-colored for profit. During the early part of the growing season the careful owner of a young orchard will try to see every tree as often as once in a week. This will avoid all severe cutting which is often followed by an arrest of growth, caused by the loss to the tree of any considerable quantity of foliage at that season.

When sufficient timely care is given to the formation of the heads of the trees of a young orchard, there will be few wounds made that will not heal the first season. All others should be protected from fungous attacks, and consequently decay, by coating the wounds thoroughly with a thick oil paint. I prefer an ochre paint, yellow or red, just as it comes ground in cans for use. A stiff brush is needed for applying the paint; and a thorough coating, extended out upon the surrounding bark, is desirable. It does not look very pretty at the time, but its usefulness will excuse its aesthetic delinquency; and it wears off in a year or two. Very little is needed where the pruning is not neglected for several seasons.

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Two pints make one drunk.
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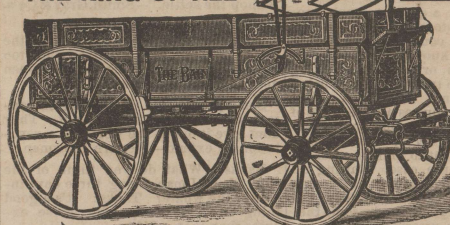
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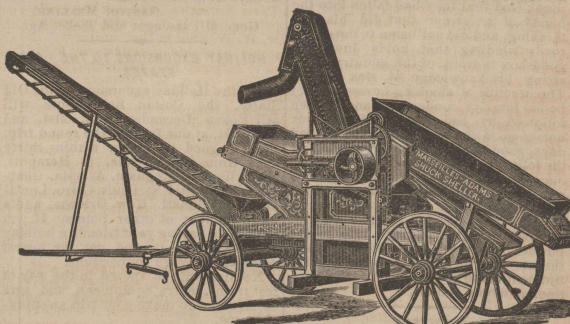
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