

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH

Vol. XII.--No. 4

DALLAS, TEXAS, JANUARY 28, 1893.

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LADY MYSIE 6th, Imported Yearling Short-Horn Heifer, Property of Charles B. Dustin, Summer Hill, Illinois.

ALFALFA.

J. D. GARLAND.

I answer to inquiry as to alfalfa, I have had some experience dating back for seven years. We have sixty or seventy acres in red clover alfalfa, and other grasses. We always break land well as easily as possible in January, if we can; sow the seeds in February in this latitude, if land will admit; sow one bushel to four acres if land is foul, if not, one to five acres is plenty. Harrow in well so as to leave

land in good fix for mower. Broadcast, without anything else on the land. I never have made a failure when I sowed on land where I could run mower. It makes no difference about land being poisoned with seed of vegetation if you keep mower going when necessary. It will come if you give it a chance, save on heavy stiff lands. No use sowing where cotton dies. Can pasture it first year from July on if land is not too wet. Makes the finest hay of any forage plant we ever tried, but the hay is hard to cure,

and not get it sunburned. I have often got four crops in one year. Three years ago I mowed during Christmas holidays. The last freeze has killed it down now. Finest thing for colts while weaning I ever tried. Hogs, with a little corn, do well on it. I would not be without it for anything. Stock love it about as well as red clover and can graze it much closer. Dont sow where you can't run a mower unless land is perfectly clean from seeds or vegetation. Dont be afraid to invest a few dollars in clovers. I have paid fifty

dollars each season for the last three, for seeds, and nothing has paid me better. I sowed thirty-five acres last February in woodland just chopped off, but weeds and grass got away with it. It will come again in the spring. Mine is heavy, stiff land, and very flat. Crayfish bother considerably in wet seasons. Clovers and stock are what we need. It would make you laugh to see a couple of beef steers that have been fattened on our alfalfa.

Annona, Texas.

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A FARMERS INSTITUTE will be held at Belton, Texas, on Friday and Saturday, February 24 and 25. Remember the date and be on hand prepared to learn and be learned.

THE Legislature should rather simplify the laws we have than make new ones to be simplified hereafter. How are officers to enforce what neither they nor the courts can understand?

THE milking cut on page 2 was kindly furnished us by the Chicago Dairy World. Unintentionally credit was omitted in the proper place, therefore we make this editorial acknowledgment.

MODERN inventions are rapidly taking the romance out of war. We now have a ship which proposes to hurl a ton or two of dynamite upon an enemy's vessel at once, and instantly destroy the ship and all on board.

SOME of the practices of our universities are well calculated to disgust the people with the tendencies of modern higher education. The supreme importance attached to brutal sports and the entire list of "college yells" are cases in point.

E. B. PARKER, for several years Assistant to the First Vice-President, and later as Assistant General Passenger Agent of the M. K. & T. railway, will enter upon the general practice of the law at Houston on February 1st. He will also represent the M. K. & T. in Southern Texas.

THE solicitude of our Legislature for the happiness of the saloon keeper is pathetic. There is now before that body a bill to relieve retail liquor sellers from the operation of the present law against selling liquor to minors, by inserting the word "knowingly" before the description of the offense. To pass this bill would outrage the moral sense of the people and disgrace the State.

A LAW to make hog stealing a felony without regard to value, is a move in the wrong direction. A large number of felons should be made misdemeanors, to relieve the courts of work, the people of taxes, and put several hundred offenders to work on the roads instead of our sugar and cotton farms under contract. We

give the legislature warning, that if they continue to pass laws calculated to burden unnecessarily the State's prisons, the time may come when, under the majority rule, the assembled wisdom and the assembled criminality of the State may be required to change places.

BLIND STAGGERS is prevailing in many portions of the State and the papers are teeming with the most absurd recommendations for treatment, almost without exception injurious. When the services of a veterinarian cannot be procured, give the horse a dose of purgative medicine, and a thorough change of food. And if the horse dies, you have the consolation of knowing that you did not kill him with any foolishness.

JUDGE L. Q. C. LAMAR, Secretary of the Interior under President Cleveland, and afterwards appointed to a position on the supreme bench, died suddenly at Macon, Georgia, on Monday last. Judge Lamar had been sick for some weeks, but was considered about well, and was in good spirits up to the hour of his death. He died of heart disease, and thus is another illustrious name added to the necrology of a comparatively recent date.

FOR the benefit of persons desiring to have themselves interviewed on a subject they know nothing about, we will say that there has not been any bill before the State Legislature providing for a "branch" of the Texas A. & M. College in North Texas. When a man undertakes to enlighten the people on a subject he does not comprehend, and then starts from a false assumption, the result is confusion worse confounded, nonsense too lamentable to be laughed at.

THE people of the State have been clamoring for a law by which the labor of short term State convicts could be utilized in road improvement. Now there is a bill before the Legislature, with a good prospect of final passage, to appropriate \$300,000 of the permanent school fund for the purchase and equipment of farms whereon to work the convicts. If the bill should pass and the law not result in some favorite getting three or four times the market value for his unsalable real estate, it would show an utter disregard for precedents.

IT is strange that any man carrying an ounce of brains will use such as this as an argument against an A. & M. College in North Texas: "If we should have a branch of the Agricultural and Mechanical college in North Texas, why not have a branch in every section of the State, until colleges get thicker than our courts of law?" This, as an argument, would reflect no credit on a fatuous naturalist, for it will apply to the present A. & M. College, as well as to any other, and if acted upon would prohibit the establishment of anything. The author of this argument should apply for an appropriation of brains.

AT this writing it seems that the North Texas A. & M. College bill has been defeated in the State Senate. If the people ever get such an institution, those who favor it will have to work for it more effectually than they have ever done. Too much confidence in the justice of their cause has led the people of North Texas to believe that defeat of the measure was out of the question. They had reason and justice on their side, but they did not realize that these factors do not count with modern legislatures. However, the matter is merely postponed. An institution so urgently needed, and the want so plainly supported by cogent reason, will come. When the people see what is necessary to be done in the premises, they will do it. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH opened the campaign. It will also continue it, and be on hand at the ultimate triumph. When TEXAS FARM AND RANCH knows it is right it will go ahead.

TWO WAYS OF USING PUBLIC MONEY.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH would be glad to see Texas well represented at the World's Fair, and as such an exhibition would redound chiefly to the financial benefit of real estate dealers, general speculators and railroad corporations, we are of opinion that they should foot the bill. We are not discussing the constitutional question involved, but the one of justice to the masses, and we do not believe the people ought to be taxed for an enterprise which would not benefit, to the amount of one cent, one in one hundred of them, more especially as the money required is capable of conferring lasting benefits, which they really need, and for which they have been clamoring for years. A large majority of the people are engaged, directly or indirectly, in agriculture and stock raising, which, combined, constitute the basis of the prosperity and wealth of the State, while manufacturing is being rapidly developed. To promote these paramount interests of the State ought to be the chief concern of our legislators, and in doing this they ought not to be actuated by a financial policy which would save at the spigot while the head of the barrel is knocked in and the contents scattered abroad.

A bill has already been presented to appropriate \$200,000 for an exhibit at Chicago to be expended chiefly for the benefit of real estate speculators.

THERE is also a bill before the Legislature to appropriate \$100,000 to build and equip an A. & M. College for North Texas. Can there be any question as to which is best calculated to benefit the people? Money invested in such a college would produce a moral and material revenue that would induce more and better immigration than a million spent at the World's Fair. It would be money invested at a perpetually compounding interest, that would be a blessing to the State, now and hereafter, to an indefinite future. The people have not asked for an appropriation of public money to World's Fair purposes. More than half the people of the State have spoken, through the public prints and otherwise, in favor of industrial education for the children of Texas. This State, which should not be behind the foremost in educational matters, is really behind most of them, not on account of any unprogressive spirit among the people, but because our law makers do not seem to see the signs of the times. As an immigration scheme, a well equipped A. & M. College, training the young men of North Texas, as those of South Texas are being trained at the existing A. & M. College, for spheres of usefulness, which will enable agricultural and mechanical industries to thrive under intelligent and skillful management, would redound more to the true interests of the State than a perpetual show at Chicago, and every other great city of the Union. If the Legislature should appropriate \$200,000 now at Chicago and deny to the people of more than half the State the educational facilities they ask, we will afterwards see what the people will do about it.

REPRESENTATIVE STRANGE has introduced a bill to prevent Johnson grass from growing. Salt, kerosene and various manipulations have been recommended for this purpose, and it is stranger than the Representative from Bell that this thing of legislating Johnson grass out of existence was not thought of before.

THE re-election of Rodger Q. Mills to the Senate last Tuesday was devoid of sensational features. A few lurid commendations of the Texas favorite and election on first ballot was all there was about it. The alarming hints of secret opposition to Mr. Mills by friends of Governor Hogg had no other effect than to discredit their authors. The vote stood: Mills, 143; Nugent, 9; Cune, 1.

THIS comes from Greenville. We find it in the Dallas Morning News, but cannot vouch for its strict accuracy. The cotton in question might be shorter in fiber and a fraction coarser and then surpass anything this writer ever saw:

GREENVILLE, Tex., Jan. 14.—B. F. Gassaway, a farmer living in the western portion of this county, brought some cotton to town to-day that was raised on his farm. The staple measures a little over four inches in length and is the finest ever seen in this market. The cotton is a product that has been cultivated and improved by this gentleman from ordinary seed.

THE Senator from Dallas county has introduced a joint resolution to submit an amendment to the constitution exempting manufacturers from taxation for ten years. If the people get a whack at such an amendment and fail to cover it under a 200,000 majority, then they deserve to have just such an iniquitous piece of class legislation hanging over them for a decade. The people don't want anything of this sort. Their sentiment of justice demands that all men be required to pay a fair share of Taxes. Such a measure as this would be to tax the people of the State to the amount of about \$6,000,000, and pay the money to manufacturing corporations, and this amount would rapidly increase and continue to increase year after year. Texas wants no manufactories that cannot sustain themselves without a tax on the people.

THOSE who would override the constitution for the purpose of getting hold of a large sum of the peoples' money for World's Fair purposes, for tergiversity can beat the snake in Hudibras. Judge George McCormick, of Columbus, contends, in a recent letter to Mrs. Tobin, that when the Constitutional Convention adopted the clause prohibiting the Legislature from appropriating money for any purpose of bringing immigration into the State, really meant something else, to-wit: "To prevent the establishment of a more than worthless bureau," and spending the peoples' money for the purpose of bringing to the State the unworthy and penniless. We are sure that we do not misrepresent Judge McCormick's views, and it may be our dullness that prevents us from seeing anything better than an exceedingly strained plea for the \$200,000 involved.

SENATOR J. C. BALDWIN, of Haskell county, has capped the climax, or words to that effect. He has introduced a bill to provide for live stock sanitary inspection by a commissioner "to be composed of a stock raiser of the State," whose duty it shall be, whenever there exists in any part of the State any contagious or infectious disease among domestic animals to inspect, condemn, quarantine, etc. We obtain this from the special correspondence of the Houston Post, and presume that some wag is getting up a joke on the Senator, and we confidently look for an indignant disclaimer. In case such a bill has really been presented and should actually pass and become a law, we suggest, as a suitable person for the office of inspector, the author of the following cure for blind staggers which we clip from the Dallas News:

"Bleed freely in the neck. Sweet oil, one large spoonful in each ear. Inject the nostrils well with chloroform. If not relieved in an hour give one-half pint of linseed oil or one tablespoonful of croton oil. Bathe the head, back and loins with coal oil and turpentine, mixed for one hour. If not relieved from time physick was given, split the forehead just below the eyes to the bone and fill the space with capsicum, turpentine and coal oil mixed. A small portion of opium and two spoonfuls of organum may be used in each ear."

It is said that there is but one step from the sublime to the ridiculous. Anything as ridiculous as this is 1,000,000,000 etc., miles from the sublime.

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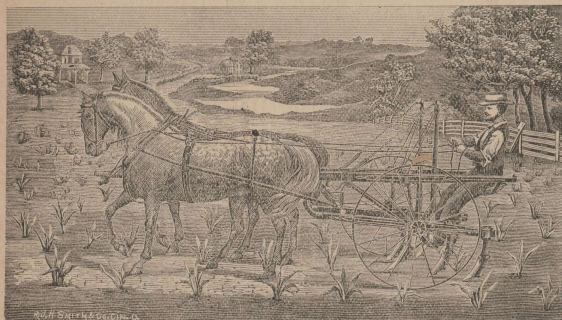
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* Suction outfit, using it until September, 1891, when having seen the Murray System, I decided to lock up the ginnery I was then running and build one having the Murray outfit complete. Of course this left a complete outfit idle, but since putting up the Murray System I am convinced that it will pay any one running any other outfit to turn the key in the door and build another using the Murray System. I have ginned since September 15, '91, on two 210-saw Murray gins, 2121 bales, some days ginning 61 bales. Have investigated all machinery and improvements for ginning and packing cotton, and am convinced that any ginner using other machinery can make more money by giving it away and putting it in the Murray System than he can by continuing to run the other.

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**THE DEMOCRAT PUBLISHING CO.,
 Fort Worth, Texas.**

Orchard and Garden.

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

EDITORIAL SHORT STOPS.

If there are any missing trees in your young orchard now is the time to replace them. Don't wait till spring.

One word more while we think of it: Have you renewed your subscription for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH? and won't you ask your neighbor to go in with you and make a club of two. Remember we want to double our subscription by March 31st. We can't do it unless you help.

To the farmer: Don't make the good wife plant the garden. Take a day, plow, harrow and prepare the beds yourself, open the seed furrows and let her drop the seed if she will, but you do all the rest. We venture to predict that there will be something extra for dinner that day. Try it.

When you come home from a hard day's work and meet the good woman with a clean, white apron and pretty collar on, it's a dare. Go wash your face and comb your hair, then take her pretty cheeks between your hands, squeeze them till her lips part, then kiss her. This recipe is good for the cumps.

Get all garden tools and implements in good shape, so when work time arrives no time will be lost. If you have no sprayer and expect to get perfect fruit you may be disappointed. Insects are sure to be on hand, and with rot and mildew all together will leave you but a small part. Why not prepare to overcome these enemies?

A new way to prune trees: Turn in the horses to pasture in the orchard; they will trim off the limbs within their reach, and if the trees are young will bring them back to a single stem or possibly less. This plan, if followed assiduously, will relieve the owner of the orchard of any bother in gathering fruit. Do you know anybody who prunes that way?

Look out for the sharp-toothed rabbit in your young orchard. The wintry weather makes him hungry, and unless you watch he will ruin many trees before you know it. Rub blood on the trees near the ground, or cut some limbs which you desire to remove and drop them. He will trim them up, and may leave trees unharmed. Keep your eye on him till spring lest he steals a march on you.

We take it back. In the issue of Jan. 14, we stated that a local nurseryman gathered 45 berries of the New Mayes blackberry that filled a quart measure. We felt like we were stretching the blanket a little at the time and since our conscience hurts us, we make haste to correct. We should have said 45 instead of 47. The facts are strong enough. We stand pat on 65, and Mr. J. W. Austin is prepared to show down if anybody is disposed to call our hand.

IN THE GARDEN.

February is the great planting month in the South. If you have not yet done so, plant English peas and onion sets, radish, lettuce, mustard and turnip seed. The present season onion sets are so high that it will be well to sow the seed and when the young plants reach the size of a rye straw they may be readily transplanted. This may be done as easily as putting out the sets. Streak a line on a well prepared bed and put the plants out about four inches apart in the drill and let the rows be fifteen inches apart. The advantage of this plan is the immense saving in cost of planting, and the fact that by sowing reliable seed you will have much better onions than can be grown from sets. The fact is, that the great bulk of onion sets sold do not produce choice, smooth onions. One pound of good seed, costing \$1.50 to \$2, will plant more ground than two bushels of sets, costing \$12 or \$14 the present season. This method should be tested by every farmer who has a garden, and February is the time to plant, because onion seed sprout at a lower temperature than most green seeds, and so planting now the most serious difficulty with growing onions from seed is avoided. Those who have tried cultivating onions from seed sown late, know how much trouble the weeds and grass gave while the onion seedlings were small.

RADISHES

To succeed with radishes the ground should be well prepared, soil friable and fertile. To be good, radishes must be of quick growth. A close, cold, poorly drained soil, no matter how rich, will not produce a good radish. The small, round turnip radish is the earliest. There are

dozens of varieties of these—white, red, scarlet, white tipped. Every seedman must have a few new varieties each season; 30 to 60 minutes difference in time of reaching edible size is sufficient excuse for a new name and flaming description of its merits and a fancy price for the seed. Our advice is to plant the Early Scarlet turnip, the French Breakfast, Market Gardeners Early, Long Scarlet or White Lady Finger. These are old sorts, but will give excellent results.

If you should decide to plant seed to grow onions instead of paying a fancy price for sets, that produce many scallions and only a few good, salable onions, we would advise the planting of the following: Giant, Red Rocas, Landreth's Extra Early Red, Burpee's Silver King or Landreth's Golden Ball. No vegetable grown requires greater care in the selection of seed than the onion. Poor seed is the poorest investment a gardener ever made. Get the best, and don't grumble at the price, and above all things avoid cheap commission seed that are to be found in every country store that will give them room.

AN A. & M. COLLEGE.

Several bills have been introduced in the Legislature proposing the establishment of an A. & M. College for North Texas.

Do the farmers and fruit growers want such an institution? If so, a little prompt action will secure it. The gentlemen whom we have sent to make our laws see the justice of our demand for greater facilities for industrial education and if we will let them know we favor the establishment somewhere in North Texas, of a college affording our farmer boys a chance to obtain a thorough knowledge of the arts of agriculture, horticulture and stock raising, or training in the mechanical arts, if you please, they will grant us the demand.

If those who are friendly to this move will write a personal letter to their Senator and representative, requesting their co-operation and support of the measure, we fully believe that action will be taken by the present Legislature, and the bill passed to organize the college.

FROZEN SAP VS. SUN SCALD.

WM. A. YATES.

Under the above heading there appeared several weeks ago in the horticultural columns of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, an article from C. H. Hart, of Gilmer, giving his experience as gained by ten years of close observation in the line of horticulture.

With due respect to Mr. Hart and his opinion on matters horticultural, it would seem that he has not yet graduated from the kindergarten of horticulture, or he would certainly be able to discriminate between the effects of sun scald and frozen sap. Mr. Hart's logic appears to be in the same stage of development as his horticulture, for when in one line of his letter he flatly denies the accepted theory of sun scald, in the next he admits it to be doubtful, plainly showing that he has not yet succeeded in convincing himself that his ideas are right.

Again Mr. Hart says that trees that are never frozen are also never affected with sun scald. I will state for his benefit that I have seen hundreds of trees scalded by the sun that were never subjected to any freezing whatever. I have also seen the bark split open by frost on numbers of trees whose bodies were completely shaded from the sun's rays, so that Mr. Hart's horticultural theories, like a "will o' the wisp," but lead one into the ditch.

With such a difference existing between the effects of sun scald and frozen sap, it seems strange that they should be confounded, yet such seems to be the case, but as sun scald has been discussed before in these columns, and fully explained on scientific principles, by Mr. Lackey, of Mesquite, we will confine ourselves to a glance at the cause and effects of frozen sap.

The climate of Texas is subject to just such changes of weather as causes the most injury to fruit trees by the sudden freezing of circulating sap. Freezing weather will rarely split open the bark on deciduous trees when dormant (provided they are trees hardy in the latitude where grown); but here we frequently have a warm spell of weather in January or February that starts the sap into rapid circulation and sometimes fruit trees are so far advanced as to be in leaf, when down comes a norther, sending the thermometer to perhaps ten or fifteen degrees below freezing point. The result is frozen sap, and of course a complete check to the portion exposed to the cold. This does not apply to old trees whose limbs are protected by thick and tough bark capable of resisting a considerable degree of frost.

Now frozen sap, like frozen water, expands, and presses out the bark of the tree to its utmost tension, so that but little more pressure is needed to cause it to split,

and this extra pressure is soon furnished by the unfrozen sap ascending from the roots, which, being in a state of great activity, and not so suddenly affected by the cold as the part of the tree above ground, continues for some time to push up sap with great force. Thus we notice that in the case of young trees, with comparatively tender bark the split is generally near the ground, where the force of the ascending sap is soonest felt. In older trees with tougher and thicker bark, the split is higher up where the bark is more tender. It is probable that more trees are split on the southwest side than any other. As the bark, owing to previous exposure to the sun is generally thinner on that side, and so more easily gives way to the pent up force within, though I may add that I have frequently seen the bark split open on the north and east sides as well.

Young trees are often killed to the ground, and older trees scarred and disfigured by wounds as the result of such freezing. There is, however, but little resemblance in these results to the effects of genuine sun scald, and while it is true that thousands of trees are killed or injured by frozen sap, it is a dispensation of Providence hard to guard against, while in the case of sun scald, trees may be protected from the hot sun by inclining to the southwest when planting, or if too late for that, by shading on the side exposed with material suitable for that purpose.

Brenham, Texas.

HEDGES—MULCH FOR STRAWBERRY BEDS.

JNO. B. LEBEREN.

Have any of the readers of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH ever tried Citrus Trifoliata as a hedge plant? The writer has had some young trees of it growing in his orchard since 1887. I would say in this part of Texas (central) it is of very slow growth. So far, mine have never bloomed. Five year old plants are from two to five feet high. In mild winters they are evergreen, but drop their leaves in cold weather. It is hardy with me; has stood where peach trees would kill. It is attractive as an ornamental hedge, and would be more so, I suppose when in bloom, but in this age and time who wants hedges? Woven galvanized wire with climbing plants would make as pretty and a better and quicker fence.

Now is the time to scatter long-straw mature on the strawberry patch. Wheat or oat straw may be used when convenient. I wish to say that there is always more or less grain left in the heads, and in our mild climate will grow through the winter, and by spring make a very nice pasture of the strawberry patch. Fruit growers up North never use rye or wheat, but oat straw, because oats there will not live through the winter. In this climate, coarse grass, hay, corn, fodder or sorghum cut when in bloom would answer the purpose better.

Beauclair, Texas.

A VALUABLE APPLE.

GEORGE BROTHERS.

There is one variety of apples that does well in Southeast Missouri that we hear but little mention of by the authorities in naming over the desirable market sorts. We refer to the "Maiden's Blush." It is certainly a leader with us and one of the most profitable apples to ship into the St. Louis market.

Of our present bearing apple trees, we have Early Harvest, Red June, Red Astrakan, Strawberry, Maiden's Blush and Rambo. They ripen in the order named. The Harvest, June and Astrakan are always shipped and sold in third-bushel boxes. They bring from 85 to 90 cents a box. The Red Astrakan, which is a good showy "stand" apple, nearly always selling for \$1.50 a bushel in the one-third boxes. The Maiden's Blush ripens with us between the 25th of July and the 15th of August. Some on the first are shipped in the one-third boxes, but usually by the time they are ready for market the commission men are calling for barreled fruit, saying, "boxes not wanted," hence our Maiden's Blush are mostly shipped in barrels. The early July shipments always bring us good prices. Last year we got \$3.60 a barrel for our first shipment of the Maiden's Blush apples to St. Louis. Our later shipments averaged \$3 a barrel. The lowest price we ever got for this noble variety of apples was \$1.75 a barrel for a few inferior apples that we had culled out in putting up some fancy stock that sold for \$3.25 a barrel. With us the Maiden's Blush ripens just in the "nick of time"—after the summer apples are about gone and before the autumn apples generally are ready for market. Having the right apple in the right place is pretty strongly illustrated by the fact that while our Maiden's Blush apples bring us top prices, and are highly profitable, we have never yet shipped a single Rambo to St. Louis, because they come on at a time when the market is so overstocked

there is no money to speak of in shipping them, and with us the Rambo is not a very good keeper and it is the worst dropper on the list. We intend, however, to spray our Rambo trees this year and see if we cannot improve the quality of their fruit.

In the Maiden's Blush, however, we recognize a good thing for our locality, and when our young Maiden's Blush trees get to bearing, we hope to be able to "swing around the horn" a little and get acquainted somewhat with Texas and her good people.

St. Marys, Mo.

THE LOVE APPLE OR TOMATO.

NATT STEVENS.

The love apple is classed both as a fruit and also as a veg. table. It came to us first from Europe, and for a long time it was kicked and cuffed about and considered as a poisonous fruit, which is not so, but the plant and leaf is poisonous, and it belongs to the poisonous family of plants. In its primitive state its fruit was scarcely fit to eat on account of its being so full of seeds. That was why it had to be cooked to be made eatable, as it was stringy and mushy among its seeds, and literally full of them. At first the fruit was less than two inches in diameter and of a highly red color, and it was at first only used as a parlor ornament. Such was the case until 1837, when my mother and I raised, cooked and carried the first into the Philadelphia market and sold it as a marketable and eatable product from our garden. This was the first effort in that region to introduce it. Then only one variety was known; now there are a great many kinds in use. From a two-foot, bushy plant it has grown to a tree form and lives to be several years old in a frostless climate, and to-day the fruit has almost entirely changed both in size, texture, and the quantity of seed in them, and it is expected that the fruit will yet be raised without seeds. Continued cultivation, the mixing of pollen of varieties and species, all tend to that end, while, at the same time, it will tend to make the fruit larger, more tender and more eatable, and the plant more feeble and subject to early decay; this latter is so now, except the tree kind, and that is comparatively a new species, for in its primitive state the plant did not require to be staked or brushed to support it, for it was always able to support itself; not so now. And, as I said before, the time is fast approaching when the fruit will be produced without seed. The cucumber often, when forced under glass, its seeds are an abortion, and some other kinds, which show, unmistakably, that the high pressure system produces abortion.

Forney, Texas.

WHAT GRAPES TO PLANT.

S. G. LACKEY.

This is a very difficult matter for a beginner to decide in a country where no grapes have been grown, and especially in Texas, where soil and climate differ so much. And I think a greater mistake was never made than to recommend any grape for general cultivation, which is often done by grape growers, simply because it has done well with them. Every grape grower knows that no two vines of the same variety in the same vineyard will produce grapes just alike in quality, flavor and appearance. The grape is more dependent upon soil and climate than anything we cultivate and it will not plant to the people of a country where the extremes are so great as they are in Texas, that they should all plant the same varieties, yet this has been done too often for the planters' good. I have lost many a dollar by taking such advice.

I have watched the behavior of different varieties on my own grounds and that of my neighbors, and have seen such different results that I would not recommend any variety that has been a perfect success with me, to do equally as well in another locality, but would have strong hopes of its successful cultivation in said locality if given the same care and treatment. I have been experimenting with grapes at this place for the past fourteen years, and have tried most of the old and new varieties that have been offered by the nurseries from Maine to El Paso, Texas. I have carefully tested on my own grounds every family of grapes; of the vinifera class, about thirty varieties, all of which proved to be a miserable failure, as well as their hybrids, such as Rogers', Underhills', and others. A few of the hardy Labrusca crosses promised well for a while, but finally succumbed to the mildew and black rot.

For the past few years I have been going a little slow on new varieties. I have collected five or six new ones this winter, which I will graft on strong old vines and get fruit from them in 1894, and then can judge as to their value on my grounds. The Concord, Taylor and Cuthberts, continue to beat everything else in my vineyard. The Concord has been bearing for the past twelve years, and is yet very strong and vigorous and quite successful, but rots badly in wet seasons, but this can

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

Never cross-breed a pure-bred female if it is at all possible to secure the services of a pure-bred male of the same breed. Paste this in your hat.

Begin at once to improve your stock by using pure-bred males on the best females you now possess, and get rid of all the poor ones without delay.

We frequently hear about "rattle-headed horses," but very little about "rattle-headed" men, and yet we will venture the assertion that there are in this country ten "rattle-headed" men for every one "rattle-headed" horse.

Mares of good substance, with "hot heads," are likely to produce colts that will possess dispositions which are undesirable to say the least; but if such mares are devoted to the raising of mules they will produce, in all probability, a very valuable class of animals, since they will have more "get-up" than the produce of their more quiet and docile sisters.

The tastes and inclinations of the public govern the action of associations in the management of their programmes, since it is the policy to provide that which those who patronize them desire and are willing to pay for. Why was it that until within a very short time it was the custom to change the gait of the pacer simply because the people preferred the trotter, and cared very little for the lateral gaited horse? As is generally the case, the fashion is changing, and common sense and reason are now allowed to have their sway, and the horse that paces is permitted to take the gait which is natural, and is appreciated equally with his brother who goes all the "legal way." We do not really feel the public complaining. We do, and if the mountain won't come to us we must go to the mountain, or the "filthy lucre" will not be ours.

The following table from Clark's Horse review explains itself, and the attention of those who are strongly in favor of thoroughbred blood in the trotter may see how it "pans out" with one of the most prepotent trotting sires that has ever lived. At the same time we wish them to consider that the showing of the thoroughbred and half thoroughbred dams is better on account of its being the hobby of Senator Stanford, and the offspring of such dams were developed for all they were worth, while the pacers were regarded with contempt, and consequently have not had an equally favorable opportunity:

THOROUGHBRED DAMS.		
Palo Alto, 0.		2:05½
Azmoor, 7.		2:20
Express, 7.		2:20½
Mermaid, Russell, 5.		2:21
Aldeana, 9.		2:25
Emeline, 5.		2:27
Wingo, 4.		2:27½
Whips, 8.		2:27½
Cubic, 5.		2:28
Ganna, 8.		2:28½
Laura C., 9.		2:29
Linnin, 3.		2:29½
Dan Monthie, 6.		2:29½
HALF-THOROUGHBRED DAMS.		
Sunol, 5.		2:03½
Anteo, 7.		2:04
Amago, 7.		2:16½
Electricity, 7.		2:17½
Anteo, 4.		2:18
Cicilian, 2.		2:19½
Truman, 3.		2:23
Susett, 7.		2:23½
Coral, 3.		2:23½
Monterey, 3.		2:25
Mortimer, 4.		2:27
Idle May, 6.		2:27½
Kinet, 6.		2:27½
Feddler, 2.		2:27½
Tiny, 2.		2:28
Ab Thers, 3.		2:28
Memento, 7.		2:28
Elliott, 2.		2:28½
Sells, 4.		2:29
Coquette, 6.		2:29½
Helma, 2.		2:29½
Hiss Maid, 3.		2:29½
Legal Test, 5.		2:29½
Gen. Wellington, 3.		2:29
Wild May, 3.		2:30

Manzanita, 4.	2:16
Ladywell, 5.	2:16 3/4
Bonita, 6.	2:15 3/4
Wildflower, 2.	2:21
Fay, 11.	2:25
Fred Crocker, 2.	2:25 1/2
Aleck R., 9.	2:25 3/4
Lucyner, 3.	2:27 1/2
Pomona, 6.	2:28 1/2
Alma, 7.	2:28 3/4
Marvin, 5.	2:29 1/2

From trotting-bred dams there is a list of 48 performers averaging 2:23 1-2, and ranging from 2:10 3-4 to 2:30.

Clark's Horse Review: Linus, the horse of long tail and mane fame, which was on exhibition at Bangor and at the Maine State fair last year, is still an attraction. His hair has grown some since he was there. His tail now measures 18 feet 2 inches, mane 17 feet 4 inches, and foretop 10 feet 1-4 inches.

Turf, Field and Farm: It takes a good horseman to make a good Secretary of the Navy. This fact was emphasized by the administrations of Hon. William C. Whitney and Hon. Benj F. Tracy. Mr. A. J. Cassatt, of Pennsylvania, is now mentioned as an available man for Secretary of the Navy in the new cabinet of Mr. Cleveland. He can talk horse as fluently as Mr. Whitney and General Tracy, and as Minister of the Marine he would equal them in courtesy and vigor.

Turf, Field and Farm: In the case of Mrs John J. Tobin, Jr., arrested at the Bay District track, S. n. Francisco, Cal., last week on a charge of disturbing the peace, she having resisted the officers who might eject her from the betting ring it has been decided by Justice Campbell that the defendant had a legal right to remain where she was, the same as a man, and that when the officer ordered her to leave, the Justice says, she had a right to resist as she did. Therefore he dismissed the charge against her. It is said the Tobins will now bring suit for damages against the Blood Horse Association for the indignity they suffered.

Turf, Field and Farm: It has been decided that the Norfolk horses, which are to participate with our American thoroughbreds next season are to be shipped from England next month, to fill engagements made a year ago. These horses which will be under the control of Colonel Thomas P. Ochiltree, include El Diabolo whose recent defeat of Orme at Newmarket, the American champion, by the Duke of Leigh, Sir Frederick Roberts, High Commissioner, Rough and Ready and Arturo which are intended to run for the big handicaps, while Eltham Queen, Antypyrne and Embla are engaged in the American Derby. Queen Isabella stakes a year-old in stakes at Chicago. Several year-old colts are also in the contingent, which will be the most valuable ever sent from England.

I am getting too old to work or have anything to do about the management of my home, if I had one. As I have none, and am traveling around among my children it is no use for me to subscribe for your paper any longer as my children take the paper and everybody else ought to. I believe I have been a subscriber for 25 years. I carried some copies everywhere I went and always asked the young married or old to take it, as I knew it would be so much help to them in managing their homes, and their children and their chickens and gardens. I have been a subscriber for 25 years and have been my delight about a home; the raising of everything that is used in the family. But so few take interest in anything of the kind, and the farmers, or the most of them, raise cotton to buy everything else instead of raising everything they need. I have had to put up for winter use, as I have always did in my husband's lifetime. I can see very plainly what makes the cry of hard times; it is extravagance and wastefulness as well as drouth. I know my letter is too long, but I have said all I wanted to say. I will write you all I can, wherever I go for your paper. Mrs. M. A. KENNON, San Angelo, Texas

I have for sale five young, finely bred trotting stallions, combining the blood of Wilkes, Almont, Abderald, Mambrino, Stark, (Bonner's) Abdallah, Messenger, Chief, Happy Medium, &c., from 2 to 3 years of age, and upon the most favorable terms. Also some geldings, matched and single harness, and some tracts of the finest lands in Texas—the best bargains to be had. Will take pleasure in showing to purchasers. Come quickly while extra inducements are offered. Address

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Household.

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

UNDER THE SURFACE.

MRS. HAMLET.

Beneath its surface calms, how deep
The seething current ebbs and flows;
How boundless in its onward sweep
Is inter-ocean, no one knows!

Beneath Dame Nature's ray attires
Of tender green and softest rose;
What fervid hearts, what raging fires
Convulse earth's center, no one knows!

How near to tears our laughter is,
How hid with smiling are our woes;
How close upon the heels of bliss,
Grief often treads, ah, no one knows!

—EDITH, TEXAS.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

Mrs. Hamlet contributes to our left hand corner a sweet little poem, as true as tender, and Matron gives us a humorous recital of Bub's search for knowledge under difficulties, which is very natural. How often we can only escape the disgrace and humiliation of saying, "I don't know," by flight ourselves, or by driving these walking interrogation points out of the door.

After a long absence, we are so happy to greet M. L. M. Can we not hope to have you often on this new year, dear friend? Tell us something of the beautiful valley you mention, and of its people. Thanks for your kind words to ourself.

Mrs. E. E. Spangler sends in her vote for a garnet ribbon, and promises to call before long. In reply to your query about the china firing, Mrs. E. will say there was a party who advertised to do firing in our city. We will take pleasure in learning all about it and let you know.

Mrs. McCrea, too, has been absent a long time, and we are glad to have her come again, because by this we know she has not forgotten us. Don't you think, dear Mrs. McCrea, that in our every-day life we find much that surpasses the most romantic fiction? We are sure of it. And if the romances lying hid in the lives of the Household—matter of fact and real as we seem—were spread upon the pages of the Household, what a chorus of astonishment would first break the silence, then the tender-heated among us would weep at the woes of others, and those who are blessed—we mean it—blessed with an eye and a soul for the fun and comic side of life, would laugh at the odd situations which some are forced into at times. We all should love the real and the true, and we believe we do, but cold facts all the time would be an unsatisfactory diet: we must have the spicy salads, pickles and preserves of humor and poetry to give zest to the heavier diet of broad meat.

Will some one have experience tell Mrs. McCrea how to pack plants for long distances, by mail, we suppose?

Aunt Susie is a new-comer into our ever widening circle. As each new member comes in our circumference extends, and we find that there is not only room for all, but all are welcome.

We gladly give the Household No. 2 of Brother Bob's recipes. This time he tells us how to make good corn bread, and we verily believe it is, as good as Georgia corn bread, that is, as near that good as Texas corn will make it, and if Brother Bob were not Brother Bob—only Sister Ann—we would like to tell him that we tried his recipe for making biscuits, following it closely to the best of our ability (rather using our best discretion) and we found it just as it was represented. As we said, if he was not a man—they don't exactly say, "I told you so," but they do assume such an air of supreme complacency—well, if the recipe had come from Sister Ann, we should say it was excellent. Now for that steak broiling, we shall see if it holds out to be as good as the others, and will add, we hope that the brother will not cease his visits after fulfilling his promises. As we said in a former issue, we will be glad to have the gentlemen become members of the Household Department, and accord to them all the privileges and benefits of the same, except when any question arises upon which a vote is to be taken, they must not expect equal suffrage. They positively cannot vote, nor are they eligible to hold office. We extend a cordial welcome, and will always be delighted to give them respectful hearing, and hope to have them often our circle.

A NEW VOLUME OF POEMS.

"To Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, with compliments of the author." So read the legend on the fly leaf of a volume which found its way to my home on Christmas day. I had said, "If only some friend of whom I am ever thinking will remember me on this day I shall be satisfied, if only with a word or line." Imagine my delight to be remembered by this friend of my childhood's days, and in so delightful

a manner. The volume, "Wayside Flowers, Religious and Miscellaneous Poems," by Elizabeth O. Dannelly is, as the title suggests, a volume of poems, mostly of a religious and domestic nature. Many touching tributes to friends, clad in the beautiful imagery and breathing the sweetest purest sentiments of the poet's heart, also adorn its pages. Among the best, where all are good, we mention "A Touching Incident," suggested by Mr. Cleveland's kissing his mother's bible when taking the oath of his high office. Another, "First Love," a poem addressed to a widower, a distinguished statesman, and, by the way, a mutual friend of both of us, is full of sweetness and tenderness.

Mrs. Dannelly is a Christian woman of the finest type, and the religious poems which grace the pages of her book bear evidence of the grace and peace within, and that the heart is attuned to the sweet melody of divine love. It is a volume which will bring pleasure to the home circle, because of the entire absence of everything which could possibly offend the most fastidious, and because of its refining and elevating teachings. The volume is embellished with an excellent portrait of the author. Like the flash of lightning or the saucy frolic of a breeze, there are touches of wit and humor, which add variety and piquancy to the collection. We cordially commend the volume to the sisters.

A NEW YEAR'S CALL.

M. L. M.

Stella, do you know anything about servants, such as this? A friend thought to train Sambo into the duties of a waiter during a season of company and much serving. After instructions, he made his first appearance one morning in the dining room and staided himself near his mistress's chair. He stood like an ebony statue, doing nothing, and the lady, hoping to get him started off, spoke lowly:

"Sambo, see to the cakes."
His countenance expanded into a broad grin; he reached forward and pointing his finger towards a certain part of the table, yelled:

"Dar dey is!"
I differ with Stella in thinking the question too herculean for the Household sisters to discuss. I am entirely ignorant of the subject, but have derived pleasure and satisfaction from reading the letters that have been written. The humane, Christian spirit of Hester Kirk's article on this subject showed forth a noble womanly character, and the enthusiasm with which the "Sweetheart" launched out because she was going to embrace such a world of work with that farmer husband (to be) was contagious; while the sister who solved the momentous question by doing her own work, and having no servants, was worthy of emulation. Then Mrs. Buchanan said so many good things herself, for she has the rare faculty of always saying the right thing in the right place upon all subjects. In the words of West Texas the question is not given much thought, as most women do their own work. A friend, at whose home I always find a hearty welcome, has, for presiding genius at the kitchen range, an able-bodied, intelligent young man, the son of a well-to-do physician in another State. He does her work thoroughly, properly and well. She asked him once how he came to know so much about cooking, and he told her he had always helped his mother with any work she had to do. So when the spirit of unrest possessed him, and he left home to seek a new life in a strange land, this feminine accomplishment stood him in hand, paying well and procuring him a home equal to any in this Western country.

Another ranch woman took raw material from across the waters, and after a year's training, converted her into an efficient maid-of-all work.

I ate my Christmas turkey in the beautiful Jim Ned valley, at a home where all the graces of womanhood center in the perfect housewife, who, though once the owner of vast quarters of stable retainers, understands this truth, that "the mistress makes the maid," so well, that the same white girl has served her for ten years. Apropos, Mrs. Fisher, this friend has several Chinese sacred lilies growing in her

yard. This flower is a Narcissus, and the bowl, pebbles and water, only force it for winter blooming. The heart must be warm that holds such a love for flowers, as yours. May the golden glory of those beautiful chrysanthemums bring you many cheerful thoughts.

Busy-going Mrs. Little, let the light of your sunny nature still shine in the Household. By the way, I tried the Mexican recipe for making vinegar (about which you once inquired) and it proved very fine. A happy New Year to you all.

Guion, Texas.

OUT OF THE FULLNESS OF THE HEART
THE MOUTH SPEAKETH.—No. 2.

BROTHER BOB.

Dear Mrs. Buchanan: On the contrary, my recipe for making hot biscuits for the breakfast table is exactly as I intended it, that is to say, just right. A careful study of that document will show that no "exact" proportions of the several ingredients is required, desirable, or possible. The quantity of flour will vary as the number and keenness of the appetites to be appeased, the proportion of lard will vary with the various tastes; the proportion of soda will vary with the acidity of the milk used. There can be no superiority without the exercise of discretion. Please read my recipe over carefully once more. With permission, we will now proceed to make corn bread, as suggested before. These directions, properly followed, will result in the abrogation of all the threadbare recipes for "Creole corn bread," "Vivian's corn bread," or, eh, Mrs. Edittress, Georgia corn bread. Finely ground meal of good white corn is the basis of all excellence. Sift thoroughly; if the sieve is coarse, sift twice. Add salt and lard to taste. In cold weather the lard must be melted, first, remember the batch is baked cold. Add buttermilk to make a stiff batter; mix thoroughly; break into it a sufficient number of eggs. In a family of six, two or three eggs is about right, though more may be used. There is little danger of spilling corn bread by adding too many eggs. Beat thoroughly with a strong kitchen spoon. Have ready a hot stove and a hot pan, well greased, upon the top. Before greasing the baking pan, scatter a little dry meal in it. If this meal browns without burning black in fifteen seconds, the heat is just right. Wipe out the meal, grease the pan, and you are ready for the final operation upon which much of the excellence of the bread depends. Take the proper amount of soda in a teaspoon

in the case of the biscuits the amount of soda will vary with the acidity of the milk; but care must be taken not to use too much. Pour the soda into your right hand, with a sweeping movement of the implement sift the soda over the top of the pan of batter, rubbing it through with the hand. Squeeze the kitchen spoon and beat up the batter thoroughly and rapidly for ten seconds and pour into the hot pan. The stiffness of the batter should be such that a slight shake of the pan will bring it to a level. If it settles level without the shake, it is too thin. If much shaking is required, it is too thick. Practice will make perfect. The pan should remain on the top of the stove thirty seconds, during which time you will gaze steadfastly at the contents and smile serenely to see it "rise." Then place it within the oven, and close the door with a bang. Baked in an open pan in a stove, the bread should not be thicker than one and a-half inches. This, like the biscuit, should be eaten "r-r-red hot," with fresh butter.

There is but one improvement possible in this process, and that is to bake it in an old fashioned skillet with a close-fitting lid. The bread may then be baked any thickness, and will cook thoroughly done without becoming dry, which cannot be done with thick bread in a cook stove.

In making this bread, add no flour, and no water, unless in case of scarcity of buttermilk. Clabbered milk is not as good as buttermilk. If, however, clabbered milk is used, it should be thoroughly beaten or churned before using, as otherwise, you will surely have the batter too thin, the gas will escape and the bread will be heavy and sodden. When clabber is used, the batter becomes thinner while cooking. Never use anything hot in mixing for corn bread, unless when making it perfectly plain. Heat, or even warmth, hurries the effervescence, which must be retarded if good bread is made.

I will close with a suggestion that may be of use to some of the Household who do not have buttermilk always at hand. Fill a large jug with buttermilk, and add salt at the rate of an even tablespoonful to each pint. Cork loosely and keep in a cool place in summer, but don't know how long it will keep, but I know it will keep a month or more in midsummer. And as it develops the wholesome (that is just what I mean) lactic acid, a smaller quantity may be used. It will acquire a "loud" smell, perhaps, but no matter, the smell is

dissipated in the cooking. This one thing has been worth a great deal in my own family. Mass poco tiempo.

Dallas, Texas.

PREFERS THE GARNET RIBBON.

MRS. E. E. SPANGLER.

Dear Mrs. Buchanan—A garnet ribbon would be pretty, tasty, and not so easily soiled as a more delicate shade. As for the milkmaid's color, I must confess I am absolutely ignorant.

I have been too busy to write a line to you, but I have, of course, some time to read and enjoy the Household, as well as every page of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. Henrietta, Texas.

THE NEW YEAR.

MRS. M. A. M'CRAE.

The old year has passed with its joys and sorrows, and the next is before us with hopes and fears. We fain would ask, what will the new year bring us? But believing that our Heavenly Father knoweth best, we trust all to Him and try with patience to run the race which is before us. We have been having such beautiful weather for January, such a contrast to the beginning of last year. I think it is just cold enough to be nice, but such a life. But if we all could be as Mrs. Little, never worry, it would matter little whether the weather was stormy or bright. Though I admit we should not cultivate a disposition to worry, yet when I cease altogether it will be when this "mortal shall have put on immortality."

As to the badge, I think, as our edress suggests, would be real nice with or without ribbon. As to my preferences for colors, I would prefer the white, but do not expect that I shall have the pleasure of using one.

Would like to hear from some of the Household the best way to send plants some distance?

I enjoy reading the Household when I am assured that I am reading facts, but I am tired of fiction. When I was a child I liked to read, and read a great deal, believing what I read was true. When I had grown older and understood that it was not true, but was only drawn from some one's imagination, it created within me a disgust for fiction, and so I plead for facts. Do not understand me to say that the stories are not true which are in our paper, but that we may all confine ourselves to facts. There is quite enough that is true to fill our allotted space. But perhaps this will not be agreeable to the rest; it is for you to decide. I find so much that is false that I sometimes wish to gather my real friends together and retire to some secluded spot, where life would be real, and perhaps then there would be a Judas, so I try to make the best of life I can, just as it is at present.

McCreaville, Texas.

NEW YEAR REFLECTIONS.

M. A. C.

Dear Edittress and Sisters—Another year has passed, Christmas is over and another New Year has come. We cannot see in the future—what it will bring—whether joy or sorrow. Let us ask God to be with us at all times, and help us to put our trust in Him. Sisters, let us all strive to make our homes pleasant and attractive, for they ought to be the dearest places this side of the heavenly kingdom, as they are the nurseries of affection. Let all, both young and old, plant and cultivate germs of love and kindness in the hearts of those along our pathway, that every seed may take root, sprout and grow, not only while we live, but after we are dead, for it is in the memory that cluster the sweetest recollections. The remembrance of an affectionate father, a loving mother, who now sleep in the silent grave; or a sweet sister, dear brother or precious child—that is, if not dead—separated by distance. I well remember, long ago, in our old Mississippi home, dear ma would take her little ones, then numbering six, read to us from the Bible, or other good books, explaining as she read, then all bow together in prayer. But fathers mothers, brothers, have long since been taken from us, who loved them so fondly, never more to see them again until the resurrection morn. But those who are spared will never forget the advice and instructions given by them. Let us strive to so live to meet our Heavenly Father and his son, our Savior, in perfect peace, and if we are faithful Christians we will meet our loved ones in the heavenly kingdom, never more to part. Read the fifteenth chapter of First Corinthians. Sisters, those of us who have children, let us endeavor to be kind and patient with them, that they may be so to each other. The good night kiss to us, and pleasant dreams to all, ever remembering the loved ones that are absent, may seem but trifles to some, but are sweet remembrances when we are scattered. I

Cousins' League.

Address all letters relative to this department to UNCLE MIKE, Secretary, Hammon, N. J.

TRIBUTES IN VERSE.

To Uncle Mike and Aunt Emma:

May the morning of your life
Be resplendent with hope and laudable
Ambition. The noonday with aspiration
Fully and completely realized.
And the sunset glorious and sweet.

KATIE FRANCIS.

To the Cousins:

May your lives be as happy and free
As the dancing waves on the deep blue sea.

KATIE FRANCIS.

To the Cousins:

When in some far and distant land
This little verse you see,
Think of the friendly hand
That traced it here for thee.

JENNIE DORSETT.

To Aunt Emma:

Years may pass,
Days may fly,
But I will love you till I die.

BERTHA PARKER.

To the Cousins:

Love no man, not even thy brother;
If girls must love, love one another.

JOHN M. PARKER.

THE LEAGUE'S MAIL BAG.

Mamma has two little Jersey calves; they are named Mike and Emma. Uncle Mike, what is your full name? All that I know is Uncle Mike. I have a pretty little shepherd puppy, and we have a little baby calf. I can pick 225 pounds of cotton in one day.—TOMMIE SINGLETON, Rice's Crossing, Texas.

[Give our love to the Jersey calves, Tommie. Of course, Mike is the best calf. My full name is Michael K. Boyer.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a jolly bachelor. I live in the country; I live two miles from the post office and ten miles from our county seat. This is a beautiful country. East of us lie the Cross Timbers, where they raise corn, cotton, sugar cane, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes and fruits of all kinds. West of us lie the deep, rolling prairies, where they raise corn, wheat, oats and barley, cattle and horses the finest to be had. Well, as I am like all other old bachelors, very bashful, I will not stay very long. But before I close I had better give a description of myself, so the cousins can guess at my beauty: I am 21 years old, weigh 152 pounds, am 5 feet 7 inches high, and have blue eyes and auburn hair.—WALTER M. STEPHENSON, Eron, Texas.

[I must certainly compliment you on your beauty, and while not such an old bachelor, you are certainly entertaining.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I can pick 203 pounds of cotton in a day. I am 12 years of age and weigh 60 pounds. I am a great help to papa on the farm. Papa takes eight or nine papers, one being TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. I always like to read the League. One of the girls cousins asked in her last letter how much a girl was worth. I think a girl is worth a great deal, but I do not think they are worth as much as a boy. Or, at least I do not think my sister is, but I know she is a great help to mamma. Sister Rosa happened to a sad accident last November. She was thrown from her horse and badly hurt. She is up and doing well now.—ARTHUR CHAPMAN, Farmersville, Texas.

[Quite a cotton picker, Arthur. What a sad accident sister had, but how good that she was not seriously hurt.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am 10 years old and can pick 134 pounds of cotton in a day. When I go to school I study history, arithmetic, geography and spelling. We live two miles west of Farmersville. The name of our school house is Springhill. I have no pets, except my baby brother; his name is Garland, and he is as cute as can be. I have five brothers and two sisters. My oldest brother is attending school at Waco. We take TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and all like to read it, the League being my part.—WALTER CHAPMAN, Farmersville, Texas.

[A very good letter, Walter. You have very useful studies at school, and I hope you learn them well.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a little girl 12 years old, but I feel a great deal older since I have been called "aunt." I help my mamma wash dishes and milk the cows, and help wash, pick cotton, and try to make myself as useful as I can.—FLORA PEGRAM, Farmersville, Texas.

[You surely are a young aunt, but then not too young to think a lot of your niece or nephew, as the case may be. How kind in you to help papa and mamma so much.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a little girl 16 years old and weigh 96 pounds. I don't see that any one writes from this part of the country, so I thought I would try it for the first time. Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and I like to read it so much, especially the children's letters; I always read them first.

Our school began on the first of November, but I did not start then. I have one pet, a little calf; it is just as cute as it can be. I do dearly love flowers, but did not have many this year. I am like all Texas girls. I like to ride horseback, and have my fun, but I have most fun milking, cooking, and doing everything about the house. I live five miles from the postoffice. I can pick 225 pounds of cotton in a day, and I have a brother 18 years old, who can pick 450 pounds in a day.—OLLIE GARDNER, Mansfield, Texas.

[Well, Ollie, I am glad you came. Uncle Mike was smiling because it seemed as if he was going to have all the callers to the League this time, but your appearance made him blue. You see, sometimes those who smile last smile best. I like to hear from girls that take a pleasure in work.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am 15 years old. I am not going to school at present. I have one pet, a little kitten. I can do any kind of housework, but cannot do much in the field. Papa takes your paper, and I think it is so nice, especially the Cousins' League. I help papa in the postoffice all the time. I have one sister older than myself, but haven't any brothers. We have preaching here once a month. Our pastor's name is Brother Parker; we like him very much.—DOCTA BEARD, Arizona, La.

[Welcome, young postmistress, and all the way from Louisiana. You must certainly be competent help for papa.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a country boy 12 years old. I have two pet cats; one of them fell in the well on Thanksgiving day. I go to school. I have a pet sow and five pigs; I call her Kitchen, because she goes into the kitchen when she wishes.—GEORGE HARVEY, Conroe, Texas.

[What interesting pets—all but the cats. I don't like cats, probably because I have none, but I like hogs.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a little boy 12 years old. I am going to school, and like my teacher; his name is A. S. Hendricks. I like to read the letters published in the League. I think our copy is the only one that comes to this office. My papa was in your Great State visiting relatives at Brandon, Texas very well. Crops were unusually short this year, owing to much rain in the spring, causing cotton to be late, although cotton is selling well. Hurrah for Cleveland, the greatest man of this age!—M. N. MOORE, Ward, Ark.

[A very business like letter from a little Arkansas Democrat. A little work on your part might get us more subscribers at your postoffice. Won't you try?—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a little boy 11 years old. For my pets I have chickens and turkeys, two ducks, two dogs and two calves. The dogs' names are Carlo and Rover. The calves' names are Pet and Grover, and the pony's name is Dolly. I ride four miles to the postoffice. We live on a farm, and have two mules and a wagon, also three pigs. When papa goes away I feed the stock. I also wash the dishes and mamma dries them. I am the only child. We live forty-nine miles from the Pacific ocean and San Diego Bay.—HUBBERT FRAZIER, Nello, Cal.

[They certainly have some smart boys out in California. And think of all the pets! Why, Hubbert, you will be envied by the Texas boys.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I was glad my other letter did not find its way to the waste basket. My sister, smaller than myself, and I kept house while mamma went to see her sister in Louisiana. I can do any kind of housework. I like to ride horseback. I have a brother and a sister going to school at Thorpe's Spring; they are both older than myself. We are living on a farm. Papa put in 300 acres in wheat.—LILLIE FERGUSON, Iowa Park, Texas.

[That was very nice in you and sister to take mamma's place while she was off on a pleasure trip. Poor mamma deserves all the trips she can make, and it must be so comforting to know that while she is away two devoted daughters are managing the home.—AUNT EMMA.]

Uncle Mike, will you let us in? Imer Toier, aged 11 years, and Maud McGawage, 12 years old. We are studying fourth reader, arithmetic, grammar, geography, spelling and writing. Our teachers' names are Prof. Oldham and Miss Lula Gunter. They are kind to us; we like them very much. We can cook, milk, piece quilts, and do any kind of housework. We girls have a nice time playing ball. Aunt Emma, come over to see us. We would like to see you and Uncle Mike real well. We haven't any pets, except our little baby brothers. Our papas take TEXAS FARM

AND RANCH and think it is a great paper, and so do we, because it has the Cousins' League in it.—IMER TOLBER AND MAUD MCGAWAGE, Nesbit, Texas.

[I should like very much to visit you and see you girls play ball, but Uncle Mike says walking is too bad just now. You have lovely pets.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a little girl 13 years of age. My papas take TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and we all like it very much. I can wash, iron, cook, sew, and do any kind of housework. I have only one pet, and it is a little Jersey calf. I have four sisters and two brothers. I have one married sister, and she has one child.—LILLIE ROSALIE BORSKY, Richmond, Texas.

[Another industrious Texas girl. The State seems full of them, and they all belong to the League family. I, too, Lillie, have a Jersey calf for a pet.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a boy 14 years old, and live on a farm about three miles from Trichham and twelve miles from the great health resort, Santa Anna. I have no pets, but I get there just the same. I help milk the cows, and do any other thing that comes up that I can do. My father takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and I read the Cousins' League every week.—JOHN H. WATSON, Trichham, Texas.

[You must be a sort of Handy Andy on the farm, John, and the folks could not very well get along without you.—UNCLE MIKE.]

We live two miles from the postoffice. Our papas take TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and we like to read it very much. We will not make our first letter too long, and if we see this in print we will write again.—KATIE THOMPSON AND DORA HARTY, Paris, Texas.

[Now, girls, do not forget your promise, and come again. The "latch string" always hangs out.—AUNT EMMA.]

We have our cotton picked, and have started to school. I love my teacher. Her name is Miss Mary Barnhart. I live with Grandma, Beegley. I have a good mamma and a step-papa. I love my step-papa; he is so good and kind to me. My mamma's name is Frank, and papa's name is Mike Lackey. I have had the slow fever since I went west last summer. I was twelve years old last November. Mamma baked me a nice cake. I have a pet colt called "Callahan." I have one uncle at home; his name is Jim Beegley. He is a dandy. Grandma has a lot of chickens. She raised 117 turkeys this year.—SAMARIA LEE WILLIAMS, Kingston, Texas.

[With such a good grandma, mamma, step-papa and uncle, you should be a very happy girl, and no doubt you are. Take care that the colt does you no harm.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am nine years old. I am going to school, but had to stay at home this morning to help papa put out strawberry slips, but it rained so hard that we could not work. We took up and set out 3000 slips. I have two sisters and one brother. I am next to the oldest one of the children; my oldest sister is 11 years old. My brother is the youngest; he is five years old. His name is George, and he is a captain. My youngest sister's name is Lucinda. She is seven years old. I have no pets to write about but our cow, and her name is "Jimmie." She is a funny pet. When we turn her through the garden to drive her to the pasture, she tries to break down the apple trees with her horns, and horns-up the onion bed. Hurrah and a whoop for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and with much love and kisses for Aunt Emma, Uncle Mike, and all the cousins.—KATIE C. CRITTENDEN, Bonham, Texas.

[A grand letter from a grand little girl. Uncle Mike wishes you was here to give him those kisses, and so do I.—AUNT EMMA.]

I went to school to-day, but it rained so hard this evening that I could hardly get home. My teacher's name is Miss Irene Graham. I like her tolerably well. I have but one pet and that is a cat. Her name is "Puss." She is five years old and can whip any dog that comes on the place. A whoop for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.—LAURA CRITTENDEN, Bonham, Texas.

[You ought to bring your cat up to our dogs. They hate cats as bad as Uncle Mike does. But I like a cat, and it is only on account of Uncle Mike and the dogs that I have not got any.—AUNT EMMA.]

Well, Uncle Mike, I will tell you what a hot tamales it is. It is a Mexican dish made of beef and corn meal dough, and rolled up in corn shucks. Aunt Emma, you and Uncle Mike will have to come down here and see mamma, me some, for a hot tamales is hard to describe, but they beat hot cakes selling in Bonham.

[Our correspondent forgot to sign his or her name to the above. But Aunt Emma

is quite anxious to know how a hot tamales tastes, and what it looks like, and if our little correspondent will send us one in a paste board box, by mail, we will be only too glad to pay the postage and return the favor in some other gift. Couldn't mamma tell how they are made?—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a little girl 11 years old. My papas take TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and I like to read the cousins' letters. I am going to school. I study fourth reader, geography, spelling and arithmetic. I have a pet calf whose name is "Daisy." I can cook and wash dishes for mamma. I have pleased one quilt.—IRMA COOPER, Haughts Store, Texas.

[I call my pet calf "Daisy" and love to play with her. She is a mixture of Jersey and Holstein. Uncle Mike and I love stock.—AUNT EMMA.]

Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and I love to read the cousins' letters. I can do any kind of work in the field. I can plow, hoe and pick cotton, and can pick 130 pounds in one day. I have but one pet. It is a dog named "Nero."—ARTHUR COOPER, Haughts Store, Texas.

[Then you are a little farmer, Arthur. Well, stick to it, for the farmer is an independent man, and remember Washington said: "Farming is the most noble occupation of man."—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a girl 13 years old. I love to read the cousins' letters. I am going to school now, and love my teacher very much. Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and I like to read it. I have no pets except one little kitty; it is black as black can be. I live among the mountains, and I think they are very pretty. I help mamma to do the housework. I can do most any kind of housework. I live close to the post office.—CORA SCARBOROUGH, Sanco, Texas.

[Welcome to you and kitty. It must be very pleasant among the mountains in summer, and I presume very cold in winter, is it not?—AUNT EMMA.]

HISTORY CLASS.

By Imer and Maud.
Who first settled New England?

For A Horse.

For accident, too hard work, and skin diseases, Phenol Sodique does wonders. For all animals and human flesh.

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STATE NEWS BOILED DOWN.

Sherman authorities are going for violators of liquor and gambling laws.

In a drunken row at a saloon, at Sublim, a Mexican was badly cut and is expected to die.

James Chums, a farmer living near Van Alstyne, undertook to pass in front of a moving train and lost both legs.

An unknown man was run over and killed by a moving train in the yards of the T. & P., at Dallas, one night last week.

Major I. G. Randle, of Dallas, has been formally indicted by the grand jury for the willful murder of Ed. S. Randall.

Several bills have been presented in the Legislature to increase salaries. Perhaps the people will stand a lot more of this sort of business.

Two Mexican smugglers, called Garza-fies have been arrested on the Rio Grande. One of the culprits is called "Gen Francisco Benavides."

A Mr. Evans, of Denison, during the week brought his little son, supposed to have been bitten by a mad dog, to Dallas for madstone treatment.

Capitalists have been consulting with the governor of Chihuahua about damming the Rio Grande above El Paso. Reports say that all is agreeable and the dam will be built.

Large shipments of silver have recently taken place from Eagle Pass. On Wednesday of last week \$125,000 worth was shipped in one consignment and \$60,000, in another.

Waco is agitating navigation of the Brazos, and the papers and civil engineers are giving birth to column after column through the papers tending to show how very feasible the project is.

A car load of finest curly, yellow pine lumber left Colmesneil for the World's Fair Grounds on Monday. The lumber is for finishing the Texas building, and is worth at the mill \$80 to \$85 per 1000 feet.

Charles Luttrell and John Carlisle, both convicted of murder of W. T. Sharnan, of Denison, with death penalty, have their cases before the Appellate Court at Dallas. A decision is expected in both cases next week.

There was a railroad collision near the Dallas Fair Grounds on Monday evening. An eastbound T. & P. passenger train crashed into northbound Santa Fe freight. No person seriously hurt, but a few cars badly smashed.

A human skeleton with stone implements was found at a depth of four feet, and under a large beech log near Colmesneil. The deceased had a stone arrow in his head, which accounts for his being so remarkably dead that even the bones were largely decomposed.

There are about eight cavalry companies and troops now on the Rio Grande to operate against the Garza-fies. Now that the sheriff of Starr county has arrested the two ring leaders, it is expected that the U. S. troops will be able to cope with both the others—if they should accidentally meet them in the road.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

Cholera is increasing in both France and Germany.

The probability is that the greatest rush yet known will occur on the opening of the Cherokee Strip.

J. W. Cartwright, a defaulting life insurance agent, committed suicide at Dallas, on Monday last.

England is determined that Egypt shall be governed by English or not at all. The Khedive don't like it, and, it is said, will refer the matter to Turkey, and the other European nations.

France is still turned topsy-turvy by the Panama Canal scandal. The president, Carnot, seems to be about the only prominent Frenchman who has not been reached by the investigation.

The Mexican Secretary of the Treasury reports total exports of the country amounting to \$75,467,700. Exports of the United States increased \$5,000,000 over those of the previous year, 1891.

James G. Blaine is still alive and said to be gaining strength. For more than two weeks the spark of life has been kept from complete extinction by the powerful drug, nitro-glycerin, and now there is a possibility of his recovery.

The leader of the French Socialists declares that preparations for a popular uprising are almost perfected, and that is to extend from the Mediterranean Sea to the English Channel. The object is said to be to clean out the rottenness of existing governments. The Panama Scandal is a boost to those who propose these wonderful works.

LOCAL AND GENERAL MARKET REPORTS.

[Carefully corrected from the most reliable sources up to Friday of each week.]

Dallas Cotton Market.

[Corrected weekly for Texas Farm and Ranch, by W. White & Co., Cotton Buyers, Dallas, Texas.]

DALLAS, January 25.—Very little doing.

Ordinary 6 3/4
Good ordinary 7 1/4
Low middling 8 1/4
Middling 8 3/4
Good middling 8 3/4

Galveston Cotton Market.

Galveston, January 25.—Spot cotton closed steady.

Low ordinary 7 9/16
Ordinary 8 1/16
Good ordinary 8 15/16
Low middling 9 1/16
Middling 9 5/16
Good middling 9 9/16

Stocks at all United States Ports.

Stocks this day 75,778
Stocks this day last year 279,535

Dallas Live Stock.

Common to fair steers \$1 50@2 00
Choice fat cows, per head 8 00@10 00
Common to fair cows, per head 3 50
Choice fat yearlings, per head 2 75@3 00
Choice fat yearlings, per head 18 00@25 00
Bulls 7 50
Choice fat hogs 4 50@5 75
Common to fair hogs 4 50@5 75
Choice fat muttuns 3 00@3 50

Grain and Feed-stuffs.

Quotations below are on grain from store.

Corn—Wholesale, 45c per bushel in sack; retail, 50c; in ear 35c per bushel.

Oats—Sacks, 35c@36c per bushel in car lots; 35c single bushel.

Wheat—70c per 100 lb in car lots; retail, 75c per 100.

Cotton seed—Per bushel, 25c retail; wholesale, 12 1/2c.

Hay—Loose, local, \$7 00@8 00; best prairie hay, baled, \$8 50 per ton; in carload lots, f. o. b., \$9 00; small bales, best, 45c; best Forney, \$7.50 per ton in carload lots.

Farm Seeds—Dallas Retail Price.

[These prices are carefully corrected from actual transactions on the foregoing date.]

Alfalfa, per lb 35c, free by mail; per peck \$3; per bushel \$7.50.

Amber cane seed, per lb 15c; per bushel 50c.

Red Kaffir Corn, by mail, per lb, 30c; peck, 75c; bushel \$3.75.

Milo Maize, yellow or white, per lb 15c; bushel 5c.

Smoothy, per lb 30c; peck 90c; bushel \$3.

Evergreen Broom Corn, best, per lb 15c; bushel \$1.50.

Wheat—Buyers are paying: No. 2 to No. 3, 65c f. o. b. at Dallas.

Dallas Wholesale Produce Market.

[Corrected weekly for Texas Farm and Ranch, by J. C. Howerton & Co., Wholesale Fruit, Produce and Commission Merchants, Dallas, Texas.]

Chicks—small, 2 1/2@2.50 per doz. Chicks—large, 2.50@2.75 per doz. Hens—small, 2.50@2.75 per doz. Hens—large, 2.75@3.00 per doz.

Eggs—fresh, 14@15c; store 12@13c per doz.

Ducks—average, 2.00@2.25 per doz.

Turkeys—hens, 7.50@8.00; gobblers, 9.00@12.00 per doz. Good demand.

Butter—fresh, 14@15c per lb.

Potatoes—Greeleys, 1.15 per bu; Clifton Burbanks, 1.10 per bu.

Onions—Northern, 2 1/2@3c per lb.

Cabbage—Northern, 2 1/2@3c per lb. California, 2 1/2@3c per pound. South Texas 3c.

Beans—Navy, 4@4 1/2c per lb.

Hides and Wool.

Hides—Buyers are paying. Dry flint, heavy, 6c; light, 4c; dry salt, 4 1/2c; gr. salt, 3c; butcher's green, 3c.

Wool—Light medium, 17c; low medium, 14@16c; fine, 15@16.

Horns, hoofs and bones—\$5 00 per ton, delivered.

He: "One has only to look at your lips and see that you are intended for kisses."

She: "On the contrary, the kisses are for my intended."—New York Herald.

Good Form: Little Charlotte was sitting on the porch with her doll in her lap. A gentleman came by and said: "Little girl, would you give me a kiss?"

"No, indeed," said she, "my mother never taughten me to kiss mens."

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

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Fistula, Pile, Ulceration of the Rectum, Hydrocele and Varicocele. Why wear a truss or suffer when you can be cured? No Pain, No Cure.

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ECCELESTON'S ELASTIC TRUSS

Has a pad different from all others, is made of steel, with self-adjusting ball in center, adapts itself to all positions of the body, while the ball in the cup presses back the intestines just as a person does with the finger. With light pressure the

Hernia is held securely day and night, and a radical cure certain. It is easy, durable and cheap. Sent by mail. Circulars free. Address ECCELESTON & CO., Chicago, Ill.

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Indigestion, Constipation, Nervousness, Liver and Heart diseases, Dyspepsia, Neuralgia, Insomnia, Kidney Complaints, Urinary diseases, Epilepsy, Scattered Tumors, Catarrh, Spinal diseases, and all chronic diseases. Electric Truss and Belt combined. Correspondence in English and German. Call or write to The Owen Belt and Appliance Co., 306 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. (Mention paper.)

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Are running Solid Vestibule Trains daily with

Wagner Palace Sleeping Cars between St. Louis and Cincinnati, making immediate connection in

Grand Central Station with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway fast trains for Washington, D. C.

No Change of Cars

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Palace Sleeping Cars daily from St. Louis to Washington, D. C. via the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway.

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DALLAS, TEXAS.

"Scientific" Kit of Tools.

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

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

Blacksmith's Tongs, Wrought Iron, 18 in.

Blacksmith's Cold Chisel 11-2 lbs. Solid Cast Steel

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

Farrier's Pincers, Cast steel, 12 inches.

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

Farrier's Knife, Woostenholm.

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

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

Farmer's Forge No 5, B. will heat 1 1/2 inch Iron

Our Forge is built especially for our Kit, 15 inches high to top of bowl, 14 inches in diameter. Fan 8 inches in diameter, weighs 45 pounds.

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

any size of the Oonshu with absolute immunity from frost. I saw many Le Conte and Kleffer pear trees of the largest size and perfect health to which next to no action has been paid, while the peach and plums seem bent on rivaling the pines in vigor. Given a northern outlet and a twenty-acre lot in strawberries, cabbage, tomatoes, etc., will be a fortune for any man. This is emphatically the poor man's country. Good land can be had for from \$2 to \$5 per acre, which will make good corn, cotton, sugar cane and rice, as well as fruits and vegetables while the fire wood exists next to nothing. At present, the overflow of immigration is toward Galveston and lands are being taken daily and are advancing rapidly in value, while the superior advantages of those lying farther east are overlooked. This will not be long, and if any of your readers have their eyes set seaward, they will be wise to take a look at Jefferson before they locate, and don't wait too long before looking, if they want to get in, as the real estate men say, on the ground floor.

H. M. STRINGFELLOW.

ARTICHOKES AGAIN.

WISSE, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

Since my last effort (my article on the Jerusalem Artichoke) I am confirmed in the belief that the old adage, "Murder will out," is as true to day as when it was first foisted on a confiding public. While writing that letter I felt as safe as a "possum up a gum stump," but the printer's ink was scarcely dry on that communication before letters of inquiry began to come in. While I am willing to give any information in my power, yet to answer each separate letter would be a task which would take so much time that I again appeal to the valued columns of the unsurpassed and unsurpassable TEXAS FARM AND RANCH: First: The time to plant artichokes is now, or as soon as the land is prepared and in good condition, though later on in the season will do as well. The advantage in fall and early, or midwinter, planting of artichokes lies in the fact that the work does not come with the inevitable hurry of spring preparation for other crops, and as freezing does not hurt them in the least, it is just as well to get them out and planted before the other work begins. As to planting, cut the artichokes closely—one eye in a place is as good as a dozen—and as the first cost of seed is something of an item, a very great saving is effected by exercising care in this regard. Plant in rows two and one-half to three and one-half feet apart; drop one eye to every fifteen to twenty-four inches in the row, cover with two inches of looser, mellow earth. Three to four bushels will plant an acre planted as above. A larger crop will be made the first year if seed are planted closer, but this involves an increased cost for more seed, and as the ground for future crops will be amply seeded after taking out all that can be found, I recommend the use of the lesser quantity per acre.

Artichokes will come nearer taking care of themselves than any other crop of this country, as one planting and one cultivation is all the labor needed for many years, unless we except a harrowing to level the ground after the hogs are taken out in the spring. As to the utility of the artichoke, I will say that I regard it not only as a valuable but an indispensable crop. There comes a time each year when every farmer must choose one of two alternatives, he must feed his stock with expensive food or do what is worse, suffer losses in values gained in more profitable seasons. The former is short-sighted, the latter a suicidal policy.

Nature provides for the lower orders of animal creation through spring, summer and autumn with an abundance well suited to their requirements. When unrestricted they may roam at will and partake of the goodness thereof, but when the winter months are here the profits to their owner begins to shrink, or the corn crib must be appealed to at a ruinous rate. Now see how nicely the artichoke dovetails in. In an emergency, like the foregoing, it furnishes the natural food for hogs, obtained by them in nature's own way.

Now, let us see why it may be reasonably counted on to furnish a crop every year—and this naturally brings in a question relative to the conditions of climate and seasons in Texas. None know better than Texans that though the seasons are generally equable, that there is an occasional summer with long intervals without rain. That season of drought may be fatal to corn, oats, wheat, hay, and all other crops maturing in midsummer; such a season will effect the artichoke but little, if at all, as it makes no growth, except of stalk, through the summer months, but during the following months, which are nearly sure to be wet, the tubers take on their growth. So this crop is but little ef-

fected by a dry crop season, as it only requires, during the hot months, barely enough moisture to keep the stalk alive.

In conclusion, will say that I feel that I cannot too strongly urge upon the farmers, one and all, to plant a patch of artichokes. It need not necessarily be a large one, but at least enough to furnish an abundance of seed to be used for enlarging the field with home-grown seed. I believe I have answered all the questions which have been propounded relative to this subject and will quit. Don't write to me for seed, as I have none for sale. J. W. WELLS.

HOW IT IS IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY.

GABRIEL MILLS.

BILLOWS JANDERS, Esq.

Havin' not heard from you for nigh onto awhile, and a-fearin' you might forget old Williamson Co I take 'em open in hand to inform you of a few plants.

The nabours is sort o' backward owin to Christmas frolics, bad wether and poor management. We are a needin of some old State farm clerks at about \$12 a month and ther washin dun. Ther will be a power uv cotton planted, fur which we will git five cents. Our land up here makes about three akers to the Ball.

Bill, you orto come down and do some corperter work. Malarious Gripes had a fine house built by some of our nativ Lumber splinters, and you cud lay your old Spike finger in lots of the jints and splits, but its full of Picters, Potograts of the hammer head, you know. Our merchants is a gliten rich actin offen the debts uv the bone and snyder of the country. Hogs is scarce and hard to git, tho a few are rustin for breedin sows. Hesses and mules are a drug shore, likewise Kows and Heffers. Hopen you will hear frum me soon I am Trooly yer misamatic Uncle

HYPO. GRIP.

ENGLISH, YOU KNOW.

KINGSBURY, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

I have been a subscriber and a very close reader of your valuable paper for a few years. The older it gets the better it gets. I would not do without it for double the money. I have read with much interest the letter that was published a few weeks ago in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH from Mr. F. F. Collins, of San Antonio, giving an account of his pleasant stay in England at the house of a friend. I am English, you know; that is why I took so much interest in reading it, and I assure you he told the truth. Make no mistake about it, we need more knowledge in farming. We can receive much of help through TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. The best farmers to-day are they who are the best students, who are trying to understand some of the principles that underlie successful agriculture. In England farming is considered a business that must be learned. A man without experience would have difficulty in renting a good farm there, no matter how much capital he might have; and again, no matter how much experience he might have, he could not lease a farm unless he could show enough capital to operate it properly. I have tried very hard to get others to subscribe, but some of them think they know it all. JAMES WAKE.

SHORT CORRESPONDENCE.

I consider your paper the best agricultural journal published.—T. J. RANSOM, Copeville, Texas.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is a splendid paper and every farmer ought to have it in his home. I would hate to do without it. J. M. HARDEMAN, Taylor, Texas.

Inclosed find one dollar as subscription for the year coming. Very well pleased with the paper—in fact, could not do without it.—FERDINAND HORN, Brackettville, Texas.

Find one dollar, for which send me TEXAS FARM AND RANCH another year. I get so much valuable information from it I cannot well do without it.—R. F. SIMS, Jewell, Texas.

Under no circumstances ever stop my paper until I order it stopped. I have been reading it closer than usual and like it better than ever.—W. A. JONES St. Hedwig, Texas.

I hardly know how to get along without TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. Please make the change this week if possible. I have missed three numbers now and fear as though I could not stand to miss another.—S. H. FRIEBER, Royce City, Texas.

The coming of every issue of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is looked for with much anxiety, for I know it contains much valuable information for every farmer. You may count me a subscriber as long as I am able to spare the dollar,

and the prospect is good for that as long as we profit by its sound and judicious tracings. May much success attend it.—J. J. MANNING, Wortham, Texas.

Please find postal note for \$1; and I think it is one dollar spent in the best cause that I could spend a dollar. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is a great paper for the farmer, and every farmer should subscribe for it. Consider me a subscriber for life, and don't stop my paper.—J. F. TODD, Todd, Texas.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH deserves the patronage of Texas farmers and it also deserves an agricultural and mechanical college in North Texas, not only for its earnest efforts in that line, but as an act of justice to a large population occupying one of the finest agricultural domains in our whole country. I can conceive of no policy more sensible than that of fostering the "fundamental pursuit," the basis of all other pursuits, and when such a region as North Texas asks it, it should receive the attention of our law-makers.—Geo. W. WALLING, Flakville, Texas.

1. Please inquire through your paper of some party near Denton who has a young Holstein bull for sale, price, terms, etc.

2. I also ask of you, what is the price of a two-year-old next spring?—D. C. MERRITT, Denton, Texas.

Ans.—1. Those who have such stock for sale will take notice.
2. So much depends upon breeding, pedigree and individual merit that it is impossible to give a probable price.

1. What time is the worst for worms to work on bees, and is it a good plan to examine the hives through the winter? I have a few bees, and sometimes there is fifty to two hundred dead on the ground at some of the hives. What is the cause of these dead bees? I am a new hand in the business. Could like to hear from some one who will tell me.
2. Where is the best market for tomatoes, and will it pay to raise them for market? I have about one acre, but I am afraid they will not pay.—J. L. DILLARD, Dodd, Texas.

Ans.—1. Will some bee keeper answer this query?

2. The best market for tomatoes is the nearest canning factory, if any is in reach, or the nearest large town. The canning factory is the only hope of marketing an acre. Carload shipments to St. Louis or Chicago early in the season can be made profitable, but this business must be managed by men who understand it.

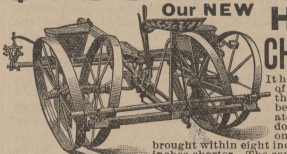
Dr. Wm. Folsetter—I have a very valuable young mare that seems to be a brood mare in this fix for three weeks. The struts seems to be out of joint, standing out from the body and pushing the hind legs back. She seems to be out and kick with this foot, but seems to not want to bear any weight on it. The parts about the joints seem perished somewhat. Have tried running her on a rope tied to foot and post and used liniments, and all seem to do no good. She got in this fix in a wheat field.—W. H. RUTHERFORD, Rockport, Texas.

Ans.—From your description I think your mare is lame in the coffin joint in the foot. If she was stifled her leg would be stiff and immovable, she could not play on it or use it at all. Take one ounce of cantharides ointment, one ounce of vaseline and one dram of biniodide of mercury, and mix them thoroughly. Clip off the hair on the heels below the fetlock and around next to the hoof; rub in some of the salve well for fifteen minutes, then spread a thin coating all over the parts. Keep her tied up so that she cannot get her nose at the part for twenty-four hours; then grease the part—any kind of grease will do. Next day wash off well with hot water and soap, and grease afterwards. If she does not get well apply again in about two weeks. Do not let her exercise any more than possible.—W. FOLSSETTER.

We have received from the Chicago Bank Note Company, a beautiful lithographic portrait of Hon. W. E. Gladstone. It is a good picture, but the lithographer's art can never do justice to the grand old man.

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

\$500 Reward for a Check Row Corn Planter that will excel



It has been in successful operation in the Black Lands of Texas for five years and has never failed to give the best of results. The Check Rower being adjusted before leaving the shop, needs no expert to operate it. The Planter and Rowers being made together, does away with a great many pieces. By placing one wheel on each side of the runner, the wheel is brought within eight inches of the axle, thereby making the Planter two inches shorter. The covering wheels being set at an angle, they have an inward pressure and are guaranteed to cover better than any other Planter made. The wheels being apart at the bottom, the ground is left, mellow directly over the corn and the Planter is the lightest draft Planter on the market. Other points of merit in circular, mailed free to any address. We manufacture Caster Clapper Plows, Volanters and Victor Cultivators, Disc Harrows, Friction Sulky and Corn Planters, and Corn Planters, and handle Buggies, Carts, Pumps, Wind Mills, RAIN, COOPER and OLDS WAGONS, Pitts Threshers and Tractor Engines, Hay Presses, Mowers, Rakes, Baling Ties and Binder Twine. Write us for your wants. **FARLIN & ORENDORFF CO., DALLAS, TEX.**

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Combined CORN & Cotton Planter.

Price will surprise you. Write to-day for descriptive circulars and prices to J. M. BROWN, State Agent, Dallas, Texas.



Territory For Sale.

We have a new and useful patent just out. It is a thing that every farmer in the country needs and will have when once introduced. Saves at least one-half the labor in unloading corn, coal or seed cotton from a wagon. Will sell 10¢ or as many counties as a man would like. Terms to suit the times. Write us for particulars. Address H. F. DAVIS & BRO., Bluff Dale, Fratt Co., Texas.

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Stock farm, one mile west of Denton, Texas. 2000 acres; 300 under plow, 1840 in pasture. Good house, horse and hay barns, cattle sheds, stock scales and other improvements. Very reasonable to desirable tenant. Write or call on M. S. STOUT, Denton, Texas. MRS. J. B. HATCH, 288 Ervay street, Dallas, Texas.

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In Wichita County, in east part of Baylor County, 25 miles west of Wichita Falls, 5 miles south of Bell Station, two 640 acre tracts, about 150 acres on each cultivated, on one 150 acres growing wheat. Crops go with land. Fifth good crop season; no black mud. \$5 and \$7 per acre.

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COUNTY SCHOOL LAND

In solid blocks to suit purchasers, from 5,000 to 20,000 acres, all smooth

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INVESTORS, Address with stamp, L. T. MILLER, WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS, Box 143.

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HAYES Combined CHECK ROW CORN PLANTER

It has been in successful operation in the Black Lands of Texas for five years and has never failed to give the best of results. The Check Rower being adjusted before leaving the shop, needs no expert to operate it. The Planter and Rowers being made together, does away with a great many pieces. By placing one wheel on each side of the runner, the wheel is brought within eight inches of the axle, thereby making the Planter two inches shorter. The covering wheels being set at an angle, they have an inward pressure and are guaranteed to cover better than any other Planter made. The wheels being apart at the bottom, the ground is left, mellow directly over the corn and the Planter is the lightest draft Planter on the market. Other points of merit in circular, mailed free to any address. We manufacture Caster Clapper Plows, Volanters and Victor Cultivators, Disc Harrows, Friction Sulky and Corn Planters, and Corn Planters, and handle Buggies, Carts, Pumps, Wind Mills, RAIN, COOPER and OLDS WAGONS, Pitts Threshers and Tractor Engines, Hay Presses, Mowers, Rakes, Baling Ties and Binder Twine. Write us for your wants. **FARLIN & ORENDORFF CO., DALLAS, TEX.**

CORRESPONDENCE

TEXAS JUTE.

GALVESTON, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

I enclose a sample of Indian Jute. Thirty acres of this plant were raised last year at Galveston Ramble farm. The stalks grew tall, and sometimes reached twelve feet in height. They were decorated by the Felix Fremory machine, and the ribbons simply water rotted. Most of the fiber has been sold at eight cents per pound, but even at five cents per pound this plant is a very profitable growth.

This machine performs its duty with incredible speed, its cylinders being fourteen inches in circumference, and the revolutions 235 in one minute. Such a machine will decorticate in ten hours some 150,000 to 180,000 stalks of nine feet in height or the product of one-half acre, with only ten or twelve circular knives, yielding from 1500 to 1800 pounds of clear fiber, like enclosed sample.

There has been imported into this country \$67,000,000 worth of fibers from abroad, including wool, "the far greater part of which," says the Secretary of Agriculture in his annual report, "or substitutes for the greater part of which, could, with proper encouragement, be grown in our own country, and the enormous sum now paid to foreign producers for their vegetable fibers and their manufactures may be diverted to the pockets of our farmers."

The consumption of jute in the United States in the year 1892 amounted to more than seven million dollars worth. It came 15,000 or 16,000 miles by land and by water, and all fibers were prepared by hand. In this very State of Texas we cannot only to advantage supply the want of this country for such fibers, but also all needed by European industry, representing a yearly income of from fifty to sixty millions of dollars, but if none of our Texas farm papers bring such events to the knowledge of their readers, it is a matter of course that the farmers will plant cotton and corn, and cotton and corn till they are—busted. F. F.

AN A. & M. COLLEGE FOR NORTH TEXAS.

ENNIS, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

The more I travel over this beautiful black belt of North Texas, and see the wonderful possibilities of a country so rich in its adaptation to all the cereals, and to such great numbers of fruits and vegetables, and consider its healthful and temperate climate, and see so many bright, intelligent, noble, and comparatively pure young men and boys who, if properly trained and educated, will one day make this almost an Eden on earth, and then see that so few of them are receiving anything like the training that farmers' boys should have I begin to ask myself if the intelligent farmers are going to drag along and educate everybody else's children, and even now and then a boy is heard in favor of an A. & M. college for North Texas for their own children. If it is a fact that the farm is the foundation of three-fourths of the wealth of the nation, and if it is a fact that proper training and culture are as essential on the farm to insure success as they are in other vocations, it is also true that A. & M. schools, colleges, and even A. & M. universities are as essential to properly educate and train farmers' boys for their great life's work as they are for boys who are preparing for other vocations. "We must educate—we must educate," or go to the wall and still remain the pack-horses for the nation. Millions of dollars have been expended in building or founding medical schools, law schools, business colleges, and, in fact, schools, colleges and universities for all other professions, and pardon me for saying that the farmer foots the bills, while his own children are neglected.

Where are the schools and colleges built expressly to properly educate and train our boys for the farm and workshop? They are few and far between. Is it a fact that to-day that in every little town and city all over our State, large, beautiful and commodious public school buildings—graded schools—first-class schools—with all the apparatus and modern appliances, are standing with open doors ten months in the year to receive and educate free—actually free—the sons and daughters of the wealthy merchants, lawyers and doctors, etc.? And is it a fact that the sweat and toil of the struggling, illiterate farmer indirectly foots the bills? And is it a fact that the children of these wealth producers are permitted to trudge from one-half to three miles through mud and cold and then sit and shiver three months in the year in a building that is hardly fit for a mule stable? These are, perhaps, sad comments on a civilized and intelli-

gent people, yet they are but too true. But now we do not want to be understood as complaining because the towns and cities have the school facilities and educational privileges that they have, but we do want to be understood as asking for at least a few more A. & M. colleges in Texas, (as we have only five) where farmers' boys can get that literary and scientific education that will develop and strengthen their minds, and lift them up to that plane in society which belongs to them. And these A. & M. colleges must be so founded and managed that our boys can attend them at the least possible cost. It should really be at no cost. The arrangement should be and could be such that while the boy is taking his lessons in agriculture and the mechanics, his labor in the field, in the barn yards, cow stalls, pig pens, poultry yards, etc., should pay for his board, and for his lessons in the other sciences and literature.

We may as well speak out plainly and say that the farmers of this country are waking up and speaking for their rights, and it is only just and right that they should have them, and if the men whom we have chosen to represent us at Austin are still determined to close their ears to the entreaties of the farmers of Texas for an A. & M. college in North Texas, and for an appropriation to establish a Farmers' Institute bureau in Texas for the purpose of holding institutes wherever and whenever they can be of practical benefit to the farmers, they will soon find written on their palace walls, "Weighed in the balance and found wanting."

UNCLE SNORT.

FARMING IN GREER COUNTY.

GREER, GREER CO., TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

In your issue of December 21st, I notice an article giving Jerusalem artichokes a puff, from wise county, and signed "Subscriber." Now if Mr. Subscriber has anything extra in the way of hog feed, he is surely hiding his light under a bushel measure, for if there is any one thing that we in the West need light on it is hog feed. Please say to the dear people of Texas that the free state of Greer is in the swim this season with a fine prospect for a heavy crop of small grain; acreage almost double that of any previous year in wheat, and the oat crop will be planted soon. Some are planting at present, but most of the oat crop will be planted on sold land, as all the land broke last season is planted to wheat. There will be considerable corn planted here this season. If any of your readers who want to do well with some good horses and jacks will come to this part they certainly would do well. We are badly in need of stock to grade upon.

If any of your readers have had experience enough with alfalfa to speak from experience, giving best time to plant, and what amount of seed per acre, weight of seed per bushel, depth to plant seed, etc., they will place me under obligations.

Is it possible that Singleton & Cothes are one or two others are the people in Texas who breed hogs to sell? If not, why don't they bob up and advertise. A man with a good breed of hogs, at prices that the farmers could reach, would do well to make himself acquainted in Greer county. There is a great demand for breeding hogs. J. T. MORRIS

PLANTING BERMUDA GRASS.

EDDY, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

As it is nearly time to begin planting Bermuda grass, and as there seems to be a good deal of interest manifested in it as a pasture grass, I will give my idea about it, as I have been working with it eight or nine years, and have tried different ways of planting it. The most successful way to plant it, especially in old land that is poisoned with weeds and other grass, is to prepare the land for corn or cotton, and in February lay off the land in four and one-half-foot drills. Chop the Bermuda sod in pieces half as large as your hand and plant it three or four feet apart in the drill, and don't cover it more than two inches deep—one inch is enough if it don't stay dry too long—and then plant between the grass rows corn or cotton, and by that means you cultivate the grass and give it a good start in the spring, and if you have rain in the fall it will nearly or quite cover the ground the first year. I have tried just running furrows in old land and in sod and drop the grass and covering and letting it alone, and I found it to be work thrown away almost.

It will do planted any time in March, or you can plant the runners any time in the spring when it is wet. Plant them in the corn or cotton rows. As it is late coming in the spring, the weeds will need mowing or grazing with sheep in the early spring. That will need to be done two or

three years, until it forms a thick sod. Now as to its value for grazing: On good average black land it will furnish good grazing seven or eight months in the year, and will graze one horse or cow to the acre. I have never tried it for hay. On good land it will grow ten and twelve inches high. I know of some who have tried sowing the seed, and they rarely ever come up sowed in the black land, and besides they are very costly. The sod never falls if properly planted, and you don't let the sod get too dry after plowing or digging it up before planting. I would like to hear from some man who has tried artichokes in the black land.

MIT MONTGOMERY.

ABOUT ROAD BUILDING.

DALLAS, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

Permit one of your old subscribers to join in the discussion of public highways, even if I have not the talent nor the ready pen of Uncle Snort. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is the best friend of farmers, is progressive, active, economic, full of common sense. It is one ever ready to publish matters of public interest, especially on public roads matter; it was first to open the battle, and it is a battle, and will be until the most useful of all reforms is accomplished. I am now preparing a small model of a macadamized road, to be added to my museum. It will be composed of two entirely different native materials, both exist in everlasting quantities in Texas, especially in Dallas county. I will endeavor to show, in a practical way, how to build and keep in repair a modern scientific, permanent road, difference in material and cost. To do this I wish the co-operation of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and free discussion from any one in a public spirit. In a business and practical way, farmers are the most interested in good roads at all times. Come, give your ideas; don't hold back. It is broad and butters your family and the general public. It is transformation of your county and State to wealth; it is shortening the distance to market, etc. Life is too short to travel in mud and water every now and then. It is no use to build any road if it is not kept in repair. If I am right Dallas county pays annually over \$50,000 for bridges, culverts, etc., to be washed out by any heavy rain. E. REMOND.

WHO OUGHT TO DO THE FENCING?

HALE COUNTY, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

Seeing you are willing to help us poor farmers and God knows we need it, for lots of us can't help ourselves—can't you get somebody who will want office next time to get a law passed to make all men owning cattle fence their stock, and us poor farmers not have to spend more than our land and crops will be worth in ten years to fence some of our neighbor's old cows out of our wheat patch because they will not fence them, saying the cows look well enough? Yes, the ones that can't jump will go under or tear down the six wires you are trying to keep them out with, and stand around and rub the fence posts, looking at your hay stack with such longing eyes that some night when the snow is two or three inches deep they conclude you are too noble and warm in that bed to think of the old cow, so she will jump over, crawl under or tear down your fence or break her neck to get one more good feed out of somebody's hay lot. But never fear for her neck; it is too tough, like her hide. She will break wire and posts or have supper if her owner will not raise it for her, or sells it to buy tobacco and whiskey with, or something quite as nice. O, that cow, that scrub sow—but God help her neighbor. UNCLE TOMY.

ORANGE JUDD.

SHERMAN, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

It is with deep regret I learn of the death of this great, good and useful man. For twenty-five years I have read and admired his writings, for my father was one of those who believed that plenty of the best and purest literature was essential to the highest development of farmer boys and girls, and among other useful periodicals kept the American Agriculturist for our reading. And when Mr. Judd moved to Chicago I continued to read his Prairie Farmer. His series of articles on "The Earth's Crust, or How Soils are Formed," alone was worth to me many times more than I ever paid for the papers, and I think I am justified in saying that much of my success in life as a culturist of the soil is owing to the knowledge and inspiration gained from the Orange Judd books and papers. Truly a great man has fallen and gone to his reward, and I unite with the thousands of his admirers to do him homage and drop a tear to his memory, a

flower on his grave. And now I would obey the advice of a writer who said, "Give me the flowers while I live and not wait until I am dead." Away back fifteen or twenty years ago, in the more crude condition of Texas agriculture and horticulture we were wont to think that the fine theories and practices of George Waring, Dr. Laws, "The Deacon" and other fine writers for Mr. Judd's papers were not altogether suited to our wants away here in the Southwest, and longed for information more fitting our new conditions on certain points peculiar to Texas. And it remains for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH to fill the want beyond our fondest expectations, for I am proud to say her able corps of editors are the peer of any, fathoming and overcoming the peculiar difficulties of soil and climate, inaugurating and aiding finer methods, finer crops, finer fruits and flowers, finer stock—in short, the higher degree of development and culture of Texas, possessing perhaps greater combined resources than any other one State.

All honor to the noble class of men and women who labor to build up character, good homes and good government.

JNO. S. KERR.

THE TEXAS COAST.

HITCHCOCK, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch.

I regret that I was away from home at the time of Mr. Stevens visit, an account of which appears in your last issue. I wished particularly to convince him by taking him to see some very old pear trees of the common varieties near here, that this is really a blight proof country. Whether this immunity arises from sea air, sub-irrigation, deep pipe clay subsoil or some other cause, certain it is that for full thirty years quite a number of these old blighting kinds have flourished here in perfect health. Why these old varieties fall to fruit is another mystery, for they are worthless for profit although healthy in wood and leaf. Last season was the final test of the pear here. When in full leaf and the fruit nearly the size of a marble, the temperature fell to 24 degrees and turned both leaf and fruit to ice. For several months I watched my orchard with the greatest anxiety for it was after just such an experience that the blight first appeared in Georgia a few years ago, and was spread by the wind with the fine orchard of Mr. Blackshear at Navasota, and many other pear trees in that locality. But not a sign of the dread disease has appeared here. Though the pears dropped off, the leaves thawed out fresh and green and went on growing as if nothing had happened. Not only this, but a great many young shoots after growing about three inches, put forth a cluster of blossoms and set quite a fair crop of fruit which came to perfect maturity and brought fancy prices. Mr. Stevens was mistaken in supposing that the Kleffer is the most profitable here. The Le Conte pays two to one the best. The Omslu, or Satsuma orange, as it is called in Florida, has again demonstrated its extreme hardiness here. On the 29th ult. the thermometer fell to 15 degrees at daylight and though some of the leaves were badly nipped, the wood is unharmed. Taken altogether, while Galveston county is a first class fruit country and a fairly good early vegetable section, a recent visit to Beaumont has convinced me that the garden spot of Texas for both early fruits and vegetables has been entirely overlooked. This is mainly due to the fact that as yet Jefferson county has no direct outlet to the north, though several railroads are now projected, one of which will certainly be built in the near future. With a pretty good personal acquaintance with the coast country from Corpus Christi to the Sabine, I can unhesitatingly say that for good, rich, well drained and cheap lands with exceptionally favorable climatic conditions, Jefferson county is without an equal. Although much farther North than Hitchcock, I found during my visit a few days ago that the recent freeze had not done the slightest damage, while here sweet orange trees are killed to the ground and gardens practically ruined. Cabbage, lettuce, etc., looked as fresh as if spring in Beaumont, while hundreds of large bearing orange trees showed no trace of the cold. The reason of this is plain. Between here and Houston lies an unbroken open prairie, over which the northers sweep with unobstructed fury, while for nearly 500 miles to the north of Beaumont stands a virgin forest of pine whose dense foliage not only breaks the radiations of the summer's heat from the soil, but moderates also the force of the wind, resulting in a uniformly higher temperature in all cold spells than in any other portion of the coast country. In fact, a very large portion of Jefferson county is a natural hot bed, especially the clearings in the timber, in which even the common sweet orange may be planted with safety, and groves of

be prevented by the use of the Bordeaux Mixture. This grape is too well known to need any particular description. It is considered to be one of the most reliable and productive of the Labrusca class of grapes. The fruit is of fair quality, very handsome, pleases the eye, and will sell.

TRAYLOR.

This grape is a native of Georgia, and has its name from Mr. Traylor, who found it growing wild in the woods near the old Traylor home, in that State, and was transplanted to his garden, and when the old home was sold and the family came to East Texas, in the early settlement of Texas, Mr. Traylor brought this grape with him, and it has been known about Queen City, Texas, as the Traylor grape for many years. It is a true *Aestivalis* and of the Herbemont class; bunch very compact, medium, berries small, round, black, with blue bloom, juicy, and vinous and sweet, sprightly and refreshing; quality, best for table or wine; vine a very strong grower, healthy and productive. Ripens its fruit in August, after the Concord is ripe and gone, and makes one of the most aromatic and delightful white wines; must, 114 degrees, as shown by a test on the must scale from juice in 1888. Free from rot so far. This grape has been fruiting on my ground for the past seven years, and has never failed to produce a good crop. I shall ever be thankful to Captain Powell, of Queen City, for the gift of this grape.

Cynthiana.—Origin, Arkansas, where it was probably found growing wild. It is a true *Aestivalis* in all its habits. This grape was obtained by me from Judge Samuel Miller, of Benton, Mo., eight years ago, and has been fruiting seven years in my vineyard. They were grafted on three varieties of grape; viz: Isabella and Black Spanish. It has never shown any signs of disease in fruit, foliage or vine, and is one of the most perfect grapes I know of. Bunch, medium, very compact shouldered; berry, medium black, with blue bloom, sweet and vinous with darkened juice, very rich; must as grown by me 110, degrees; vine, a good grower, healthy and hardy, but does not grow readily from cuttings; bears the third year, very productive, and the surest grape I have; will bear best on spurs on old wood. The Cynthiana and Taylor took premiums at the Texas State Fair and Dallas Exposition, October, 1887, and the reputation of the Cynthiana wine is world-wide, and those who have tasted good Cynthiana wine once will not forget it soon. It has taken more premiums than any American wine, and took the premium at the Vienna exposition in 1873 over six hundred competitors, as the best red wine of all nations, should place it at the head of the list as the best grape for red wine in the world. It is a fair table grape, and makes fine preserves and the best of jelly. Every family ought to try a few vines of this variety, as it will stand more abuse than any grape I know of. I have no vines for sale.

Mesquite, Texas.

CANNED FRUIT FROM POMPEII.

Fruit Grower.

Do you know that we are indebted to the old Pompeians, who lived in the first century of the Christian era, for our knowledge of how to can fruit? Perhaps not, but it is a fact nevertheless. Years ago, when excavations were first made on the site of the old lava-covered city, a party from America found a jar of figs; not only one, but several. Upon opening one of them, the contents were found to be as fresh and perfect as when first put into the jars nineteen centuries before. Investigations instituted on the spot, proved that the fruit had been put into the jars in a highly heated state, and that an aperture for the escape of the steam had been left in the lid, which, when it had served its purpose, was sealed over with wax. Yankee ingenuity caught the idea at once, and the next year canning factories were erected all over the United States.

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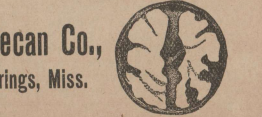
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Poultry and Bees.

A COLD DAY IN TENNESSEE.

H. B. GERR.

When we got up this good morning of our Lord, Sunday January 15, 1893, and stepped out on the side porch and took a look at our thermometer at seven o'clock, it stared us in the face with only two degrees above zero to show up. Right smart "chilly" for the "Sunny South" eh? It didn't come all of a sudden, however, as the mercury has been wavering between eight and twenty-five above—average about fifteen of a morning—for two weeks, and it's been hard freezing weather for about six weeks without a single mild spell in the whole stretch. But it's good, healthy weather and we like it. It's somewhat hard on people in straightened circumstances, the negroes who are heat-proof, but shiver whenever the frost comes, and fine fowls with large combs, liable to frost-bite.

We took a round of our chicken houses, and found several cockerels with frosted combs—those that rooted in the more open houses—while those in the warmer houses, with glass windows, were uninjured. We hurried about, closing this crack and that, and drove a few nails, even if it was Sunday, and we shivered when we thought of Bro. McReynolds' new style hen houses, "minus the glass and one side," and thought what a picnic the frost king would have with Leghorns or Minorcas roosting in such a hen house at this season, even as far south as Tennessee.

We took all the ashes from the grates and the kitchen stove, as we do every morning, and put them in a place fixed for them in each of the several houses, for the fowls to scratch and peck and wallow in. If Bro. McReynolds could have seen those cold and shivering fowls fly down off their perches and light into those dry and comparatively warm ash piles, he would never advocate their abolishment in a climate such as this. Our next move was to put some fresh straw in the scratch pens and scatter some dry oats and shelled corn among it. The fowls were just as quick to go to work among the straw as they were in the ashes. We looked out into the garden as we thought of Bro. McReynolds' plow and fresh plowed furrow as a scratch place, and the hard frozen earth and patches of snow mocked us. A plow could make as much headway in a row of stumps as in our chicken yards or garden for the last two months. Such cold mornings as this was we put off watering the chickens until the middle of the day. Shortly after dinner old Black Jenney called us to the kitchen saying, "Boss, de chicken feed's ready." She had a large second-hand dishpan something over half full of miscellaneous vegetable, meat and other table scraps and hot greasy water. We took a bucket and poured and stirred oats into the mixture until it was piled full. Then we put a big piece of heavy, stiff paper over it, and a weight on top of that to hold it down and prevent the escape of steam, having previously stirred it up so as to mix oats and scraps generally. In twenty minutes time the oats were soft and swollen and had absorbed the greasy water, and all was in fine shape to feed. We took that heaping dishpanful of table scraps and boiled oats and fed just exactly ninety-four fowls with it, and all the fowls wanted, too. We are not a "dry goods clerk," as per Bro. McReynolds' idea of "tinkering with table scraps," although we know some mighty good fellows who are "dry goods clerks" and first class poultry keepers, too. Neither do we think our better half or her help at all wasteful with what goes on the table, yet we think we know when chicken feed is well seasoned, and there was fully as much grease as should have been allowed, and plenty of vegetable matter in that hot stew to have due effect on every one of the ninety-four fowls it was fed to. We generally feed the warm stew first, but the scraps were not ready till noon, so we reversed it to-day.

It may interest some good people interested in this section to know that the Cumberland river is now frozen solid at Nashville. The ice was running heavy in it day before yesterday and yesterday, and last night it formed a gorge against the city bridge, and to-day she is blocked solid right in front of Broad street, at the landing, and as far up the river as can be seen from the bridge. Skating is the order of the day here now on the various ponds about the suburbs. The river ice is too rough for such sport.

It is very plain to us that Bro. McReynolds is not experienced in the management of fowls in cold latitudes, or he would not assal the established custom of experienced breeders in such sections of the country. We have never yet reached the point where we have had "plenty of time,"

nor plenty of money either, but we have had plenty of hard work and experience with chickens in the winter time. We were just now nursing two skinned knuckles and cracked hands, and one blue-black finger nail that we hit instead of the other nail while hustling to make a hen house as frost-proof as possible.

At our Missouri "ranch," where we spend a good part of our time, we are now wintering more fowls than Bro. McReynolds says he makes a living out of, and we wouldn't be "in it" if we didn't keep them in snug houses with glass windows, dust boxes and "scratch piles" while the ground is frozen and often covered with snow without. It takes all of one man's time to look after the fowls there in the winter time, and during the laying and hatching season and when the fruit is ready for market it works two men and a "nigger" pretty hard to keep things in shape.

Nashville, Tenn.

IS POULTRY CULTURE A SMALL THING?

J. G. McREYNOLDS.

My wife thinks her husband is in a very small business raising chickens. My neighbors thought I was crazy when I established my hen plant. The people, as a rule, do not consider the products of poultry culture worthy the least attention. The fact is, five years ago I did not care to tell my friends that I was "doing nothing but raising chickens." I have gotten over that now—rather like to be called the biggest poultry crank in Texas. When I read such statements as those compiled by Labor Commissioner Hall, of Missouri, I feel as if I was employed in one of the greatest industries known. It comes to us in the St. Louis Journal of Agriculture, and it will serve to open the eyes of those who sneer at this industry. It is interesting to compare the amount realized from the sale of poultry and eggs with some other commodities. From a valuation furnished the bureau we have:

Poultry.....	\$3,604,918
Eggs.....	1,409,043
Total.....	\$4,213,961
Corn.....	\$3,378,538
Oats.....	1,238,175
Total.....	\$4,606,713
Coal.....	\$3,488,038
Iron.....	205,335
Total.....	\$3,753,393

These figures are for products marketed in Missouri, and they show that the poultry products nearly equals in value that of corn and oats combined and exceeding amount received for coal and iron. When we take into consideration the cost of producing these products, we will have shown that of poultry will, by a vast sum, exceed corn and oats, if not all of them. Still, poultry culture is not worth the attention of the average farmer.

Right here is a good place to give a little of my experience. For over twenty years I sold goods to farmers, and the best customers I had, and the most prosperous farmers, were those who paid for what they purchased with the so-called small produce, such as eggs, chickens, butter, honey, potatoes, dried fruit, and many such things that too often is allowed to waste, because too small for a man to feed with. I can count now more than a dozen who then paid tax on from \$500 to \$1500 that to-day pay on from \$5000 to \$10,000. On the other hand, I can count more than a dozen who, twenty years ago, paid tax on from \$3000 to \$7500, now pay on from \$1000 to nothing, and who considered the smaller products of the farm as beneath their attention.

I was told last fall at Dallas by a market man that early in the spring broilers sold readily in that city for from \$3 to \$4.50 per dozen. Compared with Eastern markets, that is cheap, still there is money in them to the farmer. And if the fellows who sit around the stores, while dry goods boxes and discuss the free coinage of silver, will devote the time thus spent to poultry culture, they will have something to exchange for silver, and need no sub-treasury to store cotton or anything else.

Neches, Texas.

YOU SHOULD KNOW

That the International & Great Northern R. R. is the direct line to Austin, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Rockport and to Monterrey, the City of Mexico and other principal cities in the Republic of Mexico, via Laredo. It is also the shortest and quickest line between Houston and Galveston. Pullman Buffet Sleeping Cars run through between St. Louis and Laredo without change. For tickets, folders, maps or other information, call on any ticket agent, or write D. J. Fitch, Asst. Gen'l Pass. Agent, Palestine, Texas.

Your leisure moments can be profitably employed securing subscribers for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

BLACKWELL'S BULL DURHAM

SMOKING TOBACCO.



SO SAY WE ALL OF US.

I'm an old smoker, and have at one time or another tried all the different Smoking Tobaccos, but for a good smoke Bull Durham beats 'em all.

A leading characteristic of Bull Durham has always been the hold which it takes on old and fastidious smokers. What its excellence first secured, its uniformity has always retained, and it is, therefore, to-day as twenty-five years ago, the most popular Smoking Tobacco in the world.

Get the genuine. Made only by

Blackwell's Durham Tobacco Co.,
DURHAM, N. C.

LIGHT BRAHMAS FOR SALE.—Bargain offer in good birds. CLINT THOMPSON, McKinney, Tex.
600 EGG SIZE INCUBATOR.
ONLY \$20.
F. M. CURVEY, GREENWOOD, NEB.

EGGS AND PLANTS. Best Brown and White Rock, Bk. Minorcas, Lechorn eggs, \$1.25; Ply. Langshans, Pitt Game and Buff. Cochins eggs, \$1 per 15. Strawberry and Raspberry Plants. Also Poultry books and papers. Finely illustrated catalogue free. Address: GEER BROTHERS, St. Marys, Mo.
Or, H. B. GERR, Nashville, Tenn.

POULTRY AND EGGS FOR SALE. Leading varieties of finest through-bred Poultry. Largest Poultry farm in the South. We keep only the best. Three one-cent stamps for beautiful Catalogue. Arkansas Poultry Farm, Batesville, Ark.

POULTRY Brown Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, for sale. First Premiums and highest honors at American Poultry Shows. 80 choice chicks, old and young, from my show stock for sale. Eggs in season. Large catalogue free. B. E. ROGERS, Lake Bluff, Ill.

INCUBATORS AND BROODERS Brooders only \$4.00. 120 testimonials. 40 premiums, medals, and diplomas. Best machine ever invented for hatching & raising chicks, turkeys & ducks. Catalogue address Geo. S. Singer, Carlington, O.

FOR SALE FROM 15 Varieties of STANDARD POULTRY, kept in 15 Separate pens. Our Company none of 15 Experienced fanciers, one business manager. 4 page catalogue, our plan, for 4 cts in stamps. Albion Poultry Yards, Albion, Ill.

EGGS from Fine Poultry a Specialty. Twelve varieties, carefully mated to give best results. Satisfaction guaranteed. For price list and full particulars write to D. H. BROWN, Terrell, Texas.

Bell County Poultry Yards H. B. SAVAGE, Mgr., Belton, Tex.
Breeder of thoroughbred Indian Games, White Langshans, White Plymouth Rocks, Black Minorcas, Brown Leghorns and Pekin Ducks

Elmwood Poultry Yard The largest Poultry Yard in Western Texas. Have won more First Premiums at the Dallas State Fair than any other breeder in the State. Have eggs for hatching at \$5.00 for 15 from the following breeds: Silver Spangled Hamburgs, White and Brown Leghorns, White Minorcas, Plymouth Rocks and Langshans. R. A. CORBETT, Baird, Texas.

WHITE MINORCAS The most prolific layers. Splendid foragers. Extremely hardy. Non-sitters. Stock from best imported strains. WARRANTED STRICTLY PURE. Eggs \$2 for 15, shipped any distance with perfect safety. Circular free. Wm. M. Robinson, Dallas, Tex.

Eggs for Hatching a Specialty. Stock first class, carefully mated in large, roomy yards. Birds vigorous and healthy. Eggs \$3 per 15 from Barred and White F. Rocks, White and Silver Wyandottes, Black Langshans, Brown Leghorns, Black Minorcas, Buff. Pekin and Japanese Bantams. \$3 per 15 from Ia. Shawank and Blue Heron Pitt Games, and Exhibition B. B. Red and Red Pile Games. Pekin Duck eggs \$1.50 per 15. Angora Rabbits and Guinea Pigs \$2.50 per pair. Safe arrival guaranteed. Bees and queens. Price list for a stamp. 43 years in Texas.—B. F. CABBELL, Blooming Grove, Navarro Co., Texas.

WELL MACH'Y All kinds, Water, Gas, Oil, Wind and Steam; Heating, Boilers, &c. Will send you to send 25c. for Encyclopedia, of the American Well Works, Aurora, Ill., also, Chicago, Ill.; Dallas, Tex.; Sydney, N. S. W.

PURE-BRED FOWLS

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, the best all-purpose fowl on earth.

FOR SALE Eggs, \$2 per sitting, carefully packed, Eggs warranted fresh. Choice birds in the fall.

Agent for Spraying Machines. Death to insects in hen houses, garden or orchard. Price, \$5.

H. B. HILLYER, BELTON, Bell Co., TEXAS.

50th YEAR.



The Great Farm, Industrial and Stock Journal of the South.

ONE YEAR FOR \$1.

Sample copies will be mailed FREE on application to
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For rates, maps, time tables and all information apply to any Agent of the Company.

F. H. JONES, W. H. WINFIELD,
Trav. Pass'r Ag't, Gen'l Pass'r Ag't,
Ft. Worth, Texas, Tyler, Texas.

Live Stock Agent, Kansas City Stock Yards.
F. W. BANGERT,
Live Stock Agent, National Stock Yards Ill.

FARM AND STOCK.

A good coat of fat is a fine protection against the cold of winter. Every animal should wear one.

Did you ever think of it: the people of the United States could eat every sheep in the country in less than three months, and cry for more?

Mutton sheep at \$4.60 is a profitable crop. That is what 245 head of Texas raised brought at Chicago on the 13th instant, and the market was reported firm with an upward inclination.

It is the dairyman who has provided an abundance of good winter feed for his cows who will pocket the difference between winter and summer prices for dairy products. Herein lies the profits.

We have samples of Delana wool from 1-year-old Spanish Merino rams, of the flock of H. G. Brandt, Kilgore, Ohio. The samples are exceedingly fine and lustrous, and show that America can produce as fine wool as Spain.

Holding for a rise pays only when the rise comes and is taken advantage of. Cotton planters of 1891 who held for a rise in 1892 missed it badly, while those who held for the recent rise hit the nail on the head and drove it home. The wheat growers of the West who held their wheat last year are sorry they did it. It is over this. We know not what prices a day may bring forth.

On all soils at least one year in three should be given to the land. A crop can be raised any year which will pay all the expenses of producing it, and prepare the soil for two good profitable crops. There is more in knowing what to plant than in knowing how to plant and cultivate. Cow peas is an unsurpassed crop for the soil. Hay enough can be cut to more than pay all expenses, and the remainder can be turned under and far better crops raised next season.

The shortage of hogs at the St. Louis packeries is enormous, also at Chicago, being not less than 2,000,000. Thousands of men have been discharged from packeries for this cause. The Western hog crop was last year unusually short, and authorities are disputing as to the cause or causes on hand when wintered. The West has been the great pork producing section, but the Southwest is destined to usurp that function at no distant day. The superior health of hogs here and the cheapness of feed and care makes this, by nature, the home of cheap hogs.

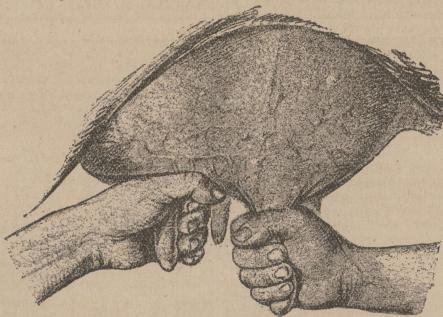
Members of the Texas Legislature should remember that Texas farmers are, to a very unfortunate extent, prohibited from keeping sheep, the most universally profitable stock in the world, by the yellow cur curse. Can not our law-making solons "take the bull by the horns"—or the cur by the tail, short as it is—and legislate brains out against dog tax law, or else exempt sheep? Why should sheep be taxed while dogs have the freedom of the range without paying a cent of tax, while they rob and murder at will? Down with the bob-tail cur, and up with the legislators who have the moral courage to tackle him, if there be such.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

N. J. SHEPHERD.

With hogs, especially, in nearly all cases, it will be best to select out the animals intended to be kept for breeding, and then feed them especially for this purpose. It is very important to select a good development of bone and muscle. Vigor and thrift are very important with breeding animals if the offspring are to possess the qualities of the parents. Many of our best breeders claim that with the majority of stock the first breeding affects to a more or less extent all the future offspring of the dam, that is, if a full blood young sow is bred for her first litter of pigs to a scrub boar, the impression made will affect, to some extent, at least, all future litters, and for this reason it is very important to use all reasonable care to make properly the first time. Under present conditions of feeding and fattening hogs for market, the average farmer cannot afford to raise only the best hogs, and these cannot be secured unless care is taken in breeding. One mistake that is often made is in allowing all of the young growing hogs to run together, and especially so when proper care is not taken to castrate the young males in good season. So far as the season will admit all males not intended for breeders should be castrated by the time they are weaned. There is, under what may be considered average conditions, no advantage in delaying beyond this, and there is always an increased risk of loss by

delaying, and the further risk of improper breeding. One of the most frequent causes of ill generation among hogs is caused by immature breeding, and in many cases this is caused by carelessness in allowing all to run together when the young males have not been properly castrated. Whenever it becomes necessary to breed young sows, in nearly all cases it will be best to mate them to older well matured males. Even with common sows, if care is taken in selecting, and then they are mated to well matured, vigorous sires that are full blooded, a very considerable improvement can be made in the quality of the hogs. But it is a serious mistake with young sows to mate them to a young, immature male, no matter what breed, or to an older animal that is not a full blood. This is one of what may be termed the smaller items that are necessary in the management of the breeding hogs, when the best results are secured, and because it is what may be considered a trivial item it is often overlooked. Especially where breeding is to improve an already good stock of hogs



every advantage must be taken, and this is one that cannot be overlooked without the effect appearing to a more or less extent. The more care with the breeding animals the better the improvement, and for this reason it is important to begin right.

Eldon, Mo.

The above cut hardly needs an explanation, but there are many errors made by milkers that might properly be mentioned in this connection, but we will merely give the proper method, which will, of course, practically exclude those which are not proper. The udder and teats should, first of all, be clean. To neglect this is to spoil the entire process. If quite foul, all should be washed with towel and water, otherwise a dry, soft towel should be freely used. Slovenly milkers wet the teats with milk; this is a filthy habit. Learn to milk with all the parts thoroughly dry as well as clean. Stripping with the thumb and finger should not be practiced. Grasp the teat as shown by the left hand in the cut, bearing firmly against the udder, and make the first pressure as high as possible, gradually and firmly close the grip with successive fingers to the end of the teat, and with a downward pressure of the whole hand until the position represented by the right hand is reached. This process may be rapid or slow as the cow is a hard or easy milker. In milking with both hands, which is the proper way, let the upward and downward motions alternate. Milk one side at a time, and continue the operation as long as the milk flows. The movements should be uniform throughout, with no sudden or spasmodic actions. Try to perform the operation so as to make it pleasant to the cow. It will pay to bear this in mind.

FEEDING BEEF CATTLE.

EDWIN MONTGOMERY.

Feeding beef cattle for market on cotton seed meal and hulls, is rapidly developing into a huge industry in the cotton States. Large numbers are being fed in this State at various points. Feeders who have been able to select a good class of stock, such as will readily respond to good feed and care; who are located at good shipping points, adjacent to oil mills; who have good facilities for yarding and sheltering the cattle; proper arrangements and fixtures to water and feed, and are wide awake as to all the details of the business, and have the intelligence, judgment and experience to avail themselves of every opportunity, great and small, to practice economy and to get the best possible re-

sults from minimum expenditure of time, labor and money, who made fair profits in feeding beef cattle for market.

Some small feeders in East Mississippi, whom we are acquainted with personally, who rushed into the business without any experience and did not possess the requisite knowledge to insure success, have failed to reap a profit and most of them lost money.

It is to be deplored that we have so few cattle in this country that are fit for grain feeding for market. Our native cattle are small and inferior and have little or no infusion of good blood in their veins. This country needs a better class of bulls to cross on our common stock.

The Devons have proved admirably adapted to our climate and pastures. The Mississippi A. & M. College near this place, a few years ago had a small herd of Scotch Galloways. They seemed to give excellent satisfaction but the college was keeping too many different breeds of cattle and was forced to dispose of some of them entire, and the Galloways were sold. On the college farm a number of

grade Galloway heaves were matured, and proved to be smooth, heavy animals, and seemingly as hardy as the natives. In many respects we are inclined to believe the Galloway is the best beef breed for this section of country, a belief that we have entertained for very many years, even previous to the Mississippi A. & M. College experiment.

Starkville, Miss.

FAVORS A STOCK LAW.

Dr. W. W. Stell, of Paris, Texas, after discussing the proposed road tax, advocating the maximum tax of 15 cents on the hundred dollars, says:

"The first step towards this new road law is to petition our present Legislature to pass a general stock law, that is, a law prohibiting the running at large of any stock in the State, compelling every man in the State to fence up his stock. There is no use to fence in the crops; they will do no damage whatever to stock if kept out of the way, as they should be. Pass a law of this kind; then pass another compelling the Commissioners' Court of each county to appoint three of the best citizens of the county as a road jury, whose duties shall be to take charge of all the public roads in the county, personally inspect the roads, direct the work to be done, and the expenditure of the money, too.

"But after the new stock law goes into effect, and only a reasonable time should be given to prepare for it, the very first duty of said jury should be to straighten, and keep straight, the present county roads, and putting them on better grounds, paying the real value of such lands, and no more. Thus several miles in length can be saved by knocking the crooks out of the roads, and a great deal of money saved by having the roads on much better ground than they are at present.

"Some seven or eight years ago I visited some of the older Southern States, Alabama and Georgia, where a general stock law was in full operation. After discussing the subject fully with some of the best citizens of Augusta, Ga., where I staid one week, I learned that the first effort to pass the general stock law in Georgia was unsuccessful. Many farmers almost went wild over the matter, and many threats were made against the leaders. But the leaders persevered in educating the masses; hence, in two years after it was passed. The law had only been in operation two or three years when I was there, but I was told that no citizen of the State could be found who would have the law repealed if he could. If,

then, in a timbered country like that, where the best rail timber was in abundance, all citizens favored a general stock law, what objection can any one in Texas offer? If any one opposes a general stock law for Texas I would be very glad to know his reasons why? Certainly many valid reasons can be given in favor of one. Who is willing to help me start the ball to rolling? Now is certainly the best time to make the start."

STOCK AND CROPS IN CLAY COUNTY

W. S. IKARD.

My family all appreciate your paper very much and think every farmer ought to take it.

About a two-inch snow fell here yesterday. Stock and wheat looking well in Clay county; 80 per cent more wheat sowed than in 1892.

Our town and county is improving and settling up fast, the calamity howlers of 1892 to the contrary. A better demand for fine cattle and hogs for 1893, and to date for 1893, than in the past. This is a good indication that the time is here for finer and better stock, and that should be the motto of every stockman and farmer in the State. There is no excuse for any one not grading up now, as pure bred stock are in reach of all, as they are so cheap. Now is the time to buy a pair of pigs, or a bull, before the rise, which is sure to come in the near future.

I would like to see an article from such breeders as N. H. Gentry, of Sedalia, Mo.; Adams Earle and Mr. Van Natter, of La Fayette, Ind., for the benefit of breeders like myself. If they would kindly give us a few points for breeders from their knowledge and experience it would certainly be beneficial to Texas breeders.

Henrietta, Texas.

VALUE OF OUR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

American Agriculturist.

In preparing this review of the value of the agricultural productions of the United States for the calendar year 1893, all available sources of information have been consulted. The Federal census of 1889, State census or assessor's returns, special reports and estimates made for this review by Governors and State Boards of Agriculture, commercial and journalistic statements of production of special crops, and market data as to values, have been compared. The absence of exact information about area, product and value of many minor crops, and the want of knowledge about the production of meats, poultry and dairy produce, makes this attempt of value chiefly as an approximate comparison of the relative value of American agriculture in its various grand divisions or sections. A summary of all this work is sufficient to bring out comparison. This summary shows that, judged by the methods named above, at current low prices, the farm value of the crop of the United States for 1893 may be roughly stated at this time as follows:

Corn	\$350,000,000
Wheat	325,000,000
Oats	215,000,000
Other cereals	100,000,000
Cotton	300,000,000
Hay	750,000,000
Corn fodder	350,000,000
Special crops	150,000,000
Vegetables	100,000,000
Fruits and flowers	100,000,000

Total for crops	\$3,200,000,000
Dairy products	350,000,000
Poultry and eggs	140,000,000
Wool	75,000,000
Meat products	400,000,000

Total animal products	\$965,000,000
Grand aggregate	\$3,965,000,000

How much an advance of 10 to 25 per cent in current prices would mean to farmers may be appreciated from this data. Incomplete as it is, it shows a product worth four billions of dollars. But not even a Federal census can enumerate all our farm products or their value. How much they cost consumers over and above the farm value cannot be computed; it is an enormous sum.

We would like to see every farmer plant at least a small patch of artichokes. The same can be enlarged to any extent at very little cost from seed grown at home. Plant as soon as you can get your ground ready.

Exchange: A temperance lecturer was once asked: "What shall we do with the grain now required for distilling?"

The prompt reply was: "Feed the drunkards' wives with it; they have gone hungry long enough."

Printing Times: The compositor who set up £10,000 to read one thousand might have prevented his mistake by a little fourth ought.

"Artichokes" for seedling hog pastures can be obtained of Gardner Work, Waco, Texas. See his ad. on page 11 of this issue.

FARM MACHINERY

It is utterly impossible to navigate the roads in the black land districts during continued wet weather.

The general interest being taken in the subject of better roads will cause an active demand for good road making machinery.

F. B. Jones, state agent, for this season has placed already 248 Rock Island sulky plows. Jones is a hustler and has a line of goods that quickly win admiration and permanent customers.

The John D. Lovell Arms Company have out a neat and convenient calendar for office use. They manufacture bicycles and sporting goods at 147 Washington street, Boston, Mass.

The Pope Mfg. Co., Hartford, Conn., bicycle builders and good roads agitators, have out an elegant calendar. It is mounted on a pneumatic-tired wheel, suggestive of the rapidly revolving cycle of time.

S. L. Allen's catalogue for 1893 of Planet, Jr., garden tools is on our table. The tools are well known, for sale in every market, and popular everywhere. These tools are adapted to either hand or horse power. You can't do your garden justice without them.

We have received from Emerson, Talcott & Co., general agents, Dallas, Texas, a set of elegant panel pictures, bearing on the reverse side attractive ads. of the celebrated "Standard" and other farm implements handled by the firm. The pictures as well as the plows and things are real works of art.

The Wilbur H. Murray Mfg. Co. has issued a unique New Year's greeting card, containing a charming penny fresh from the U. S. mint by way of the magician's cave. This penny assures good luck to those who buy their buggies and harness of the Wilbur H. Murray Mfg. Co., especially their \$55.95 buggies and \$5.95 harness.

The thirty-seventh annual catalogue of D. M. Osborne & Co.'s harvesting machinery, spring tooth, disc cultivating and smoothing harrows is on our table. These implements are known wherever Texas Farm and Ranch circulates—and that is all over the civilized world—and it is not necessary that we add any superfluous words to their reputation.

Real permanent and successful factories cannot be secured by the offer of a pension, as is now the custom with the real estate boomers of Texas cities. Equal advantages and facilities with distant manufacturing points, a large and growing home demand, with equitable freight rates—based upon distances—are the things necessary and sure to attract manufacturers.

The Wilbur H. Murray Mfg. Co. have out a new catalogue of "everything you need for a horse." It is immensely illustrated with vehicles of every style from the lightest goat cart to the heaviest farm wagon, and trappings from the simplest leather strap to the finest double or single harness. The catalogue is unique, but not as much so as the prices of the "Murray" goods.

When Major R. V. Tompkins has prepared the Trinity river from Dallas down for successful navigation, freight rates will be such as to materially add to the success of the machinery, implement and vehicle trade of Dallas. Manufacturing will then assume large proportions, and articles bearing the inscription, "manufactured at Dallas, Texas," will be seen for sale and in use all over Texas.

W. S. Marshall, the great wind mill man of Fort Worth, has promised TEXAS FARM AND RANCH articles on hop culture, Farmers Institutes, etc. He has furnished numerous articles in the past that proved interesting and instructive reading, but of late he has deserted us. If he don't make his recent promise good, our Bad Man will be constrained to remark that nothing but Texas Salt Works salt will preserve his promises or reputation.

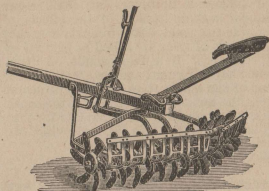
St. Say, Sambo, what's you gwine wid dat ar' machine what you're hauling wid dem two mules?

Sambo: Go way from here, nigger; snt you got no sense at all. Dat's one o' dem Chicago cotton pickers what dem high-toned gemmens from Chicago's monkey'n wid. Dey's down here gittin' certifierkates so's dey can sell the machine's future prospects to norvern people dat don't know nuffin 'bout sho' nuff cotton pickin'.

Mr. E. Van Winkle, the well known inventor and manufacturer of cotton seed

oil machinery, has promised us an article on the value of cotton seed products. As Mr. Van Winkle has given this subject closer investigation than any one else, and done more to develop the industry than any other single inventor and manufacturer, TEXAS FARM AND RANCH will be interesting reading and give valuable information.

We have received of D. S. Morgan & Co., of Brockport, N. Y., through Stratton & White, Fort Worth State Agents, catalogues describing their line of haying tools and spading harrows, as offered for 1893. This house, the pioneer in the manufacture of reapers, and one of the most reliable in the country, has a reputation for well made and well finished goods, and when a farmer sees the name of "Morgan" on a tool, he may be certain it has merit and he takes no chances in investing in one. As a case in point: When in 1891 they first offered the Morgan Spading Har-



row for sale, it was so odd in construction and original in design, nine out of ten were skeptical and hastened to condemn it; but a trial or exhibition of its working was a surprise and pleasure, and demonstrated that it was the greatest pulverizer and general purpose harrow ever built, and it is no wonder they are having an immense trade on it. They will be pleased to send circulars, or answer any question regarding their lines.

Farm Implement News: Ed. Howell and Chas. W. Shimmel, of Marshall, Ill., have had a controversy over the question which of them sold the most binders. Mr. Howell claimed forty-one, but Mr. Shimmel says he has come out on top by publishing the names of fifty-two farmers to whom he sold binders, in all cases at \$130 cash or \$135 on time. We know a firm out in Nebraska that beat this "all holler" last summer, by selling 163 binders at retail. Has any one done better? Come, boys, speak out.

Farm Implement News: We notice in a recent number of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, a letter from a Texas cotton planter, giving his experience with the Cunningham cotton picker and cleaner, of which he speaks very favorably. The Cunningham system of cotton harvesting was described in Farm Implement News, and illustrations given of the machinery about a year ago, when the practical operations of the same gave such promise as to attract general attention. The correspondent referred to says that the picker and cleaner have been doing very satisfactory work on his farm and elsewhere in his neighborhood and that improvements are being made that will overcome some of the imperfections of the system, in the final success of which, as a practical planter, he expresses full confidence. It may be added that the proprietors of this cotton harvester are not offering stock interests therein to northern suckers.

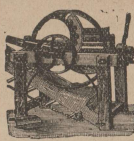
Allow me to commend TEXAS FARM AND RANCH to the people of Texas as a live, clean, reliable, newsy farm paper, and one that ought to be in the home of every farmer in Texas.—JOHN D. HEDDICK, Hughes Springs, Texas.

Woman's Chronicle: A school girl found in her book of civil government, which she was reading, a clause which read: "Insane persons, paupers, idiots and women were not allowed to vote." She giggled, and called the attention of the class, and they all giggled and said it sounded so funny. Little did the learned law makers think that their wise deliberations would be held up for ridicule by even school girls.

The round-trip railroad ticket, sleeper, fare both ways, a week's admission to the World's Fair, free board and incidental expenses, all for a club of subscribers to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH should prove a boon to any and every one who wishes to attend the great Columbian Exposition. Write for particulars.

FOR INFORMATION

About Calhoun, the best farming and fruit growing county on the Texas Coast, send to the Port Lavaca, Port Lavaca. Calhoun county has fine soil and a delightful climate and is fast settling up.



BELLE CITY Feed and Ensilage CUTTER.

Farmers know that feeding Ensilage increases profits, and we ask you to send for our illustrated Catalogue and Price Lists before buying a cutter. All Sizes and Ensilage Treatable FEED. Belle City Mfg. Co., Racine, Wis.

GINNING

Machinery, Repairs and Supplies.

LOW FIGURES, CAREFUL WORK.

SIMPSON, HARTWELL & STOPPLE, IRON WORKS, HOUSTON, - TEXAS.

HUNTER & BOOSO,

172 Elm Street, DALLAS, TEXAS,

Engines, Boilers, Machinery and Supplies,

Cotton Gin Outfits, Steam Cotton Presses, Steam Pumps and Injectors, Wrought Iron Pipe and Fittings, Brass Goods and Fittings, Rubber and Leather Belting, Electric Generators and Motors, Ventilating Fans and Electric Supplies of Every Description.

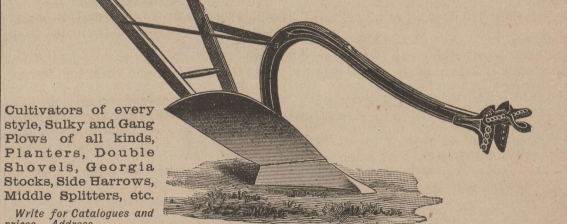
CANTON Steel Beam MIDDLE-BREAKER

For several years there has been a growing demand for an implement of this kind. After thoroughly investigating and making exhaustive experiments, we have adopted one which is sure to meet with great success, having entirely overcome the objectionable features found in all others. We have the Famous Black-land MIDDLE-BREAKER, as used on our CANTON CLIPPER WALKING PLOWS, and which is acknowledged by even our competitors to be the best on the market. There is also more thrust room under the beam than will be found on any other, enabling the plow to straddle a row of Cotton or Corn Stalks without a choke. The device for steadying the plow is a marvel of simplicity, creating less friction than on any other, and is adjustable to suit the will of the operator. We can safely say that we have the strongest and lightest Middle-Breaker on the market, and we commend it to the care of our customers and friends with our usual guarantee. WRITE FOR CIRCULAR, 55. We manufacture all kinds of Gang Plows, Disk Harrows, Steel Harrows, Stalk Cutters, Canton Clipper Plows, and are State Agents for the world-renowned Superior Grain Drills, Mowers, Hay Presses, Pile Thrashers, Wagon Seales, Sweep Rakes, Sorghum Mills and Evaporators, Buggies, Carriages, Carts, Harness, Bids, Cooper and Olds Wagons. Write us for your wants.

PARLIN & ORENDORFF CO. Mfrs. DALLAS, TEX.

Our Famous "Southern Clipper" Black Land Plow.

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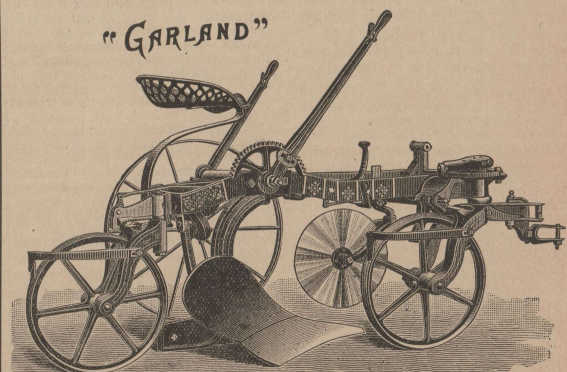


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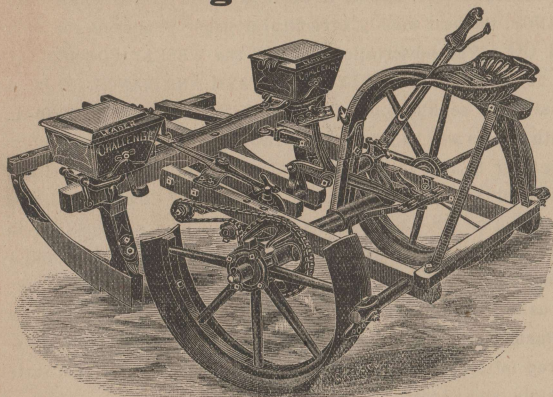
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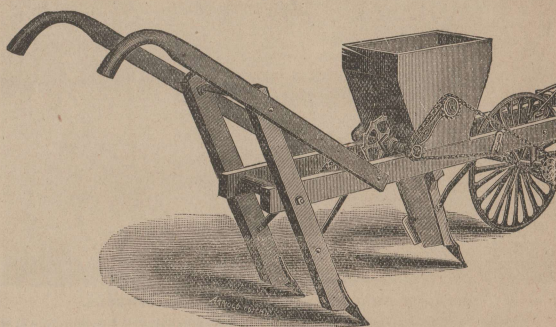
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