

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH

AND

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THANKSGIVING.

We trust that every reader of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH has duly observed the National, State and home Thanksgiving day, as appointed by the proper authorities. But the spirit of the occasion should not be limited to the day. If there is now, or ever was a people who ought to thank Heaven for the blessings of life, it is the people of the United States. With all its faults, it is the best government ever established and maintained by man. Especially

masses, are some of the things that are ours. For these and other blessings too numerous to mention, let us "praise God from whom all blessings flow."

SOME FACTS CONCERNING TUBERCULOSIS.

Dr. M. Stalker, State veterinarian of Iowa, in his annual report, says the following facts in relation to tuberculosis may be regarded as pretty well settled:

1. Injections of tuberculin cannot produce tuberculosis, nor are the results

8. The flesh of tuberculous animals may convey the disease.

9. A large proportion of the cases cannot be recognized by clinical examination.

11. No other test yet discovered, than that afforded by tuberculin, can detect any considerable proportion of cases in the living subject, and this test is practically infallible.

11. Injections of tuberculin cannot produce tuberculosis, nor are the results

learn just where the bean is at and what it is. A decision has just been handed down from the highest tribunal in the land which finally and forever lands the bean in the category of vegetables. The wise decision was the final result of a suit brought by Hayman & Sons against the collector of port of New York. The plaintiffs sought to recover custom duties paid on beans on the ground that they should be admitted free as seeds. This case meandered through all the courts until it finally reached the highest court of the land.



Speed on, my feathered beauties, On pinions fleet and gay— I, Love, shall guide you earthward To celebrate the day.—HOBART.

should the people of the South rejoice in the progress of the year, and the hopes for the future; and more especially throughout the Southwest are the evidences of Divine bounty and care to be seen on every hand. Texas has been especially blessed, and her people should be peculiarly thankful, not only on the day appointed, but throughout the year, for the abundant harvests, and for the bright promise of the future. Abundant crops, bursting barns, cattle on a thousand hills, hogs and sheep and poultry, enough for all and some to spare; light taxes, and merciful laws, and good health among the

1. Tuberculosis of the lower animals is identical with human consumption.
2. It is an infectious disease.
3. The disease may be transmitted from man to the lower animals, and from the lower animals to man.
4. Tuberculosis causes more deaths in the human family than any other disease.
5. Cows are especially susceptible to the disease, and are extensively affected by it.
6. Milk from tuberculous cows may convey disease to the consumer.
7. Milk from tuberculous cows hav-

harmful. Dr. Stalker thinks the tuberculin test can be relied upon. He says the tuberculin is not dangerous to the healthy animal, and experiments at the Iowa Station are narrated, which show that of several calves born from tuberculous mothers, those which were allowed to take milk from their mothers developed tuberculosis, while those never allowed to suck, but raised by hand on milk known to be healthy, remained healthy themselves.

Chicago Stockman: A palpitating and bean eating public will be glad to

Here, after profound argument, illustrated by chemical analysis and microscopic examination, a decision was finally reached that the bean is a vegetable. All hail to the grey-haired wisdom of the supreme court! We rejoice to learn that our bean of commerce and boarding house is not a seed, but a pure and wholesome vegetable.

Oregon Agriculturist: Of all meats, mutton is the least affected with infectious diseases, is the most easily digested of all, and all over the world people are eating more of it. Mutton can be grown cheaper than beef.

P13225 V-walsh

Orchard and Garden

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

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Mr. L. T. Fowlkes, owner of the noted Ross Fruit Farm, at Pilot Point, has sold out to S. D. Anderson, and will go to Plano.

The first issue of the Horticultural Gleaner, edited by Dr. E. P. Stiles, of Austin, is on our table. It is a very neat and creditable paper and gives promise of being a most valuable addition to the growing family of horticultural papers.

Now that the reader is about to renew his subscription to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, will he allow us to suggest that he show a copy to one of his neighbors and send his subscription with yours. Or better still, write to the office at Dallas for three or four sample copies and hand out to several neighbors, and so make up a club. Note the premiums offered in the premium list recently sent out, and don't fail to send in the club of subscribers.

Let everybody ask questions about any question with either fruit growing or gardening, we'll do our best to answer. Of course, we are not vain enough to think we shall be able to answer all questions propounded, but when we run against a stump, we call to our aid such thoroughly equipped writers as Kerr, Kirkpatrick, Munson, Price, Mally and others who are always willing to let their light shine. So we say, "ask questions."

KAKI, OR JAPANESE PERSIMMONS.
This very remarkable fruit was introduced some eighteen or twenty years ago from the far off islands of Japan. It is now becoming well known throughout the South, where it is perfectly at home, and has become fully acclimated over a very large part of the South, more particularly the Gulf region, so that its cultivation is no longer an experiment. The promoters of this fruit have learned some valuable lessons as the years have gone by.

First, the very poor root system of the stock imported from Japan, and the difficulty experienced in getting trees to grow, led some of our enterprising nurserymen to undertake its propagation by grafting into the common native persimmon (*Diospyros virginica*) the root system of the common sort is much better adapted to transplanting than the imported, so that large quantities are being produced and prices have fallen from one and two dollars each, to twenty-five cents at retail. The increased hardiness of the Kaki grafted on the native stock has carried them several degrees further North.

We give the opinion of a number of the foremost horticulturists of the South relative to its merits:

Mr. P. J. Berckmans, of Augusta, Ga., leading authority upon all questions pertaining to Southern horticulture, in his latest handbook writes as follows: "After having fruited many varieties for the past sixteen consecutive years, the question as to the value of this fruit for the cotton growing belt of the Southern States is satisfactorily settled. In the middle sections of Georgia, South Carolina and other Southern States, the trees are perfectly hardy. The merits of this fruit are the early bearing age of the trees, as well as their wonderful fertility, as it is quite common to see one year old trees planted in spring produce a crop of twenty to fifty well developed fruits the following year. The tendency to overbearing should be checked by removing the larger part of its fruit when fully set in April or May, leaving only a number commensurate with the age and size of the trees, otherwise the trees will retain a very dwarf habit of growth. All our trees, of which we have 10,000 in nursery, are grafted upon seedling stocks of our native type. They are exceedingly well rooted, and in every way far superior to imported trees, which are usually deficient in roots. Seedlings seldom give results as but a small proportion prove to have perfect flowers, the majority being male and thus barren. The growth varies as to varieties. Some assume a dwarf habit when two years old, and seldom grow beyond six or eight feet in height; others attain a growth of four to six feet at one year from the graft. The best soil is a clay loam, or gravelly, and not

retentive of moisture. The tree falls on wet lands."

Mr. G. L. Taber, of Glen St. Mary, Florida, who has become in the past few years known to fruit growers of the entire South, as one of the most enterprising nurserymen of the South, has given a good deal of attention to growing and propagating Kaki. He gives his impressions of this new and promising fruit as follows: "The Kaki, or Japan persimmon, is no longer on trial, but must henceforth be placed among leading fruits of the cotton belt, especially well adapted to the coast region. Grafted on our native persimmon, it seems perfectly at home. The tree is vigorous, prolific and has few enemies. For market, this delicious fruit has the merit of shipping well and keeping long. It requires some experience to determine when the fruit has reached the proper stage to be marketed, and this varies with different varieties. The fact that it has often been offered when immature and inedible has made purchasers in some markets reluctant to take hold of it. But wherever it is known it meets with ready sale; and when placed upon the market ripe it is easily introduced and speedily becomes a prime favorite."

In 1893, President Dudley W. Adams, of the Florida State Horticultural Society said: "The first two years, when I had the market practically to myself, I got \$6 to \$10 per box. Last year's price ranged from \$2.50 to \$5. Excepting one year, my returns have been very satisfactory indeed. It requires the least work, the least fertilizer and the least attention of any fruit on my place."

Mr. E. W. Kirkpatrick, of McKinney, Texas, in the center of the black belt of the black waxy belt, speaks in very enthusiastic terms of its success with him, and the handsome collection of this fruit on exhibition at the late Dallas Fair from his grounds is ample proof of their success with him.

Mr. Wm. Watson, of Brenham, Texas, says of it: "We are fully convinced of its adaptability to Texas and the Southern States. The trees have grown vigorously, withstood all vicissitudes of our climate and have borne a good crop of fruit each year."

The tree is very ornamental, has large, luxuriant foliage, and in the fall, when loaded with its golden fruit, is worthy of a place in all ornamental grounds. The tree is very hardy, needs only to be cultivated while young, until it gets established; it will then take care of itself, and if the weeds are kept down grass will not hurt it. It is a regular upright grower, does not occupy much space, and therefore can be planted in flower or vegetable gardens, or can be grown in an orchard with the same treatment the pear requires."

From this consensus of opinion it will be seen that throughout the South this remarkable fruit is coming rapidly into favor, and will doubtless be seen not many years hence growing and fruiting in the gardens of the rich and poor alike. Its early bearing habit, prolificity, health and vigor of tree will make it desirable for its beauty of foliage and fruit as well as its edible qualities. While we do not advise the readers of Orchard and Garden to plant largely of this fruit for market purposes, we do earnestly recommend every one to plant a few trees of the different varieties. Every one so doing will be pleased with the results later on. We would conceal from our readers the fact that it will take some years yet to educate the public taste to appreciate the excellent quality of this fruit, but we have not the least doubt that it will come in time to take a place in the fruit markets of the country alongside the orange, banana and other like tropical fruits. People only acquainted with the common native persimmon are astonished when they behold the fruit of Kaki, the size of large apples. Some such we saw this week grown on the fruit farm of L. T. Fowlkes, of the Hachiya variety. Large specimens weighed 12 to 14 ounces each. A stranger from Michigan saw them, and his eyes opened wide in astonishment when told they were persimmons. The idea of a persimmon as large as a Ben Davis apple was a stunner. The value of Kaki is not to be confined to what may be realized from them as sold for eating out of hand as valuable as they are for that purpose. They may be converted into an excellent commercial product by evaporation. The large quantity of sugar in the fruit makes it equal if not superior to the date of commerce. In this way it will ere long play an important part in supplying people of North-

ern latitudes a delicious substitute for the foreign product. We need only refer to the method of planting to give a few words of advice. The dwarf habit of the Kaki allows of close planting. They may be planted 12 to 15 feet apart. If not planted by or before the 15th of December in this latitude (33°) it will be better to postpone planting till February. The persimmon is late beginning growth in spring, so it is not often caught by frost. It is one of the surest croppers among our orchard trees. We predict for it in the near future a commanding place in the horticulture of the South.

A private note from Mr. Stringfellow informs us that he is preparing a paper on root pruning of fruit trees at planting, that will be a startling revelation to the horticultural world. We await his matured conclusions with lively interest.

Prof. H. E. Van Deman, of Parksley, Va., late Chief of the Division of Pomology, in a private note to the editor, says that, "South of Virginia, Kentucky and Kansas, the Kieffer pear is quite good if properly ripened." We still at this date, November 20th, have them as delicious as anything we ever tasted. Mr. Van Deman concludes his statement: "Kieffer is at present the business pear." We heartily agree with the sentiment. The Professor will accept thanks of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH for his kind commendation of its work.

The fruit growers of Florida continue to complain of the extortion of railroads and express companies. President Dudley W. Adams, of the Florida State Horticultural Society, in a late issue of Farmer and Fruit Grower, has the following to say on the question:

"And, as usual, the railroads drive it home. Last winter froze to death my orange and lemon grove and one-half of my Japan persimmons, so this year I have nothing to ship but a few persimmons that grew on the crippled survivors. When my first little lot went to the depot, I was informed that persimmons must go as second class, and the rate was \$1.22 per hundred pounds to Washington, D. C. That is naked railway highway robbery, and kills my persimmon grove as dead as the freeze did my oranges and lemons. So the most of the crop rots on the ground, and the trees must follow my peach orchard."

"In 1886, when the freeze killed and damaged so many orange trees, the railroads promptly advanced rates on oranges 33 per cent. Then around here we planted peaches—20,000 or more—and they grew and bore splendidly. So we prepared to plant more. When we shipped our peaches the railroads took the money, and we abandoned planting more any grubbed up our bearing orchards. Our vegetable grounds are grown up to grass, or planted to forage for our mules. Our orange groves are dead, and now the railroads have, with alacrity, jumped onto our poor, half-dead persimmons with both feet and stamped the life out of them."

"I could like to stay in Florida, but, in solemn truth, I do not know of a crop I can grow that will sell for cost of production."

The gardens are aglow with beauty, chrysanthemums everywhere bending beneath a burden of bloom—white golden and crimson. There is nothing that comes at this time of year that equals these treasures of Flora's kingdom. Everybody can and ought to have them. We lament that our own garden is bare of them this fall. We don't intend it shall be so next. There, now! "An honest confession is good for the soul," even if it be only of a shortcoming.

Bulletins Nos. 99 and 100 of Cornell Experiment Station, Ithica, N. Y., are devoted to blackberries and raspberries, respectively. Prof. Bailey gives us an exhaustive review of the whys and wherefores of blackberry growing as seen in New York. Speaking of them he says:

"The blackberry is a neglected fruit in Western New York, yet there is no bush fruit capable of yielding greater profit. It is the last of the small fruits, and when it is well grown it affords a luscious addition to the dessert of summer. There is no fruit grown in this state which so deteriorates after picking and which is necessarily picked in such poor condition. The blackberry is not ripe simply because

it's black; it must be soft, and must drop into the hand when the clusters are shaken; then it is full of the sweetness and aroma of midsummer. It is our most delicious bush fruit. Of course, such berries never find their way to market, hence it comes that those who have never grown the fruit are still wincing in memory of the unbearable acid of the blackberry."

Of the soil for the blackberry (and his remarks hold good for Texas as well as New York) he remarks:

"The best blackberry land is a deep, mellow, clay loam; that is, a soil of which the body is clay, but which contains considerable humus and crumbles rather than bakes in the furrow. Loose gravelly lands are too deficient in water for the blackberry."

In planting he allows good distance between the furrows, advising:

"For all the ordinary large growing varieties, eight feet between the rows." In large plantations he advises to leave out a row occasionally to allow roadway, which is well.

"In the rows the plants are set two to three feet apart. They will soon spread and fill the row. The year the plants are set potatoes or other like crops may be grown between the rows, and the yield should be sufficient to pay for the land. Three or four canes may be allowed to grow the first year if plants put out vigorously, and these will bear some fruit the following year. As soon as canes reach a height of two or three feet they should be headed back. The subsequent training is simple. The operator must know, of course, that the shoots or canes which spring from the roots one year will bear fruit the next year, and that their usefulness is then ended. Every year, therefore, the canes which have borne fruit are cut out, and others are allowed to grow from the root, to take their places. It is generally preferable to remove the old canes as soon as the fruit is off; that is, in August; but the operation is generally deferred to a less busy season. They should always be removed before growth begins the following spring. Of the new canes usually five or six are enough, and if very excellent fruit is wanted three or four are enough. The strongest canes should be left, and the others pulled out when they are only four or five inches high. The growing canes should be headed in—two to four inches of the tips cut off—when they are from two and a-half to three feet high. It will be necessary to go over the plantation three or four times during the season, for this purpose, as different canes reach the desired height at different times."

"Laterals will now push out vigorously. These are allowed to grow full length. Early the following spring these laterals are shortened. There is no rule respecting the proper length to leave these laterals. Sometimes they are injured by the cold and must be cut short. Some varieties are variable in their habit of fruit bearing, and on such some growers prefer not to prune till the blossoms appear. Twelve to twenty inches is the length laterals are usually left. Blackberry bushes managed as outlined above, will stand alone without stakes or trellis."

Ben. Franklin said: "I only need to visit the graveyard of a community to know the character of the people." Wise old Ben, knew that the refinement of a cultured people would be shown in the care bestowed upon the last resting place of the dead. With evergreens and flowers of all sorts so cheap, no community of taste need longer to allow the graveyard to grow up in vile weeds and sharp thorns and become the homes of bats and owls. No! let there be an organization of the ladies of every community to see after keeping the grounds in order, and the planting of flowering shrubs and evergreens, and their care till they become a source of pride to every one in the village or neighborhood.

THE REVOLUTION IN TREE PLANTING.

H. M. STRINGFELLOW.

Ed. Orchard and Garden: It is now about eight years since I first announced in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH that the whole theory and practice of tree planting, as handed down from time immemorial, was wrong, and that instead of the more roots a tree had when reset the better, the very opposite was true. I then gave a full history of how I happened to hit upon this truth, as well as a detailed account of various experiments upon a great many kinds of fruit and shade trees that dem-

WHAT THE PRESS AND PEOPLE SAY ABOUT IT.

Buffalo Gap Messenger: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, in its new dress, is a dandy, and dont you forget it.

Mountain Air, Ark.: The special edition of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is simply perfect. It is an A1 paper at all times.

Granbury Graphic: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH was issued last week in a new dress and enlarged form. It is now the prettiest journal of the kind printed in the South.

Midland Gazette: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH has become a regular picture gallery. The October 19th issue should be in the hands of every one; the home is not complete without it.

Sunset Signal: The initial State Fair number of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is beyond question the most elaborate, best illustrated and most artistic farm magazine ever published in the South.

Breckenridge Texian: The special edition of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, issued on the 19th, is highly creditable to the publishers, and will prove of great benefit to the state wherever it is circulated.

Standard Herald, Musk.: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH of October 26th is a most creditable issue. It is not only full of excellent matter, but has with it a premium issue of 16 pages. It is marching to the front.

Texas Press Leader, Lubbock: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH comes out in a fine extra edition this week. On the back is a picture of the farmer supporting the world. This tells the truth, and when you legislate against the interests of the farmer you legislate against the world.

Bracket News: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, published at Dallas, comes to us this week handsomely illustrated. It is as fine a stock and farm paper as any published in the South, and its columns are filled with splendid reading matter. Its illustrations and write-up of the Hillside Ranch, near San Antonio, is a beauty. It is for Texas first and last.

Hondo Herald: The Fair edition of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is the best and most beautiful edition of an agricultural paper we have ever seen. The success of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is due to the fact that it has an able editor who places his paper before the people upon its merits as an agricultural journal and does not try to live upon political prejudices.

Hale County Herald: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH of the 18th ult. was a regular daisy, as handsome as the art of the printer could turn out, and the paper used was of the best, while the illustrations were works of art. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH keeps up with the procession, or in the lead, and has gained a strong hold in the affections of the masses.

Orchardist and Agricultural Advertiser, Tyler, Texas: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, October 19th, published at Dallas, Texas, comes to us this week in magnificent shape. It is truly a beautiful print, and shows progress in all its departments. It is illustrated, and shows portraits of all its Household contributors, and contains reading matter which will be of great benefit to all of its patrons.

Childress Index: The Fair edition of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH was a dandy. It consisted of thirty-six pages, with an illustrated cover. The table of contents was very large, and consisted of well written articles in every department. The engravings and typographical work are especially pleasing to the eye. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH undoubtedly stands at the head of the agricultural journals of the South.

The Venus Times: TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, published at Dallas by the Texas Farm and Ranch Publishing Co., has reached us as an exchange. This is one of the ablest edited agricultural and stock magazines in the South, and it gives us great pleasure to know that our State has within its borders a journal so thoroughly in the interest of the farmer and ranchman. It is a weekly, full of the choicest, most intelligent and reliable matter for those among whom it circulates, and we would be gratified to hear of it reaching the table of every farmer and ranchman in the State. As we have said before, it is by all odds the best of its kind in the South.

"FARM AND RANCH" REPEATING RIFLE!

Made especially for the Texas Farm and Ranch, by the Marlin Fire-Arms Co., and has the celebrated "Marlin" action.

THE STRONGEST. EASIEST WORKING. SAFEST, SIMPLEST.
SOLID TOP. MOST ACCURATE. SIDE EJECTING.

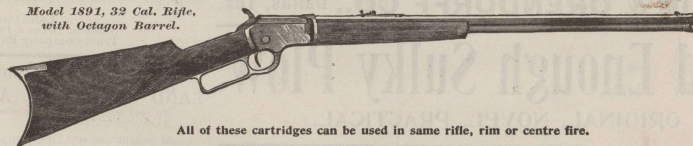
NEVER CATCHES RAIN, DIRT OR SNOW. NEVER BLOWS BACK IN YOUR FACE. NEVER THROWS THE SHELL IN YOUR FACE. EJECTS TO RIGHT AND AWAY FROM YOU.

Model 1894 Rifle, with Octagon Barrel.

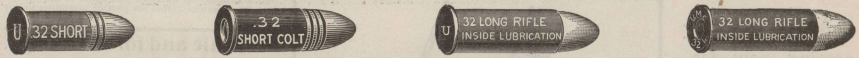


Length of bbl., 24 inches, 14 shots, weight 7 lbs. Price, including a year's subscription to Texas Farm and Ranch, \$13.00. Same gun with round bbl., \$12.00.

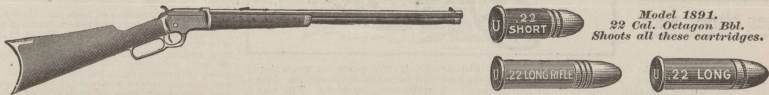
Model 1891, 32 Cal. Rifle, with Octagon Barrel.



All of these cartridges can be used in same rifle, rim or centre fire.



This ammunition is cheap and for sale everywhere, and as compared with repeaters using the 32-20 cartridges, will save the entire cost of the rifle in the first two thousand cartridges. The ammunition is what costs in the long run. Get the best rifle made to shoot cheap cartridges. Each rifle has two firing pins, one rim and one centre, and they can be interchanged without tools. This size also has an elevating rear sight. It is the best farm rifle yet produced. The long cartridge will kill a beef or hog, and the short is just the thing to shoot a hen or any kind of small game, such as squirrel, wood-chucks, rabbits, ducks, geese, etc.
Length of bbl., 24 inches. Short cartridges gives 18 shots; Long, 15 shots. Weight, 6 1/2 lbs.



Length of bbl., 24 inches. Weight, 6 1/2 lbs. Number of shots, 22 short, 25; long or shot cartridges, 20; long rifle, 18. This is the best 22 cal. rifle made. The barrels are rifled deep and the accuracy guaranteed.
Either the 22 cal. or 32 cal. rifle, with Texas Farm and Ranch one year, octagon bbl., \$13.00; round bbl., \$12.00. Receiver pays express charges from Dallas.

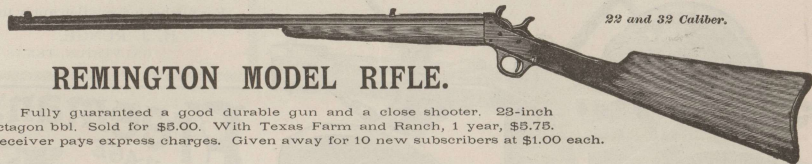
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By sending us 25 new subscribers at \$1.00 each, taking your choice of guns. BEAR IN MIND, that they are fully guaranteed by the manufacturers. If not as represented, we will cheerfully refund your money and pay all charges. We carry these guns in stock at Dallas. Address all orders to

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(Premium Department.)

DALLAS, TEXAS

Correspondence

A PLEASURE TRIP.

ALVIN, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

After a night's ride on the Santa Fe Railway, from Dallas to Alvin, just twelve hours out, we were warmly welcomed to the hospitable home of Mr. W. J. Hamlett, whose wife is our esteemed correspondent, Matron.

All Alvin was full of the subject in hand—the chrysanthemum show, and it was a most magnificent show, the result of one year's attention to the growth of this very popular flower. Last year at the Cotton Palace in Waco there was a very handsome chrysanthemum display made, which enthused the progressive ladies of the Alvin Horticultural Society, and they went home determined to do or die. They did.

This wonderful flower from China and Japan, transported from the Orient to our Occident, has domiciled itself most complacently and awaits our best efforts and our admiration.

"Mum's the word" among the ladies of Alvin henceforth on most subjects but chrysanthemums. No one would wonder at this had they seen their wonderful collection on exhibition at the opera house. All shades were represented from purest white, through cream, to a yellow which would tempt a mandarin. Then from white, through bluish, rose, pink, amethyst, to deepest crimson; others two toned and striped. There were immense plants, from two to five feet in diameter, containing scores of fine blossoms; other specimens grown for exhibition purposes, containing one, two or three flowers as large as a tea plate. One specimen towered seven feet high, with three grand "queens" nodding condescendingly down upon the admiring crowd.

The Association were very liberal in their premiums, \$5 being given for the finest cut flower. This was awarded to Mrs. H. G. Reed for a pure white Queen.

Mrs. Robinson received quite a number of premiums, as did Mesdames Rugg, Snyder, Edwards, Mayfield, Kimball, and Hamlett.

There were, perhaps, others, but as we lost our notes, we have to depend upon memory, and may possibly have lost a name. If we have we ask pardon, with this excuse. The show was bewildering in beauty and immensity, and we almost lost our head.

A distinctive and unusual feature of this educative entertainment was, that the ladies refused to charge any admittance, so that every one might see and enjoy their triumph. There was a labor of love, coupled with the desire to benefit their community, and "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these ye have done it unto Me," should add the highest pleasure to their successful exhibit.

On Monday morning we had the honor of an introduction to Mrs. Hamlett's pupils at her Gordon Street Private School. A bevy of bright faces is always an inspiration, and it is especially so when among them we recognize members of the Cousins' League, as we did on this occasion.

Mrs. Hamlett's school is thoroughly equipped with the best and latest of school furniture, and as its head she is the peer of any teacher in the state. Everyone knows the value of a perfect school equipment, and this advantage is already telling upon her school. We listened to their cheerful, happy voices in song and recitation, noted their quiet and obedience, which proves Mrs. Hamlett's fitness for her calling. Who can tell how far-reaching will be the influence of her teaching and example. Its impress for good and noble purposes will live forever.

On Monday afternoon we were called for by Maj. L. Winston to visit his beautiful home two miles west of Alvin, and to enjoy for the first time in many years a syrup boiling. How fast memory flew back over long years, and we mentally repeated over and over, "How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood," as we came in sight of the mill and caught the delicious odor of the boiling syrup, and tasted the toothsome buckskin collected from the cooling syrup. How familiar the forest of cane, adown whose shadowy aisles we used to peep, almost expecting the fairies to come from their cool green depths, and how we loved to break down the tallest stalks, and greet with shout the sharp crisp snap; then away to a bed of cane straw, where

we would delightedly "chaw and chaw" for half a day. Ah, there are no days like the old days, that come never again.

Major Winston is the proprietor of a Holstein and Jersey dairy, also a farm and orchard of thirty-five acres. He has pears, plums, pomegranates—another old favorite—and other fruits. He will, this season, make 1500 gallons of fine syrup. We were most hospitably entertained by his good wife and daughters. Miss Kate gave us some very fine chrysanthemums, roses, and other flowers, which we brought home with us.

On Sunday afternoon we had a most enjoyable visit to the home of Mr. Southwick, near town, who is an enthusiast on the possibilities of the coast country. Miss Southwick, his daughter, an artist, is also quite an enthusiastic florist and gardener, and proposes to add to her other loves that of poultry raising. Here we saw in her exhibit, prepared for the Coast County Fair, beautifully painted Chinese, her own work, with crayon and pastel portraits; from the garden green peas, beans, turnips and other vegetables, strawberry plants in blossom, etc.

We became so enthused ourselves, and so in love with Alvin and her delightful people, that in writing of it we find subject plus, words minus.

MRS. S. E. BUCHANAN.

AN EXPERIMENT WITH KAFFIR CORN.

NEWLIN, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I wrote you last fall in regard to Kaffir corn for this Panhandle country, and my little piece came out headed, "Struck Ile," and brought me a shower of letters from Illinois to the Gulf of Mexico. Understand this is not an advertisement, for I am not offering the corn for sale, because I feed it to good hogs. My object in writing this is to tell my this years experience with Kaffir corn, and I think it may do some farmer good as it has me.

I plowed six acres of land good and deep, harrowed it off nicely, and then with a Superior drill set to sow as little as possible, with a piece of leather tacked on the inside of the grain box, and passing through the hole to cut off some of the feed, as it sows too much. Remember that all the runners are taken off, save the second ones on either side, and the other holes in the drill are stopped up. This sows two rows at a time, and just the right distance apart. When it got half way high, I run across the rows with a 15-inch buzzard wing sweep to thin out to a stand. I then cultivated once more and let it go. It is very fine, and will make lots of corn, but can't say how much yet, as it is not threshed. I then took two acres, and plowed and planted exactly as the first piece. I did not run across the rows, but let it all grow, but ran around the crop one time with the sweep and never broke the middles out at all, (which was poor farming, I'll admit.) It grew finely, and when ripe, I hired a sorghum binder to cut my sorghum, and let it cut and bind the two acres of Kaffir corn, which was shocked with twenty-five bundles to the shock. It kept perfectly, and stock ate it all. I am certain the two acres beat any two acres in the other piece, and with less work, and the advantage in cutting and binding is this: Kaffir corn, if the seed is pure, will be as near an average height as wheat, and the binder leaves all the butts even, and one lick with a broad ax severs every head from the stalks, and leaves the bundles ready for the stack or barn, and the heads ready for the thrasher. Cutting by hand with a knife is a big job.

Plenty of hog and hominy again this year, and will continue to be here if we farm at home, and not whittle dry goods boxes in front of some store while talking politics. Success to the best paper in the world.

JOE. H. ESTES.

LETTER FROM PROF. VAN DEMAN.

PARKSLEY, VA.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

My Dear Sir, Allow me to congratulate you upon the superior character of your issue of October 19th. It is eminently Texan in make-up; from the front-piece to the last advertisement it is up to the times. The typography and illustrations are clear and artistic, and neatly printed on good paper. The editorials are instructive and broad-minded, yet concise and thoroughly loyal to Texas. The contributed articles are of special merit. Among their authors are many whom I know

full well, and some are my personal friends. Texas should be proud of many of her noble citizens who are fruit growers of the first rank, and some of them are men of world-wide fame as scientific and practical pomologists.

If your readers do not profit by such valuable advice and instruction as is given in these pages, it is useless to try further. But, as one of these very men has written me more than once, it is a fact that published information has far outstripped practical application.

It has been my happy lot to have repeatedly traveled in Texas, beginning with 1876; therefore I know personally of her mild climate, fertile and varied soils, shady forests, boundless prairies and inexhaustible stone quarries. I have examined with special care, the orchards, vineyards and berry patches, from the post oak hills of the northeast section to the alluvial lands of the valley of the Rio Grande. What a magnificent domain lies within her borders! What possibilities in the way of fruit culture alone! The pioneers in practical pomology have shown by their trees and vines laden with luscious fruits that there is no doubt of producing enough and to spare.

The wide range of climate and soil enable the grower to choose between the apple and the orange, and in the extreme Southern part where I have not been, it has long been my belief that there is a large territory where by irrigation there might be grown the strictly tropical fruits. Even the Striped Plains are being turned into productive fields and fruit plantations. Texas has one of the best public school systems in the world, and a magnificent endowment. Her agricultural college and experiment station are well equipped. Surely the future of this, the largest of all our states, is destined to be one of the most progressive.

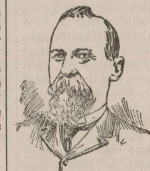
H. E. VAN DEMAN.

THE EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENT.

MCKINNEY, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

Past observation induces me to believe that character is made more by environment than heredity. Children born of intellectual parentage, if bereft of the proper facilities to improve their talents are most apt to prove failures at the age of maturity. Figuratively speaking, they are likened to the crude ores that remain valueless until brought under the influence of the smelting furnace and polishing tools. There are many things in nature that require the scientific touch of art to bring them to a greater state of perfection. Take for instance the little wild rose which in its rude state does not and cannot compare in fragrance and beauty to the cultivated tea-rose. The Arabian horses with all their noble attributes of inheritance, as to endurance, color, form and fleetness, have always been considered the most noted breed of wild horses roaming at will over the plains, of any in the world. But they were only in the fanciful brain of some wild enthusiast considered of any real worth, or value until after being bred up, cared for and properly crossed and trained by English or American experts. Surely environment did more to produce the present fine Arabian trotter and roaster than any inherited traits. If so in the floral and animal kingdom, how much more in the human race. The Turk, remarkable as a people, for their sturdy physical natures, still rank far below other less favored nations, as to the progress made in the arts and sciences simply because they refuse to alter their environments. Apparently satisfied with their own rude ways and manners, they have rather retrograded than advanced.



The poor Mexican, owing in part to heredity to a greater degree than any other race of people, unless we except the Ethiopian, but far more to environment, has remained the same weak and ignorant nation for several centuries. They still adhere to their old custom in the use of the crudest sort of a wooden knife for plowing, a rough "mecheto" for cultivation of the land, and for transportation, the slow, ungainly ox cart, with wheels made of solid blocks sawed off huge logs, and with packs tied onto the backs of little donkeys; except, possibly, in the most favored localities, where the recent ad-

vent of the railroad has carried to them the improved implements of American manufacture, in spite of their high and almost prohibitory tax.

And if we find that such are the conditions that affect the welfare of nations, how much more does environment affect the individual character. So long ago as passeth the memory of man, the old trite saying, "Tell me his company, and I will tell you the man," surely is as applicable to-day as when first told. A very wicked libertine once said that the company of a pure Christian lady was unbearable to him, because the contrast between his evil nature and her sanctified character was too great. I am not trying in this one article to deny that inherited traits of character do not have much to do in the formation of our moral and physical natures, but I am simply trying to prove that environment is the crowning touch, or performs a greater function. OLD COTTON PLANTER.

A GEORGIAN TO THE RESCUE.

MADISON, GA.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

We of Middle Georgia have been amusing ourselves over the facts given by Uncle Snort, as he vended his way to our capital, hunting the Agricultural Congress. If he came the lower route to Birmingham via New Orleans, he came through the pine lands of Mississippi, but across some good lands in Alabama. On from there to Atlanta he came over a ridge or mountain way almost into Atlanta. If he came the upper route via Vicksburg, he must have been asleep, as he crossed as fine lands in a portion of Mississippi, before he struck the pine belt, as is found in Texas, or any other country. I know the country well, also many of the people. True, they plant too much cotton yet, but are now growing corn and raising hogs equal to Uncle Snort's famed extras, and don't consider it worth while to have them registered. The cattle here are superior, the far-famed Bermuda making it possible to grow them at less cost than elsewhere. No man should judge a country or its people by a view only obtained from a car window. Of course, Uncle Snort did not see Middle Georgia, the veritable Eden of this old world, or perhaps he would have stayed.

As to cattle, both Jerseys and Holsteins; and hogs, Essex, Red Jerseys, and Berkshires, they have been with us so long that we had forgotten that their progenitors were ever registered. Certainly, twenty-five years ago these were common with us, as two brothers of mine, who now have lived in your state for that space of time, can specify, as our father had as fine hogs as Uncle Snort, even before the boys left Georgia twenty-five years ago for Texas.

Uncle Snort must have been sick, or he would not have jumped on the Agricultural Congress as he did. True, I was not there, yet only three years past I was honored by our governor, in receiving the appointment from my district, and went way out to Missouri to the meeting. Several Georgians were along. We met Eastern, Western and Southern men, and every measure discussed bore directly upon agriculture, or the shipments of products. We met true and good men, both Republicans and Democrats, but the "party" was altogether buried in the interest manifested in the agriculture of the country.

Is it possible that this honorable body of men has so far fallen? How can they retrograde into a mere body of politicians, when at least half are Republicans and the other half are Democrats? What could such a body discuss in common, except agricultural matters? Suppose some one touched upon the vital questions of the day? Did they come together to talk of how to raise hogs? Would it not be better for our agricultural interests that these questions be understood, and not leave all the issues to be settled by the politicians? That's what is the matter now. We, as an agricultural people, blindly follow our leaders, let them make our laws, and do our thinking, while we stay at home and raise hogs. This hog question will naturally care for itself. Let us study our environments, our possibilities, the laws of supply and demand, the science of agriculture in the broadest sense; also the requirements of agriculturists from the legislative bodies, and cultivate the backbone to demand them.

I live in a purely agricultural section. Every interest of a monetary kind I possess is in that direction, and I give it close attention. We have fine hogs and cattle, have Bermuda pastures, and

clover is a heavy nitrogen feed, but such is not the case, for just there is where clover is such a cheap renovator. It has the peculiar faculty of storing up nitrogen, which is the most expensive of the three essential elements, in fact, it costs over twice as much as the phosphorus or potash, and more than both combined.

It does seem that the matter of restoring worn soils is very much simplified. If it is possible to store up nitrogen in an available form in the soil, to say nothing of the phosphorus and potash also laid up for future use, we can soon bring poor soils up to a high state of cultivation.

In addition to this improvement in the soil, we are growing a valuable feed stuff. So with a good, liberal application of potash and phosphorus in some form, and if the land is very poor add nitrogen, we may reasonably expect a paying crop and a renovating crop at the same time.

October is a good time to sow. Plow deep with a two-horse plow, cut up the land thoroughly with a disc harrow, followed by a smoothing harrow, then sow your seed either with a hand-sower or seed drill, and follow with a drag or roller. If manure is used, put on the land broadcast before it is tamed, or just ahead of the disc harrow. If commercial fertilizer is used, put on just ahead of the disc harrow.

About five hundred pounds of commercial fertilizer will suffice, say 200 pounds of phosphorus, 200 cotton seed meal, and 100 pounds kainit. From ten to fifteen pounds of the seed are used to the acre.

Cut when first heads begin to mature next season, and turn under sod in time to make a corn crop.

N. C. College of Agriculture.

FATTENING HOGS.

Farm News.

When hogs arrive at the proper age for fattening, it is very important that they be in healthy, thrifty condition. This is necessary if no food is to be wasted. Ration must be a good one, must be given regularly, and under as favorable conditions as possible. If the animal has been fed for some time with slops, and has had the run of a good pasture and a change to corn, or a good fattening ration, the change should be made gradually. In feeding new corn especially it will pay to commence with a small quantity at first and gradually increase as they get accustomed to it feeding. Only sound, nutritious food should be given. It is useless to expect that a hog will be able to convert any kind of food into healthy, sweet pork. The food must be good if the meat is good. After an animal has been put on a full fattening ration all reasonable care should be taken to see that a full ration is supplied at each meal. Give the fattening hogs all that they will eat up clean at each meal, but no more, and the more fully this is done the better will be the gain in proportion to the amount of food supplied, and let the ration be a fattening one. It is not always necessary or best to feed all corn, even when fattening. A variety of food will give rather better results than any one ration, and will keep with a better appetite and decrease the liability to disease. Oil meal and bran made into a slop with milk, or midlings and milk can, in nearly all cases, be fed to fattening hogs with profit. Generally, if they can be allowed the run of a good pasture, they will do better than if confined in a close pen. Generally, the quicker they can be fattened the better.

UPLAND RICE.

Arkansas Farmer.

A small patch of upland rice was raised in Little Rock, this year, by a gentleman familiar with its culture. It is a crop that has received but little attention from agriculturists because it is generally understood that rice can only be raised on low land, where it can be flooded.

But there is no doubt that upland rice could be successfully and profitably grown in Arkansas. A correspondent of the Home and Farm, living in Alabama, has raised rice on his poorest soil and produced a good crop. We reproduce his letter:

"I ride into the arena again on my hobby, upland rice. My short letter last spring received so much favorable attention that I am constrained to write again on the same subject, especially as the largest crop of upland rice ever known in this country has just been harvested.

"The subject is worth the attention of

a much abler pen than mine, for this cereal has proven itself of more value this year than all the others in this section, and I shall deem myself a public benefactor if I can bring upland rice into general use.

"Until the common cane or reed produces seed annually in as great abundance as it did this year in east Alabama, upland rice will be the greatest cereal that can be planted, for several reasons. It produces more per acre than corn, wheat or oats, with less work than either, except oats, and will do well on poorer land than any of them. I demonstrated the last fact this year by raising a good crop of rice on a worn out hillside that would hardly sprout cow peas, and the first by getting a better crop on better land, but with hoeing only once and never plowing it at all, so that all the work expended on that piece of ground was bedding the land, planting the rice and hoeing it once.

"One of my nearest neighbor raised this year 400 bushels of rice on between ten and eleven acres of rank new ground, and all of neighbors plant more or less rice for stock feed, as it is a surer crop than corn, produces equally as well, if not better, and with much less work. It is just as good feed for all stock, cattle and hogs, as corn, some declaring the straw superior to fodder as forage. There was plenty of it cut in the flatwoods this year that the entire field would average five feet high, with heads from ten to fifteen inches long

HOW TO CURE HAMS.

E. M. Todd, of Virginia, whose cured hams have given his product a reputation that sells them wherever offered, gives the following description of his method of curing:

1. The hams are placed in a large tray of fine Liverpool salt, then the flesh surface is sprinkled with finely ground, crude saltpeter, until the hams are as white as though covered by a moderate frost—or say use three or four pounds of the powdered saltpeter to the thousand pounds of green hams.
2. After applying the saltpeter, immediately salt with the Liverpool fine salt, covering well the entire surface. Now pack the hams in bulk, but not in piles more than three feet high. In ordinary weather the hams should remain thus for three days.
3. Then break bulk and re-salt with fine salt. The hams thus salted and re-salted, should now remain in salt in bulk one day for each and every pound each ham weighs—that is, a 10-pound ham should remain 10 days, and in such proportion of time for larger and smaller sizes.
4. Next you wash with tepid water until the hams are thoroughly cleaned, and after partially drying rub the entire surface with finely ground black pepper.
5. Now the hams should be hung in the smoke house, and this important operation begun. The smoking should be very gradually and slowly done, lasting 30 to 40 days.
6. After the hams are cured and smoked they should be re-peppered to guard against vermin, and then bagged. These hams are improved with age, and the Todd hams are in perfection when one year old.

THE NOBLE HORSE.

The noble horse is thus portrayed by Dr. Talmage in the following extracts: There needs to be a redistribution of coronets among the brute creation. For ages the lion has been called the king of beasts. I knock off his coronet and put the crown upon the horse, in every way nobler, whether in shape, or spirit, or sagacity, or intelligence, or affection, or usefulness. He is such a man, and knows how to reason on a small scale. The centaurs of olden times, part horse and part man, seems to be a suggestion of the fact that the horse is sometimes more than a beast. Job in his text sets forth his strength, his beauty, his majesty, the panting of his nostril, the pawing of his hoof, and his enthusiasm for battle. What Rosa Bonheur did for the cattle, and what Landseer did for the dog, Job, with mightier pencil does for the horse. Eighty-eight times does the Bible speak of him. He comes into every kingly procession, and into every great occasion, and into every triumph. It is very evident that Job, and David, and Isaiah, and Ezekiel, and Jeremiah, and John were fond of the horse. He

comes into much of their imagery. A red horse—that meant war. A black horse—that meant famine. A pale horse—that meant death. A white horse—that meant victory.

As the Bible makes a favorite of the horse, the patriarch and the prophet, and the evangelist, and the apostle stroking his sleek side and patting his rounded neck, and tenderly lifting his exquisitely formed hoof, and listening with a thrill to the champ of his bit, so all good natures in all ages have spoken of him in encomiastic terms. The Duke of Wellington would not allow any one irreverently to touch his old war horse, Copenhagen, on whom he had ridden fifteen hours without dismounting at Waterloo, and when old Copenhagen died his master ordered a military salute fired over his grave.

But what shall I say of the maltreatment of this beautiful, and wonderful creature of God? If Thomas Chalmers in his day felt called upon to preach a sermon against cruelty to animals, how much more in this day is there need of reprehensible discourse. All honor to the memory of Professor Bergh, the apostle for the brute creation, for the mercy he demanded, and achieved for this king of beasts. A man who owned 4000 horses, and some say 40,000 wrote in the Bible: "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast." Sir Henry Lawrence's care of the horse was beautifully Christian. It ought to be that if any man overdrives a horse, or feeds him when he is hot, or recklessly drives a nail into the quick of his hoof, or rowels him to see him dance, or so shoes him that he will feel a drop of blood, or puts a collar on a raw neck, or unnecessarily abbreviates the natural defense against insectile annoyance—that such a man as that himself ought to be made to pull and let his horse ride!

Groomed to the last point of soft brilliance, his flowing mane a billow of beauty, his arched neck in utmost rhythm of curve, let him be harnessed in graceful trappings, and then driven to the furthest goal of excellence, and then fed at luxurious ant bins and blanketed in comfortable stall. The long-tried and faithful servant of the human race deserves all kindness, all care, all reward, all succulent forage and soft litter and paradisaical pasture field.

But what shall I say of the effort being made this day on a large scale to make this splendid creature of God, this divinely honored being, an instrument of atrocious evil? I make no indiscriminate assault against the turf. I believe in the turf if it can be conducted on right principles, and with no betting.

HOW TO TREAT A JACK.

Southern Stock Farm.

First, make a lot of an acre or more, the more grass the better, as it is very essential for them to have grass and plenty of outdoor exercise, where they can roll, wallow, and follow the inclination of their nature. Make stable with a grass side, leave it open in fair weather so as he can go out and in when it suits him. Oats is the best feed, one-half gallon mixed with one quart of wheat bran. If he doesn't eat that much take it out of the trough, never leave food by him to become stale; feed three times a day and water regularly, or have it where he can go to it. Corn is good food if not fed too much, three or four ears three times a day being sufficient. Always feed plenty of roughness and change it often, so he will not become tired of it. Any kind of hay, timothy, herdsgrass, clover, millet, pea vines or corn fodder is good. Keep stable clean and dry. Your jack will keep in good health and feel ready for business. Curry once or twice a day and never let lice get at him. Always tease the mare with a horse, and be sure she is in good heat before letting the jack to her. Never whip a jack, as it will make him timid.

HEAD OF THE HERD.

Farmers Review.

The bull used in a dairy herd is of the utmost importance, while the cows produce but one calf annually, every calf may represent 5% per cent of his blood, therefore he should come of an ancestry of known butter qualities, particularly should his dam and his sire's dam be cows of the highest dairy type, abundant and rich milkers, capacious udders and teats, and well apart. He should be pure bred. With a vigorous constitution, and masculine without coarseness, a soft uncious hide, not too thin; fine limbs and short; a

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May as well know it. Get a can at a harness- or shoe-store, 25c a half-pint to \$1.25 a gallon; book "How to Take Care of Leather," and swab, both free; use enough to find out if you don't like it, take the can back and get the whole of your money.

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F. G. BUFORD, Fort Worth, Texas.



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Texas Jersey Cattle Club—J. D. BIRD, President, Waskom; W. R. SPANN, Secretary, Dallas.

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

FLOUR made from Kafir corn is becoming a popular product in Oklahoma and New Mexico.

JOHN Y. STONE, ex-Attorney General of Iowa, once said in a speech: "It takes more brains to run a farm right than a law office." This may not be literally true, yet it is a fact that there is a field on every farm for the exercise of all the mental ability any man may possess.

THOSE who accept prognosticator Foster's predictions without question, and are willing to accept the blizzard of Sunday last for "warm" may well feel some apprehension regarding his "cold" days. As an independent guesser at weather, Foster can miss further and oftener than any man we ever heard of.

A FRIEND, in renewing his subscription, says he always considered TEXAS FARM AND RANCH a friend to the farmer until he read the poetry on goldbugs in last issue, the sentiment of which he does not endorse. We assure our friend that if there was either sentiment or poetry in the lines to which he refers, it was entirely unintentional.

At the present rate of consolidation, it will not be many years before every branch of business will be swallowed up in trusts. The individual and the firm will disappear from business, and giant corporations will tyrannize the commercial and industrial world and rule with a rod of iron. The people can check this movement, but will they do it? Not unless they unite and act together for that purpose, letting all minor differences stand aside. Agriculture has so far been nearly exempt from the general trend of affairs, and perhaps can never be fully brought un-

der the sway of combined greed; but agriculturists suffer from these conditions just as others do. If the people refuse to elect men to office who are honest, and regard the public good, and can't be bought up, singly or in blocks of five, they may expect the full fruition of this dismal hope.

PATRIOTIC people who are laboring to bring immigrants into the South should know that one barbarous lynching will keep more people out of the state than all the immigration agents can bring in ten years. They should use their influence to have our courts so remodeled that the people would not have to do their own hanging.

THE Cleburne Enterprise has issued an illustrated souvenir edition containing interesting biographical and local reading matter, and a large number of half-tone cuts of men and things in that stirring town. It also contains a condensed biographical dictionary of Cleburne's business men. It is a good thing for Johnson county and ought to be equally good for the Enterprise.

Few farmers can make make more than one dollar a day at any kind of farm work. If we can tell them how they can make five dollars a day will they jump at it and make the effort? Well, here is how to do it: get the necessary tools and line the cracks in the stable and fowl house, and build a good shelter for brood sows. Any man can make five dollars per day at this sort of work, and the pay will be forthcoming before the winter ends. How many Texas farmers will try the experiment?

PROF. WILLIAMS' alleged new discovery, by which alcohol can be made from lime and coal dust at a cost of less than two cents a gallon, it is claimed, will abolish the distilling business entirely. A good article of whisky can then be made at a cost of a little more than one cent a gallon. At this price it can be substituted for water, not only for drinking purposes, but for bathing. It can be used internally, externally and eternally. What a boon to thirsty bums. It is claimed in favor of the invention that it will increase and popularize the use of intoxicating liquors to such an extent that every family can keep a supply on hand, and be beastly drunk every day in the week. We have seen no suggestion that Prof. Wilson be promptly hung.

A WELL managed farm should be a little world, so to speak. It should, first of all, be as near self-supporting as possible. Everything needed by the farm or family, as far as possible, should be raised at home. Every kind of live stock that can be raised with profit—and every kind can—should be raised on and supported by the farm. Horses, cattle and hogs cannot be dispensed with without inconvenience and actual loss. The same may be said of sheep, though a large majority of farmers keep none. There is room on almost every farm for at least a small flock of sheep. They are not in the way, and in no manner interfere with other stock. They eat what other animals leave to go to waste, and their manure will pay for all they get. Their wool may not form a large item in the receipts of the farm, but their meat is better than pork and cheaper than beef, and much more economical for family use, as a single mutton can be used without danger of loss in the hottest weather. The great enemy of sheep and sheep growers is the prowling cur. In every agricultural community there should be a dog law rigidly enforced—one that would effectually protect sheep from their ravages.

"COME ALL YE THAT HUNGER AND THIRST."

There is just now a grand, but rather hurried procession headed toward the Mecca of the hungry politician, every member of which is hopeful of getting at least some crumbs that drop from the sumptuous table of the official Dives. As there will not be "enough for all and some to spare," many will become heart sick from hopes deferred, and when disgust and disappointment have racked their bones and gnawed their stomachs, a vast majority of those who went up gaily, will return with dejection written in political hieroglyphics on their rueful countenances, somewhat older and a good deal wiser than when they started. This greed for office is peculiarly an American passion. Many men will spend anxious days, sleepless nights, and all the money they can borrow to pursue a phantom, with only one chance in a thousand for success. The most reckless gambler that ever risked the money won from a greenhorn would not "buck against such odds." With the average office seeker this passion takes the form of a political fanaticism, and they will risk their all on the hazard of a loaded die. Congress will meet early next week, and there will be a few places at the disposal of that body, for every one of which there will be a full regiment of applicants, many of them veterans of many a political battle, and victims of many a political route. They will exhibit their scars, and the festering sores on their heads, and claim sympathy and promise "loyalty to the party," and an entire devotion of all their powers to the success of the cause with the boys at home. Many will make the mistake of going to Washington without a "political pull." These are predestined to fail, and ought to have known better. Is it any wonder that our politics are debauched? Is it any wonder that the American stockholder politician is the laughing stock of the civilized world? If such things were confined to those who are out of the arc of political safety, and frantic to get in, it would not be so fantastic a joke as it surely is. But the craze for office is encouraged by those in power, who use even the meanest tools to perpetuate their grip upon the loaves and fishes. But this is as nothing, compared with the crusade for the official goal that takes place quadriennially, when, according to the utterly bad policy of surrendering the spoils to the national victor prevails. Then the grand attraction of many thousand offices is held up to the gaping and voracious multitude of seekers who have been bred to this thing by our peculiar way of doing things. The greed for office is humiliating and ruinous to thousands who otherwise might have developed into good citizens. But the grotesqueness of this fanaticism receives its highest and worst development when we see a once self-respecting farmer join the throng, and turn over his fertile acres to weeds and waste. Verily the difference between that man and a fool is hard to perceive. There are no men better qualified to fill office than those trained upon the farm; but the seeking of office in the manner herein referred to ought to be beneath the dignity of the veriest clod-hopper.

It has been urged that what farmers need to bring them prosperity is factories, factories, factories. If there is any subject known among men that is more befuddled than political economy, please name it. When the great universities disagree and differ, how can the editor of a farm and family paper be required to bring order out of chaos, and develop a theory that will tally with the developed and palpable facts

of the day? If factories are a cure-all for the farmers' financial ills, why are the farms of New England going to ruin and being abandoned, for if we have not been wrongly informed, the factory cure has been tried there? And why is there such grievous depression among English farmers? Are there no factories there to insure them prosperity by affording them a "home market?" If it is a fact that in this and other countries where manufacturing most largely prevails, there is found the greatest depression in agriculture, we merely chronicle the fact, and are not under bond to philosophize about it.

ONE of the worst perversions of popular government is the custom of retiring civil and military officers on pay. The people directly or indirectly elect men to fill positions of trust and emolument, and these positions are greedily sought for the salary that is in all cases abundant and in most cases munificent. The theory is that the pay must be sufficient to support the officer and permit him to lay up enough to carry him safely and pleasantly down the declivity of after years, and that the services of good men cannot be had for less. No one objects to this, for it works well, and every pensionable official can, and many of them do amass fortunes, besides living in a style suited to their positions. If it stopped there, as it ought to do, there could be no just complaint. But after a certain number of years of incumbency the well-to-do official may retire to enjoy his accumulations; and this is also unobjectionable. But that these men, who have already been liberally provided for should have in addition a pension for life is fundamentally wrong, and a fraud on those who furnish the money. Many government officials and employes, get only sufficient salaries to live on, and can save a surplus only by the closest economy. Do these men, who spend their lives unprofitably in the public's service, get a pension when superannated? Not much. These favors are reserved for those who are already amply provided for, that the scripture may be fulfilled, "To him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath not shall be taken even that which he hath." This is un-Republican, un-Democratic, unwise, and ought to be stopped. It is a deliberate attempt to build up a privileged class, who live off the people. They have been liberally paid for all the service rendered and that should be the end of the matter. Every attempt in this country to create a privileged aristocracy ought to be knocked down and trampled in the mud. It is a deliberate aping of the customs by which kings are enabled to keep their crowns, and toadies have models to imitate and idols to worship.

THE Goulds have contested the payment of taxes on \$10,000,000 worth of personal property in New York, through all the courts of the state, and now comes a decision that the tax must be paid. The millionaire tax payer ought to pay taxes like his poorer neighbor. But it is quite likely the astute lawyers for the Goulds will yet find a means of evading payment.

ONE of the most hopeful signs of the times, and one that adds more to the good name of Texas than a single lynching bee can take away, is the multiplication and growth of high class educational institutions. New ones are being founded, and older ones are enlarging their facilities and improving their methods. One of the most progressive of these is Grayson College, at Whitewright, Grayson county, and its popularity is rapidly filling its halls. See advertisement on page 5.

many pretty wildflowers. The roses are blooming everywhere, even now, beautifully. Come again.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Dear Aunt Sallie: Will you admit a Williamson county boy to join your your happy band? I am a farmer boy fourteen years of age. I have been having chills about two weeks; to-day is my chill day, but I hope I will miss it. We are not going to make much cotton, it is so dry. We have out one bale of cotton. I can pick 200 pounds every day. I have picked 200 pounds by dinner.—DELLOSS HOOD, Georgetown, Texas.

[I hope that chill was missed, and that you have so long been free from them, you have forgotten the last one.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Mrs. Buchanan. Dear Madam: In TEXAS FARM AND RANCH I often see in the cousins' corner where some boy speaks of drink, and its evil consequences. I was particularly interested in that of Edmund Taylor's, of McGregor. When I read of the various persons he made mention of, I thought perhaps a sketch of some of my happenings in life, wherein the demon, liquor, was my cruel master, might do some one good. Arkansas was the state of my nativity, and at eight years of age I left home for the bright land of Texas. In that State, and in Colorado, Kansas, and New Mexico, I spent my life on the prairie, a cow boy, (of course); for many years I never lifted the ruby glass to my lips. None were happier than I, when in 1882 I made my first trip to Chicago, and there took the one glass of liquor that led to my downfall. Oh! that I might recall that first drink; but no, the seed was sown, and the inevitable harvest was my lot to reap; six years in a prison cell, cut off from the outside world, just in the prime of life, being 34 years of age.

Through my prison bars I see the handiwork of God, the beautiful flowers, and watch the sparkling fountains dance in the soft rays of sunlight, and I see the little children, and hear their shouts of laughter, and I must wait eighteen months before I can once more enjoy the pleasure. Had I listened to the counsel of my venerable father, and the admonitions of my white haired mother, (who now lies sleeping that last unbroken sleep in your far off church yard, with none save the stars and angels to keep their vigils of love over them,) I would not be an outcast from society, and branded with the stigma which naught can ever efface. I delight in reading the Household departments wherein thoughts of happy wives and loving husbands are predominant. Scenes, heart-rending are witnessed here, when fond wives and mothers clasp their loved ones for a few moments, or perhaps an hour, and then leave, sorrowing, again enduring the hardships of life, striving to keep home and children together until their loved ones come home again. And what is the cause of these scenes, or at least, most of them? DRINK! Should the silent Reaper come not until an' again free, liquor shall never again claim me as a slave. Let the inexperienced profit by my experience, and forget not that oft repeated adage, "wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Should any one reading this, care to correspond with me, I will gladly reply.—E. C. ALLEN, Box O or C, Waupun, Wis.

[My dear little boys, and big boys, too, here is the experience of one who has found "that wine is a mocker." Can any one of you ever think of drinking again without remembering the sorrow and remorse of this soul, who was once happy and free as you are now? When he yielded to the temptation to take the first drink, no vision of crime or prison walls confronted him. Had any said to him, "this will lead you into a prison," he would have scorned the words. "Me, a man with tender heart and active brain, ever become the slave of liquor? Never!" And yet it did, and for this one drink he has languished for weary months and years in a hated prison, surrounded by felons—one of them. Does it not appeal to your sympathy? Will you not be warned to touch not, taste not, handle not, this unclean thing?—AUNT SALLIE.]

On the Stand—"Where was Mrs. Smith going when you saw her?" asked the Judge. "I don't know, Your Honor." "Was she in a carriage?" "No your Honor, she was in a hurry."—Detroit Free Press.

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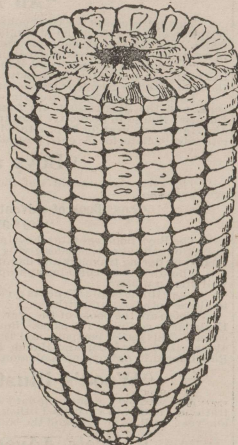
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Guess number of grains on the ear of corn and get **\$500 Cash.** Send in your subscription and guess, with 50 cents, today.



A sealed package containing one average sized white ear of corn has been placed in the vaults of the Mercantile Bank by The Commercial Appeal and on Jan. 10, 1896, the package will be turned over to them, the number of grains will be counted, and the successful guesses announced by The Commercial Appeal and the gifts promptly paid. It is unshucked and no one can possibly know the number of grains on it. Mercantile Bank.

The Weekly Commercial Appeal wants to increase its circulation to 100,000 at once, and in order to do so we have decided to give away \$3,480 in cash and valuable gifts to subscribers and agents. The Commercial Appeal has placed in the vaults of the Mercantile Bank of Memphis, Tenn., under seal, one average-sized white ear of corn, and the grains are of an average size, and to the subscriber first guessing the correct number or nearest correct number of grains on this ear of corn—

- We will give in cash..... \$500 00
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- To the first 1,000 subscribers received, whether correct or incorrect guess is sent, we will mail, post paid, an engraving showing the National Capital at Washington, and portraits of all the Presidents, stating when and giving length of time each one occupied the presidential chair, valued at \$1 each..... 1,000 00
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Amount offered to agents is \$1,180, making a total in all of \$3,480.

SPECIAL NOTICE—50c must accompany every guess for 12 months' subscription to The Weekly Commercial Appeal.

The Weekly Commercial Appeal contains all the news of the week. Tailmage's sermons, a complete Farm and Garden Department, a Question Department, to which every subscriber is welcome, a Friendly Circle for the young folks. IT IS INTENDED TO MAKE IT BETTER THAN EVER BEFORE. And all this for only 50 cents, allowing guess on number of grains on the ear of corn.

Remember that both guess and remittance must be sent in same letter. By sending \$1.00 you can have two years' subscription and two guesses, or one year's subscription and guess for every 50 cents you send. Those who wish to send The Weekly Commercial Appeal to a friend can do so, and the guess will be credited to the sender if so requested. Send in your subscription and guess at once. Remit only by registered letter, money order or express order. Money sent in common letter is not safe. DO NOT SEND STAMPS. Contest closes January 10, 1896. Address

COMMERCIAL APPEAL, Memphis, Tenn.

Poultry

Most diseases of fowls and men originate from impure food and drink. One cannot be too cautious about what goes into the stomach.

"There will be no poultry show at Atlanta this winter," says the Southern fancier. This is where the great interstate exposition is a failure. No poultry show! No wonder Buffalo Bill folded his tent and left. A great fair without a poultry show is no place for a game cock.

Farmers should be as careful of the breeding of their fowls as of their cows, horses or hogs. No progressive farmer will tolerate scrub stock of any kind; but many of them lay aside their progressiveness when they go among their poultry. Breeding and care pays as much dividend in poultry as in any other stock.

During the present month fowls will have their new dress, and be ready for business. Then comes the mating. Dont keep more male birds than are necessary—they are a dead expense; get rid of them. The cock of whatever breed should be lively and aggressive, as well as of lineage beyond reproach. Dont select a cock because he is large—better rather under than over size. Females should be of good size, energetic foragers, with a distinct hankering for the society and protecting care of the male birds. This agrees with nature, and works well, contrary though it be to the theories of the new woman. Never raise stock from hens that have a poor record for laying. You would not try to raise a dairy cow from a dam that was stingy with her milk. Apply the same reasoning to the fowls. Mate and breed for what you want, remembering that you cannot get out of a mating more than there is in it.

DUCKS FOR MARKET.

H. B. GEEB.

On the Eastern coast, about New York and Boston, and other cities in that latitude, there are a good many people who make a living raising ducks for the market. Some of them are even getting comfortably well off at it; that is, they are able to improve and enlarge their places in addition to making a living, and then, probably are laying away money besides. While this is true, if the reports be correct, yet we would advise no one to lay down any sort of business or occupation now engaged in to go into the market duck business exclusively. We would, however, suggest to a multitude of persons who have leisure time and are properly situated, the advisability of trying, in a limited way at first, the scheme of raising ducks for profit at market prices. It should be borne in mind that there are two sources of revenue in ducks. Yes, there are three: First, eggs, then feathers, and finally the sale of the ducks themselves.

The Pekin ducks—and they are the only kind of ducks to raise for profit—lay about six dozen eggs per duck from May to July, of which one-half could be sold and one-half set, from which the latter, at least one dozen young ducks should be raised to the eating size, and sold for three dollars, or twenty-five cents each, at a net profit of one dollar and a-half, to which add the profit from the eggs sold, and it would be about two dollars from the product of one old duck, with the value of her feathers to offset the cost of her feed.

This is only illustrative of the revenue from one duck, and gives some idea of the possible income from a flock of thirty or forty old ducks, taken well in hand at the beginning of the season, and properly managed throughout the year.

Ducks are harder than chickens; they seldom take the roup; can stand cold weather better, and damp places have no terrors for them. A fence three feet high will hold them in bounds, and a low shed with a little straw scattered under it is all the roost they need, and all the housing.

They can get along very well without pond or stream, if necessary. All they really require is enough water to drink, and occasionally something for them to wash thoroughly in.

Ducks are really less trouble to feed than chickens. Coarse corn meal and wheat bran mixed in with boiled oats, vegetable and meat scraps is all they need, and every other meal the wheat bran and corn meal mixed in with,

either warm or cold, will do them. But be careful to feed but very little hard grain; it is not good for them. Give them gravel the same as chickens.

Nashville, Tenn.

BACKLOG NOTES.

BUFF JERSEY.

Sitting by a blazing fireplace is a good place to meditate on subjects that one's surrounding may suggest, and just at this time as I look out of my window and see a flock of pure bred Brown Leghorn fowls, I wonder at so many people sticking to the old scrub chicken.

With poultry, as with any farm stock blood tells. If one wishes fowls for meat, and also a few eggs, there are several breeds for him to select from; or if he wishes eggs principally, there are chickens that are veritable egg machines, only lacking a crank, and in a great many cases they do not even lack that. My flock does not, so say my neighbors, when they hear of my paying prices in two figures for a bird, as I often do. Well, crank or not, a flock of birds of the breed that fills the bill for purpose intended, if properly managed, are a source of pleasure and profit to their owners, and Texas is an ideal poultry country; the climate is just to a chicken's liking, and all things considered, even with the low prices now prevailing for produce of the poultry yard, there is a good margin of profit.

Poultry can be produced pound for pound as cheaply as pork, and at no time is it as low as pork goes.

To the readers of your paper who have not already some pure bred fowls I would urge them to either buy a trio of some reliable breeder, or else get a sitting of eggs and get a start that way. It will be the best investment you ever made, if you properly handle them.

Some fifteen years ago I traded a yearling steer, worth \$15, for one-half dozen Brown Leghorn fowls, and the way my neighbors did talk. I kept a careful account of the income of these birds, and in twelve months I sold eggs and chickens to the amount of over \$100, and had left one dozen of the choicest individuals for the breeding pen. What could I have invested my steer in to have made a like showing.

If you have boys and girls growing up around you, and wish to cultivate in them a habit of industry, just buy them some birds to care for; let them have all or part of the income; subscribe for a poultry journal and carefully study the habits of the breed you keep, and do not keep more than one breed to start with.

Will continue this subject in some future paper.

Denton, Texas.

ARE YOUR HENS LAYING?

Southern Planter.

This is an important question just now, as eggs are now wanted, and will continue to be wanted at increasing prices for the next four months. If the hens are not laying, what is the cause?

The pullets are now old enough and the old hens are through the moult. There must be some cause. If cannot be the weather, as that is mild enough here in the South. The probability is that the cause is too fat condition of the fowls. The grain and seed crops have been ripening, one after another, for the past four months. There has been an abundance of insect food, and wild berries and green food of all kinds has not been to seek since spring. All these causes, even if little or nothing has been actually fed to the fowls, have conduced to fatten the fowls. A fat hen is never a good layer. She may drop an egg now and again, but she will not be a regular day by day layer. The laying hen is an active, well nourished hen, but not a fat one. If your hens are in this fat state before you can expect eggs you can get rid of the superabundant fat, but not make the hens poor. To attain this end, stop feeding fattening food. Corn is one of the best foods for producing fat. It ought only to be fed in winter. Give oats, wheat and barley mixed, and do not give too much. Compel the hens to exercise themselves in order to supplement the food fed to them, and in this way reduce the fat.

Another cause may be cold, damp roosting places. The nights are now cold, and the hens should have dry, warm quarters, free from drafts, or they will not lay regularly. See to it that the hen houses are repaired and made wind and water-tight.

A frequent cause of non-laying is the

keeping of hens that have been inbred until they have lost their natural vigor of constitution. The influence of selection and the breeding of producing breeds from the best strains is as great amongst poultry as amongst other live stock. A good laying type will never be produced from strains whose distinctive feature is feeding for the pot. This consideration involves the acquirement of knowledge of the different breeds, and their characteristics, and the selection from amongst the breed selected as those birds which have the laying propensity most fully developed. If you have not got a strain of fowls of this type, it will be useless to expect a large production of eggs. The remedy will be to make a change. Buy now a pure bred male bird of some good laying strain and breed some of the best laying hens you have to him. This will improve the flock next year, and the same course can then again be repeated by procuring another pure bred male of no kin to your improved hens. In this way, and with care in feeding, a good laying strain of fowls can be had. It will pay to get this. Eggs are always in demand, and when cheapest costs least to produce.

THE BEST MARKET.

Colorado Farmer.

Where is the best market? Right in your own home. What the farmer should do is to have not only a variety of vegetables, but a variety of meat. Here is what Our Country Home says:

"There is no poultry meat that can be raised as cheaply as duck meat. Seven and one-half cents per pound will cover the best. Is it not far more preferable than the poor cut of beef, or the 'beef' from shanks and hocks, to cook which we must boil out all the life-giving forces. Farmer friend, this year raise 200 ducks, and eat some, and have a nice profit by so doing. Hatch and rear them under hens. Inclose them in a yard sufficiently large to insure grass for them to graze in. Feed three to four times a day, steamed wheat, bran, oat meal and corn meal, with ten per cent. of beef scraps. Give them water in fountains, and keep them from water, so far as swimming is concerned. Our word for it, you can do it for seven and a-half cents per pound."

If farmers will only consider that they should consume a large portion of the poultry at home, the matter of profit and loss will be a secondary consideration. We do not sympathize with the man who sends a choice fowl to market and eats fat pork the entire year, nor do we think it best to eat only chickens while the luxury of a tender young duck or goose can be had. We hope our friends will look to their own tables first. Poultry is cheaper than pork or beef, if quality is to be considered, and we should not be content with pork all the time.

Farm Implement News: As the depression in British agriculture is more intense this fall than it was last, on account of shorter crops and lower prices, the demands upon the government for relief measures are louder and more imperative; but the difficulty is that agriculturists cannot agree and decide upon any particular measure to press unitedly upon the attention of parliament. Some insist on tariff protection against the importation of foreign products; others demand bimetalism, that is, the restoration of silver to the standard, and many want reduction of rents, war taxes, etc. However it is apparent that the government cannot longer pursue their waiting policy with regard to the agricultural conditions, and that parliamentary action of some kind will be soon taken with a view of relieving British agriculture.

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IRRIGATION, ITS POSSIBILITIES ALONG THE ARANSAS PASS ROAD.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I have spent some days since the Irrigation Convention at San Antonio, in looking over portions of the country along the San Antonio and Aransas Pass road, and I have been impressed with the opportunities for practical, profitable irrigation, which I have seen. I have wondered when our Texas people will open their eyes to the fact that they have mines of wealth in this line, as yet undeveloped, and which, as the saying in Colorado is, will "pan out pay dirt," from the grass roots.

Now, there are a great many good practical sites for "pumping irrigation plants" along the coast country south of San Antonio, where water can be pumped cheaply on to the land by the use of steam or gasoline engine driven centrifugal pumps. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH readers will remember that I have been hammering away at this subject for the past four years, describing rice irrigation as practiced in Louisiana, wind mill irrigation as practiced in Kansas, and other places, and am glad to see that the fruit is beginning to develop.



Here and there over Texas there have been put in successful plants, which have demonstrated the practicability of using pumps for the purpose of raising water into irrigating canals for application to the land. There is a plant down on the Alice branch of the S. A. & A. P. Ry., on the Neeces river, which was put in by Lon E. Hill, of Beeville, which I wish every one interested in irrigation could have time to inspect. Here the water is raised sixty feet, (at low water in the river), by a steam driven centrifugal pump, discharged into a canal, and taken a mile or more, supplying water to 600 or more acres which is cropped to garden and other crops. It is a success in every way. If you do not believe it, write to Mr. Hill, at Beeville, and ask him, or what is better, go and get him to show you over the place. Now, here the water has to be raised at times of low water in river, sixty feet. Set this as a maximum of the elevation to which it has been demonstrated that water may be profitably raised by centrifugal power pumps for irrigation. How many hundreds of places can you not find where abundance of water is to be had below this limit. I found a great deal of country along the Neeces, the San Antonio, the Guadalupe, the Colorado and the Brazos, which is sure, sooner or later, to be irrigated in this manner, and which is destined yet to furnish a large amount of business for the S. A. & A. P., and also employment for thousands of people. When these means of water wealth are once developed people are going to ask themselves, "why did we not do this before?" I can only speak particularly of a very few of these places along the line of this road, where there should be irrigation plants, and where, in time, there surely will be. I wonder if the people of Cuero have ever thought what a grand impetus it would give their town if they could surround it with irrigated farms and gardens, making it the commercial center of an irrigated fruit and garden country.

I see they are getting up some sort of a bonus there to get a new railroad. It seems to me that if they were to put the capital into developing irrigation, the roads would be bound to come to them, and that the money expended would remain at home and become a lasting and growing benefit. But probably the people of Cuero have never had it called to their attention that it is practicable to raise the Guadalupe river out of its bed by means of pumps, put the water into a canal above the level of the bottom lands, and then distribute it over the country above, below and around the town, making an irrigated country of it; yet here is the situation. At the S. A. & A. P bridge, two and one-half miles west of town, the banks of the Guadalupe are 25 to 30 feet high, and at low water, there is at least water enough passing to irrigate 50,000 acres. The down grade from the crossing to Cuero is quite a number of feet, the banks of the river at the bridge being higher than the town. Now, if a pumping station at the

bridge were erected, raising water to a canal built on the surface, the water could be kept above the surface of the land, and taken out of the canal all the way down and around the town. Cuero could easily be made the market town of a fine irrigated country. Suppose a pumping station consisting of two 100-h. p. engines and two 10,000 gallon per minute centrifugal pumps were put in at the bridge, this would furnish water for irrigation for upwards of 4000 acres. Such a plant could be installed for less than \$5 per acre, canals and all, and could be operated for less than 50 cents per acre. Investigation will show that the above are outside figures. This water, if it were put into a canal above the land so as to be available for sale in water rights, would be worth, at the minimum, \$10 per acre, and \$1 per acre per year, if it were in California, Colorado, New Mexico, or any other irrigated country.

There are several water raising plants used for rice irrigation, near Crowley, La., which handle 2500 to 3000 acres to the plant, under conditions not nearly so favorable as those existing on the Guadalupe at Cuero, and above and below there in the same valley.

Now, if this irrigation improvement were made, if there were but one plant started, and under way there, it would benefit that place and that country more than four new railroads. And what I have said of Cuero, and of the valley of the Guadalupe, is true of the valley of the San Antonio, of the lower Colorado, and of the Brazos. I venture the prediction that the time is not far distant when such irrigation improvements will be made in these valleys, and that they will demand and support a population many times greater than is there now.

Some of those interested in the prosperity of these countries, should go and look at Mr. Hill's place on the Neeces river. I am sure it would prove a revelation to them. Then, if they should doubt the practicability of this means of irrigation, they should go to Louisiana, and see what is being done there.

The opportunities for irrigation along the Aransas Pass road are more numerous than appears to a casual observer, and it is a country which should and will attract the attention of the home seeker more and more in the near future.

The parties who own tracts of land which are susceptible of irrigation will have a good and sure market for their lands in small sub-divisions, once the irrigation development assumes shape, and it is a country which should and will attract the attention of the home seeker more and more in the near future.

And, by the way, I hope TEXAS FARM AND RANCH will excuse me if I just mention that this Aransas Pass coast country is the ideal place for an outing. The place for a winter fishing or hunting party to come to. You can not miss good sport of either kind, if you or your friends wish the best, if you come or send them to Rockport, Aransas City, or Corpus Christi. This statement may look out of place when my subject is considered, but it is one of the attractions of the country, and one which will, when known and appreciated, turn many new comers this way. The abundance of winter game, such as ducks, geese and brants, etc., together with the good fishing along the coast, will, with the new deep water ports at Aransas and Rockport, attract a permanent population which will make a home market for fruits and vegetables which the irrigated lands will produce in abundance.

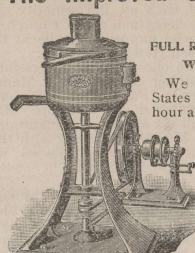
The country along the Aransas Pass road has a future—a grand one—in store for it, and those who own property which is susceptible of irrigation, or those who acquire such property before the rush comes, will find that they have mines of wealth in their river bottom lands.

W. S. MARSHALL.

It is not generally known that Mrs. Frank R. Stockton is a writer as well as her famous husband. She has written in the forthcoming volume of The Youth's Companion a delightfully humorous paper on her first experience as a housekeeper. Mrs. Harriet Prescott Spofford has written another article on the same subject.

If you want a first-class Jersey cow, write to Farmer Shaw, Dallas, stating full particulars. He will send you a long list of pedigrees to select from.

The Improved United States Cream Separator



Sustains its former records of wonderful efficiency in Creameries in all parts of the country. FULL RATED CAPACITY. CLEANEST OF SKIMMING. WILL SKIM 2,400 POUNDS DOWN TO A TRACE.

We have now run one of your Improved No. 1 United States Separators about a year. It will skim 2,400 lbs. per hour as closely as 2,000, doing it to a trace.

It requires less attention to operate than any machine we have. It takes less oil, and is a very clean machine in regard to throwing it. You have this point down to a nicety. We like your skim-milk and cream delivery too, as there is no unnecessary device to hold them down and no leakage at that point. Wishing you success in your business, we are, LAMBERT & SCOLLAR, PICKETT, Wis., Nov. 4, 1895.

We have the best Separator for the factory. We have the best Separator for the dairy. Send for illustrated circular. We furnish everything for dairy and creamery. Agents wanted in every town and county where we have none.

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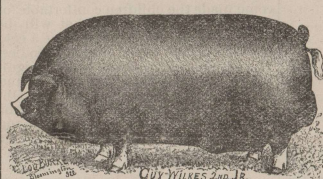
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60 Thoroughbred Poland Chinas 60 FOR THE NEXT 30 DAYS.



Owing to having perfected arrangements by which Mr. S. G. McFadden, of West Liberty, Iowa, will soon be down with his fine herd of Poland Chinas to enter Magnolia Herd as a partner, I have to make room. Therefore offer a large lot of choice pigs, 4 to 5 months old, at \$10 each; 5 to 7 months at \$12.50 each—all eligible for registration at \$10. per pig. Also some good 13 to 14 months old gilts, bred, at \$30, well worth \$40. A number of good brood sows, bred, at \$40 to \$50, well worth \$60 to \$75. Also two good yearling boars at \$30 each, well worth \$50.

Get cut this out, as it will not appear again in this paper.

W. W. STELL, Paris, Texas.

Advertisement for the ENTERPRISE Meat Chopper. It features an illustration of the chopper and text stating: 'Chops Exactly as Shown. ENTERPRISE Meat Chopper. TINED chops, easily, meat for sausage, hash, and mince meat, suet, tripe, cod fish, scraps for poultry, corn for fritters, etc. No. 5, \$2.-No. 10, \$3. The only perfect chopper ever made. All sizes, from the small family chopper to the largest power machine. Ask for it at the hardware dealers. Catalogue free. THE ENTERPRISE MFG. CO., 34 & Dauphin Sts., PHILADELPHIA, PA.'

Advertisement for Roofing. It features the word 'Roofing.' in large letters and text: 'Gravel, 2 and 8-ply Prepared Roofing, Building and Sheathing Papers, Coal Tar, Pitch, and all kinds of Roofing Material. Gresate Oil prevents decay, destroys and prevents mites in chicken houses and all kinds of insects and vermin. Health and protection. Cheap and easy to apply. Honorable dealing, prices right. Write before you buy. T. F. KING & CO., 101 Main Street, DALLAS, TEXAS.'

Advertisement for Grayson College. It features the text: 'Grayson College has matriculated 213 students. Our limit will soon be reached. If you desire to educate your son or daughter in a first-class college, we will give you honest, thorough, progressive work. Our students make the highest grades before State and County Boards of Examiners and at the State University. Students who will not work will not be retained in Grayson College. We have a more extensive collection of apparatus, a better geological cabinet, and more complete laboratories, than any other private institution or church school in the State. We have lately added very extensively to our chemical laboratory. Our four libraries contain 8000 volumes. Our reading room contains 12 of the best American and foreign periodicals. Our building is a three-story pressed brick with 31 rooms, furnished throughout in modern style. Tuition, \$4 and \$5 per month, and the very best board at \$10 per month. Address GRAYSON COLLEGE, Whitewright, Texas.'

Advertisement for THE NEW CANTON STEEL STALK CUTTER. It features an illustration of the machine and text: 'We were the first manufacturers to introduce Stalk Cutters and have kept ahead of the times in modern improvements. Our new steel frame machine is the finest piece of mechanism ever turned out of any factory. It has a relief spring in connection with Doubletrees, which relieves the jerking motion from horses' necks, also giving knives a striking motion. Has loose spools on end of knife heads to prevent trash from accumulating. These features are found only in the Canton. No axle through center of rest to clog up with trash. All steel except pole and doubletrees. Warranted the best or money refunded. Don't be deceived into taking "just as good as the Canton", there are none as good. If your dealer don't handle it and won't order for you, write us direct for special price. Circulars free. We manufacture Disk Harrows, Sulky and Gang Plows, Steam Plows, Harrows—both Single and Double—Canton Clipping Walking Plows, Binding and Walking Cultivators, Corn and Cotton Planters, Check-row Corn Planters, and Stalk Cutters. We carry the largest stock of Engines, Carriages, Road Carts, Delivery Wagons, Nail Trucks, Sorghum Mills, Fanmills, Grain Drills, Tractor Engines, Thrashers, Hay Presses, Drag Rakes and All-Steel Rakes, Saws & Oxen Wagons. Write us for your wants. PARLIN & ORENDORFF CO., Dallas, Tex.'

Household

Edited by Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, Dallas, Texas, to whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

THE REALM OF POESY.

MINNIE GILMORE MILLS.

"Our lives are two-fold." One is fraught With care and trouble; But in the pure land of Thought Lives a fair double. Whose years flow peaceful and serene, Who homage yields but to the queen. There is a realm whose skies are never O'er cast with clouds; where stars shine bright; Where seasons change, but each one grows In new grandeur and delight; Where flowers fade not, and yet the harvest Comes, with its golden stores replete; No labor added, yet the sickles Lay shining sheaves down at our feet. The rippling streams are all pellucid, And banks on either side ever green; There grand old trees with myriad songsters, And forest aisles lie dim between; There fancies and ardors royal splendors, Such as this world may ne'er behold; Built before Time; no money lenders Profane these temples with their gold. Castles and courts there are, where knightly And honest men are Nature's kings; Women are honored bravely, rightly— True chivalry its trophy brings; And here we meet our heroes loyal To those we love on earth the best; The banquet table, rich and royal, Is free to every honored guest.

Pledge we in honeysuckle goblets Filled with the "golden" wine; Pledge we our queen—for 'tis her bounty— Long may she reign—thy queen and mine.

We drink the nectar; suffering, sorrow, Float on in pinions of the night, And angels wings we now may borrow To rise in our aerial flight. Above the shores of time, where duty Comes first, where labor is not loved, Beyond earth's scenes to realms where beauty And truth shall live, all else above.

Oh, queen of Poesy! tho' human, The soul that suffers, yet is strong, May rise above the lot of woman And worship in thy world of song; May soar aloft—intrepid spirit— Above the scenes of night and day, Above the life we all inherit, Above the things of common clay; And at thy shrine, and in thy temple, List to the "music of the spheres" Drinking delight from that pure fountain To last them thro' life's weary years.

Then let us dream—tho' "life is real"— And things not dream—"what they seem,"— Each soul possesses an ideal, Worshipped in secret—let us dream. ST. THOMAS, FLA.

CHAT.

Minnie Gilmore Mills sings us a song this week, how blessed a thing it is that we may live two lives, else the constant pressure of every-day life would soon absorb all the more delicate harmonies of our natures and unfit us for anything else. There comes, even amid the busy cares of life, times when the spirit leaves the toiling body and soars beyond its limits, reveling in dreams of beauty and romance, which, if nothing more is realized, we find rest which slackens the tensions, of tired nerves and brains, and helps to take up the real burdens of life with renewed hope and courage.

Hints on Economy, by Clara Hammond, a very practical and helpful letter full of excellent suggestions for the busy mother, who often must evolve something very nice from very unpromising material. We commend her suggestions to the sisterhood. A City Girl tells us of the H. Sophia Newcombe College, an enduring monument to the memory of a beloved young daughter. How sad, the thousands of dollars spent in erecting monuments of cold and senseless marble above the sacred dust of loved ones, could not be utilized as this good woman has done, perpetuate the memory of a pure and lovely daughter, and at the same time contribute to the elevation and education of hundreds of other girls who are thus taught to emulate a lovely character.

Cheery, happy Billy Biggs comes with a smile and a good word for every one of us. Her presence is like a sun burst on a cloudy day. Welcome, always welcome, Billy.

Mrs. W. W. Reagan, writes interestingly of making flowers of decoration, which she thinks others would like to learn, and she would like to exchange instructions with anyone interested for almost anything useful. We saw a cluster of pink roses made by a lady of Dallas which were beautiful, made of thin white silk, which she had dyed rose color—I suppose, made as Mrs. Reagan makes them.

On Hershel island, a barren spot in the Arctic ocean, a baby has been born—an American baby. Its mother is the wife of Capt. A. C. Sherman, who accompanied her husband in his far away northern expedition. It is prob-

able a baby never saw the light on Hershel island before. The child was christened, with all the formality possible, by a clergyman of the Church of England who happened to be at the camp, Helen Hershel Sherman.

Will some one who has successfully done stamping please answer Mamie Rice's query? For ourself, we have had no experience. We hope Miss Mamie will not allow her acquaintance with the Household to end with this query, but come again. We ask her pardon for not publishing her letter sooner.

From a late sermon of Dr. Talmage we made the following clipping, which we felt would be comforting to many a mother and father who toils, seemingly without even the hope of reward or appreciation. Hours of sadness and loneliness come to all, when there seems no ray of light, and it is at such times we may find sweet relief, and such thoughts from one so competent to offer solace:

"Cheer up, men and women of unappreciated services. You will get your reward, if not here, hereafter. When Charles Wesley comes up to judgment, and the thousands of souls which were wafted into glory through his songs shall be enumerated he will take his throne. Then John Wesley will come up to judgment, and after his name has been mentioned in connection with the salvation of the millions of souls brought to God through the Methodism which he founded, he will take his throne. But between the two thrones of Charles Wesley and John Wesley there will be a throne higher than either, on which shall sit Susannah Wesley, who with maternal consecration in Epworth rectory, Lincolnshire, started those two souls on their triumphant mission of sermon and song through all following ages. Oh, what a day that will be for many who rocked Christian cradles with weary foot, and who patched worn out garments and darned socks, and out of a small income made the children comfortable for the winter. What a day that will be for those to whom the world gave a cold shoulder, and called them nobodies, and begrudged them the least recognition, and who, weary and worn and sick, fainted by the brook Besor. Oh, that will be a mighty day when the Son of David shall distribute among them the garlands, the crowns, the scepter, the chariots, the thrones. And then it shall be found out that all who on earth served God in inconspicuous spheres receive just as much reward as those who filled the earth with uproar of achievement. Then they shall understand the height, the depth, the length, the breadth, the pillared and domed magnificence of my text, "As his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the staff."

We copy from the Hillsboro Reflector a description of a banner made by the native Indian women, of Warm Springs, Indian Territory, and sent by them to the meeting of the National W. C. T. U., which recently assembled in Baltimore. It indicates as much talent, taste and skill as that evinced by the sisters of fairer faces, utilizing as they did the materials and emblems so long illustrative of their national taste and skill. The warlike tomahawk decorated with the white ribbon of peace, and the wreath of narcissus, in delicate compliment to the founder of their Union proves they are not deficient in delicacy of sentiment and tender appreciation:

"The Indian Territory banner, from the Indian Union, came from Warm Springs, and was one of the most unique sent to the convention. It was designed and made by the Indian women, any the material was buckskin which they had dressed themselves, the rod and arrow with cord and tassels of buckskin, and deerskin fur adorned the top, with heavy fringe of buckskin at the bottom. The name of the Union, "Warm Springs," across the top was made of white beads, and in the center there was a star of yellow beads; at the left lower corner was the pipe of peace around which was twined a serpent, symbolizing alcohol, which is destroying the peace of their people. In the right corner was the tomahawk, their implement of war, tied with a white ribbon. A border of white narcissus, made of white beads, was in honor of their organizer, Mrs. Narcissus White Kinney. S. T. HARRISS."

A QUERY.

MAMIE RICE.

Will some one please tell me how to

use a stamping outfit? The directions with mine are, after using the stamp, to "lay a thin piece of paper over the stamping and pass a hot iron over it," and that "the iron should be as hot as possible without scorching the cloth." I use a white powder that came with the patterns. I have tried it several times, but the powder is entirely absorbed each time. Where is the fault? I enjoy the Household very much, and often think I will apply for admittance, but as I am one of Oklahoma's school-ma'ams, and Saturday, too, is a busy day, I will not attempt a longer letter this morning. Winnview, Okla.

ARTIFICIAL.

MRS. W. W. REGAN.

I would like to tell the members of the Household of my vocation as artificial flower work, which to see is to admire (excuse my boasting). It is later, much more admired, and more popular than either painting or embroidery, and less expensive than the latter. You, perhaps, do not believe this, because you know that artificial flowers are expensive. But I make my flowers, and they are just as pretty and perfect as any sold by the milliners. The material is far less expensive than one would imagine.

I use velvet, satin, silk gauze, and muslin, in making the flowers. The velvet and satin must have a preparation added to the back to make them stiff.

I tack the flowers in graceful sprays on many lamprequis, pineushions, throws, tablecloths, home made picture frames, wall pockets, glove cases, boxes, etc.

I have just finished a lamp mat, which has a wreath of violets around it.

A table scarf has a bunch of fuchsias in one corner, and on the other end is a graceful spray of wild roses. The flowers are not tacked close and flat, but the leaves are allowed to curl some, and the rubber stems to assume a natural position.

But my lamp shade is just the loveliest thing imaginable. It has a pink foundation, with a profusion of white velvet flowers and a few green leaves scattered over it.

Most any flowers may be used, such as geraniums, tuberoses, roses, sweet peas, carnations, pansies, etc. I made the flowers which I wore on my summer hat, and sold several sprays to others for the same purpose.

If any of the Household have old flowers on hand, they might use in the way I have mentioned. I learned to make these flowers from written instructions, for which I paid \$5, but will teach anyone in same way for literature of most any kind, journals, home papers, etc., or for pure bred fowls and eggs, drawn work, or fur skins. Those who have nothing to exchange, will teach for \$1.85.

The next time I come I will tell you how I preserved and mounted the birds I wore on my winter hat.

With many good wishes for the Household and our kind editress, I must "be gone." Prescott, Ark.

TO CAPTAIN.

BARCUS.

Dear Mrs. Buchanan: I would say to Captain, I do not wish to be unfair, but desire to stir up the good women of this country and get them to thinking, and see if they are raising their children right, and that they have none but proper associates. She need not run, but point out wherein I'm unfair or mistaken, that I, with the other readers of the Household may be benefited. I am ever ready to defend the fair name of an honest woman, and I want to say here that good women are largely in the majority over good men. Why is it?

I think one reason is, that she is under home influence longer, while the young man pulls out from home at an immature age to hustle for himself and gets in with bad associates at a time when he is easily led astray.

Perhaps Miss Hughey is correct; she may be purer by nature, but Paul says in Gal. vi 7 and 8: "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall be also reap, for he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh, reap corruption," and in the third commandment God promises to visit the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation, etc. Then if the father shall sow to the flesh and reap corruption, I do not understand why the sin is not visited upon the daughter as well as the son. I regret that the tendency

FITS CURED

(From U. S. Journal of Medicine.) Prof. W. H. Pecke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their P. O. and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York

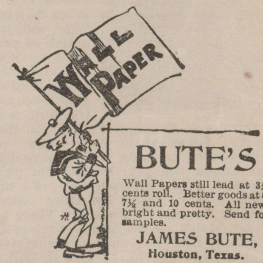
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That it requires no preparation or coaxing to make



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IT IS SIMPLY IMPOSSIBLE

To do poor baking. You will not be able to find their equal.

A CELEBRATED PUMPING ENGINE

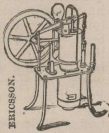
The famous Ericsson invented the celebrated Hot Air Pumping Engine, bearing his name, many years ago. It has been modified and improved until it is now the most perfect piece of machinery that is produced for the purpose intended. Every stage of development has had in view the lessening of cost, economy in use, safety, simplicity and the necessity for as little labor as possible.

Its usefulness on the farm is being demonstrated constantly to those who are seeking improved methods of handling their land and crops to the best advantage. The De Laminer-Ericsson Hot Air Pumping Engines insure a steady, constant supply of water for every use that it is required. They are being used extensively where irrigation is required. On the ordinary farm they supply an abundance of water for all household uses, for the barn, dairy, lawn and stock. They are perfectly safe, exceedingly simple and require absolutely no labor or care. A very small quantity of fuel will run one for hours.

They are largely taking the place of wind mills, and will probably supplant them altogether in the near future.

An illustrated catalogue will be sent free to all who ask for it. Address,

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than ours. For gas oil and water go down from 10 to 250 feet in sizes. Send for catalogue and prices of machines, tools, supplies, etc. Free.
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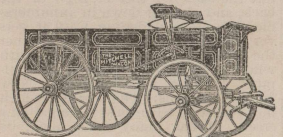
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About Bees

PURE WHITE HONEY.

This is by all Odds the Best Winter Food for Bees.

American Gardening.

Too many people have an idea that, while only the best honey will do to market, anything that the bees will eat is good enough for them. The first part of this idea is all right, the second all wrong. Probably the greatest winter danger to bees is from dysentery, and that is usually caused by improper food, or a cold hive. Of the two causes I consider the first most common. When the autumn flow of honey is limited, and much space remains unfilled, the bees undertake to patch out their stores with the juice of decaying fruits, etc. This is totally unfit for them, and particularly fatal during the fall and winter. The vicinity of cider mills is an undesirable location for an apiary, on that account. The pomace is very injurious to them as a winter food. One should be careful, too, what artificial food is given to them in the fall. Save dubious material you want cleaned up till spring, when, if not absolutely poison, it usually will not injure them. Of course, nothing questionable may be given them while the sections are on.

The very best bee food for winter is pure white honey. That seems to contain the least indigestible matter. Next to this comes pure honey of a darker shade. If artificial food be necessary (do not skip them to avoid feeding) use pure granulated sugar syrup. This is the best at any time, but so much of successful wintering depends upon good food that one should be especially particular in the fall feeding. One may at times have other material quite as unobjectionable as this, but where one is in doubt, the advice of an experienced apiarist should be sought before using it.

A GOOD MAN GONE.

California Farmer.

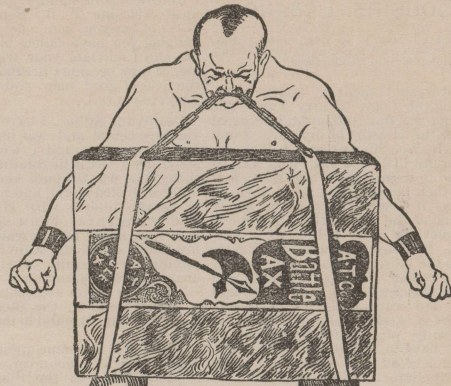
Rev. L. L. Langstroth, the father of American apiculture died of apoplexy October 6th, while preaching to a large congregation at Dayton, Ohio. The aged patriarch died in the gospel harness, while laboring for the spiritual welfare of his flock. No other star in the world's galaxy of apiculture could have been blotted out that would have shed such a gloom over the apicultural world as this refulgent light. Not being familiar with his early life we will be content to speak of his goodness and true greatness—a life of more than four score years well spent in the spiritual and temporal interest of his fellow man. His devotion to the science of apiculture, and the bright rays of light which he has shed upon this interesting study, has made the name of Langstroth a household word throughout the civilized world. His "Langstroth on the Honey Bee" is a master work unexcelled. In the bee world he stood like a Saul of Tarsus, head and shoulders above them all. His researches in the apicultural field awakened the slumbering genius of others whose inventions gave apiculture a new impetus that hastened it with rapid strides to its present elevation. Father Langstroth was truly great, not like an Alexander, stained with blood, but great because he was good. He has left a name encircled with a halo of glory that will shine to the extreme verge of time.

Like the bee whose life is not in vain,
For it gathers sweets for others' gain,
And then its fancy wings doth fold,
And in death lies motionless and cold,
When the garnered honey then
Becomes the food of other men.

Thus, Langstroth has gathered, in a long and useful life, facts that have become food for the bee world, for which no more fitting expression can now be returned than the erection of a monument over his grave by the bee men of the world,

And upon the chisel trace,
"Great benefactor of his race."

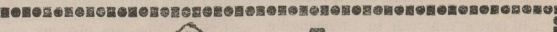
Gonzales Enquirer: The Texas Farm and Ranch edition of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH was issued last week. It is printed on toned paper and in colored cover. The designing of the cover is artistic and a work of art, while the inside pages are profusely illustrated with farm scenes and fine stock, and accompanying descriptive matter. Of its class, the paper is one of the handsomest editions ever gotten out in the state.



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EVER SOLD FOR THE MONEY



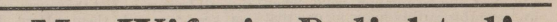
A LAME EXCUSE

You'll have if you fail to see the **COTTON STATES** and **INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION** to be held in Atlanta, Ga., September 18 to December 31, 1895. If you missed the **WORLD'S FAIR** this is your chance to make good your loss. Extremely low rates will be offered, and you can't afford to miss it.

The **COTTON BELT ROUTE** is the direct line to Atlanta, and is the only line running two daily trains composed of Through Coaches, Free Reclining Chair Cars and Pullman Sleepers from Arkansas and Texas to Memphis without change, where direct connections are made with through trains to Atlanta via three different routes.

WE HAVE GOT A Descriptive Folder giving a short sketch of each Building and other points of interest. It is also a comprehensive Railroad Guide. You can have it free by writing for it.

S. O. WARNER, Gen. Pass. Agt. Lines in Tex., TYLER, TEX.
A. A. GLISSON, Trav. Pass. Agt., FT. WORTH, TEX.
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My Wife is Delighted!

Yes, and yours will be too if you open your heart and purse and present her with a Farm and Ranch Sewing Machine. No better anywhere, and the price—well, you know all about that and where to send your order. No risk; its guaranteed to please.

Cousins' League

Edited by Mrs. S. E. Buchanan, Dallas, Texas, to whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

Last week I spent in South Texas, visiting the Coast Country Fair. The weather was fine, and nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of my trip. I met in Alvin, Ben Hamlett and B. B. Lacy, two bright little cousins, who seemed as glad to see me as if I was really and truly their aunt, and I loved them as well as if I were. I saw the lovely flowers at the Crysanthemum Show, and met the good ladies who grew them. On Tuesday I went to Dickinson to the Fair, and how I do wish I could gather all my nephews and nieces from the north, south, east and west, and carry them to that lovely spot for a week's holiday. There on the banks of Dickinson Bayou we could have a delightful time. The Bayou is broad and deep, and flows with rippling, dancing waves into the Bay of Galveston, only six miles away. On its banks, and extending far back, is a lovely forest growth of oak and cottonwood trees, tall, oh, so tall, all draped in the graceful, swinging gray moss, which belongs to the southern portion of the Gulf States. The trees, like Indian princes, wear robes,

"Bright yellow, red and orange," and the bright sunshine filtering through them on the earth, made a delightful picture. There was quite a collection of paintings in the art gallery, in oil and water colors, and in crayon, exhibited by girls under sixteen. In the Woman's Department there were numerous articles in crochet and plain sewing, contributed by children under twelve years of age. One article was a nine-patch quilt, put together with strips. A little girl eight years old, began it on the morning of Ash Wednesday, and finished it on Saturday, sold it to her mamma, and used the money as her own contribution. It was very neatly pieced. Another little girl of the same age, showed a dress made and cut by herself, the sewing done upon the machine. I presume there were exhibits made by boys, too, not individually, but the result of their labor was doubtless, to be found in the displays of magnificent vegetables and flowers, which were numerous and fine.—AUNT SALLIE.

Dear Mrs. Buchanan: Will you permit me to join your happy circle? I am a reader of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and like the paper very much, but my favorite page is the Cousins' League. I enjoy those letters very much; they are more interesting than a story. I am fifteen years old, and am now studying for an examination. I can play on the piano, and don't know what I'd do without it. Zetta Ezell, I will take a run over to Stephenville, Texas, if you will promise to teach me how to play the guitar. I will close, hoping you won't forget me in the next issue of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. Love to Aunt Sallie and the cousins.—HENRY BROWN, Mansfield, Ia.

[I am glad you enjoy the Cousins' League so much, Henry. Wouldn't it be nice if the cousins could visit each other and exchange courtesies and accomplishments? How many happy girls and boys would be passing about all the time.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Dear Aunt Sallie:—With your permission I will join the Cousins' League. I enjoy reading the letters so much that I feel like I would like to be a cousin, too. I have often thought of writing, but I did not know whether you would let a sixteen-year-old girl in or not. I hope you will, for I should like it so much. I think that you have a splendid League. I have fallen in love, aunt, with you and the cousins. I would like to see you ever so much. Would appreciate it very much if you would have your picture printed in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, so that all of us cousins could have one of your pictures to look at. I enjoyed Wildon Pool's letter very much. Write to us again, Wildon. I sincerely hope that all of the cousins are Christians, so that even though we never have the pleasure of meeting each other here, we can still meet and be a happy band when we leave this earthly home for one that our Heavenly father has prepared for his children. I will enjoy corresponding with some of the cousins, if they will write first. I will close with a prayer for aunt and the cousins.—T. B. THOMPSON, P. O. Box 375, Waco, Tex.

["So you wish to be a cousin, and

with the cousins stand," and you are most welcome T. B. Being sixteen does not bar you from our League. I am glad you have fallen in love with all, and I reiterate your wish that all are, or may become Christians, and live the lives of good men and women.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Dear Aunt Sallie: I have written to you once before, and was ten then, but I am eleven now, and I wrote to you about my sweet little brother, but God thought he was too pure, and too sweet for this wicked world, and took him up to heaven to live with Him. I am glad when TEXAS FARM AND RANCH comes, because I love to read the Cousins' letters so much. Aunt Sallie, I am piecing my first quilt. I will close by answering some questions:

The 119th Psalm is the longest.
Milk is found in the Bible thirteen times. Butter is found in the Bible five times.

Now I will ask some questions. How many times are cucumber, onion and reverend found in the Bible, and in what chapter, and verse, is it found?

Aunt Sallie, please don't put this in the waste basket, for I would like to see my letter in print. Good-bye for this time.—NINA C. BISHOP, Sugar Loaf, Ark.

[I am very sorry, Nina, that you lost that dear little brother, but "It is well with the child." I suppose that first quilt is finished, and you and mama are very proud of it. You have answered some questions everyone else has ignored which shows a painstaking little girl.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Dear Aunt Sallie: As there are so many nice letters in print this week, I will try and write again. I thought the letter written in rhyme was so nice for a little boy. I think I know him, because he lives in Waco. I used to live there myself. Zetta Ezelle reminds me of myself. I have two canaries and two pretty white kittens, and I play on the guitar. Beatrice Groscup wants to know if any of the cousins take any interest in music. I do. I think I love flowers and music better than most things. I spend most of my time in the evening playing on the guitar or cultivating my flowers. I work, too. My sister and myself do all of the work. We do our own washing, ironing and cooking. My sister does most of the cooking. I keep myself busy trying to keep the house clean. There is such a large family of us. I have five brothers and two sisters. I have a sister married, and she has the cutest little baby boy; his name is Bernice Palmo; he is about two months old. I have one of the sweetest baby cousins; she is one year old, and just as smart as she can be; her name is Antoinette and she is very very much. I think I have said enough about babies. Bertha Reed, I would like to correspond with you. You are just my age. I will be sixteen on the 28th of December. Our school will commence next month. I am so glad, for I love to go to school, yet I am afraid I can't go this year, but I will try my best to go. I will close, with much love to Aunt Sallie and the cousins.—NETTIE DAURA, Rockport, Texas.

[I have no doubt, Nettie, but that you are a busy, happy little maid, from the cheerful tone of your letter. Companionship with flowers, birds and babies will conspire to make you pure and happy.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Good evening, Auntie and cousins, one and all. I have called this eve for the purpose of helping to carry the girl's side of the question that you have given us, Auntie, to discuss. I think the League will be much more interesting now. I think that our little band is so crowded now that there isn't much room for me, but I am going to crowd in right by Henry Jennings, and we may have a little quarrel, but I hope we'll not disturb any one else. Henry, I am afraid you are off the track when you say that boys have made the greatest progress the first year of school. Why boys don't learn anything the first year; it doesn't do them any good to go the first year if it wasn't that one year had to be the first. Now you want me to tell you why you never had a girl class-mate. Because they all learned so fast that you could not keep up with them. How does that strike you? Now you say that the boys carry the lead all through school life. You are badly mistaken. Girls may go to school until they are eighteen, and boys until they are forty, and then the girls will know the most. Oh, yes; the boys may stay ahead of

the girls, if you will take a five-year-old girl and a fifteen-year-old boy, but it will crowd the boy to stay ahead then. If you boys are so smart in the school-room, why aren't you smart a little somewhere else, for instance, in the League? If I were you, boys, I would tell the girls that I would rather turn the League over to them, than to have them always keeping me so ashamed that I had to keep my head down. Girls, look at the boys slipping out the door; they let on like they are sleepy, but they know we have won the day, and they don't care to hear any more of this little racket. Be still, Henry; I am about through talking, and I want you to hear all I have to say. You won't slip out like the rest of the boys. I think I have said enough for this time, but shall call again soon if I cause no hard feeling this time, which I hope I will not do. Now, Henry, and all you good little boys, take this as fun, and don't get mad. Now promise us, Henry, that you will not get mad. I think I heard him say he wouldn't. I would like to correspond with any one of you, dear little cousins. Good night. Your niece and cousin—DORA INABNET, Alexander, Texas.

[You deserve a cheer for your fearless and enthusiastic speech, Dora. I am sure Henry enjoyed it rather than being offended; eh, Henry? Dora is a girls' girl all the way through.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Dear Aunt Sallie: This is my first letter, and as I have been seeing so many letters, I thought I would write. I go to school to mamma. She teaches my brother and I. I take music, and can play very well. I am ten years old. It is Sunday, and the wind is blowing so hard. Mamma has just lots of pretty flowers; some are in her pit. Papa has an oil mill, a corn cutter and cotton gin, and a wheat cutter. We go and play in the cotton seed, and have such a nice time. Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and he is feeding 3000 or more head of cattle. I can cook, clean up, scrub, wash dishes, and do lots of other things. I send you some verses which I made myself, no one helped, or saw them until I had them finished. I will close, and if I see this in print, I will write again. Your little niece.

JUST FOR AN HOUR.
There was a little flower and it bloomed for many days,
It put forth little branches and tender little sprays,
But there came along a little girl, and looking at the flower,
Said, "Oh, how I wish it were mine just for an hour!"
She went to her mamma and said, "Dear mamma, I've found a pretty flower;
How I wish it were mine just a minute or an hour."
The mamma kissed the little girl, "you may have it dear;
Be sure and let me see it—be sure and bring it here."
The mamma thought of the little girl and the pretty little flower,
And of the sweet request, "just for an hour."
The little girl to the garden went and plucked the little flower;
She had it for her very own, and took it to her lover,
And went with it to the party "just for an hour."
"A BROKEN HEART."
There's a time when we don't care to see any one, and its nothing on my part;
There's a time when everyone forgets you, they think you flip and smart,
There's a time when I don't care to see any one,
And it's nothing on my part—"only a loving mother can heal a broken heart."
Then let this world go on so sad, its nothing on my part,
I'll do the very best I can, and with a loving heart,
For God still, there's nothing else, and I with evil part;
It's only God and a mother dear than can heal a broken heart.
—ALICE MOORE, Ardmore, I. T., age 10.

(Alice, your verses are not bad for a little girl ten years old, and I hope you will always remember the sentiment you express in these verses, "to do your very best and with a loving heart, for God is all. If you live by this rule your life will be a happy one, and the lives of those with whom you come in contact will be made brighter and better.—AUNT SALLIE.)

Dear Aunt Sallie: Seeing that our letters have been printed before, we will write again to the Cousins' League. We have spent a very pleasant vacation, and our school will begin next Monday. We think the boys are writing better letters now, and we hope they will continue to do so. We live just across the street from each other, and we are together most of the time. We would like to correspond with some of the cousins, either boys or girls, from

fourteen to eighteen. We agree with Jennie Lynn, and think it would be very nice to start a "cousin's correspondence club." We enjoy reading Albert Hunt's letters for they are so jolly. We will close now, for fear a longer letter would be put in the waste basket. Your loving nieces—ALTA WINDLE AND KATE STONE, Iowa Park, Texas.

[You will find yourselves in the pleasant company of Jennie Lynn this week. Have you made any effort towards forming a Correspondence Club? Somebody must set the ball in motion and others join in keeping it in motion. Come again.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Dear Aunt Sallie and Cousins: I have been reading the League for a long time, and have written two letters. I am a boy, thirteen years old. I live one mile west of Geneva. I have been plowing with a sulky plow all the week, but it is raining this morning. Papa has a nice lot of little Berkshire pigs. We are building a new school house at Geneva. I have no pets now. I did have a horse, but she was stolen. It was a black mare with three white feet. I will answer some questions of Adah Wilson's:

"If your uncle's sister isn't your aunt what kin is she?"
Your mother.

I will close for this time, with best love to Aunt Sallie and the cousins. Your nephew—CHARLES BATTALIE.

[I hope you are enjoying that new school house this winter, Charles, and crowding that busy brain with all knowledge, which will help you to be a good man. How unfortunate to lose your mare. I am sorry with you.—AUNT SALLIE.]

Dear Aunt Sallie: You admitted me to the League on condition that I tell you something about our lovely mountains and hills. I have written and you have printed one letter since the one I wrote asking for admittance. To tell about the mountains I think I will begin at home. Glenshaw is situated about eight miles from the city of Pittsburgh, and is in Allegheny county. Our house is on the top of one of the numerous hills, and in the fall and winter we have a splendid view of the village. Glenshaw lies between the hills. The Butler plank road is its principal street (?) and on it are the doctors' offices, the merchandise, grocery and meat shops, so you see we are quite rustic out here. Our school house is brick, contains four rooms, three of which are in use. On the western side of our home is a range of hills, woods and pastures intermixed. On the east is a vineyard, which produces beautiful grapes. On the South we can see, on a clear day, Herron Hill reservoir, which supplies the city of Pittsburgh with water. On the north is another hill steeper than any I have mentioned. There are no houses on it; it is too steep; indeed it is almost too steep to climb. At the side of this hill there is a woodland path. It winds around the hill for a great distance. Finally, after crossing, on stepping stones, several little streams of water, you come to what is commonly known as Fall Run, but really I think it should have a prettier name, because it is so lovely. The fall is beautiful! The stones the water falls upon are arranged, of course by Nature, like the seats in a theater, high at the back, and sloping down in innumerable little steps, widening until it gets very wide at the bottom. In the summer the woods around it are thick with wild flowers, called "Jack in the pulpit." Do they grow in Texas? Now for the streams: The stream which flows through Glenshaw is called pine creek. It has many dams along its course, which, when frozen in the winter, make splendid skating ponds. The C. C. now has six members, and we want about three times that many. The C. C. is open for all the girls, as well as "those naughty boys." Even though the girls may beat the boys in writing to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, they can't beat the boys writing to belong to a C. C. Any new members please address J. L. Totten, Glenshaw, Pa., instead of your ever-loving—JEANNIE LYNN, Glenshaw, Pa.

[You have drawn a lovely picture of your mountain home, Jeannie, which I should love to see. We are having some cold weather for our climate. Yesterday we had quite a snow flurry, which lasted perhaps two hours, but it does not linger with us as it does with you, and while I love the beautiful snow in pictures and stories, I am glad it soon melts; but our boys and girls love it. I have never seen "Jack in the pulpit," but we do have a great

of the young woman of this age is to rush out from home to do something for themselves and "be independent," they say.

Would it not be better to make our homes more attractive for both girls and boys, make them partners in our business, give them a definite part of the chicken, fruit, or vegetable money, or so many acres of the crop; pay them so much for work over a certain amount. Would not they become more interested and stay at home longer? Let them buy their own clothing, and if they have money left see that they do not spend it foolishly.

Captain desires to know how to distinguish libertines from so-called good men. Christ say, "By their fruits ye shall know them," but the trouble is, you do not condemn and ostracise them from society when you do know them. No, indeed, I do not pose as a model, but I will modestly assert that no one ever smelt the fumes of liquor on my breath, or saw amber oozing out of the corners of my mouth.

Mrs. Buchanan, although you differ with Florence Estelle Hughey, as a whole I think her article very sensible and to the point. No man dares to mistrust a lady who conducts herself properly, he is afraid of the shot gun; but don't understand me to make any excuse for the man who makes, or "keeps one step ahead." Shame on him, for he is void of the principles of honesty and self respect he should have learned in his infancy.

It is not only the giddy girls, but the giddy married woman, like a cancer is gnawing at the very vitals of our society.

Wish Matilda would send me her recipe for pumpkin pie. The only objection I have to them is the pumpkin taste, and if she can made them void of that flavor they must be delicious.

Coupland, Texas.

BILLY DELIGHTED.

BILLY BIGGS.

Dear Household: For months I have fidgeted, coughed, and "ahmed," and tried to attract attention from some of the Householders, in the vain hope that some one would say, "Let Billy speak," but no one missed poor, timid Billy, and I rise in my indignation and speak anywhere.

How I did enjoy the pictured group in week before last's issue, and as I gazed on the different faces I smiled to think how one's imagination can mislead them. Now, I had Mrs. Vanderhoeft pictured a slight, fragile (excuse me), sharp nosed little being, and lo! the picture destroys my little lady. And I had no idea Wandering Bachelor had a wrinkle across his noble brow. I expected Leo Jenwyll to look like Grace Lunar, and I didn't know what Grace Lunar looked like, but I was delighted with all the faces, and will keep them, and wish I had a picture of each Household. But I will treasure most of all Mrs. Buchanan's sweet face, for can we not see the sweet spirit shining through it? and besides it looks like my mother-in-law, and I do not have the opinion of mothers-in-law that the chestnut jokers hold.

I would enumerate the books I have read, and what I have learned from and about different authors since I last wrote, but fear Matilda's frown, so desist. She wishes us to write on Household matters more. I don't know whether I could suggest anything that would help the housekeeper or not, for though I am married, I have no babies, and four months would cover the time I have kept house, so it would seem rather premature for me to tell how to dress the baby, or run your house; but I have helped at home, when a girl, until I can almost say I am an old house-keeper, and the kitchen is one of my favorite haunts. I send a recipe for mock mince pie, but it is so long since I cooked any that I may have forgotten exactly the quantity of the different ingredients. If any one tries, and it doesn't suit your taste, let me know, and I will look over my cook book. One cup molasses, one cup sugar, half a cup vinegar, two-thirds cup water, one cup chopped raisins, one cup cracker (or bread) crumbs, tablespoon butter, teaspoon each cloves, spice and cinnamon; bake with two crisp crusts. This will make three pies, and I think them delicious.

Now, I don't know what to say next. You see what an awkward position one places one self in when they try to please everybody. Sharlot M. Hall sits by her books and expects at least a recognition of her treasures, and here I

will thank her for her remark about Rebecca in vanhook. I for one, did not know what she told us.

And Mabel Clair doesn't believe in love, and Mrs. Canfield writes of her babe, and Barcus writes of Tobacco, and whisky, etc., while I don't know enough about any of the subjects to "talk back," so will slip out and go home to my man, who thinks I know most everything. Some time I will tell you how nicely we agree, Mabel Clair, then you may change your opinion on some things. I have clipped all my letters of the Household, as well as my productions from other papers, and have started me a scrap book of my own, with the words, Early Efforts of Billy Biggs, (only I have my true name) typewritten across the center of front cover, and it is original if nothing else, and Mr. Biggs says it is something else.

Beeville, Texas.

A BEAUTIFUL MONUMENT.

A CITY GIRL.

Dear Household Friends: Our lovely Southern city is seldom heard from in our chat box, and so few really know what advantages this, our Crescent city, has, so I will write of a beautiful monument erected here by a loving mother.

In passing we see a beautiful square filled with trees and rare flowers in the center of which stand the grand buildings, whose heads rise majestically above the tops of the oaks. This is the H. Sophia Newcomb Memorial College for Women with its adjacent buildings. This is the monument of a lovely, pure-hearted girl, who lived but sixteen years. The sorrowing mother heart is perpetuating the daughter's memory forever in these stately stone walls. Yes, we can well be proud of our Newcomb, the Southern Vassar. If other wealthy persons would follow the example of Mrs. Newcomb, what wonderful good could be accomplished. This college has been established only a few years, and yet nearly every Southern state is represented liberally, and Northern girls are beginning to come. So, through one sweet lass's death many young women are gaining an extensive education.

Attached to the college is the academy, which prepares the girls to enter the higher course of study. An important addition it is, too, for the students are better prepared there than when they come from other schools, for, of course, they know exactly what the girls are required to learn.

Our commencement took place last June. I send the valedictory of the academic graduating class. It was read by a young girl, who, throughout the whole course, has led her class. She is sixteen years of age. Perhaps recent graduates will like to read it. As to city girls not being good wives, I do not think it is either the city or the country that fits a girl for the duties of life. I think that the home training has most to do with the making or marring of a woman's character. Let us hear from others on the subject. I am very glad we have finished discussing St. Elmo. Surely we have had enough of Miss Evans.

New Orleans, La.

HINTS ON ECONOMY.

CLARA HAMMOND.

Thousands of men all over the country are out of employment which means that unless they are fortunate enough or provident enough to have saved something from their former earnings, their families are without means of support. Such a state of affairs is not desirable, and sometimes we are disposed to join the army of grumblers, and wonder why things do not happen otherwise. But adversity often has its uses, and many a housewife is learning lessons in economy that will help her over many rough places in life. It behooves wives and mothers, however well supplied their wants may be, to exercise their ingenuity in preventing waste, so there may be a surplus with which they may assist those who are in need. It is astonishing how much can be used that is usually put in the rag bag or burned.

Cotton or woolen stockings can be made over for the children when the feet are worn out. Good patterns can be obtained for a trifle, or you can cut a pattern of cloth; sew it up and try it on the child. After the necessary alterations are made to secure a good fit, it may be taken apart and kept for future use. Lay the pattern on the stocking and cut it out, using the best parts for the feet. After the seams are

sewed press them open and catstitch down on either side, so they will not hurt the tender feet. An extra piece put on like a patch and darned to the outside of the heel and knee will help them to wear longer.

Another item of interest to many mothers is the small boy's pants. They wear out so much faster than the coats that two or three extra pairs must be provided to make the suit "come out even." Buy a good pattern and use the discarded clothes of the father, cousin or uncle, as the case may be. There is almost always enough good material left in a pair of long pants to make a short pair. If they are faded they may be made to look fresh and new by the use of any good dye after the cloth is ripped and washed. Blue, black and brown are the colors usually used for this purpose. Two pairs can be made in a day and will wear a long time.

Warm shirts for children are made of the lower parts of women's knit vests the best parts of men's summer suits, and even the dresses they have outgrown may be utilized in this way, if the sleeves are taken out and the necks cut low and bound. A woman's night dress that is worn about the shoulders and sleeves, or a chemise that has a worn upper portion, will make a good night dress for a child. Make a yoke and sleeves of new muslin, cut off the worn portion of the old night dress, and gather the lower part to the yoke. Faded light green may be bleached white by the use of chloride of lime, and after the sleeves are taken out and the neck cut low they make nice aprons or undershirts. If for aprons, trim the neck and armholes with ruffles or lace. If for undershirts they may be left plain or have a lace edge put on around the bottom.

Patchwork quilts have fallen into disfavor of late years, and while it is not advisable to cut up large pieces of goods, just for the satisfaction of sewing them together again, very nice coverings may be made of material that would be useless for any other purpose. It is an excellent way to teach little girls to sew, for they will become interested in joining the light and dark colors. Flour sacks make good lining, so the quilt need not cost anything except for cotton batting and thread.

A woman has plenty of opportunity for exercising ingenuity in making dresses for little girls. My nine-year-old daughter needed a new dress to wear to Sunday school, and I did not feel able to buy it; so I dyed an all wool gray brocade dress of my own navy blue, with the same dye and made the dress of it. It has a full skirt, with a deep hem, three rows of gilt braid four inches from the bottom. The waist is plain with a ruffle around the shoulders in the shape of a round yoke, and a row of braid one inch from the lower edge. The sleeves are full and are gathered into cuffs. From the pieces that were left I made a tam-o-shanter cap, with gilt braid around the band and two blue quills on one side.

Other economies will suggest themselves to the mother who is anxious to save the collars and make the little ones comfortable.

The Christmas issue of the Ladies Home Journal is beyond comparison, both in quality of contents and artistic mechanical execution. To say it is a beauty is faint praise. The steady improvement and wonderful success of this journal is one of the wonderful achievements of the times. The price is ten cents.

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MOST PERFECT MADE.
A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.
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The only successful one ever invented. Practical, Economical, Safe, Cost less than cast a week. Sets on sight. Lady and Gent agents make \$3 to \$4 a day. **Price, 50 Cents.** If you can't find it with your dealer, we will, in order to introduce, deliver you one free, on receipt of \$2.00 to pay transportation. Every one warranted. **THE MAGIC MFG. CO., Dallas, Texas.**

A VIEW OF THE RHINE.



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

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CHRISTMAS

Will soon be here, and of course every member of the Household should present home folks with something. It need not be an expensive article. The Premium List sent out recently by TEXAS FARM AND RANCH will suggest something suited to the needs and pleasure of every member of the family. You can purchase anything in the List for cash, if you so desire, but the better way is to canvass your neighborhood and secure new subscriptions sufficient to earn the articles desired. Will you try? Success will crown your efforts.

body long, deep and well flanked down; rudimentary teats should be prominent and well apart; the eye full, bright and placid; the inner surface of the ears yellow, indicating richness, also base of the horns, which may be strong but not coarse. Such sire with such an ancestry may be depended upon to produce dairy cows that will increase the average yield of dairy herds to the highest possible standpoint of profit.

LEARN TO JUDGE YOUR HOGS.

The following descriptions of the ideal hog of three of the leading breeds in the South are copied from Bulletin No. 35, of the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station. A careful study of the points, and their application to the individual, and value as given in the score card, will enable any breeder to fairly judge his stock:

POLAND CHINA.

1. Head and Face.—Head short and wide; jaws broad. Face short, smooth, and wide between the eyes; tapering from eyes to point of nose and very slightly dishd.

2. Eyes.—Large, prominent, bright, and free from wrinkles or fat surrounding them.

3. Ears.—Small, thin, set, and attached to the head by a short and small knuck; tips pointing forward and slightly outward, and the forward half drooping, but fully under the control of the animal; both of the same position, size and shape.

4. Neck.—Straight, stiff, coarse, large; long or large knuck; drooping close to face, swinging and flabby; difference in form, size and position.

5. Jowl.—Full, smooth, firm, and carrying fullness back to shoulder, and so low that lower line will be on a line with the breastbone when the head is carried level.

6. Chest.—Large, wide, and deep, indicating plenty of room for vital organs; showing a large girth just back of the shoulders; not less than six inches between the legs of full grown hog; breastbone extending a little in front of legs, and on a line with the belly.

7. Back and Loin.—Broad, straight, or slightly arched, carrying the same width from shoulder to ham; free from creases, that is, surface smooth; shorter than lower belly line; same width as shoulders and hams.

8. Sides and Ribs.—Sides full, smooth, firm, and deep, carrying size evenly to lower belly and between shoulder and ham. Ribs strong, and well sprung at top and bottom, giving the animal a square outline.

9. Hams and Rump.—Hams broad, deep, and full; should be as broad at point of hips as at swell of the ham. Buttocks large and full, and coming well down to point of hocks. Stifle well covered with flesh, making front and lower part of ham full. Rump should have a rounding slope from loin to root of tail; same width as back, and filled out well around the tail.

10. Legs and Feet.—Legs rather short, straight, and set well apart, and squarely under the body; wide apart above the knee and hock, and well muscled; below knee and hock hard and smooth; pasterns short and nearly upright. Feet foot, short, firm, and free from any defect.

11. Obedience.—Legs long, slim, coarse, or crooked; pasterns long and oblique, showing weakness. Feet spreading, long, and weak.

12. Tail.—Well set on, smooth and tapering, and carried in a curl.

13. Coat.—Fine, straight, and smooth.

14. Color.—Black with white on face or lower jaw. White on feet and tip of tail, and a few clear small white spots on body not objectionable.

15. Size.—Boars two years old and over, if in good flesh, should weigh not less than 450 pounds. Sows same age and condition, not less than 400 pounds. Boars eighteen months old in same condition, 350 pounds. Sows same condition and age, not less than 325 pounds. Boars twelve months, not less than 275 pounds, and sows not less than 250 or 275 pounds.

16. Action and Style.—Action quick, vigorous, and graceful. Style attractive with high carriage. In male testicles of same and medium size and showing plainly.

17. Condition.—Skin clear of scurf, scales, or sores; free from lumps or wrinkles; hair soft and in good condition.

18. Disposition.—Quiet, gentle, and easily handled.

19. Disqualifications.—Form; upright ears, small chest and crease back of shoulders, deformed or badly crooked legs, feet broken down so they will not support weight of animal. Size.—Not two-thirds proper size for age. Condition.—Excessive fatness, barrenness, or total blindness.

BERKSHIRES.

In describing what constitutes the proper and objectionable forms of this breed we mention only those points in which they differ from the Poland or China, as on all other particulars the same description will fit both breeds.

1. Face.—Well dishd. Objections.—Straight.

2. Ears.—Erect and of medium size. Objections.—Drooping and too large or too small.

3. Color.—Black with six white points; that is, white on face, feet, and tip of tail. Some do not object to a splash of white on the arm.

4. Disqualifications.—Very large and heavy or drooping ears. Other disqualifications same as for Poland China.

DUROC-JERSEYS.

Description.—The general description as given for the Poland China will apply to the Duroc-Jersey, except where differences are noted.

1. Head and Face.—Face nicely dishd, about medium between Berkshire and Poland China.

2. Ears.—Face too straight or too much dishd.

3. Sides and Ribs.—Face too straight or too much dishd.

4. Hams and Rump.—Hams broad, deep, and full; should be as broad at point of hips as at swell of the ham. Buttocks large and full, and coming well down to point of hocks. Stifle well covered with flesh, making front and lower part of ham full. Rump should have a rounding slope from loin to root of tail; same width as back, and filled out well around the tail.

5. Legs and Feet.—Legs rather short, straight, and set well apart, and squarely under the body; wide apart above the knee and hock, and well muscled; below knee and hock hard and smooth; pasterns short and nearly upright.

and by this standard all hogs are judged. We give it here more especially to show the relative importance attached to the different parts of a hog by the National Association Expert Judges of Swine.

SCALE OF POINTS. HEAD AND FACE: 1. Head and Face, 4; 2. Eyes, 2; 3. Ears, 2; 4. Neck, 2; 5. Jowl, 2; 6. Shoulders, 2; 7. Chest, 12; 8. Back and Loin, 15; 9. Sides and Ribs, 8; 10. Belly and Flank, 6; 11. Ham and Rump, 10; 12. Feet and Legs, 10; 13. Tail, 1; 14. Coat, 2; 15. Color, 2; 16. Size, 5; 17. Action and Style, 4; 18. Condition, 1; 19. Disposition, 3. Total, 100.

FATTENING HOGS.

Exchange. It is customary to enclose the hogs intended for the knife in a small pen after the pea fields have been gleaned, for final fattening.

This is often accomplished with criminal waste of food by injudicious feeding. Some gorge them at first to prevent too great consumption of corn afterwards. In other words, they make the hog sick to save food.

The corn is usually thrown into the pen, in the ear, and often upon muddy ground. Neither beds nor shelters are provided and often no gain is made for many days of confinement, cold weather. Hogs should be fat before cold winter begins, or they should have comfortable quarters and fed upon ground food softened with water or milk. The profits of feeding diminish as the hog advances in age and fatness. The following extract illustrates this point.

COST OF PORK.

An experimenter says that one bushel of prime corn will make 10 1/2 pounds of pork, live weight, and from this deduction, with corn at 25 cents per bushel, pork will cost the producer 2 1/2 cents per pound. When corn is worth 34 cents per bushel, pork will cost the producer 4 cents per pound; 50 cent corn, pork 5 cents per pound. He further says that a pig at its birth should weigh about 3 pounds, and increase in weight month after month as follows: 15, 30, 48, 73, 103, 135, 170, 210, 225, and on the tenth month should weigh 300 pounds. Also that the cost of a pound of pork is 50 per cent, greater if made in the tenth month than in the fifth month, in food consumed.

Farmer Shaw, Dallas, can sell you as good a Berkshire pig as can be found anywhere. Write him for particulars.

Wanted.—Grade Holstein cows, fresh in milk. Send description with price. ROBT. H. WARD, Hurley Building, Fort Worth, Texas.

"The plagiarism in this story of yours," said the editor, "is something shocking."

"You dont usually mind that sort of thing," was the reply. "I dont—if you'll plagiarize good material. Why, much of this nonsense might as well be original."—Washington Star.

The stock offered for sale by F. G. Buford, at Polk Bros' stock yards, Fort Worth, are from his Rockdale breeding farm, Buford, Tenn., the first farm in America devoted exclusively to the pacing horse, where the father of pacing speed, Tom Hal, sire of Hal Pointer, 2:04 1/4, lived and died. The stock offered consists of pacers and saddlers. The reputation of Col. Buford ought to be sufficient guarantee that all stock sold will prove satisfactory.

Black Leg

and Anthrax can be Prevented by Vaccination.

Over 10,000,000 domestic animals already successfully vaccinated and Mortality Reduced to less than 1 per cent. Full particulars of Pasteur Anthrax Vaccine U. S. & Canada Company, Ltd., 369 Broadway, New York.

Advertisement for Quinn's Ointment. A Horse Worth Having is a Horse Worth Saving. With Quinn's Ointment. On your stable shelf you can laugh at Cuts, Splints, Sprains, Windpuffs and Corns. Proof that you can't get over it is to be had for the asking. Price \$1.50. Smaller size 50c. At all drug-stores, or sent by mail. W. B. EDDY & Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

HEREFORD CATTLE. Large English Berkshire Swine and Mammoth B. Turkeys. Address, W. S. HAROLD, Henrietta, Tex.

POSITION WANTED. Man of experience wants place to care for stock, etc. Reference, Address T. H. Carr, Texas Farm and Ranch, Dallas, Texas.

WANTED.—Woman and wife for dairy farm 1 mile from Dallas. Woman to cook and wash for small family, and man for dairy and farm work. German or Swede preferred. Box 124, Dallas, Texas.

SPRINGSIDE JERSEY FARM. A. J. C. Jersey cattle for sale. Also, English Berkshire Swine. W. A. PONDER, Denton, Texas.

A. W. HILLIARD, Kyle, Texas. Blanco herd A. J. C. Jerseys. Prices reasonable. Write for what you want.

A. J. C. Jersey Cattle. Merino sheep and Berkshire pigs. All stock registered. PARKS & PARKS, Ennis, Texas.

FOR SALE. DUTCH BELTED CATTLE. FULLY ACCLIMATED. Address, J. E. WALKER, Palestine, Texas.

WANTED. Connaissers in every neighborhood for a new and useful household article, a good seller. Liberal commissions, big money for live agents. Send fifty cents for sample that sells for one dollar, or 2c stamps for particulars, to HESTER MFG. CO., Grand Rapids, Mich.

ANGORA GOATS.

I have for sale a few more pure bred Angora goats, bills and nannies, extra fine, at \$40 to \$50 per head, crated f. o. b. Address, J. P. DEVINE, San Antonio, Texas.

"Lawn Farm" Jersey Cattle. All stock acclimated and of the very best breeding. Write for what you want. PLATTER & FOSTER, Denison, Texas.

DAIRY STOCK FOR SALE. About seventy head heifers and cows, 1/2 to 15-16 Jersey. Will sell in lots to suit purchaser, and at bottom prices. If you want good milk cows cheap, write now to W. R. CAVITT, Bryan, Texas.

300 — SHORTHORN — 300 BULLS. I have the largest herd of Pure Bred Cattle in the state, and the largest collection of PRIZE GUINEA SHAKES—130 yearling and two-year-old bulls and 170 calves. Fair dealing on orders. Inspection invited. W. P. HARNED, Bunceton, Cooper Co., Mo.

ELLIOT'S Half Cream BUTTER and FREE WRAPPING PAPER. A. G. ELLIOT & CO., Manufacturers, Philadelphia, Pa.

Advertisement for THE KEYSTONE DEHORNER. Cuts clean on all sides—does not crush. The most humane, rapid and durable knife made. Fully warranted. Highest World's Fair Award. Descriptive Circulars Free. A. C. BROSIUS, Cochrantville, Pa.

HOGS FOR SALE. I have for sale six registered Berkshire sows, eight months old, all with pig by Prince George 37684, who was sired by Baron Duke 3222, premium hour at World's Fair. Weight about 250 pounds each. Price, \$25 each, crated f. o. b. at Terrell: Refer to First Nat'l Bank, Terrell. D. J. ANTHONY, Terrell, Texas.

The Clifton Herd Holstein Cattle. One hundred registered Holstein-Friesian cattle, fully acclimated to this country, and on the advanced register, with individual butter records running from 12 to 28 pounds in 7 days test. This great herd took milk, butter and class premiums at the Dallas State Fair 1880, 1891, 1892, and 1893. A large number of high bred, Young Texas raised bulls and heifers for sale. Also Berkshire pigs. Prices reasonable. Address CLIFTON STOCK FARM, Dallas, Texas. W. E. HUGHES, Proprietor.

white oak acorns. Never pen our hogs until at this time of the year, and only those we intend to kill. I have now several fine Essex brood sows in pasture with pigs and shoats, all full fat. They show their "blood" by the short dish face, and some with the white feet; others with the little blaze in the face, and these hogs with us are worth only from three to four cents per pound gross. Many negro tenants have just as good. I also have the Red Jersey, but we consider them too large and coarse for good meat. No trouble here to raise hogs. We also have fine orchards, peaches, apples, pears, cherries, quinces, grapes, figs, various kinds of plums; also walnuts everywhere, and hickory nuts in every woods.

A good farm here consists of three to four up to 1000 acres, with tenant houses set around near the natural un-falling springs of clear cold water. These tenants usually have one milk cow to each horse farm; also a good brood sow with pigs. At each tenant house is usually found a small orchard of apples, peaches and plums; a barn with an ample supply of feed is usually present. At the owner's residence all this, but on a larger scale, and as the settlement is built upon a prominence, a deep well of cold pure freestone water is ever present. This farmer of course, gives a general supervision to the feed of his stock, including the hogs, but rarely pays any special attention to them, and never thinks of having corn ground to feed hogs. Often we grind corn in the ear, (with cob), for cows, horses and mules, but rarely for hogs.

We have some registered fast horses, but no hogs. We are raising from the famous Kentucky Wilkes stock, now found all over Middle Georgia, the most valuable roadsters, and an occasional extra fast horse, rivaling the Kentucky stock farms in this industry. We have trotting courses in every direction, where the Georgia bred horses hold their own with any stock brought into the State, and as often is the case, large purses bring in opposition many good trotters, but our Georgia raised take as many premiums as any others. We are also now raising as fine mules as are found anywhere.

We have nothing to say against Texas, but had hope. Uncle Snort had examined the record illustrating Georgia manufacturing interests, with the rapid accumulation of wealth, right in the pathway of the thousands of ash heaps left by Sherman, he would recognize her as truly the Empire State of the South, the place she will ever hold, as there is no state in the Union that can rival her in the variety of her resources. No state is so royally endowed by Nature. Her varied mineral wealth, her versatile agricultural fertility, her manufacturing interests and possibilities, with the vast water power in every direction, her commercial advantages, the healthful climate, crystal springs, bountiful timber, all leads us to think to be a Georgian is to be a king. We have no drouths, we have no noxious elements, political or otherwise. We are all Democrats, and have no political discussions. We have good schools, good colleges, good preachers, good neighbors, old time hospitality, polite gentlemen, beautiful and good women, and good children who say "yes sir," and "no sir," and boys who always pull off their hats when speaking to ladies and old men. God has bountifully blessed us, and we are thankful. Our grandfathers were rebels in Virginia against King George; cast cares aside, and put their lives upon the issue. We, later, were rebels for State sovereignty, which Jim Blaine, (God rest his soul), admitted when he answered the Italian government regarding the New Orleans affair a few years past, when he was Secretary of State, and we only try to live up to the exalted standard of those gone before.

We have given to you many eminent sons and one or more governors, and we dare think, even with you, a true Georgian is not without renown.

T. J. WALKER.

The Breeders' Gazette, of Chicago, says: The Fort Worth packing house, which has had a somewhat checkered career since its establishment in 1891, has just passed into the hands of the Chicago Packing and Provision Company, which agrees to operate it a certain number of years, at the end of which it becomes absolute owner. The Fort Worth Stock Yards Company parts with the plant on these terms, trusting to the increase in the business at the yards for compensation for the

packing plant, which cost over \$400,000. President Simpson of the Stock Yards Company, speaks encouragingly of the outlook. Nine railroads now enter the stock yards, and a new one is being surveyed into the city, and with the advancement of cattle feeding in Texas a great packing center should in time be built up at Fort Worth.

THE COAST FAIR.

DICKINSON, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

On the morning of the 18th I boarded the south bound Katy train, and a thirteen hours' run landed us safe and sound in Houston. We went to a hotel, slept a little, and long before daylight the next morning we were off for Dickinson. We reached this place, which is 29 miles from Houston and 21 miles from Galveston, on the I. & G. N. Ry. The complimentary ticket so kindly sent me by the Secretary, admitted me into the grounds, and I saw at once that the Dickinson people, like all other fair people, had made the mistake of not having things in running order, but everywhere there was hustle and confusion: the rasping of saws, the banging of hammers, and the general din of push and fix, but by the end of the day things were getting in fair shape, and then we began to wonder and admire.

The wonder was, "Where did all this grand display of flowers, fruits and vegetables come from? The most beautiful banks of flowers greeted the eye everywhere throughout their beautiful and well arranged exposition building. Here we saw the largest and most beautiful pears. Pears everywhere, the largest I ever saw; the largest and finest Japanese persimmons, strawberry vines in full bloom, Japanese plums of the very largest and finest, and oh, the vegetables! so large, so fine, and such vast quantities. I can't name them. I will just say they had everything—beans, peas, lettuce, radishes, cabbages as large as washing tubs, potatoes and beets, and turnips that it takes two men to see all around them at one time.

In the art department there is so much and so beautiful that I shall not try to describe it. Mrs. Buchanan will do that.

And then the culinary department—well, there is just too much of it and too nice and tempting for me to even try to describe it. I will just say that any bachelor who sees this display and don't stay right here and preach, and beg and pray till he gets one of these charming young ladies to say, "Well, yes, that is, I reckon so," ought to be sent directly to Abraham's bosom.

The poultry display is very fine and attractive. So much so that I must confess that I am surprised—so far beyond what I could have expected.

The swine display, while not large, is very fine. Some of as fine hogs as can be found in the state are here, and I am pleased to see that these people are becoming so deeply interested in swine. They are buying everything in sight, and crying for more. The swine men of the state have made a mistake in not having their herds here on exhibition. Gentlemen of the Association, move the hogs nearer the entrance, where they should be, and we will be with you next year.

The cattlemen have made a good display, though not a tenth of what it should have been. The fine horsemen are here, and are making a splendid display.

The racing, I am told, is very fine, and the racing men seem very enthusiastic.

The great throngs of people in attendance have been far beyond what the most sanguine could have expected. I am told that the race track is the finest in the entire South.

This, I am told by Major Ellis, who built the track. The bicyclists are out in full force, and the Association have built for them a very fine extra track, upon which to show their skill and efficiency.

It gives me the greatest pleasure to say our reception here has been like a joyous ovation from first to last. Everywhere and by everyone, and especially by the managers and directors we have been received so heartily, so cordially, and entertained so royally that I have so fallen in love—I may as well say with every lady, for I know

that if I should say with everybody that rascally proof-reader will make it read every lady, and to tell the truth, I don't care if he does.

I have seen no stiffness, no silly style. Our reception everywhere, and by everyone has been so cheerful and unaffected, so home-like, that it has kept a Ferris wheel in my head all the time. It is going to be so hard to say good-bye.

The secretary, Prof. Mally, is pre-eminently the right man in the right place. He is every inch a gentleman, and not only knows how to, but takes pleasure in treating every one right, and making every one feel pleasant and at home, and I can truthfully say the same of every member of the Association with whom I have met. Messrs. Lowry, and Settle, and Mr. Nichols, and P. J. Willis, and Mr. Mays, and Maj. Peers, have especially brought me under lasting obligations to them for their numerous kindnesses and attentions. I am told that Maj. Phil E. Peers has taken the lead, both in time and money, in locating and building up this fair at Dickinson. The Nichols-Stone Park Company furnished the grounds and buildings absolutely free. The Texas coast is at no expense, only to pay the premiums and run the fair. These men have the pluck and push, and are determined to enlarge their buildings, and put their grounds in the most excellent condition, and also to build two first class hotels, and to supply their grounds with electric lights in the near future.

The fair grounds are located on the Dickinson river, about four miles from Galveston Bay, and here we enjoyed the finest boat riding and fishing.

Mrs. Buchanan and myself were especially brought under obligations to Messrs. Nichols and Settles for a boat ride up the river or bayou. Within these grounds is located one of the most beautiful parks in all South Texas. At the mouth of Dickinson Bayou there are inexhaustible oyster beds, which are public for all, and on the bayou the finest of fishing. I spent two nights at the Hotel de Essex, owned by Maj. W. R. Cavitt and George P. Lillard. This hotel was built on the spur of the moment, but the accommodations were first class. Much praise is due these gentlemen for their pluck and enterprise.

Again I want to tender my thanks to the ladies who received and treated us so kindly, especially Mrs. P. J. Willis, Mrs. J. L. Mayo, Mrs. T. P. Lowry, and Mrs. Fred Nichols. While there were so many splendid floral exhibits, and I promised not to try to speak of them, but to leave this for Mrs. Buchanan, I must say that Mrs. Lowry's floral display is the grandest individual display that I have ever seen. It is so beautifully and artistically arranged, and at such expense of time and labor. This exhibit alone, counting cost of flowers and shrubs, is worth about \$1500.

The reception room of Mrs. Fred Nichols, for its quietness and beauty can only be excelled.

I shall try next week to say something of this country and its possibilities, and perhaps more of this fair.

UNCLE SNORT.

"BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" relieve Throat Irritations caused by cold or use of the voice. The genuine sold only in boxes.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.

Merchants' Review.

There is one thing which all classes of people, free trader and protectionist, vor, and that is the proposed reform in the system of weights and measures. The decimal system was found worthy, and adopted for our coinage a hundred years ago, but how sadly have we lagged behind the rate of progress promised in those days when we will adhere to the cumbersome and antiquated avoirdupois pound, and the English foot and yard. The reform was suggested many years ago, and every now and then the matter is brought to the surface by some newspaper or magazine article, but it is soon again lost sight of, for nobody seems to be sufficiently interested in it to warrant his working incessantly for the proposed reform, and it cannot be brought about without hard work.

All genuine Spooner Horse Collars have this trade mark. All others are imitations and of inferior quality.

Standard Piano Methods.

"Richardson's New Method."

The new edition. Revised, enlarged, and embodying the latest ideas in teaching, including Dr. William Mason's celebrated system of Touch and Technics. The recognized standard among music teachers. 500,000 of the old edition sold. American or foreign fingering. \$3.00.

"New England Conservatory Method."

The official book of piano instruction in this famous school. American or foreign fingering. Three parts, Each \$1.50; Complete, \$3.00.

"Bellaks' Analytical Method."

Paper, 75 Cents; Boards, \$1.00.

"Peters' Eclectic Piano Instructor." Over 200,000 of this standard work sold. \$3.00.

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By Wm. Mason and W. S. B. Matthews. \$2.50.

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For Roofing, Siding and Ceiling any building, small or large.

No Tar, no Smell. Imparts no Taste to Water. Made any Desired Color.

Outlasts Metal with Same Attention. Outlasts any Tar Roof in Existence.

Send for sample, etc.

W. E. CAMPE'S SUPPLY CO., KANSAS CITY, MO.

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STEEL Wind Mill

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Mills and Towers GALVANIZED after completed. Ask for price and printed matter.

STOVER MFG. CO., Freeport, Ill.

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Alamo Iron Works, San Antonio, Texas.

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Walter Tapp, Austin, Texas.

Hurlbut Hardware Co., Brownwood, Tex.

Does All Nature Desire to Yield up her increase?

Yes; with half a chance, such as she gets when helped by a Dandy Irrigator. We will tell all about any kind of Wind Mill work, make estimates of cost, and pay postage on same, to any one who may be interested enough to send their address to

Challenge Wind Mill & Feed Mill Co.,

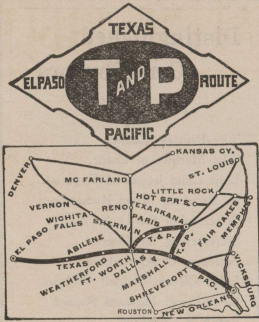
Austin and Pacific Ave., Dallas, Tex.

Main Office and Factory: Batavia, Ill.

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How easy it is to get subscribers for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH until you try.

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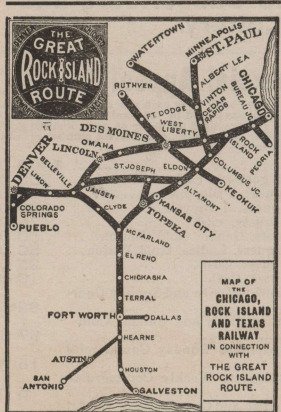
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L. S. THORNE, GASTON MESLER,
34 V.-P. & Gen. Mgr., Gen. Pass. & Tkt. Agt.,
DALLAS, TEXAS.



This map shows a modern "up-to-date railroad," and how it has its own lines to the principal large cities of the West. It is the

"Great Rock Island Route,"

And has double daily fast express train service from Texas as follows:

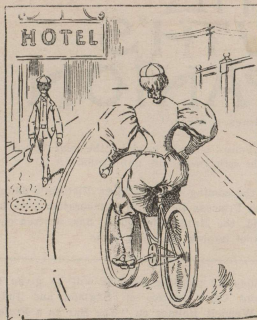
No. 2 l.v. Fort Worth.....	10:40 a. m.
Ar. Kansas City.....	8:20 next a. m.
No. 2 l.v. Fort Worth.....	8:10 p. m.
Ar. Kansas City.....	5:25 p. m.
Ar. Chicago.....	8:25 next a. m.
Ar. Denver.....	7:25 a. m.

Through Pullman Sleepers and Free Reclining Chair Cars.
Don't overlook the fact that Train No. 2 saves you a whole business day en route to Denver or Colorado Springs.

Your local ticket agent will probably want to sell you a ticket via the Rock Island, but if he don't—insist until he does.

J. C. MCCABE, G. P. A.,
Fort Worth, Texas.

THE BLOOMER GIRL AND THE HOT AIR.



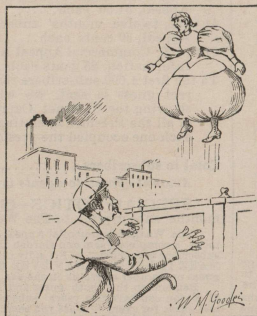
Oh, dismal tale, how can I tell
The accident which late befell
Miss Minnie Moad, in bloomers clad,
Who made her wheel and togs a fad?



He who saw her last on this earth,
And chatted there in heartless mirth,
Was Foot Ball Hare who took her hand,
Not seeing where she took her stand.



Alas, where she had placed her feet
Was o'er a heater in the street,
Not thinking that hot air would soon
Inflate those togs like a balloon.

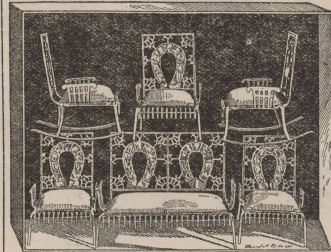


But soon she rose and soared away
To Foot Ball Hare's intense dismay.
She floated o'er the city high
And now she's "starring" in the sky.

CHRISTMAS

Just the Thing for a Christmas Present.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH SET OF FURNITURE.



SIZE OF BOX, 8x11 INCHES.

Bright metal, handsomely stuffed Plush Cushions, in red, pink and blue (ribbons to match), delicate in design, but strong, and practically indestructible. This is one of our grandest offers, and is a

Bargain at any Price.

It is one of the most unique and attractive toys on the market for children.

This set consists of 6 pieces: One Sofa, three Chairs and two Rockers, securely attached to cardboard, and neatly packed in box to insure safe delivery to any point in the Union.

Nothing that we can offer

will please the children better.

We will give this Set of Furniture and Texas Farm and Ranch one year to any one sending us \$1.50; or will send Furniture alone for 75 cents; or will give it to any one sending us five new subscribers at \$1 each.

We know you will be pleased with this offer. Do not miss it. It is the

"Cutest" Set of Furniture

you ever saw. We keep these in stock. All charges prepaid.

FREE! DOLLS. FREE!

Eight Beautiful Paper Dolls, in Full Dress,

FREE!

Please yourself and please the children by sending us one dollar for Texas Farm and Ranch one year and securing the Dolls as a premium. Order at once, as the supply will last only a short time. We keep these in stock and prepay.

GOOD BOOKS FOR THE CHILDREN.

"Pleasant Picture Series."

This series is composed of six books, no two alike. Each page contains a large clear-cut illustration, with appropriate letter press beneath. Each book contains 16 quarto pages.

- "Pleasant Pictures," "Pretty Pets," "Happy Thoughts"
- "Sparkles of Joy," "Baby Boy's Book," "Little Words of Wisdom."

All with Texas Farm and Ranch one year for \$1.25 postpaid, or any one of these books with Texas Farm and Ranch one year for \$1 postpaid, or any one of the books without the paper for 20 cents, postpaid.

"All Aboard Series."

This series comprises two books, "All Aboard for Sunrise Lands" being a graphic description of a trip through California, across the Pacific Ocean to Japan, China and Australia. The many marvelous and interesting wonders of the above countries are disclosed in a way that will interest and delight every boy and girl.

"All Aboard for Lakes and Mountains," comprises a trip to all the picturesque localities in the United States, and a perusal of this book will familiarize the boys and girls of the land with the grandeur and beauty of our ever varying lakes and mountains. Both the above books are printed on an extra quality of highly finished paper, clear type, and the illustrations are from the studies of the foremost artists of America and Europe. Bound in attractive illuminated covers. Both books, postpaid, and Texas Farm and Ranch one year for \$2, or either book and Texas Farm and Ranch one year for \$1.50, or either book alone for 75 cents, postpaid.

"Boys and Girls Series."

This series contains three of the most attractive, fascinating and interesting books ever published.

- "Boys Book of Adventures," "Girls Book of Treasures,"
- "Boys and Girls Home Annual."

The Boys Book contains descriptions of the heroic deeds of men on sea, in battle and in perilous situations, besides giving thrilling accounts of wild beasts and their ways, as related by daring travelers and dauntless hunters.

The Girls Book contains appropriate and suitable sketches and household stories by well known writers.

The "Home Annual" needs no description. It is a very instructive book, and is sure to please both boys and girls.

These are the books of the year. Over 75 full page and other illustrations in each book. Each book contains 178 pages. Bound with cloth back in varnished double lithograph covers. This series, postpaid, and Texas Farm and Ranch one year for \$2.25, or either book alone with Texas Farm and Ranch for \$1.25. The three books without Texas Farm and Ranch for \$1.75, or any one book alone for 75 cents, postpaid.

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A new edition of this standard and popular work. Over 175 full page and other illustrations. Bound in varnished lithograph cover. Postpaid with Texas Farm and Ranch one year for \$1.25, or will send the book alone for 75 cents, postpaid.

"Alice's Adventures in Wonderland."

By Lewis Carroll, with 42 illustrations. This charming and ever popular work is bound in an attractive varnished lithograph cover, and contains 82 quarto pages. This book, postpaid, and Texas Farm and Ranch one year for \$1.25, or the book alone for 50 cents, postpaid.

"Youth's Own Book."

This is the book of the year. It includes entertaining and instructive stories of Travel, Adventure, Pastimes, Poems, Recitations, Indoor and Outdoor Sports, and Games for Boys and Girls. It contains 240 pages, 240 illustrations and 6 colored plates. Bound in double chromatic covers, varnished, and containing cloth hinge on back. This book, postpaid, and Texas Farm and Ranch one year for \$1.75, or book alone for 80 cents, postpaid.

Address all orders to **TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.**

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

I have about 15 acres in orchard. Trees are nearly all small, consisting of plums, peaches, apples and peaches. The peaches are of bearing age. I want to plant the middles in some crop suitable for hogs. Life is too short to experiment, it appears. Some of your readers who have already had experience in that line, for information, and ask them to tell me how to properly utilize the ground. I had an idea that it would not be bad to sow the place to oats, and then turn in the hogs and let them harvest the crop. But I do not know anything of the value of that crop used as hog feed. It might not pay. After the oats had been destroyed, I then intended to use the land for some other crop, if not too late. Hogs are too cheap to waste too much labor on growing them, hence I go to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH for information that will save waste of time and money in utilizing the orchard for the benefit of the hogs.—G. W. JESS, Stephenville, Texas.

ANS.—Never sow grain or grass in an orchard. Any kind of root crop or melons may be grown for hog feed. Peanuts, sweet potatoes, and pie melons would be a good combination.

Will you please give me some information in regard to getting two colored servants, one male, one female, married, and honorable, to make their home with my family on the farm?—Geo. M. WELTON, Pearl, Pa.

ANS.—By means of an advertisement in some good Southern paper, calling for applications for the place with recommendations.

I am a subscriber to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. I get many good ideas from its columns. Please tell me where I can get some spring wheat for seed, and what kind of spring wheat will do best in this section.—Parker county.—J. TYLER MORGAN, Weatherford, Texas.

ANS.—You can get seed wheat from any seed house advertising in this paper. Bearded Mediterranean, Geneva, Scott, and Missouri Blue Stem are good varieties.

Will you kindly tell me when is the best time to prune young apple trees, also, when is the best time to plow orchards? Please answer at your earliest convenience in your paper.—S. L. GREEN, Celeste, Texas.

ANS.—I. In the opinion of the editor of this paper (not Orchard and Garden) that the best time for pruning is just before growth starts in the spring. The wound more readily heals at that time. 2. Plow orchards like any cultivated crop, i. e., whenever the surface soil is badly crusted, or weeds or grass "need killing."

Please be so kind as to give me the name of the gentleman who advocated upland rice. I would like to write to him for seed, and also information about planting and growing same.—Geo. A. MEYER, Munster, Texas.

ANS.—Write to Home and Farm, of Louisville, Kentucky, for address of F. R. Somerkamp. It was in that paper his article first appeared. We do not know where he lives.

VETERINARY.

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

Please give me through the columns of your most valuable paper the remedy for the "big head" in horses and mules. I have a good young mule badly affected with it, and will be thankful for a remedy. You are also thankful for a remedy for the lampas, as we are troubled over much with this disease in this part of the country. Not will answering the above, confer a favor on.—C. A. WILLIAMS, Mt. Sylvia, Texas.

ANS.—Medicines do not benefit the disease known as big head. It is due to dietetic errors. Changing on to a diet entirely of greed feed, as clover, wheat, rye or oats, often brings the animal around all right. Diseased teeth are often confounded with big head by the presuming veterinary surgeons. Lampas does not exist as a disease—there is no such disease—but only an imagining one with the ignorant. By all means let it alone.

Mack—My wife made me a present of a fifty-dollar bill yesterday.

Wyld—You're in luck.

Mack—I dont think so. I've got to pay it.—Brooklyn Life.

THE PRESIDENT'S SALARY.

American Tribune.

The prevailing idea that our President gets \$50,000 a year and that is all is a mistake. He in addition gets \$36,064 to pay subordinate clerk hire. Private Secretary, \$3,250; his assistant Secretary, \$2,500; stenographer, \$1,800; five messengers each, \$1,200; a steward, \$1,800; two doorkeepers, each, \$1,200; and others at good salaries; \$8,000 is allowed him for incidental expenses, such as stationery, carpets, and the care of the stables. Under another head there is given \$40,000 more; \$12,500 for repairing and refurbishing the White House; \$2,500 for fuel, \$400 for the green house, and \$15,000 is for

gas, watches, stable, etc. The White House in connection with the President costs the country about \$125,000 a year.

Soil Culture: Why is it that so many of our western business men sit apathetically with folded arms looking eastward expecting to see the wave of good times, and plenty of money, rolling in upon us? Friends, don't fool away your time. It never will come, except from the profits of the farm, and you can just as well throw up the sponge, or put your heads together and devise some plan by which the farmer can produce in paying quantities every dollar that is used in building up a solid business in the west. Prosperity must come first from the soil to the farmer, and then to the business man. That we have been making some very grave mistakes in the methods of soil tillage, by which millions have been lost to the western farmer, there is no question. Now, let every man use his every effort to correct this difficulty for 1896.

The Thanksgiving issue of the Youths' Companion is a splendid specimen of that worthy paper. In its appropriate field it has no equal in the English language, and no superior in the world. The Thanksgiving number has pictures and tales appropriate to the season. Address Youths' Companion, Boston, Mass.—\$1.75 cents a year; 5 cents per copy. Every family ought to have it weekly.

Up to within the last 60 days, it was only on rare occasions that a policeman had to notify the occupants of the building on the corner of Austin and Pacific avenue that they must clear the sidewalk of goods that were stacked up on it. Since the Challenge Wind Mill and Feed Mill Company have occupied these premises it is different, for it is an every-day occurrence for them to be notified that at least a passage way must be left, which notification is usually complied with in keeping with the promptness that characterizes most of the movements that this energetic company have made since they came to Dallas to do business. The only explanation that the Challenge Company offer is that owing to their getting in an immense stock and also making daily shipments, that it has been almost impossible for them to keep the outside of their premises clean, without occupying some of the sidewalk. At our recent Fair the Challenge Company made an extensive exhibit of their goods, and showed no less than eight different mills, which were put up as they should be for daily use. Naturally so extensive an exhibit was expensive, but the returns that they are getting from this exhibition prompts them to tell us that there seems to be an inclination on the part of people having use for wind mills, etc., to appreciate a good thing when they see it. We believe that it will pay any one looking for a wind mill, intended for pumping in either large or small quantities, grinding feed, running light machinery, etc., to call upon these people when making their inquiries, for all appearances at their place of business shows that they have one of the most complete stocks to be found in Northern Texas. See their advertisement in another column.

DECEMBER 11TH—"TEXAS DAY"—ATLANTA EXPOSITION.

December 11th has been made Texas day by the Atlanta Exposition management, and the Hon. Chas. A. Culbertson, Governor, and staff, have been invited to be present and take part in the exercise on that great day, and the auditorium has been reserved for the Governor from 11 a. m. to 2 p. m., December 11th. We hope that the people of Texas will turn out and do credit to their state, as the people of other states have done. We understand the Cotton Belt Route will make a very cheap rate on account of this day, selling tickets on December 9th and 10th, limited to ten days from date of sale for return.

THE INTERNATIONAL ROUTE.

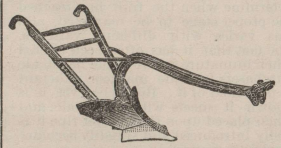
The International & Great Northern R. R. is the shortest and best line between points in Texas and Mexico and the principal cities of the North, East and South-east. Double daily train service and Pullman sleepers on night train between Galveston, Houston and St. Louis; Laredo, San Antonio, St. Louis and Chicago; and between San Antonio, Austin, Taylor, and Fort Worth and Kansas City, via Heama. As a live stock route to Northern markets it is the

quickest and best. Lots of ten cars or over will be taken through in solid train and in the quickest possible time. Shipments to Chicago, via St. Louis, are given the benefit of the St. Louis market. Facilities for feed, water and rest in transit are provided at San Antonio,

Taylor, Palestine, Longview, Texarkana, Little Rock, Poplar Bluff, Cairo and St. Louis. For further information call on nearest agent, or address J. E. GALBRAITH, G. F. & P. A., D. J. PRICE, A. G. P. A., Palestine, Texas.

HO! FOR ATLANTA.
Don't fail to see our splendid exhibit at the great Exposition. The same class of goods that took the highest awards at the World's Fair. CARRIAGES, BUGGIES, WAGONS, BICYCLES, HARNESS, SADDLES, ETC. All at factory prices. As manufacturers we save you 20 to 50 per cent. All work guaranteed. Send for our latest and biggest catalogue, showing new styles, improvements, and lowest prices. It's free. Write today. "A" 6764-650.
ALLIANCE CARRIAGE CO., MANUFACTURERS, CINCINNATI, OHIO.
Mention the name of this paper when you write.

AVERY'S Steel Beam Middle Burster For Bedding Cotton Land



Has a heavy steel beam, high throated, heavy handles, a steel rudder blade close up towards the point, which holds the plow steady in the heaviest work. Circular on application.

B. F. AVERY & SONS, DALLAS, TEXAS.

THE OLD RELIABLE BAIN WAGON THE KING OF WAGONS FARMERS, a word to you about WAGONS!



There is no country that requires as strictly a first-class wagon as Texas, because its changeable climate subjects the material to much swelling and shrinking; therefore it is folly to buy any but the best. The BAIN Wagon has stood the test of forty years, and its quality has never been sacrificed to meet the demand for a low priced wagon. It is to-day the KING of Wagons. The best finished, best ironed, most durable and lightest Draft Wagon made. Ask your dealer for it and take notice. Write for circulars and prices delivered if you can't get them from him, mentioning this paper. Also State Agents for COOPER & STERLING Engine Implements, Buggies, Carts, Trunks, Wind Mills, Wagon Seals, Sorghum Mills and Pans. WRITE US FOR YOUR WANTS.

PARLIN & ORENDORFF CO., State Agents, DALLAS, TEXAS.

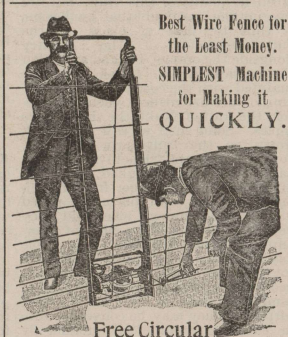
DONT GET LEFT THE KATY FLYER A NEW FAST TRAIN



FIRST CLASS SERVICE TO ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO WITHOUT CHANGE.



NO FARM RIGHTS. FREE USE EVERYWHERE.

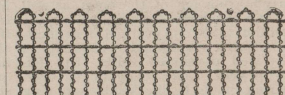


Best Wire Fence for the Least Money. SIMPLEST Machine for Making it QUICKLY.

Free Circular will tell you how to build an elastic cable all wire fence of any height for hogs, poultry and all kinds of stock. Takes the lead everywhere. Write for full information. EUREKA FENCE CO., Box B, Richmond, Ind.

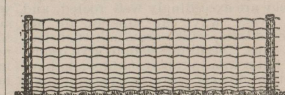
North Texas Poultry Yards.

Seven leading varieties. Birds from \$1 up. Catalogue free. CHAS. HILL, Bonham, Texas.



STEEL WEB Pickot Lawn Fence

Steel Posts, Steel Rails and Steel Gates; Steel Tree, Flower and Tomato Guards, Canned Field and Log Fence, 2 to 3 in. high. Poultry, Garden and Rabbit Fence, 2 to 3 in. high. Electric Fence, etc. Catalogue free. DELAND FENCE CO., 58 High St., Detroit, MI.



We Are Not "Stuck Up." That's not the reason "common wire is not good enough for us", but we must have ELASTICITY and having that we want strength to match it and that's why ours is the best. PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich. J. R. KEENEY, Gen'l Agent, Dallas, Tex.

Farm and Stock

The regular annual meeting of the American Breeders' Association of Jacks and Jennetts will be held at the Maxwell House, Nashville, Tennessee, on Wednesday, December 18, 1895. All persons interested in breeding jacks are invited to attend and become members. For particulars address J. W. Jones, Secretary, Columbia, Tenn.

Don't waste the corn cobs, but if able get a corn and cow mill and grind both together. In nutritive properties the combination does not differ materially from the corn unmixed, except in the greater proportion of fiber and a somewhat smaller per cent of flesh forming principles. For cattle especially, it is good and economical, the mechanical action of the fiber, compensating for lack of protein. The entire plant of Indian corn, except the stubble, should be utilized as food.

The Christmas issues of the Horse Review have become noted among lovers of the noble beast. The regular issue stands at the head of horse journals, but the holiday issues are beyond comparison. The issue for Christmas, 1895, is in course of preparation, and promises to be the finest yet published. Articles from selected correspondents, and illustrations by the best artists, will fill its hundred pages; and lovers of the horse throughout the civilized world will greet it gladly. The price will be 25 cents, and it will be issued December 3d. Address, Horse Review, Chicago, Ill.

There is much land in Texas where fertilizers are neither used nor needed for staple crops; but there is much land where it is needed. It is a fact that the sandy loams, not near so rich as the black prairies or river bottoms, can be made more productive than any land in a state of nature. Judicious saving and application of manure and rotation of crops in which legumes have a prominent part, will make the poorest soil the state rich enough for anybody. But some people lack the knack of doing this, and wear out their fields until they will no longer support the men who do the work, and then bankruptcy follows. And then there are men who can take these worn-out fields and in four or five years make them more productive than they ever were before. It is all in knowing how and doing it. The farmer who never reads rarely succeeds, and his best success, when achieved, is only comparative. It should and might have been greater. The time is getting here rapidly when farmers will be compelled to use every advantage within their reach or go to the wall. Slipshod cannot compete with expert work in any business.

If a man has a large farm and can rent to good tenants at a high price, the one idea (or cotton) system of farming may suit his condition very well. But how is it with the tenant? When his rent is paid, and other necessary changes met, he is fortunate if he has enough cash left to buy the absolute necessities of life. For the average farmer the specialty system will not do at all. It has never been successful for a length of time in any country. The big wheat farmers of the West and the cotton farmers of the South, are examples of the way the thing works. Even when cotton was bringing prices much higher than those prevailing now, debt and disaster hung like a pall over the cotton fields. The farmers West and South never prospered until they abandoned the system, to a large extent. The bonanza wheat growers and the large cotton specialists, alike were driven from the field, and forced to adopt a more rational system, and as it is faced about and began again to come our way and theirs. The present good degree of prosperity among Texas farmers was plainly the result of abandoning a policy that was proved to be ruinous, and adopting one that had been proved by time the world over, to be the only system that can be permanently successful.

MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ESSEX SWINE ASSOCIATION.

The American Essex swine Association held their ninth annual meeting during the Illinois State Fair, at Springfield, Illinois, September 29th, 1895. The meeting was called to order by President L. E. Mahan, Malcolm,

Nebraska. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A committee examined the books of the Secretary and Treasurer and found the same to be correct, which showed a handsome cash balance on hand, and a few copies of Vol. I and II on hand. The books also showed a large gain of business over last year.

The following officers were elected for one year: Pres., L. E. Mahan, Malcolm, Nebraska; Vice-President, D. E. Woodling, Beach City, Ohio; Secretary and Treasurer, F. M. Strout, McLean, Illinois.

Directors for three years: Geo. H. McIntyre, Roscoe, Mich.; J. S. Carr, Durham, N. C.; Thos. Taylor, Waynesville, Illinois.

Executive Committee: L. E. Mahan, D. E. Woodling and F. M. Strout.—F. M. STROUT, Secretary.

SHEEP.

N. J. SHEPHERD.

Start in by having nearly or quite all of the sheep kept, good thrifty ewes. They may not shear quite as much wool as wethers, but the lambs will more than make this up. Secure a thoroughbred ram to mate with them. A careful selection of the ewes, and breeding them to a good ram will give good vigorous lambs that will be an improvement over the dams.

It costs no more to feed and care for a good sheep than it does poor, no more to have good ewes than wethers, and as sheep are kept for profit, the better sheep, if well managed, will pay a good profit, while the poor sheep will often not pay for their feed.

The average Western farmer cannot afford to keep stock for the manure. While there is no question but that manure is an important farm product, and that all possible should be made, saved and applied, yet there must be a profit besides the manure in keeping stock. Generally it is safe to consider the manure as good pay for the work of breeding and caring for the stock, but there should be a profit for their feed, as a better price is realized by feeding out to stock on the farm than to sell whole grain.

With sheep two factors are important; one is to keep good sheep, and the other is to keep them well. If this is done a fair per cent on the money invested can be realized, but if poor sheep are kept, or they are neglected, little or no profit is possible. There must be a combination of the two, as a failure to supply either one will seriously offset the result.

One advantage in providing good shelter is that less food, especially grain, is required to keep thrifty and lessen the cost of feeding without lowering the conditions, is an important item, and one of the best ways of increasing the profit. A sheep shelter need not be expensive; the principal point is to have dry. A very tight room with no ventilation, is nearly, if not quite as bad as exposure. A sheep will not bear close confinement and keep healthy. There must be good air, and opportunity for exercise, at the same time they must be sheltered from cold and storms. Then with good feeding, a vigorous, thrifty condition can be maintained, and sheep be made to return a profit.

If four or five pounds of wool will pay the cost of wintering sheep, six or seven will give a profit, and with the increase, a very good profit. In fact, if the wool will pay for the keep, I consider the lambs as making a sufficient profit, and with good ewes given good care, the profit in this way will be as large as with any other class of stock. Eldon, Mo.

FEEDING HOGS FOR PORK.

T. C. SLAUGHTER.

Being hungry for ideas in my line, I am selfish enough to prefer reading rather than writing. But some of your readers want my experience with sorghum. I admit knowing something of sorghum as a food for hogs, cattle and horses and poultry. The stock farmer who discards this important food cannot compete with his neighbor. Men are usually sincere in their experiences, but often wrong in their conclusions. A man said to me last year that pigs would do no good on corn until their heads get hard. He seemed to think the trouble was a soft head rather than a tender stomach. I fear those who condemn sorghum have not been close observers. Sorghum before heading is almost worthless as a food, but after it heads, until it reaches the stiff dough is the nearest balanced ration—except-

ing milk, wheat, and possibly wheat products—of any other one food, where fat and growth are both desired, and yet, like all other single feeds, is not a complete ration. In its earlier stage, like young tender grass, it is too washy, and later, like cured grass, it is too contaminating. Corn is inclined to constipate hence, sorghum in an advanced stage, and corn, is poor feed. But corn and sorghum, until it reaches the stiff dough, and after this, or even before, supplemented with green pasture, ripe oats, or any mild laxative, will put on more pounds of cheap hog, beef or horse flesh than any single or combination of feeds that I know of, and the animal that won't lay on great masses of fat and flesh with these before him, I would consider sadly out of joint in either health or breeding.

Take a bunch of 50 to 100 pound shoats first of March, sired by thoroughbred male, and out of mature sows of any breeding; run them on green wheat, oats and grass, with an ear of corn each night and morning, until shear oats and sorghum come in, then feed liberally of them until corn begins to glaze, and then all three until October 1st, and I have never seen hogs so low or grain so high in Texas but what they will make money. Of course, corn shelled and ground, and oats shelled and ground would be better, but unless grain is high would hardly think it would pay for extra cost. I have fed

milch cows and beef steers sorghum until every and all conditions with no other precaution than to get them onto it gradually, say in two or three days. Like Dr. Payne, in your last issue, I think it the quantity and not the quality that kills. After an over-feed of sorghum fermentation sets up, filling the stomach so full of gas that it inflates sufficiently to crowd the lungs, or heart, or both, out of action, and death results at once. Should I find any of mine in this condition, I would stick a knife in the flank at once, between the ribs and hips, with the full expectation of saving nine out of ten. Prosper, Texas.

RED CLOVER AS A RENOVATOR.

PROF. B. IRBY.

Every one who raises stock recognizes clover as a feed stuff, but few appreciate its true value as a renovator. Clover can be profitably grown in many sections of the South where it is now not even known. Some one will try to grow it in a spasmodic way, and failing, will publish it far and near, that red clover in the Gulf States is a failure, or that its growth cannot be depended on in the South Atlantic States.

It is true that it makes a poor growth on a light sandy soil, but there are sections in all the Southern States that are well adapted to the growth of clover, as far as the soil is concerned. The long hot summers and occasional drouths are of course damaging. The bad effects of summer can be somewhat overcome by planting in the fall and allowing the crop to grow through the winter and make what it will before the hot weather comes on.

The second trouble is liable to occur anywhere, and can be obviated to a great extent by deep preparation of the soil, and deep drainage. In this way our cultivated crops are bridged over a drouth and of course the same holds good for clover.

So any lime, clay, loam, clay loam, or any soil inclined to be stiff, that is well drained and plowed deep will grow clover, provided it has enough fertility in it to give the clover a good start. But this last proviso is the idea that is to be impressed. Clover is one of the best renovators, but it requires considerable encouragement on poor land. Like the Poland China hog, it will make splendid returns for extra attention.

On thin soil, it is often not only advisable, but even necessary to mure the crop to start with. It is quite a common practice in some sections to give a top dressing of land plaster, but on naturally poor soils, or those worn down to the clay, a good supply of fertility must be added in some form. Manure is the surest fertilizer to use, but the immense cost precludes all possibility of using it on large areas. The barnyard manure is good as far as it goes, but the trouble on our Southern farms is it does not go far enough.

Now we must look about for a substitute. We want to renovate land and we select clover to do this, but the clover must get some help. What will it be? It seems that something rich in nitrogen would be called for, as

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onstrated beyond all doubt the truth of my statement. I also adduced many isolated facts from the experience of others going to corroborate my own. Since then, from time to time, I have called attention to this subject, and to stimulate experiments, went so far as to offer last year a premium of five years subscription to your valuable paper for the best peach tree, and same for best apple, pear and plum grown after my method. So full, not of wheels, but roots, are the heads of our fruit growers, that only three men out of your army of readers were willing to risk the life of a tree on the experiment. The offer was renewed for this year, and I have yet to hear the result, but I will not be surprised to find that the number is very small. So absurd does the idea of cutting off all the roots of a tree seem, even to the most prominent horticulturists, that though I have written to quite a number all over the country, the invariable answer has been, "while such treatment may succeed with you, it would be out of the question here." The fact is, we inherit our opinions and ideas, just as well as the peculiarities of our bodies, and so true is this that the contrary of their beliefs is positively unthinkable to many men. An instance of this came to me in a letter from one of our most progressive Texas nurserymen, yesterday. He writes: "I have been practicing close root pruning with perfect success for some years, and yet my father, who is seventy years old and sees the good results every year, won't admit them, but persists in saying that 'if the roots weren't necessary they wouldn't have been put there.'" So firmly, indeed, has this long root fallacy become embedded in the human mind, by ages of practice, that even a man of Chas. Downing's eminence in horticulture, declares in his great work, that the "ideal transplanting" would be to take up a tree with its roots entire. That this would be absolutely the very worst form, any one can easily demonstrate for himself. Let him take, for instance, two peach or other tree seed, and plant a few inches apart in, say a ten inch pot of good, rich soil. At the end of next year let him turn them out and carefully shake off all the soil from their roots and plant side by side in the open ground. Let him spread out in a large hole all the roots of one tree, according to the inherited regulation method, and cutting back all on the

good crops long after the other with its lateral and surface system has broken down and died. How else are we to account for the early decadence of our later day orchards? The planter in his haste for fruit demands big trees with plenty of roots and top, to support which, and to make them live, the nurseryman often transplants several times. This gives a mass of fibrous roots which will undoubtedly, if the season is good, make the trees live, but practically dwarfs them and destroys their future usefulness. While Sampson lost his strength by cutting off his hair, a tree is forever weakened by leaving its "hair" roots on when set, for it seems then compelled to re-establish itself by emitting new fibrous roots entirely from these. This results in a permanent lateral and surface system. Sink a spade around such a tree a year or even two years after planting and a slight pull will lift it from the ground, but a short root pruned tree will resist any effort. The whole theory of the latter method is simply copying nature. She starts her trees from seed with neither tops or roots, and universal experience has shown that these and trees grown from cuttings, (which are practically seed) if never moved, are the strongest healthiest, longest lived and most productive. The advantages I claim for this method over the all important one of giving far better trees are:

1st. An enormous saving to the nurseryman in digging his stock, which now must be taken up with roots a foot or more long.

2d. An equally great saving in packing. Instead of great bales of tops, roots, moss, bagging and rope, and labor of putting up the same, or large boxes containing thousands of pounds of the same useless dead weight, a thousand root and top pruned trees could be packed in a medium sized, tight box, with a layer of wet moss in the bottom to maintain a moist atmosphere, and shipped with perfect safety around the world. I intend to send shortly a sample thus treated to our Experiment Station to be kept for three months out doors, then opened and planted I know that every tree will grow.

3d. The saving to the buyer will be even greater. As an instance, several years ago I ordered 5000 grape vines from California, and wrote specific directions for root and top pruning as well as packing, and offered to pay for the extra pruning, the box to be sent by express. The nurseryman, setting me down for a crank or fool, packed the vines, top, roots and all in three immense bales weighing 1300 pounds, for which he got a special rate, and yet they cost me \$67 charges. I pruned and packed them in a single bale weighing 127 pounds, shipped them 250 miles, after which they were set by being simply stuck down into well pulverized ground and tramped, the whole operation taking but two days. Every vine grew, and next summer, in the third year, I expect to ship grapes by the car load. It would be hard to estimate how many hundreds of thousands of dollars are annually paid by planters to railroads in charges on worse than useless tops, roots and packing.

4th. Thousands of dollars will be saved in the planting. Instead of large holes and spreading out of roots, working in the soil by hand, etc., as now practiced, the planter will prepare his ground, stretch a strong line with tags tied at the right intervals, make a small hole with a dibble a couple of inches in diameter, stick the trees down the proper distance, and when a row is done, turn back and tramp thoroughly. The tramping is very important I will now repeat directions for root pruning. Hold the tree top down, and cut all roots back to about an inch, more or less, sloping the cuts so that when the tree is set the cut surface will face downwards. Experience has shown that these roots are generally emitted perpendicularly to the plane or surface of the cut. This final pruning should be done shortly before planting, so as to present a fresh surface for the callus to form. If trees are to be kept some time, or shipped by a nurseryman, about two inches of root should be left, the planter to cut back as directed when the tree is set. About a foot of top should be left. More or less makes no difference. If the tree is well staked, three feet may be left without diminishing the growth much. I have had six foot trees, well staked, to grow finely, but to avoid staking, and to secure a new, straight body, it is best to cut back short. Let all shoots grow until a foot or so long, when the

straightest and best should be left and all others rubbed off. I could give the experience and endorsement of quite a number of orchardists who have practiced this method with uniform success, but space will not allow me to mention but one. He stands on the top-most round of the horticultural ladder, and as far as I know is the only man whose mind was so unbiased by the prejudice of preconceived opinions, and his perceptions so intuitively correct, that as soon as the method and the reasons for it were presented, he saw its truth. Without waiting for the slow demonstration of experience, he at once put it in practice on his great 900-acre peach orchard of 100,000 trees, which he was about to plant in Georgia. I wrote to him recently as to how it had turned out. Here is the reply:

"Dear Sir: I am glad to state that the close root pruning, which was practiced when planting our entire orchard of one hundred thousand trees at Fort Valley, Georgia, proved to be the most successful operation we ever practiced, less than one-half of one per cent of the trees falling to grow, and all making the most vigorous and even growth I have ever seen in any orchard in America. The orchard is now three years old, and gave us an enormous crop of superb fruit this past season. I am thoroughly in favor of this system of root pruning. Yours very truly—J. H. HALE."

And now in conclusion, in view of the fact that my individual efforts for eight years have amounted to practically nothing, the question is, how to bring about in the general handling of trees this radical but needed reform. I see but two ways. The first through the medium of the nurseryman and his catalogue, and the second through the bulletins of the experiment stations, all of which, in the whole country a copy of this issue of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH will be sent.

Quite a number of nurserymen, some of them the most extensive in the Union, have written me that they are now practicing my method exclusively, and with perfect success, in all their nursery transplanting operations, but they dare not advise the people to adopt it for fear of being accused of trying to induce them to kill their trees, so as to sell them more next season.

Mr. J. H. Hale is the only exception I know of in the whole country. He comes out boldly for close root pruning. Now let all the rest make mention of the subject in their future catalogues, and advise a trial of it on a few trees. Next let the state experiment stations make exhaustive experiments on all kinds of trees, vines and small fruits, planting some with mere stubs of roots, a half inch, and others with 5, 10, 15, and 20-inch lengths, setting enough of each to allow of taking up some every year to demonstrate at once that beyond a length of two or three inches the quantity and size of the new roots is invariably in an inverse ratio to the amount of old roots left on. The more and longer the old, the less, more lateral and weaker the new ones. Let them subject trees of different ages and length of tops, up to four or five years or more to the same treatment, and the result will be the same. The older close root pruned, even with 4-foot tops, will, if staked, quickly re-establish themselves on strong, deep new roots and make fine trees, while the same age long root ones will become permanently surface rooted and dwarfed forever. No amount of fertilizing or cultivation will ever make them catch up.

As I have already trespassed too far on your space, I will reserve for a future article the subject of dwarfing trees on their own roots, with remarks as to how this was accomplished by the Japanese on their 200-year-old 3-foot high pines and oaks exhibited at the World's Fair, and also some practical suggestions for utilizing the method to a certain extent in orchard culture. Galveston, Texas.

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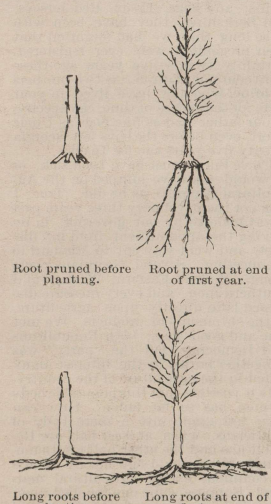
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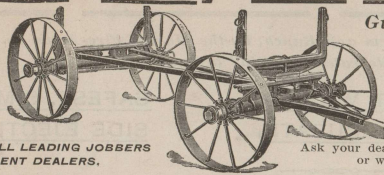
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other to about one inch and the top to one foot, loosening the soil just enough to allow of its being stuck down about six inches, like a cutting. Treat alike, and in two years the root pruned tree will be many times larger than the other. And right here I wish to say very particularly, that the great superiority of close root pruning is not always so apparent the first year, the tree giving more attention to striking deep roots than making top. Even for several years, as we all know, trees as ordinarily set do well, but this is due to the fact that a large amount of root is removed even then. But a comparison with these will prove that when the strain of fruit bearing comes, the close pruned tree with its roots deep and strong, out of reach of the plow, winter's cold and summer's heat and drought, will stand up for many years, giving

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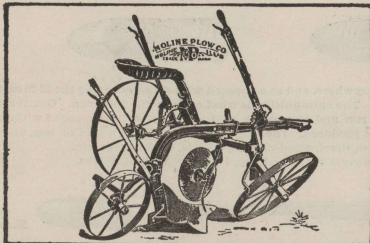
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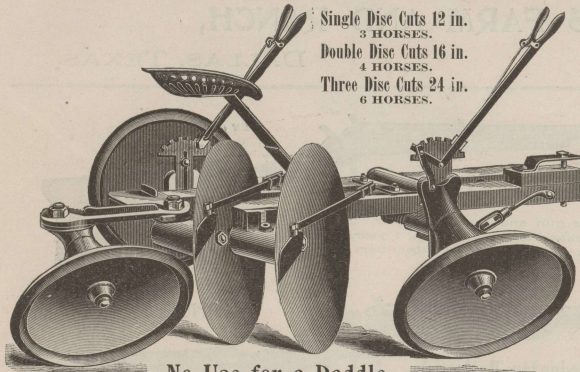


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