

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH

Nellie M. Jones
Care Scott & O'Connor
Company

W. H. BERRY & SONS, ST. L.

Vol. XII.--No. 2.

DALLAS, TEXAS, JANUARY 14, 1893.

WEEKLY \$1.00 a YEAR.
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Forging thunderbolts for the modern Jove Rain-makers near San Antonio mixing Rosellite, the new explosive, preparatory to making the rain that never came.—FARM IMPLEMENT NEWS.

INFLUENCE OF HEREDITY.

Rabbi Harris.

Visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me, but showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me and keep My commandments.

We inherit our parents' sins with their features. They leave us their passions as well as their estates. Their reputation is our legacy for good or for evil.

A parent loves his children with a depth of devotion that hesitates at no sacrifice. He rejoices to strive and to suffer that his dear ones may know no care. Yet if in youth he leads a wanton and reckless career, he may hand down to his offspring his ruined constitution, and in their broken health he sees before him a perpetual reproach. With these consequences realized, will he not pause well before sinning? Is not his every act freighted with a responsibility that compels him to live as though a

hundred lives hung upon his own? This knowledge gives to duty a new inducement and to evil a new horror.

This principle has yet a brighter side—"showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me." The good we do is also registered and perpetuated in distant posterity. The world to-day is nourished on the goodness of bygone men and women. The products of their brains and their hearts, their struggles and their martyrdom for freedom, for education, for purity, for justice, we are enjoying now. The concentrated essence of past virtue is a perennial fount sustaining the children of endless ages.

But about a thousand years after Moses the prophet, Ezekiel declared: "The son shall not bear the sin of his father, neither shall the father bear the sin of the son; the soul that sinneth it shall die." Still, the prophet does not intend to contradict the law-giver. He wishes to remove error that

might arise from too liberal interpretation of the second command—to show that the individual was not lost in the community. The sins of his ancestors did not make his own salvation hopeless. The mistakes of the parents handicap the children, but do not absolutely condemn them. If, in spite of parental example and inherited vice, they succeed by heroic struggle in overthrowing their baser nature, the greater is their merit. Much depends on inherited traits, but not everything. We are free agents. We must not condone our faults on the plea of ancestry, nor throw the responsibility of our viciousness on the shoulders of those gone before.

It is the duty of each of us to do the best with the conditions given him. The awful example of the bad parent may fill the child with such horror as to create a reaction, so that the child of a drunkard becomes a teetotaler. Then again we may modify an inherited obstinacy into firm-

ness, inherited weakness into gentleness, or severity into exactness. We can do much with ourselves if we but try. Our qualities and fallings are not crystallized, but plastic. If we determine not to improve on our parents the world would never grow better.

Mrs. Austin received the grist mill in good order and is much pleased with it.—N. A. AUSTIN, Alvarado, Texas.

I think a great deal of your paper. It seems that I cannot do without it. I am yours respectfully.—J. H. MORROW, Pearsall, Texas.

A recent survey of the Galveston Channel gives an increased depth of eight inches, so that vessels can pass the bar at mean tide drawing fifteen feet of water. The latest increase is attributed to the recent north winds, which rushed the water out, carrying sand as it went.

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THANKS to Secretary of Agriculture for a copy of the Special Report of the Department on the sheep industry of the United States. The volume contains 1000 pages.

SUNSHINE is the greatest of all prophylactics. It is wholesome, purifying, warming, stimulating, and good every way. Hang your old soul out and give it a good sunning; it will make the thing better and sweeter, and probably good for something.

The papers just now are publishing column after column about the "French Art of Fencing." All we want to know about this kind of fencing is: is it bull strong, hog tight, and cheaper than barb wire. If not, we want none of it.

FRANCE has a stringent law taxing heavily all contracts for future delivery of stocks, bonds or food products, and the long array of financial evils predicted as sure to follow such action in this country have not befallen France.

If the members of the 23 Legislature had to travel to the capital like some of their predecessors, by private conveyance over the public roads as they now exist, they might be expected to do something towards providing better ones.

The Kansas House of Representatives is having fun. Populists and Republicans, being about equally divided, have, amid "tremendous excitement," organized two houses, and each expresses a determination to hold its ground. The Governor, being a Populist, will, of course, recognize the Populist House and then the courts will be called in. Where it will end nobody knows. The little handful of Democrats are enjoying the fun merely as on-lookers.

CALAMITY howling prevailed to an unusual extent all over the country during 1892. It was particularly loud in the South, and especially in Texas. The terrors of an impending panic were continually held over us until the eagles upon the American quarters almost had the life squeezed out of them by our fearful fingers. We were just about to congratulate ourselves on having survived the very worst year in the history of the country, and

concluding therefrom that we could stand anything in the way of hard times which the future might have in store for us, when the summing up of the year's commerce by the leading financial firms assured us that 1892 was the most prosperous year since the war in every branch of business.

As an illustration of the vigor with which the law is enforced in Dallas, we note that an old negro was fined fifteen hundred dollars last week for going about telling fortunes. How about the murderers, did you say? Oh, well, well, we were talking about petty offenses, not murder!

FARM FIELD AND FIRESIDE attributes the depleted treasury to the repeal of the duty on sugar, which entailed a loss of revenue of \$93,000,000. To a casual observer it would seem that \$169,000,000 paid as pensions, one-half of which was paid simply for votes, had something to do with it.

FRENCH politics is turbulent. The Panama ditch, defalcation and wholesale legislative bribery are at the bottom of the trouble. It is a French reproduction of our own Union Pacific scandal of some years back, which retired to the shades of oblivion so many promising buds of young statesmanship.

TEXAS Farmer publishes an article headed, "Don't Degrade the Soil," and credits to Taylor County News. The article was original in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and was written by the agricultural editor. We mention this to relieve the Taylor County News of responsibility for any nonsense there may be in the article.

We have received from the Stuart Pecan Company, Ocean Springs, Miss., some samples of pecans of four varieties, the Stuart, the Van Deman, the Jewett, and the Columbus. They are remarkably large, thin shelled, and fine every way, the largest being two inches in length by one in diameter, the others only a fraction smaller.

DONT, by any means, forget the spring meeting of the State Swine Breeders' Association, to be held at Waxahachie, Texas, February 28th. This is a good year to boost his porkship. He is good property now, and consequently his popularity is growing. Come, everybody, who breeds, raises, deals in or eats hogs or pork. And let us see what can be done to make Texas a great hog producing State.

WHY should ballot-box stuffing be considered so serious a matter, when it is considered legitimate in a legislative House or Senate for a bare majority to unseat enough of the opposition, though fairly elected, to secure "a working majority." Any man who advocates or acts upon such a principle is as worthy of the penitentiary as the most petty practitioner of election frauds. The people will find it necessary to take from Congress and the State legislatures the power of judging of the election and qualification of their own members.

KANSAS is now, and has for many years, been giving State financial aid to five separate bureaus related to agriculture as follows:

State Board of Agriculture	\$ 7,191.47
State Horticultural Society	1,235.00
Fisheries	500.00
Forestry	4,912.57
Silk Culture	2,282.05
Total	\$16,031.09

For several years the farmers and horticulturists of Texas have been vainly trying to induce the State legislature to publish the proceedings of Farmers Institutes and State Horticultural Society, but they are met with the cry of "extravagance." Even Louisiana does that much and more. If Texas politicians would give more thought to the needs of the people and less to their own political success, it would be better all round.

THE GREAT FRAUD OF THE CENTURY.

No honorable man objects to liberal pensions to every soldier who was disabled in the service of his country. It is when arrant cowards who never smelled powder make merchandise of the sentiment patriotism that self-respecting men are seized with disgust. In every neighborhood, North and South, there are able-bodied men filling lucrative positions, and physically capable of hard manual labor, who are being supported, at least in part, by the toil and sweat of the tax-payers. Politicians have fostered this disreputable system upon the people as an excusable form of bribery. And while those of one political party have made a specialty of this sharp practice, the other has not had the courage to oppose it according to their convictions. Never in the history of the world has such a scheme of spoliation been attempted as this pension raid on the treasury, engineered by unprincipled sharpers and encouraged by an equally unprincipled horde of politicians who saw in this scheme a means of furthering their aspirations by the weight of cheaply purchased votes. We have great respect for men who risk their lives in defense of their country, whether right or wrong, but unutterable contempt for the avaricious horde who served with the wagon-dog and tar-bucket until the war was over and then rushed frantically to the front, claiming all the honors and crying vociferously for the emoluments. It is as certain as that two added to two makes four that at least half those now drawing pensions are not entitled thereto by any stretch of reason, right or law, no matter what they may have sworn to. The question that now confronts us is, can we get rid of this incubus, and purify this black list until it shall contain the names of none but the worthy? If so, we are in favor of liberal pensions to all such.

LANDING A FOUL.

Col. Billshaw, of Texas Farmer, is a born fighter. His bump of combativeness protrudes until one might hang his hat on it. He is unutterably miserable unless he can see something to hit. He can object to more things than Hollman and Kilgore combined. In short, he objects to everything that dont precisely suit him. He generally toes the mark and hits above the belt, and hits hard. Last week he published an editorial "About A. & M. Colleges," in which his usual open-faced combativeness seems to have been frazzled out by the recent political contest through which he has passed with so many honorable scars. We should not have noticed this article had it not been reproduced in a prominent North Texas paper without comment. The article is not Shaw-like in any particular, because it deals in innuendos, which may mean much or little, according to the imagination of the reader, in which grave charges against a noble institution are vaguely hinted at, but nothing specified. The object of the article appears to be two-fold: to discredit the Texas A. & M. College with the farmers of the State, and to operate against the proposed establishment of a similar institution in North Texas. "The more real A. & M. Colleges we have the better," says the Colonel. "Let us inquire, however, what is an A. & M. College?" and the reader naturally expects some light as to "what is an A. & M. College" in the estimation of the editor of the Farmer, but the torch with which he promised to enlighten us goes out with a breath, and instead of light here is what we get:

"Texas Farmer wants to record its protest against the idea that an A. & M. College should be an institution where town dudes are polished off in the classics; where there is one ounce of agriculture hyphenated with three-quarter ounces of mechanics, these being parentheticalized by rhetorical and spindle-shanked dudism at one end and elaborate military peacockism at the other."

But nowhere does he tell us "what is an

A. & M. College." There is also a good deal said of "duderies," "bung-tungism," and military peacockeries," none of which we comprehend, unless he means to characterize with such epithets the present A. & M. College and the young men who are seeking practical education there. If he objects to the military features of the college, the objection is without significance, for, besides being the best means of enforcing discipline, it is required by the act of Congress providing for the establishment of these colleges. If he means to characterize the cadets as "spindle-shanked dudes" or "military peacocks," it is a gross injustice to as fine a body of young men as can be found anywhere. If he means that the management is perverting the institution into a "dudery," and teaching the classics instead of "such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts," as the law of Congress requires, he is certainly not acquainted with the course of study pursued. There may be, and doubtless is, room for improvement in this college, and doubtless, also, this needed improvement will be made, but just as it is it is an institution of which not only farmers, but the people of the State, should be proud; and where it is not so esteemed, it is because the college and its workings are not understood. The curriculum is embraced in, Botany, Zoology, Experimental Agriculture, Experimental Horticulture, Civil Engineering, Physics, Organic and Inorganic Chemistry, Geology and Mineralogy, English, Modern Languages, Mathematics, Drawing, Veterinary Science, Cattle Feeding, Dairy Practice and, according to law, Military Tactics. These are the studies that will develop practical men, mechanics, farmers, and even agricultural editors. It is a real A. & M. College, and in the language of Col. Shaw, "The more we have of them the better." Let us have one in all respects like it in North Texas.

THE TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE.

The session opened without any sensational features. In the

SENATE

Lieutenant Governor Pendleton presided. A. M. Kennedy, of Freestone, was elected Secretary; Albert Wortham, of Hopkins, Assistant Secretary; W. B. McQueen, of Angelina, Journal Clerk, and A. S. Thwatt, Assistant; R. G. Childress, Calendar Clerk; John Stephenson, of Abilene, Enrolling clerk; W. F. Linn, of Galveston, Engrossing Clerk; C. H. Allen, of Travis, Sergeant at Arms, B. F. Pace, Assistant; D. W. Phillips, of Lampasas, Doorkeeper, A. J. Sapp, of Trinity, Assistant; Rev. G. W. Briggs, Methodist, Chaplain. Senator Kearby, of Van Zandt, was elected President pro tem.

HOUSE.

Hon. John H. Cochran, of Dallas, was elected Speaker on the second ballot; G. W. Flinger, of Tarrant, Chief Clerk; Chester Hallie, of Travis, Reading Clerk; W. B. Jaynes, of Grayson, Assistant; W. L. Sargeant, Sergeant-at-Arms; W. E. Parker, Assistant; A. G. Stewart, Calendar Clerk. The remaining officers were not elected Wednesday, and we go to press without them.

The Williamson County Fair Association at a meeting last Friday decided to have their spring meeting and exhibition on May 2d at the fair grounds at Taylor.

MR. MILLER, postmaster at Garland, Texas, and a reader of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH before he came to Texas, likes the paper so well that he has voluntarily gone to some trouble and expense to increase its circulation in his jurisdiction.

CAPT. BOURK, of the United States army, says it is ridiculous to call the Mexican border cut-throats revolutionists. He says they are the same old smugglers, thieves, robbers and murderers who have infested the Rio Grande chaparrals for twenty years. Capt. Bourk is right.

FOR SALE.

MRS. S. E. HU HANAN.

"Farms and Ranches," bargains great. As all who've read will truly state; Their pages broad are filled with care— Four times each month new products bear.

All implements are superlative. Guided by brightest human mind. Who work with skill and seek each day To learn Dame Nature's secret way

Of feeding plants with surest food, To make soils yield their greatest good, And with it in go all methods plain For growing co'ton, fruit and grain.

Red, black or sandy farming lands Are filled by wise and thoughtful hands; And Ranches broad, where shepherds keep Vast herds of cattle, stock and sheep,

Are watched with careful thought, as how To feed or breed sheep, horses or cow; Their aids to heal their worth enhance— Even how to sell at an advance.

"Farms and Ranches" sold in shares, Which brings the holder interest, due Four times each month, with issue new.

Sure none so poor he cannot pay A dollar for the surest way To win a fortune from the soil, With lightest labor, thought and toil.

So, send your names, with silver bound, For silver makes a business sound— Has power to work the press with speed, That thousands more may buy and read, Dallas, Tex.

THE BOY LEGISLATOR.

Texas Sittings.

There are some bright youths in Texas. Johnny Chaffie is a lively Dallas, Texas, boy of about twelve years of age, whose bump of imitation is somewhat abnormally developed. He acquires, unconsciously, the habit and sayings of older persons in whose company he may be thrown. Johnny has just returned from a visit to his uncle, Col. Percy Yergler, at Austin. While there Johnny visited the Capitol daily, and also met at his uncle's house many of the Texas solons, and from them he acquired a great many legislative terms and expressions. Johnny's legislative knowledge protracted itself conspicuously one day last week.

There was a ring at the front door, and Johnny went to answer it. It was the family clergyman who had called to persuade Johnny's father to subscribe to a prospective orphan asylum.

"Is your father in?" asked the clergyman. Parson Surplice.

"The Governor," replied Johnny, pompously, "is engaged just now in matters of great importance. He is filling away butter cakes and other internal improvements."

Parson Surplice stared and said: "Tell your father I wish to see him about the orphans asylum fund."

"It's no use for you to introduce that bill at this session."

"Hey!"

"Besides, I don't think the Governor has any jurisdiction. Then, again, there are constitutional objections."

"Boy, what do you mean?"

"I mean that I am going to vote against your bill when it comes up in the House. You can get some other member to introduce it, but I'll oppose it."

"You must be crazy?"

"No, I'm only looking to the interests of my constituents. I don't intend that the public money shall be squandered while I can raise my voice in the legislative hall. What guarantee have the taxpayers got that they will ever see a dollar of this money?"

"But Johnny?"

"You are out of order, and I declare the debate closed," said Johnny, shutting the door. When Johnny returned to the breakfast table his father asked him who was at the door?

"It was Parson Surplice, but I sat down on him in the committee room, and I don't think he will bother this house again during the present session."

Col Chaffie remarked that sending Johnny to Austin had made him silly, but that he, Col. Chaffie, would take the nonsense out of him some fine day. Johnny replied, carelessly, that there had already been too much special legislation in the family to suit him, and off he went to school.

At school Johnny got himself into trouble with the teacher. When he was called on to say his lesson, he wanted the bill referred to the Committee on Slate Pencils and Sponges." The teacher asked him if he had lost what little sense he had.

"That, sir," replied Johnny, glaring at the teacher as he had seen the legislator do in Austin, "that sir can only be answered outside of this hall."

After school Johnny and the teacher had a joint discussion, in which Johnny sat down on a ruler about fifteen consecutive times. However, that did not cure him of his legislative notions, for when he got home, and his mother told him that his father said he must clean up the yard,

he laughed scornfully, as he had seen the legislators laugh, and replied:

"I believe the Governor imagines that he can run this house, but he will have his wings clipped before this session is over."

When the old man came home, and was told Johnny's objection, he asked the youth what he meant, to which query Johnny gave him impudence about the absurdity of the Governor usurping legislative powers. Col. Chaffie seized his offspring by the back of the neck, and made a successful motion to lay him on the table, and taking a strap, which he had been holding in reserve, he applied it to Johnny so vigorously that the applause could be heard by most of the neighbors.

"There," said Col. Chaffie, as he threw away what was left of the strap, "I reckon you will let up on being a legislator."

Johnny regards his legislative experience as a lurid dream, and is a nice well behaved boy now.

MOTHER'S JOURNEY.

In the following incident, taken from the Detroit Free Press, there is a suggestion of a way in which children may be trained so as not to regard death as the king of terrors.

That night, before they went to bed, they were allowed to go in and kiss their mother good night. This privilege had been denied them lately, and their hearts responded with joy to the invitation.

Mamma was better, or she could not see them. The doctor had cured her. They would love him for it all their lives!

She was very pale, but smiled, and her first words to them were: "I am going on a journey."

"A journey!" cried the children. "Will you take us with you?"

"No; it is a long, long journey," said Mamma. "Mamma is going to the South," said Katy; "the doctor has ordered her to. She will get well in the orange groves of Florida."

"I am going to a far distant country, more beautiful than even the lovely South," said the mother, faintly, "and I will not come back."

"You are going alone, mamma?" asked Katy.

"No," said the mother, in a low, sweet voice; "I am not going alone. My Physician goes with me. Kiss me good-bye, my dear ones, for in the morning before you are awake I shall be gone. You will come to me when you are ready, but each must take the journey alone."

In the morning she was gone. When the children awoke their father told them of the beautiful country at which mother had safely arrived while she slept.

"How did she go? Who came for her?" they asked, amid their tears.

"The chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof?" their father told them solemnly.

People wonder at the peace and happiness in the faces of the motherless children. When asked about their mother they say, "she has gone on a journey," and every night and morning they read in her Guide book of that land where she now lives, whose inhabitants shall no more say, "I am sick," and where God shall wipe all tears from their eyes.

THE HAYS COUNTY TIMES AND FARMER'S JOURNAL.

Published at San Marcos, Texas. The Times is devoted to home interests—is the paper for the country people. The Times is one of the largest country papers published in the State and has often been complimented by the Press upon its contents, appearance and enterprise.

The Times is published by G. A. McNaughton, a live newspaper man, and is a good exponent of its town.—Fort Worth Gazette. The Times is one of the best edited journals in the State.—Wortham Democrat. The Times with its new press and dress is a splendid paper and deserves a liberal patronage.—Blanco News. The Times is one of the leading weeklies in Texas.—Caddo Banner. Editor McNaughton is a rustler, and the Times is a first-class weekly paper.—Houston Post.

The Hays County Times is always a good paper.—Llano Iron City News. We could add a hundred others, but the foregoing show that the Times is well thought of by the newspaper fraternity. Eight pages, forty-eight columns, and \$1.50 per annum, make the Hays County Times "hard to beat." Try a three month's trial subscription for 25 cents. Send all subscriptions to

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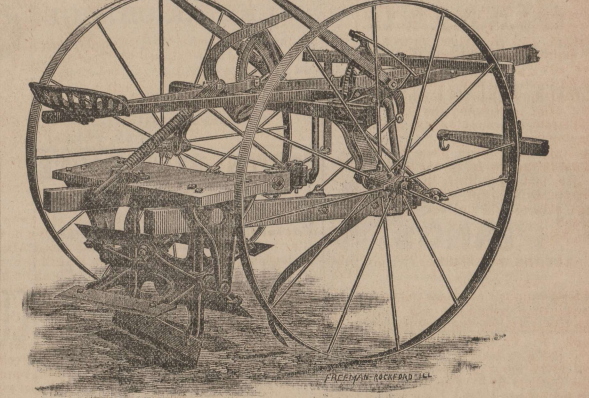
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FARLIN & ORENDORFF CO., DALLAS, TEXAS.

Orchard and Garden.

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

WHAT TO PLANT.

GRAPES AND BERRIES.

Since the discovery of means to combat the various fungus diseases of the grape, its cultivation has been greatly stimulated and the outlook for the intelligent viticulturist is much brighter than before the scientific work of bacteriologists threw light upon the dark places, showing the existence of preventive means that enable grape growers to produce grapes without a spot or blemish, that prior to these discoveries were so badly affected by rot and mildew as to lead many to despair of success. This change has been wrought by French savants, aided in no small degree by our own scientists. To Prof. Galloway and his corps of intelligent assistants in different sections of the United States our knowledge of these diseases and the remedies for their prevention are largely due. Part passu, with the growth of our knowledge of these parasitic diseases, have marched the manufacture of spraying machinery suited to the effective application of fungicides that now happily place these diseases that so long baffled the hopes of viticulturists under their control.

The future of grape growing in the great Southwest is very hopeful, especially among the hills and table lands of the western border of Texas and adjoining territory of New Mexico, and, indeed, if we can credit the wonderful stories that come to us from the Gulf Coast region of Texas, that section is likely to become as famous for grapes as it already is for pears of Oriental type. We hope to verify these reports next summer when the Texas State Horticultural society meets at Aransas Pass. We don't believe that Bros. Kirkpatrick or Onderdonk would either paint a rose colored picture, but we want to see for ourselves, and if the railroad will furnish a pass will go.

WHAT VARIETIES.

A vineyard to be profitable as an investment should not have a large number of varieties; six or eight are sufficient if selected with care. Our experience is not large enough to speak with confidence as to the relative merits of many varieties. We trust our friends who are in possession of such information will give our readers their selection.

While the Concord is not the best in quality, it is possessed of quite a number of attributes that entitle it to favorable consideration, we therefore place it on our list. Delaware is the standard of quality among American grapes and is a valuable variety, but not so prolific as some others. Heribent and Cynthiana are two of the best wine grapes we have, and succeed all over the Southwest. Among the hybrids we have found the following to be valuable: Peter Wyle, white; Berkman's, red; Agawam, red; Triumph, white; and Salem, red. We have found these satisfactory where preventive measures to protect against rot and mildew were used.

A large number of new varieties, the result of crossing established varieties with native Texas grapes, have been developed by the patent industry of Prof. Hunsdon, from which we feel certain will come a new type of grapes specially adapted to our Texas climate.

BLACKBERRIES.

No small fruit grows with less labor or makes better returns to the culturist than the blackberry. It grows wild in many if not all the counties of the Southwest either as the low Rubus Trivialis, or Rubus Candicans, or in the high bush blackberry.

The dewberry is receiving much more attention of late at the hands of fruit-growers than in the past on account of its extreme earliness.

Within the past few years a hybrid berry, evidently a cross between the early native Texas blackberry and the dewberry, has been discovered near Pilot Point, Texas, on the farm of John Mayes, where both types, the early Texas blackberry and the dewberry, grew together in great profusion. The first fruiting of the berries of this supposed hybrid attracted attention, and people began to plant and cultivate them. The berries have been greatly improved, and given the name of "The Mayes Blackberry." Last year the local nurseryman at Pilot Point plucked forty-five berries that filled a quart measure. The berry ripens immediately after the dewberry, and about ten days before the Dallas, or Texas Early Blackberry.

The Texas Early Blackberry, known as the Dallas berry, the Bowen berry, and by other names at different places, is one of the most valuable berries for North Texas.

Better every way than the Wilson, and earlier than Early Harvest or Buntin. Its freedom from disease commends it to the small fruit-grower.

The Erie Blackberry has proven quite satisfactory to us, and we think is worthy of extensive cultivation. Its berries are of good size and are borne on clusters on upright growing canes, and may be planted closer than the Kittatnny. It ripens between the time of the Texas Native and the Kittatnny.

The Kittatnny is one of the old tried sorts that produces a large crop of very fine berries. The only serious fault with it is that it is more subject to attacks of red rust than most other varieties, but if the disease is watched it can be kept under control by uprooting all diseased plants as often as they appear, and burning the diseased canes.

Manuring and cultivation pay in the blackberry patch. Grass and weeds should be kept under control till the late rains of August or September each year by use of sweep and hoe. Of course during the ripening season the plows cannot be used. All dead wood, the old canes of a crop of 1893 should be removed and carried to some convenient spot and burned.

STRAWBERRIES.

Our own experience with strawberries is limited to three or four varieties. Michel's Early is a good early variety, producing a crop of fair sized berries. Hoffman and Cloud's seedling are pistillates, and very fair croppers, but do not equal the Crescent in productiveness. Some of our correspondents who have had more extended experience will doubtless favor the seeders of Texas, East and Ravoux with a strawberry report. The time of spring planting is near at hand. February and March are favorable to planting.

THE FARMER'S GARDEN.

The garden is one of the most important plats upon the farm, it should occupy ample ground. A little two by four garden may be excused in a town, where there is scant room, but on a farm, half an acre to one acre or more, is none too much, and whenever farmers learn the value of a bountiful supply of vegetables in cheapening the cost of living, in reducing the size of doctors bills, and the promotion of general home comfort. The question will not be how small shall be the garden, but rather, how large shall our garden be?

Of course the size of the garden depends upon the size of the farmer's family. A small garden and a small family may very well go together. A half acre for a family of six, increasing in size as the ratio of consumption increases.

Brother farmer keep in mind that a row each of beets, beans, turnips and collards do not constitute a garden, but even these are better than none.

PREPARATION.

Having already made a free use of fertilizers and listed the soil to get the benefit of the January freeze, the next step in preparation is to re-plant the ground, throwing into beds twelve or fifteen feet wide, leaving a deep water furrow between them, to carry off the surplus rain fall that is usual during winter and early spring. This is very important on lands that are level or nearly so. This second plowing should be open furrowed, exposing as much surface as possible, to the warming and vivifying influence of sun and air.

WHAT TO PLANT.

Peas commonly called English peas, may be planted now. For the first planting some of the extra earlies, as plants, Landreth's, or Burpees, or the Alaska. These are all very similar, extremely hardy and capable of enduring the frosts and freezes of February and March. For a succession, plant a week or ten days later, Horsford's market, Blue Peter and American Wonder. Tall growing sorts are not adapted to prairie regions, and subject to the strong winds of March and April, that whip the vines to pieces. For a late crop, planted about first of April, tall growing sorts like Champion of England or Forty-fold may succeed. If a June drouth does not cut them off. We have found a succession of the dwarf varieties more satisfactory, and as the labor of staking them with brush is avoided by planting the dwarfs, there is little to be gained by planting the tall sorts.

Hot beds or cold frames are very helpful in starting plants, of many vegetables, such as beets, lettuce, cabbage, tomatoes, etc., and toothsome radishes may be produced quite early, if a cold frame in a sunny spot is given them. A cold frame is made by raising a bed three feet wide and any length desired, with a slope toward the south to catch the sun's rays, in order to warm the soil. Fit a frame out of rough lumber sixteen inches at back and eight inches at front, end pieces sloped to

fit. This frame is to be nailed up close and tight.

A covering for the frame is made by nailing together one by three shingling lath. This may be covered with cheap domestic, or what serves equally well, with manilla paper. An application of linseed oil is made, that renders the covering water-proof, and makes it sufficiently transparent to admit the light of the sun.

On sunny days the covering may be lifted, to allow the genial rays to warm the soil. The seed planted may be aided to germinate by using hot water when watering is necessary, taking care to cover the bed immediately, to retain the heat. Lettuce as Landreth's Forcing or Early Tennis Ball, turn grown, affords salads long before they can be grown in open ground. The cold frame as suggested, would not do in bleak northern latitudes. We give a description from "Gardening," which fills the bill in any latitude where gardening is practicable:

COLD FRAMES IN WINTER.

A cold frame is a board or brick lined pit, rising a few inches above ground, and covered with sashes. The common frame is made of common pine plank or hemlock boards, with 2x3 inch, or 3x4 inch sash for cross or rafters bars; 5 feet 9 inches wide inside, and 4 to 10 inches higher at the back than at the front. The sashes for such a frame should be 3 feet wide, six feet long, by 1.2 inches thick. The frame may be any length to suit the number of sashes. Plain cold frames usually are one board (10 in) high in front, and two boards (20 in) high at back, but where these frames are permanent fixtures, and, where at times used for hot beds as well as cold frames, a pit 18 to 24 inches deep is dug out and lined with boards or plank, three or four boards high at back, and two to three boards in front. In the inside and under each end of each cross bar there should be a post, and the ends of the cross bars notched to fit on them; this serves as a brace and prevents the sides being pressed in by the weight of earth against them.

Cold frames for winter work should face the South, or Southeast, to give them the benefit of the warm sunshine, and the longest daylight; indeed, the sunnier the frames are the less covering they will need. But wherever cold frames are placed they should be protected from the North, and Northwest winds especially, and if sheltered all around—but not shaded—from bleak winds so much the better. In small gardens this shelter is generally afforded by close board fences, hedges or contiguous buildings, and on truck farms the market gardeners build high close wooden fences around their frame grounds to protect them from the winds.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The first week of the new year has been characterized by sunshine. This is somewhat remarkable when we recall the cloudy, dreary December which preceded it; but we should not expect good weather uninterrupted now. We should improve every day of good weather in preparatory work before spring.

For an early garden it is almost a necessity to provide for drainage. Winter and spring have more than an average rainfall, and evaporation being slow in cold or cool weather, provision for its removal needs be made. This may be accomplished by plowing a ditch at the lower side of the garden, communicating with some outside waterway, the garden soil being raised in beds twelve or fifteen feet wide and water furrows opened between to communicate with the ditch will successfully dispose of the surface water.

Pruning may be done during January. Don't put it off till spring. When a large limb is cut apply a coat of paint or varnish to protect it against rot till the healing process covers the surface. Many fine trees are ruined annually by careless pruning. We invite attention to an article in this number from the pen of Dr. T. H. Hoskins, good authority. In the next issue of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH we may have something further to say relative to pruning and the benefits to be derived from it if judiciously done. Many farmers who have not given the subject careful study do their trees irreparable injury by the way in which they do the work. It would be better to not prune at all than to do such bungling tree surgery.

A VISIT TO THE COAST REGION.

NATT STEVENS.

Desiring to see and learn something more of the great pear, orange and vegetable growing section near the Gulf coast, I repaired to Houston on the 5th ultimo and, taking the earliest morning train for the south, my first place to take a bird's-eye view of was Alvin, on the Santa Fe railroad, a place of about 250 inhabitants,

a live and prosperous town, at the intersection of the main line of the Santa Fe and the Houston branch. A newspaper is published here to show its benefits to the world at large. Here we met the first of a series of new pear orchards, the oldest being about seven years old, looking well, but small in size, and a goodly number of newer ones, all set out since that time, ranging down to one year old or less. The newest ones were set on ridges thrown up with about five furrows of the plow and trees set at intervals of about twenty to twenty-four feet the other way, leaving the middles for two or more years in sod grass with the grass uncut. This condition led me to suspect that there might be a real estate agent near by, for I had seen the same conditions exist in California, during its great boom in 1885, to help sell the land, thus leaving the further improvements to the next buyer if at all made. Of this point here I did not inquire, but to me the effort at improvement did not appear permanent. There were many others that did, where there were crops of different kinds of vegetables raised or being raised between fruit trees, and all doing well.

My next place going south on the main line was Arcadia, a small place with much the same kind of soil, fruit and vegetable productions, only not quite as old a place, and with as much success as the other kinds there raised. A little further south we approach Hitchcock, the object of my visit. So I approached the mansion of my old friend and father of the place, H. M. Stringfellow, only to find him not at home—gone to Florida on business the night before—but his genial and wide-awake wife made me feel at home, so that I lost nothing but his ever-smiling presence and his interesting instruction. Mr. Stringfellow began here some ten years ago or more, breaking ground upon the prairie, open prairie a short distance from the railroad line. He built his house near the center of his tract of land, upon a little rising ground eastward of the railroad depot, and fenced all in with a rose-bush hedge fence and big gate to go in at, and his whole front is laid out artistically into drives, walks and ornamental plantings. A flower plat here, a Cape Jasmine there, shrubbery, another nursery of this and that that flower, orange trees, and between them strawberry vines, and on other plats different kinds of vegetables, while his orchard is situated on the east or back part of the lot. The trees are so large that he raises no other crop between them. His pear trees now are from 18 to 25 feet high, and are principally Leconte and Kieffer with some Garber. Weret not that he cuts off the top end of all new growth of limbs each year, half his trees now would be thirty or forty feet high and full of side limbs bending over to the ground, but as they are now they resemble an old-fashioned sugar-loaf in form. He starts his side limbs very near the ground and six to a dozen near at once, and as a consequence they bag out considerably at the butt of the tree. There are several reasons for doing this; first, by starting the limbs near the ground it makes stocky trees and by cutting off one half of its growth each year causes more branches to form lower down and makes the tree not more than half as tall as it would be otherwise; it forms more fruit spurs each year, and the body of the tree becomes thicker and shorter and stiffer and more able to bear up its increase load of fruit so that high winds will not blow off so much of the fruit, which is quite an item in this windy climate.

In March last, when his pears were about the size of bullets, the freeze came and killed about all on the trees, but there were some reserve buds that bloomed after that and made a good crop of pears. His best paying pear is the Kieffer, the next Leconte, but he thinks the Garber the best in quality, and will ultimately sell better than the Leconte, and so I think. These three pears are but descendants of the Chinese sand pear. His pear trees of all kinds are a perfect success, and there is no blight or killed trees that I could see anywhere in his big orchard, and the trees of each variety were all of uniform size and very rank in growth.

His Oonshu, or as some call it the Satsuma orange, had shed its leaves for the winter, and it appears very thrifty and hardy under his treatment. He has it grafted high up on the Trifoliate stock and then he cuts back in the fall about one half of this year's growth, thus leaving no new, soft, tender wood to kill down each winter, and he is preparing to extend his orange orchard by setting out a large addition to it this winter. Much has been written and said here about this Japanese orange because it is about the only hardy one that seems to withstand our winter climate, while the Trifoliate is valuable as a grafting stock and hedge plant.

Vegetable gardens were quite numerous, and they were sending off to other mar-

ones so bred are of little value. Though the market is over supplied with such horses there is a class of horses that will always be in demand and at good prices. The fine carriage horse is always wanted. It must have good size, beauty with style, spirited and a free pleasant driver.

Daniel Lambert, take him all in all, was one of the greatest and most remarkable horses we have had. Considering the class of mare he had, he was one of the greatest sires of trotters, but it was his remarkable beauty, lofty style, great nervous action, with his fine free driving qualities that took the admiration of all. These great qualities he inherited from his Morgan ancestors. The true Morgans have great beauty, style, spirit action and endurance, are very free, pleasant drivers and are all day horses. What a pair of horses they would be to have, each just as Lambert was every way; what a span for a doctor to drive! Though Lambert was such a great horse, he did not lack size, bone and substance. These qualities many of his sons and descendants have, with the other high qualities that Lambert had. It is from such horses the fine carriage horses are to be bred and it would be well if more of them were used.

The stock of some horses does not run even, some of it is large, coarse, awkward and homely, no style or action. Some is small, and on account of its size is much less valuable.

Vt. Black Hawk and Daniel Lambert were not only horses of great beauty, action and style, but they transmitted these great qualities in a very marked degree. It will be better for many to use horses that have the style, beauty, action, spirit, and good road and driving qualities that Vt. Black Hawk and Daniel Lambert had with, too, the bone and size of many of their descendants that some that they do. A course, homely awkward horse, unless he has great speed, is of little value, and the same can be said of a small horse, and it should be the aim of the breeder not to breed them. A good size, handsome, stylish, free, pleasant driving horse will always sell for a good price, and there will be more money made in the long run breeding them than in breeding for speed alone. There are so many fat ones now, unless a horse trots in 2:20 or better it does not amount to much.

Clark's Horse Review: At Marcus Daly's Riverside farm, in Montana, there is now being constructed a covered half-mile training track which is to be lighted by electricity and kept in perfect condition for both work and trials at any time of the year.


Turf, Field and Farm: The Gray Horse—It is remarkable to what extent gray horses have figured on the American turf. Is it because Messenger, the alleged fountain-head of speed at the trotting gallop, was a fleas-bitten gray? One thing is sure, says the Breeder and Sportsman, the gray horses of the trotting turf have been the staunchest and sturdiest of racers. Not only on the race course have they won distinction, but in the various departments of labor. Superintendents of street car stables will tell you that the gray horses will do more work and last longer than horses of any other color. Whether worked to street cars or express wagons, the family carriage or the plow, they have been distinguished for beauty and endurance. There is a general idea that Australian horses of gray color are the most enduring because they are not so susceptible to heat. However this may be, for some reason or other the Arab of the desert is more partial to gray horses. The white horse is the most fashionable horse of the desert. If the theory can be established that all renowned trotters of America have descended from Messenger, then Messenger is the most illustrious gray horse of the age, for his blood has given to the world the greatest racers ever known. Guy, 2:06 3/4, the great pacer, is the fastest of the grays on the track.

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Household.

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

A MODERN MARVEL.

Boston Courier.
The problem of domestic help
My wife and I had sought
For fifteen years to solve, yet all
Our search had come to naught.
We'd sampled German, Celtic and Poles,
Welsh, African and Swedes.
In short, all sorts and kinds, but found
No one to fit our need.

At last, when we were in despair,
An accidental came.
She had no "rec innend," but proved
A wonder all the same.
At cooking, washing, everything,
She such rare skill displayed
That ere a year my wife declared
She'd found a perfect maid.

"A perfect servant girl," she said
To Mrs. Clark next door:
The news spread thro' the town
And soon the state and nation o'er.
Alas how brief our joy! For scarce
Had flown another week
When came a dime museum man
And "scooped" her as a freak.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

Ruth comes with a cheery letter, telling us of her happy Christmas time. We feel as you do, Ruth, that it is astonishing, and more, it is a sad commentary upon our civilization and Christianity that some make this holy day, a season for bacchanalian revelry. We rejoice with you, that you have had such a pleasant season, and hope that each year may close as prosperously and happily.

Mrs. H., in response to the chord which Mrs. Little's hand has struck, replies with trenchant pen. Plunging in medias res, she gives the true secret of the wrongs that need righting, the cause that needs defending. This and kindred subjects of equal delicacy and import, will never be settled, nor the "slow process of evolution" complete, until women demand an equal code of morals for both sexes. The world is waking up to the justice of this demand, and many wise and good men and women are seeking to arouse public opinion upon the subject, and by their teachings and influence, bring around this dawn of the millennium.

Dear "Country Girl," we are glad to give you a place among us, and hope you will come and bring other young friends with you, and we promise you more attention than you have had. Shall we talk of art, literature, fashion, etc., all the things which a young girl loves, and should love? We have always loved girls, have had them with us much in the school-room, and around our fireside, and candidly believe there is nothing prettier and more enchanting than a sweet young girl, be she beautiful or homely, if she be but cheery, bright and amiable. So come on and "we girls" will have a jolly time.

The papers tell us that it is quite a fashionable fad among literary people, to plant only such flowers in their gardens as are mentioned in the works of some particular author. For instance Lady Brooks, of England, has arranged a Shakespearean border for her lawn, in which was planted a specimen of every obtainable plant mentioned in Shakespeare's works, A Scottish woman is going to arrange a Robert Burns garden. The idea is quite a charming one, and much more sensible than most fads. Gardens of our poets would be both interesting and instructive, in that it would lead to a close study of their works, to make a list of the flowers mentioned by them.

The State of Montana proposes to outdo all other States at the coming World's Fair, in the matter of statues, and furthermore proclaim to the world the wealth of her silver mines. When she had decided to have a statue made of solid silver, in her mining exhibit, a committee appointed by the State, was sent to Chicago to find a sculptor and a model. The sculptor was found in Mr. R. H. Parks, they were not quite so successful in finding a model. Half a dozen actresses in the United States were under consideration, but one by one they were rejected; finally Miss Ada Rehan was suggested as a woman of rare physical perfection. She was consulted and accepted. The First National Bank of Montana, was to furnish the bullion. The intrinsic worth of the silver is \$35,000, and the sculptor is to receive \$10,000. At a reasonable estimate, the statue will represent \$50,000, aside from its value as a work of art. Miss Rehan's measurements, figure a woman who is almost a perfect Venus. The people of Montana are not satisfied with the choice of the committee, not that they do not admire Miss Rehan, but because they think the statue should represent a Montana woman. Miss Hanson the daughter of the president of the First National Bank of Helena, was the choice of the people of that State, and the choice is be-

ing now very hotly contested. We are told that many actresses are quite jealous of the distinction which gives Miss Rehan the prestige of being the most classically perfect figure among the profession, and much chagrin, not unmitigated by jealousy, is indulged in by ambitious maidens, who are not professional, who are anxious to pose for this statue.

THIRTY MILES.

All aboard! cried the conductor. And quite out of breath, with a race from the electric car to the depot, Rob and mamma climbed into the elegant coach of an excursion train for a short holiday excursion. Soon we were under way. Through the road's yard, with its long lines of heavily laden freight cars side-tracked; past the gas-works, with their big black tanks of gas; over the river, its sluggish, dark water, rolling sullenly along toward the gulf; speeding over the bare, dry prairies, where the cattle huddled together in the gathering winter twilight. We felt very happy as we snuggled down into our comfortable seats, with a vision of a bright, warm fireside, with a vision of a daintily laid supper table, lovely and loving faces to greet us,

not many miles ahead, made us feel very contented. Comfortably settled we began to look about us, and to study our fellow-travelers. Just in front and to the right of us was a bevy of school girls winging their joyous way home for the holidays, chattering like magpies and indulging in all the sweets the "butcher-boy" had to offer them. How utterly unconscious of everything earthly save his joys and pleasures! A little in advance of these, but across the aisle, were five or six college boys, full of life, just a little egotistic, and somewhat pedantic, spouting poetry and Latin, casting sly glances across the way at the pretty girls by way of a little flirtation. A stop, and a lady comes in. "May I share your seat?" "Certainly, madam." The car is quite crowded, and seats are all filled. So Rob is tucked between the window and mamma and the pleasant-faced woman slips into the vacant space. On we go, and after some conversation the lady bows to some one away down near the door. "That is Mrs. Green, a friend of mine. Mr. Green has been on a protracted spree, and she is going with him to his brother's, hoping to get him sober." From the bottom of our heart we pitied Mrs. Green as we looked into her care-worn face then at the red, bloated, blistered-looking visage of Mr. Green, who, though freshly shaved and newly clad, was not yet entirely in his right mind. He had been a handsome man, and my informant spoke of his intellect, his fine social endowments, and of the success which had been his before whisky wrought his undoing. Three bright little girls, tastily dressed, sat in front of the father and mother. We could but mentally exclaim, "If this must go on to the end, what a pity these unconscious and innocent little ones may not die. What awful possibilities the future holds for them! And looking upon this picture the following question, which occurred in a recent letter from a friend, taken from Pomroy's Advanced Thought, leaped to our lips:

"While the saloons continue to do the work of disabling men and boys from further usefulness in life, women and girls are pressing to the front, well qualified to take their places, so that in after times, when this becomes a woman's world, but men are to blame for their disinheritedness!"

Immediately across from where we sat was a large man who, every little while, furtively wiped his eyes, and sometimes he was not quick enough to stave the tears and they fell silently upon his sorrowful cheek. He seemed lost in sad reflection; forgetful of everything and lost to all outward influences. He was such a man, one would judge, as would not wear his heart upon his sleeve or plant his grief in the face of the curious. It was simply so deep it had completely covered him with a pall, and while in the world, he was not a part of it. We learned that he was not traveling alone, but that in the baggage car was a silent form of her hair, and being carried back to the old home of her girlhood to find rest in the family vault. What a home-going for the holidays. Instead of the mistletoe and the holly on its festal walls, there would be crepe on the door; and instead of mirth and the light jest there would be tears, regrets, and the open grave. And the lights grew dimmer and the air, but a little while overcast, seemed chill as our imagination busied herself with the dear old mother and father, and the younger sisters who, perchance, but yesterday impatiently waited the day of her coming, but who now sat with closed shutters, started at every ring of the door bell dreading to realize a sorrow they yet could only half believe.

Just in front of us sat an aged couple;

the old man quite deaf and very feeble. The old lady, thin and nervous, but thoughtful and loving, sat by his side, where for perhaps more than fifty years she had sat and comforted him. Solituous for his comfort, she wrapped his muffled around his neck, and brought him water, saying in a necessarily loud key, "You can't walk down this shabby passage; let me go." They had been back to the "Old State" for a last look at the old hills and the pine forests, where in their youth they played, and where in later years they joined hands and hearts and began the long journey now almost done. Back to the dear old home; dear because of its hallowed memories and the graves which held the sacred ashes of loved ones long since laid to rest. Almost home, to the little farm on the prairie, where they will sit them down to wait, and almost home to the golden gates over the river where the Savior beckons.

To drink its waters crystal bright,
And last forever in His light.

A long, shrill whistle. We gathered up our bundles and stepped out into the cool, dark night, and as we briskly walked over the frozen ground we thought of the phases of life we had seen in so short a ride. A stranger, and yet we read these bits of the life history of our fellow-travelers, and could but follow them in our fancy as the long train pulled out, and the rumble and whirr grew fainter and fainter among the distant hills until we reached the dear home circle we sought, when our sadness was banished by the loving, joyful greetings of our own.

TO KILL CUTTING ANTS.

JOHN B. LESBENS.

In the Household department of Dec. 31, appeared a request from Sam's wife for a recipe to destroy cutting ants. As no one has answered her question, and as I have had a great deal of experience with the pest, I will say for her, as well as for the benefit of the many farmers and horticulturists who are troubled with these ants, that the only way to kill them is to smother them with sulphurous smoke. Bore a hole with a post augur in the center of their bed, then in the bottom of that hole punch, with ether a drop augur or a bar of iron until you strike their cell; then fill the hole with a layer of sand, chips and a layer of sulphur. Keep on till you come to the top, then set it on fire and force the smoke with a blacksmith bellows or blowers. This is the only sure way to kill them. There are machines made especially for the purpose. There are many substances that will kill ants, but the trouble with them is that they will not destroy the eggs, and if there are a few ants left they will start a new colony.

Beautiss, Texas.

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

RUTH.

A merry Xmas! sisters and kind editress, I have not met with the band in quite a long time, but feel constrained this joyous Christmas morn to step in for a few min-utes chat. There is no service at our church to-day, and I am sorry for I feel like listening to a Christmas sermon this day of days. I do think of all days this is the one for prayer, praise and general thanksgiving. Is it not strange that people so far forget what day this is that they must celebrate it by becoming intoxicated? We had a small Xmas tree at our church tonight, and several men were there who could not walk straight and could scarcely be controlled while in the house. Some of them consider themselves gentlemen and never drink except at Xmas. My Xmas is rather dull, for "John" went off to be gone several days and I feel quite lost. It is the first Xmas we have ever spent apart since we took each other for better or worse, over six years ago. My youngest brother is with me to spend a few days, which is quite a treat, but he must be off with the young people to-day. He brought me a present consisting of a handsome set of silver knives and forks. If "John" finds out I have written to the Household he will say I wrote on purpose to tell about my present, and maybe he will be nearly right for I am certainly proud of them, and any of you would be the same, wouldn't you? The two little boys are rejoicing over little cars, bugles, bells and a nice little wagon large enough for me to ride in, while Cousin Lula is reading aloud from a book of poems Santa Claus brought to her. The oldest, aged thirteen years (my stepson), comes to the table every few minutes to look and talk about his toilet case. Now how can I write a readable letter in such a stir? But I am going to impose it on Mrs. Buchanan anyway. I want to thank her for the efforts she makes to keep up our page and for the pleasure and profit I derive from it. I do not feel competent to give advice, so I am a silent but appreciative reader. I would like to give my experi-

ence with "help," but will desist this time. Wishin' all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, I will close.
Hubbard, Tex.

THINKS WE OUGHT TO TALK MORE TO THE GIRLS.

A COUNTRY GIRL.

Dear Household—I only ask admission for a short while as I am a new-comer and very young, yet in my teens, but am very much interested in the dear old Household and the future welfare of the young girls. I don't think there is enough written on the subject and advice given to us young girls. All papers and magazines devoted to women are filled with articles of housekeeping, cooking, ornamental work, hired help, care of children, fashions, etc., but not a word to the young girls. If there is any class of people who need careful attention and good advice I think it is the girls of the present day. Won't some of the sisters please give us some good advice? But I know you would give us no other kind.

I think the Household such a good place to exchange our views, and have often thought I would attempt to write, even if I did fall to say something beneficial.

Christmas will soon be here. It is a season of giving presents and thus celebrating the birthday of Him who died to save all. Most of us are poor, but not too poor to give presents to those who are our dependents. We can make little presents, with very little if any cost, that would be highly appreciated by those who could not make them.

But pardon me for staying so long, as I only intended to stay a short while. Will come again soon, if no objections.
Springtown, Tex.

AUNT RUTH'S VISIT.

(Concluded.)

"Aunt Ruth," said John, "Nan may have spoken to you of our sad case, an' you may be prepared to hear my tale. Let me talk to you as to a mother. You know how dearly we loved in the dear old days an' home you so kindly gave your niece—my Nan. Ah! how far she seems to have drifted from my ownership. My heart is like lead. I fear my silence was wrong. I did wrong to leave my little Nan alone so repeatedly. Worry of mind, no doubt, caused me to be less myself the nights I was at home. This went on for three weeks before the final break came.

"I was not in gay company—or with some more brilliant woman—as Nan accused me of being. Aunt Ruth, I was at the bedside of a poor criminal sentenced to be hung, but dying of a loathsome cancer. To have told Nan of that man an' his life of crime, would, I feared, have grieved and perhaps called her to scorn me, for he was my half brother. I had believed him dead. He swore to me that he had done the killing while drunk. Conversing with another jail bird he learned of my residence in Chicago, an' had a note penned to me. But not until he had been removed to the hospital to die. I could only go to him evenings. My duties at the work could not be neglected. It grieved me when returning from that awful bedside scene to find my Nan with tear-stained eyes an' reproachful looks.

"I was nervous from the sights an' memories recalled, an' her frown an' tears, when I longed for smiles an' kisses, drove me almost wild. I said words I should never have spoken to my wife, an' her words of cruel accusation wronged an' stung me to madness. I left her side with a vow I have not had the courage to break, because of her proud coldness. Oh Aunt Ruth! can you help us? Must marriage prove a failure?"

Will you be guided by me without questioning? Will you let me do as my soul prompts? I know no other way, I said.

"I will try anything, do anything, if once again I may say my Nan to my heart, an' hear her say she loves an' forgives," he answered.

Then, I said, the angels will bless both. Nan loves you an' is as heart-broken as yourself. Let us go home. Have patience with me an' watch the chances. Go to your daily duties an' wait.

Said he: "Have leave of absence for to-day. I felt that I must talk with you. Every day is an age of misery. But I will go an' leave you with Nan if you think best."

I reckon you'd better, I said. I see no way now. I'd like to think an' wait for directions.

"God bless you, Aunt. I feel more hope than for months," said John.

Nelce: Ann gave me a gazzlin' look as I entered the house alone. I kept a silent tongue an' waited. I was weary an' so on. I went to my room to rest. I closed my eyes an' just like a voice spoke to my soul—something seemed to say: "Ask them to sing your favorite song to-

Cousins' League.

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

SONGS OF SEVEN

Selected for the League by Mrs. E. A. Wallace.

There's no dew left on the daises and clover,
There's no rain left in leaves and over,
I've said my "seven times" over and over,
Seven times one is seven.

I am old, so old I can't write a letter;
My birthday lessons are done;
The lambs play always, they know no better;
They are only one times one.

O, moon! in the night I have seen you sailing
And shining so round and low;
You were bright! ah, bright! but your light is
fading,
You are n-thing now but a bow.

You, moon, have you done something wrong in
heaven,
That God has hidden your face?
I hope if you had you will soon be forgiven
And shine again in your place.

O, velvet sea, you're a dusty fellow,
You've powdered your legs with gold;
O, brave marsh-mallow buds, rich and yellow,
Give me your money to hold!

O, columbine, open your folded wrapper,
Where two twin turtle doves dwell!
O, cuckoo-pint, let me the purple clapper
That hangs in your clew, green bell!

And show me your nest with the young ones in it;
I will not steal them away;
I am old; you may trust me, Janet, linen—
I am seven times one to-day.

JEAN INGELSOV.

THE LEAGUES' BIG MAIL

Since writing to you I st my favorite
rabbit died; I have one left; it is pure
white, with pink eyes. I have a little pony
and I love to ride horseback. I went to
Rockport on Saturday. I stayed with my
cousin and had a good time playing dolls
—MINNIE ABBE, Grezory, Texas

[I am too sorry that your pet rabbit
died, but then you can have lots of fun
with the one that is left—and that pony.—
AUNT EMMA]

I am a girl 17 years of age. I live one
mile east of Coperas Cove. I have light
hair, blue eyes and fair complexion. We
take TEXAS FARM AND RANCH; I think it
a very interesting paper; I love for the
time to come when it is due. I enjoy
reading the cousins' letters. I go to school
in Coperas Cove. Our school started the
24th of October. We have two teachers
and about 100 scholars in roll. We made
a very good cotton crop. I can pick from
200 to 300 pounds in a day. I can also do
all kinds of housework—sowing, milking,
cooking, dusting or anything else that
comes up to be done. I have no pets, ex-
cept my little baby sister. She is 3 years
old, and as sweet as can be; her name is
Ora Wesley.—SALLIE YOUNG, Coperas
Cove, Texas.

[That's a very good letter, Sallie, and
you certainly show valuable traits for a
young lady. I am proud of you.—AUNT
EMMA.]

I am a farmer's girl, 16 years old, and
weigh 95 pounds. I can pick 217 pounds
of cotton in a day. My brother, 13 years
old, picked 280 pounds, and my sister, 10
years old, picked 300 pounds. My other
sister can pick 100 pounds, and we four
have picked twelve bales this year. Papa
made twenty bales of cotton. I have four
sisters and one brother; I am the oldest.
We live nine miles west of Cleburne.—
ANNA McPHERSON, Cleburne, Texas.

[Papa can well feel proud of his family
of cotton pickers, for, with the good rec-
ords they possess, the work is greatly
lightened for him.—AUNT EMMA.]

Could you admit two little Panhandle
girls? Our brother takes TEXAS FARM AND
RANCH, and we are always glad to see the
League. I (Fannie) am 15 years old and
weigh 125 pounds, and Anna is 12 years
old and weighs 75 pounds. We never
lived in the country until April, 1891. We
like the country splendid, and also love
the broad prairies of Texas, but yet we
cannot help loving the old red hills of
Georgia, as that is our native home. We
are the milkmaids and take a delight in
our work. We can do almost anything
there is to be done on a farm, as washing,
ironing, cooking, feeding horses, milking
cows, etc.—FANNIE AND ANNA REEVE,
Chillicothe, Texas.

[Welcome, merry milkmaids! How
smart you are for your short acquaintance
with farm work. I love life on the farm,
and would not live in the city.—AUNT
EMMA.]

I see a letter from Miss Della Hudson,
of Valley, Ark., and corroborate what
she says in behalf of our much abused
State, our "Apple Orchard of America."
I live in the enterprising town of Mam-
moth Spring, which derives its name from
a spring rising here and forming the largest
natural spring in the world. It is the
mouth of Spring River, which is sixty

miles long. Mammoth Spring is 150 miles
from Memphis, Tenn., on the Kansas City,
Fort Scott and Memphis railroad. I am
kept very busy with my studies, but can
always find time to read the cousins' let-
ters—ANNIE BELLE GLENN, Mammoth
Spring, Ark.

[That is right, always stick up for your
State. Arkansas may be the butt of jokes,
but she is not behind in the race for im-
prompity. You must live in a very pretty
town.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a little boy 12 years old. I have
picked 203 pounds of cotton one day this
year. I go to school at Vineland; I study
fifth reader, arithmetic, grammar, word
book, Texas history, U. S. history and
geography. I go to Sunday school every
Sunday. I have a little sister 3 years old;
her name is Vera.—TOMMIE HORN, Vine-
land, Texas.

[I was just beginning to think, Tommie,
that the girls and Aunt Emma would be
consuming the entire League this week,
and so you can imagine I was glad to see
you come. You are a good cotton picker
and a smart little boy.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a farmer's boy. I want to join the
Cousins' League. I will not make this
letter too long for the first time.—JIM KIL-
FOIL, Clarendon, Texas.

[Just long enough, Jim, to admit you to
the League. Come often.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a boy 12 years old. I weigh 82
pounds, and am 5 feet tall. I live in the
Rocky Mountains. We have lots of snow
here sometimes; it is snowing to-day.—
BERT SEITZ, Rock, Colorado.

[Come in, little Rocky Mountain boy,
but do not bring any snow on your shoes.—
UNCLE MIKE.]

Papa has gone to town. Mamma has
about seventy little chickens. I have got
to hurry and help mamma. I help cook,
sweep, tend to the baby, make up beds,
churn and sew. Papa calls me his little
housekeeper. Hurry up, girls; don't let
the boys beat us. I wonder how long it
would take me to get up to New Jersey to
see Uncle Mike and Aunt Emma? I would
like to see Uncle Mike's pet dogs.—BETH
THE PARKER, Duke, Oklahoma.

[Well, Bertha, it would take you four
days to come from your town to Hammon-
ton, N. J.—at least it took your letter that
long to come. How I do wish you and all
the cousins could come to see us.—AUNT
EMMA.]

Uncle Mike, am I welcome? Well, I
guess that I am, or Uncle Mike would not
have published my other letters. I think
the Cousins' League is improving all the
time. We all should try to improve on
every letter; that is the way I try to do.
My father has been a subscriber to TEXAS
FARM AND RANCH for nearly four years.
We should take more interest in the his-
tory questions. Uncle Mike, you wished
me to tell the cousins what a wolf looks
like; they resemble a yellow dog with a
bushy tail and short ears. There are
plenty prairie chickens here now. I have
fine sport shooting them. I was 17 years
old last July.—JOHN M. PARKER, Duke,
Oklahoma.

[Always welcome, John. Your letter is
interesting; and now can you tell us some-
thing about the territory you are living in?
—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am 9 years old. I am going to school.
I have one sister and two brothers. My
little sister is 7 years old, my youngest
brother is 2 and my oldest brother is 11
years old. I have no pets. My father has
a dairy; we milk nineteen cows. I enjoy
reading the cousins' letters very much.—
LINDIE SCOTT, Clifton, Texas.

[What an interesting family of children
you must be, and how fat you all should
become on rich milk. Better send a glass-
ful up to us.—AUNT EMMA.]

As I promised to write again if my
former letter was printed, I will keep my
word. Our school has begun again. I
have six studies, amongst which is ancient
history.—ACKIE SCOTT, Clifton, Texas.

[I am glad you kept your word. Our
word should be our bond. Remember that,
boys and girls, and in after life you will
see the importance of it.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a country boy 10 years old. I have
been picking cotton; I can pick 150 pounds
in one day. My papa gave me a dollar
for picking 150 pounds in a day. He
had forty acres in cotton, and made
about twenty-seven bales. I have no
brothers nor sisters, so I am the
eldest and the youngest. I have several
pets—two little rattlers and a colt named
Tom. With the money I got from pick-
ing cotton I bought a saddle to ride my
colt. I am going to start to school soon at
Grove Creek school house. Miss Rena
Hosford is our teacher, and she is very

much liked by all the pupils. My papa is
a subscriber to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH,
and received his first copy today; he likes
it better than any paper he takes. I like to
read the cousins' letters just splendid.—
WILLIE WRIGHT, Sterrett, Texas.

[How glad we are you came to join our
League. You will feel at home here, and
we want you to come as often as you can.
—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a country girl 12 years old. I
have five sisters and four brothers. One
of my sisters is married. When I go to
school I study arithmetic, history, geogra-
phy, spelling, fifth reader, and grammar.
I have lived in the State of Texas eight
months, and am quite pleased with my
new home. My former home was Western
Iowa. I live about thirty-five miles from
the railroad.—ALICE MORRIS, Archer City,
Texas.

[I am glad you like Texas, I am sure I
should. But oh, how far you do live from
a railroad. But then Texas is growing
very fast, and it may not be long before
you will have a railroad nearer you.—AUNT
EMMA.]

I am 13 years old. I have no pets but a
cat, and it is getting most too large to pet
now. Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH
and likes it splendid. I love to read the
cousins' letters. I have two little sisters,
one of them is nine years old, and the
other six.—MINNIE WILLIAMS, Coleman,
Texas.

[Keep on petting the cat, no matter how
old it gets. It will make a tame cow.
Bring your little sisters along with you
when you come again.—AUNT EMMA.]

Will you receive a little Welsh boy?
Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and
thinks it a very good paper. I always like
to read the cousins' letters. I have four
brothers and one sweet little sister, all born
in Wales except two. I like to pick cot-
ton real well. I can pick 200 pounds in
one day. I am 11 years old.—ARTHUR
WATKINS, Orphans Home Station, Texas.

[Come in my little Welsh boy. We have
plenty of room left. You are quite a cot-
ton picker.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I was picking cotton for my brother; he
gave me 60 cents a hundred. Our school
began on the 1st of December. Our teacher's
name is Jennie Alexander. She is a
good teacher. I like her very much. I
have two half sisters and two half brothers.
One of my brothers is building a new
house. One of my old uncles died here.
He was 72 years old.—MYRTLE GOODWIN,
Midlothian, Texas.

[That was very nice in your brother pick-
ing you 60 cents per 100 pounds for pick-
ing his cotton. Next time you come bring
your half sisters and half brothers along
with you.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a little girl 11 years old. I have
four brothers, all younger than myself.
My eldest brother is nine years old; he is a
little man. He helps papa milk the cows.
He says he would not let his mamma nor
his sister (which is myself) milk when he
is around. We raise no cotton, but have a
large orchard. I can cook, iron, take care
of the baby, and do all kinds of house-
work. We live three miles from the post
office. I often go to town on horseback
to get the mail. We read TEXAS FARM
AND RANCH, and like it very much.—LOLA
STUEBENRAUCH, Mexia, Texas.

[Your little brother certainly is a little
man. You have about the same duties,
Lola, that I have. You live three miles
from the post office while we live two
miles. You go horse-back to town for the
mail, while I drive to town for the mail.—
AUNT EMMA.]

We live in Farr, a beautiful little town
in Central Texas. We attend school at
Walnut Grove College, and are desk-mates
and room-mates. We have a great many
studies, viz: physics, physiology, geometry,
algebra, arithmetic, rhetoric, Latin, and
civil government and music and art. Now,
Aunt Emma, aren't you real sorry for your
little niece? We have elegant pianos
which we love dearly. Cousins, how did
you all enjoy summer? We had such a
delightful time. We spent vacation in the
country, and breathed pure, fresh air. We
found the country so different from town.
Instead of the long, dusty streets, in the
country we had beautiful grassy pastures,
and wild flowers in profusion. We went
fishing and attended campmeetings; went
on fishing excursions and went to picnics.
But now we are back at school, hard at
work, too. We dance and like it very
much. We dance both round and square
dances. How many of the cousins ap-

prove of dancing? We think it a very in-
nocent amusement. Would like to have
the cousins give their ideas of dancing.
There are ten girls that board at this
boarding house and we got horses on Sat-
urday evening and took a grand horseback
ride which we all enjoyed very much. We
went home to spend Xmas with our papas
and mammas. I (Earl) have the sweetest
little curly headed, blue-eyed sister named
Clara. I (Deane) have a little brown-eyed
snow-headed sister named Hattie. Oh, they
are so sweet. Our age is sixteen.—DEANE
HILL and EARL JONES, Farr, Texas.

[Two jolly college girls. What a lively
time there must be in that boarding house
where ten lively girls are! Your letter is
very interesting, and I hope you will not
be long at returning.—AUNT EMMA.]

Good morning, Aunt Emma. I thought
I would step into your sanctum, and have
a nice quiet talk with you, while Uncle
Mike is out with the boys. Papa lives on
a farm two and one-half miles from town
but is principal of the school of that place.
He says it takes "Professor Hocker" to
keep up "Farmer Hocker." There are six
teachers and three hundred pupils. My
teacher requires us to write a composition
at the end of every month, and it is a great
task. Aunt Emma, will you please tell me
a good subject for next time? "Girls are
the material of which women are made."
Now, how much is a woman worth? Un-
cle Mike, you answer.—LOU HOCKER,
Coleman, Texas.

[That was a very pleasant chat, Lou.
Name your next essay "City vs. Country
Girl," and send me a copy of it for pub-
lication in the League. Uncle Mike thinks
a woman is worth almost as much as a
man. Isn't he wretched, Lou?—AUNT
EMMA.]

WANTS.

Earl Jones, Farr, Texas, would like the
words to "The Lips that touch Liquor
shall never touch mine." She will send
any song she has in return. Also solicits
correspondents, either sex.

Deane Hill, Farr, Texas, would like to
have the music to "Over the waves," and
will send any sheet music she has for it,
or return the favor any other way. Also
solicits correspondents, either sex.

John M. Parker, Duke, Okla., would
like to correspond with some of the coun-
sins about 17 years old.

Bert Seitz, Rocky, Park county, Colo.,
would like some of the boys and girls to
write to him.

HISTORY CLASS.

By Tommie Horn:
As Lula Cannon asked some one to quote
the first telegram, I will oblige her by say-
ing it was: "What hath God wrought?"

A QUESTION.

By Ackie Scott:
A question was asked me which I would
like some of the cousins to answer: "Who
was the oldest man that ever lived, yet he
died before his father?"

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GOOD SALARIES

STATE NEWS BOILED DOWN.

Capt. McNeal, of the frontier battalion, has been discharged.

A dry-kiln with 50,000 feet of lumber was burned on Monday at Longview.

A barn on the Dallas county poor farm with 3500 bushels of corn was burned on Friday last.

About twenty carloads of cattle per day are being shipped from San Angelo to the northern markets.

A barn on the farm of J. W. Ditto, near Arlington, was burned last Friday night with 1500 bushels of corn.

Lieutenant Faltz and seventy men from Jefferson barracks, Mo., have arrived at Laredo to corral the Mexican outlaws.

The grain warehouses of Womack & Sturges, at Taylor, was burned on Monday with 5000 bushels of corn. Loss about \$2500.

Ablene is excited over the appearance of a masked incendiary, who was detected in the act of firing a barn in that town, but escaped.

Joseph Brady was shot and killed Tuesday night on the streets of Dallas by a negro. A suspect is in jail, charged with the crime.

On Friday morning 155 negroes from Aberdeen, Miss., arrived at Houston, destined for Walker Station, Hempstead and Richmond.

The presidential electors elected Gen. A. S. Johnston messenger to convey the vote for president and vice-president to Washington.

Jo Burts and James Sullivan met in the streets of Houston, and on account of some previous disagreement Burts shot Sullivan and killed him.

There is said to be quite a boom in real estate in Brazoria county, several large plantations having been recently sold to actual settlers from Iowa.

Two boys near Greenville were, during the week, bitten by a mad dog. They applied a madstone, and the stone is said to have adhered for nine hours.

An effort is being made by Confederate veterans of Texas to have the time for the grand encampment meet at Birmingham, Ala., changed from July to April.

The barn of J. E. Wagoner, near Luling, with 1500 bushels of corn, a lot of cotton seed, buggy and a lot of farm implements, was burned last Monday.

Mrs. Adams, of Clarksville, while watching with the corps of her daughter and filling a lamp, dropped the lamp, and her clothing caught fire and burned her to death.

Eastman, the man who shot Officer Rice, of Fort Worth, is having fits, and the wounded policeman is recovering. The fits of the former are produced by the vigorous application of the policeman's club.

The widow of E. S. Randall, recently killed by Col. L. G. Randle, in Dallas, has brought suit in behalf of herself and five small children against L. G. Randle for \$50,000 actual and \$50,000 exemplary damages.

Two more men, Wm. Hood and J. R. Rogers, arrested in Greer county, have been taken back to Eastland county to answer a charge of murder for the lynching in 1877. There have been 100 indictments found in this case.

The war department has ordered the immediate construction of what is known as a "flying telegraph" line from Fort McIntosh to an outside connection. This is to facilitate information and co-operation against the border cut throats.

A company composed of Dallas men have petitioned Congress to permit them to build a deep water channel from Bolivar Point to the Galveston deep water channel. The object is supposed to be to establish a supplementary seaport on Bolivar Peninsula.

A young Walker county darkey named Albert McDonald, killed his father and mother Friday of last week, because "the old man," as he called him, refused to lend him a horse to go to a frolic. Albert will hang when the time comes, as he cannot fee "eminent counsel."

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

A telegram dated Washington, Jan. 10, says: "Gen. Benj. F. Butler died at 10:30 a. m."

The State government of Kansas was surrendered to the victorious Populists on Monday last.

Four thousand bales of cotton were burned on the railroad platform at Anderson, S. C., on Friday. Loss \$100,000.

The sensational story of a battle at Bakersville, S. C., telegraphed and published all over the country, was merely an overgrown example of the daily tele-

graphic preparations which are intended to make people buy the morning papers. Kill the previcator.

It has been officially announced by the government physician that there is not and has not been any cholera at Little Rock.

Widespread strikes of coal miners are reported from different parts of the German empire. Forty thousand laborers are said to be involved.

Typhus fever is epidemic in all the large towns of Northern Mexico except Monterey and Durango. Several cases have appeared at Laredo and Eagle Pass.

A report comes from South McAllister, I. T., of the sinking to a depth of four feet of twenty-four acres on the farm of G. D. Bullard. Several springs of warm water suddenly appeared.

Oklahoma City is considerably exercised over a decision of Judge Green, of the Territorial Superior Court, unsettling titles to \$1,000,000 worth of land. A deputy U. S. marshal who was stationed in the territory before the opening, had filed on a half section when the settlers arrived; citizens disregarded the file and staked off town lots. The Interior Department sustained the citizens; now the court reverses and decides in favor of the official "sooner."

LOCAL AND GENERAL MARKET REPORTS.

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

Dallas Cotton Market.

[Corrected weekly for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, by W. White & Co., Cotton Buyers, Dallas, Texas.]

DALLAS, January 11.—Very little doing
 Ordinary..... 6 1/2
 Good ordinary..... 7 1/2
 Low middling..... 8 1/2
 Middling..... 9 1/2
 Good middling..... 9 3/4

Galveston Cotton Market.

Galveston, January 11.—Spot cotton closed steady
 Low ordinary..... 5 1/2
 Ordinary..... 6 1/2
 Good ordinary..... 7 1/2
 Low middling..... 8 1/2
 Middling..... 9 1/2
 Good middling..... 9 3/4

Stocks at all United States Ports.
 Stocks this day..... 1,061,951
 Stocks this day last year..... 1,919,990

Dallas Live Stock.

Common to fair steers.....	\$1 50@2 00
Choice fat cows, per head.....	11 00
Common to fair cows, per head.....	8 00@10 00
Choice veal.....	3 50
Common to fair veal.....	2 75@3 00
Choice fat yearlings, per head.....	7 50
Choice milch cows, per head.....	18 00@25 00
Bulls.....	75@1 00
Choice fat hogs.....	4 50@5 75
Common to fair hogs.....	3 00@3 50

Grain and Feed-stuffs.

Quotations below are on grain from store.
 Corn—Wholesale, 43c per bushel in sack; retail, 50c; in ear 25c per bushel.
 Oats—Sacks, 20@25c per bushel in car lots; 35c single bushel.
 Bran—7c per 100 lb in car lots; retail, 80c per 100.
 Cotton seed—Per bushel, 35c retail; wholesale, 12 1/2c.
 Hay—Loose, local, \$7 00@8 00; best prairie hay, baled, \$8 50 per ton; in carload lots, f. o. b., \$9 00; small bales, best, 45c; best Forney, \$7.50 per ton in carload lots.
 Wheat screenings—Chicken feed, \$1 25 per 100.
 Corn—cane seed, 7c per bushel.
 Millet—Per bushel, \$1.00.
 Alfalfa seed—\$7 00 per bushel.
 Wheat—Buyers are paying: No. 2 to No. 3, 65c f. o. b. at Dallas.

Dallas Wholesale Produce Market.

[Corrected weekly for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, by J. C. Howerton & Co., Wholesale Fruit, Produce and Commission Merchants, Dallas, Texas.]
 Chickens—small, 2 70@2.25 per doz. Chickens—large, 2 25@2.50 per doz.; Hens—small, 2 25@3.00 per doz.; Hens—large, 2.50@2.75 per doz.
 Eggs—fresh, 13@14c; store 12 1/2c per doz.
 Ducks—average, 2 00@2 25 per doz.
 Turkeys—hens, 7 50@9.00; gobblers, 9.00@12.00 per doz.
 Butter—fresh, 20@25c per lb.
 Potatoes—Greeneys, 1.15 per bu.; Clifton Burbanks, 1.10 per bu.
 Onions—Northern, 2 1/2c@3c per lb.
 Cabbage—Northern, 2 1/2c@3c per lb. California, 2 1/2c@3c per pound
 Beans—Navy, 4@4 1/2c per lb.

Hides and Wool.

Hides—Buyers are paying: Dry flint, heavy, 6 1/2c; light, 5c; dry salt, 5c; gr. salt, 5c; butchers' green, 3c.
 Wool—Light medium, 17c; low medium, 14@15c; fine, 15@16.
 Horns, hoofs and bones—\$6 00 per ton, delivered.

FOR INFORMATION

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

BOOKS AND CATALOGUES.

Peter Henderson's Manual of Everthing for the Garden for the Columbian year, 1893, is the most elegant of all the Peter Henderson Catalogues. It has a number of elegant colored plates, and is filled with fine illustrations and useful information regarding seeds and plants and their pro-

ducts, implements and their uses. It is a gardener's library.

The annual catalogue of the Texas Seed and Floral Co., for 1893, is now ready for distribution. It is finely illustrated and elegantly printed, in matter and make-up equal to the best, and all the work in-

cluding printing, was done in Dallas. The company will, in a few days, move into their elegant new quarters on Elm street. Those who want anything in the line of seeds, plants, bulbs, horticultural appliances or cut flowers, should keep this catalogue on the parlor table.

Blackwell's Bull Durham Smoking Tobacco



"Great Bull Movement."

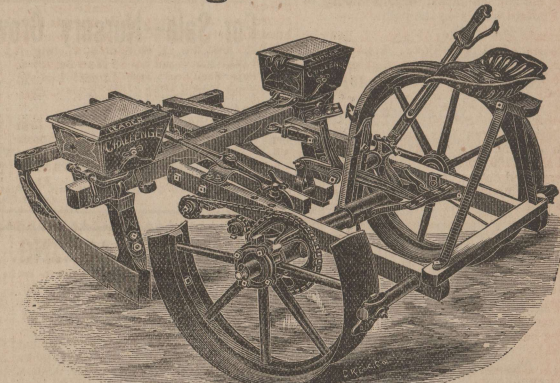
Made a record long years ago, which has never been beaten or approached. It has not to-day, a good second in popularity. Its peculiar and uniform excellence pleases the men of to-day as it did their fathers before them. Sold wherever tobacco is smoked.

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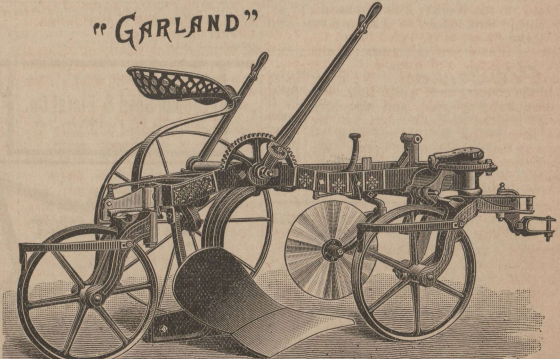
The above cut is a clear and well defined illustration of our Challenge Leader two-horse Check Planter and Check Row, as improved for 1893. The entire seed mechanism, including the Seed Plate Sower, Cut-off Caps and Seed Plates themselves are all turned on an engine lathe, and it is impossible to get a more perfect operating device on any Planter. Send for full particulars of our drop. It shows all others and is sure.

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GEORGE C. KILLIAN, State Agent, Dallas, Tex.

outdoor life is a pleasure all the year round. But I shall not attempt to tell even a small part of the desirable qualities of this part of our State, but will only say that here we may raise an abundance of everything that makes glad the heart of the husbandman.

I was so captivated with this country when I first visited it in August, 1891, that I lost no time in hurrying back to my old Missouri home to make preparations for removing my family here. This action on my part naturally induced several of my old neighbors to come and look at the country, and the result is that there are now nine families of us located on what was, one year ago, a 7000-acre cattle pasture, known as Johnson's Ranch, and several more families will be added to our colony just as soon as houses can be built for their accommodation. Our colony is known as Fruitland Farms, and our station on the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe railway, which crosses our lands, is Fruitland. We have applied for a postoffice, and when it is granted we will feel perfectly at home in Texas.

I have been a reader of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH only a few months, but to show you that I appreciate it I send you three new subscribers from our colony that I have induced to take it. I have read a good many farm journals, but, barring a little political matter that is occasionally injected into its editorial columns, I think TEXAS FARM AND RANCH better than the best. Sincerely yours,
W. S. CHERNOWITZ, M. D.

SHORT CORRESPONDENCE.

Find inclosed \$7 for seven new subscribers. I am already a subscriber. I would not do without your paper for three times the cost.—I. O. WINFREE, Leesville, La.

Whatever you do, send TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, as I cannot well do without it. Hoping for you a happy New Year and 2,000,000,000 new subscribers, I am—G. W. MALONE, Manor, Texas.

I have been a subscriber to your valuable paper for twelve months and I like it for two reasons: First, because I find in it so many useful articles on farming; second, because my wife likes it. She is very much delighted with the part devoted to the ladies; would like to join them, but with seven little boys to cook, sew and wash for, she can do no more than wish them a happy New Year. She is a close observer of the cooking and canning recipes.—D. M. CUNNINGHAM, Honey Grove, Texas.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is always a welcome guest to me. The first I read is the correspondence from the different subscribers, which are always filled with useful hints and information, especially Uncle Snort's letters, which are not only full of information, but are also amusing. Next comes the Household. I read it with interest and increasing respect for those wives who try to help each other in their household work and troubles, and to make their homes pleasant and real homes for husband and children. I find TEXAS FARM AND RANCH worth the dollar we send to subscribe for it. Wishing you success, I am—JULIUS H. STRECK, Industry, Texas.

Enclosed find a postal note, for which send TEXAS FARM AND RANCH to JOURDAN HUBB, Forney, Texas. He told me he wanted a first-class farm journal and recommended your paper to him. He handed me a dollar and told me to have it sent to him. With best wishes, I remain yours fraternally—W. D. ALEXANDER, Forney, Texas.

[Thanks. And while we are about it, we will return thanks to the members of the press generally. We have received only kindness at their hands which has been profitable in more ways than one. Much of the success of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is due to the friendly interest of our contemporaries, who have added materially in advertising the paper and increasing its circulation.—Ed.]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Is millet good for mares or ewes when young?—J. F. COOK, Pearl, Texas.

ANS.—Nothing the matter with good sound millet; only, don't permit them to gorge themselves with it first.

I would like to ask if alfalfa does well for permanent pasture on low, damp, prairie black soil? If not, what would you recommend?—H. L. JOHNSON, Carlton, Texas.

ANS.—Alfalfa does not do well on land where water stands near the surface. It is a deep rooted plant and stands drouth well. Bermuda is the grass for flat, damp soils.

1. What is an average per cent of cream from the milk of a full-blooded Jersey cow?

2. I am having some wood land cleared up and want to get rid of the stumps. What is the best method? Can you give me the address of any

one manufacturing a stump puller that you can recommend?

3. Would the full-blooded Chester White hogs do well in this part of the State?—J. G. TON, Houston, Texas.

ANS.—1. Will Hon. J. O. Terrell please answer this query?

2. Address Kring Bros., Westerville, Ohio, for stump-puller information.

3. Berkshires, Poland Chinas or Duroc Jerseys will give better satisfaction anywhere in the South than Chester Whites, or any white hog—the climate does not suit the complexion of the blonde beauties.

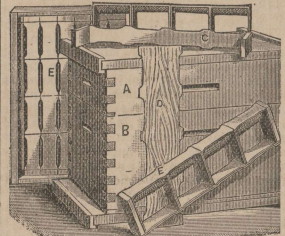
Newlin Guard: There will probably never be another opportunity like the present one to obtain cheap homes in Hall county. This is a fact worthy of consideration and farmers in other parts who contemplate moving to the Panhandle should not procrastinate any longer. The soil here is said to be from ten to sixteen feet deep, is a red sandy loam, and is capable of producing thirty-five bushels of wheat per acre. The heaviest yield we heard of this year is twenty-two bushels per acre, this having been an unusually dry year. Some farmers near Newlin claim they made as high as forty odd bushels wheat to the acre in 1891.

FOR SALE or will exchange for land, one fine stallion, twenty head young mares and horses, two, three and four years old. Good stock. For particulars address P. F. TERRELL, Wheatland, Dallas County, Texas.

For Sale—Bunch Sweet Potato Seed. The best eating potato in the world, yields double the old vine yam. Price of seed \$1 per bushel, deliv'd f.o.b. here. B. S. LEE, Mansfield, De Soto Par., La.

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NO FARMER, MECHANIC OR BUSINESS MAN SHOULD BE WITHOUT IT, BECAUSE

IT WILL SHOW AT A GLANCE, WITHOUT THE USE OF PENCIL, PEN OR PAPER,

- The number of Bushels and pounds in a load of Wheat, Corn, Rye, Oats, or Barley, and the correct amount for same, at any price per bu.
- The exact amount for a lot of Hogs or Cattle, from 1 lb. to a car load, at any price per Cwt.
- The correct amount for a load of Hay, Straw, Coal or Coke, from 25 cents to \$20 per ton.
- The exact value of a bale of Cotton, at any price per lb. Also the bill for ginning it.
- The correct amount of articles sold by the Bushel, Pound, Yard or Dozen, from 1/4c. to \$1.
- The exact Wages for any time, at various rates per month, per week, and per day.
- The equivalent of Wheat in Flour, when exchanging same, from 25 to 40 lbs. to the bu.
- The only correct Rule and Table for estimating the exact contents of Logs of all sizes.
- The exact contents of Lumber, Cisterns, Bins, Wagon-beds, Corn-cribes, Cord-wood, and Carpenters', Plasterers' and Brick-layers' work.
- The exact Interest on any sum, for any time, at any practical rate per cent.
- The equivalent of two or more discounts; as for instance, 33 1/3, 10, and 5 off, equals 43 1/2 off.
- The per cent of gain when goods are bought at a certain discount from, and sold at list prices.
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CORRESPONDENCE

NORTH TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE.

BLOOMING GROVE, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

While we are deeply interested in poultry and bees, we are more deeply interested in the education of the youth of Texas, especially the farmers' boys, and now as our legislature is about ready to meet, we wish to impress upon them the great need of another agricultural school for North Texas. Dallas, McKinney, or Sherman would be suitable places for the school, and accessible by the many railroads running through this vast body of rich black land, teeming with thousands of industrious farmers, who are eager for the privilege of educating their sons in an agricultural college. Farmers, make your wishes known. Now is the time.

B. F. CARROLL

SOME HUMAN NATURE.

QUITMAN, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I tried eight men to get them to take your paper. All of them had the excuse that they were taking some political paper, but one. He did not want any paper, did not have time to read one; and only one of the eight was taking a paper published. None of them have any hogs but raise hogs, and range cattle. One of them told me that he always made the best cotton when he scraped the seed up on the gin yard. Off seventeen acres this year he made five bales of cotton, and I made three 542-pound bales off six acres, and my land was not as good as his. He paid a firm in Tennessee 33 1/3 cents for a few apple trees, some of them not worth a setting out here, for they will all rot, while I paid a reliable Texas firm ten cents for good one-year-old trees that were suited to this climate. He also paid fifty cents and one dollar for peach trees and grape vines that any reliable firm in Texas could have furnished him for ten cents round, or less, and of the same varieties. But that was the way with men who don't patronize home industry.

Uncle Snort gives some good advice. I sometimes wonder if he takes his own advice. I used to know him when I lived in Dallas county. I once heard him preach when I was a boy, and I have heard him lecture for the Alliance several times. I cannot tell him how to get a turnout of butchers unless he advertises a political meeting or a circus by scattering posters at the corner grocer's.

Now, Mr. Editor, don't understand from this that all the farmers in this county are like the eight I have just told you about, for there are just as good and enterprising farmers here as anywhere, and they are all taking some farm journal, and some take several, etc.

JOHN LONG.

IT WILL COME IN TIME.

FISKVILLE, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

This is the last day of the old year and I cannot let it glide slip by without wishing you all a bright, prosperous New Year, crowned with happiness and love. I have been a regular reader this past year, but ever an interested one, and for each and every subscriber and correspondent I have a hearty friendship. It seems like TEXAS FARM AND RANCH has established a brotherhood of farmers with brotherly love as the foundation rock on which we all build our part, be it great or small. I have an interest, personal and warm, in this mighty structure whose length and breadth are as the great Lone Star State, and whose influence is boundless. How proudly we turn to our advertising columns to show our friends that here are no personal aids to entrap our sons and daughters in perhaps endless sorrow. Here are no disgusting advertisements of nauseous drugs and remedies for disgusting and loathsome diseases. Instead we have a sheet of clean, wholesome reading matter that we can safely place in our children's hands, knowing that they can get nothing but what is pure and good for them—naught that is evil. Let us all give our aid and influence toward the spreading of this gospel of good words and works throughout our State, so that each and every household may be numbered among TEXAS FARM AND RANCH brotherhood, and all growing in the grace of brotherly love and Christian charity.

I have wanted to say just bushels about girls having some interest in the new prospective A. & M. college in North Texas, but have been so desperately busy I knew I could not do so subject justice. Now won't you take it in hand? I know it would be a grand thing for the girls, and they need education in domestic economy. I would be tempted to take a year's course myself if they would permit a

girl (?) so youthful as myself to enter the ranks.

MRS. ELLA GRAVES.

[Dear Mrs. Graves.—Just you wait and see the sensation of the Lord. One thing at a time. Let us get the people of the State aroused on the subject of industrial education, then all will go right. The discussion and establishment of an A. & M. college in North Texas will insure all you ask for the girls. When the fight for the girls begins you will find TEXAS FARM AND RANCH in the thick of it.—Ed.]

FROM ENGLAND.

In a recent issue TEXAS FARM AND RANCH published a letter from Mr. F. F. Collins, of San Antonio, giving an account of his pleasant stay in England at the house of a friend. The following letter from that friend to Mr. Collins contains some political ideas that may be interesting to our readers:

SUTTON FOREST, NEAR EASINGWOLD, YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND, Nov. 30, 1893.

MR. COLLINS: Dear Sir.—I received your letter and newspaper and am very pleased to have a letter from you. I saw in the paper you sent me you had been telling the American people how you found things in England. I am very pleased to congratulate you on the splendid victory you have achieved with reelection of Grover Cleveland to the presidency. If the American people would try free trade for four years they would never go back to protection. I saw in a newspaper the other day that the American people were the worst clothed people in the world. The reason is not far to seek. All our young men in England are mashes. You should see them on Sundays with cuffs and collars and their watch chains dangling about. They can get a good Sunday suit for £2. I hope the democratic tariff will be much lower than the present one. We have received the two books which Mrs. Collins has so kindly sent us. I have not read them, yet I shall have time those winter nights. We have no winter yet; damp and foggy weather; very mild. They are two splendid books. My wife joins with me in thanking Mrs. Collins very much for the very nice present. I hope Mrs. Collins and Master Collins and yourself are in good health. I changed all my servants this Martinmas. I have got a fresh girl and three men. First man £21, second man £15, boy £7 and £11 for the year, until Nov. 23, 1893. I have enclosed a newspaper cutting. I remain yours respectfully,

JOHN HARPER.

ON THE WING.

TERRELL, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

While spending a few days in Terrell, one of the best towns in Texas, I very readily accepted a cordial invitation to ride out with D. B. Brown and spend the night with him. Mr. Brown lives just far enough from the business and main resident portion of the town to have plenty of room for a nice poultry yard and yet be very conveniently located for city privileges. Of course, I enjoyed this visit, for if there is anything in this world that I love better than chickens, it is more chickens. Mr. B.'s yards were literally swarming with chickens. He has twelve varieties of fine chickens and knows exactly how to handle them. His yards are large and roomy, the houses neat and comfortable and very convenient and cheap. It was a real treat to an old poultry crank to go from yard to yard, have those pretty things all around him, and to pick them up and talk to them, for some of them looked as though they almost understood what was said to them. They were all pretty and showed that much care had been bestowed on them in breeding, rearing and handling, but his Golden Seabright Bantams stand head. The cock is so proud of his beauty that he only touches the ground in high places. Mr. B. is running three incubators and has the best arranged brood-house, or houses, that I have seen. He is one of the men who believes that there is money in poultry, and is proving his faith by his works. I don't see how any one can visit his yards without catching the poultry fever, it ran my poultry fever up to 140 in the shade. I found Mr. Brown just about as cranky as the rank and file of poultry raisers. He almost believes he can change a chicken to a goose by feeding properly. And right here I stop, take off my hat, and say from the very end of my toes, "Thank you, Brother McReynolds say it again." Don't be afraid of Charlie Raymond. He is too busy mixing up "the white-wash" to put on his poultry houses" to kill the flic that are on his chickens to stop to "spite with you, now. But I want to warn you that I am in this chicken fight, and am "itching for a row."

It was my privilege while in Terrell to meet with a great many staunch friends of

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, such men as Col. Grinnan, Terrell and Harris, Messrs. Able, Paten, Shannon, and many others. I also met Mr. Somers, who has recently climbed out of the cotton and corn ruts, and is now running a country dairy, from which he is realizing a very handsome profit and much gratification from the fact that he is learning that there are other roads to at least a decent living than through the cotton patch. It was also a pleasure to add to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH list a goodly number of names of the very best farmers and stock men in the country, among them J. B. Porter, J. N. Stallings, the lumber man, and said to be one of the best truck farmers also in the country; B. F. Cockrell, a man who has fine registered Berkshire hogs, and is proud of them, and knows exactly how to take care of them.

Farmers generally are looking cheerful, and there are, everywhere among them, signs of prosperity. There are, however, a few farmers, and perhaps not a very small few who continue to sell themselves yearly to the merchants for "supplies," and they are still wearing long faces. And there are others who work hard, make good crops, and handle a considerable amount of money, yet they cannot be made to believe that it is cheaper to raise what they eat at home than to buy it from the merchants, and they, of course, generally came out about even at the end of the year. And they don't care what they say, they know that farming doesn't pay. But it is a pleasing fact that the number of such men is gradually growing less in Texas each year, and were it not for the fact that immigration is pouring in upon us it would only be a question of time when these two classes of farmers would be very small. The more I mingle with and talk with our farmers the more and more I see the splendid influence for good all along the line that TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is wielding, and the more anxious I am to see good, practical farmers giving their experience through its columns.

UNCLE SNORT.

ALFALFA.

BELCHERVILLE, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I want to put in few acres and have hoped to see something on the culture of it in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, but nothing yet. It is new to me, and no one in this country knows anything of it. Please request seedmen to write me again.

S. F. WOODING.

[Ground for alfalfa should be free from seeds of weeds or grass, and with a porous and deep subsoil. As alfalfa is a deep rooted plant, its growth downward must not be prevented by impervious clay or silt near the surface. The seed may be planted any time, so that it may get well established before frost. September is good time in Texas. Further north, it may be planted in May or June. A good plan is to plant in drills eighteen inches apart and cultivate first year with shallow sweep. Eight to ten pounds seed, drilled; fifteen to twenty broadcast, is about right. Alfalfa should not be pastured the first year. Will some of our readers who have had experience with alfalfa give the result for publication? Seed can be obtained of any seed house advertising in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.]

WANTS GOOD ROADS.

AT HOME, DOWN ON THE FARM, January 1, 1893.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I have been reading your paper for the past year, and like it. I have been reading the letters on roads by H. B. Hillyer, and I think he has struck the key note. Now I have a suggestion, that you add one page to your valuable paper and devote it to the dirt road question, and head it with two pictures, one with a farmer going to town with a two-horse wagon loaded with 5000 pounds and rain pouring down. The other with four big mules trying to get to town with an empty wagon with the sun shining (as I will have to do to-morrow.) Then next with a petition to the State government something like this: We, the undersigned taxpayers, and others, ask that three competent civil engineers be appointed, and that they be sent to other states where they have settled the road question, then in their report recommend such ideas as they have gained in their investigation, etc.

For myself I see no reason why we cannot have at least passable roads. It is not so much the condition of the roads at the time it is raining that makes the black land roads so bad, as it is the condition they are in when the mud dries up. I have seen places in the roads that were passable, no matter what the condition. I claim that if a black land road is well drained, well rounded to the center, and then rolled with a very heavy roller, so as to shed the water off, it would be pass-

able nearly all the year round. The cost of this work would be small.

In all the reading I have done it pays to make good roads. The State railroad commissioners would not have to bother their heads about the short haul clause, for we could take our wagons and do our own short hauling if we did not like their rates. In Ohio, I believe it is, they have a road law making all the land within one mile of the road improved pay for the improvements at an average cost of \$3000 per mile, and I am told that two-thirds of the money paid to the contractor is paid back to the people living on the road for work they do. The taxes are not increased much, and the property is enhanced in value nearly double. Now let us go to work in earnest and see if we cannot have roads that are passable some of the time. You are at liberty to put my name to the petition or publish this letter. Anything for good roads.

GEO. J. BOYLE.

MISREPRESENTATIONS.

WINNVIEW, OKLAHOMA.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

"One C. E. Cole, Buckner, Mo.," has perhaps, as much free advertising as he deserves, and from personal knowledge, we know nothing of his claims for his coffee bean, but we called attention months ago in several journals, to a class of misrepresentations that are creditable to whoever practices them. Mr. Cole wrote an article for one of our western farm papers, offering to send plum seeds of a special variety, to any who would send 10 cents for postage. Now it is a question whether any one should make such an offer, as he is likely to be overwhelmed with requests, his supply exhausted, and disappointment result. But when any one for any reason sees proper to do so, he should do as he agrees just as though he had offered them for sale. We sent the 10 cents for postage, got about a dozen seed packet and a lot of circulars, all under one cent postage.

LAND AGENTS—The Pecos Valley is getting a great deal of free advertising. In the papers received on our table for the past year, we see nearly ever mis a weak in seeing a letter from G. S. Shields, Eddy, N. M., and last week, we saw the same in at least six of our papers. Now the reports may all be true, but to use or allow the use of the correspondence columns of our press, for articles which undoubtedly are advertising lands to sell, is certainly creditable to both. We are always glad to read descriptions of counties and localities, but when there are land sales and agents back of it, let them be put where they belong, in the advertising columns.

PRIVATE SALES—The names of Samuel Kaufman, of Missouri, and Wm. Coleman, of Nebraska, are familiar to the columns of many papers, describing their special localities, and are said to be kept busy showing land, all for the good of their respective communities, in inducing settlers to come there. This is all right and proper, but when we pay for a paper we expect the reading matter to be free from selfish interests. Private or local business belong in another department.

Then there are individual farmers who have been contributors to a cheap class of farm papers, who highly extol the advantages of their localities. We have followed a number of them, and in a few years or less, they have doubtless induced some one to come, for they are in a new locality and we hear nothing further of their Eldorado.

J. M. RICE.

WELL PLEASED WITH TEXAS.

WALLIS STATION, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

One year ago last August I first saw Texas, and having seen nearly every State and Territory west of the great "Father of Waters," was well prepared to appreciate the truly wonderful resources of the great State. Texas, in my opinion, only lacks one thing to make her not only great in expense and resources, but in population and wealth, and that is proper advertising. No "boom" advertising is needed, but only to carry out the injunction of the great apostle of reform and tell the truth. If only half the truth were known in the North concerning this State, her entire arable area would be as densely populated inside of five years as are now the States of Illinois and Indiana. But the people of the more easterly Northern States have been so bitterly deceived by the flaming advertisements of professional land boomers in some of our Western States that they can scarcely believe the sober truth about Texas. And especially is this true in regard to this Gulf coast country—to me the loveliest spot on earth, where winter is muzzled and deprived of its tendency to bite and blight, and the sun's rays are tempered by the balmy Gulf breeze, where

kets their products, such as potatoes, cabbage, turnips, radish, lettuce, beets, onions and fine celery, and the markets of Galveston and Houston were literally full of such garden truck, and they seemed to be raising it down here the year round, but once in a while it gets struck with frost sent down from the Dakotas, to purify the atmosphere for a hog killing time. Otherwise no disaster to fruit or vegetables would happen here and winters would appear like a perpetual spring. One great and growing business in this place, and at LaPort, Alvin and Arcadia, is strawberry growing. The only want is a near, good market so that the express company will not eat up all of the profits. They are looking and waiting for a time when they can raise garden truck in sufficient quantities to ship it in car load lots to distant markets, so as to make it more profitable.

I put the question to them, "Can you tell me why you are enabled to raise both fruit and vegetables so successfully near the coast?" and the old reply came: "It's in the soil, and sub irrigation and not in the climate." I replied, "No?" They asked me for an answer. This was mine: "Climate and nearness to the ocean made it possible." "Please explain," was asked me. "Water in the ocean in the summer cools the air all around it, on both land and sea, while in winter it warms the air where it comes in contact with it, and the air becomes heavily freighted with both nitrogen and oxygen—gaseous substances—which enter into the life of all plants through its leaves and otherwise become the food of plants—and it is the chief sustenance of all air plants, such as moss and various kinds that grow not directly from the soil. At night-fall it falls in the shape of dews, to invigorate all kinds of vegetation, while away back here in the interior there is the less of this gaseous substance, and less dew falls at night as a consequence. This kind of gas is not as beneficial to man as it is to plant life." They shook their heads, and probably they had not studied agricultural chemistry, or they might have seen the point. Forns, Texas.

"Artichokes" for seeding hog pastures can be obtained of Gardner Work, Waco, Texas. See his ad. on page 10 of this issue.

YOU SHOULD KNOW

That the International & Great Northern R. R. is the direct line to Austin, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Rockport and to Moater y, the City of Mexico and other principal cities in the Republic of Mexico, via Laredo. It is also the shortest and quickest line between Houston and Galveston. Pullman Buffet Sleeping Cars run through between St. Louis and Laredo without change. For tickets, folders, maps or other information, call on any ticket agent, or write D. J. PRICE, Ass't Gen'l Pass. Agent, Palestine, Texas.

YOU WANT IT.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is pleased to announce that it has secured a first-class Hand Corn Sheller, weight fifteen pounds, price \$3; or Sheller and TEXAS FARM AND RANCH one year for \$3.25, purchaser to pay express charges from Dallas. Next to our Family Grist Mill (of which there are now over one thousand in use among our subscribers, and every one giving splendid satisfaction), we consider this the most useful premium we have ever offered. It will be sent free to any one sending us a club of six yearly subscribers at \$1 each.

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

NO TREES of 1st quality can ever be sent by mail. Mayhap you know it. By freight, prepaid if preferred, we ship safely 4, 5, or 6 ft. trees, 2 yr. Roses of rare excellence—everything! You actually pay less than for the puny stuff, 1,000 acres Nurseries, 20,000 acres Orchards. Exact information about trees and fruits. Stark Bros., Louisiana, Mo.

FREE SEED ONE CENT A PACKAGE, and up, per variety, scarcity, or cost. 10,000 extras. Cheap as dirt by oz. & lb. Send your address. R. H. Shumway, Rockford, Ill.

SHERMAN NURSERIES—18th Year.

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

800 BUSHELS

Of reliable Johnson Grass Seed, new crop, threshed, cleaned and ready for sale and shipment at reduced prices. Write for price and state quantity wanted. Address GIBNEY J. LITTLE, Wilton, Texas.

FOR

FRUITS-ROOTS-FRAUDS

OF THE

"Whole Root Process"

And Valuable Catalogue Free, address T. V. MUNSON, DENISON, TEXAS.

FOR

FRUITS-ROOTS-FRAUDS

OF THE

"Piece Root Process"

And Valuable Catalogue Free, address STELL & CLARK, PARIS, TEXAS.

The Mayes Blackberry

Originated near Pilot Point. The earliest, largest and most prolific berry yet introduced. \$3.00 per hundred, 13 for 50 cents. Those wishing to try it can have a dozen free by sending me their subscription to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH with \$1.00. A. M. RAGLAND, Sec'y Mayes Berry Co., Pilot Point, Texas.

Glen St. Mary Nurseries.
\$100.00 IN PRIZES.

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

For Sale--Nursery Grown

Paper Shell Pecan Trees 1 year old, \$15.00 per 100
Paper Shell Pecan Trees 3 years old, 25.00 "
Black Walnut Trees 1 year old, 15.00 "
Kaffir Pear Trees 3 years old, 25.00 "
Le Conte Pear Trees 1 year old, 15.00 "
Niagara Grape Roots 3 years old, 15.00 "
Niagara Grape Roots 1 year old, 10.00 "
Soft Shell Almonds, 2 years old, 15.00 "

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

SEED PLANTING.

There's a good deal of thinking to do before you buy your seeds. You know you wouldn't use Eastern radishes to Western cow ponies. But what if you planted Eastern Seeds in a Southern climate? You see the difference if you tried seeds specially adapted for the South. Our motto: SEEDS SPECIALLY SELECTED FOR THE SOUTH!

- THREE GRAND SPECIALTIES:**
1. DALLAS MARKET WATERMELON.
2. TEXAS SPECKLED BUTTER BEAN.
3. M. MOTH WHITE PLAT ONION.
Three 15c. packets, one of each of above seeds, together with our beautiful new Atlas Catalogue of seeds, Bulbs, Trees and Flowers mailed free to any address for only 25c. in advance.
TEXAS SEED & FLORAL CO., DALLAS, TEXAS.

PLANT NOW

BULBS FOR SPRING PLANTING.

Until sold out, 500 Choice Assorted Spring Blooming Bulbs for \$5. Send us the money; we pay the Express to any Point in Texas.

Send for new Catalogue of Plants, Seeds and Trees.

Drumm Seed & Floral Co.
800 Main St., Fort Worth, Tex.
MENTION THIS PAPER.

The Sower

Has no second chances. The first supplies his needs—if he takes the wise precaution of planting

Ferry's Seeds

Ferry's Seed Annual, for 1893, contains all the latest and best information about Gardens and Gardening. It is a recognized authority. Every planter should have it. Sent free on request.
D. M. FERRY & Co., Detroit, Mich.

I TELL YOU, SALZER'S SEEDS ARE BEST: LOOK AT THE YIELDS—
CORN 130 BUS PER ACRE
OATS 34 BUS PER ACRE
BEANS 100 BUS PER ACRE
BARLEY 100 BUS PER ACRE
Such glorious yields you may have by planting SALZER'S SEEDS. They never fail. They always sprout, grow and produce. 50,000 Bushels Potatoes Cheap. \$27.50 PER BUS. EARLIEST VEGETABLE NOVELTIES, sufficient for a family, Postpaid for \$1.00. 10 Farm Grain Samples 8c; with cata. 1c. 11 Grass & Clover Samples 10c; with cata. 10c. 5 Field Corn Samples 12c; with catalogue 20c. Our mammoth Seed Catalogue costs over \$20.00. It is mailed you upon receipt of 8c postage. Is a valuable work, worth ten times its cost to you.
JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO. LA CROSSE, WIS.

What Farmer Wouldn't like to have machines that would lessen his labor and cares, and reduce the cost of production? The "Planet Jr." Tools do this and do more—they produce better results and better profits. The new machines "PLANET JR." Hill Dropping and Fertilizer Drill; "PLANET JR." Combined Drill, Wheel Hoe, Cultivator, Rake and Plow are marvels of mechanical ingenuity. The "Planet Jr." book for 1893 shows you their parts and uses in detail. It's a book worth having at any price. We send it free.
S. L. ALLEN & CO., 1107 Market St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Stuart Pecan Co.,
Ocean Springs, Miss.
Circulars Free.
Endorsed by Prof. H. E. Van Deman, U. S. Pomologist.

J. W. YOUNG, 183 Elm Street, DALLAS, TEXAS,
STATE AGENT FOR RUSSELL & CO.

Builders of High Grade Automatic Engines and Boilers,
Saw Mills and Threshing Machinery.
Dealers in Farm, Mill and Gin Machinery and Supplies. Estimates and specifications furnished on application. Correspondence solicited.

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

Our Famous "Southern Clipper" Black Land Plow.

Uniform model in every size. Long Beams Straight Handles. Every Plow full size. Gives the best satisfaction of any Plows ever built for Texas trade. We manufacture a full line of all kinds of Steel, Cast and Chilled Plows. Also Disc Harrows, Lever Harrows, Stalk Cutters, Cultivators of every style, Sulky and Gang Plows of all kinds, Planters, Double Shovels, Georgia Stocks, Side Harrows, Middle Splitters, etc.
Write for Catalogues and prices. Address

Rock Island Plow Co., ROCK ISLAND, ILL. DALLAS, TEXAS.

Poultry and Bees.

The illustration on this page is a fine likeness of Young Bob, a very fine light Brahma cock, owned by Edward Craig, business manager Albion Poultry Yards, Albion, Ill. This bird reached the very high score of ninety-four points by B. N. Pierce; cut one-half point on account of broken wing feather. Young Bob has been a prize winner at fairs and shows in several States. He will be mated in 1903, with two hens, score 94 and 95. By same judge, six pullets, 94 1/2, 93 1/2, 92 1/2, 92, 92, 92, scored by I. N. Barker, December 13th, at Southern Illinois Poultry show. At the recent Southern Illinois Poultry show, the Albion Poultry Yards won a large number of valuable premiums.

TO INDUCE LAYING.

H. B. GERR.

The fear of getting the hens too fat to lay is a common error. The majority of hens in the winter season, when the grass and bugs are gone, are too poor to lay. It is inconsistent to advocate good care and feed, in the winter time, and at the same time assert that a fat hen will not lay. Another thing that makes the inconsistency more apparent, is the assertion that only a fat hen becomes broody. This in face of the fact that it is the hen that has been laying for some time that wants to set, goes to show that it is the fat hen all the way through that is profitable and desirable.

Hens lay best in the very season when they get the most to eat—the spring time—and when they are naturally the fattest. The most experienced poultrymen urge a mixed diet of vegetables, grain and meat to induce laying, which is the right sort to produce flesh and fat.

Our experience has been, that the better we feed our hens, in the winter time particularly, the more eggs we get. One thing is very sure, and that is that the hens will not lay at all in cold weather, if stinted in food, or fed irregularly.

An old gentleman of our acquaintance, who is the most liberal feeder we know of—feeding rich food often, fully as much as the hens will eat—gets more eggs during severely cold weather than any other person we know of. He laughs at the idea of getting the hens too fat, in cold weather, to lay. He is also one of the best hands with little chickens that we know of, and he feeds them like he does his hens, just all they will eat.

It is we believe, inaction, or lack of exercise, and the absence of the dusting place, that keeps the hens from laying when we think they should lay. Hens become listless, and the blood circulates slowly if deprived of exercise. For this reason we advocate the scratch pile, for we know its value full well. Nothing delights a fowl more than to scratch and pry about after grain and the like, in leaves and straw, and nothing is so apt to induce laying as such exercise.

Add to this the dusting place for the hens to dust themselves in, be the weather wet or dry, and feed liberally without fear of overfattening them, and a goodly lot of eggs, even in cold weather, is quite sure to result.

Nashville, Tenn.

LET THE WAR BEGIN.

UNCLE SNOOT.

I have been thinking for some time that it was about time something was being said about lice and mites, and sure enough, my friend R. T. Sharpe accidentally, perhaps, being loaded for small game, has given me a broadside which made "the feathers fly." The fact is he has about got me tired, and I am feeling a bit bad for having laid all this mite business on the poor little defenseless box martins when he brings up such very positive proof of their innocence, and saddles the crime on that cheery blue-bird and that prish little sparrow, and the hog pen and cow lot, etc.

About the only excuse I have for laying this terrible sin to the charge of the box martin is that he is almost a universal visitor to the houses of the masses, and that his nest is built in the boxes prepared for him at thousands of homes, and always near the house and frequently in the corner of the house or barn. And further proof of his guilt, I have known of mites being found by the thousands in his nest. And another reason is, I know him to be a very noisy and a sort of dirty rascal, anyhow. But if my friend Sharpe desires it, I will, on his return in the spring, ask his pardon, but will be excused from furnishing him house room on my premises. I am at least glad that Mr. Sharpe's investigations go to prove my theory, that mites are scattered over the country by birds. But there is another rascal that must be reported, and that is Mr. Dog. Last sum-

mer one of my neighbors who had millions of mites on his premises, owned a shepherd dog which got acquainted with my dogs, and would frequently come over and spend a few days with them. My dogs treated him kindly, and gave him as a lounging place a nice shade under some hen's nests I had made, and it was only a short time until I found these nests swarming with mites, and on examining the dog found him well stocked with them. I have had a great deal of experience with mites and lice, and if I can now be allowed to say, I will say the only safe plan to keep your poultry houses and nests clear of mites is to keep a close watch on your sitting hens and nests, and on their very first appearance immerse the hen in kerosene emulsion and burn the nests, and either scald or thoroughly wet the nest boxes and all places infested with mites with strong salt water.

I now want to say to all who have any desire to pity my ignorance and condole with my chickens, that the poor things are still lousy; and I further wish to say that if you will examine your chickens they, poor things, are lousy too. And I now want to give to Brother Carroll my most sincere thanks for that snuff remedy I have tried it, and can now give it my hearty endorsement. But just common Scotch snuff will do the work for them if properly applied. Put the snuff on the

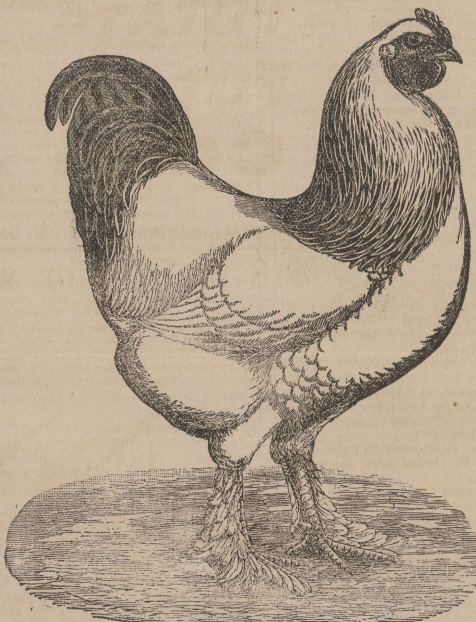
to be combated, but when winter approaches there must be a change.

There are best breeds for summer and best breeds for winter, but the superiority is due more to the adaptations of the breeds to the seasons than to their individual merits as layers. The Leghorn cannot be excelled as a layer in summer, as it delights in the range, and the Brahma excels as a winter layer, because it is more contented in confinement. There is nothing to prevent the Leghorn from equalling the Brahma during the winter, however, provided it is given summer conditions during the cold season. When fowls are compelled to expend their energies, and by directing their food simply to keep themselves warm, and in a state of existence only, they will not prove productive. To secure eggs in winter the hens should be made as comfortable as possible, which means not only warm quarters, but exercise as well. The hen will be compelled to lay if she has summer conditions in winter, and is provided with all that is required to enable her.

HEN ROOST.

D. F. CARROLL.

Your humble scribbles has told long-winded yarns about aged hens in the hopes that brother Mack, from over in the pines, would come out from under his clay roof



sitting hen and kill the lice before the chicks are hatched.

Finally, my beloved, if you are in the chicken business, "diurnal vigilance is the price of success."

Many thanks, Mr. Sharpe; I have truly enjoyed your well-timed criticism. Come again.
Dallas, Texas.

SELECTION OF EGG LAYERS.

Mirror and Farmer.

The desire to secure the best breed which lays the most eggs has led to many mistakes in selection. It is doubtful if there are as many as one dozen eggs difference between the leading breeds, in the number laid for a whole year, provided the conditions are the same for all, and it may be stated that even two flocks of the same breed will not produce the same number of eggs. This claim may also extend to the individual members of the flock, for no two hens in the same flock can be depended upon to compete with each other with the same result from both.

That certain breeds will excel others in egg production may be admitted, but the best egg producing fowls are subject to conditions. Excellence is obtained only when the breed is made to do its best. There are times when the hens, if left to their own resources, will give a larger profit than when they receive assistance from their owners, but this is due to the fact that they were under the best conditions. A farmer may feed his hens heavily, but heavy feeding does not always tend to egg production. In the summer season the conditions are more favorable than in winter, because the cost of production is lessened, and the cold is not

and swap a few with us.

We now come to the poultry brotherhood with a fine imported Phoenix game hen (we do not know her age) that has been on my yards nearly three years that has not laid an egg since her arrival. She is in perfect health and a beautiful bird. Silver Duckwing in color, and we want to know how to induce her to lay. She is the most affectionate hen to her liege-lord you ever saw, and the male will go on the nest, round it out in good shape, will get off and say, "Wife, see what a beautiful nest, now an egg, please; remember we have been shipped from lovely Japan to populate this new Eldorado, and are you going to let us die of old age and chicklessness?" All this has no effect upon her but she turns away in disgust. Is there any hope of her ever laying?

Christmas has come and gone and we are busy making up our yards for 1903. Our birds are in good shape with plenty of corn, wheat, oats and millet, and hope to be able to raise a few thousand fine birds this year.
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night. I closed my eyes and slept for hours. Once I heard Ann tip-toe to my side an' go away. I did not stir but slept agin. Agin she come to bring me a tray of lurchin. I arose and bathed my face an' et. Then I said I must write to Hen. So she left me until the six o'clock dinner hour.

Miss Goodwin, you know nice Ann was always a figger behind a tea-pot—urn they call it in the city. I thought I never saw her lookin' so well an' I know John did too. I detected almost a smile pass between them as Ann passed his cup. They felt in their bones even, that my silence meant something, for they both knowed me. John lingered a bit an' then picked up his hat.

John, sed I, I hope you will get back early if you must go out. I want to have you an' Ann grant me a favor.

"I need not go, Aunt," he said chippier like. I will be glad to stay an' grant any favor in my power." An' he put down his hat an' offered his arm to me an' led me to their parlor.

I reached my other arm to Ann an' led her along. Sed she: "What is it dear Aunt Ruth? What can we do?" Her voice had a sob in it.

I want the first song you sing to me to be my old favorite, "Will You Love Me When I'm Old," I sed. It was a full minute before either spoke. Then John sd low: "Let me open the organ, Nan—"

"We can try, John, try to please Aunt Ruth," she sed.

I didn't seem to notice any difference in their gettin' ready to sing together. I just set still an' waited. I felt that invisible souls might be present an' interested. By and by two shakey voices vibrated on the stillness—like they were affected with colds. But they grow stronger an' sweeter, full of a deepness of feelin' that show'd their two souls were achin' to be united. In the middle of a verse all words stopped short. Four eyes had met in a glance of tender love. Instantly arms were clasped about each other an' lips met that had hunger'd for kisses.

I lip-toed from the room, sort of blinded by tears. An hour later, arm in arm, they came to my room. They kissed me, then locked hands and formed a chain an' had me put my arms about their necks, while they carried me back to the parlor. "To hear us finish your favorite song," they sed.

IN EXTENSION.

MRS. H.

Who would think of that innocent-looking little quatrain of Mrs. L.'s that it contained a secret shaft to pierce the armor of the unsuspecting Poet? Who would think that underlying is the world's accorded sentiment that man is a law unto himself, it is she who is held accountable!

According to the standard of that day (and this), a man who could triumph over a simple maid and failed to do so was sadly. Tennyson, the Blameless Poet, made of that act a hero; his sin is condoned and his victim the transgressor. We get into fearful ruts, always, following the sentiment of the age. Think of such a sentence as this: "In one of our accepted authors: "And if I am not worthy of her, are men usually worthy of the girls they wed?"

Why are they not worthy? Do men sanction a code of morals for themselves? What would it avail for the mothers of today to form themselves into a "Society for Social Purity"? What does it avail for us to banish the libertine from our houses, when the gilded butterfly of fashion use all their arts (in vain) to entice him into the matrimonial net? What does he care for the frowns of a matron when the guileless girl, thinking all men good and pure, welcomes him with her smiles?

Do you, my dear Mrs. L., fail to condone the sin of David? Do you not accord to the classics their commanding place in our literature, although you would not have your daughter read even the translation of their works? Do you deny the mental supremacy of Goethe, although your heart loathes his depravity? Do you have one spark of pity for John Keats, in spite of his talent? Can you not count upon the fingers of one hand, the master intellects of the past who were not morally depraved? Have we not all lapsed in our judgment of men? If they were women we are severe enough. I acknowledge your rebuke. If there is ever an even standard for men and women, we are to demand it. Man, who was made "a little lower than the angels," man who is god-like in his nobility and purity, man who is the head of the woman, and whom she must look up to and obey, to use his divinely bestowed prerogative to her undoing! Man, who is transcendent in reasoning, unerring in judgment, impartial in his awards of punishment, to arrogate to himself unlimited indulgence! who demands all of women and yields nothing!

When the slow process of his evolution

is complete and man becomes ennobled by the mastery of his appetites and passions, the god-like race will begin.

I am glad to hear from Mrs. Jones on the C. L. S. C. I have read two years—the Roman and English—and felt that nothing could force me to relinquish that pleasure, but I had to give it up for a year. I hope to begin next year's course. How many of the sisters will join me?
Ennis, Tex.

A PLACE FOR EVERY WOMAN.

Harper's Bazar.

The woman who complains that she has no place in the world has only to open her eyes, and in most instances she will readily see what is lacking for her. The fact that she does not like that particular field is no argument against its usefulness for her. Paudence Strong, detained at home by an untoward accident when the long-wished-for European tour was about to become a reality, found opportunities by the score for useful service. If no home duties call, the sign is plain that in some broader field there is, in a happy sense of the word, a career to be sought. The cultivation of some talent may be destined to bring pleasure and profit. The student has a boundless field before him. To many a secluded one the Chautauque reading courses have proved sources of untold, almost unending delight. If the necessity of self-support exists, there is a large place for the single woman. Good nurses, teachers, artists, musicians, writers, dressmakers and workers in a dozen more lines of industry are always in demand. None but the inefficient or the unfaithful ordinarily need complain of lack of employment.

With some there is great unwillingness to accept the place for which they have special fitness. The adept in the womanly art of needle work who, despising her talent, aspires to the rewards of an artist's skill while lacking fitness for such a position, has reason to find herself without a position. Success is to be expected in the line of one's abilities, not always in the line of one's desires. Discontent because genius or great power has been denied is simply an impious fault-finding with the Creator's plan. If all women were great musicians, where were the needleworkers? If all excelled in ministering to the sick, where should we seek our works of art and tasteful decorations? Willing to be placed where one can accomplish most, always means happiness and contentment. The oft-quoted apothegm, "There is always room at the top," is worthy of the author of the Proverbs. "Place aux dames" is the watchword of the century. The single woman, better than her married sister—bequeathed ordinarily, she has greater freedom—in a position to reap the advantages of the hour. Let her exult in her heritage, and not allow a complaint to pass her lips, in this closing decade of the nineteenth century, that there is no place for her.

THE DOMINANT TALENT.

Margerie Niello in Farm and Fireside.

In connection with nearly every wedding we read that the bride is the "accomplished daughter" of so and so, until the word accomplished, thus used, has become a hackneyed phrase of the newspapers. But in its truest sense it has a very strong meaning, and to own it rightfully is an honor, a thing much to be desired.

Now, the meaning ascribed to it by Webster is specifically, "Complete in acquirements as the result usually of training." Notice it says complete—not half done nor half gained, but complete, perfect. Now to be complete, perfect in anything, requires an extra amount of effort. You know that in school the gaining of one hundred per cent in any branch meant something more than half an hour's study a day and the remainder of the time spent in pleasant social contact, in discussing the fashions or in reading the latest novel.

But I think the fault lies not so much in a lack of labor and efforts as in the fact that this labor and effort are employed in too many channels. We are so anxious to know a great deal, to become learned, cultured and able to entertain, that we assume entirely too much at the same time, overtaxing the mental and physical, thus minifying their powers, until in the end we have but a smattering of this and a smattering of that—perfect in no one thing.

I will allow there have been persons who have followed several paths at the same time with evident success, but they were persons of unusual ability, just a few in a generation. And yet, if you will study the lives of most of these men and women you will find that they shone a little brighter in one direction than in all the others; in some one thing they were most proficient. Take Sir Walter Scott for example. It was not as a poet that he won his highest honor, but as a novelist, in which field he stood without a rival. We read of Macaulay that "his career as a statesman was brilliant, but it is as a man of

letters that his name will be longest remembered." Francis Bacon is most widely influential through his brief essays.

It is best to select some one vocation, or some one study, or some one art, and then concentrate our energies and industry upon that one object until we have made it ours, and can truly call it an accomplishment.

But again, a great deal of time, strength and effort are expended upon trivialities. There are many Will Wimbles in the world; people who are always busy, but accomplish little or nothing. As in the case of this celebrated character in Addison, who spent a lifetime handling an angle-rod and hunting with a pack of hounds, so with a great many "busy" people who could raise their station in life and become of some good to themselves, to their friends, and to the world if they would apply their exertions to something of consequence.

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FARM AND STOCK.

Preaching about the unwholesomeness of pork is not a good way to boost sheep-raising. Better learn people how to grow and make sound, wholesome pork, and grow it so cheap that all can afford to eat it freely. Pork is the poor man's meat, toothsome and cheap, and when made from properly fed animals is entirely wholesome and nourishing.

A prominent shortage has developed in the hog crop, and prices have consequently gone up, until good family pork hogs have sold as high as 714 cents on foot, and 612 to 634 has recently been ruling prices for good pork hogs. The result of this will be an increased tax on southern farmers, who purchase their meat at the store, and ought to be a patent stimulus to the hog branch of Texas farming, and should also add numbers and interest to the Swine Breeders' Meeting, to be held at Waxahachie, February 28th.

It is a poor sheep whose wool will not pay for its keep. This gives the mutton free—the cheapest meat in the world. The sheep is a "double header," hits the market going and coming. The Irishman went still further, and declared that as the mutton pays for the wool and the wool pays for the mutton, that neither costs the producer anything. We do not endorse this—tried it for a number of years and it did not work that way. It is certain, however, that with judicious management and the right breed of sheep, either the wool or the mutton may be made clear profit.

The Michigan Lincoln Sheep Breeders' Association met at Lansing, Mich., on December 21st, 1892. We learn from the Secretary, Mr. H. A. Daniels, that the meeting was the most enthusiastic ever held, nearly doubling the membership, and adding eight new members from Canada. The following officers were elected: J. J. England, president; J. T. Gibson, vice-president; H. A. Daniels, secretary and treasurer; Directors, J. H. Patrick, H. E. Hudson, W. S. Allen, F. N. Ely, Bert Smith; Pedigree Committee, O. D. Hitchcock, Wm. Shuler, Wm. Walker. The Secretary writes us that the future of the breed is very bright, as they have weight of fleece and the best mutton carcasses in the world.

We would suggest to the Agricultural Experiment Station of North Texas. We ask pardon—there is no such station. We mean that if there were such a station, we would suggest that some experiments be made to decide the best quantity of seed per acre to use of wheat, oats, rye and barley. Also a test of the effect of early and deep plowing upon the yield, especially of wheat. We read of some unofficial tests made somewhere in the West, which showed on small areas a fifty-fold yield where less than one bushel per acre was sown. The farmers of North Texas want to know how to bring up the yield to what it used to be, and most of them are too busy to be monkeying with experiments. Besides, individual experiments no matter how valuable, do not come with convincing power to those who may not know the experimenter. Give us an A. & M. college and experiment station in the black lands. The farmers need it; thousands of dollars are practically lost for want of knowledge of how to make them. Texas ought to equal California or Oregon in the yield of wheat. It is only accidental when forty or fifty bushels per acre are made by people who do not know how.

GOOD PASTURAGE.

N. J. SHEPHERD.

One item in the growing of hogs economically, either in the spring or summer, is the providing of good pasturage. When it can be secured readily, there is nothing better for the hog pasture than red or crimson clover. With a good clover pasture and a light ration of grain, a rapid growth may be secured at comparatively a low cost. On many farms, one of the best plans of management is to seed down the orchard to clover, and use it for a hog pasture.

The clover and the hogs-droppings will be a benefit to the tree, while the clover and fallen fruit will be a benefit to the hogs. It is not desirable, however, to seed the orchard to clover, until it is well established. Rye, if sown in the fall, and allowed to make a good start to grow before severe cold weather sets in, makes a good early spring pasture, and in nearly all cases, can be used earlier than almost anything else.

A good way of providing pasturage, is to seed a piece of ground to oats and clover. Prepare the soil as early as it can be worked into a proper tilth, and then sow

the oats first and harrow in, and then sow the clover and cover with a light harrow or brush. A bushel of oats to the acre is sufficient when clover is to be sown with it, in connection with it, and it is to be used for a hog pasture. Let both be well started to growing before the hogs are turned in.

With a little care, in this way, a good pasture for the hogs can be secured at comparatively a small cost. Almost any kind of grass makes a good pasture for hogs during the growing season, and will be better than to confine closely, but clover furnishes the elements needed for animal growth much more fully than any kind of grass, and where it is desired to make the most out of the hogs, it will pay to arrange a good clover pasture for them. While a very fair growth can be readily secured on good clover pasturage alone, in nearly all cases it will pay to give a light ration, either of grain or slops, night and morning.

A light feed of middlings made into a slop with sweet skim milk, will add materially in securing a rapid growth at a comparatively low cost. It will nearly always be best to give a light ration night and morning, rather than a heavy feed once a day. When this cannot be secured readily, oats and barley ground together, or oats and corn meal, or ground oats and wheat bran will make a good ration. In nearly all cases it will pay to use every advantage to push the growth. A quick growth and an early maturity, is one of the important items in realizing the largest profits with hogs, and good clover pasturage and a light feed of good, sweet slops is one of the cheapest and best ways of securing this through the growing season. But like a majority of other things on the farm, if the best results are secured, it will be necessary to make more or less preparations ahead.

Eldon, Mo.

GRASSES FOR OKLAHOMA.

J. M. RICE.

While the native grasses last for pasturage and hay in Oklahoma, there will not be much interest taken in the tame grasses. But the time is coming when tame grasses will be one of the great questions here, as elsewhere.

In portions of Oklahoma where the mesquite and gramma grasses predominate, we will need at once a grass for hay, though with these grasses we have much other pasturage.

In Iowa we passed through the interlam of changing from blue stem and other prairie grasses to timothy, red top blue grass and medium and white clover. We know that the majority of farmers were not prepared for it. Many thought it would never be a grass country. Now blue grass fills every uncultivated corner, and red top is where it is not wanted, for except on very wet land, it is not profitable there, timothy occupies with the clovers, at least one-half the cultivated area. Now, we are in a mesquite section, and we want to have as soon as possible, some of the tame grasses for hay and possibly pasturage. For the present, we shall have the millets and the forage crops, as Kaffir and Jerusalem corn, Milo maize and the Saccharine sorghums each and all in their different varieties.

With the subsoil that we have, we are doubtful of alfalfa, though it may be just the thing for the sandier portions.

Now, will not TEXAS FARM AND RANCH readers in somewhat similar locations as Oklahoma, give us their experience with alfalfa, Johnson grass, Texas blue grass, Crimson clover and all kinds of grasses, likely to succeed here. Give all the characteristics of the grass, requirements of soil and climate, with time and manner of seeding, amount of seed, in fact everything that a novice would need to know.

Winview, Oklahoma.

WORTH MORE THAN ONE KIND OF RED CLAY.

JEFF WELBORN.

Mr. B. F. Carroll, after thanks for your complimentary notice of my queries and Dr. W. W. Stiel's answers, I will say, that if I mistake not your red or brown clay subsoil is of very different composition from our East Texas and old Southern States black jack and black hickory red clay. We have the brownish-red clay here on red river bottom. All of our black prairie lands are underlaid with it. Whether sand or waxy surface, it will crack open and crumble just as the black waxy lime soil will. But our potash red clay hills (not yellow clay) subsoils when exposed to the sun do not crack like your red clay. I have traveled all over the South, and I have yet to find either the red root or its younger brother, black rust on red clay or black jack and hickory land. On the yellow poplar lands of the old states we find this rust (which affects cotton the same as root rot in Texas, except the rust is a little later and less sud-

den) very bad, while near by on the black jack barrens no sign of it is ever seen. These yellow poplar lands have a spongy yellow clay in which water lags badly, while the black jack barrens have a light red clay. These yellow poplar lands are the finest of grain and grass lands when not too sandy, but are not so good as the black jack lands for any shade plants, such as cotton, tobacco, sweet potatoes, clover, and fruit trees of every kind. And I have found this rust on sandy pine lands. It has been often noticed where brush heaps, chunk piles, etc., have been burned, that for some feet around the cotton was free from the disease. Now these yellow poplar and pine lands will respond quickly from application of black jack or hickory ashes, while the sashes show no perceptible difference in the crop on these black jack red clay lands. Again, the ashes of the pine or poplar were discarded by our old time soap makers as worthless, while black jack and hickory ashes were carefully looked after. I am certain you, Mr. Carroll, are right about the stagnant water in the subsoil being the trouble, but the potash will correct the fermentation, even with the stagnant water there.

To "Old Cotton Planter". Sumac and dogwood belong to the non-potash plants, and go with the yellow poplar and pine.

New Boston, Texas.

HORSE DEPARTMENT.

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

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

Stambool, at \$41,000, is without doubt a grand investment.

An offer of \$50,000 was recently refused for Willon, 2:19 1/4.

All-bred stock with good individuality is always in demand at remunerative prices.

The Morgan, Ben Franklin, has put eleven new performers into the 2:30 list during the season just closed.

Wm. B. Fastig recently bought the little gelding, Peck's-Bad-Boy, 2:31, for a road horse. Is not this the Texas-bred horse Dick Shalme?

Heavy-draught roadsters, with good style and speed, and fancy saddle horses will all pay well, but try to avoid producing the common article.

That the dam should possess in a high degree the qualities desired in the produce is now considered the "proper thing" by the most successful breeders.

Now that electricity is so generally used as a motive power, the demand for "street car" mules and horses has almost ceased to exist, and this class of stock will not pay for the trouble of raising.

The time was when any horse with plenty of size, even if blemished or un-sound would bring a good price; but now in addition to size they must be well formed and sound to be in good demand.

The man who owns a good horse and likes him well enough to take good care of him, and enjoys a ride behind him daily, thereby lengthens his lease of life, and it is by no means a very bad medicine to take, either.

If Jay Gould, like Bonner, Work, Knapp and many other rich men, had enjoyed a brush on the road after a fine horse, he might still be alive to "bull and bear" stocks instead of being in his grave.

Now that the racing season is over it will be in order to race some around the state, where it is possible some phenomenally fast records may be made—in fact, the "tin-cup" performances can easily be distanced.

While there is great diversity of opinion as to whether the sire or dam exerts the greater influence on the physical and mental characteristics of the offspring, it is always better to have both sides as good as it is possible to get them to secure the best results.

The seventy-four animals composing the H. Bartlett consignment to the Kellogg sale in New York, brought an average of nearly \$9000. The twenty-eight head from Bowerman Bros' farm, brought an average of \$1350 per head, from which it may be seen that the business pays if the right kind of stock is raised.

Hon. J. W. Bailey of the Fifth Texas District recently purchased from Col. Pepper & Sons, Frankfort, Ky., Token, 2:30 3/4, Charter, 2:34, and Prelude, 2:33, all by Oward, 2:25; from James E. Clay, Paris, Ky., Mahala, 2:19 1/4, own sister to

Gillette, 2:11 1/4. This is the kind of buying the suits us. Mares, more mares, is what we need. Congressman Bailey is certainly on the right track.

If each neighborhood would make it a point to breed and raise the same kind of stock it would add greatly to the facilities for marketing by bringing buyers to the farms, or in readily getting the stock together in sufficiently large lots to get the best rates in shipping to those places where there is always to be found a good demand.

THE ARMY MULE.

The old soldier who passed a couple of years in close proximity to the wagon trains of the army will appreciate the following description of the army mule, whose long ears, beautiful voice and light heels furnished many a joke for the boys. It was read at the late G. A. R. encampment at Washington:

I sing of the mule, of the army mule, The butt of all jokes, and yet nobody's fool; A four-footed Solon, who know his own mind, And wisely kept part of his foresight behind. A general guarding his forces from fear By keeping a battery close in his rear; A strategist keeping his plans under cover By marching one way and fighting the other; A tactician of whom we will agree, That he taught the whole world—including Har-dee—

The science of meeting the battle's fierce brunt By swinging his rear quickly around to the front.

A musician of note who never was paid, Though he led every charge of the Hard Tack brigade.

A song-bird wearing his wings on his head, A player of bones, when you thought he was dead; The only recruit wearing Uncle Sam's brand Who never hears drum-sticks and his head a brass band.

TO JACK, JENNET AND MULE BREEDERS OF THE WORLD.

J. L. JONES.

The committee appointed by the board of directors of the Jack and Jennet Breeders' association to confer with the management of the Columbian Exposition for the purpose of securing proper recognition of their industry at the World's Fair have discharged that duty. It is with pleasure and pride we state the appreciation and liberality of the management toward this branch of the live stock industry of our country. No other class of stock is given better or more valuable prizes, when you consider the mule as a part of this enterprise. To Jacks and jennets are given fifty-four first, second, third and fourth prizes, aggregating \$3920, two diplomas and three grand sweepstakes medals.

Mules are given thirty-six first, second, third and fourth prizes, amounting to \$2190, making a grand total of \$5410, besides diplomas and medals.

The committee feel they voice the sentiment of those interested in this industry in extending to the management our hearty appreciation of their liberality and of the opportunity thus given of making the grandest display the world ever saw, not only of Jacks and jennets, but also of mules, the "ne plus ultra" of all labor animals.

Breeders, will you avail yourselves of this opportunity? Don't longer wait for the mountain to come to you, but Mount like, go to it. Go and show the world the animal that can do more work on less feed and attention, and that "never dies with disease and seldom with old age." Commence preparation at once and don't let up until the victory is won. Intending exhibitors wishing further information and premium lists, apply to the courteous gentleman W. L. Buchanan, chief of the department of agriculture, Chicago, Ill. Respectfully submitted, J. L. Jones, Columbia, Tenn.; W. A. Converse, Springfield, Ill.; Chas. E. Leonard, B. I. Alr Mo., committee.

Dear Sir—Thinking it would be of interest to your readers, and furnish them information that is desirable, I send you the report of the committee appointed by the Jack and Jennet Breeders' association of the United States to have the mule and jack and jennet properly recognized at the World's Fair. When we started the jack and jennet only had \$1400 and the mule was not mentioned; now you will see that the jack and jennet have \$3920 and the mule is recognized and has \$2190. Please ask all papers favoring stock raising to copy same.

THE FINE CARRIAGE HORSE.

Turf, Field and Farm.

The great trouble with a Yankee is that when a business bids very promising all rush in and overdo it. The big prices some of the great trotters have brought caused many to think they could make great fortunes in raising them, and it caused too many to go into the business. They went in with a rush, and they are going out so. Too many have bred for speed alone, regardless of size, beauty, style, soundness or good road driving qualities. The result is that many of the

FARM MACHINERY

When it comes to hay loaders the Rock Island Plow Company has a dead clinch on them.

The seeds of discontent are sown more largely than any other, yet no planter has a special feed for sowing them.

The deferred payment is the cause of more defects in machinery and implements than all other causes combined.

Haying tools are becoming known to the consumer and dealer in Texas, and the farm stock accept the small favor thankfully.

The Food Cotton Harvester Company of Chicago, a Chicago paper reports, has certified to a decrease of capital stock from \$5,000,000 to \$2,000,000.

Nautical machinery and ship supplies will soon establish headquarters at Dallas. Then Galveston will become a coaling station only for outgoing vessels.

Harvesters and mowers are being received by agents in such numbers as would indicate that they have an amazing amount of faith in the future outcome of our immense grain crop.

A boat is in the Trinity at Dallas, ready to receive the machinery and other apparatus prior to making a trip down toward the Bay, taking out as she goes snags and other impediments to successful navigation.

If you are going to buy grain sowing machinery now is the time to begin investigations. Don't wait until you are ready to go to work and then rush to town and buy the first machine offered you, regardless of make, price or guarantee.

R. S. Munger, of Birmingham, Ala., the original inventor of the present improved automatic system of handling cotton from the wagon to the bale, has been spending several days in Dallas, looking after his Texas matters. Everybody in Texas is proud of Bob Munger, whose inventions have aided largely in the State's progress and prosperity.

The Van Winkle Gin and Machinery Co., Dallas, as a starter for the New Year, have already in hand several orders for complete ginning outfits. A good evidence of the popularity of the goods made by this well-known firm, and a brace to the established fact that Dallas manufacturers are turning out the best cotton machinery on earth.

A. J. Williams, Floyd, Texas, has invented, and is making at Dallas, a combination steam and hydraulic cotton press, for which many and superior advantages are claimed, requiring only one-third the steam now used by other steam presses, giving equal or greater power, with three times the piston speed, as it only carries steam one-fourth the distance of cotton follower piston. Capacity is limited only by ability of operators to handle the cotton.

Billy Robinson, manager Parlin & Orendorff Co's Dallas house, is a natural born farmer, and while he has made a splendid implement man, the disposition to raise—chickens, or something else, will crop out occasionally. For a season or two he tried Indian Games and incubators, but after organizing his cotton picker company, white, the emblem of purity and innocence, got mixed up with the sand in his craw, and now he is on the nest with a lot of White Minorcas. Our Bad Man wishes him success, and has requested Billy to advise Uncle Snort when he has a "hen on," so that authority on onions and chicken lice can tell him what to do in order to get a full hatch and then preserve them from lice in case the bee martin's visit his henery before the spring chickens get ripe.

Say boys, please remember that it is now Capt. Keating. Without accurate knowledge or malice aforethought, our Bad Man addressed C. A. Keating, the great Texas machinery mogul, as plain Mr. Keating the other day, and the look he gave our B. M. actually singed his hair. Of course our Bad Man knew Keating was president of the Trinity River Direct Navigation and Sub-marine Improvement Co., but didn't know that said company had built and launched a real steamboat upon the turbid waters of said forest-bound river. He knows it now, however, and is aware that the man to boss the man at the wheel and compass, and cuss the roughest and reduce freight rates, as the boat travels up and down between the Gulf of Mexico and the North Texas metropolis, is Capt. Keating. Keating is discussing with Maj. Tomkins, Commodore Murphy and other marine authorities the question of wearing a Hudson river steamer officer's

uniform, or donning the old-fashioned Buffalo Bayou captain's suit which consisted of a hickory shirt and jeans pants stuffed in raw hide boots trimmed with oaths that thickened the atmosphere and mystified passengers. Boys, remember it's now Captain Keating, and bear in mind the fact that if you forget the title you get no pass but must measure the Trinity's banks, or pay your fare when you travel on the steamer soon to make regular trips, carrying freight and passengers between Dallas and Galveston, or dumping 'em at intermediate stations in case they don't wish to make the entire distance.

ADVERTISEMENTS APPEARING IN THIS PAPER.

We do not insert knowingly advertisements from any except reliable firms, and if our readers deal with any of them and learn them to be otherwise we should like to have them inform us. It will be to your interest, as well as that of this paper, to always mention TEXAS FARM AND RANCH when answering advertisements.

WILSON'S WAGES.

Cincinnati Enquirer of Jan. 1st, 1893. Willie Wilson, a 15-year-old boy, through his best friend, instituted a suit in attachment in Squire Wilson's court yesterday against the Lone Star Cotton Picking Machine Company for \$3 for work and labor. Constable J. S. Anthony attached a machine belonging to the defendant.

INDISPENSABLE.

The subject of spraying fruit trees and small fruit has been so thoroughly discussed and written up in all its details and different phases in fruit growing periodicals and agricultural journals, coupled with the fact that every fruit growing State has its own Experiment Station, Agricultural Society or college from which documents or bulletins are issued free to



its residents on application, giving the results of experiments, different formulas for all kinds of insects and trees in the most approved and scientific manner, containing complete information, describing the different insects, the formula to use and how and when to apply it, thus establishing the fact that spraying does pay, and is necessary to insure crops.

F. E. Meyer & Bro., Ashland, Ohio, are extensive manufacturers of spraying apparatus, and their machines have received the highest encomiums from those who have used them. The accompanying cut, No. 1, is an illustration of F. E. Meyer &



Bros. Brass Bucket Spray Pump, which is a cheap and exceedingly convenient apparatus, but at the same time efficient and durable. Cut No. 2 shows their barrel spray pump, showing the pipe agitator which accompanies all their larger spraying outfits. Successful horticulture is now im-

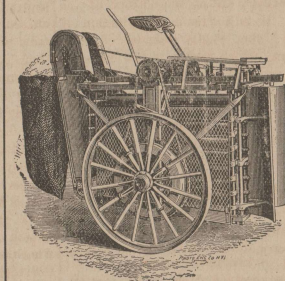
possible without spraying. This Company manufacture all sorts of spraying pumps and attachments.

TO THE PLANTERS.

The Walls-Ipsenard Cotton Picker and Machinery Company has been making tests and demonstrations of the capacity of its mechanical picking machine at various places during the past season, and in making these tests, many alterations in some of the detailed workings of the machine have been from time to time suggested, which have brought the machine to its present state of perfection.

Owing to the fact that the early crop was some three or four weeks late in maturing, and the late or top crop was practically undeveloped, and too, since the alterations above mentioned have all taken time, the Company has been unable to make public tests and demonstrations in many places where it had been designed to exhibit. The success of the tests made, however, has been very encouraging, and has demonstrated the fact that the Company has a machine, which, in its practical workings, is satisfactory to the planters who have seen it work.

The Company have been experimenting five years on this machine and it has not sought to obtain certificates or newspaper articles proclaiming the success of the ma-



chine. The objective point of the Company has been to build a perfect machine, ready for practical use, and the Company has at all times believed that the best, the truest, the most convincing evidence of the satisfactory working of the machine would be found in the willingness of the planter to enter into a contract for the use of the machine in harvesting the crop of 1893.

Many planters, some of whom have seen the machine at work in the field, and others who have seen the result of its work, have made application for the use of its machines in picking their next crop.

These gentlemen alone will require the services of many machines. The company is now ready to contract with the planters for the picking of next year's crop and send this notice thus early.

First. So that arrangements can be made relative to other forms of labor which, when the machine is used, can be dispensed with in picking.

Second. Since it will be possible for the company to build only a limited num-

ber of machines at best, in the time intervening between now and the season for picking the next crop, the company is desirous of knowing, as early as possible, just how many machines will be required.

If the requests for machines come in return to this notice, in anything like the proportion that it they have come in before the company was ready to take contracts and without its solicitation, the company fears that owing to the short time spoken of above, it will be unable to build a sufficient number of machines the first year to meet the demands. Orders will, of course, be met in the order of the date of their receipt by the company. The work of the machine is far superior, both in quantity and quality, to that of any other mechanical cotton picking machine, and is practically equal to the average hand picking. The machine will gather about ninety per cent of the cotton open on the stalk without injury to the stalk or unopened bolls. It is difficult to estimate just how much work per day can be accomplished by each machine. The planter himself is the best judge of that.

The machine weighs about nine hundred pounds, and will gather the open cotton as rapidly as a team of mules can draw it over the rows. The estimate as to this have varied between five and seven acres per day, but the company is assured that each machine will do the work of at least twenty hands.

The machine straddles the row of cotton and gathers from each side. In its operation the machine requires two mules and a driver. It is so simple, so thoroughly automatic, that it requires no expert to operate it. The most ignorant laborer on the place can operate it, provided he can drive a team of mules.

For the purpose of suitting the ideas of each individual planter, the company has arranged a variety of forms of contract upon which the services of the machine may be engaged. Under each form of contract the company will supply the planter with as many machines as he may contract for. Each machine will be fully equipped, ready for work.

The planter will be expected to supply, at his own expense, mules and a driver and a boy to change bags. One boy can handle the bags from several machines working together.

In order that the company may be equipped to give the best service intelligently, it requests that each planter, when he makes application for machines, accompany the application with a memorandum showing, first, the location of his plantation and the location of the nearest railroad station.

Second, the number of acres upon which he desires to employ the services of the machine and the character of the cotton grown, stating generally the average height and yield per acre expected from the land.

Full particulars as to contracts and all other matters relative to the machine will be given on application to either of the company's offices, No. 31 Carondelet street, New Orleans, La., or 50 and 52 Exchange Place, New York City.

The machine is now on exhibition at Browder's plantation, near the fair grounds at Dallas, where daily exhibitions will be given so long as the weather permits and there is cotton to pick.

HUNTER & BOOSO,

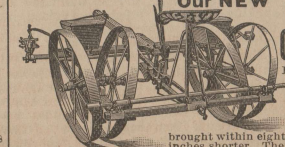
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GINNING

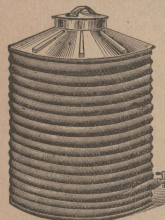
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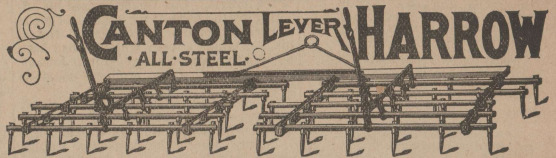
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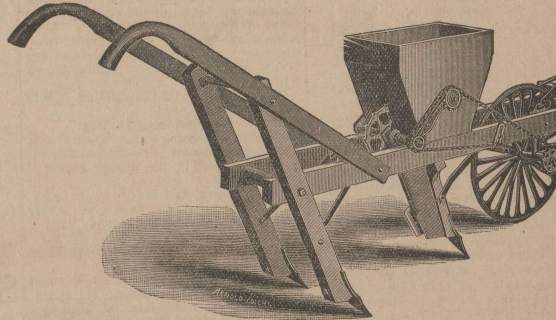
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A SINGULAR FACT!

A horse may be named Goldsmith Maid, and not be able to make better time than a mile in ten
minutes.
So implements that **DEPEND ON THE NAME** to sell them, may be likened unto a slow
mare with a fast name. Names are often misleading.



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