TEXAS FARM AND RANCH

Vol. XII.--No. 39. DALLAS, TEXAS, SEPTEMBER 30, 1893. WEEKLY $1.00 a YEAR. 5c. a COPY.



PERCHERON STALLION VALSEUR 18172 (29775)—Bred by Ernest Perriot; Imported and Owned by J. P. McWilliams, Renfrew Lodge Stock Farm, Dwight, Ill.

A LESSON OF THE CHEROKEE STRIP.

Farm, Field and Fireside.

Another disgraceful scramble for public land occurred last Saturday on the opening of the Cherokee Strip. A mad rush began on the signal being given and thousands of men, women and children on foot and on horseback, in wagons and on trains raced frantically for the best spots, and were lucky if they got any. Might made right, and the weak were at a hopeless disadvantage. Probably this will be the last of the land races. Not because the land is absolutely exhausted, for there are still government lands here and there, such as some parts of the Sioux reservation, but they are in small tracts for the most part and are not so desirable. The better land will probably be offered for sale at higher prices in many instances.

The Cherokee incident is a disgrace to a civilized nation, and a premium on violence and brute force. If this is what the overcrowding of our country has brought us to it is time that immigration ceased. Now that the greater part of the West is no longer government land, and cannot be held out as an inducement to settlers we hope that our legislators will take proper action to stop the incoming tide of poverty and ignorance. There are enough unemployed in the great cities to-day to take up every foot of Uncle Sam's vacant land. It is time to shut the gates.

A riot occurred among the laborers of Lemon Bros' circus, while on a moving train, near Waco. The circus men interfeared and threw six of them off while going twenty miles per hour. The victims were badly hurt and one has not been found. Wholesale arrests followed the arrival of the train at Waco.

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH

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BY
Texas Farm and Ranch Publishing Co.

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Address all communications to
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343 Main Street, Dallas, Texas.

Entered at the Postoffice, Dallas, Texas, as Second Class mail matter.

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THE Corpus Christi Caller states that the bonus required to complete the deep water works at Aransas Pass is nearly all raised.

THE yield of juvenile burglars this year is above the average. The policemen of Dallas and Fort Worth are engaged in harvesting the crop.

COL. W. L. MALONE, for a long time editor and general manager of the Fort Worth Gazette, and one of that city's best and most enterprising citizens, died on Sunday last.

WHEN senatorial courtesy is invoked to obstruct needed legislation, it is time to consider whether it would not be well to send less dignity and more common sense to represent the states.

H. GUTHRIE and O. Roberts, near Whitewright, Grayson, county, are said to have picked an average of 500 pounds of cotton each every day for six days, each picking over 600 one day.

WE have received from the Japanese Tree Importing Company, San Francisco, Cal., some unique Japanese circulars, and samples of Japanese paper, paper bags, etc, which are highly prized.

THE most reliable estimates obtainable of the value of the four principal farm products of the country are as follows: Hay, $1,000,000,000; corn, $750,000,000; wheat, $300,000 000; cotton, $245,000,000.

A STABLE ratio between gold and silver cannot be established because they fluctuate with supply and demand. Lager by the glass and peanuts by the sack are the only commodities that always stand at par with each other and with the nickel-flavored five-cent mint drop.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Corpus Christi Caller says that the country about Rockport owes much of its present progress and importance to Mr. C. Falkner, of Waco, and Mr. E. W. Kirkpatrick, of McKinney, who two years ago took a carload of fruit trees down there and planted them, in the face of the popular opinion that nothing of the sort would grow there. It is a good thing for any people to have such men as Falkner and Kirkpatrick come among them; and to have them locate business there is a guarantee that God has not forsaken that land. Where they go the fields blossom and the people are in luck.

THERE are a number of Texas politicians who are in the condition of Abe Mulkey's Gospel wagon. They have been broken down and wrecked so often, losing a piece here and another there, that there is nothing left but the tongue, and it is trying to do the work of the whole wagon.

ENTERPRISING highwaymen complain of dull business in their line. Several farmers have recently been held up on the way home after hauling their cotton to town, when it was found that after all they had not sold and consequently had no money. One farmer near Dallas instead of handing over his money as requested, actually fired on the highwayman with a revolver and might have hurt him if he had not hastened away.

SWINE breeders may come to the Dallas Fair with confidence that they will not be neglected in the matter of premiums. On Farm Machinery page two valuable premiums are announced, and more are to come. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, with the implement dealers of Dallas, and others, will see to it that the premiums will warrant every swine breeder in Texas who has hogs fit to show, in bringing their stock to the Fair.

A GOOD way to make a great sum of money with a small capital would be to buy up statesmen at their intrinsic value. The market is full, and two bits ought to buy a dozen of them. Then sell them at their own valuation. This will beat Bad Man's ostrich, or Hancock's hen farm. The only trouble about this transaction would be finding a market for the goods, in which case they might be swapped for five hundred dollar dogs, and the dogs killed.

THE Corpus Christi Caller urges the people of Nueces, San Patricio, and Aransas counties to raise the money needed to send Professor Atwater, of Rockport, with his splendid collection of Southwest coast products to the Texas State Fair. We take occasion just here to say that if the people of that section do not send up this exhibit, they will miss the best chance within their reach to advertise their advantages. By all means send the collection, and send Professor Atwater with it.

IT is now certain that the cotton crop for 1893 will be the shortest for several years. Drouth has been the principal factor in producing this result. The crop in Texas will be unusually short, except in a few circumscribed localities. There will be no top crop, the rains of the present week coming too late to do the crop any good. In the face of these facts we see no good reason why middling cotton should not go to ten cents within a few weeks. There is no telling how far Wall Street will go in its attempt to force the U. S. Senate to lay aside its dignity long enough to act upon the repeal bill. The manipulators of gold may precipitate another financial stampede, and this so complicates the situation that none but the reckless will venture a prediction as to the future of cotton or cash.

ON October 24th there will be an important convention of stockmen at Dallas. The Texas State Live Stock Sanitary Commission will hold on that occasion an important session. Members of the Live-stock Sanitary Boards of Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and Missouri are also expected to attend. Presidents Bush and Rogers, of the two great stockmen's organizations of Texas, have issued calls to their subordinates to attend, and the Secretary of Agriculture, Hon. J. Sterling Morton, has also been invited, and by all means ought to be there. The chief business of the meeting will be a discussion with a view to re-adjustment of the existing quarantine line against Texas cattle fever. Other matters of importance to stockmen will be discussed, and altogether the meeting is to be one of magnitude and importance, and a large and representative attendance is expected.

PETTING THE FARMER.

The average value per acre of our four great staple crops for the four years ending with 1870 was: corn, $12.84; wheat, $13 16; oats, $10 92; cotton $28.01. How does this compare with present averages? Here are the figures: Corn, $8 35, wheat, $6.00; oats, $5.75; cotton, $10.65, Here is a difference of more than 100 per cent, in favor of the days when money was plenty, and those of us who were parties participant remember with yearning how every business flourished. While taxing the whole people to protect manufacturers, the government has neglected the very industry upon which all stable prosperity is founded. But, says the politician, have we not established a Department of Agriculture, with many bureaus, and made the head of it a member of the President's Cabinet, and have we not established quarantine lines, distributed super-annuated seeds, and levied duty of five per cent on imported eggs? And have we not done many other wonderful works in the name and for the sake of agriculture? We admit that the Goverment has done all these things, thus pulling the 15-cent wool over the farmers' eyes, while robbing him of half the value of his crops, by contracting the currency, restraining trade and taxing everything the farmer consumes except the oxygen he obtains from the atmosphere by the act of breathing, and the diamonds he wears in his hickory shirt front.

HAVE YOU VOTED?

Some inquiries from correspondents indicate that there are some who do not fully understand that portion of our offer to the "Best County" which relates to the number of votes each individual may cast.

We supposed that the language used was very clear and explicit, but for the information of such as are in doubt, we again state that, any reader, whether a subscriber to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH or not, is at perfect liberty to cast as many votes as he or she likes—10,000 if they want to—and there is no charge whatever for the voting.

We require that the vote be cast upon the blank form printed in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH or on those furnished from this office, duplicates of the ones printed in this paper. These extra slips we supply to anyone asking for them in any quantities they may want, only charging a nominal sum to reimburse us for the printing and mailing. This is for the convenience of those who do not wish to mutilate their copies of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, as many keep files of the paper and do not destroy them after they are read, and it is cheaper and more convenient than if they bought extra copies of the paper—the usual plan in voting contests—at 5 cents each. We have arranged to have this cost the counties as little as possible. Any of our friends who visit our office will be furnished a voting sheet free.

Counties wishing a large number of tickets at one time can arrange to have them sent for considerably less, as the relative cost to us is less than for mailing a small number.

Up to this date we have received votes from the following counties:

IN ARKANSAS.

Green County.

IN TEXAS.

Bell, Collin, Denton, Dallas, Fannin, Grimes, Red River, Rockwall, Victoria, Waller, Williamson, Walker, Wichita, Wilbarger.

Prizes to voters have been sent to the following:

John H. Leavel, Williamson county, Texas, 1 Ropp's Calculator; H. A. Butler, Dallas county, Texas, 1 American Cook Book; O. T. Tyler, Bell County, Texas, 1 Handy Dictionary; Tillott Wood, Waller county, Texas, 1 Lives of Our Presidents.

PRIZE TO THE FIFTH SUBSCRIBER.

John K. Boring, Belmont, Texas, History of the United States.

This is only a beginning. When the votes and subscriptions begin to come in lively, as we think they will soon, some very valuable and expensive presents can and will be given to voters and subscribers without a cent of cost to them, and they should see that votes and subscribtions come in rapidly. The more there are the larger and more valuable will be the presents we will give our readers. These are to be given every day while this contest continues, if ten or more votes are cast. The person whose order is the tenth opened each day, whether it be for one or one thousand packages of votes, will receive the present, whatever it may be, and its value will depend entirely upon the amount of money received that day. All the money received from this source will be returned to the voters, and possibly much more in value than the total amount received would buy of the articles sent out if they were purchased in the ordinary way. Buying directly from the manufacturers at the lowest wholesale figures, not for the profit we may make, but for the benefit of our readers, we are enabled to do this. The only object we have in this is to attract immigration to this section, and thereby make the demand for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH that much larger.

To further aid in this plan we have arranged to give a certain proportion of each days' receipts from our subscriptions back to the subscribers themselves, each day giving the fifth order received for a new subscription, a present, often many times more costly than the subscription itself. For instance, the History of the United States sent to Mr. Boring is a handsome cloth bound book and would sell for $1.50 in the stores, so that he got back one and one-half times what he paid for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, besides getting the best farm and family journal one year. By this plan a new subscriber not only gets his paper a year, whatever premium he may be entitled to in our numerous offers, but has the opportunity to get a valuable present as well, and still has his opportunity as a voter.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Will you have the kindness to give name and characteristics of the enclosed sample of grass? Please state whether it is an annual or perennial, and what of its value as a grazing and hay grass. Also how is it seeded and what kind of soil is best suited to its growth.—E. A. JOHNSON, Houston, Texas.

The enclosed specimen is certainly sorghum halapenese. This is a grand grass in some sections, where it is wholly relied on for hay. I noticed not long ago that it commands in some places in Texas as much as $15 per ton. I have seen men at the State Fair with herds that swept all, or nearly all the premiums, with cattle that had been raised and fed almost entirely on this grass. It is a perennial, and stands drouth remarkably well. It is not a good pasture grass as it gets tramped out too easily. It is seeded by sowing in the summer or fall, and after that it will take the land and make fine meadow, by plowing it once a year. It will do well on most any kind of soil, but of course the richer the better. The agricultural reports say it is considered in some sections as a great blessing, in others as the greatest curse that the good Lord ever put on man, for it is the much abused "Johnson grass."—GEO. H. HOGAN, Ennis, Texas.

I have some Pekin ducks that lose the use of their legs. They cannot walk at all. They are healthy, seemingly, eat plenty, and have plenty of fresh water to bathe in.—J. H. JOHNSON, Wichita Falls, Texas.

ANS.—Paralysis in the legs of ducks, is quite a common complaint, and very little is known of its cause or cure. The only treatment we can suggest with any confidence whatever is to change as far as possible the range and feed, and keep them away from water except from drinking. The disease sometimes disappears, but is seldom cured.


"A" Grade, $67.50. "A" Grade, $45.


"A" Grade, $130.

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Is Positively the Only Line that Runs
SOLID TRAINS, TEXAS to CHICAGO, WITHOUT CHANGE.

Many Texans are not aware of the fact that

THE MK AND T
MISSOURI, KANSAS & TEXAS RAILWAY.

Was the first railroad to cross the border of Texas (from any direction) and push into the interior and on to deep water on the Mexican Gulf; but such was the case, and it is a fact that the KATY is the first to get out of the old ruts and improve its facilities for handling passengers and freight As the early settlers moved from old log cabins to the more comfortable modernized houses, so has the KATY advanced and moved her passengers from Pullman into

WAGNER PALACE SLEEPING CARS,
The Finest Sleeping Car Service in the World.

The KATY Reaches
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and affords comforts and conveniences to its patrons unequaled by any other Southwestern Line.

Any person wishing to visit St Louis, Chicago, Kansas City, Hannibal, or the productive plains and prairies of Missouri, Kansas and the Indian Territory, should by all means take the

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as it is the most direct, best equipped and runs **THROUGH WAGNER SLEEPERS** to all above points **WITHOUT CHANGE**, where direct connection is made in Union Depots for all points North, East and West.

FREE Reclining Chair Cars on all Through Trains.

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DOUBLE DAILY TRAINS.

Commencing April 2d, 1893, the Santa Fe will inaugurate a double daily service between Galveston and Houston and St. Louis, Kansas City and Chicago.

THE COLUMBIAN LIMITED,

a solid vestibule train, will run from Galveston and Houston to St. Louis, via G. C. & S. F. R'y and Frisco Line, carrying Pullman Palace Sleepers, free Reclining Chair Cars, Day Coaches and Dining Cars. This train will also carry a Pullman Sleeper to Kansas City via Fort Worth, Purcell and Newton.

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from Galveston and Houston to Kansas City, via Purcell, is solid train of Pullman Buffet Sleepers, free Reclining Chair Cars and Day Coaches.

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TEXAS EL PASO T AND P ROUTE PACIFIC

THE SHORT LINE TO
New Orleans, Memphis, and Points in the Southeast.
Take "The St. Louis Limited."
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—BETWEEN—
Fort Worth, Dallas and St. Louis
AND THE EAST.
THE DIRECT LINE
TO ALL POINTS IN
Mexico, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon and California.
Through Pullman Buffet Sleeping Cars
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For rates, tickets and all information apply to, or address any of the ticket agents or

W. A. DASHIELL, Trav. Pass. Ag't. GASTON MESLIER, Gen'l Pass. & Ticket Agt.
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CHICAGO
KANSAS CITY ST. LOUIS
THREE GREAT CITIES OF THE WEST
LINKED TOGETHER BY THE
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THE GREAT Live Stock Express Route.

Limited Live Stock Express Trains now running via the

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Between Kansas City, Chicago, St. Louis, Higbee and intermediate points. Bill all shipments via this line and thereby insure prompt and safe arrival of your consignments. The pioneer line in low rates and fast time.

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JEROME HARRIS, Live Stock Agent, San Antonio, Tex.
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FRED D. LEEDS, Live Stock Agent, Kansas City Stock Yards
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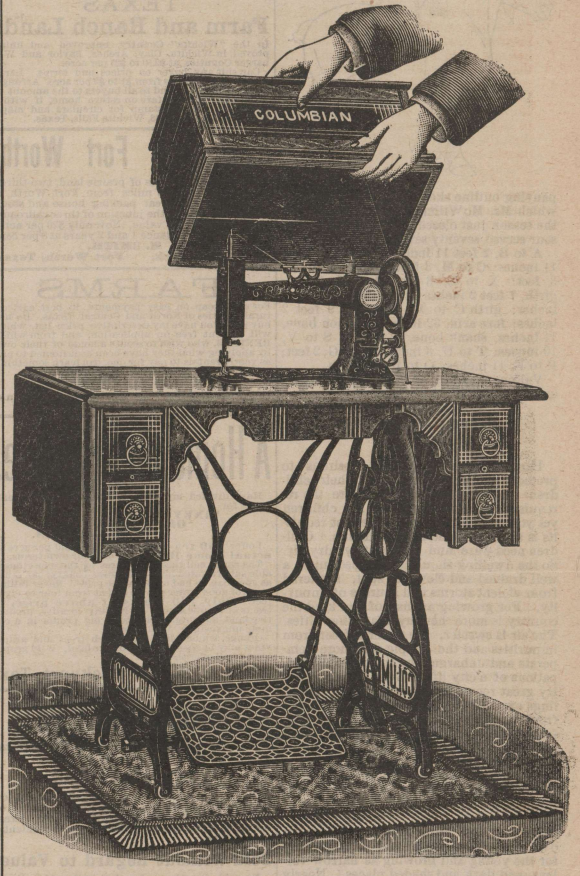
Is Your Wife a Slave?

Perhaps you have been so busy with your cotton, your corn (or corns), your stock and your bees that you have not given this matter any thought.

WELL, SHE IS, Unless you have looked after her pleasures, seen that she is not overworked, provided her with such modern implements as are within your reach, as necessary for the successful conduct of her department as the latest pattern of plow or harrow is in yours. When you asked her to marry you, didn't you swear that she was to be a partner in all your successes and pleasures as well as your crosses and sorrows? She was to be your equal partner, and you was not to be a master. It should be your pleasure to see the roses come back to her cheeks, to rid her of that tired feeling, as it is your duty to

RELEASE HER FROM BONDAGE.

One of the first and most essential steps toward this end is to provide her with a first-class, reliable, modern sewing machine, but there is no necessity for you to believe any of the stories put out by sharp sewing machine agents about the inferiority of "other makes" or the superiority of theirs, and then pay $50 to $75 for a machine no better in any respect than you can get from us for $21. You get a machine straight from the factory at wholesale price, with a TEN YEARS' guaranty and the privilege of returning it if after twenty days trial it is not satisfactory.



The Columbian"

Is a Strictly High Grade Sewing Machine With all Modern Improvements.

Superb Mechanism, Graceful Design, Light Running and Noiseless.

In fact all the desirable features contained in other well known modern style sewing machines are found in the "Columbian." Improved and simplified by the best mechanical talent until it stands the peer of all other sewing machines in any market.

$15 WORTH. There are some who are not able or willing to pay for a real first-class machine like the "Columbian," even when the price is only $21, and to meet their wishes we can send a cheaper machine for $15, with the same TEN YEARS' GUARANTY. We won't send out a machine which is not warranted. In either case, whether you take the "Columbian" at $21, or the Singer Style at $15, if you live anywhere in the United States, east of the Rockies,

WE PAY THE FREIGHT

from the factory to your nearest railroad station.

The Columbian Machine, freight charges prepaid, and Texas Farm and Ranch, one year, for $21.

The Columbian Machine will be given as a premium for 50 subscribers to Texas Farm and Ranch at $1 each.

(Two six months subscriptions, at 50c. each, count as one annual subscription on a club list.)

EACH MACHINE IS FURNISHED WITH THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENTS:

1 FOOT HEMMER.
1 FOOT RUFFLER.
1 TUCKER.
1 PACKAGE OF NEEDLES.
6 HEMMERS, all different widths.
1 WRENCH.
1 THREAD CUTTER.
1 BINDER.
5 BOBBINS.
1 SCREW DRIVER.
1 GAUGE.
1 GAUGE SCREW.
1 OIL CAN filled with Oil.
1 INSTUCTION BOOK.

The driving wheel on this machine is admitted to be the simplest, easiest running and most convenient of any. The machine is self-threading, has the very best tension, and is made of the best materials, with the wearing parts hardened, and is finished in a superior style. It has veneered cover, drop-leaf table, four end drawers and centre swing drawer, and finished in oak or walnut woodwork. The rich nickel-plated trimmings harmonize with the general handsome appearance of this machine. Remember the "Columbian" is the only sewing machine in the world offered for premium purposes, under the manufacturers' TEN-YEAR WARRANTY, and the only machine shipped on trial with money refunded if from any cause returned.

We buy these really fine machines for cash at a price which enables us to offer them to the readers of Texas Farm and Ranch at the bottom price. There are many other machines offered for a low price, but they do not compare with the "Columbian." If you want one of the cheap ones, try our $15 machine; it is the equal of any of them. You want the best, and you get it only in the "Columbian" machine.

If there is anything more you want to know about these machines, write us and we will send you illustrated circulars.

$21 Pays for the "Columbian" Machine, freight paid, and Texas Farm and Ranch one year. Address all letters to

TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

Orchard and Garden.

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

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

In this issue of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH we begin a series of practical papers that will instruct the beginner in fruit growing and be a vehicle of new thought to those of more experience. We have one favor to ask of our readers. We want to double the circulation of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH by 1894. We can't do this without the co-operation of our readers. If you will show a neighbor a copy and ask him to subscribe, we'll get there. Won't you do that, please?

* * *

Pruning as we see it practiced most commonly, consists in the free use of an ax on all branches low enough to be reached. The idea seems to be that a fruit tree should be so high above ground that a horse can pass under them without touching the lowest limbs. Read what practical fruit growers think about it, and if you are guilty of the barbarious practice, reform.

* * *

HUNTSVILLE, TEX. Sept. 10 1893.

DR. A. M. RAGLAND: You will please place before the readers of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH the following questions:

Where can I get the genuine hybrid Mayes blackberry?

Have any of the readers ever tried raising gooseberries in South or Southeast Texas with any success?

What is the cause of English peas mildewing, and what will prevent same?—E. HART.

The foregoing are referred to those having ability to answer. As to Mayes hybrid blackberry will say that a number of parties around Pilot Point have them, but it is unlikely that any can be had the present season, but in the fall of 1894 our nurserymen will be able to supply them in limited quantity.

* * *

Drouth of the past month or two is testing as nothing else can the difference between culture and no culture of orchard and fruit garden. Orchards that have received no cultivation since July are suffering seriously. We notice in some promising young orchards near Pilot Point that a number of trees are dying from the effect of drouth where cultivation has been neglected. We notice another thing that militates against the throng of turning pear orchards to grass the third or fourth year. We observe that these trees are already nearly defoliated, and some have pears not yet mature. Were these trees cultivated and a mulch of loose soil kept about them we are sure this untoward result would not have occurred.

PLANTING, PRUNING AND TRAINING.

Under the above title, Orchard and Garden will contain a series of papers detailing the methods of the best and most experienced fruit growers for our Southland, in planting, pruning and training fruit trees to secure a well balanced head and promote fruitfulness. There is perhaps nothing relating to fruit growing about which there is so little definite idea as the art of properly planting and training an orchard. No matter how excellent may be our selections of fruit, nor how well the nurseryman from whom we purchase may have done his part in giving us healthy, well rooted young trees, unless we know how to plant and care for them afterward, we shall fail to obtain what we are seeking. Whoever reads and thoroughly digests the practical details of orchard management from the pens of the most capable horticulturists of Texas and the South, and is guided thereby, cannot fail of that measure of success which his soil and surrounding conditions entitle him to expect. It affords Orchard and Garden no small degree of pleasure to be able to secure for our readers so many excellent papers, covering, as they will, every query likely to arise in the mind of a learner in the noble arts of horticulture.

PLANTING, PRUNING AND TRAINING.

A Symposium Contributed by the Leading Horticulturists of Texas and the South.

The following questions were addressed by the editor of Orchard and Garden to a large number of fruit growers. Their replies constitute the best discussion of the subjects under consideration yet presented by a Southern journal. These papers will be worthy of careful filing and preservation.

PILOT POINT, TEXAS.

Dear Sir and Friend: Orchard and Garden desires to give the readers of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH the matured judgment of experienced fruit growers on the Proper Methods of Planting, Pruning, and Training of Fruit trees, until they form a well balanced head, say at 3 to 4 years of age, as the rate of growth may determine.

If you will kindly answer the following questions you will add largely to the store of practical tree management:

1. How do you prepare a tree for planting and your reasons for so doing;
2. Do you plant deep or shallow, in large or small holes?
3. What pruning would you do the first year, and when?
4. What pruning would you do the second and third years, and at what time of year?
5. Would you advise pruning after the third or fourth year?
6. Can pruning be so done as to promote or restrain fruitfulness, and if either or both be possible what method do you suggest to secure the desired result?

Trusting you will be able to spare time to give our readers the benefit of your rich fund of experience, I am ever truly yours.

A. M. RAGLAND,
Editor Orchard and Garden

E. W. KIRKPATRICK.

1. The preparation of a tree for transplanting varies with the season, soil, climate, variety, age, size, purpose, etc. My general practice is to cut the small roots short and leave the large roots long. Cut the top about half. Prepared this way, a tree appears to thrive better than otherwise.

2. I plant about two inches deeper than the tree grew originally. The soil should be deeply plowed—the deeper the better—and thoroughly pulverized, so that the tree roots would be surrounded by a bed of fine, moist earth, instead of being crowded into a hole whose walls are tough, hard, cold and uninviting.

Generally, I do not prune until the next winter, February, when I thin out the weaker limbs and leave six or eight of the strongest, and if they are long, I cut them back about one-third.

4. During each February, for several years, I would cut back all long, slender growth about one half or two-thirds.

5. I cut the top back as often as the tree puts on a vigorous growth, no matter how many years.

6. I promote fruitfulness by pruning in June, and restrain by pruning in February. The better way is to grow such varieties as are fruitful enough without summer pruning.

Three essential things must be attended to before any one can grow plenty of fruit—to neglect either one is failure: variety, soil, cultivation. Varieties must be prolific bearers, strong, vigorous growers, with thick, heavy foliage. These varieties can be furnished cheaply by local growers, but hardly ever by the foreign peddler.

5. The soil must be prepared, and well prepared, and the tree cultivated and kept free of all foreign growth in order to secure good results.

If we can afford to keep our cotton plants nicely cultivated for a return of $10 to $20 per acre, what ought we to do for fruit plants that give a return of $50 to $100 per acre?

6. My experience in spraying to prevent insects and rot has been encouraging, and I will prepare to do the work more thoroughly.

Originally we had few noxious weeds, and little cultivating was done. Now we meet the invading hosts of weeds with expensive machines of destruction and hold constant battle. Lately the armies of insects and fungi have invaded our fields, and we are compelled to meet them with new and improved methods of destruction, or else go down ourselves.

Our friend, Farmer Shaw, has lately discovered a new brood of evils, known as political parasites and commercial drones, and he has invented a spraying machine for their destruction which seems to promise good results.

8 While our enemies are increasing, our friends are multiplying also. Each issue of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH comes freighted with wise and timely warning and advice. Uncle Short excites our risibles, and that, in turn, aids our digestion. Bad Man gives us examples which we may learn to avoid. Huffman riles us and makes us snatch at our few remaining hairs, while Mrs. Buchanan calms and smoothes the troubled waters and makes us glad we live again. Meanwhile Dr. Ragland "leads us by the still waters" and distilled juices, and causes us to climb up in our own apple and peach tree, where we may whistle and sing and swing, and with the birds feast on many nice things.

Altogether, TEXAS FARM AND RANCH has a happy, joyous family, with utmost harmony and peace, and we hope before long to see their numbers greatly increased.

McKinney, Texas.

W. W. STELL.

Editor Orchard and Garden: In answer to your first and second questions, please excuse me for quoting extensively from the descriptive catalogue of Stell & Clark, which is based directly on actual experience running through many years, and I know of no better answer to give:

1. "Preparation of the soil. The soil of an orchard should be sufficiently rich to produce good field crops, and should incline so as to drain, or artificial draining should be made. Low, soggy soil will not produce fruit. Cultivate well the season preceding the planting of trees. Just before time for planting, plow deep and harrow well, after which lay off rows the required distance each way, taking care to have rows straight. Make holes of sufficient size to admit of the roots in Nature's order. Narrow, deep holes, and roots planted in a cramped condition, will certainly result in failure." The above directions are intended for a new orchard just being started, and the bulk of the work in making holes can be done by the plow. When trees are to be planted in missing places in the old orchards, gardens, etc., where it is not practicable to prepare the soil as above, dig holes at least two feet wide and one and a-half to two feet deep, and in all cases plant as directed below:

2. "Preparation of the Tree. Cut away broken or bruised roots to sound wood; shorten all roots to six or eight inches long. Cut back one-year-old or straight stem trees to eighteen or twenty inches above ground; let the tree limb within twelve inches of the ground, thereby making short bodies and low heads. This will prevent sun-scald and lessen damages by insects. If branched trees are planted cut branches back at least two-thirds their length, those below less than those above; leave the leader eight to ten inches the longer, thus giving the tree a pyramidal shape. Plant as deep as the tree stood in the nursery, on stiff clay soil. In loose loam, or where the land is subject to washing, plant two to three inches deeper. Fill up holes with best fresh or maiden soil, leaf-mold and well rotted manure. Afterwards hill up the trees with turning plow by throwing three furrows to the trees on each side, the way the land will drain best, to carry off the heavy winter and early spring rains."

3. If straight stem trees have been planted and cut back when set out as above directed, all sound buds on the stem or body will most likely start limbs. All these should be removed as far as they appear except those intended to remain and be a part of the permanent tree. If removed when not more than an inch or so long can well be done by rubbing off with thumb and finger, but if neglected until the limbs are too tough for that a sharp knife must be used, and the sooner the better. I would really prefer the first limb to be only about six inches above ground, and as near as possible on the 2 o'clock side of the tree. Take particular care in removing the sprouts or limbs, so that only three or four are left to remain permanently and have these as far apart and as well distributed around the tree as possible. If the limbs intended to govern the head of the tree are all left close together near the top where the tree was cut back to, as is by far too often the case, forked trees will be the result, which usually split and ruin by the weight of a good crop of fruit or by hard winds. Especially is this the case with the peach, the wood of which is, as a rule, quite brittle. If the tree had a good foundation, was planted early, and were the limbs left to make the permanent head, will grow fast, as all the strength and growth will be concentrated in them instead of being divided by three or four times as many. The limbs on such a tree can be cut back to about twelve inches of their bases by the middle of May or sooner, and can be pruned once or twice more through the growing season. By this mode pruning, that is usually done—if done at all—the second year, is done the first year, and the tree is forwarded in making its permanent head at the same rate. In case of the branched tree, if prepared before planting as above directed, the foundation for its head had already begun, and all that is necessary to assist nature in shaping the head is by pruning in such limbs as outgrow others, and having them evenly distributed, bearing in mind that it is absolutely necessary to have short bodies and low pyramidal shaped heads.

4. The second and third years I would prune just enough to finish up the head of the tree according to above plan, during the growing season.

5. I would advise pruning after the third and fourth years, to remove limbs that cross each other, and to keep up a well balanced tree. This pruning I would prefer to do in spring when buds begin to swell, and no more than is necessary for purposes above, and to allow a sufficient amount of sunshine and air for the health of the tree.

6. Pruning can be made to both promote and restore fruitfulness. Many old trees have ceased to bear paying crops, and, in fact, have ceased to bear altogether. They have many dead limbs and twigs, long naked spaces on the limbs. Cut out all these dead limbs and twigs and shorten the limbs by cutting away these naked spaces. This pruning should be done as late as possible in early spring, and just before the buds expand. The tree may need more pruning than is safe to give it in one year. Remember severe pruning is a heavy drain on the tree. If unfruitful trees are thus pruned and then manured and cultivated they take on new life, and will soon become fruitful. To restrain fruitfulness prune often through the growing season, stimulate with manure, and cultivate thoroughly and late, and trees are not apt to be over-burdened with fruit.

Paris, Texas.

PLANTING AN ORCHARD.

American Farmer.

Whether the trees are to be planted out in the spring or in the fall, early in the fall is a good time to prepare the ground. The best available soil should be selected. While trees will grow on land too rough for cultivation, a vigorous, thrifty growth, such as is needed to enable the trees to bear good crops of fine fruit, cannot be secured unless the soil is reasonably rich, well drained, and thoroughly prepared in a good condition.

With trees, as with all other plants, it is quite an item to secure a vigorous, thrifty growth from the start, and a thorough preparation of the soil is necessary to secure this. When it can be done, two items should be considered in selecting the location:

Have convenient to the house and yet at least a little ways from the public road, and in a situation so that a good wind break, as a protection, can be planted.

Plow the ground deep and thorough. In very many cases it would be a good plan to sub soil, when it can be done without too much extra cost.

A soil that is sufficiently rich to grow a good crop of corn or potatoes will grow good fruit trees, but if not reasonably rich a good application of manure can be given and worked into the soil, either with the harrow or cultivator. See if this work can be done in good season in advance of planting. If surface drainage is to be depended upon, the furrows may be run out to carry off the surplus water, taking care in doing this to avoid washing.

When time will permit, the ground can be staked off. It is an item always to have the trees in the orchard growing in straight rows and the trees set straight in the rows, and if this is done it is best to plat out the ground carefully and set a good stout stake where each tree is to be planted. In doing this give each tree plenty of room to grow and develop naturally. One of the most serious mistakes in planting trees of nearly all kinds is in failing to give the trees proper room.

By doing work of this kind in advance, a much better opportunity is afforded of getting the work done in good season. With planting trees, as with other work, there are what may be termed best seasons for doing this work, and the nearest it can be done to this time the better, and for this reason it is a good plan to prepare ahead as fully as possible, and then when the season for planting out arrives, the work can be pushed along as rapidly as possible.

ROOT PRUNING FOR FRUIT.

Practical Farmer.

The question, "why is it that fruit trees do not bear," is a very common one, and is generally asked in connection with the pear. The pear is such a universal favorite, doing so well in small yards as well as in orchards, that it is everybody's fruit. It is safe to assume that a pear that does not bear well grows fast, for a slow grower nearly always fruits. It is, in fact, because that the tree seldom makes rapid growth and fruit at the same time, that we know that it is growing well if it does not fruit. There is a certain amount of growth should be made before fruiting commences, and no demand for fruit should be made for a few years after planting. On the contrary, should a tree show a disposition to fruit heavily while it is young, it should not be permitted, but the greater part of the fruit should be picked off as soon as formed in spring. It does happen sometimes that trees are set in rich soil in which they grow rampantly and unfruitfully until far beyond the time that a crop should be looked for. Then it is that root pruning is called for, which is a severing of the roots to check growth. There is no use of letting year after year go by without having any fruit from the tree. A trench should be dug in a circle around the tree, and many of the larger roots cut asunder. Perhaps a cutting of about one-half of what are met with will be enough. This will check the growth enough that fruiting will be induced, and after it starts it generally continues.

This cutting of the roots is best done in the fall, but if not done then early spring will do. As great growth is opposed to fruiting, so abundant fruiting as opposed to growth. No one complains when trees overbear, yet it is often a

importations, close our ports and say to English farmers, we can dispense with your services, have enough of your stock to sustain our flocks and to improve them to the utmost of our capacity? Are we able to determine this now and fold our arms, saying, American sheep are good enough for Americans, and cannot be improved by fresh importations? Or shall we forever continue to make importations from the mother-of-sheep-country so long as time shall last?

It has been our idea for generations past that American flockmasters have done more and better with their importations of the Spanish Merino sheep within the nineteenth century than have the flockmasters of Spain with the sheep they have handled in the same length of time. This will be disputed by no one, we believe. If then, without a continuity of fresh importations, the North American farmers are able to improve the Merino, what hinders them from making a like improvement in the English?

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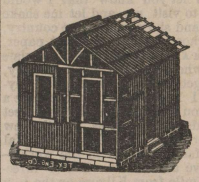
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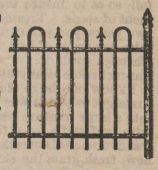
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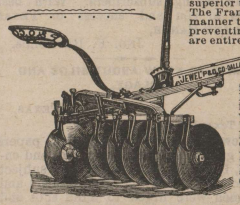
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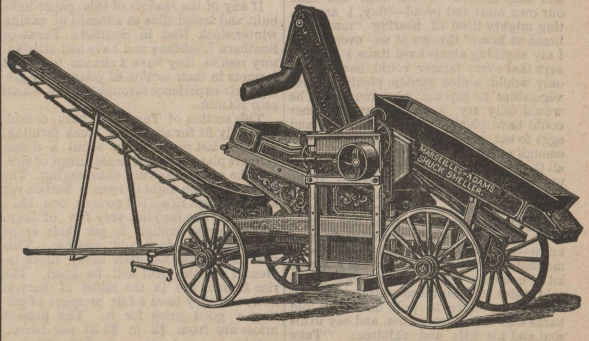
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DEATH AT TWILIGHT.

MRS. ELLA FOSTER.

The clock is ticking softly,
Its hands are moving on;
Time is flying swiftly,
The night will soon be morn.

The morn will soon be mid-day,
The noon will soon be ev'-;
The last rays of the sunlight
Very soon will leave

The dusky night is coming,
The silver stars appear;
The moonbeams shine so softly,
Now Heaven seems so near

That Death with all its horrors
Gives up its cruel sting
When the summons comes at twilight,
Wafted on angel's wing.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

The intensely hot weather of the two weeks just passed seems to have dried up the "milk of human kindness" in the hearts of our good friends who have been helping us all along to make the Household a source of pleasure and profit. One dear friend writes thus: "I have not forgotten you or the Household, but, to tell the truth, the hot weather has taken my energy and I am hardly equal to a letter home, so I know anything I would say to the Household would be stale. The social question was such a bomb in our midst that we all seem to have reacted, and feel inclined to follow Brother Bob's example and find a hole to hide in" Now, if this be so, I hope you will follow Brother Bob's example forthwith and desert those holes, covering them up so completely that no trace can ever be found.

We wonder where Stella has hied away? So far, it seems, that she cannot communicate with her many friends in our Texas Household. We sincerely hope that wherever she may be she is well, and that the summer's outing has brought to her renewed health and strength.

Keturah, of Dodd's Corner, are you so engrossed with the Smith family, and others of that ilk, that you have no time for us? Let us hear from you. And, Mrs. Vanderhoef, if you are safely landed in that distant new home, which we hope is the case, tell us of your trip and new surroundings.

Mrs. McCrea, you evidently enclosed the wrong letter to the Household. Hope the letter intended for us will be forwarded. We will return the one sent.

Mabel Clair, your letter of three weeks ago must have miscarried, as it has not put in appearance yet. You need have no apprehension of finding a place in the waste-basket.

A Country Girl is very welcome to the corner she covets. We are glad that she appreciates the letters of the good women; they are indeed helpful and encouraging.

Hester Kirke discourses of chickens, their uses, and the pleasure and profit in raising them. Appropos of naming them, did you never trace resemblances in them to a larger growth of bipeds? The pompous little bantam cocks look so like little, self-conceited men, with more assurance than brains, good for nothing in the world but to strut around and be laughed at. Then there are the fussy old hens, who can never be pleased in any place you put her She'll stay just long enough on a sitting of eggs to destroy them, then try to take some other hen's nest, just like some fussy old and young women too, who never know what they want, only that they want what some one else has. Most women love both flowers and chickens, but it is an incongruous combination, and like rival lovers in real life, they give most pleasure when far apart.

Mr. Geo. B. Jones makes some excellent and pertinent suggestions upon the subject of novel reading. With many persons the great evil in novel reading is two-fold; first a lack of discretion in their selection, and an intemperate indulgence in reading. For this latter reason, the writer rarely reads a novel. Intemperance in novel reading, in eating, or in the indulgence of any selfish pleasure is as baleful in its effects as intemperance in drinking.

Sunshine is an enthusiastic book lover, but seems to have chosen wisely from among the multitude of books. What a pity we cannot all indulge in the pleasure of a Chautauqua course of reading.

Mrs. Foster, the extra initial was, I suppose, an accident, the printer adding it unwittingly.

When we read of the dreadful suffering, and the privation endured by the boomers at the opening of the Cherokee Strip, we are filled with wonder at the peculiarities of human nature. That people would gather from all portions of these United States and expose themselves to all the dangers and inconveniences which beset them there, simply to take up a homestead, when in all the Western states hundreds of acres of government land may be had, just as good, and in many sections a great deal better, without the strife, ill feeling, uncertainty, and even death, which attended their efforts in the strip. Thousands were disappointed, and the exodus has already begun. The unfortunates are seeking new fields, many penniless, some leaving behind them the graves of their loved ones. What a sad state of things; everything—homes, happiness and money—risked, and nothing gained. "All is vanity and vexation of spirit." Such things should teach us to make the best of life as we find it. It is always the distant land-scape which charms the eye, and we long to leap over intervening hills and and vales that we may enjoy its beauties more closely, but when it is reached it is just a little further on that the grass seems greener and smoother, and the trees more lovely, throwing a denser shade. So we find it in life; something more enticing than the pleasures in our grasp beckons us on, and half the pleasure of what we possess is lost in grasping for something new. If we live in the valley, it is the mountains we would love to scale. There seems ever in the human heart a desire to be, or to do something else but what we are or can do. "To do with all thy might whatever thy hands find to do," is trite and distasteful to most of us. Somebody born to the same surroundings as ourselves has passed us by, and stands beyond and above us, on some height which we fain would climb, and we begin to feel that we are out of place in this life. If we could only reach a certain goal which ever recedes as we advance, we feel sure we might achieve success. We make our situation just as uncomfortable and distasteful as possible in reaching beyond it, and fretting, until the abrasions made by our own efforts bruise and chafe us. Then we think we are the victims of circumstances, and in course of time believe we are entitled to wear the crown of martyrdom. We disdain the monotonous, unloved duties of a common-place life, sigh for something out of the common way. If we could only teach our hands to do, while our hearts rejoiced, looking ever beyond the path over which bramble and stone seem ever to invite a fall—to the glorious calm of the sky, we would forget the common place in life and enjoy the duties which we now despise. Somebody has written that which expresses our thoughts most beautifully, and we thank him or her for it.

"A common place life we say, and we sigh,
But why should we sigh as we say?
The common place sun in the common place sky
Makes up the common place day.
The moon and the stars are common place things,
And the flower that blooms, and the bird that sings
But dark were the world, and sad our lot,
If the flowers failed and the sun shone not;
And God who studies each separate soul,
Out of common place lives makes his beautiful whole."

LOVES THE COUNTRY GIRLS.

MABEL CLAIR.

Dear Household: I wrote a letter three weeks ago to the Household, and as it has never made an appearance, I suppose the w. b. got it. I love the Household too well not to look in now and then at the merry circle gathered there. It has been seven weeks since my first letter was published, and I am afraid my face and name are strangers to most of the members. I see many new faces, and those who read my letter have perhaps forgotten me e're this, nevertheless I shall endeavor to finish that discription of home. I can't claim a home on some beautiful lake, or far away among the pines, but I do claim the pleasure of enjoying a country life, even though it be in the suburbs of town. I am ready to fight for the country girl, I consider myself one of them, and I love that life far better than society with all its witcheries, its hollow hearts that wear a mask its emptiness to hide.

Mrs. Buchanan, you spoke of meeting an old friend in the Scuppernong in Alvin. It made me think of the good old times I have spent around our vines. We learned to walk across the top with as much ease as on the ground, and assisted Father Time to break down many frames. We had a large cherry tree, where I spent many pleasant hours swinging in the top as the sun was on its decline. That old tree is gone now. It seems only yesterday since I was a bare-footed child, hoarding away hickory nuts for a winter's use, catching the snowbird to fry over a winter's fire, and hunting rabbits in the snow. Besides the Scuppernong, we have the Concord grape and one or two other varieties. Then there are the pear, plum and apple orchards; also berry patches and peach orchards I often steal down through the peach orchard and look at the marble slabs that mark the resting-place of the dead, and I slip through the gate and brush the dirt away from some tomb and read again the inscription and call to memory the face that now mingles with the clods around it. My playmate is not forgotten, and with more care and a tender remembrance I linger long before her grave. Though six years have passed away since her pilgrimage here was ended, I miss her as much to-day as I did the day she died. There is that same lonely feeling there in my heart, and memory will ever reproduce those scenes of our childhood. How I often slipped her through the garden palings when she was only three years old, and carried her in my arms over the rough places, and at that ending of life, that coffin, that white face cling still to memory's walls. I could scarcely realize it was my playmate that I stood blinded with tears and gazed upon She will ever be a child of ten, while I must live to be a woman, but ever true to the memory of the friend who was true to me.

I enjoyed the letter from Japan very much. Were I suited for the work, I would like so much to go to Japan or India as a missionary.

Wandering Bachelor, your letters are full of good advice. Come often. And the girl from Corpus Christi—tell us more of your home. Now I am going; the time is up and the letter growing lengthy.

Pittsburgh, Texas.

THE EVIL EFFECTS OF NOVEL READING.

GEO. B JONES.

The long evenings of autumn and winter are again upon us, and the question raised by Ida L, "What Shall We Read?" is truly a timely one. Most of us have some spare moments during such a season as the one now beginning, and we certainly can find no more profitable employment of the same than by the careful reading of good literature.

But the object of this article is to notice more particularly the evil effects of novel reading, leaving fuller discussion of the general topic for future communications or for the pen of an abler writer.

Let not the reader understand me as condemning all works of fiction, for some of our best literature is of this class. But while there may be some good to be derived from a perusal of the works of modern novelists, it cannot be denied that the evil far out-weighs the good.

The theme of modern novelists is, with but rare exceptions, the one passion of love. The characters are either creatures of the author's fancy, born of an imaginative mind, or are taken from life, with certain qualities so magnified and others so diminished as to be an entirely different person from the original. And herein lies one of the chief dangers of an indulgence of this kind of literature, that the reader is lead from the real and tangible personality of character into the unreal and fanciful. The model hero of the story is almost invariably young, tall and handsome, of Herculean strength and build, and lives only to love the heroine, who rivals Venus in beauty of form, and which, combined with the added charms of golden hair or black, as may please the author's taste, wondrous, soulful eyes, witching dimples and winning grace, brings the proud "lords of creation" with all their power and wealth to her feet, vieing to do her homage as a fitting tribute to her unsurpassed loveliness. From a constant association with these ideal persons of fiction, where we are shown the noblest characteristics of men and women, we feel a sense of disappointment and dissatisfaction when called into contact with the shortcomings of our fellow mortals in real life. Thus, no doubt, has many a young person been made to suffer in the estimation of one he loved, merely because he did not measure up to the standard of the hero in one of her favorite novels, when without the exciting portrayal of the hero as a demi god she would have been contented with the excellent qualities of her lover, notwithstanding his failings. We do not admire any one's faults, but claim that the novel serves only to displease us with them, thus lessening our faith in humanity, without offering a cure.

I have no hostile demonstration to make against the training of a love for the ideal, but "life is real, life is earnest," and continued gratification of a passion for the romantic, by excessive reading of novelistic productions, serves but to unduly develop the powers of fancy to the neglect and detriment of the more practical faculties of the human mind. We must not allow cultivation of ideality to cause us to lose sight of the fact that those very qualities we so much admire are attained in their high state of perfection only by constant application and untiring experiments with hard reality.

Another great danger from this kind of reading lies along the line of morality. After many vicissitudes and momentous events incident to the narrative, these model lovers, the hero and the heroine, are brought together in a sacred vow never to part through life or eternity, and in this felicitous moment, the acme of human bliss, the hero takes the heroine, with all her charms, in his manly arms and impresses upon her ruby lips the betrothal kiss. And the romantic young girl, in emulating the example of the heroine after reading over-much of such silly nonsense, is led to believe it is not so very wrong to allow such privileges to her lover, even though he be not an accepted suitor, her excited fancy finding in him her hero.

But worst of all is the fact that a mind given too freely of such poor literary food comes to crave nothing else. Once allow the brain to acquire a fondness for this rubbish and it will develop an insatiable greed for works of fiction to the utter exclusion of a taste for higher literature which is calculated to refine and elevate the mental powers by stimulating the mind to thought and reason. I have seen persons become so engrossed in the perusal of fictitious stories as to violate the laws of health keeping late hours, burning the mid-night oil, merely to see who succeeded in winning the heroine, while these same persons could not take even a passing interest in books of solid worth.

These few remarks are offered from the stand point of careful observation, with the hope, should they fall beneath the notice of any young person, or older one either, who makes a practice of spending precious spare moments in novel reading, that such persons may reflect upon the value of time so spent, and compare the permanent knowledge actually gained to what might have been acquired in pursuit of good literature. After such comparison is made, I feel sure many will bear me out in the assertion that time spent in reading most of the fiction of the day is worse than wasted.

Allendale, Texas.

A COUNTRY GIRL.

B. L M.

Dear Household: Will you welcome one who has long been a constant reader of your interesting department? Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and I am always anxious for it to arrive in our home. Have often thought I would write and ask to be allowed just a little corner in the Household. I will promise to not cover very much space, but sit quietly in the corner. I think Mrs. Vanderhoef writes such good and helpful letters. I wish she would come oftener; also Stella and Bessie, too. Their letters are filled with such good advice to girls; in fact the letters are all good useful reading for both young and old. I live on a farm one mile from town. I like the country much better than I do town.

Honey Grove, Texas.

BOOKS I HAVE READ.

SUNSHINE.

Dear Household: I have been away on a visit and had a good time camping out on the way, but had to come back on the noisy train. We have had lots of company this summer—relatives from the far west—and, of course, I have had a pleasant time these hot, dry days.

A big camp-meeting has just closed near us, and consequently everybody is trying to be good.

I greatly enjoy Mrs. Nellie Jones' excellent description of the sights of the "White City" I am also glad to learn that dear Ida L has her friend in comfortable circumstances God bless you, my friend.

What sort of literature shall we read? Ah, the field is broad, and innumerable are the pure books that will refine and enlighten the mind. I will mention some that I have read with much benefit: "The Pathway of Life" and "Ben Hur;" the last is the light of my soul; I think it is grand. If you have not read it, do so, and you will read it again. I would never grow weary of Dickens and his life-like tales. Shakespeare—who does not enjoy the life dramas of that great man? And the songs of Homer, as cool and refreshing as a summer breeze. Scott you should not fail to read. Longfellow, so sweet and true, and Byron—poor, heart-broken Byron!—my favorite of them all. Moore, Tennyson, Bryant, Hawthorne, Mrs. Browning, after when you have disposed of these, you can read Washington Irving, Dante and "The Last Days of Pompeii." Now add a choice collection of religious books and the lives of our greatest and best men, "The Rise and Fall of the Christian Era," and now add a book of heathen mythology, a few novels from the best and most refined authors, and be sure not to neglect the book of books, the old-fashioned Bible. Now with some good story books for the children, you will have a library that the most refined could find no objection to. Let us

Cousins' League.

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

Seeing my last letter in print, I will come again. I am 14 years old. I go to Sunday school every Sunday that I can. Well, Aunt Emma, did you ever see any fox squirrels? I have two, and they are so sweet. Papa bought me a nice cage, and they have some nice plays. I wish I could see all the cousins and meet with them. I know we would have a jolly time; dont you think so, Aunt Emma? Mamma has a good many little chickens, and we have four guineas. I guess you have seen a good many of them. Well, Aunt Emma, I wish I could visit you. I know I would like you. I haven't any sisters or brothers, but I do not get lonely, as I have something else, which I will tell you about in my next letter.—CORA SCARBOROUGH, Sanco, Texas.

[No, Cora, I never saw any fox squirrels and foxes. They must be cunning. Oh, yes, we would have a jolly time if we could all meet in a convention, and I know I would be pleased to see you. —AUNT EMMA.]

I am a little girl, 13 years old. I live in the country, three miles from Lancaster. I go to school. I am in the sixth grade. I have two sisters and two brothers. My sisters' names are Lenice and Lucile; my brothers' names are Olin and Jones. Mamma has an incubator and has 300 chickens. Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and I like to read the cousins' letters.—JESSIE CURRY, Lancaster, Texas.

[I hope mamma has success with her incubator; has she, Jessie? Uncle Mike runs three incubators. He hatches nearly all his chickens by artificial methods.—AUNT EMMA.]

I will try to write to the League once again. Uncle Mike, I suppose you and the cousins think I write too often, but I do love to write. That is, to such a good paper as TEXAS FARM AND RANCH. I am about to fall in love with some of the cousins, they write such nice letters. I am almost envious of some—more of some than others. But of course I will not mention any names at present. The girls think they are about to get ahead of the boys—I dont think so, but if the girls keep on they might, that is, if the old bachelors quit writing. I know the old maids will help the girls all they can. The girls may think there are lots of nice looking young men in Greer county, but I am afraid they are sadly mistaken. They would think so if they were here. TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is the best paper in Texas for the farmer. So let us come forth as Venus, the morning star, to lighten the weary farmer's task. Long live Uncle Mike, Aunt Emma, and all the cousins.—J. M. PARKER, Duke, Ok. T.

[No, you cannot write too often. There are more boys at this meeting than for some time, but last week was a close shave.—UNCLE MIKE]

I am a farmers boy, 14 years old. I live on a farm six miles from Comanche. I can plow and hoe. I can hoe corn with my pony. His name is "Selim." I can milk, wash dishes, cook, and do almost any kind of housework. But the worst part about it, Uncle Mike dont like the boys to carry their guns with them when they go fishing. He's afraid they might frighten the girls. The girls are telling what kind of complexion they have. I wish I could see them. I could tell whether they are good looking or not. I will not say any more about the girls, and I hope Uncle Mike wont get mad at me. I can pick 250 pounds of cotton in a day.—L. A. GLEATON, Comanche, Texas.

[I know the boys are all good looking, and that is why they need not tell about their complexions, like the girls must.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a little girl, 11 years old. I go to school every day. My teachers' names are Miss Maud Boyce and Mr. Adair. I like them very much. I walk two miles to school and help mamma mornings and evenings. I milk the cows and wash the dishes, and can wash the clothes, iron, and cook.—LOU WILLIE BAILEY, Boyce, Tex.

[You are indeed a busy girl, and mamma must be delighted with your help.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a little girl, eight years old. I live seven miles south of Paris, Lamar county. I go to school. I got the prize in the spelling class. It was a nice book. We live in the country and have a large pool, with a great many fish in it. Papa and I feed them. Mamma has been weaving a carpet. We had many pretty roses, and I gave my teacher a pretty boquet every time he came to visit us. I have three brothers. One is 15 years old and the other two are 20. I am the baby and the only girl. Mamma has about 135 young chickens, and papa has five fine hogs.—KATIE JOHNSON, Blardstown, Texas.

[What a novel pastime it must be to feed the fish, Katie. I know your teacher appreciated the handsome boquets you gave him.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a little Texas boy, 14 years old. I am going to school at Mill Creek school house. When our school was out we had a concert. I was in three pieces.—ARTHUR MONCRIEF, Thornton, Texas.

[How I wish I could have been at that concert, Arthur, and applauded you. I know you did well.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am 14 years old, and am going to school. I can do almost any kind of housework. my papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and likes it splendidly. I always read the cousins' letters the first thing.—VIOLA A. TURNER, Leesville, Louisiana.

[I am glad, viola, that you like to read the letters, and I know the cousins will enjoy yours.—AUNT EMMA.]

I wish Mrs. E. A. Wallace and Maurice Floyd would write often. I am 12 years old, and want some one to tell me how many seconds that would be. I have been going to school for nearly five months, and haven't missed but two weeks. I stopped one week to pick cotton, and another week on account of my ankle being sprained. I could not walk on it for three days. I am studying six books at school. Our school has about 125 students on the roll. We have a good orchard on our place; we have apples, peaches, plums, pears, cherries, sweet almonds, mulberries, and three different kinds of blackberries. I like apples best of any fruit we have. This is a very beautiful country. It is mostly level. It is both black and sandy soil. We live on the sand. I go to the Cryer Creek School, and have to walk one mile. Our school gave a picnic on the 21st of last April. It was to celebrate San Jacinto day, which is a holiday in Texas. San Jacinto is the day when Texas won her independence from Mexico, in a battle at San Jacinto, Texas, April 21, 1836. I had the finest time I ever had at a picnic, but I drank too much lemonade and got sick.—ORIS WEST, Blooming Grove, Texas.

[That is indeed an interesting letter, and as it comes from an interesting correspondent, it is all the more valuable.—UNCLE MIKE.]

I am a little girl, 6 years old. I can help mamma some, but I like to play with my sweet little sister best of all. I have a nice little pony. Her name is Mollie. She is red and white spotted. And I have got a pretty cow. Her name is Spot. She has got a little calf. We had such a nice time last Easter. I got a new doll.—MARIE CHRISTIANA JOHNSON, Mosel, Texas.

[That is just splendid, Marie, for a little girl, 6 years old, and what nice pets you have got.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a girl, 12 years old. I go to school. I can wash the dishes, iron, and make up the beds. Papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH and thinks it is a nice paper. I have four sisters. I got an album last Christmas. I love to hold my little sister; her name is Gertrude.—JOSIE JOHNSON, Mosel, Texas.

[You are useful, Josie, and must be a big help to mamma. We have a little niece named Gertrude, and she is just four years old.—AUNT EMMA]

I am 11 years old, and have five brothers and one sister. She is married, and her name is Roberta Bailey. I go to school, and am learning fast. We have a nice orchard and have plenty of fruit. I have a nice yard of flowers; my roses are so pretty. My papa takes TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and I think it is such a nice paper. I have three cats, and one of them is four years old. The others are one year old each I have 6 ducks, four turkeys, and 100 little chickens.—JEWEL FORMAN, Mills, Texas.

[How pleasant your life must be, Jewel, with your fruit and flowers, your cats, and ducks, and turkeys, and chickens. Take good care of all of them.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am a little girl, 8 years old. I go to school, and am learning to read and write English and German. I can wash the dishes and take care of my little baby sister. She is the sweetest baby in the world. I wish you could see her; she is 7 months old.—MATILDA JOHNSON, Mosel, Texas.

[Those are two good languages, Matilda. Uncle Mike can read and talk German, but cannot write it. Your baby sister must be sweet.—AUNT EMMA.]

I am 11 years old. My mother has been dead nearly 9 years; I can hardly remember her. I have a cat named Tom. He goes to the cow pen with me every evening and drinks milk. I am not going to school now. My oldest sister was my teacher. Sister is teaching me music. I can play and sing the song, "Only be True."—ANNIE ROBERTSON, Mills, Tex.

[You have a good teacher, Annie, and how I would love to hear you play and sing.—AUNT EMMA.]

BIBLE QUESTION.

By Oris West: I want some one to find the word its (not it) in the Bible. It occurs but once.

We are now prepared to furnish any book published relating to live stock, fruits, flowers, gardening, etc. Send for free catalogue to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

FREE! $100 WORTH OF GOOD CRIPPLE CREEK MINING STOCKS!

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LOCAL AND GENERAL MARKET REPORTS

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

Dallas Cotton Market.

[Corrected weekly for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH

DALLAS, Sept. 27.—Very little doing.

Low ordinary 5¾
Ordinary 6¾
Good ordinary 6¾
Low middling 6 15-16
Middling 7¾
Good middling 7¾

Galveston Cotton Market.

GALVESTON, Sept. 27.—Spot cotton closed quiet.

Low ordinary 6 9-16
Ordinary 7 1-16
Good ordinary 7 1-16
Low middling 7¾
Middling 8 1-16
Good middling 8 5.16

Grain and Feed-stuffs.

Quotations below are on grain from store.

Corn—Wholesale, 35c per bushel in sack; retail, 35c; in car 30c per bushel.

Oats—Sacks, 21c per bushel in car lots; 25c per single bushel.

Bran—65c per 100 lb in car lots; retail, 85c per 100.

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

Farm Seeds—Dallas Retail Price.

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

Alfalfa, per lb 35c, free by mail; per peck $2; per bushel $7.50.

Amber cane seed, per lb 15c; per bushel $1 00.

Red Kaffir Corn, by mail, per lb, 20c; peck, 75c; bushel $2.50.

Millo Maize, yellow or white, per lb 15c; bushel 50c.

German millet, per pk. 40c; per bu. $1.25.

Timothy, per lb 20c; peck 90c; bushel $3.

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

Wheat—Buyers are paying: No. 2, 50. No. 3, 45c f. o. b., at Dallas.

Dallas Wholesale Produce Market.

(Corrected weekly for TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, by J. C. Howerton & Co., Wholesale Fruit, Produce and Commission Merchants, Dallas, Texas.)

Chicks—small, 2.35@2.50 per doz.; Chicks—large, 2.60@2.85 per doz.; Hens—small, 2 50@2.75 per doz.; Hens—large, 2.75@3 00 per doz.

Eggs—fresh, 17@18c.

Ducks—average, 2.00@2.25 per doz.

Turkeys—hens, $7.00@8.00 gobblers, 10 00@12.00 per doz.

Butter—fresh, 18@20c per lb.

Potatoes—New, 95c@1.00.

Cabbage—Northern, 2½c.

String beans $2@2 25 per bushel.

Beans—Navy, 4@4½c per lb; Lima, 4½c.

String beans—65@75c per ½ bu. box.

Onions—2½@2½

Green Peaches—1.50@1.75 per bu.; large, $1.75@2.00.

Apples—1 00@1.35. bu.

Grapes—5@6c per lb.

Plums—1.50@2 00 per crate; 40c per box, ½ bu.

Pears—2.00@2.50 per bu.

Tomatoes—65@75 per ½ bu. box.

Hides and Wool.

Hides—Buyers are paying: Dry flint, heavy, 6c; light, 5c; dry salt, 4c; gr. salt, 3c; butchers' green, 3c.

Wool—Light medium, 15@16c; low medium, 14@14c; fine, 12@13

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

STATE NEWS BOILED DOWN.

Sixteen cars of wheat were shipped from Vernon, on Thursday last, to Galveston.

The large barn of Frank Fitzhugh, at Paris, burned with its contents last Friday.

A meteor "as big as a barrel" is said to have fallen near Terrell, last Thursday night.

D. W. Housley's gin at Rowlett, with some 200 bales of cotton, was burned last Saturday.

Fred Richie, a popular young man of Trinity county, was killed last week by a falling tree.

Stroman's gin, six miles from Whitesboro was burned last Saturday. Loss estimated at $4000.

There are 186 inmates at the State Orphan Asylum at Corsicana, and others are continually arriving.

John Falls, of Fannin county, was last week sentenced to life imprisonment, for the murder of his father.

A Santa Fe train was wrecked near Montgomery last week. Several persons were injured, but none killed.

The business block in Clarendon, which was burned last spring, has been solidly built up with substantial brick.

A rattlesnake was killed last week near the Belton court house. It had twelve rattles and was 4 feet 9 inches long.

Mrs. Ray, who lives a few miles from Pilot Point, was bitten by a spider last Sunday, and is not expected to live.

At Coleman, last week, Bill Teague, the train robber, pleaded guilty and was given twenty-five years in the State prison.

Miss Alice Malone, seventeen years old, living near Garland, is reported to have picked 669 pounds of cotton on Friday of last week.

A former citizen of Dallas and Fort Worth named Ed Correll, is in prison in Monterey, Mexico, charged with attempting to rob and murder a wealthy Jew. His friends in Texas are making an effort for his release.

Advices from Mason county state that the pecan crop in that section is abundant, and owners of trees are warning off tresspassers.

The building formerly occupied by Randall's Cafe, in Dallas, was burned one night last week. The place was being prepared for a variety theater.

Agents of oil mills have been giving the farmers a little taste of competition. They ran the price of seed last week to 25 cents a bushel. But this will not last.

The Colored State Fair which was to have been held at Navasota, has been indefinitely postponed. The colored wash women could not raise the money.

A stone for the Dallas postoffice building weighing 15,000 pounds has been received and put in position. It came from the newly opened gray granite quarry at Burnett.

An election was held at Bristol, Ellis county last week to determine whether the municipal corporation should or should not be dissolved. It was dissolved by a vote of 20 to 9.

A man named Keiffer, from Kansas, died on an M. K. & T. train, near Hillsboro, last Friday. He was accompanied by his wife, and was on his way to San Antonio for relief of consumption.

Houston people who have been drinking bayou water and grumbling about it now have a scant supply of sulphurated artesian water. The city will bore more wells in hope of finding a better article.

Thulemeyer & Kaufman's gin at kennedy, Karnes county, was burned last Saturday with forty-six bales of cotton. The loss on gin alone is placed at $7,000. It was the only gin in or near the town.

Prof. Beard, Superintendent of the public schools of Robinson county, was brained with an ax while asleep by the side of his wife, at Franklin, last Sunday morning. The assassin has not been identified.

WACO'S HOT WELLS.

They Heal, Impart Vigor, Cheerfulness and Make the People Happy.

From Dallas News.

WACO, TEX., Sept. 23.—Enjoying all the advantages of advanced civilization, progressive and particularly blessed in location, being in the geographical center of the state, and surrounded by a region of surpassing fertility, Waco possesses one exclusive boon, the treasure of a daily eruption of 12,000,000 gallons of hot water from twenty-one artesian wells, water that is serviceable for all purposes—better in the laundry than any other, bland, practically free from solids, potable, crystal, and at once curative. Its thermal quality, combined with the imponderable mineral substances which pervade it without imparting taste, heal unobstrusively and fill the hearts of all restored invalids with joy. This water is dispensed for health purposes to visitors, in several natatoriums, where electric baths, with or without massage treatment, swimming in miniature lakes, the simple tub baths, or a thorough course can be had at minimum cost, available to all. No artificial heat is applied. Nature has supplied in profound depths those mysterious batteries which impart to the water its steaming temperature and give it potency, not only to cure, but to dispel care. The sad hearted man grows cheerful and the taciturn garrulous when brought within the influence of the magic waters of the hot wells of Waco.

THE LEXINGTON MEETING.

On October 7th to 14th, at Lexington, Ky., the renowned center of blooded stock, will be held the great annual meeting on the famous race course. Purses amounting to $50,000 will be competed for. To all lovers of the sport, and especially those who are interested in fine horses, a word as to how to go there will be sufficient.

The excellent facilities of the Big Four Route from St. Louis, Indianapolis, Chicago, West and Southwest are unexcelled. Solid trains, equipped with parlor cars or sleeping cars, run to Cincinnati, where direct connections are made in Central Union Station with trains of the Queen & Crescent and Louisville & Nashville railways, a feature enjoyed by no other line into Cincinnati. Avoid transfers across the city and the possibilities of missing connections, and be sure to get your tickets via the Big Four Route.

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Gen. Passenger and Ticket Agent.

Big wages and sure pay to any intelligent, energetic worker desiring to devote his entire time to securing subscribers to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

You have noticed that some houses always seem to need repainting; they look dingy, rusted, faded. Others always look bright, clean, fresh. The owner of the first "economizes" with "cheap" mixed paints, etc.; the second paints with

Strictly Pure White Lead.

The first spends three times as much for paint in five years, and his buildings never look as well.

Almost everybody knows that good paint can only be had by using strictly pure White Lead. The difficulty is lack of care in selecting it. The following brands are strictly pure White Lead, "Old Dutch" process; they are standard and well known—established by the test of years:

"ARMSTRONG & McKELVY" (Pittsb'gh)
"BEYMER-BAUMAN" (Pittsburgh)
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"MORLEY" (Cleveland)
"ANCHOR" (Cincinnati)
"ECKSTEIN" (Cincinnati)
"KENTUCKY" (Louisville)
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"SOUTHERN" (St. Louis and Chicago)
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For any color (other than white) tint the Strictly Pure White Lead with National Lead Company's Pure White Lead Tinting Colors, and you will have the best paint that it is possible to put on a building.

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If you are going to paint, it will pay you to send to us for a book containing information that may save you many a dollar; it will only cost you a postal card to do so.

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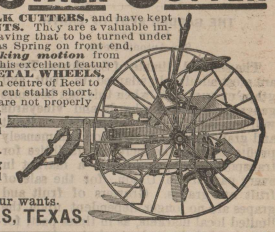
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We were the first manufacturers to introduce **STALK CUTTERS**, and have kept abreast of the times with modern **IMPROVEMENTS**. They are a valuable implement, preparing the ground for plowing, and leaving that to be turned under which **ENRICHES THE SOIL**. The Canton has Spring on front end, connecting with lever, thus ***relieving the jerking motion*** from horses' necks, also giving knives a striking motion. This excellent feature is found only in the Canton. It has **HIGHEST METAL WHEELS**, insuring **LIGHTEST DRAFT. No Axle** through centre of Reel to clog up with trash. Made with **6 Knives**, so as to cut stalks short. Others have the same number of knives, but they are not properly proportioned, therefore cut the stalks same length as our 5 knife. **BE LOOK OUT FOR THEM!** Other points of excellence given in circular, mailed free to any address. We also manufacture

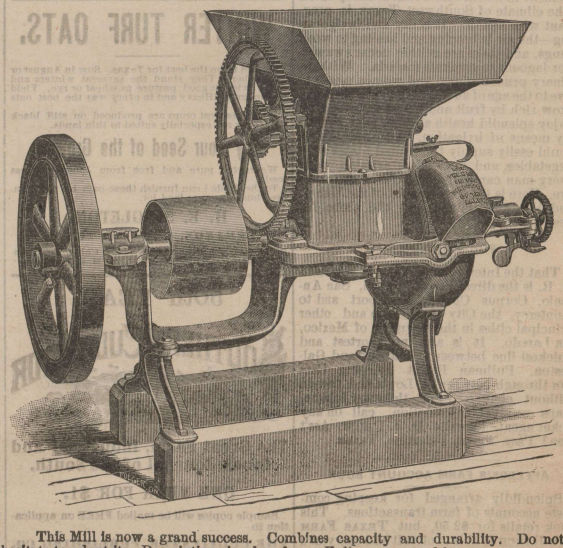
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THE IMPROVED

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ONLY SUCCESSFUL SHUCK AND COB GRINDER HAVING CAPACITY ON THE MARKET.



This Mill is now a grand success. Combines capacity and durability. Do not hesitate to adopt it. Descriptive circulars free. Fully guaranteed by

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them stay here until the second drawing of the bed. When I prepare my land by rebedding and dragging a log over twice while fresh plowed, the log that one horse could pull very well, knocking off two rows at a time. This presses the soil and causes it to hold moisture and make the ridges low and flat. I then set out slips while land is fresh. I do not like to set out in a sobbed bed that will become hard when dried, but wish fresh plowed land.

I set out with a stick. The stick is made of some kind of tough, seasoned wood, long enough for the sticker to stand straight and stick it in the ground. One end is flattened to about the thickness of a case knife blade and about three-fourths of an inch wide. A shallow notch is cut in the thin end. One hand drops the slips about two feet apart and another follows with this stick, placing the notch in the thin end on the root of the slip and pressing it well into the ground, making as small a hole as possible. A bare-foot boy goes over the patch close behind the setters, stepping on top of every slip. This presses the soil to the roots, which also forces water by capillary action from the subsoil up around the plant, while it leaves the bed clean, loose, and in best condition for plant growth. The mashed plant will be straightened out next morning and will not wilt, and not one per cent will die if land is sandy and has a season in it. The first plowing done is to run around with a side harrow if dry. If wet, bar off shallow. Then, whether barred off or side harrowed, I run around with a small shovel plow with ten or twelve inch heel sweep on. The next work is, if necessary, the hoe. Then lay by, by turning the vines out of alternate middles, laying the vines out straight across the other middles. Then, with turning plow, plle the dirt up on the roots of vines, four furrows to the middle. Then turn the vines back in the plowed middle and plle the dirt up from the other side, so as to wrap up the ridge completely and put a deep mulch around the vines. This also saves hoeing. When I came to the bunch yam rows I was left every time I tried to put any dirt to them, for the multitude of vine shoots at the very base of the plant, sticking out in every direction, and the whole bunch hugging the ground, made it impossible to get dirt there except with a hoe, and two hoeings were necessary and then the vines got out so slow that the grass came up and divided the plant food with the potatoes, while the old time Yellow Yam soon took possession of the land. Consequently when the drouth came the Bunch Yam with its light mulch of dirt soon began to show yellow leaves. When grabbling time came, the first of September, the old time Yellow Yam tubers were twice to three times as large as the Bunch Yams, and the same holds good now, the last of September. There is but one thing I see the Bunch Yam is good for, and that is for seed, as the tubers are very numerous, but very small. The whole plant has the appearance of the Yellow Yam, where the vines had been eaten off several times by the calves, when small, which causes them to send out numerous shoots, both above and below the surface. And in my opinion this is the way the Bunch Yam started.

I will write up my experiments in Irish potatoes as soon as my present crop is gathered. I planted seventy-five bushels in August. JEFF WELBORN.

THE STUFF UNCLE SNORT SAMPLED.

SALADO, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I wish you could have seen Uncle Snort sampling the "something stronger" he spoke of at our Bell County Fair. The way he smacked his lips showed that he relished the contents of the blue ribbon bottle, whether he drinks or not. I believe he said what he did just to get me to tell how it was made. So here goes: Eighteen hundred and eighty-eight was the year that gave me 6000 pounds of honey from 40 colonies of bees, which kept me so busy that I had not much time for putting up preserves, etc. So I tried an experiment which resulted in the above fine beverage. I washed, wiped dry, and put into an eight-gallon keg as many peaches as I could fit in from bottom to top. I then filled the keg full of extracted honey, placing a large plate on top, with a nice clean rock to hold it all down. I then tied a thin cheese-cloth over it and let it alone for three months. I then picked out all the peaches that were firm and put them in glass jars and poured the liquid over them and used them as sweet pickles. They were very fine. The peaches that were soft, I rubbed through a colander and cooked with fresh honey, making peach butter, which was quite palatable. The liquid, or peach juice and honey, I put in jugs, with the above result of causing Uncle Snort to smack his lips. For medicinal purposes this is certainly very fine. It is easily and cheaply made, and has the advantage of being strictly pure. There is no patent on the process; everybody is welcome to make all they want.

MRS. S. E. SHERMAN.

UNCLE SNORT ON AGRICULTURAL PAPERS AND FARMING AS A BUSINESS.

RICHARDSON, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

In a recent issue of our paper I was impressed and rather pleased with "Correspondence Country Gentleman." I have for years been a convert to the idea that a man who owns a good farm should not confine himself to constant hard labor on the farm. A well regulated, properly managed farm must have a live, wide-awake, thinking boss, and no man can do that who labors fourteen hours out of twenty-four on the farm. I have tried it. The man who does all the necessary planning, marketing, buying and selling, and general rustling, has enough to keep one man busy, and I am constrained to believe that such a man is the drive wheel to the entire machinery, and is just as indispensable as the drive wheel to the engine. It is a fact, all theories to the contrary notwithstanding, that there is a class of men in the world who will never rise above hewing wood and drawing water. They may be ever so good, and may need ever so much pitying, but nevertheless they are here, and here to stay. It is also true that there are thousands of men who will never make farming or anything else pay. They were not built that way. Such men never profit by the experiences of other men. If men prosper around them they call it luck, or conclude that perhaps the prosperous man is dishonest, or that he thrives by penuriousness stinginess, or something of the kind. They seldom get liberal enough in their views to acknowledge that what men have done or are doing, others can do also. And then there is another thing that stands in the way of the prosperity of a great many men—it is what is sometimes called backbone, or nerve, but really should be called self-confidence. There are many men who are unwilling to risk their own judgment, even in the selling of their crops or buying for their farms; and then there is a class of men who can never be persuaded to believe that men who farm differently from themselves are actually succeeding better than they are. This is not self-confidence, but thick-headedness. Notwithstanding that, intelligent farmers in every part of the state are succeeding with fine hogs—are, if not growing rich, making money raising hogs—yet there are men who will rise up and declare that it does not pay for a farmer to raise his own meat. It seems that it is useless to state so often that with proper management hogs on a farm can be raised at almost no cost. That the cheapest, most palatable and wholsome food that a family can use is milk, butter, chickens, eggs, vegetables, etc. I will state again and can prove it if it was necessary, that wherever a farmer can be found who is raising these things at home he is prosperous; does not haul a bale of cotton to town and a load of bacon home; is not in debt for supplies, and is not complaining much of hard times. On the other hand, I can prove, if it is necessary, that the man who does not raise his own meat, does not keep a milch cow, does not pay any attention to poultry, is, as a rule, in debt, and actually realizes hard times, and should be borne with if he complains of hard times.

As to agricultural papers, it is enough to say that everywhere our most intelligent farmers consider them a blessing. They even go further; they consider them indispensable to the greatest success. It is true that occasionally farm journals are afflicted with long-winded, theoretical, wholly impractical, self-conceited fellows, who must air themselves through the columns of our best papers, and of course editors are generally long suffering and let them in, but the intelligent farmer can generally pick the wheat from the chaff.

UNCLE SNORT.

SHORT CORRESPONDENCE.

My time is about out, and I will send you a dollar in a short time, as I have learned so many things from your valuable paper which will be of great benefit to me in the future.—J. L. DILLARD, Dodd, Texas.

Enclosed please find postal note to pay for your valuable paper. I dont want to miss a single issue of the best paper in the state. Gives more solid information to farmers, stock raisers, and truck growers than any paper I know of.—J. D. WILLIS, Bertram, Texas.

By the writings of Uncle Snort it seems he uses an ostrich feather, and shows also that he must be a mechanic, or carpenter, because he hews to the line, and hits the nail always on the head. Could any of the many nurserymen who advertise in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH come to New Baden, Robertson county, Texas, and inspect the different vineyards of the Germans and Swiss, see their orchards, and give them their experience and advice, thereby securing mutual benefit, as these foreigners lean more to fruit and wine growing than 5-cent cotton.—P. REICHERT, New Baden, Texas.

I do not know whether you are in favor of the "single tax" or not, but the following extract from your editorial is mighty good argument for it: "All signs point to the rapid approach of the time when this country, like Europe, will contain two great classes, the landlords and the landless. The first few in numbers, but holding the key to the fate of the great majority who compose the latter class." I believe that when that time comes the great mass of humanity will be practically slaves to the landlords unless we have the single tax to prevent it. Why not persuade your state to lease its school lands instead of selling them?—R. C. WORTH, St. Louis, Mo.

SOME SPECIAL PREMIUMS.

The following are some of the special premiums offered by enterprising people for farm and stock exhibits at the Texas State Fair. Other premiums will be offered before the opening of the Fair:

For best exhibit made by truck farmer, one Red Jacket pump, valued at $25, by George Mummert, Dallas, Texas. Also $10 cash offered by Texas Seed & Floral Company, Dallas, Texas.

Best individual farm exhibit, one Holstein bull calf, valued at $200, by Clifton Stock Farm, Dallas, Texas. Also ten bushels of winter turf oats by Drumm & Co., Fort Worth, Texas.

For best bushel of field corn, any color, grown by Texas farmer, one registered Poland China pig, either sex, offered by Singleton & Cothes, Lebanon, Texas.

For best bushel of oats grown in Texas, one Poland China pig, either sex, by Singleton & Cothes, Lebanon, Texas.

For best bale of short staple cotton, $30 cash, by the Munger Machine Co., Dallas, Texas. For second best bale, $15 cash, by same company.

For best three stalks cotton, one Empress Corn and cotton planter, by Texas I. & M. Co., Dallas, Texas.

For the largest and best display of apples, Texas exhibitor, one Jersey bull calf, valued at $100, by J. D. Gray, Terrell, Texas.

For two best recorded Southdown lambs, male and female, bred and exhibited by resident of Texas, First four vols. American Southdown Record, by the American Southdown Breeders Association.

For best recorded Berkshire sow and five recorded pigs under six months old, bred and exhibited by resident of Texas, first ten volumes of the American Berkshire Record, valued at $50, by American Berkshire Association.

For best bushel of wheat, any variety, one improved Osborne Mower, by D. M. Osborne & Co., St. Louis.

To the exhibitor of best butter made in Texas, two bushels of winter turf oats, by Singleton & Cothes, Lebanon, Texas.

For best herd of one boar and four sows, over one year, any breed, Texas bred, gold medal, by Dallas Packing Co., Dallas, Texas.

For best exhibit of Texas cured bacon, (packing houses excluded,) two bushels White Mansbury Barley, by Singleton & Cothes, Lebanon, Texas.

For best grade yearling Hereford steer, Texas bred, and raised by exhibitor, $25 cash, by W. S. Ikard, Henrietta, Texas.

We do not know how long his offers may hold good, but Gardner Work, of Waco, is now offering chances for the homeless to secure farms for themselves, which may to many be the chance of their lives. The early buyers will of course have first choice. See his ad. on page 16.

SUBSCRIBE FOR

The McKinney Democrat, the best Populist paper in Texas. One dollar per year, cash in advance.

FROM A GREAT HORSE FARM.

The late W. L. Scott, of Erie, Pa., had one of the finest stock farms in the country, and on June 29th, 1889, he wrote as follows to the De Lamater Iron Works, 87 South Fifth Avenue, New York City: "Gentlemen: I have used two of your Ericsson Hot Air Pumping Engines, one in my residence in Washington, and one on my horse farm, and both of them have given entire satisfaction."

If you want a good and reliable supply of water on your farm, write to the above firm for particulars.



BERKSHIRE, Chester White, Jersey Red and Poland China PIGS. Jersey, Guernsey and Holstein Cattle. Thoroughbred Sheep. Fancy Poultry. Hunting and House Dogs. Catalogue.
S. W. SMITH, Cochranville, Chester Co., Penna.

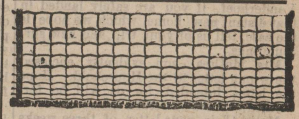
WILL $500 HELP YOU OUT? If so, you can have it! We offer you the Sole Agency for an article that is Wanted in Every Home and Indispensable in Every Office, something that SELLS AT SIGHT. Other articles sell rapidly at Double the Price, though not answering the purpose half so well. You can make from $500 to $700 in three months, introducing it, after which it will bring A Steady, Liberal Income, if properly attended to. Ladies do as well as men, in town or country. Don't Miss this Chance. Write at once to J. W. JONES, Manager, Springfield, Ohio.

Gin Brushes,
SAWS AND ALL GINNING SUPPLIES, SHAFTING AND PULLEYS.
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Devotes special attention to the great irrigation interests in the Trans-Pecos country. A first-class County paper. Subscription price, $2 per year.

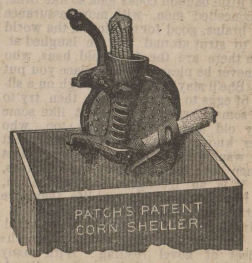


FINE GUNS. THE OLD HOUSE Established 1826.
"Purdeys," "Scott's" "Westley Richards," "Williams & Powell," "Colts," "Lefever," "Parker," and all other makes.
☞Also the new Scott "Monte Carlo" Hammerless, best gun out and which took last grand prize at Monte Carlo for £100.
Now on hand, a lot of high grade second hand Guns, taken in exchange, bargains other guns taken in trade. Send stamps for illustrated catalogue and second hand list.
William Read & Sons, 107 Washington St., Boston.



Pardonable Pride.
That which a good farmer can take in having the best fenced farm in the county. His city brother with the best dressed wife, or fastest horse must continually add to his investment, while he with his Page fence properly put up can safely "rest on his laurels."
PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

SHELL OUT.



THE BLACK HAWK
SHELLER AND SEPARATOR
Will suit you to a Queen's taste.
Not a TOY, but a MACHINE which does the work, and all a farmer needs for shelling corn for home use.
It Won't Choke!
Simple in Construction!
It is Durable and Cheap!
We will furnish this Sheller and Texas Farm and Ranch one year for $3.25, or we will send it f. o. b Dallas for $3 cash. Address
TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, DALLAS, TEXAS.

I should have acknowledged receipt of the Corn Sheller and Bone Mill purchased from you some time ago. It came all o. k. I have thoroughly tested both, and if I could not get others like them, I would not take one hundred dollars for them. Every poultry fancier ought to own a Bone Mill. I grind all the corn my stock eats. And the Sheller—it is a perfect daisy. Can easily shell a bushel of corn in five minutes.—J. C. COLLINS, Belton, Texas.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO KILL JOHNSON GRASS.

BELTON, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

Johnson grass is, in fact, a bi-ennial—thus far; plant the seed this spring; it will come up and make a crop of grass and seed, but will sucker from the roots the second year and all along during the year until frost, and thus grow a second year without seed; it then dies, unless renewed by seed. Hence, if pastured so close, or kept cut off so it will not go to seed at all, it can be completely eradicated in two years. Well pastured with sheep or any stock will kill it in a few years; or late chopping off with the hoe, so as to prevent its seeding, will kill it. The difficulty with field cultivation is that the grass has such a bountiful supply of roots and grows and matures so rapidly that after crops are laid by there is plenty of time for it to grow and mature full ripened seeds.

If I had a field planted with it I would plant it to oats and cut them and the grass together while in the milk for hay, and I would then cut it several times during the fall, so as to insure the non-development ment of seeds. Treated in this way for two years, you will surely kill it all out and raise fine crops of hay at the same time. Chemicals will do the work also, but it is impracticable on anything like a large scale.

I know one large field where Johnson grass got so bad it was turned out, opened into a large pasture and heavily stocked with beef cattle for a few years. So attractive was this constantly springing up, new, fresh grass the stock sought it out, kept it cut off, and entirely killed it out in a few years. H. B. HILLYER.

THE SECRET OF HARD TIMES.

RICHARDSON, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I never was so happy in my life. I now have such a good excuse to howl hard times every time anybody says anything about wanting money. It is true that I never have any money. You know that we fellows buy every thing that we eat and wear on a credit and lots of times have to mortgage our crops to the merchant to get goods on credit, never have any money, nor never will while we practice such ruinous folly; and times will always be hard with us, it matters not how flush they may be with other people. But I dont like to sing hard times when everybody else is flush. I am like the man who owned a fine black land farm, but wanted to sell it. And when I asked him why he wanted to sell his farm, he said: "I want to go out West, where I will have some excuse for starving to death." A man has no excuse for starving here in this country. I know that ordinarily an industrious, intelligent farmer, like myself, has no excuse for howling "hard times," but now I see an opening, and you bet I am using it. I am out-howling a tied dog. I go to town every Saturday, and I am always in a hurry for Saturday to come, and the first man I meet I begin talking: "Hard times—no money—the whole country is going to the—," and the boys gather around me and we cuss and discuss and work ourselves up to actually believe that somebody is to blame for our being poor and in debt.

Say, Mr. Editor, I want to know what you think about it. I have a neighbor who is the biggest fool I ever saw. He says that if we fellows would stay at home and keep the lice off our pigs and raise our own meat and bread—(Say, I am getting mighty tired of hearing "meat and bread at home" thrown at me every time I say anything about hard times.) But he says that every farmer could have, if he only would, a nice garden, plenty of nice vegetables to eat the year round, if he would only try, and that every farmer could have plenty of nice chickens and eggs to eat, and that his wife could raise enough chickens and eggs to sell, to buy all the groceries an ordinary family will use, and that every farmer could, if he would only try, raise enough pigs to make his own meat and some to sell, and then he says that we ought to raise our cotton as an extra crop—a sort of side show, you know—and he stands up and argues with me that if a farmer will only use a whole lot of common sense, drink more good, cold water and less mean whiskey, that he would soon have to pull down his old barns and build larger ones, and say to his soul and his wife and children: "Take thine ease, for I have much goods in store," and the last I saw of "hard times," he was going "around the bend," singing "Good bye, my lover, good bye."

He argues that if a farmer will raise all that he eats at home, and then has a few extra crops, and if it is only one crop extra, to sell, that even if the price is low he is all right; that he can step into this ark of safety and just let the storms rage; that he will land high and dry when the waters abate. This, he says, is the secret of hard times among farmers. Too much debt; too much trying to keep up with the procession; too much going to town; not drinking enough good cold water, and drinking too much mean whiskey. But he didn't say anything about that good home-made wine that Mr. Shell gave me.

Well, since I have studied over it a right smart, I am beginning to believe that he is about half right; but then I am going to howl a little anyhow.

Say, I have just been talking with the man who has made a grand success with grapes on Mustang stocks, and as Mustang grapes grow so well up here, I dont see why I can't raise my own grapes, make my own wine, and quit drinking mean whiskey. Hows that?

UNCLE SNORT.

AN INVITATION.

KILGORE, TEXAS.

Dear Uncle Snort. I see in TEXAS FARM AND RANCH that you are gyrating around much in parts. I write you these few lines to let you know that I would like for you to visit me and let me shake your hand and show you a fine country, or neighborhood, where the best paper, TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, should circulate more, and where as fine stock, poultry, fruit and vegetables can be raised as anywhere that I have been. So drop me a card when you will arrive, and I will meet you at the depot and show you the few Jerseys, Berkshires, poultry and Hal horses—the fastest pacers in the world—that we have around us. I live three-fourths of a mile from Kilgore on the I. & G. N. R. R, where is located one of as good schools as any in the state, the Alexander Institute. Now do not take this as an ad., but come on, and let me assist you in taking subscribers. With best wishes to you and success to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH,

JNO. F. REYNOLDS.

WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT SILOS AND SILAGE.

BEAUMONT, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

A few years ago the agricultural papers had a great deal to say about silos and ensilage, but I seldom ever see the subject mentioned nowadays. The farmers and stockmen were urged to build silos and save their winter supply of stock food, or at least the fodder part of it, in a green state.

I have never seen a silo, and I have never met a man who has fed ensilage to stock. Why is there so little said about them now? Are they not a success in Texas? Has there ever been one built in Texas? If yes, did it prove satisfactory?

I find it very difficult to save dry forage of any kind in good condition here in the coast country. We can raise corn, sorghum, rice and oats in abundance; also peas and pea vines, but there is nearly always too much rain or too much dampness in the atmosphere to save it in a bright, nice condition. If it does not rain on it before it is cured sufficiently to be housed or stacked, the heavy dews blacken it. If silos are reliable and not too expensive, we could put up all the stock feed that we would need.

I would like to know if you, or any of the readers, have experimented with silos and ensilage in Texas, especially in the coast country, and what success has the result been.

If any of the readers of this paper have built and tested silos as a means of saving winter stock feed in Southern Texas or Southern Louisiana and have had satisfactory results, they have a chance to benefit farmers in their section of country by giving their experience through TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

This section of Texas has been considered only fit for stock and truck farming, until the last year, when about a dozen farmers planted experimental crops of rice, and the result was very encouraging. The yield was from eight to twenty barrels per acre of rough rice, (162 pounds one bbl; 45 pounds one bu.) but very few of them planted early enough to get their crops well matured before cold weather. This year the acreage has been many times increased and the yield will be good. The rice farmers are in the midst of harvest now, and they have a fair prospect of getting a good price for it. The present prices are from $2 to $3.50 per barrel, rough. JEFFERSON.

[We do not know of any silos immediately on the coast, but there is nothing in the coast climate to prevent their success. There are many silos in successful use in North Texas, several near Dallas, three at the A. & M. College, one or more on the farm of Mrs. Jas. A. Hill, New Waverly, and several in Southwest Texas. The silo is what is needed to overcome the difficulties you mention in saving dry fodder. Our book "Silos, Silage and Cattle Feeding," gives all needed instruction for building and operating silos, and the value of silage as a food for cattle. Price 50 cents.—ED.]

AS SEEN FROM THE PLOW HANDLES.

RISING STAR, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

The reason why we people of the South, and farmers especially, are being more heavily oppressed every year is the great topic of the day. We suffer with the nation, and frequently suffer greatly when the other parts of this great commonwealth is at ease. Why is this so, and what is the remedy? The solution of this question is taxing the brains of our wisest statesmen. Suppose we leave the common rut of thought, dropping all political party prejudices, and we, even uneducated farmers, can see some of the causes of our hard times.

We shall not go further back than just prior to the war. We of the Southern States were in the minority in our halls of legislation, and though our representatives, than whom braver and brainier men never walked the face of the earth, were outvoted, and we were not given our rights, we seceded and rebelled—and how foolish we acted, we now, after years of toil and hardships, see too plainly. After the war, where pounds of oppression were laid on our shoulders before, hundreds were laid, and an enormous national debt was to pay, and poor, weak, impoverished cripples as we were, we must be a great factor in paying that debt. We had rebelled, and there was no mercy for us. A heavy protective tariff was laid on us, forcing us to pay the manufacurer of the Northeast his own price, even though it was double what the same goods could be had at from other countries. Then came the grand climax in the way of curses to the people of the South, the most humiliating and the most grinding of all, the pension curse. This thing was not brought about by a patriotic love for the soldier. No, no; it was a bribe for the soldiers' vote, and today a blacker curse does not stand recorded against the congress of this United States of America than the pension act. It is robbing the very vitality, more especially of the South. Talk about the purchasing clause of the Sherman act being the cause of our trouble, when pensioners are paid every month more than that amount, and not a cent is left to show for it, while in the silver purchasing act the full worth of the money paid is left. Shame, shame on the men that will hide behind such a flimsy subterfuge. If you are in doubt of these things, please get some of your friends who are posted to figure out what the government is paying every month on the war tax and to pensioners; then please get them to figure out what the head of each family has to pay for this grinding protection we have. I am talking to brother farmers. I am a farmer, and am not electioneering. Will never be a candidate for any office. I am old and worn out, and if what I say dont suit any party, all right. I want to speak the truth as I think I find it in my limited knowledge. I have, I think, stated the cause of our great privations: this continual drainage of our life's blood to the Northeast. Short crops cut a great figure now.

This monetary trouble is hurting us at present, and should silver ever become demonetized it would finish the ruin of the debtor class, which is the South and West. When I say demonetized, I mean when it is entirely wiped out as a money metal. What shall we do? Is there any hope for us? Can we help ourselves? Will a new party change the matter any? What could a new party do in the South that is not being done? If every member of congress had been sent by the Populist party could they do any more than the Democrats are doing? Haven't our representatives in congress always, nearly to a man, fought for the interest of the South, let him be Whig or Democrat, or Democrat or Populist? Even when the representatives of the South were voting that curse on us, the pension fraud, did they not hope thereby to get in power, so as to be able to throw off some of the load? But what a blunder; they never knew the enormity until those millions are being wrenched from their poor suffering constituents. Dont understand me that I oppose the government taking care of the disabled old soldier that cannot take care of himself. No; but there is not a man in congress today that would dare say that one-fifth of the money paid in pensions goes to such. My brother farmer, when it comes to us getting up a new party or scheme to make those Northern and Northeastern states vote our way, it is a failure as sure as we breathe. I am not able to advise much. I am trumped. One thing we must do; we must stay out of debt. The time is short, is even now here, that a man in debt is worse than a slave. We must quit trying to live like our neighbors, but we must live as we are able. If in debt, get out, If it comes to bread and water and the stopping your children from school. Yes, even though your wife and daughters have to walk to church in calico dresses. Get out of debt! Yes even if you have to give up your tobacco and wear your last year's clothes to church, you must not be in debt. I wish it could be emblazoned upon every door post, "Debt means slavery," in the near future; and is even now near the door. HORNET.

MEXICAN JUNE CORN AND VINELESS YAMS.

NEW BOSTON, TEXAS.

Editor Texas Farm and Ranch:

I notice a correspondent giving his success with the bunch yam potatoes. He puts it ahead of all others and gives our old time Georgia yam a back-handed lick. Now it is very hard for me to throw cold water on any advance in agriculture, but there are two booms that are dead flats with me, and they are the bunch yam and the Mexican June corn. The fault may be mine with the bunch yam, but the Mexican June corn is nothing more nor less than a trifling, small variety of flint corn. The reason it will not make, planted in the spring, is because it is a native of a much longer season than we have; consequently much later; therefore must make its ear in July and August drouth, instead of June and July, when seasonable. This is the same reason it stands the drouth. Planted in June, its late maturing causes it to pass through drouth in a shape that requires but little moisture or plant food, while our native corn will mature. I tried it this season, planted at different periods, side by side with our large Southern corn. Where the rains struck both at earing time, the large Southern corn made four times as much per acre. Where the drouth struck both at earing time, the large Southern corn held its color, better and made twice as much as the Mexican June corn. There is just one place it fits and but this one. It is good for cutting before it shows its tassel, and feeding green to milch cows. It makes an immense amount of very fine fodder, cut at this stage, to feed green. It has too much water in it to pay for curing. It grows very tall. Some of my ears are twelve to fourteen feet from the ground. It looks very funny to see such a mammoth stalk, with two or three little ears. Corn, or any other plant, planted where the season is shorter than where it originated, will always grow much larger plants, with richer foliage and fruiting will not be in proportion. I have made a a number of tests of corn and cotton.

Now my mode of cultivating the bunch yam may not be right, or my culture of Yellow Vine Yam better suited to their growth than your correspondent, so I will give you a short outline of my plans: The first thing is, if possible, to select a piece of black jack and black hickory land, where the red clay comes up to within a few inches of the surface. Although not a leguminous plant with nodular microbes on its roots, the vines make a dense shade, and this dense shade gathers nitrogen and carbonic acid from the atmosphere in much larger portions than is best for the tubers making on soils where potash is lacking, or not applied when land is being prepared. I bed up during the winter as deep as I can, three and one-half to four feet wide ridges, plowing in all the trash I can. I dont sub-soil, but turn the subsoil out on the top of the bed. In this shape I let it lie until wanted for the slips, if it does, not become foul.

I am in no great hurry to bed out my potatoes. I put them out about the first of March or early corn planting time. When I am scarce of potatoes or have plenty of cotton seed and stable manure, I make what I call a hot bed, by digging a hole fifteen to eighteen inches deep, filling half full of sound cotton seed, then pouring on water and packing them down. I then fill the hole to within about one inch of the top with unfermented stable manure. Then I pour on more water, until well wet, and pack down again. Next, set a six inch plank at south side and a twelve inch plank at north side, and slope end plank, so as to make a box to keep rats out and to cover from the cold rains of early spring. I put about one inch of rich dirt on this manure, and lay on my potatoes, and cover with rich dirt about two inches deep. When I have plenty of seed I take the old and common plan of elevating a rich or manured spot on the south side of a wall or fence.

I do no like to set out slips before the heavy rains and cold nights of spring are over; so I take off my first drawing and put them out in the cold, wet soil by trenching—that is, thick, like a bed. I let

a serious injury to the tree. Many a young tree is set out, and being permitted to bear heavily from the start, never attains to any size. It has all it can do perfecting the fruit, and can spare nothing for wood growth. This is worse for the tree than its growing vigorously, and it is stunted from the start. But to return to root pruning: Be it pear, cherry, plum or any other fruit tree, if it be full size for bearing, and does not do it, root prune it and you will accomplish what you so earnestly desire.

A VALUABLE FRUIT.

Worthington's Magazine.

Chemically, the apple is composed of vegetable fibre, albumen, sugar, gum, chlorophyl, malic acid, gallic acid, lime, and much water. Furthermore, the German analysts say that the apple contains a larger percentage of phosphorus than any other fruit or vegetable. The phosphorus is admirably adapted for renewing the essential nervous matter of the brain and spinal cord. It is, perhaps, for the same reason, rudely understood, that old Scandinavian traditions represent the apple as the food of the gods, who, when they felt themselves to be growing feeble and infirm, resorted to this fruit for renewing their powers of mind and body. Also, the acids of the apple are of signal use for people of sedentary habits, whose livers are sluggish in action, those acids serving to eliminate from the body noxious matters, which, if retained, would make the brain heavy and dull, or bring about jaundice or skin, eruptions, and other allied troubles. Some such an experience must have led to our custom of taking apple sauce with roast pork, rich goose, and like dishes. The malic acid of ripe apples, either raw or cooked, will neutralize any excess of chalky matter engendered by eating too much meat. It is also the fact that such fresh fruits as the apple, the pear, and the plum, when taken ripe and without sugar, diminish acidity in the stomach rather than provoke it. Their vegetable sauces and juices are converted into alkaline carbonates, which tend to counteract acidity.

THE GARDEN SPOT OF EARTH.

San Antonio News.

The soil and climate of Southwest Texas are most admirably adapted to fruit and grape culture, and when this fact becomes generally known, orchards and vineyards will become the order of the day. Fruit and grape culture have become immensely profitable since the increased facilities for transportation have opened a market in every part of the Union, for the sale of fruit and grapes. Growers of fruit and grapes are no longer dependent upon the limited local markets, as in times past, for the sale of their products, but enjoy easy access to a hundred large cities, brimming over with wealth. It is amusing to see men rushing wildly into the Cherokee strip in quest of homesteads and lands, with an assured certainty of having to endure all the disadvantages and discomforts incident to a wild and new country, when millions of acres of rich lands await settlement in Southwest Texas at cheap rates. The climate of Southwest Texas is pregnant with health. It is dry and invigorating—the air is bracing and healing to weak lungs, and there are neither dense swamps nor lagoons to generate malaria. With ordinary prudence men and women ought to live to the age of an hundred years. Men can grow rich by fruit and grape culture, and enjoy splendid health all the year round. By means of irrigation, Southwest Texas could easily supply the United States with vegetables, and by boring artesian wells every man can irrigate his farm at pleasure. Here is the garden spot of the Union, and the best climate on the globe for health.

YOU SHOULD KNOW

That the International & Great Northern R. R. is the direct line to Austin, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Rockport and to Monterey, 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.

AFFLECK'S FARM ACCOUNT BOOK.

Splendidly arranged for keeping complete accounts of farm transactions. This book retails for $2.50, but TEXAS FARM AND RANCH is able to offer it and one year's subscription to the paper for $2.50, postpaid. Order at once as the cheap supply is limited.

FRUIT TREES

Peaches, 60 varieties, new and old; pears, all kinds, immense stock; Plums, Japan and native; Satsuma Oranges, hardy and early; tested varieties Japan Persimmons; Grapes; Pecans; Walnuts; Chestnuts; Olives; Apricots; Figs; Mulberries; Pomegranates; Camphor trees; Texas Umbrella; Grevillea Robusta; Magnolia Grandiflora; Citrus Trifoliata; Roses, etc. Ten years' trade with **FOR THE** Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi enables us to grow just what planters want. Same latitude and conditions; especially located to produce fine stock, upon which our reputation has been built. Prices reasonable. Catalogue free. Correspondence solicited. **G. L. Taber, Glen St. Mary Nurseries, Glen St. Mary, Fla.**

GULF STATES

CHOICE FRUITS, Flowers, roses, ornamental shrubbery, shade trees, evergreens, etc.

NEW AND RARE VARIETIES.

40,000 Russian, Chinese and others apricot trees, all one and two years, No. 1, at $5 to $12 per 100. Special discount to the trade. No agents. Buy direct from the Nursery and save time and money. $1000 worth of valuable books for Fruit Growers, Farm, Garden and Household given as premiums on orders for Nursery stock. Write for price list and catalogue. Address EMPORIA NURSERY, Emporia, Kan.
W. R. GIBSON, Proprietor.

PARIS NURSERIES.

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

All home grown and thoroughly tested.

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

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SEND FOR OUR
NEW LIST
Telling what to plant and where to plant it, and how to have
Fruit, and Plenty of it, in any Part of Texas.
E. W. KIRKPATRICK,
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SEEDS! SEEDS! SEEDS!

Fresh Turnip Seed, in large or small lots.
Winter Turf Oats Grown by ourselves. Don't fail to give them a trial. Send for circular.
Onion Sets, White and Red. PLANT NOW.
Seed Rye for Fall Sowing.
DRUMM SEED & FLORAL CO.
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WINTER TURF OATS.

Proven to be the best for Texas. Sow in August or September. They stand the severest winters and make twice as good pasture as wheat or rye. Yield enormously. Heavy and in every way the best oats grown.
While heaviest crops are produced on stiff black land, they are especially suited to thin lands.

Buy Your Seed of the Grower.

Warranted pure and free from Johnson Grass seeds.
To the Trade I can furnish these oats by the hundred bushels or car load lot.

H. E. SINGLETON,
LEBANON, Collin Co., TEXAS,
Breeder of Holstein Cattle, Poland China Hogs, Angora Goats, Langshan Chickens, M. B. Turkeys.

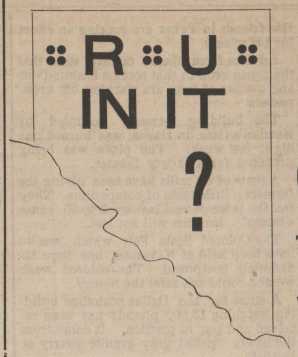
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THE BEST COUNTY

The One Offering Most Inducements to Immigrants.

Your Vote May Decide it.

The County receiving most votes by December 25th, 1893, will receive

A BIG PRIZE.

We will tell you what it is if you will write and ask.

PRESENTS FOR VOTERS.

EVERY DAY some voter will get a valuable present, absolutely FREE.

BESIDES THESE,

The person sending in the largest number of votes for the successful County, will receive one fully paid

Life Scholarship in ANY Business College in the Country, FREE,

provided not less than 1000 votes are to his or her credit, and that the total vote for the successful County shall not be less than 5000 votes.

This scholarship will entitle the holder to a full course of tuition in the college selected, any time during the lifetime of the lucky holder of the FREE certificate.

PRESENTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.

EVERY DAY some subscriber who sends in $1 for one annual subscription to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH will get a SPECIAL PRESENT. One dollar must accompany each and every subscription if it is to participate in the distribution of presents. You may get a $65 Sewing Machine or something else, but whatever it is, it will be FREE. There is absolutely nothing to pay for the present or a chance to get one.

There is no charge whatever for the votes; all are free. You are not compelled to send in a dollar for a year's subscription in order to vote, but we hope you will. We only require you to use our blank tickets. You may get a valuable present for your FREE vote.

VOTE.

In accordance with the proposition of Texas Farm and Ranch, I vote that the BEST COUNTY is

_____

WRITE NAME OF COUNTY ON THIS LINE.

State _____

My Name is

_____

P. O. _____

State _____

Texas Farm and Ranch, Dallas, Texas.

That there may be NO CHANCE for misunderstanding, we repeat the general proposition:

THE VOTES ARE ALL FREE.
THE PREMIUMS FOR VOTES ARE ABSOLUTELY FREE.
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THE COUNTY RECEIVING THE LARGEST NUMBER GETS THE BIG PRIZE.
THE FREE LIFE SCHOLARSHIP GOES TO SOME VOTER.
THE FREIGHT ON THE PRESENTS IS FREE.
THERE IS NO GUESSING, NO DRAWING, AND NO LOTTERY SCHEME.

Send in your votes, as many as you like; they are free. Send 10c. for extra voting blanks, and send for extra sample copies for your friends. See that your County wins, and in addition you may be lucky enough to get a valuable present for yourself, free of a cent of cost. See that subscriptions to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH roll in from your postoffice. There may be another present for you from that source. Clubs of subscribers supplied with extra voting blanks free, the number depending on the size of the club.

Address **TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Tex.**

Poultry and Bees.

Fall chicks now, or soon to be out of the shell will be found ready sale at any time during the winter when the cool weather has sharpened the appetite and loosened the purse string.

The present extremely dry weather presents the best opportunity to poultry raisers to secure an abundance of the best deodorizer and absorbent known—dry road dust. Dust from clayey soils is best, because it is finer than any other. A barrel full will go a long way towards keeping chickens in good condition. Half fill some soap boxes, or make a long shallow trough and fill it one-fourth full, and see the hens will take to it like a duck to water.

We have read a great deal of nonsense about the certain failure resulting from keeping fowls in close quarters. Who has not heard or read, often, and oftener, that more than 100 fowls per acre was to court disaster? The writer had a pen of Langshans—cock and six hens—in a run 20x75 feet, about one-thirtieth of an acre. In this small enclosure were hatched more than 100 chicks, and fifty of these were therein kept until ready for market. Adjoining this run on one side was a dense mat of Bermuda grass; on the other side was the kitchen garden. The fowls were abundantly supplied with vegetable food from the garden or sods of Bermuda, and were liberally fed with wheat and corn. Some of these won prizes at shows, and were as healthy a flock as one could want. This is not an exceptional case. More fowls have been kept on even a smaller run in perfect health. Cleanliness, dryness, sound food, with plenty of it, fresh and green, with immunity from vermin, will do the work.

YES, WHY NOT?

Uncle Snort opened up the subject of a State Poultry and Pet Stock Association for Texas. The scheme is a good one, and lacks nothing but enterprise on the part of the breeders to make it go. We had such an organization some years ago, but it ripened prematurely, and fell from the tree, and disappeared. Texas breeders cannot expect to go on forever in a kind of "every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost" manner, and succeed. In such races the devil not only gets the hindmost, but most of the others also There are needed ends in poultry breeding and selling that can only be attained through an organization. At present there are irregularities that affect the standing and business of those who do not, as well as those who do practice them. Express charges, and shows, and everything relating to their management, come under the appropriate jurisdiction of a state association. There are hundreds of people, posing as poultry breeders, and competing at poultry shows with cross-bred fowls and mongrels, and many of them really do not know any better. These ought to be ruled out and placed in the category where they belong. An effort will be made during the State Fair to get breeders enough together to organize a state association that will stick. In the meantime we would like to hear from some of our prominent breeders on this subject.

A CLEAN POULTRY HOUSE.

NELLIE HAWKS.

As I have said before, a dirty poultry house, very like a dirty kitchen, is an abomination, nor will I tolerate this condition where lives either my family and self or my faithful, much loved helpers in the poultry corner of my little farm home. Moreover, I am entirely capable of, and not one bit above, the cleaning to a state of comfort and order; neither the one nor the other, and I am just as apt to be found in the vicinity of my poultry yards and houses at any hour of the day as in kitchen or other departments of the house where a woman is said to "reign as a queen," although the cleaning up process in both directions is the work of morning hours at our house. I fear I hardly bear the appearance of a "queen," unless it be in the role of queen of the dust. However, as I proceed in a direct line from the hen house to the bath tub with dust stained face, hands and gown, my head enveloped in a huge dusting cap and a raft of feathered harpsters following close at my heels, chanting praises to their mistress of the "poultry ranch" for oft repeated favors of food, drink, and a nice, clean house. Yes, sir! And I am just so constituted as to like this same dirty work, and then the refreshing bath and clean clothes that follow, and just so simple hearted that I actually enjoy the companionship of all those white beauties. Never do I consider it a hardship to take hoe, shovel and broom and proceed to remove from roosts and floor the accumulations of droppings, and I do not consider it filthy work at all. It is dusty work, though, for I use a great deal of fine dust and air slaked lime under and about the roosts. But another thing I am using a great deal this season, under the roosts and all over the hen house floor, is plenty of gravel and sand, and I find it such a help in keeping the house clean and making the floors easy to clean. We never lived quite so conveniently near a sand bank before. But hereafter there will be no lack of sand, to use as freely as I please, and I shall please to use a great deal of it in course of a season. Then out on the garden and different parts of the farm goes this mixture of sand, lime, dust and droppings, and every good farmer and gardener knows well the results of this manner of saving the hen house and poultry yard refuse.

The yards and brood coops also receive their share of sweeping and cleaning, and are plentifully sprinkled with sand and the air slaked lime, and with lice I am having no trouble whatever. Yet, for fear of them, the old mother hens upon their sand nests are given, about once a week, a good dusting of insect powder, puffed into their feathers with a powder gun for that purpose, and I use lime and dust about them and their nests also, feeling that one can hardly overdo the precautionary measure. All this is but little work compared with ridding a lot of chicks of these pests. Occasionally, too, after the little ones are snuggled under the mother hen for the night, I lift her and again fill her feathers with the powder, and very carefully puff more of it over the brood, watching not to puff it in their eyes.

I do not believe that lice can possibly exist anywhere about my poultry premises this summer, for I have grown more and more careful and thorough instead of less so; nor is there one-half the hard work about it that it seems when just reading of the methods described. It takes but a little time each morning to make all clean for the day; and it is hard to tell who enjoys this clean hen house most—the bid dies or myself. At least I know that it pays me well to look after their general health, and cleanliness is surely one of the "royal roads" to health; and the next consideration is proper food, sufficient food, and a frequent change of the dish of warm water for that fresh and cool from the well. The water grows warm so soon through the hot summer days, and they so enjoy a good cold drink, and from my doors to theirs is so short a distance, that I never "forget," and neglect their needs of food and water any more than I do to clean out their house for them.

Not long since, one of the well-known poultry writers of the day, quoting from an article of mine, says: "'A poultry house should be cleaned every morning in summer time,' cackles one poultry writer, whose name is not suggestive of long life to chickens. And if she wants to clean her poultry mansion she can, but we dont want so much cleaning in ours." Of course I readily recognized the sentence quoted, and we all know there is no other poultry writer whose name is "not suggestive of long life to chickens." Rather an odd name for a poultry breeder and writer. That is verily so. Nor would it be so very strange did that woman poultry writer, with the odd "suggestive" name, occasionally "cackle," from the fact of her spending so much time with her poultry. But I can't begin to express my appreciation of the privilege granted me—that of being allowed to clean my poultry house as often as I please, and with this permission fresh in mind I shall dare once more to "cackle" forth the truth, that a poultry house should be cleaned every morning in summer time; that is, it will positively do no harm; of that, I can assure you.

Hot weather intensifies the vile odor of a dirty poultry house, hence the necessity of greater care then than any time of the year.

But where one cannot so often clean out the house, a quantity of dust thrown over the accumulation of the night before will help very materially to keep down the smell, nor will you find it poor economy to use plenty of air slaked lime. I have great faith in it and we use lots of it.

Friend, Neb.

PROFITABLE POULTRY FARMING.

A book bearing the above title, by Michael K. Boyer, "Uncle Mike," editor of the Cousins' League of TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, and the well known broiler raiser and writer on poultry topics, has just been published, and contains many valuable hints and suggestions to those who desire to make poultry pay. The author says he has written the book "for the purpose of assisting the novice who has taken on the 'hen fever' and would like practical advice with the enthusiasm left off." Its motive is to show how money can be made on small farms with poultry as an adjunct to other sources of income, and it is based upon the author's own large personal experience, together with his observations during an extended tour among the leading poultry farms of the country. It begins with the beginner at the beginning, makes suggestions in regard to the selection of stock, crosses, use of thoroughbreds, and how to have hardy fowls; teaches the principles of artificial incubation, feeding chicks, etc., gives hints to the establishment of yards and the building of poultry houses, the testing of eggs, how to breed, feed, raise and dress ducks, etc. Not the least valuable portion of the book is that part of it which is devoted to notices of the various poultry supplies which poultrymen must have and in the purchase of which the beginner is so often deceived. We can furnish this book to any of our readers on the receipt of 25 cents, at which figure the owner of even a dozen fowls will find it a profitable investment. Address TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

Gen. R. M. Gano, Dallas, Texas, advertises, on page 3, a fine family carriage horse for sale.

THE OFFER OF THE SEASON.

One years subscription to The Dallas Democrat, an 8 page, 48 column, weekly family newspaper, full of news from all over Texas and the whole world, Talmage's sermons, good stories, etc., published at Dallas, one years subscription to TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, which needs no further introduction here, a ticket to the Texas State Fair, at Dallas, which opens October 14 and closes Oct. 29, 1893, and a railroad and county map of Texas, 22x32 inches, all for $1 75. Think of it. Subscribe now. Address all orders to,

THE DEMOCRAT, Dallas, Texas.

LOWER RATES AND LONGER LIMITS

On tickets to the World's Fair at Chicago, and to St. Louis, Mo., were demanded by the people, and to meet their wishes, the Texas & Pacific Railway is now selling tickets to Chicago and St. Louis, Mo., at

ONE FAIR FOR THE ROUND TRIP.

Plus $2 00, the tickets being limited to thirty (30) days for return, and good in sleeping cars. The months of September and October are conceded to be the most pleasant to visit the World's Fair, and visitors to the Fair should not overlook the Annual Fall Festivities at St. Louis, with the finest street illuminations ever devised, a sight once seen, never to be forgotten. The Texas & Pacific Railway is the best line to enable passengers to visit these two important points, with its fast Cannon Ball train, and through sleeping car service, saving passengers many hours of the journey between Texas and St. Louis. Ask any Ticket agent for further particulars, or better still, write either of the undersigned.

GASTON MESLIER,
Gen'l Pass. & T'kt Ag't.,
W. A. DASHIELL,
Trav. Pass. Ag't., Dallas, Texas.

DESPITE HARD TIMES.

The "Cotton Belt Route" improved its passenger service by the addition, August 20th, of another through train from Waco which carries a Pullman Sleeper from St. Louis via St. L. I. M. & S Ry. from Texarkana and through coaches connecting with Pullman Sleeper from Fort Worth at Mt. Pleasant to Memphis, giving its patrons double daily service to and from St. Louis, Chicago, Memphis and the Southeast.

SCHEDULE.

Train No. 2 READ DOWN.		Train No. 1. READ UP.
4 30 p. m.	Lv Gainesville via Cotton Belt. Ar	12 30 p. m.
5 45 "	McGregor " "	10 50 a. m.
7 05 "	Waco " "	9 30 "
10 00 "	Corsicana " "	6 25 "
11 32 "	Athens " "	4 54 "
3 15 a. m.	Tyler " "	1 20 "
4 15 "	Mt. Pleasant " "	12 20 a. m.
6 45 "	At Texarkana via Cotton Belt. Lv	9 50 p. m.
7 35 "	Texarkana " " Ar	9 00 "
8 10 p. m.	Lv Iron Mount'n Ar	8 45 "
	Ar Little Rock " Lv	6 55 "
	Ar Memphis " " Lv	7 45 a. m.

Write your friends coming to Texas to take the "Cotton Belt Route."

A. A. GLISSON,
T. P. A., Fort Worth, Texas.
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hear from some of the older members. I am young and far from perfection.

Are we not to have those badges? They would be so nice.

Mrs. R. M. B., call your sweet little girl Mable Mary, the sweetest of all names, and suggestive of all that is good and pure.

I have had the promise of a souvenir from the World's Fair, but it is so long coming that I am beginning to feel disappointed.

Rhea's Mills, Texas.

CONTENTMENT AND CHICKENS.

HESTER KIRKE.

Kate Sanborn, the authoress, seeks diversion from mental cares by a devotion to poultry. Her henneries are modern in all their conveniences, and every device of man or aid of science is followed to make her chicken farm a success. It is needless to say that many of her brilliant articles have been thought out while she was gathering eggs or attending to the wants of her little charges. There are many vexations in poultry raising, but if a woman is allowed the free use of the money she has earned in the care and sale of fowls, there is something satisfactory in the work done. I know children that have made themselves happy by naming chickens pet names. One little cousin of mine had an Agamemnon, an Achilles, Mary Queen of Scotts and Pocahontas.

It seems to me that a woman seems more contented with her lot as wife and mother if she takes an interest in her pretty White Leghorns or stately Plymouth Rocks. I don't know the philosophy of the case, but some how I feel as if women ought to love chickens and flowers. What a paradox! For, were two things ever more antagonistic than a flower bed and an old hen bent on worms? Am I wrong, or am I right? Is there any satisfaction in raising chickens outside of their culinary or financial value?

Galveston, Texas.

HINTS.

Sand in the oven.—Sprinkle a layer of sand in the oven and let the cake pans rest upon it. This will prevent the cakes from burning on the bottom.

All kinds of canned food have a more delicious flavor if they are turned out upon a platter or other flat dish an hour or two to regain the oxygen that was used when they were sealed hot.

For mending china.—A strong, perfectly colorless cement is made by dissolving a half ounce of gum arabic in a wineglass of boiling water and adding plaster of Paris to form a thick paste. Use at once, applying with a brush.

Borax.—The cleanly borax seems to be offensive to most insects, and woolen goods are well defended from their invasions, if they are sprinkled with borax and wrapped in newspaper.

To can pears.—One pound of sugar, four pounds of pears, the grated yellow rind of one lemon, one quart of water. Pare the pears, throw them into cold water. When you have enough to fill one or two jars, take them from the water, put them in a porcelain-lined kettle, cover with boiling water, stand them on the back part of the fire where they will scarcely bubble, until tender. While they are cooking, put the sugar and water in another kettle, stir the sugar until it is dissolved, add the lemon rind, and boil three minutes. When the pears are sufficiently tender to admit of a straw, lift them carefully with a strainer from the water into the syrup, bring to a boiling point, skim and can.

Grape preserves.—Squeeze the pulp from each grape with your fingers, put the pulps in the preserving kettle, and boil until soft. Press all the pulps through a colander, leaving the seeds behind; add the pulp to the skins and measure. Allow pint for pint of sugar and fruit, put all together in the preserving kettle and boil until clear and thick, from half to three quarters of an hour.

Preserves of green grapes are also very nice. Halve green grapes and remove the seeds with a pen knife. Allow equal measures of fruit and sugar, and boil for about three-quarters of an hour.

THE CIGARETTE AS A BOY-KILLER.

Exchange.

Somebody has facetiously dubbed the cigarette the "white coffin nail." There is a dreadful reality in the joke. The cigarette is a boy-killer in dead earnest. Dr. Leslie E. Keeley strongly condemns the prevalent evil of cigarette smoking. He says: "The cigarette habit, so called, has become so prevalent in the last few years that in all cities you are confronted by them in the mouths of men and boys, ranging from the bank-clerk to the bootblack. Too much cannot be said against this soul-sapping, body-demoralizing abomination of to-day. The make-up and contents of the cigarette generally found in the market, and smoked by all classes who "affect" them to-day is that of unripe or imperfectly prepared tobacco. This tobacco is usually soaked in nicotine, which is largely impregnated with opium, stramonium and belladonna. The wrapper of each cigarette is generally rice paper, whitened with arsenic. It will readily be seen, therefore, that the main evil of cigarette smoking arises from carbonmonoxide, which is extremely poisonous on account of its strong affinity for the hæmoglobin in the blood, which brings about the cardiac inhibition and heart-failure. Every day the papers are filled with some story of death by heart-failure from the excessive use of cigarettes; and sixteen states, by legislative action, have prohibited their use among boys for this reason. It is the duty of every family physician to explain to those over whose health he has supervision the evil consequences of the use of cigarettes, and it ought to be the duty of the secular and religious press to denounce their use at every opportunity, as in every case they bring about a desire for either opium or alcoolic drinks."

ECONOMY THAT IS NOT ECONOMY.

Home Journal.

We women are such extremists that if we start in to economize, we do so with such a vengeance that in a very little time no one could tell whether we were striving to be economical or miserly. Economy is a very wise and prudent thing, but there are some species of true economy that the great majority of women fail to appreciate. They do not see any economy in hiring a good servant when they can do the work just as well themselves. Yet they fail to consider the wear and tear on the system and the dead-tired feeling that comes at the end of the day, when such a course is followed day in and day out.

What they gain in money they lose in strength and happiness besides, for the husband who comes home at night seeking a congenial companion, and finding in her stead a peevish, worked-out wife, who hasn't the ambition even to look over the evening paper, will soon get in the way of going where things are brighter and pleasanter. It is better to have a smaller bank account and a less showy wardrobe and pay for a strong, able woman, who will lighten your labors and leave you free to be a sweet and genial wife and mother, around whom all the pleasant home interests center.

It is economy to buy labor-saving inventions; it is economy to consult a physician at the first symptoms of a cough, instead of waiting until his services will be required two or three times a day. In fact, it is economy to do everything that tends to keep you in good health and in good spirits.

St. Louis Republic: Of all the love affairs in the world, remarks an exchange, none can surpass the true love of a big boy for his mother. It is pure and noble and honorable in the highest degree to both. We do not mean a mere dutiful affection. We mean a love that makes a boy gallant and courteous to his mother, saying to everybody plainly that he is in love with her. Next to the love of a husband, nothing crowns a woman's life with such honor and happiness as this. We never yet knew a boy to turn out hopelessly bad who began by being in love with his mother. Any man may fall in love with a fresh-faced girl, and the man who is gallant to the girl may cruelly neglect his worn and weary wife. But the boy who is a lover of his mother in her middle age; is a true knight who will love his wife as much in her scarleaved autumn as he did in the daisied springtime.

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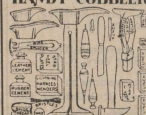
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FARM AND STOCK.

It is practical economy to market feed by feeding for market.

Winter barley, wheat or rye should be sown to provide green feed for the young stock during the winter months.

The main point to keep your eye on in sheep raising is to prevent loss. Do this, and the profits will come in due course of time.

Sorghum is a very desirable feed for horses when properly cured. It is greatly relished, and its effect on the general condition of the animal is highly beneficial.

Breed roadsters, draught, saddle or carriage horses, as your inclination may direct, but always try to produce the best of its class, and be satisfied with nothing less

A mud hole is not the proper place for hogs to bathe. They are always reeking with germs and unutterably filthy. Hogs resort to such places for want of something better.

There is an increasing demand for good mutton. Wool may go up or down in response to supply and demand, but good mutton sheep will always bring good prices.

All things considered, the blue grass region, the bear grass region, or, for that matter, any other region, will have to take a back seat when it comes to producing fine stock.

In order to keep pace with the speed of our present day racers, the seasons now pass so rapidly that we can scarcely realize that spring "is here" before we are unmistakably reminded that winter is upon us.

It is a matter of great surprise to those who come to Texas from the older States, to see the superior quality of the stock to be seen on every hand, and they invariably come to the conclusion that Texas is "in it."

To feed sparingly is a waste of feed. This is paradoxical, but literally true. An animal can be kept in a thrifty condition with less food than will be required to bring up a poor beast and keep it in good condition.

A farmer should keep no unprofitable animal on his premises. It is often the case that one or two cows eat up the profit of all the others. Get rid of all such, speedily. The farmer's profits are small enough at best.

Some farmers make a bale of cotton to every acre planted; some make more. Two, three and even four bales have been made. When a really good farmer, who knows cotton from away back, undertakes to win a valuable premium for the best acre of cotton, he astonishes the country for miles around by the magnitude of the yield. Now what does this prove? That the present average yield is a disgrace to agriculture. If farmers uniformly surpass the average, and surpass it greatly, when they try, why should not more of them try?

The Texas State Swine Breeders' Association will meet at the State Fair Grounds on October 24th. The annual election of officers and other matters of importance will be before the meeting. All members should attend. Every person interested in swine improvement should be there to see what will be done, and to join the Association.

Every farmer knows that it is profitable to feed stock well, to water stock well, and to house stock well, and on no occasion to overwork an animal. There is another element of profit that is not sufficiently known or appreciated. It is this: All domestic animals should be treated kindly, respectfully, if you like the word, and even affectionately. To do this sometimes requires self control, but a man who cannot control himself cannot properly control anything else.

There is a great deal of coarse feed on every farm that only cows can convert into cash. In this part of the country the time honored custom is to let this coarse feed go to waste. There is enough of it wasted every year in Texas to feed all the milch cows in the State and winter all the beef cattle raised on the farms. When farmers are advised to use better economy, they often declare that they are already the victims of too much forced economy —that they live coarsely and scantily and feed their stock in the same way. It is hard to convince them that this is the opposite of economy. Parsimony should never be confounded with economy. It is the sort of economy practiced by the man whose wine was escaping at the bung and also at a worm-hole, when he spent his time whittling pegs to stop the latter. Is it economy to raise a big crop of corn and save only the ears and husks, when the stalks and blades contain as much nutritive value as the grain? Farmers should begin the study of economy by first learning what it is; and then, if they do not already, learn how to practice it.

It takes good stock to make a satisfactory pork hog at the age of nine or ten months, and farmers should keep no other sort. It does not follow that everything must be thoroughbred. Judiciously bred-up swine, properly cared for and fed, will come to time. Plenty of good green pasturage, such as oats, barley, sorghum, with roots and melons until October, when grain should be added until corn forms the bulk of the feed, and by December they will be ready to slaughter, and close inspection of the carcass will show that their heads have not been eaten off.

TO THE JERSEY BREEDERS OF TEXAS.

The annual meeting of the Texas Jersey Cattle Club is hereby called to convene at the TEXAS FARM AND RANCH Building, on the Fair Grounds, in Dallas, Texas, on the 23d day of October. 1893, at 3 o'clock p. m. A full attendance of the membership is desired, and the presence of the Jersey Breeders who are not members is cordially invited.

On Tuesday, October 24th, 1893, the Jersey cattle at the State Fair will be exhibited in the show ring.

J. O. TERRELL, Secretary. S. L. BURNAP, President.

NITRIFICATION.

What it is, What it Does, How it Takes Place, And When.

[Copyrighted by the author, G. H. TURNER.]

1. WHAT IT IS. Nitrification consists in the formation of nitrates; or, to make the matter as plain as possible, the production of nitre, more commonly known as saltpetre. It is not our desire or intention to consider the natural sources of nitrates, nor the artificial production of nitre, as referring to the commercial product; but to confine ourselves to nitrification as produced by a living organism, and on the soil of our farms.

2 WHAT IT DOES. Nitrification being the formation of nitrates, and nitrates being the form—and the only form—in which nitrogen becomes available as plant food; and nitrogen being absolutely indispensable to the healthy growth of all animals as well as all plants, it is easy to be seen that as long as nitrification is progressing our supply of nitrogen is on the increase; while, whenever from any cause this important process ceases—as there is no stand-still in nature—our supply of nitrogen is constantly and rapidly being diminished.

3. HOW IT TAKES PLACE. As previously stated, it is the work of our "wee sma'" friends, the bacteria, and is a strictly chemical process. It is carried on by two separate and distinct families of bacteria; each family, or distinct group of organisms performing their individual share of labor, which is just half the work. The one set converts the ammonia (which is evolved during the process of decay, and that which is obtained direct from the atmosphere) into nitrite, while by the other set the nitrite is converted into nitrate.

4. WHEN NITRIFICATION TAKES PLACE (a) When the soil is well ærated; (b) when the soil is warm; (c) when the soil is moist but not saturated with water. (a) "When the soil is well ærated," viz: When the soil is so broken by the plow as to be permeable to the atmospheric air. The air must have free access within the soil, passing in, out and through freely, or the physiologico-chemical process called nitrification is either wholly suspended or proceeds so slow as to be hardly perceptible. These lower organisms, as microbes, or bacteria, are classed among the ærobic ferments; by this is meant that they need and must have the oxygen of the air to maintain their life. Their very existence depends upon it, and when deprived of it they die. (b) "When the soil is warm." Although nitrification is carried on during cool, and even cold weather, it proceeds but slowly, but whenever the thermometer rises from 55 to 100 degrees F. nitrification becomes really active and energetic, and is carried on speedily; while there is a steady decline from 100 to 130 degrees F. till at the latter point no nitrifying action takes place High temperatures destroy the nitrifying ferments, i. e.: bacteria. It is, in this country carried on most speedily from June till October; hence, in green manuring, where it is desirable that the mass of vegetable matter turned under by the plow shall decay speedily, it is best not to postpone the operation of plowing it under until too cool weather. (c) "When the soil is moist," but not saturated with water. Whenever the soil becomes surcharged with moisture, "decomposition with oxidation," i. e.: nitrification ceases, owing to the soil being so full of water that the atmospheric air cannot enter, and putrefaction or "decomposition without oxidation" takes its place. In other words, de-nitrification, or the destruction of nitrates is substituted for the nitrifying process, and as a consequence, instead of nitrogen accumulating in our low wet places, places that are continually receiving fertility that is washing down from the higher lands, and that should be our richest and strongest lands—there is (owing to the de-nitrifying process which is continually going on in all such places) an actual loss of nitrogen. Another class or family of bacteria are at work that are enemies to the farmer, more especially the slovenly farmer, the denitrifying process is being carried on, and under the influence of these denitrifying organisms carbonic acid and nitrogen are evolved and pass off into the atmosphere; and instead of being the richest and most productive land in the field, it is constantly losing instead of gaining fertility. Hence the imperative necessity existing on the part of the soil-tiller to thoroughly drain his soil, especially of pools of stagnant surface water. Likewise to open up his soil to the air so that it my be thoroughly æreated and oxydized.

As previously stated, nitrification or "decomposition of organic matter with oxidation," can take place only as the soil is loosened up by the plow, thereby giving free access to the air. The better the physical or mechanical condition of the soil, and the finer the tilth, the oftener it is cultivated, and the more complete the cultivation, thereby opening up the soil freely to heat, air and moisture, the speedier and more complete will be the nitrifying processes. While if, on the contrary, the soil is allowed to go unbroken for years, as is the case in permanent pastures and waste lands generally, as the moors and commons of the mother country, there is at first an accumulation of nitrogen, either slow or speedy, owing principally to the more or less perfect shading of the land; but this accumulation does not pass a certain point, and finally ceases altogether.

We will now briefly mention the supplies of nitrogen, which the leguminous plants obtain from the soil by means of their root-hairs, and the additional supply which they obtain directly from the atmosphere by means of the bacteria fastening on these root-hairs and forming tubercles: It is by these tubercles and the bacteria which inhabit them that the free nitrogen is abstracted from the air and stored up in the plants for their own sustenance as also for the benefit of the nitrogen consuming plants which are to follow. The better the stand, or, in other words, the more perfect the "catch," the denser the shade. Mulching, or shading the soil is nature's method of maintaining, and even of restoring fertility. The absence of strong light seems to be one—and not the least important one—of the conditions necessary for nitrification to take place. It is the experience of farmers the country over that fertility increases faster where the soil is densely shaded. In corroboration of this fact scientists have demonstrated the fact that where nitrification was progressing rapidly in partial darkness, when exposed to the full light of the sun, the work of nitrification ceased; no more nitrates formed.

By way of conclusion we would say that when a green crop is turned under in early fall, bacteria go to work upon it immediately, taking it apart and forming nitrates therefrom. These nitrates are easily soluble in water, and unless some "catch-crop" is planted immediately to consume or take up the nitrogen as fast as it is manufactured by the bacteria, when the winter rains set in it will be leached out and lost. Nitrogen is "easy to catch," but owing to its extreme solubility it is "hard to hold." Moral: Dont turn under a leguminous crop in the fall unless a "catch" crop is to be planted immediately.

Denmark, Miss.

PERIOD OF LACTATION.

Western Farm Journal.

We are inclined to believe that if those who believe in milking a cow twelve months in the year and those who allow their cows to go dry after they have been milking six or seven months would "split the difference" they would hit it about right. It is altogether too exhausting on the vitality of the cow to ask her to give milk all the year round, and while it may prove, during the first year or two, the most profitable plan to follow, the cow cannot keep it up; she goes to pieces in a few years. On the other hand it will not pay to keep a cow a year for the milk she will give during six months, although this is too frequently the limit of the period of lactation in the dairy herds of the West. A cow does not need six months in which to rest, and if given them is likely to contract bad habits that will not increase her future usefulness; she is likely to get too much in the habit of using her food to make flesh to put on her back; or if she does not do this she wastes the food, because she must do something with it, unless, indeed, she only gets enough to support her. We believe in teaching the cows to give a good flow of milk nine or ten months in the year, and better ten than nine. The heifers should be trained to do this by being milked during that length of time with every calf, even though it may not pay during the first year or two. We remember reading an address of some authority on dairying in which he said he worked the year round and he was unable to see why a cow should not do the same. A very pertinent reply to this was, that he rested on Sundays and he ought to be willing to allow the same period of rest to the cow. With which sentiment we thoroughly agree.

RIGHTS IN HORSE TRADING

Horseman.

Answering a question as to the right of a person defrauded in the purchase of a horse, it has been decided that a person defrauded in a contract has his choice of remedies. He may stand to the bargain and recover damages for the fraud, or he may rescind the contract and return the thing bought and receive back what he paid. Consequently, the fact that the purchaser of a horse pays part of the price after he learns of fraud on the part of the seller, might have the effect to deprive him of the right to cancel the trade, but should not be construed as a waiver of his right to offset the damage he has sustained against the balance due on the trade. Thus holds the Court of Civil Appeals of Texas, Mills vs. Johnson (22 Southwestern reporters, 530) Here suit was brought on two notes for $150 each and to foreclose a mortgage upon a mare, but it was answered that the notes, with another one for $150, which had since been paid, were given as a purchase price for the mare; that she was purchased for racing purposes, and the seller represented her to be sound in all respects and good for this business; that the mare was not sound, but had been afflicted with a disease which left her in such condition that when violently exercised she would choke up to such an extent as to render her unfit for racing purposes; that, had she been as represented, she would have been worth the agreed price ($450), but, as she really was, she was not worth exceeding $225, and this difference was pleaded in value in offset to the notes sued on. This answer showed that the payment of the first $150 note was after the discovery of the fraud, but alleged that it was paid under protest and with no intention of waiving the damage caused thereby. To this answer the court below sustained an exception, seemingly upon the ground that, by paying one of the notes after he had notice of the fraud that had been perpetrated upon him, the purchaser elected to ratify the trade and waived his damage. In doing this that court erred, and the Court of Appeals reversed its judgment for the reason above given.

CROSSING SHEEP.

Coleman's Rural World.

There was a time in that grand old country called England, when thoughtful farmers saw how by crossing the best of this on the best of that, they could improve the weak points here and there, and on the whole make a better cross-bred animal. They did not hesitate to make the experiment; no pessimistic feeling stayed their progress; they did not think time was too long or that the best had been produced, hence touched the button and put the machinery into motion. Does the world declaim against them for the outcome? Not if we know anything of the results of English breeding. They have, as a consequence, the best the world can produce the best the world ever saw; the Southdown, Shropshire, Oxfordshire, Lincoln, Cotswold and all the other great big, self-satisfied fellows that proudly graze their pastures and are purchased at long figures and transported thousands of miles to distant lands to improve the flocks of countries whose breeders are and were less blessed with common sense in the art of crossing

The Rural World has hinted at an effort of this kind in this country, and has stirred sluggish brains to think, and they are thinking. The school men are "fornist" it, they declaim against it, life is too short to undertake the job, besides it has already been done to our hand by other and more capable men, men of colder natures, who are able to spend more time on such a work than the hot blooded, irrepressible American. Dont go too fast, gentlemen. Could we, with our present

FARM MACHINERY

Wind mills and well drilling machinery are finding an unprecedented demand in this section. Yet this big demand is only a starter as compared to that which is to follow.

The Wallis-Lispenard cotton harvester is skirmishing around McGregor, but those who accepted leases for machines with which to gather cotton have not been supplied.

Harry H. Jones, Dallas, manager American Well Works' Texas business, has secured a fine space on the Texas State Fair grounds in which to exhibit well drilling machinery, wind mills and a full line of water supply goods.

Major A. B. Taber, manager for Mansur & Tebbets' Carriage M'f'g Co., in Texas, donated one of their splendid "Ferguson" Cradle Carts, to be used as a premium in the Swine Department Texas State Fair. It's a beauty, and the winner will be proud of it.

When the financial clouds entirely disappear and the grip of the panic lets go, by shaking up your memory you will find that the great Keating Implement & Machine Co., of Dallas, came as near running through without a riffle as any concern on earth.

In a very few weeks the cotton crop down here will all be picked, and unless the cotton picking machine man hurries up and gets his machine to work, he will find that it is a hard matter to convince the people that a howling necessity exits for such an invention.

J. W. McManus, manager B. F. Avery & Sons' Texas business is off on a visit to the factory, at Louisville, and the World's Fair. Before leaving, he donated one of the celebrated Avery Sulky Plows to be given as a premium in the Swine Department at the coming State Fair, at Dallas, October 14th to 29th.

F. F. Collins, President of the F. F. Collins Mfg. Co., of San Antonio, dropped in on us recently as he was returning from the World's Fair and other points, where he has been accompanied by his family, spending the summer. He promises at some future time to give our readers the benefit of his extensive travels by telling of farm life as he saw it.

"Good Timber, and Bone Dry," is the motto of the Winona Wagon Company, of Winona, Minn., and represents the characteristics of the famous Rushford wagons, of which they are the manufacturers. Their catalogue and price list, No. 9 has just been received, and is full of good points to be considered by wagon buyers everywhere. Send to the above address for a copy of this valuable little book.

And C. A. Keating is back to Dallas, and Trinity River Navigation problems are being worked out. Those who think results will not be obtained are unacquainted with the character and ability of the man at the head of the Trinity River Navigation Company. Such undertakings are too large to be consumated in a short space of time, but with C. A. Keating at the head of it, final success is reasonably certain.

Axes are now cheaper than ever before, and about three dollars per dozen cheaper than when the great axe makers combine undertook to control the output and prices. These prices are proof that the combine has not had everything their way, for trusts are not formed for the purpose of reducing prices to consumers, but to swallow up all competition and make prices to suit themselves. The Kelly Axe Company, of Louisville, Ky., has held out against the trust with a determined independence that deserves the praise and patronage of every person who believes in honest methods. The "Kelly Perfect Axe" has not only a reputation gained in a heated contest with a powerful combine, but is known wherever used as a "Perfect" axe.

A person visiting the World's Fair is at sight forcibly struck with the dissimilarity between foreign implements and those of American manufacture for the same purposes. In appearance our own implements at once assert their superiority, and in actual use those who have tried each say ours prove the assertion made by their more elegant attractiveness. Judging from what one can see, the manufacturers of the English and German implements must cater to customers who buy for the purpose of furnishing others in their employ, and who have no say as to the fitness of the implement for its intended uses, and one is lead to believe that the purchaser requires no other qualifications than strength, durability and cheapness. In this country the purchaser whose trade is worth the manufacturers' best efforts is the farmer whose time is spent largely in the field where the implements perform, and with such trade it is aptness and adaptability, and not merely muscle and strength, that form the bond between the manufacturer and user. On this side of the water the farmer whose trade is most sought after is a being of inteligence and independence who acts for himself, and his needs, likes and dislikes are heeded by those inventing and manufacturing for his consumption, while on the other side the creation and selection of implements come through those who are not compelled to seek his trade or consult his pleasure. Nature may be kind to him by aiding him in producing a subsistence, but the manufacturer and landlord consider him only as they do the machine with which they supply him.

A MODERN GINNERY.

Recently Wm. Burr, President Murray Ginning System Co., of this city, asked the writer to visit the ginnery of A. H. Rowe, Ennis, and the invitation was accepted for the following day. Arriving at Ennis, we immediately started for the ginnery, which was reached by a walk of about five minutes. In front wagon loads of cotton waited their turn, and to the uninitiated it appeared like a regular blockade which might require several days for complete relief. However, at the office Mr. Rowe was heard to say that every one should have his cotton ginned and baled in time to eat supper without placing that meal and breakfast nearer together than is the ordinary custom. Mr. A. H. Rowe met us with a smile that plainly told of entire satisfaction with his new outfit. He is a "tar-heel" 54 years of age; twenty-three years of his life have been spent in Texas, and for the past nineteen seasons he has been running a gin. At the first glance one recognizes the fact that Mr. Rowe has good health, fine physical development, intelligence and energy, backed by a clear conscience and well earned prosperity. The entry on our tour of inspection was made through the engine room, where was found an Ames 100 horse power automatic engine, running without a quiver and making positively as little noise as a sewing machine. From the engine room we proceeded to where the gins are located, and to one familiar with other gins and systems, it is here that surprise takes its greatest flight and genius has scored a triumphant victory. In a space less than half that required by others are placed eight 70-saw Murray gins, four on each shaft and facing each other, with a few feet between them. Above each set of four gins are Murray elevators and feeders, which are so simple and effective and occupy such small space that the entire ginning outfit appears to be automatic—and in reality it is. During the nineteen years he has been in the business, Mr. Rowe has kept himself thoroughly posted in all improvements made in cotton ginning and handling machinery, and each year the best has found its way into his gin house, and he says now that, besides doing better work, one ginner can care for eight 70-saw complete Murray outfits easier than half that number of other makes. Directly back of the gins and only a few feet distant are located two Munger double box, self-packing, revolving steam presses, to which the cotton is carried in continuous roll, each press taking care of four gins. Mr. Rowe is well known as a progressive man in the fullest sense of the term, and each year as improvements were made he watched carefully results of the tests and if the inventions proved advantageous, he adopted them. Still he informed the writer that not until he put in the Murray System and gave it a thorough trial in his own gin house did he fully appreciate its actual value and numerous advantages over all other gins and systems for handling cotton. The writer had been told before reaching Ennis, by Mr. Burr, that he would find in arrangement, compactness and convenience the model ginnery of the country, yet, with this information fresh in his mind, he must admit that he was surprised to find a ginning establishment as clean as a dry goods store and the employes as neat and showing as little fatigue as those in mercantile establishments. The arrangement for the prevention of conflagrations is so complete that in case a fire should catch in the gins or either press it could be extinguished with but the loss of only a few pounds of cotton and without stopping the machinery. So complete is the Murray System that from the time the farmer drives on the scales in front and weighs his cotton to the time he can have the finished bale on his wagon less than twenty-five minutes is required. Not a second is lost in changing from the cotton of one customer to that of another, and the roll has not been broken this season, although Mr. Rowe's gin had turned out up to September 16th, the date of the writer's vist, about 600 bales. The capacity of the ginnery is about 80 bales per day, and no time has been lost through any fault of the machinery; hence, if a supply of cotton continues to come in, Mr. Rowe can handle it more economically than in any past season. The Murray gins and system for handling cotton are Texas inventions and are manufactured by the Murray Ginning System Company of Dallas, and its great success is another link in the development of home factories and home prosperity—a condition to be devoutly wished by every good citizen of the state of Texas.

CONSUMPTION OF TIMBER.

Industrial Age.

To make shoe pegs enough for American use consumes annually 100,000 cords of timber, and to make lucifer matches, 300,000 cubic feet of the best pine are required every year.

Lasts and boot-trees take 500,000 cords of birch, beech and maple, and the handles of tools 500 000 more.

The baking of bricks consumes 2,000,000 cords of wood, or what would cover with forest about 50,000 acres of land.

Telegraph poles already represent 800,000 trees, and their annual repairs consume 300,000 more.

The ties of railroads consume annually thirty years' growth of 75 000 acres, and to fence all the railroads in the United States would cost $45 000 000 with a yearly expenditure of $15,000,000 for repairs.

These are some of the ways in which the American forests are going. There are others; packing boxes, for instance, cost in 1884 $12,000,000, while the timber used each year in making wagons and agricultural implements is valued at more than $100,000,000.

OUR BOOK REVIEW.

New books of interest to farmers and stock men should be sent to literary editor TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, Dallas, Texas.

Baker Bros., of Fort Worth, Tex., have gotten out a handsome catalogue of their flowers, bulbs, etc., which will interest all lovers of flowers as well as the growers of fruit and ornamental trees.

One of the neatest of the fall catalogues which have come to our table is that of the Texas Seed and Floral Company, of Dallas. It is a catalogue of their fall offering of seeds, bulbs and plants suitable for fall planting and is sent free to any who are interested in the subjects The catalogue is from the press of Jas. Wilkinson & Co., Dallas, and reflects credit on this enterprising firm of printers.

Last week we noticed two very important works for the farmer's library, Johnson's How Crops Grow, and How They Feed, and now we wish to call attention to a companion book which, while treating of a scientific plan of farming, does it in a popular phase, easily understood by any reader. This is "Warrington's Chemistry of the Farm," a 12mo. cloth bound book for $1. Sent by mail by TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

In these days of change and doubt many new comers into the Southern country may not feel disposed to put their all into a tract of land, not knowing by their own experience what to expect of the new venture. To such we would suggest the reading of "Ten Acres Enough," a very comprehensive volume showing how a very small farm may be made to keep a very large family. It costs but $1, and for that price is sent by mail by TEXAS FARM AND RANCH.

The Ninth Annual Report of the Agricultural Experiment Station of Wisconsin has been received, for which thanks are due Prof. W. A. Henry, the able Director. One item in the contents of the report—that treating of the feeding of cotton seed meal to lambs—is particularly interesting, and the article on the economy of siloing Indian corn, "ears and all," should appeal strongly to all who have read that valuable little book published by TEXAS FARM AND RANCH, "Silos, Silage and Cattle Feeding." The work in vegetable pathology is specially valuable, and should be followed up by experiment stations in other states.

Nothing adds more to the attractiveness or the selling value of a place than a good, smooth, well kept lawn. They are inexpensive, and afford enough pleasure to their owners to justify much more effort than they require. This is a good time of year to make the beginning, to get the ground in shape, and prepare for the spring work on it. Much can be done now and during the winter to further the work in the spring, and by reading Vaux' "Concerning Lawn Planting"—sent by TEXAS FARM AND RANCH for 25 cents—any one desirous of setting a lawn can know how to go at it right, so as to have the best results.

CHATFIELD, TEXAS, Sept. 25, 1892.
Whitman Agricultural Co., St. Louis, Mo.:

GENTLEMEN:—I am using one of your Full Circle Steel Presses and am highly pleased with it, and do not hesitate to say that the Whitman Press is the king of all presses, for I have tried several different makes of presses, and the Whitman leads them all. I am now using a 16x18, and it is just a little large for me. I think you make a smaller size press. Am I correct?

Yours respectfully, L. E. BROWN.

J. J. CONKLING,
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Represents P. P. MAST & CO., manufacturers of BUCKEYE GRAIN DRILLS, SUNBEAM CULTIVATORS.
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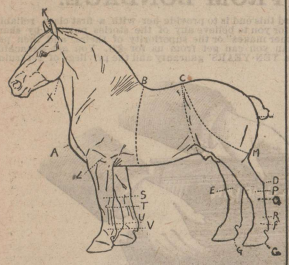
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THE PERCHERON STALLION VALSEUR 13172 (29775).

Upon our first page is a handsome illustration of the five-year-old dark-gray Percheron stallion Valseur 13172 (29775), bred by E. Perriot and imported in 1890 and now owned by Mr. J. P. McWilliams, Dwight, Ill. Valseur is a massive, very heavy boned and well-proportioned horse, standing 16 hands high and weighing in thin flesh 1850 pounds. It is not often that measurements of draft horses are published, and our readers will doubtless be much interested in examining the accom-



panying outline sketch and measurements which Mr. McWilliams took at the end of the season just closed, during which Valseur served seventy-seven mares:

A to B, 2 feet 11 inches; B to C, 1 foot 11 inches; C to M, 3 feet 1 inch; K to B, 3 feet; X to Z, 3 feet; A to M, 6 feet; girth, 7 feet 2 inches; girth (loins) 7 feet 4 inches; girth C to M (around), 9 feet 2 inches; fore arm, 32 inches; cannon bone, 11 inches; shank bone, 12 inches; S to V, 10 inches; T to U, 6 inches; D to G, 2 feet; P to F, 11 inches; Q to R, 7 inches.

Valseur may be seen in Mr. McWilliams' exhibit at the World's Fair.

SUNSHINE AND PURE AIR.

Farmer's Voice.

Parents are nearly always desirous to promote the life and health of their children. So let us consider what are the requisites of a healthy home for children yet young and growing. The first requisits is a pleasant and salubrious site. Children need pure and moderately dry air. So the dwelling should be placed upon a well drained and elevated spot, sheltered from violent storms and sources of impurity. For growing animals of any kind the country is more healthy than the cities. The air is sweeter, the water is freer from impurities and the people are more temperate and unharmed by the various dissipations of a city life. Even in the country great room for choice exists. Dwellings exposed to the rays of the sun, away from the thick foliage of trees and shrubs, from muddy ponds and streams, and from malarial influence should be sought. Trees and thick shrubbery very near a house are always injurious to health. They diffuse moisture and impurities through the air and lessen the amount of heat and light.

Pure air and light should enter every dwelling. Few places are so unhealthy for the young and growing as narrow valleys, and dark and shaded places. Nearly all diseases are fond of such places, in which they are always more severe and less easily removed than in open, dry and sunny places, so that it is cheaper to find a dry ard sunny home than a moist and shaded one. Nothing fosters the diseases of infancy and youth so much as moist and chilly air. In such places the mother must always be on the anxious seat of disease and death. In an Eastern town, beautiful and remarkable for its foliage, we knew four interesting families who lived successively on a valley farm. The leaves were as numerous and beautiful as those of Vallambrosa; children were born and lived awhile. But in each family successively they became sick and died before they reached six years of life. Membraneous croup, diphtheria, pneumonia and other maladies of the same general character always visited these families in spring and removed some darling child. At last this beautiful spot became notorious for its cruel and fatal maladies, and no man dared to occupy it. Always, then, avoid low, moist and shaded valleys, even if they are beautiful and cheap. The pale and feeble show of children who reside in dark and narrow streets, full of gross impurities, suffer from very similar diseases.

The advent of the shooting season is hailed with delight by all sportsmen. They will be interested in the announcement in another column by the famous gun house of Wm. Read & Sons, Boston, Mass.

The Best County—do you live in it?

Farms For Sale.

We have a number of farms, situated in the Black Land Belt, for sale. For description and terms address BOWSER & LEWIS, 259 Main st., Dallas, Tex.

FOR INFORMATION About Calhoun County and Southern Texas, the "New California," address the *Port Lavaca*an, Port Lavaca, Texas, for sample copy. Southern Texas possesses wonderful possibilities of soil and climate, and attracts wide attention. The *Lavacan* will be replete with information for the home-seeker.

A Home Cheap.

Don't rent. Buy a home. Good black land homes to sell at from $12.50 to $25 per acre, on long time. Western lands cheap. Apply to

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In the "Wichita" Country, improved and unimproved, in Wichita, Clay, Archer, Baylor and Wilbarger Counties, at $2.50 to $25 per acre.

Can suit any buyer on prices and terms. Large bodies of wild lands from $1 to $3 per acre. Arrangements made to refund to all buyers to the amount of $2,000, their railroad fare on return home, if within 1000 miles. Enclose stamp for circulars and maps. L. T. MILLER, Box 143, Wichita Falls, Texas.

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One thousand acres of prairie land, two-thirds of it good to plow, 7 miles from Fort Worth, 5 miles from the great packing house and stock yards, 1 mile from the junction of three railroads. Sure to increase in value. Now only $20 per acre, one-third cash, balance 1 and 2 years at 8 per cent interest.

S. M. SMITH,
Land Title Block, Fort Worth, Texas.

FARMS

For sale cheap, on easy payments, in best agricultural counties of North and Central Texas. Do not buy until you have my descriptive price list, which will be sent free on application, and from which RENTERS, who wish to secure a home of their own by applying what they have been accustomed to pay as yearly rentals to pay for one, can learn something greatly to their interest. Call on or write

J. F. WELLINGTON, JR.,
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Please mention this paper.

A Home and Fortune.

Have divided my Cabo Carlos Ranch into small tracts for

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I offer **100 ten-acre blocks** at $10 per acre to **actual Home Builders**, on their own terms.

The ranch embraces 4 000 acres of the most desirable sub-irrigated land in Aransas county; no other as good can be had at twice the price. Never failing wells of good water can be had at from four to eight feet. **Only 100 blocks at above price**, in tracts of 10 to 40 acres. A healthy locality, productive land, and crops that assure big profits in a climate unexcelled. Write now.

Orange, lemon, olive and peach trees and grapevines may be seen growing on the land. Wild grapes abound all over the tract.

JOHN E. ELGIN, Rockport, Tex.

Farmers, See Here!

Why will you pay rent when your annual rental outlay will put you in possession of

YOUR OWN HOME

in five to ten years? I have for sale cheap, on long time and easy payments, a large number of improved farms in Northern and Central Texas. As these farms are the property of non-residents, they will be

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No arid, drouthy region, but in the old, well settled portion of the State, with plenty of rainfall and good seasons, where good society, good schools, churches and markets are already established. Address

GARDNER WORK, WACO, TEXAS.



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ASK FOR THIS AXE. USE NO OTHER.

Wood-choppers, try the

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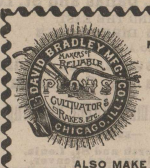
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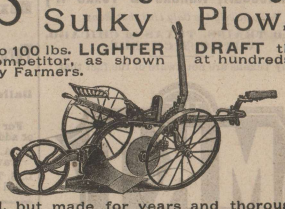
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