

The Farmers' Leader.

CANTON, S. D.

FARMERS' PUBLISHING CO., PUBLISHERS.

In New York City it is estimated that 27,000 men are supported by their wives. When that becomes one of the conditions of matrimony, more men will become aspirants for it.

The German papers which had begun to revile Prince Bismarck have ceased their invectives against him since he threatened to publish a list of the writers who were formerly in his pay, with full particulars respecting the money which he gave them.

The breaking-out of the influenza in Iceland has caused considerable panic, as the consequences of the disease there have been serious. Of the 57,000 inhabitants in 1843, 2,000 died of the influenza, and in 1876 1,500 persons were carried off by the disease.

The inhabitants of Heligoland have a strange custom on New Year's eve. They then perambulate the streets with broken pots and pans, which they place before their friends doors, and the man who has the largest heap before his cottage is considered the most popular.

The young girl in Baltimore who put arsenic into the coffee of her neighbors, thus killing two and perhaps three of them, explains that she did it "just for fun." The aggressive quality of the Maryland brand of fun is such that this ambitious exponent of it will be sent to prison for life as a means of restraining her dangerous exuberance.

Even great metropolitan journals slip sometimes. A writer in the London Daily News alluded to "the best things" Cardinal Newman had said about Charles Kingsley. After the sentence had journeyed over the cable and through the New York Herald's composing and proofreading rooms it came out the best things he had said about Charles Kingsley's leg.

In 1864 E. Blackshear, a Confederate soldier, was wounded by a Federal bullet, which entered his breast, passed through his body, and lodged in his back. On June 25, 1890, just twenty-six years after the wound was received, the bullet worked its way out of his back near the spine. It was round, weighed exactly one ounce, and was of the variety known among Confederates as "buck and ball."

Some San Salvador troops are described as follows: "A few wore sandals, but the most of them were bare-footed." They had huge straw hats with red bands on them. Most of them wore overall suits, trimmed with red braid; others were dressed in go-as-you-please fashion; with all manner of uniform. Every man in the company had a big revolver strapped around his waist. Some of them carried rifles and muskets."

The original Brazenose knocker has been restored to its rightful building. When the Oxford scholars migrated to Stamford, in 1334, because of a feud in the university, they took the knocker with them, and since then it has been on the house where they settled. The other day the house was bought by Brazenose College, and the historic knocker was taken off and home. It was molded some time in the twelfth century. It represented a lion's face with a ring through the mouth.

An amusing case of absent-mindedness happened at Chesaning, Mich., as the south-bound train pulled out. A lady in the rear car frantically jumped to her feet, clapped her hands to her head and ran for the platform, from which she would have thrown herself but for the intervention of the conductor, who seized her around the waist with one arm and pulled the bell cord with the other. It was afterward explained that the mother in the excitement to make the train had forgotten her baby and left it in the depot.

If we can believe a Nova Scotia sea captain, the sea serpent, or at least a sea serpent, is dead. The captain avers that he saw the carcass of the monster floating on the water, and he gave a minute description of him. Granting that the captain is not romancing, he neglected a great opportunity to make a great name for himself, to get much money and to do an incalculable service to science. He should have towed the dead monster into harbor, and thus he would have been the center of the marine sensation of the season.

The camera that does the work for the rogues' gallery is concealed. The prisoner hangs his head and refuses to look up when asked to do so, or shuts his eyes and distorts his face. The photographer makes a feint with the camera in sight, takes out the plate and exclaims, "Oh, pshaw! that is spoiled!" or words to that effect, and walks hurriedly out of the room. The prisoner raises his head at once and looks pleasant. He has outwitted the photographer. Then the concealed camera gets in its fine work, and the rogue is still more surprised and pleased at being told that he can go.

One of the meaviest men in Washington is worth all the way from \$200,000 to \$500,000, and fees him adding to his pile every day in one of these red 5-cent Washington herds, which goes past his \$50,000 residence and on to the Capitol, writes a correspondent. This man invariably takes a seat near the fare box, buys a package of tickets of six

for a quarter, and when any one passes him 5 cents to put into the box he puts the nickel in his pocket and puts one of these tickets which have cost 4-1-6 cents into the box. On rainy days he must make at least as much as six and seven cents a ride, and as his income is probably not over \$20,000 or \$30,000 a year, the poor man ought to have it.

During his lecture tour in the United States Stanley will be carried from city to city in a splendid palace car now being built for that express purpose. Flying over the country in this luxurious way is a somewhat different mode of traveling from plodding wearily on foot through the dismal jungles and over the rugged steeps of Central Africa. Stanley will easily recognize the difference and undoubtedly contrast the comforts and luxuries of modern railroad travel with his painful journeyings in the dark continent. It is to the latter, however, that he owes his world-wide fame. It is not recorded anywhere that any one while traveling in a palace car has ever extended the science of geography or opened up a new continent to the commerce and civilization of the rest of the world.

The new law regulating the work of minors in Russian factories is not so stringent as the old law was. According to the latter children below the age of twelve years were not allowed to work at all, but the new law allows children of ten and twelve years to be employed in factories. Children between the ages of twelve and fifteen years were allowed to work only eight hours daily and then only four hours at a time. The new law allows them to be employed six hours at a time and in some instances even six hours in the night, or even on Sundays and holidays. Women and girls between the ages of fifteen and seventeen years were not allowed to work between 9 o'clock in the evening and 5 o'clock in the morning; now they may be employed at nightwork. Thus the new law is more favorable for the employers and less protective for the minors and factory women.

The men who charged at Balaklava and those of a later time who held Fort Sumter for seventy hours, without food, almost without sleep, in the face of a terrible storm of shot and shell, were heroes, and the pages of history blazon their deeds, while poets and orators never tire of celebrating them. What shall we say, however, of the quieter heroism that lays down life with as much readiness and does duty with as pure a faith, and lacks the inspiring excitement of material surroundings, hoping, too, for no celebrity and no renown? Is this not worthy of attention? A small news paragraph, published recently, tells of the death of Frank E. Smith, baggage man upon a Kentucky railroad. Smith was in an accident, and was terribly scalded, but he walked a mile and a half to the nearest station to warn an approaching train, thus saving others from the fate which he had met.

Know He Was Right.
Farmer Jenks is a man who is so desirous of being considered infallible that he will suffer great inconvenience rather than relinquish that claim. "He'd rather have his own way than eat when he's hungry," says his wife, who, after long years of contention and final yielding, has learned to know him well.

"Not long ago Farmer Jenks injured one of his fingers so severely that he was obliged to leave his work and go home to have it dressed.

"I tell you what, Jane," said he to his wife, "that finger'll have to come off."

"No, 'twon't, either, father," said she, soothingly. "I've seen plenty of hurts worse 'n that."

"Jane, I tell you 'twill! Don't you s'pose that I know what to expect of my own finger?"

The dispute ran high, and as usual the husband had the last word. Days went on and the finger grew worse rather than better, until at last it reached such a state that the doctor was called. He had not been in the room fifteen minutes when Farmer Jenks summoned his wife.

"Jane," said he, "come here, come right here! What do you s'pose he says?"

"Well, I guess by the way you're smilin' he says it's all right," said she, also beginning to smile, in relief. "I must say I am glad! Your forefinger and on the right hand! It didn't seem to me I could be reconciled if it really had to come off—"

"But that's just it," interrupted her husband, smiling in triumph, and looking at her with sparkling eyes. "It's got to come off, and I told you so!"

A Western Idea in Boston.
Miss Brezize Kuhlwin (of Kansas)—Now, cousin Jack, I've arranged that you shall take me riding this evening.

Mr. Prieleigh Proppah (of Boston)—Delighted, I assure you. But—er—you have, I trust, arranged for a—er—chaperon? It is considered advisable here.

Miss B. K.—Of course; that's all fixed. Aunt Ella will follow us in another buggy.

It Was Contagious.
The marriage wasn't a month old, and the young bride and her visiting mother sat watching the clock work toward midnight. "What is that heavy, broken, uncertain footstep coming up the stairs?" said the mother-in-law, sternly.

"I guess it's George, mamma. You know he always stutters, and here of late it seems to have got somehow into his walk."—Philadelphia Times.

NAPOLÉON was always talking about "the peace of Europe." But he wasn't satisfied with a piece of Europe; he wanted the whole of it.

AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

Some Information of Value to the Farmer, Stock-Raiser, Bee-Keeper, Housewife, and Kitchen-Maid.

THE FARM.

Using Dearer Grain.

For two or three years past grain has been, naturally, cheap. The effect has been to encourage its more extensive use, and wherever it has been fed judiciously, farmers have profited by it. Now the test of good farming is coming into the question whether with dearer grain the old liberality in feeding will be maintained. All dairy produce must feel the effect of dearer grain in higher prices. So also will all kinds of meats. It was the observation of John Johnston, in a long experience with winter sheep feeding, that he never lost money when grain was high-priced. At such times few were feeding, and by the time his sheep were fattened they brought enough better prices to pay the extra cost of grain and a good profit besides. But to do this Mr. Johnston always selected his sheep carefully, and gave them all the benefit of his great skill in feeding.

Keeping Farm Accounts.

Mr. J. Bennett writes to the *Indiana Farmer* that every person engaged in agricultural pursuits should by all means keep a regular book in which is noted down every transaction. A book is of just as much importance to the farmer as it is to the merchant, or to the man in any other class of business, for that matter. Unless we know exactly what money we have paid out or taken in we are running on a very uncertain, hazardous kind of plan. Mr. Bennett says he knows of a rather distressing case in point. There was a settlement of heirs a few years ago. All seemed to be settled satisfactorily. Later, for some cause, one of the heirs is accused of owning a note of \$100, and it was hinted that he made away with the note, though he is sure the note was paid fifteen or more years ago, and can prove it by one witness. Still, how consoling it would be if the accused could present a neat account book, with a plain and complete statement of facts. He would feel compensated for the time spent in putting down accounts for a score of years. Farmers, continues Mr. Bennett, should by all means keep a strict account of every farm transaction.

To this the editor of the *Farmer* adds his full endorsement of the farmer's position. It is an easy thing, he says, to jot down items of expense, agreements, appointments, etc., in a pocket memorandum, and any one who has kept such a book from year to year will testify to the fact that it pays many times over for the little time and trouble. At a leisure moment when there is nothing else to do the pocket memorandum notes may be transferred to a larger and better book for preservation through all time to come.

Firming the Soil for Wheat.

A correspondent of the *Indiana Farmer* says most wheat growers must have noticed that where the land has been somewhat trodden after seeding they have the best yield. Let the observant farmer notice where the horses turned at the corners and where by any other means the ground gets a little more trodden than in the center of the field and there surely will be found the heaviest yield and the finest wheat.

One of the most successful Indiana wheat growers noticing this fact, turned all his cattle into his field when his land was seeded. Of course he made choice of a dry time—it would not have done to turn his stock on with the land soft and muddy. The animals trampling around in search of pasture pressed the ground so firm and to such good effect that the crops were double of what he had previously been able to raise. He kept this up for fifteen years, retiring worth \$100,000.

A heavy roller does good service in compacting the seed bed, but experience gives the palm to the tramping of animals. However apart from the service performed by animals we must do our part with the plow and harrow in preparing the seed bed. We must not deceive ourselves by thinking the seed bed is perfect when only the surface is smooth. There must be a deep work and into his pulverization. After this compacting the surface is in order, bringing the soil particles into close contact, allowing the plant roots freedom to raise the necessary moisture for their support from below by capillary action. Each particle of the soil must be distinct, although solidly compacted on the surface. But all that compacting must be performed in a dry time or not at all. Trampling clay land when wet would convert the surface into a cement, which would not be putting it into an overly good condition for the growth of wheat.

THE DAIRY.

Winter Dairying.

The man who changes his dairy from summer to one of winter milk, says John Gould, in Dairy Column, has many new things to learn, and his profound wisdom in the management of the dairy in summer, has but little value to him in the production of winter milk, and the care of the milch cow in the cold months. A man who makes this change should at once become a student, an investigator, travel a new road, and one in which "ruts" form no part of the traveled way.

It is a long task to change the same dairy from spring to fall calving. When we adopted winter dairying, we sold all of the old dairy, and in October bought a dairy of "Springers" calving in October and November, and started in fresh. During the previous summer, we had built a big silo, and in September we filled it to the brim with the finest of silage. A car load of second fine shorts was purchased and put in the bins, a nice mow of clover hay was handy by and everything made snug for the winter. The stanchions were taken out of the stable, and a half box stall made six feet four inches wide, for each two cows.

Neck chains were provided so to give the largest freedom of movement, consistent with safety to the herd, and plenty of sawdust, straw, etc., provided for bedding.

The first fall the weather was not so suit, and, stabling nights began by October 15, and by November 10 the dairy was practically wintered. After December 1 they were not turned out of their stalls until April 10. And this is now our custom. The cows are

watered twice per day in their stalls, from an iron tank of water standing in the stable, but closely covered, and is fed into daily from a deep rock well, so that an even temperature of fifty degrees is maintained for the water, and the thing it does not go far as I can find out.

The cows have a daily ration made up of fifty pounds silage, six pounds shorts, the silage and grain divided into two feeds, and three to five pounds clover hay, the latter fed at noon. The ration is varied a little according to the size and performance of the individual cow. Water is given at 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. Each cow is watered separately, and then one knows when they have drunk, and how much, and if refusing at one time they are especially looked after later. The milking, as well as feeding, is regular, the latter always immediately after the feeding. The manger is divided off so that each cow eats her own rations, and can be added to and not stolen. A record book is kept, giving the time of coming in, service, etc.; then at regular periods the cow is turned into a large box-stall with the bull, and the good cow may be continued in the dairy another year, and in regular season.

The barn is made warm by double boarding, and tar-paper-lined. Windows are provided for in abundance, so that the cows can have a sun bath. Fresh air is provided, and things so ordered that the temperature of the stable does not fall below 45 degrees. On this treatment and ration the cows give a uniform mess from October to June 15. Then they begin to dry off, and by August 1 are resting in the summer pasture, taking exercise and getting ready to take their places in the dairy again during October and November.

I am now wholly convinced that cows stabled in such a barn as mine, warm, dry, clean, and given plenty of light and air, fitted with chains so as to have a certain amount of freedom of movement, that exclusive confining in stalls for eighteen or twenty weeks is not an injury to the cows, but a positive advantage. My cows are never off their feed, show no symptoms of being lame or stiffened up, and show a decided disposition to gain in flesh. The winter milk, with good June pastures, will give fully one-third more by calving in October, and the needed amount of grain will not greatly exceed the amount that should be fed to the summer milker. Such is our experience.

THE POULTRY-YARD.

The Case of Laying Hens.

If you want your hens to lay give them food best calculated to furnish egg-forming material and gently stimulate, material to furnish lime for the shell and meat to make blood. Remember that there is a continual drain on the resources of the regular laying hen. In summer on extended runs hens will almost or entirely find their own egg-making material. But in winter and in confinement these must be supplied regularly. One simple rule with adult fowls is to give them as much food as they will eat eagerly and no more. When practicable make laying hens scratch and work for their feed. Exercise conduces to prolificacy, while moping about and over-feeding results in too much fat to allow the production of a full quota of eggs. Food for laying fowls is one of the subjects considered in the poultry report of the experimenter farm at Ottawa, Canada. Following are some of the directions given:

In the cold weather of winter a warm meal in the morning is necessary to start and keep up a steady supply of eggs. A good plan is to throw all the waste of the kitchen, in the shape of scraps, pieces of bread, unpeeled vegetables, &c., into a pot, heat up in the morning until confined, then mix with bran, poultry shorts, or whatever is most abundant or cheap on the farm into a hot mess, dusting in a small quantity of red pepper before mixing. Let the mixture stand for a few minutes until the meal is nearly cooked; then feed in a clean trough, with laths over it, to keep the hens from jumping in and fouling or wasting the feed in their eager anxiety.

Feed only enough of this soft stuff to barely satisfy, never enough to gorge, when a hen has had so much food that she will go into a corner and mope she has had too much, and if the over-feeding is continued will soon cease to lay. The laying hens are the active ones. If food is given at noon it should be oats, and scattered among the litter on the floor. This meal should be light. The last feed in the afternoon should be generous. Each hen should be supplied with a full crop to carry her over the long night. Green food, in the shape of vegetables usually grows on every farm, will be relished by the layers.

Cabbages, turnips or carrots are generally the most convenient. Small potatoes boiled and mixed with provender or bran is a good change for the evening meal. Some of the above named vegetables should always be in the pens of the layers. Red clover hay, steamed, clopped and mixed with bran, and given while hot is one of the healthiest foods for the morning meal. Meat in some shape must be given at least twice a week, to furnish blood-making material. Hens fed on meat lay well. If given no meat the hens will eat their eggs and pick feathers from one another.

As cold weather approaches provision must be made for keeping laying hens warm, especially at night. Hens will bear a great deal of cold in the sunshine, and will not stop laying if they roost warm. The importance of warm quarters, with good ventilation, can hardly be over-estimated. A very good arrangement for a hen house for winter, suggested by one authority in such matters, consists in making the ceiling of rails about six feet above the floor. These rails are covered with soft hay or coarse straw of any kind. The roosts are placed about three feet high above the floor.—New York World.

THE APIARY.

Ants in the Apiary.

In cold climates ants do little, or any, harm, but they are troublesome all the South, and California beekeepers complain of them. *Scientific American* recommends the following method when ants become annoying: "Buy one-half pound or more of corrosive sublimate, powder it very fine and strew the same sparingly on the ground, also in the cracks, nests and trails of the ants, and I guarantee the ants will leave your lawn and premises as quick as they have come. Corrosive sublimate is a deadly poison, and should be handled with care."

Remedies for Bee Stings. The remedies for bee stings are as numerous as are the cures for colds. Prof. A. J. Cook advises in case a person

is stung that he should step back a little for a moment, as the pungent odor of the venom is likely to anger the bees and induce further stinging. By forcing a little smoke from the smoker on to the part stung the odor will be obscured. The sting should be rubbed off at once—not grasped at with the finger nails, as that crowds more poison into the wound, but rubbed off. If the pain is troublesome apply a little ammonia. The venom is an acid and is neutralized by an alkali. A thin solution of saltpetre is advised by some. Others have used ice-cold water with good effect, while others again apply salt and soda mixed and slightly moistened to the part stung. Quimby advised, when the sting was so severe enough to cause blotches on the skin, camphor taken internally as well as applied externally. An important point is the removal of the sting, which, as Prof. Cook advises, should be extracted in such a way as not to force any more poison into the wound. The sting may often be scraped off with the blade of a knife, and the part be squeezed a little to force the poison out.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

Removing a Cinder from the Eye.

The proper way to get a cinder out of the eye is to draw the upper lid down over the lower, utilizing the lashes of the eye as a broom, that it may sweep the surface of the former and thus get rid of the intruder. Or, gently drawing the lid away from the globe, pass a clean camel-hair brush, or fold of a soft silk handkerchief, two or three times between them. This procedure will, in nearly all cases, suffice; when it does not, the services of a physician are necessary. It is a remarkable fact that a very minute body will give rise to intense pain, and even after it has been extracted, the sensation remains for an hour or more. After the intruder is out, gently bathe the lids every fifteen minutes in liced water till the feeling subsides.—Home Journal.

Boxing the Ears and Its Results.

The following from the *Kansas City Medical Record*, although containing nothing new, indicates that a very common evil is attracting the attention of medical men, and points out the possible result of thoughtlessly boxing a child's ears. Parents and teachers should be informed of the danger of this method of punishment, and that nature has provided for such applications a much more suitable region, where there is no danger of injuring important structures.

We would fain hope that, in deference to repeated warnings from various quarters, the injurious practice of boxing the ears once common in schools, is fast and surely becoming obsolete. It is too much to say that this desirable end has yet been realized. Certainly the recent observations of Mr. W. H. R. Stewart do not give color to this view. In a pamphlet on *Boxing the Ears and Its Results*, lately published, and illustrated by appropriate cases, he summarizes his own experience in the matter. He reminds us that, notwithstanding the toughness of the aurial drumhead, its tense expansion will rupture only too readily under the sudden impact of air driven inward along the meatus, as it is in the act of euffing; and he shows that in one instance at least this injury resulted from a slight, though sudden blow. Given early and skilled attention the wound may heal very kindly; but if the beginning of the mischief be overlooked, as it often has been, further signs of inflammation soon follow, and a deaf and suppurating tympanum is the usual result. When chronic suppuration exists already, and it is only too common, a random knock on the ear may result, as in a case related in the *Lancet*, in a fresh otitis, with fatal brain complications. The close connection between the ear and brain should never be forgotten, and the reflection that injury to the former organ most easily terminates in total deafness, and in suppuration, which may any day take a fatal course, should assist in the preservation of a sometimes difficult patience.

Hints to Housekeepers.

PAINT the tongues of your fever patients with glycerine, says a physician; it will remove the sensation of thirst and discomfort felt when the organ is dry and foul.

The silk underwear now so much worn should not be rubbed on the washboard, nor have soap rubbed on it, unless on specially spoiled spots. It should be gently squeezed in the hands in a lather of tepid water.

HAVE your dress bound with velvet or velveteen instead of dress braids if you would prevent your shoes from receiving the purple bluish on the instep, caused by the rubbing of the skirts when walking. The velvet should be the narrowest line possible on the right side of the skirt.

PEOPLE in the country who are annoyed by flies should remember that clusters of the fragrant clover which grows abundantly by nearly every roadside, if hung in the room and left to dry and shed its faint fragrant perfume through the air, will drive away more flies than sticky saucers of molasses and other fly traps and fly papers can ever collect.

THE KITCHEN.

Joely Toast.

Cut stale bread into neat rounds or squares; fry each slice in boiling deep fat; spread it thickly with some fruit jelly and serve very hot.

Gold Feather Cake.

One and a half cups sugar beaten to a cream with half a cup of butter, half a cup of cold water, two cups sifted flour, 1/2 teaspoon of baking powder, three eggs. Flavor with one teaspoonful of lemon extract.

Vanilla Snow.

Cook one cupful of rice in a covered dish to keep it white. When nearly done, add one cupful of cream, a pinch of salt, the beaten whites of two eggs and a cupful of sugar. Flavor with vanilla. Serve in a glass dish and dot with jelly. Scrape with cream and sugar.

Sugar Cakes.

One cup butter, one cup sugar, four cups flour, two eggs, one teaspoonful vanilla. Cream butter and sugar, mix with the beaten eggs, add the flour and the flavoring, roll out very thin, and bake in a moderate oven, sprinkling the cake with granulated sugar just before baking.

Small Cucumber Pickles.

Wash and wipe 100 small cucumbers, and place them in jars. Cover them with boiling brine, strong enough to bear an egg; let stand twenty-four hours. Then take them out, wipe, place in clean jars, and cover with a vinegar spiced with an onion, twelve whole cloves, one ounce of mustard seed and three blades of mace. They will be ready to use in two weeks.

SOUTH DAKOTA NEWS.

A CHANCE FOR THE BLACK HILLS TO OBTAIN JUSTICE.

The Commercial Value of Tin in the Hills to Be Investigated by Richard P. Rothwell—Rapid Development of the Russian Thistle—Experiments With Salt.

BLACK HILLS BUREAU, RAPID CITY, S. D., Sept. 20.—Richard P. Rothwell, editor of the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, of New York City, and assistant superintendent of mining statistics, under the tenth census, passed through the city, en route to the northern mining districts Tuesday. Mr. Rothwell, after examining the mines and mills at Deadwood, will return here, visit the school of mines, and make a general survey of the tin districts. The attitude of the *Mining Journal*, which Mr. Rothwell is connected, has heretofore been anything but friendly to the southern Hills. It published and gave editorial sanction to the absurd fabrications of Tom White, the correspondent, who boldly announced to the world that there was no commercial tin in the hills, a slander which has for years retarded the progress of development. Under the stimulus of national sentiment, and at this late hour, when the tin reputation of the hills has been fully vindicated, Mr. Rothwell will hardly expect to receive as cordial a welcome from those interested in the mines as he might under other circumstances, but every facility will doubtless be accorded him by both the company and individual owners of tin property in prosecuting his inquiries.

The announcement is made by the trustees of the School of Mines that the institution will open its sessions Wednesday, Oct. 1. Both Dean Cushman and the trustees are working at a disadvantage in their preparation from the fact that the state board of regents have not as yet announced the course of studies to be pursued, or arranged for the distribution of catalogues. The secretary of the board, Don O. Needham, of Jerauld county, is not in the Hills and the correspondence from students, from parties desiring assays, or practical tests of ore in ton bulk, is accumulating. Measures should be taken at once to remove these obstacles to the successful inauguration of the opening session.

MELLSVILLE, S. D., Sept. 20.—Until the present year the so-called "Russian thistle" was almost unknown in this country, but now it is found in abundance, and the farmers are taking active precautions to effect the extinction of the noxious weed, which, if it succeeds in establishing itself, will be a source of great annoyance and inconvenience. This plant is by no means indigenous to this state, but it is believed seeds were brought over here from Russia by immigrants, mixed in with the wheat and rye, and has since spread with amazing rapidity throughout the state. "Russian thistle" is a misnomer, as it does not belong to the genus *Urtica*, but is allied with the pig weed, or "lamb's quarter," and its proper appellation is *Salsola Kali*. Its branches and leaves are fernlike in appearance, and the barbs are at the tips of the leaves and almost invisible, but none the less effective. Horses cannot be worked in fields infested with this weed, unless their legs are amply protected with cloth or other covering. Being of the tumbleweed variety it finds no difficulty, with the aid of the winds, in covering a large area of land in a short time, dropping seeds here and there along its pathway, which soon grow up, to the mortification of the agriculturists. It will require the concerted action of all interested to exterminate this evil, which should be done at once, while it is yet in its embryo.

Experiments With Salt.
MELLSVILLE, S. D., Sept. 20.—Last spring the Milwaukee railway company shipped several barrels of salt to this station to be distributed among farmers for experimental purposes. Salt is being, and has been, used on farms in several states with eminent success, and it was believed that by covering the ground with salt it would be able to retain moisture longer and withstand heat better than ground not so treated. Messrs. H. F. Hunter, W. J. Dale, L. R. Hall, W. S. Wright and W. J. Stevens made the experiment this year, but all failed to obtain the results predicted and hoped for. During a portion of the summer the ground on the salted ground evinced a little better appearance than surrounding grain, but thrashing failed to disclose any advantage gained. At any rate the use of salt will not prove to be an economical measure to the farmers, as the price of the commodity will overbalance what small benefit may be secured.

Address to the Public.
YANKTON, S. D., Sept. 20.—The chamber of commerce of Yankton has issued the following address to the public:

WHEREAS, Many newspapers of the country for the past year or two have published untruthful and damaging statements as to failure of crops in South Dakota, and especially so regarding the counties of the southeastern portion of the state where crops have been fully up to the average of the best agricultural states of the union.

WHEREAS, Such papers persist in publishing these false and malicious stories, taking no exception in regard to localities, proclaiming the entire state a failure agriculturally, because a few counties in the northern and central portion of the state have suffered from drought in the past two years;

WHEREAS, the general average crop of the state, according to all evidence at our command, supported by the official crop reports from Washington city, is not surpassed by the great agricultural states of Ohio, Indiana or Illinois, therefore be it

Resolved, That we earnestly protest against the continued publication of these wholesale falsehoods as they may relate to the southern portion of the state, and especially to Yankton county, where crops of all kinds for a number of years have averaged fully up to the average of Iowa and Illinois, and where a failure of crops has never occurred, as we are prepared to demonstrate by the sworn statements of a large number of farmers, now in our possession, and which this chamber of commerce is prepared to verify.

Resolved, That we respectfully ask the Associated Press to do us the justice to publish the above, thereby giving the contradiction as wide circulation as has been given to the inaccurate and hurtful publications of which we complain.

Held a Mad Dog In Her Arms.
CHICAGO, Sept. 20.—A woman living at 79 Thirty-fifth street went into Marshall's drug store at Fifth-fifth street and Cottage Grove avenue Wednesday and asked the clerk to look after her dog and prescribe for it. She held the animal in her arms, with a cloth thrown over it. One glance at the dog was enough to convince the clerk that it was mad. The beast was frothing at the mouth and snapped at its mistress. The clerk ran behind the prescription counter and saturated a handful of cotton with chloroform. Half a dozen customers who were in the store made a dash for the street. The dog bounded out of the woman's arms and ran behind the counter. Two men drove the beast into a corner, where the clerk chloroformed him. Then he was hit over the head with a club. He died at once, and the woman went away with him in her eye.