

## STATE NEWS.

The average daily attendance in the Emporia public schools is 1,553.

Neodesha people some times get coal at 10 cents a bushel. It is hauled in wagons from mines near town.

Topeka Mail: The city library now has a debt of about \$14,000. The rents from library hall pay the interest on this debt.

The treasurer of the Parsons board of education will have \$5,000 surplus on hand at the end of the present term of school.

At Ellsworth a state band contest is to be held May 28, 29 and 30. Over 700 band members are already pledged to attend.

Forty-three veterans have been discharged from the Soldiers' home at Leavenworth, being now able to support themselves.

The total expenses of the Topeka schools for the last month was about \$9,000, and of this amount \$7,400 was for teachers' salaries.

Emporia Republican: The mumps are playing havoc with the normal students. A good many young people and a few old ones about town are also suffering from the epidemic.

The Pittsburg Vitrified Brick works, owned by Robert Nesch, took fire and the building was destroyed. The works were erected at a cost of \$20,000. The loss will be somewhere between \$7,000 and \$10,000, and is covered by insurance.

The expenses of the Parkinson Sugar Co., of Fort Scott, last year exceeded the value of the product by over \$11,000, but the deficit was made up by a federal bounty of \$14,607 and a state bounty of \$5,477, giving the company a net profit of \$8,861.

The county commissioners of Douglas county have passed resolutions compromising with the present clerk and his immediate predecessor in the matter of covering into the treasury transfer fees collected since January 1, 1891. Half of the fees are to be turned over to the county.

From Sharon Springs: The total number of final proofs made during 1893 in Wallace county is reported by the probate judge as eighty-five. Of these, sixty-four were homestead proofs, three pre-emptions, three tree claims and three school land entries. Out of the total number of eighty-five proofs, twenty-one of the parties making proof have left the country.

From Olathe: The body of a stranger was found near Hilldale, south of this city, frozen stiff. Upon investigation letters were found identifying the body as that of Alex M. Hansmeyer, of St. Louis. He was quite well dressed and bore the appearance of a respectable man. Out of money, he evidently forfeited his life while tramping and exposing himself in the severe blizzard prevailing.

In the last bulletin of the United States bureau of statistics, giving the exports from the United States and their value, is an item of 114,986,162 pounds of oleo oil, valued at \$11,389,964. Secretary Coburn, of the Kansas department of agriculture, calls the attention of cattle growers to the fact that oleo oil is largely a Kansas product. It is made from the selected fat of cattle, is the chief constituent of artificial butter, and is exported in great quantities to Rotterdam, Hamburg, and other European markets. One house alone in Kansas City, Kas., during the year 1893, exported 5,374,073 pounds, worth \$608,000. Several other Kansas houses also make and export large quantities of this oil.

Topeka Capital: During the past few days M. P. Gould, the business manager of the Washburn Mill-Continent, has visited the eight colleges, universities and normal schools represented in the state oratorical association and has secured the orations and cuts of each of the orators which he will use in getting out a contest number of the Mid-Continent. This magazine will also contain a short sketch and cut of each school represented in the association. Mr. Gould is meeting with good success in his new enterprise as each of the managers of various school papers throughout the state has engaged a large number of these magazines which will be distributed in the various schools on the morning of February 23, the day of the contest.

Topeka Mail: The annual meetings of the stockholders of all the banks of this city were held within the last week or two. Thus far no changes have been made in the management of any of the banks, and so far as known none will be made this year. The reports of the officers showed that the banking business of Topeka is in a very satisfactory condition, taking into consideration the depressed condition of business generally. As everybody knows the banks as a rule have been little more than paying expenses and there is little or nothing left for dividends or surplus. The Bank of Topeka declared a small dividend last November, but it is not likely any of the banks will declare dividends very soon. Banks make money in demand, which is not the condition of things now. Every bank in the city is in good shape and there are better prospects for 1894.

## KANSAS RAILROADS.

A course of lectures on the Bible is begun at Kansas university. The course is a new one for the school and will hereafter be made a feature. The lectures will be delivered by several different members of the faculty and are open to all students in the school as well as others interested. The members of the faculty who will give the lectures are: Professors F. W. Blackmar, E. M. Hopkins, A. M. Wilcox, Olin Tempkin, C. G. Dunlap.

Atchison Globe: The Missouri Pacific yards at Leavenworth are blocked, and considerable grain billed to that place is being stored at Atchison.

The county commissioners of Atchison county have settled the 1893 taxes of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad company on the basis of the assessment of 1892 and the levy of 1893. The company further agrees to pay the difference between the assessment of 1892 and 1893 should the courts decide that any county in the state is entitled to the same.

The decision of the supreme court in the case of the Southern Kansas Railroad company vs. Aaron S. Drake will be of great interest to railroad employes in Kansas. Drake was employed as a laborer in the shops in Franklin county, and was injured while unloading rails from a push car. He sued the company and got a verdict of \$150, but the judgment of the trial court is reversed, the supreme court holding that "an employe possessed of a full knowledge of the services to be performed by him and of the dangers which they involve, who voluntarily accepts the employment and continues in the service of the employer, will generally be held to have assumed the risk of the hazards of such service and to have absolved his employer from liability in case of injury."

## KANSAS CHURCHES.

Abilene Reflector: Hope has had a regular old fashioned revival, and seventy-one converts are reported. These have come from all classes, and several old timers who have played cards in the rear end of the store on dull days for years have turned to Bible study. The meetings were conducted by the Christian church.

Topeka Capital: Maj. Sully has a brigade of five young men in the Salvation army who go to the different towns in the state and conduct what in churches would be called a revival. They stay two weeks in each place and are doing excellent work. Maj. Sully received word from the mayor, the pastor of the M. E. church and several other men, of Arkansas City that they had done such good work it was desirable that they should remain a week longer. They had sixty converts in two weeks.

Topeka Capital: The manner of disciplining the "brigades" organized at the different churches in the city proves to be very interesting. The Liberty church has a boys' brigade with a membership of twenty-five and one also for girls with forty members. Captains enforce strict obedience to the rules and regulations which are carried out in every detail. The members are required to attend Sunday school in a body as a Bible class. On Tuesday night the boys have their "drill" which consists of free hand gymnastic exercises interspersed at intervals with prayers, songs and other religious exercises. The girls meet on Saturdays at 2:30 and have about the same order of exercises. Any violation of rules is punishable by demerits which lowers the rank or standing of the offender. Special recognition is given to those who have high standing at the length of a certain time, by way of badges. In this way interest is aroused in the religious work and very satisfactory results are being obtained by this method of work.

## STOCK AND FARM.

More than \$3,400,000 worth of poultry and eggs were raised and marketed in the state in 1893.

Doniphan county has a greater acreage of vineyards than any other county in the state. It is credited with 454 acres.

From Gove City: John L. Cook, editor of the Gove County Echo, states that the prospects for a heavy crop of wheat and rye were never better in that part of Kansas and that as applied to Gove county, the acreage is larger than in any previous year since the county was settled. That all that section has been well supplied with moisture before, and the big snow fall through that region which is still on the ground and will be of vast benefit. Mr. Cook says this blanket of snow extends from east of Russell westward to the Colorado line and probably beyond. Mr. Cook does not hesitate to say that the people in this portion of Kansas have never been in a more hopeful, cheerful frame of mind as to prospect, and that if seed is readily obtained an unprecedented acreage will be sown to barley and oats, and a great deal of new ground will be broken.

Junction City Union: J. E. Garrison, one of Geary's energetic farmers southeast of the city, has been devoting some attention in a small way to dairying. He finds it not only profitable, but attended with much fewer chances for failure than corn or wheat. From January 1, 1893, to December 31, of the same year, eight cows gave a cash revenue of \$417.33, which is an average of \$52.16. The butter sold amounted to \$151.69; cream sold, \$115.54; cheese sold, \$100; value of calves raised, \$50. This, it must be understood, does not include the butter, cream, milk and buttermilk used by the family of from four to six, and the skimmed milk given to the pigs. The amount of butter and cream used by the family was not stinted. On January 1, too, all the cows were not fresh, and a few heifers did not begin giving milk until June. These are the plain facts as given by Mr. Garrison. He has been keeping account of all sales made.

A trifle more than one per cent. of all the hogs marketed at the Kansas City, Kansas, stockyards are docked by the official inspector.

Nemaha county leads the state in the number of bearing apple trees with 235,000. Leavenworth county is a good second with 214,500.

McPherson county leads all the rest of the counties in the production of poultry and eggs, having produced \$106,190 worth last year. Cowley comes next with \$99,769 worth to her credit.

## OUR RURAL READERS.

SOMETHING HERE THAT WILL INTEREST THEM.

Warm Property Is Now Freer from Debt Than It Ever Has Been Before—Arrangements of Fields and Pastures—Rotation of Crops.

On the Farm Side.

For many years past the statements have been industriously circulated that a very large majority of the farms in the United States were mortgaged for more than they were worth. The deduction from this statement is that agriculture in this country was not a prosperous business. The impression was strengthened by another that throughout the Northwest the loaning of money at high rates of interest on farm mortgages had been well-nigh universal, and that the borrowers were not paying up, but were suffering foreclosures. There was a grain of truth in all this, but it was not the whole truth nor the best part of it.

Two agricultural papers, the American Farmer and the American Agriculturist, have recently made a searching inquiry into the truth of these statements. It points out that three-fourths of all the farms in the United States are owned free of incumbrance. "Out of every hundred American farms more than seventy are fully paid for and less than thirty are mortgaged. The average mortgage represents only one-third the value of the farm on which it is secured. The total value of the farm mortgages in the whole country is hardly one-tenth of the total value of all our farms. In 1880 nearly one-fifth of the mortgage indebtedness was vested on farms, but in 1890 farm mortgages represented only one-seventh of the country's indebtedness on real estate. Four-fifths of the amount of debt on farms and homes was incurred for the commendable purpose of buying and improving the property, and a like proportion of the farms and homes were mortgaged for the same purpose."

In 1880 the mortgaged debt of the United States was about equally divided between urban lots and farm tracts. But in 1890 only 34 per cent. of that mortgaged debt was on acres, while 66 per cent. was upon urban property. Most of the facts have been drawn from census data. But there is no reason to suppose that they would be greatly modified if brought up to the present date. The truth is, farm property is freer from debt than it has been at any former time during the last quarter of a century. A very large proportion of farms are bought on credit, or they were a few years ago. A payment was made down and the purchaser made a mortgage for the back payments. In time he made the farm pay for itself, while all the while it supported a family. A large proportion of the agriculturists did better than this. They paid off their mortgages and then laid up money. The great increase in the proportion of urban mortgages results probably from speculations that have been going on in Western towns and cities during the last ten years in real estate. But if the facts cited are approximately correct, and there is good authority behind them, no great industrial business has been prosecuted in this country with a greater average degree of prosperity than agriculture.—San Francisco Call.

## Arrangement of Fields and Pastures.

A farm divided into large fields, especially into long ones, can be cultivated to best advantage with least loss of time in turning at ends with plows and machines. In the ideal farm division, fences will be almost entirely dispensed with, facilitating cultivation, saving for tillage the land occupied by fences, also saving the great expense of building and repairing fences. The time has hardly arrived in this country for the general adoption of the practice of soiling stock. When it shall become necessary to economize in the use of land, when population shall begin to crowd upon the means of subsistence, pasturing arable lands will gradually cease.

So long as pasturing is continued every pasture should be provided with an abundance of pure, sweet living water. A flowing stream is generally considered very desirable in a pasture, but a creek often renders a good deal of land unfit for cultivation. It generally pursues a tortoise course, has more or less wet, marshy margin, and is not an economical method of watering stock. A well with a windmill and pump has recommendations, though where water can be brought from a spring and flow into a penstock the best conditions are afforded. In either pen or penstock, the overflow should be conducted away by an underdrain. No good farmer will suffer his stock to depend upon slough or swamp water, or to drink at filthy, stagnant pools. Such water must necessarily affect the health of stock and the wholesomeness of their products.—American Agriculturist.

## Rotation of Crops.

A rotation, to be profitable, must embody several distinct features. It must comprise crops that mature in different seasons of the year, in order that the labor of the farm may find profitable employment. This is imperative. It should consist of crops for which the ground can be prepared and the planting done at different seasons of the year. It should consist of crops that draw, as far as possible, on different elements of fertility in the soil, and, if possible, of some crops which restore the elements of fertility which have been exhausted by our crops. It should embrace both grain crops

and forage crops, and finally, should consist of one or more cleaning crops; that is, crops that either smother out weeds or furnish ample opportunity for destroying them in the cultivation demanded, for other reasons, by the crop. For the above reasons, rotation, whenever adopted, should contain, as far as possible, grain crops, grass crops and hoed crops, by the latter being meant such crops as require tillage in some form during their period of growth, as, for instance, corn and potatoes in America, and potatoes, turnips, mangels, beets, &c., in Europe. As all ordinary rotation must necessarily contain shallow rooting crops, such as wheat, oats and corn, they should also contain deep rooting crops, such as the clover and what are known ordinarily as root crops. In addition to the above every rotation should contain crops that are soil feeders, as it must necessarily contain crops that are soil robbers—that is, crops that restore nitrogen, the most expensive and most important element of fertility, and crops that exhaust it, as, for example, all our grain crops, without exception. Applying these principles, let us consider a moment what rotations are practicable as far west as clovers can be grown.—Western Farm Journal.

## Washing Windows.

There is method in everything, and that there is method in the washing of windows shows simply that there is nothing too small but that method has a place in it. Probably eleven out of every dozen housemaids never care or consider whether it is better to wash a window on the outside or inside first, or whether there is the slightest reason for considering whether the sunshine falls on it during the washing or not. Yet these are two very important matters to consider. If the window is washed when the sun shines on it it is sure to show cloudy and streaky places from drying too rapidly, and if it is not washed on the inside first the dust and dirt which belong on the outside cannot be so easily distinguished. The correct method to clean window glass is first dust the sash and glass on the inside and wash the panes, with a little ammonia in the water, using a soft cloth to wipe off with and a soft paper to polish it after it is dry. When the inside is entirely finished, then begin on the outside, and you will see at once the advantage spoken of, for all the dirt and imperfections that would otherwise have been concealed from you will stand revealed in contrast with the clean surface of the inside. Wash the outside as you do the inside. The outer panes should be wiped as soon as possible after the rinsing, and should be polished thoroughly with a chamois or paper.

## Hints to Housekeepers.

ONCE a month is often enough to wash the hair. Too frequent washing is injurious.

A PECK of fresh lime in a damp cellar will absorb all moisture and prevent malarious troubles.

HALF a teaspoonful of sugar scattered over a dying fire is better than kerosene and has no element of danger.

A cup of warm milk flavored with orange-flower water or beef tea is excellent for an invalid just before retiring.

IVORY knife handles that have grown dark and yellow with age or bad usage may be whitened by rubbing with sandpaper.

REMOVE rust from steel knives by covering with sweet oil for two days; then rub with a lump of fresh lime until the rust disappears entirely.

ONE pint of bay rum and half an ounce of guaiacum rubbed into the scalp with a woolen cloth twice a day will prevent the hair from falling.

LAY a large muslin rug under the sewing machine to catch threads, clippings, and cuttings and save a great amount of sweeping and dusting.

POLISHED steel can be kept from rusting after cleaning, or when not in use. Take a cloth with a little sweet oil on it and wipe the steel over so that the surface may have a very light but warm coating of oil.

ONE of the hardest notions for the untrained nurse to give up is that beef tea is a valuable nutriment. The recent assertion of a writer in the American Lancet that many thousands of sick persons have been starved to death on beef tea is only a summing up of what physicians and experienced nurses have been trying to impress upon the minds of the laity for some time. Beef tea is a stimulant, slight and evanescent, but to "live on beef tea," is simply impossible. The Lancet counsels that if it must be used, to remember that like plain tea, it should never be boiled. That method of making contributes a positive vice.

## Ice Water Without Ice.

The Colorado journalist, Mrs. Romney, has patented, among several other articles, a water cooler which does not require ice. It is a covered receptacle, of cellular brickware, manufactured of clay, sawdust, and asbestos fiber. In the process the sawdust is burned out, leaving the porous cellular, or porous. The receptacle, with the water to be kept cool within, stands in a tray of galvanized iron, which holds water to a depth of two or three inches. By reason of the porosity of the cooler and the forces of the capillary attraction, the water in the tray constantly rises through the cellular walls of the receptacle, and is as constantly evaporated—thereby keeping the water inside as cool as it is usually drawn from a well or spring.

It is said that practice makes perfect. This bolsters up the quack doctor.

## Prophetic Utterances.

James G. Blaine.

"I love my country and my countrymen. I am an American and rejoice every day of my life that I am. I enjoy the general prosperity of my country, and know that the workmen of this land are the best fed and the best clothed of any laborers on the face of the earth. Many of them have homes of their own. They are surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. I shudder, however, at the thought that the time must come when all this will be changed. When the general prosperity of the country will be destroyed. When the great body of workmen in this land, who are now so prosperous, will bear their wives and children cry for bread; that the day must come when the great factories and manufactories of this land will shut down, and there will be the silence of the tomb. And the reason why this must be is this:

"The great southern wing of the democratic party are determined to establish the doctrine of free trade in this land. They will be assisted by their northern allies. The fight is now on. There is a great body of visionary but educated men who are employed day by day in writing free trade essays and arguments in favor of that doctrine, which find their way into every democratic newspaper in this land.

"The great body of people have never experienced, themselves, the sufferings which always result when the protective principles are laid aside. Poisoned and excited by the wild statements of these writers and the demagogic appeals of democratic speakers, the result will be that in the very near future these forces which are now working will be strong enough to defeat at the polls the party advocating the doctrine of protection. It must inevitably follow that uncertainty and doubt will ensue.

"The business men of the country, fearing the destruction, will decline to engage in business, consequently mills will be shut down, and the workmen will be thrown out of employment. The people will then see, as we have never seen before, that they cannot be prosperous and have work while this principle is threatened. In the midst of this suffering they will learn that the only way they can be prosperous and happy is to vote for the party that has built up the industries by which they have gained a livelihood; because they will then see clearly that when a manufactory is shut down there is no demand for the thing which they have to sell, and that is their labor."

## Blaine's Prophecy Fulfilled.

A prophecy was made by James G. Blaine which should on this very day be accepted as an object lesson by every wage earner and every honest citizen in the land, because of its complete fulfillment in the progress of events. The general prosperity of the country has been destroyed, as he said it would be. Workmen who were then prosperous are now crying for bread; the great factories of the land have shut down; there is the silence of the tomb in all that was known as America's prosperous industries. The uncertainty and doubt foretold is upon the people. Wages have been reduced, the soup houses have been opened and the cry of starvation and suffering has been heard from one end of the land to the other.

The prophecy of the great leader, whose wisdom and foresight as a statesman were recognized by everybody, regardless of political prejudices, was fulfilled almost before the grass began to grow above his grave. His reasoning in regard to the causes cannot be answered, and yet partisan-blind followers of the demagogues in congress will throw up their hats and shout themselves hoarse with every blow that is given to American labor and the prosperity of the nation.

## Clay's American System.

Washington Letter to K. C. Mo., Journal.

The tariff question, as it existed thirty years ago, is not a living thing today. Then it was almost a thing of protection to calico weavers—now it is a policy that primarily affects the soil and the prosperity of all other interests that primarily depend upon it. Here, as I write is the National Wool Growers' association, representing among its officers Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon, California. Is that a local interest? Yet it was to the request of this convention to be heard that Senator Voorhees talks about "classes of privilege, protection and greed."

I simply recite the above as an illustration of how the principle of American markets for American products has grown since Henry Clay first formulated his American system. It is no longer a thing that can be made an issue in party politics, because it has come to be fundamental and vital to all, and the only means by which the American system of free government by an intelligent people can be maintained.

The denunciation of Cleveland by the president of the farmers' alliance would be more forcible if the alliance members of congress were not supporting the Cleveland policies with their votes.

"DEATH to society," exclaimed Anarchist Vaillant, and then died. As he was a distinguished apostle of "philosophical anarchy," the good Dr. McLellan's Advocate should contain a glowing obituary tribute.

In his letter accepting the nomination for president in 1884, Cleveland said that "the voters of the land have learned that mystery and concealment in the management of their affairs cover tricks and betrayal;" and now he has vindicated the correctness of his statement by his course in the Hawaiian matter.—Humboldt Union.

## A STUPENDOUS BRIDGE.

Serious Talk of Spanning the Famous English Channel.

A new plan for connecting England with France has been proposed. The old idea of building a tunnel under the English channel has been abandoned, and now it is proposed to bridge it. A careful survey has been made for the work and practical engineers have pronounced it entirely feasible. It has been found that a solid rock foundation can be secured for the new bridge for the entire distance, the bottom of the Straits of Dover along the line adopted as the route of the bridge being a level cretaceous rock perfectly scoured by alternating tides, so that no mud can settle upon it. This route is an almost perfect straight line, twenty and three-fourths miles long, running from Dover to Calais. The greatest depth of water is 167 feet and the mean depth 120 feet. Under such conditions the construction of the bridge proposed will be no great feat of engineering. The only remarkable thing about the bridge will be its great length.

It will consist of seventy-three spans, one-half of which will be 1,313 feet in length and the other half 1,640 feet. These different lengths will alternate with each other. They will have a minimum clearance of 177 feet above high water and will be supported on piers the upper parts of which will be oblong towers 148 feet long and sixty-six feet wide. They will be faced with cut granite and will support two braced metal columns which will carry the trusses. The towers will rest on a base of masonry constructed beneath the water by means of metal caissons surmounted by metal coffer-dams. The caissons will be held in place by hawsers from a circle of anchored pontoons. Where the depth of water is over 108 feet foundations of concrete laid on a previously leveled bottom will be constructed. This concrete will be put down in layers of from eight to ten feet in thickness. The whole will be of such a massive character that no wind or waves will ever be able to make the slightest impression upon its stability.

The superstructure of the bridge will be composed of two lattice trusses joined at their top chords so as to be triangular in cross sections. The trusses will extend over the whole length of 1,313 feet, spans being prolonged on the cantilever principle for 615 feet feet on each end of the latter, with 1,640-foot spans. An independent girder, 410 feet long, will be suspended between each two cantilever arms. It is estimated that the bridge will take seven years to build and will cost \$163,700,000, but even at this tremendous outlay 10 per cent. dividends are figured out on the capital stock. An annual income of \$16,300,000 is estimated from freight traffic and \$3,400,000 from passenger traffic, or nearly \$20,000,000 in all. Could internal jealousies be overcome there would probably be little difficulty in raising all the money necessary to complete the work, but as these prevented the construction of a tunnel it is hard to see how a bridge would be any less objectionable from a political standpoint.

## "Presidential Succession Act."

The Presidential succession act is a law of the United States, enacted by the Forty-ninth Congress and approved January 19, 1886. By this act, if the President and Vice President are incapacitated from acting by any cause, the Secretary of State, if he is constitutionally eligible, succeeds to the Presidency. If he cannot take the place, the other members of the Cabinet take it in this order: The Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War, the Attorney General, the Postmaster General, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Interior. The head of the Agriculture Department was made a member of the Cabinet in February, 1889, so his position in the succession was not arranged for until 1892, when he was placed at the foot of the list, where his rank as a Cabinet officer really placed him. The question of eligibility under the Constitution comes in, because while the President and Vice President must be native-born citizens over the age of 35, there is no such requirement for a Cabinet officer as such, but if he can not fill the constitutional requirements of a President he can not succeed to the Presidency, though his Cabinet rank would entitle him to do so.

## The International Railroad.

There are many international or practically international railroads. There is, however, a plan for an international railroad; that is, one that shall run from North America into South America, and surveys therefor are now under way. A general plan for the road was adopted by the International American Conference, which was in session at Washington at various times from October 2, 1889, to April 19, 1890. The general route of the road is down through Mexico, Central America, and along the passes to the Andes as far south as Valparaiso, in Chili, making connections with various existing or proposed roads. The United States has had three expeditions surveying routes in South America, and some of the South American States have also moved in the matter, but we have done most of the work as yet. No company has been formed to manage the line when built, nor has any amount been suggested as necessary to carry out such a road. The amount would be enormous.

At the banquets given by men the women get toasted; at the luncheons given by women the men get roasted.