Agricultural Column.

PROFITS OF SHEEP RAISING.

From a long article on the rearing and management of sheep as practised on the farm of A. B. McConnel, Esq., in Sangamon county, Ill., which we find in the *Prairie Farmer*, we take the following in regard to the profits of sheep-raising. Mr. McConnel's flock consists of about five thousand head, all fine-wool sheep. The basis of this flock was about six hundred of what was called the American Merinoe, being a slight cross of the Saxon upon the Spanish Merino. His flock has since been improved by the addition of the pure French and Spanish Merino, and his flock now consists of that cross. Our space will not permit us to give his manner of raising and taking care of sheep, but will try and do so hereafter:

"The average weight of fleece of the whole flock the past season, was five pounds four ounces. Five hundred will average eight pounds each, and there are some ewes that sheared fourteen pounds, and bucks that go much higher. The price of wool varies, but forty cents is the average counted on.

"We could easily see that with this amount of wool, the number of sheep sold for mutton, and the increase in the number of lambs, that wool growing was profitable, but was not satisfied with generalities, so with the aid of our intelligent and gentlemanly host, figured a little, something after this wise:

"Suppose a man buys, no matter where, one thousand fine wool ewes, with the necessary number of bucks, for which he pays two dollars and a half per head, the account will stand thus:

Dr.	
One thousand sheep at $2,50 per head,	$2,500
Estimated cost of herding, wintering, washing and shearing, $1,00 per head,	1,000
Loss from various causes, 10 per cent,	250
Total,	$3,750
Cr.	
By increase of flock, 800 lambs, $2 each,	$1,600
Four thousand pounds of wool, average of four lbs. each at 40 cents per lb.,	1,600
Total.	$3,200

"Showing that the income pays for flock, cost of keeping and care, within five hundred and fifty dollars, leaving a flock of seventeen hundred sheep with which to commence the next year."

COTTON.

Cotton was, in the early settlement of Southern Illinois, grown with, it is said, complete success. In the present prospect of a dearth in the Northern markets of that indispensible commodity, the enterprising citizens of that State find a proper stimulus to efforts for the re-appropriation of lands in that section of the State to the production of that plant. There probably has been no great or permanent change in the climatic and other conditions in that locality affecting the growth of that plant. So the argument "that it has been grown there in times past with success," is a sound and practical one. It is reported by parties who ought to know, and who are reliable authority, that 5,000 acres will be planted in that State the coming season. At an ordinary yield, the aggregate harvest from that number of acres will be 4,000,000 pounds, which, at present quotations in the New York city market, would bring nearly one and a half million of dollars. The Congressmen representing that State are interesting themselves in procuring through the agency of the Government, a supply of the best Sea Island seed with which to inaugurate this important branch of industry.

Now it seems to us to be an interesting question for those of our Kansas farmers who are acquainted with the culture of that textile plant, to consider whether if cotton can be grown with success in Southern Illinois, it cannot also be cultivated with success here.—There have been some experiments with the plant in our vicinity, and we are informed that the parties making them—who are entirely conversant with its culvation—are well assured that it can be grown here ordinarily favorable seasons, almost as certain and profitably as in the Cotton States. A writer in the *Wyandotte Gazette* some time since, who came from the cotton growing region of the South, and who had been experimenting with the plant the past year, gave a most encouraging account of the result of his essay in its cultivation. From time to time, the Topeka *Record* has noticed specimens of cotton, matured and perfectly developed, grown in that vicinity. There have been, too, in that and other papers of the State, brief articles, evidently written by persons well acquainted with the habits and requirements of the plant, discussing in most favorable terms the adaptability of Kansas soil and climate to its production. In view of all these things, and of the important economical interest now centred in the production and supply of this Royal vegtable, every reasonable encouragement should be given, and every aid possible extended to those of our farmers who are at all acquainted with its habits and mode of culture, to embark the coming season in its earnest cultivation. While the Government is supplying Illinois with seed, it would not require a great additional exertion to extend its favors in that way to Kansas. And we have no doubt all that is necessary to secure that action, is a similar interest in behalf of the latter, manifested on the cotton seed question by her representatives, to that exhibited by those of the former State. As to Legislative inducements, we think the suggestions of a correspondent of the Topeka *Daily Record* of the 11th inst., altogether unnecessary, and very unjust to other struggling interests in the State. We do not believe it necessary to tax other branches of industry to stimulate the production of even cotton in our midst. So far as the profit is concerned, if there is not inducement enough for its cultivation in the empty markets of the world, and the inevitably high prices it must bear for the next, and perhaps many other succeeding years, we do not believe that the temporary bounty proposed will afford such additional stimulation as would secure its permanent production in this State. If it can be raised here at all successfully, it seems to us that thirty-six cents per pound—the present market value—includes a sufficient bounty.—*State Journal.*

SUBSTITUTES FOR COFFEE.

The high price of tea and coffee has induced many to adopt substitutes for a morning beverage. Go where you will, you hear the subject discussed, and stepping into houses you are regaled with the order of burning peas, rye, barley or whatever is designed for a substitute. That some of these articles will make a very palatable and wholesome beverage we think no one will deny. We give below some of the recipes that are floating around, and have been recommended:

RYE COFFEE.—Take a peck of rye, and cover it with water, let it steep or boil until the grain sweels or commences to burst, then drain or dry it. Roast to a deep brown color and prepare as other coffee, allowing twice the time for boiling Served with boiled milk.

ANOTHER.—Take some rye; 1st, scald it; 2d, dry it; 3d, brown it, and then mix it with one-third coffee and two-thirds rye, and then you will have as good a cup of coffee as you ever drank.

SWEET POTATO COFFEE.—Another writer in one of our exchanges gives the following recipe for the preparation of a substitute for coffee. We give it for what it is worth, never having seen it tried:

"Take sweet potatoes, cut them fine enough to dry conveniently, and when dried, grind them in a coffee mill, dry them by the fire or stove, at this season of the year, or by the sun, when that will do it; grind and use, mixed with coffee in such proportion as you like. Some of my neighbors omit half of the coffee and some more."

BARLEY COFFEE.—Take common barley or the skinless if it can be obtained, roast as you would coffee, and mix in such proportions as suits your taste.—It is very good.

PEA COFFEE.—It is probably known to many that a very large per cent. of the ground coffee sold at the stores, is common field peas roasted and ground with coffee. There are hundreds of thousands of bushels of peas annually used for that purpose. Those who are in the habit of purchasing ground coffee can do better to buy their own peas, burn and grind them and mix to suit themselves.

CARROT COFFEE.—Is recommended by an exchange. Cut up, dry and grind, and mix with coffee in quantities to suit the taste.—*Prairie Farmer.*

DRESSING TRIPE.

After taking the tripe from the beef, turn and clean carefully through the small opening, and sew it up, that no more dirt than can be possibly avoided, gets on the skinny side, wash clean, and then cut in pieces suitable for cooking. Have ready a kettle of *boiling* water, and dip in the tripe a piece at a time; lay on a table or board and scrape with a knife; the outside skin will come off easily, leaving it nice and white. It then needs washing and soaking from three to four days, the water changed often, when it is ready for cooking; some perform this in various ways.

The *Rulache* (I do not know whether the orthography is right) is made by filling square pieces of tripe with beef, and boiling all together, until tender, so that a broom splint may go through them easily, and then put into cold vinigar. After a week or two they make an excellent *Dutch* dish. J. H.
—*Prairie Farmer.*

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GOOD SOUND UNION PAPER

In Davis, Dickinson, Salina, Ottumwa, Morris, Clay, Riley, Pottawattomie and Wabaunsee to assist them in so doing.

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And every day until further notice, will be presented the deeply affecting and highly interesting play of

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with an entire change of Scenery and Appointments. The following are the leading incidents in the play:

SCENE—Post Office Building, Washington Street, between 7th and 8th.

Broche Shawls,	Chambray,	Valencias,
Stella do	Black Silks,	Ginghams,
Wool do	Fancy do	Silk Velvets,
Cassimere do	Ladies' Cloth,	Opera Hoods,
Thibet do	French Merinos,	Cashmeres.
Saxony Plaids,	Opera Flannels,	Parramettas,
Gala do	Wool Delaines.	Coburgs,
Silk do	Muslin do	Alpaccas.

After which will be brought out the charming little COMEDY of

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do Sleeves,	Men's Wrappers,
do Hdkfs,	do Drawers,
do Flouncing,	Kerseys, Satinets,
do Insertings,	Vestings, Ken'y Jeans,
Wool Flannels,	Gloves, Mittens,
Canton Flannels,	Denims, Stripes, Ticks,
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CIDAR VINEGAR,	CRACKERS, &c.

As an evidence of the popularity of the above COMEDY we need only refer the public to the

IMMENSE CROWDS

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Wreathes, Bonnets,	Suspenders, Combs,
Drapery, Edgings,	Belts, Buckskin Mittens,
Head Dresses,	Napkins, Men,s Boots,
Velvet Ribbons,	Men's Shoes,
Dress Trimmings,	Boy's Boots and Shoes,
Lace Veils,	Women's Shoes,
Crape, Hosiery,	Children's Shoes,
Leise Crape Needles,	Rubbers, Satchels,
Floss, Table Cloths,	Whips,
Dimity, Shirt Bosoms,	Men's and Boys' Hats,
Elastics, Woolen Hoods,	Men's and Boys' Caps,
Braids, Tape, Pins,	Trunks,
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