

W. W. SANDERS, Publisher.
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Another Oklahoma Letter.

ARAPAHOE, Custer Co., Okla.,
January 23, 1900.
W. W. Sanders:—Well, for the benefit of my many Nemaha county friends I will endeavor to write a few lines and tell the truth, too, about this "Garden of Eden."

Last winter we had an extra long, cold winter. The thermometer ran down to 16 degrees below zero and the ground froze 18 inches deep. This winter has been very mild. A man could plow almost any day. I planted some peach seed and the ground has never frozen over two or three inches, so I guess they will not come up. Last winter we had wind gales almost every day at least two thirds of the time. This winter we have had but one strong wind that I know of. Our ground holds the moisture well, and it is never muddy unless we have one or two weeks' rain; then it dries off in one day after the sun comes out. It never plows up in hard clods that lay all summer, as I have had it do in Nebraska. There is just enough sand in it to make it work well.

There is nothing started to grow in the way of vegetation yet, although it is as warm in the day time as May weather in Nebraska, but it frosts at night and so vegetation does not start. I have commenced back setting my ground now and will list it again in the spring. The hay here looks good but horses do not do well on it. We will have to plant alfalfa and sow Kaffir corn, cane, etc., which all does finely, and the horses do well on them. There is plenty of wood here to run the country, but it is mostly on Indian settlements and does not do any good. I have plenty of wood in my own canon but some are not so lucky and have to burn coal.

My corn made 40 bushels per acre last year and on the bottoms it would go fully 60 and perhaps 75, but I am wafe in saying 60. I gathered corn until after Christmas. I went 8 miles to the last field and hauled the corn 7 miles toward home. Husked and hauled for 4 cents. But let me say that 40 bushels was not by any means the average yield for the upland. In the first place, if I do say it, my land was the very best upland black soil. Then I plowed it with a stirring plow and listed after that, so that gave me the advantage over most farmers. You can see farms here that have been in cultivation for five years and the native grass is so thick it looks like a prairie off a little way. But these are mighty few of old Nemaha county boys' farms that look that way.

Next fall I will give you an account of the fall wheat crop. There is quite a little planted this fall.

We have nine cases of smallpox in Washita county, and two deaths. Every body is getting vaccinated. They are quarantined off from Custer county but we are liable to get it all the same.

Mr. Lash arrived here with about 18 head of shorthorn cattle, and he will make a big thing out of them, too. The native cattle fed here brought \$3.60 in Kansas City, and about the same time the shorthorns and northern stock brought \$7.00. The feeders lost money. If a man wants to go in the cattle business he better get northern stock.
E. L. ARGABRIGHT.

La grippe has made its appearance again and a goodly number of people are suffering from the same. It is in a milder form this winter than when it first made its appearance in the west.—Nebraska City News.

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