# DOUGLAS COUNTY FARMING

Some Pertinent Facts Concerning One of the Oldest of Nebraska Communities.

EXPERIENCE OF MEN WHO LIVE HERE

They Drove the Indians Back and Wrestled With Hardships and Privation to Enjoy Peace and Plenty In the Present,

Douglas county was organized in the fail of 1854, by preelamation of Acting Governor Cumings, and the boundaries were re-de fined by act of the territorial legislature, approved March 2, 1855. At that time Sarpy was included in Douglas, but by an act approved February 7, 1857, Sarpy county was created and the present boundary lines of Douglas county defined. Douglas county lies about the center of the eastern line of the state, bounded on the east by the Missouri river, on the north by Washington and Dodge, south by Sarpy and west by the Platte river. In area it contains 360 square miles of territory, or 230,400 acres, and embraces within its limits Omaha, the metropolis of the state. There are in the county 1,276 farms, with 100,231 acres of tilled lands and 45,465 acres of permanent meadow land. The average price per acre of Douglas county farm land is placed at \$55. It will readily be seen by the reader that the high average price is owing to the fact that much of the land lies close to the city, with its enormous demand for the products of the farm, dairy and garden

The last official census gives Douglas county a population of 158,008, against 87,645 in 1880, or an increase of 360 per cent. The total assessed valuation for 1891 was \$24,414,399.25 and the actual estimated valuation \$285,000,000,

In Section 9255,000,000, In 1891 there was raised in the county  $\mathbf{8},747$  acres of wheat, 55,416 acres of corn, 14,-935 acres of oats, 4,000 acres of barley, 414 acres of flax, 494 acres of rye, 1,535 acres of mitlet and 27,009 of meadow

There were returned by the assessors 18,-509 head of hogs, 17,096 cattle, 11,886 horses, 1,265 mules and 253 sheep. Thirteen railroads center in Omaha, several

of which traverse the county in various di rections, affording ample depot and shipping facilities to every portion of the county. The main line of the Union Pacific runs through the county diagonally in a north-west and southeast direction, while the Fre-mont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley runs in the same direction a few miles further north, and the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapo lis & Omaha runs through the northeas portion.

# The City of Omaha.

Omaba is a city of the metropolitan class ombracing a territory of twenty-five square miles and has a population, according to the official census of 1890, of 140,452, against 30,-518 in 1880, sbowing a gain of over 360 per cent. The assessed valuation is \$20,000,000 and the actual estimated valuation of \$225, 000,000. The city has seventy miles of paved streets, ninety miles of sowers, 175 miles of water mains, 103 miles of street railway and 128 miles of graded streets. Omaha has 168 manufacturing establishments with an in-vested capital of \$7,915,000, employing over 12,000 operatives and laborers. The city has 190 jobbing houses, with an invested capital of \$14,106,000, and they do an annual business which aggregates over \$50,000,000. Besides the metropolis there are eight other inpor-tant towns and cities in the county, of which South Omaha is of the greatest commercial importance, being third in the volume of business done in the packing line in the United States. Millard, Eikhorn, Water-loo, Valley, Florence and Irving-ton are all thriving little cities. The fact that Douglas contains a city so large as Omaha makes at the wealthiest and more important county in the solution. most important county in the state. The same cause answered for the fact that the price of land is higher in Douglas than any other county in the state. But it is errone-ous to suppose that Omana is all there is of Douglas county, for it is a fact, asour figures show, that there is a vast amount of grain and stock raised on Douglas county farms and some of the most elegant farm homes within the borders of the state are owned by Douglas county farmers who have made their money entirely out of the soil, as the following personal interviews will show: An Old Timer,

we were forced to do in the early days can acquire a home and make a good living here farming. Mr. Geiston began with abso-lutely nothing, stopping in Douglas county Pike's peak. He lived on his farm when Mr. Rosewater was a telegraph lineman, and re-lated an incident in which he assisted the present editor of Tan Bas in putting up a fallen wire near his place.

O. A. Wolcott,

O. A. Wolcott is also an Elk City farmer who has grown up with the country and made himself quite comfortable by tilling the soil. He came to this country twenty-six years ago with a few dollars and a team. the soil. He came to this country twanty-six years ago with a few dollars and a team, and now has a well improved farm of 600 menagement. He has accumulated his lands by degrees, paying from \$3 to \$20 an acre. He feeds cattle the year around, and gen-crally buys grain. Could have made money out of hogs, but have lost them all three dif-ferent times. My corn was not very good last senson. Had some that went fifty bush-els per acre, but it would not average so much. Fed 100 head of cattle during the season. I have six acres of orchard, always have fruit, and have sold apples at \$2.50 per bushel. Have ten acres of grove new big enough to furnish all the wood I need. Ne-braska cannot be beat for farming purposes, so far as natural advantages go, but I am not entirely satisfied with the way markets are manipulated by big operators, truits and combines. My land is now worth at least

ombines. My land is now worth at least \$35 per acre.

# Whitmore Bros.

W. G. and Frank Whitmore, under the W. G. and Frank Whitmore, under the firm name of Whitmore isros., own and op-erate a model farm of 700 acres, one-built mile west of Valley, lying between the Platte and Elkhorn rivers. They bought their first half section fourteen years ago at \$12,50 per acre and have added to it at various times since at prices varying from \$12,50 to \$25 an acre. It is all under fence and is well stocked with norses and cattle. Four hun-ared acres of it is seeded down to tame grass, timothy, clover and bluegrass, generally mixed. W. G. Whitmore says: "We have clover pastures that have been seeded down clover pastures that have been seeded down for twelve years, and heavily pastured, that is just as good now as ever, and in fact, is as cood as can be grown in any state in the union. We make a business of baling and marketing bay, and handle an annual output of about 6,000 tons. We usually have about 3,000 tens of our own raising, made on leased non-resident lands, besides buy-ing about the same amount from the farmers around us. We pay about an average of \$3 a ton, and sell at an average of about \$5, the difference being expense of about \$5, the difference being expense of baling and placing on track and our profits. We have established a plant here which We have established a plant here which makes a market for all this hay which form-erly went up in smoke. Last year we sold hay on track at \$16 a ton as fast as we could load it, but of course that was an exception. We are now selling at \$1.50. We also buy and ship about 100,000 bushels of corn, a year, We feed about 150 head of cattle each year. We sold in December 175 head of fat cattle and have on hand in all about 160 head. We feed the year around, have our cattle fat on clover in July and finish them on ground feed mixed with oil cake and bran on scien-tific principles, and have topped the Chicago markets for the past two years. Our tame grass pastures gives a big advantage. We are breeding Percheron horses and now have on hand forty-three head, including some fine 1.300 to 1,400-pound brood mares. The coming season, in common with some of our neighbors, we plant a few acress of sugar beets, ss a starter, so as to be ready when Omaha builds a factory. A tumber of our farmers have of late years raised seeds quite extensively for easiern seed houses, and have made it pay, but they are looking forward to the beet sugar business, which

they think will pay better." The Whitmore brothers have each built fine houses the past season and their barns, sheds and appliances for the care of stock and farm products are models of conveni-ence. W. G. Whitmore's new residence is perhaps the best and costliest house of it size in the county, outside of Omaha. I' is perfect gem from cellar to garret and is fur-nished to correspond. The building was planned by an Omaha srchitect and the grounds are being laid out by an Omaha andscape gardener. Looking from a second story front window five counties can be seen. But all this is only a Douglas county farm and the proceeds of intelligent labor. Grain, Stock and Fruit.

W. C. Ainsworth of Elu City is known as a successful fruit raiser as well as farmer. He owns a splendid farm of 375 acres which he purchased eight years ago at \$35 per Mr. Ainsworth says he fed sixty head acre, of cattle this year and lost money on them but would have made good money had he sold at the right time. He carries on farming extensively but takes special pains with and delightin propagating fruits of all kinds. He says: "Have twenty acres of orchard in fine condition. Proper varietics will do well here and as for Douglas county, the ridge overlooking the Eikhorn all along here seems to be specially adapted to fruit raising. Small fruits of all kinds thrive well and yield abundantly with anything like proper care. The worst thing we have to contend with is the unscrupulous traveling agents for eastern nurseries, whose catalogues always show all the varieties one might want to order, but when the trees begin to bear we find that fow, if any of their trees provo true to name. The consequence is that many orchards are al most profitless. I am in favor of patronizing our home purseries and believe trees from them will do better and are less apt to black-heart than castern trees. Besides, home-grown trees are not exposed for days and perhaps shriveled up before they are trans-planted. There are only three or four varieties of cherries that can be profitably varieties of cherries that can be profitably raised here. The English Morello is the best and early Richmond is good. I had two tons of grapes last year and am extending my vineyard every year. Blackberries and raspberries I have more than I want, and while they require some attention anybody can have them who will. This section of Douglas county is destined to become a great

\$12.50 per acre for it. I have 240 acres, highly \$12.50 per acre for it. I have 240 acres, highly improved, large house, barn, sheds, ex-tensive groves furnishing all the wood I need, large orchard in good bearing, trees all doing well. I am a carpenter by trade and rent my land for grain rent, which is more profitable than cash, but I stay right with my farm so as to see that repairs are kept up and everything taxon care of. Last year the corn on my place made forty-five and year before fifty bushels per acre; wheat, fourteen last year and year before twenty-two bushels per acre. I came here with only \$1 in money and have done reason-ably well. Farming is like any other business, a success if properly handled, but there is a success if properly handled, but there is one thing certain, a farmer cannot here to follow the example of labor organizations and undertake to work but eight hours a day.

# Takes Grain Rent.

Dr. Batdwin has a fine farm of 320 acres Dr. Isaidwin has a fine farm of 320 acres adjoining that of Mr. Patrick, which he rents out for grain rent and makes it pay. He bought his land in 1863 at \$7.50 to \$12 per acre. He has invested a large amount of the money made on the farm in improvements and now has one of the best improved farms in that section

From Wisconsin to Nebraska.

Peter Miller is another Valley precinct farmer who came here fourteen years ago from Wisconsin, and has made himself rich farming. All he had to start with was a mule team and a big family. He rented for a time, but soon began buying land and now owns a 400-acre farm, highly improved, good buildings and well stocked. He has made it all in the last dozen years by farming in the strictest sense of the word.

### Thrifty Swedes.

A. P. Ackerland came to this country from Sweden about fourteen years ago, a poor boy, but well educated, and went to work by the but well oblicated, and went to work by the month. Today he owns 400 acres of as fine land as ever lay out of doors, has plenty of money at interest, and is worth \$25,000 or \$30,000. He made it all by farming, pure and simple; began at the very bottom and never speculated in any sense of the word. Ho has two brothers here whose history is similar. similar.

Worth \$100,000.

Valley precinct has a large community of Scardinavian farmers, Swedes and Danes, who all settled there about the same time, under similar circumstances, without money or influential friends, but with that native thrift for which they are noted. They began to climb the ladder the moment they landed on American soil, where no man is better than his neighbor. Ten of the above class could be named who are worth in the nggregate more than \$100,000, and as many more who are comfortably situated and are adding to their possessions year by year. Those men know how to farm, how to make money and how to save it.

## Bought a Farm.

W. A. Gray nine years ago bought a farm of 160 acres, two and three-fourths miles northwest of Elkhorn for \$28 an acre. Mr. Gray says he still owes some on the place, but is in a fair way to pay it out. He has put considerable money into improvements and is surrounded with every comfort a farm can produce. He has live acres of grove and has three acres of granes. He has not made has three acres of grapes. He has not made a business of feeding cattle, but has made more money out of hogs than anything else. "Last year my corn averaged fifty bushels, oats forty per acre. I came here from in-diana, where I farmed, but this certainly beats it. Yes, farming is all right in this country." J. J. Miller.

J. J. Miller has a farm one and a balf miles west of Valley, which is one of the best improved in that section. He came to Douglas county from Pennsylvania with no means and has succeeded in making a farm of 400 acres, with elegant buildings, orchards, etc., and in stocking it with cattle and horses. He made it all on the farm. He is now proprietor of a lumber yard in Valley. Made it on the Farm.

McCleneghan Bros. are operating a 1,400 acre farm two miles west of Valley. Their father came here poor and died a year ago, leaving at least \$49,000 worth of property to the boys, and he made it all on the farm. Horses Pay Best.

George Drexel has owned and operated a small farm of 180 acres at Elk City, for the past four years. He has his little place well improved, both as to buildings and cultiva-

year. tion, and has an orchard of 200 trees, with small fruit in abundance. "I claim that farming in Nobraska is a profitable business out am giving most of my attention to horses, which I think more profitable. I consider the Omaha market a great advantage to the farmers of the state."

17.3 nursing a lame log, caused by bis horse run-ning against a wire fence and almost sawing off the limb. A hospitable welcome was given THE BRE man, and Mr. Glandt, in an-swer to questions, said : 'I came from lowa to Omaha in the fail of 1850 and the follow-ing spring pre-centified a quarter section of land where I now live, paying 30 per cent for the use of the necessary money. I had a yoke of cattle when I landed on the Ne-braska side of the fiver and went to work hauling logs for Saelsbury & Smith's saw mill, which stood at the ferry landing, a lit-tle north of where the Union Pacific shops now stand. My wife cooked for the men at the mill, so we both worked. In the spring of 1857 I got lumber sawed for a shanty and loaded it up, together with B lot of pro-visions-for we didn't know as we would get back to town very soon-and traveled here to this spot, where we have lived ever since. We built the house in one day. I have since nent 72 cents. The wages of m range from \$7.25 to \$12 per week in country. If we add to the cost of duction, say a profit of 10 cents per

back to town very soon-and traveled here to this spot, where we have lived ever since built two houses here—the first, not counting the shanty, costing \$1,500, and the one I now live in \$2,500. The barns and sheds have cost me in the neighborhood of \$3,000. I now own 1,680 acres of land, which I bought at various times at prices ranging from \$5 to \$50 per acre. We have about 500 apple trees and always have plenty of fruit. This is a good fruit country and I know men who are making money out of cattle and feed from 100 to 150 head every year. I am not one of those who think the cattle market is con-trolled by a few men. Last year corn was high and I got \$5.70 for my cattle. This year i do not expect more than \$4. So you see there are other causes for the rise and full of the markets besides the manipulation of large operators. The Liverpool market governs prices here to a great extent. The South Omaha market is a great thing for the South Omaha market is a great thing for the state. We can now take our fat stock there state. We can now take our fat stock there in any quality and can always take the money home with us, while under the old regime we often sold to butchers on time and some of them never paid up. My land is all under fence and I have 160 acres of tame pasture-timothy and clover-and it does first rate. Farms have sold around here lately for \$50 to \$55 per acre, but well improved farms are worth from \$60 to \$65. I used to raise wheat to sell at \$1 to \$1.25 per bushel and stul raise some every year. Yes, I think a man could start here now without money easier than in early days, for the reason that he can get work at good wages and not be called

can get work at good wages and not be called upon to suffer the hardships and incon-veniences incident to pioneer life. Why, I used to go to Calhoun with a little grist of grain and haul wood for the miler to get him to grind it for me, and he took his toll just the same. I have renters who began in debt for their teams and now own farms.

debt for their teams and now own farms. I only know of one man who came here with money, but they are all well off." Mr. Glandt and his wife are past the meridian of life, but are both hale and hearty and bid fair to live and enjoy the fruits of their early struggles for many years to come. They certainly have a re-markable history, and one that might be a useful lesson to others useful lesson to others.

A Close Call.

the cost per ton will be still less the cost in Canada and Greht Br but the intervention of railroad binations and excessive commissio wholesalers and the liberal rakethe retailers, makes the cost to the sumer in this country little she robbery. DeWitt's Sarsaparilla cleanses the t increases the appetite and tones up the tem. It has benefitted many papel have suffered from blood disordors. heipyou. A Fool and Her Money. "I've heard of a girl pawning he gagement ring to buy her lover a Cl mas present, but I never heard any stranger than a story told me whi west recently," said the barber a stropped his razor the other previous to operating on a B Herald man. "In a combination jev and pawn shop a diamond pin we hibited for sale. It caught the fan a young lady. The more she gaz the pin the more she wanted it fo man she loved. She went home and all the money she possessed. Co back to the store she asked the pri the pin and found it a few doll..rs than she had. "Haven't you any gold that you can turn into en asked the jeweler. "We will buy gold at any time." The girl the a minute. Suddenty she brightene and took a set of teeth from her m The plate was of solid gold. "Can use that?" she asked the pawnbr "I shall have to weigh it." he "All right." "And to weigh it I have to knock the teeth off." "K them off, then." The broker did weighed the plate, and found the value made up the lack and 93 c The girl took her 93 cents and the mond, and went out with a hand chief over her mouth. Mrs. L. R. Patton, Rockford, Ill., w rom personal experience I can rec DeWitt's Sarsaparilla, a cure for in blood and general debility." SHORT AND SEASONABLE SERMO. Never be idle. Make few promises. Always speak the truth. Never speak evil of any one. Act up to your engagements. Keep good company or none. Be just before you are generous. Mr. J. P. Blaize, an extensive real estate Never borrow if you can possibly a dealer in this city, narrowly escaped one of the severest attacks of pneumonia while in the northern part of the state during the ro-cent blizzard. Mr. Blaize had occasion to urive several miles during the storm and was so thoroughly chilled that he was unable to rot more and incide of an how a tran his ro-Good character is above all th 2 80. Keep your own secrets if you so thereoughly chined that he was unable to get warm, and inside of an hour after his re-turn he was threatened with a severe case of pneumonia, or long fever. Mr. Blaize sent to the nearest drug store and got a bottle of Chamberlam's Cough Remedy, of which he anv. Never play at any kind of gam chance. Keep yourself innocent if you w be happy. had often neard, and took a number of large doses. He says the effect was wonderful and that in a short time he was oreathing When you speak to a person look in the face. and that in a short time he was oreathing quite easily. He kept on taking the medicine and the next day was able to come to Des Momes. Mr. Blaize regards his cure as sim-ply wonderfel, and says he will never travel again without a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.—The (Des Moines, Iowa) Saturday Review, '25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by druggist. Save when you are young to sp when you are old. Always live, misfortune exce within your income. Avoid temptation through fear may not withstand it. Good company and good convers are the very sinews of virtue. POINTS ON PROGRESS. Your character cannot be essen Russia will use American sleeping jured except by your onw acts. If one speak evil of you let you The grst railway to Jerusalem will be so that no one will believe him. probably be opened in the spring of next Dewitt's Sarsaparaia cleanses the bl The output of petroleum in this country last year surpasses all previous rec-ords, and amounted to 50,150,000 barrels. A hundred and twenty-seven years ago ING CO.

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# Mitchell Donahoe is a fair sample of the progressive Douglas county farmer. He owns a fine property in the tewn of Eikhorn and is living at his ease, though he admits he was once very poor. He says: 'I came to this county thirty-five years ago without anything and entered 160 acres of land at the anything and entered 160 acres of land at the Omaha land office in 1857. I mortgaged eighty acres of it for a mule team, and fail-ing to meet the payment, forfeited the land, leaving me but eighty acres. I now own 987 acres in one body, five miles south of Fik-horn, in section 2, township 14, range 10; 160 at Waterloo, and thirty-eight acres west of Elaborn, besides my home of six lots where I live. I bought my land a little at a time at from \$10 to \$35 per acre. Have raised grain and fed it to stock, usually feeding more than I raised, though year before last I sold 3,000 busbels of corn. Have 300 apple trees on the big place and plenty of small fruit, all of which does well. I built a large barn this winter. I have made a success of farming and have nothing to complain of."

#### Made a Success.

Isaac Noyes owns and lives on a farm of 1,300 acres, bordering on the Elkhorn river, between the towns of Waterloo and Elkbetween the towns of Waterloo and Elk-horn. It is one of the handsomest and best farms in Douglas county, presenting a becautiful picture with its silvery river border, smooth bottom lands, elegant build-ings and grounds. "Yes," said Mr. Noves, "I pre-empted my first 160 acres in 1857, and to show you that the prospect was not very inviting at that time and for years very inviting at that time, and for years afterward, I will relate a circumstance in point: Jacob Kirk came here in 1856 and secured 160 acros and lived on it until 1807, when he got tired, concluding that the country was no good, and that his land country was no good, and that his land would never be worth anything, offered to give it to me free gratis. I advised him to stay by it, but when he said he was determined to go back to lowa, 1 told him I would not only accept the gift, but would give his wife \$50, which I did. Some of Mr. Kirk's children were born on that place, and were the first borr. in this part of the country, but no the could bind him to this country, but no the could bind him to this country at that time. I raised 15,000 bushels of corn last year, and about the same the year before. Last year I sold 7,000 bushels at 57 cents per bushel, though 1 usually feed it all. Have on hand now 300 cattle and am feeding 110 bead. I market all my stock at Omaha, and do not think it would pay to go to Chicago unless it would be with export cattle. I have paid but little attenexport cattle. I have paid but little atten-tion to fruit, but have all I need for home use. However, this is an excellent fruit country. So far as a change of conditions between the present and carly years are concerned, from a farmer's standpoint, I would rather undertake to make a start here now than then. A young man, full of life and hope, can come here now, go in debt fro eighty or 160 acres of land, and soon pay for it all right without being called upon to un-dergo the privations of the early settlers."

# Started with Nothing.

Started with Nothing. George Gelston of Elk City talked inter-estingly of his early struggles with poverty and later success as a farmer. He came here in 1860 with nothing, and bought his first land four years later. He now has a fine farm of 246 acres, well improved and stocked, and has all the comforts and conveniences that any one could desire in a country home. Mr. Gelston says he first raised grain to sell and made money out of wheat but of late years has turned his attention to stock, and feeds from sixty to 100 head of cattle a year. Bought corn last year at 40 cents a bushel. Bought corn last year at 40 cents a bushel, to feed to cattle, and made it pay. I have always noticed that I make more money out of stock when grain is high than the reverse. Last year I went to Omaha and raid \$3,15 per 100 for forty head of steers, fed them 40 cent corn until they put on a gain of 451 pounds each, and then sold them in Omaha for \$5.50. I had 180 acres of in Omaha for \$5.50. I had 130 acres of corn last year that averaged forty-five bushels per acre, forty acres of oats that averaged fifty bushels. I had 300 bushels of apples last fall, but we farmers all got beat when we bought our trees of traveling agents who sold us nursery stock not true to name. The result is we have nothing scarcely but sum-mer and fail fruit. I have 500 apple trees in all, some of them too young to bear. I think pay man who will get down to business as

# The Farm Pays Best.

to it.

place for fruit, as it is naturally adapted

F. I. Reber, a prominent hardware dealer T. I. Reber, a prominent introducte dealer at Elkhorn, was seen and spoke as follows: "I own 320 acres in Dodge county, which I bought twelve years ago at \$11.50 to \$25 per acre, and have put thousands of dollars in the part of the part of the part of the part of the part interviewe acts. acre, and have put thousands of donars in improvements; have a good house and barn and plenty of fruit of all kinds. I made my first and best money farming, and although I have a nice business here, my farm pays me best, even in the hands of a renter. Year before last my share of the crop made me over \$1,600. I think Nebraska farmers have a bonanza, provided always that they work and manage and do not spend their time hunting up something to complain about."

#### Never Had a Failure.

John Bryant is one of the oldest and best known farmers around Elk City. He has a beautiful home and is surrounded with the rural comforts which city people so much desire but cannot possess, the fruits of years of patient toll. Mr. Bryant says: "I came here from England in 1855, where I followed farming, pre-empted my first quarter section thirty-six years ago and now have 260 acros nicely improved, as you see. I have spent lots of money in improvements, and have made it all on the farm. I have six acres of nation that on the term. I have say acress of orchard and had a fine crop of apples last year. Some of my neighbors called me a fool when I was planting my orchard, but the sequel proves that I was right. This is a good fruit country, and results will be still better when fruit raisers can get proper varieties. I have never fed much stock, but have made a success of ferming, just the have made a success of farming just the same. There is no trouble about farming in Nebraska, provided one has the will and uses ordinary judgment. 1 have raised thirty-five crops here and never experienced a failure. True, certain kinds of crops have at times been rather light, but always a fair vield."

#### Prefers Nebraska.

Freters Nebrasks. James Gilmore is the owner of one of the prettiest farms in Douglas county, lying about two miles northwest of Eikhorn. Mr. Gilmore gave his experience thus: "I came to Douglas county thirteen years ago with a team and \$10 in money. I have 240 acres of land which I bought for \$10 to \$15 an acre. I have put lots of money in improvements, have good house and barn and as good cattle sheds as there are in the country. I have been feeding cattle for the past five years, have 100 head on hand and am feeding thir-ty-five. I made most of what I have by feed-ing stock, but have sold some grain. I have a small orchard, but have not given fruit the ing stock, but have sold some grain. I have a small orchard, but have not given fruit the attention it deserves as I consider this an ex-cellent fruit country. Have tried farming in Illinois and Iowa and prefer Nobraska to either. We are more sure of a crop here and get better yields, besides it is a healthier country." Bents His Farm.

## Rents His Farm.

Andrew Patrick, residing north of Elk-horn, says: I have been in Nebraska since 1866. Bought my first isnd in 1578, paid

# John Lemke,

Mr. Lemke is one of the pioneers of Doug-las county, settling here in 1860. Like most of the old settlers he came here empty-handed. He formerly hyed in Illinois, and came here to get cheap land and soon owned a whole section. Nine years ago he quit farming and turned his entire attention to handling and shipping stock. He is one of the best known stock shippers in Nebraska, and it is a rare thing whon the name of John Lemke, Millard, does not appear in the South Omaha papers as being on the market with stock. He bought his land at market with stock. He bought his land at different times along as he could pay for it, and made it all by farming. He has sold some of his land, but still owns 320 acres in Chicago precinct and 160 acres in Millard precinct, all of which he reuts out. He lives in a splendid home in the town of Millard, supremended by all the comforts of medern in a splendid home in the town of Millard, surrounded by all the comforts of modern ife. Yes, said Mr. Lomke, I think farming pays in Nebraska. I know men who a few years ago worked for wages, afterward rented iand and later still bought the farms they had rented, have them paid for and are now in independent circumstances. I have if mind one man who rented a farm two in the south of Millard in the ador of Sarny miles south of Millard in the edge of Sarpy

miles south of Millard in the edge of Sarpy county, made money every year, soon bought the farm for \$7,000, and is now well off. The average price of land around me is about \$40 per acre. The Omaha stock market for hogs is good and it will not pay to ship common cattle to Chicago, though it will pay to go to Chicago with heavy export cattle. Speaking of Douglas county farms I will say that in my opinion the land here will stand more rain and more drouth than that of any other portion of the state. portion of the state. Paid For it in One Year.

John Reid, proprietor of the Reid hotel at Valley, came to Douglas county in 1876, bought eighty acres at \$12.59, ten years ago boucht eighty more at same price and 160 at \$9 per acre. He has been offered \$60 per acree for one improved eighty. Last year he raised and marketed 400 tons of hay from his lead at \$4 per ton making \$1,000 or more his land at \$4 per ton, making \$1,600, or more than enough to pay for the ground it grew on in one year.

Started with a Yoke of Cattle. H. Byars, one of the old settlers of Doug-ins county, owns a farm of 400 acres three miles northwest of Valley. He bought his land of Governor Saunders years ago, after baving first pre-empted a quarter section. He came from easters Missouri with uothing int avernor function of the form is bloching in he came from casters Missouri with doining but a yoke of oxen. His farm is highly im-proved, big orchard, ten acres of grove and large vineyard. Mr. Byars used to handle cattle, but has drifted into horses and mules, which he deals in extensively. William Lewon.

Mr. Lewon came to Dougias county in 1868 with nothing but his brains and muscle in the way of capital. He worked by the month and saved his money until he was able to make a payment on 160 acres of school land make a payment on 160 acres of school land at \$10 an acre, in McArdle presenct, which now constitutes his home. It is paid for and well improved with money dug out of the ground. Mr. Lewon says if a man comes here now without money, he can soon buy a team, teat a farm, and in four or five years own it and he well ford own it and be well fixed. Has Retired.

Has Retired. Henry Karsten is one of the Douglas county pioneers. He came here in 1857 with two yoke of cattle and a big stock of ambition, and is now living at his ease in the town of Millard. His father and himself both worked out by the month at first, and he pre-empted his first eighty acres in 1850 and in 1863 homesteaded 160 more. He now owns 700 acres four miles west of Millard, 160 in Sarpy county and 160 in Wayne county. Has made most of his money out of hogs and corn, though has fed some cattle. Each of his farms have good buildings and orchards. Mr. Karsten says he has never known of a failure of crops in Douglas county. Speak-ing of the Omata market he said it was a great thing for the farmers of Neoraska. He unbesitatingly says that the chances for starting here now are as good or better than when he begau. If a new beginner bas no team he can work and buy oue, and if he has a team can rent hand and scon buy a farm. Thinks beet sugar raising will be prolitable. ad some of his neighbors will raise some

this season. Peter Glandt. Peter Glandt was seen at his elegant home, | Great Britain, \$1.15; and on the conti-

England seized the first eight bales o cotton raised in the south and declared its production should cease.

sale by druggists.

cars.

The importance of our commerce with Great Britain is shown by the fact that she takes \$172,000,000 out of a total of \$275,000,000 of our exports of farm prolucts.

A recent invention consists of a com pination of levers in connection with the trucks of a railroad car, so that in case of derailment the air brakes will work automatically and stop the train.

A high authority states that the 305 ron furnaces in operation in this country at the close of February could turn out 13,000 tons more pe, week than the 345 furnaces in operation at the beginning of June, 1890.

Air plows, V-shaped, are to be placed before the locomotives of the fast ex press trains of one of the English rail oads. It is expected that greater speed will be obtained by overcoming much of the resistence of the air in front of the train.

The wonderful growth in the beet sugar industry is shown by the following statistics: In 1887 there was only one such refinery in this country. In 1888 the total output was 3,600,000 pounds, while in 1891 California produced 13,000, 000 pounds and Nebraska and Utah 6,000,000 pounds each.

A press dispatch reports a scheme for the erection of dams in the St. Louis river, near Fond du Lac, Minn., for power purposes, and it is said one had already been completed. It is expected that 100,000 horse-power can be realized and it is proposed to furnish power for varied uses in Duluth.

- Twenty years ago New England fac-tories produced 80 per cent of the boots and shoes made in this country. The New England product has largely in-creased, yet it is now but 55 per cent of the total value, the industry having been established in other parts of the country. Since 1880 importations of hides and skins have increased about 45 per cent. During the same period exports of manufactures of leather have

ncreased more than 125 per cent. The New York Central Railroad company is about to build extensive shops t a point on the line about ten miles from Buffalo, A tract of about 1,500 acres has been secured, and the work of construction is to commence at once. Repair shops will first be built, but a complete plant for locomotive building

will eventually be added, and employment given to about 1,200 men. This new village is to be called Depew. American ideas are entering conservative Europe and now bid fair to prevail aitogether. The English companies now use baggage cars—or luggage vans —and some of them have adopted the

checking system. They are also stead-ily encroaching upon the first, second and third class system and approaching a plan of uniform accommodations for all passengers. They have adopted American methods of lighting with gas and electricity. Parlor and sleeping cars of American make have been cautiously introduced here and there. And now the important Southeastern railway, from London to Hastings, puts on regular American train of Americanbuilt cars, and the passengers like it!

The report of the United States labor commissioner on the cost of coal production covers 147 coal mines in this country and several foreign mines. He shows that the average cost of coal per on-after paying for mining, clerk and official salaries, interest, rent, taxes, insurance, and wear and tear of buildings and machinery, in short, reckoning all possible expenses—that the average cost of a ton of coal in the United States is 92 cents; in Canada the cost is \$1.04; in

