

Kem, the Plowman.
BY H. G. STEWART.
"Twas when the hosts of Mammon
In the congress of our land,
Were arrayed against our plowman
In a struggle hand to hand:
When they strove to see their goal
With their scepters and staff,
As they bowed in humble homage
To the bankers' golden calf:
When they blessed for his calfship
Who by Kem was sorely pressed,
As he plied the cause of labor
And of all who were oppressed,
That a member, known as Funston,
Who serves the calf of gold,
Frightened at the wrongs of labor
By the voice of labor to d,
Tried to check the rushing torrent
As the plowman told them how
U. S. bonds were free from taxes
But not so the poor man's cow:
Told them of the wrongs so flagrant
That their vile blood tinged with shame,
Which they heaped upon the toilers
In the law's almighty name.
Then this Funston, thinking surely
Money's power could save the day,
Swore a fifty-dollar forfeit
If the proof were shown, he'd pay.
Then our gallant plowman read him
From the statutes of the calf,
How the nation's very life blood
Had been made the banker's staff,
With which he smote the rock of labor
With a special power conferred,
And the law became the channel
Through which all our toil was poured:
That the nation gave the money,
All the banker wished to use,
And he doled it out to labor
At such rates as he might choose,
While his bonds are free from taxes,
Gathering in the wealth produced
Till the artisan and plowman
Into bondage are reduced.
O! the shame upon our nation:
That our history must tell
Of this black and damning treason
Plotted by the spawn of hell.
Pause! ye reeking sons of Mammon!
Pause! before the wrath of God
Shall deny you his reflection
And shall scourge you with the rod:
For the day, the hour, the morn,
When the people will not stand
And deliver up their substance,
Though the law itself command,
To a horde of greedy pirates,
Who have castigated wrong,
And enslaved our country's women
With a law-created throng.

PROGRAMME DEPARTMENT.

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION.
1. Who should be the people's nominee for president and vice-president?
2. Resolved, That the common people are to blame for the political evils which afflict the nation.

SUBJECTS FOR SPEECHES.
1. The beauties of nature.
2. The life of Benjamin Franklin.
3. The story of a sick hankerkin.
4. Pointers and paragraphs.
SUBJECTS FOR ESSAYS.
1. The voice of the people is the voice of God.
2. Will the reform movement succeed?
3. True patriotism.
4. The silver question.

The Company All Right.
NAPLES, ILL., May 3, 1891.
EDITOR ALLIANCE-DEPENDENT:
In last week's number of THE ALLIANCE-DEPENDENT is an article entitled: "Is It a Swindle?" by Joseph Pinkham of Minden, Neb. Your correspondent is well acquainted with Augustine & Co., of Normal, Ill., and can say they are a reliable company. Have dealt with them this spring as well as heretofore. Think you can safely consider that agent a fraud, as we know nothing here of "Russian Crown or Collar Banded" trees. I have been selling Augustine & Co.'s apple and peach trees at 15 cents, Kiefer pears 50 cents each; so Mr. Drummond must have made a "living" profit, at least.
Yours,
J. M. WARD.

From Cherry County.
VALENTINE, NEB., May 3, 1891.
EDITOR ALLIANCE-DEPENDENT:
The Cherry county farmer's alliance met at Valentine April 30th, to receive new unwritten work.
There were eight sub-ordinate alliances represented and an increased degree of interest was manifested.
We were very much pleased to learn that President Powers is able to visit this county and speak to the people June 2d, 3d and 4th. We will do all in our power to secure large audiences for him as we are very anxious for the work to receive a new impetus in this county.
There are still among us the "faithful few," who are doing zealous work and we believe that if we are faithful the victory will be ours.
We think your paper since the consolidation is worthy the support of every alliance man and woman in our land, and we will do all we can to extend the circulation.
Yours fraternally,
MRS. M. R. HARDEN,
Sec. Cherry county farmer's alliance.

A Sop to the Injured.
John D. Rockefeller (and the so named Christian world approves and applauds his deed) congratulates himself upon his great Christian benevolence in contributing one out of his many stolen millions to the cause of Christian education, and probably imagines that he has thus abundantly quitted the score with his outraged and plundered fellow men and God, their creator. If men could only see the real truth, they would regard it not as benevolence at all, much less Christian benevolence, but like his other ventures, a selfish and shrewd investment in the means of rendering his other millions of plunder secure to himself and his fellow millionaires and their children and successors. In the awakened condition of the public mind, unless our soulless corporations and millionaire money lists are liberal in supplying means of instruction to develop and sustain institutions, and teachers to flood the earth with the theological and so-called scientific and economical fallacies that render their immense accumulations possible, and keep them secure, they are in imminent peril of losing their present advantage and having to come down to an equality with their neighbors. All the efforts made, and the money expended in what the world of to-day calls benevolence, are consciously or unconsciously on the part of those who do them, efforts to patch up and render tolerable, and thus perpetuate, present unjust conditions, rather than efforts to correct them and thus prevent the need of charity and so-called benevolence.—The Flaming Sword.

IN FARMING CIRCLES.

INTERESTING TOPICS FOR PROGRESSIVE FARMERS.

Some Interesting and Instructive Experiments—Plan of Hog Feeding—To Catch a Sheep—Limitations of Soil Analysis.

Some Interesting and Interesting Experiments.

A Nebraska farmer has been experimenting with potato seed, and obtained some information which is worth noting. It was on a small scale, to be sure, but that is the way experiments should be undertaken on the farm. He planted two medium-sized potatoes of a late variety whole. Result, half a peck of very inferior tubers. He also took two of the same size and kind, cut them into nineteen pieces with an eye in each piece. From these he obtained a little over three of very fine potatoes. At the same time he planted two very small ones, not larger than an ordinary bean, of course planting them whole, and was surprised to dig from the two hills a ten-quart pail heaping full of the smoothest and best potatoes he saw last year.

The same farmer also experimented a little with corn, obtaining results that do not accord with common theory. In his trial ground he planted five acres with corn shelled from the middle of the ear, and the same day planted five acres with seed from the whole ear. The latter was fit to crib ten days earlier than corn planted six days before, and the yield was much larger. Such experiments as these, conducted by private individuals in a small way, often have great practical value.

The common custom of planting pumpkins in the same field with corn, and in the hills, is not approved by some progressive farmers. The pumpkins may not take much from the value of the corn, but the corn, by shading the vines and fruit, certainly does take a good deal from the pumpkins. If only a few pumpkins are desired, perhaps this way of growing them will do well enough. But when a large crop is wanted, of the best quality, the plantation should occupy the entire ground. An immense crop can be raised from a single acre, and the quality of the fruit will be much better than that grown with corn. Pumpkins are greatly relished by cattle and hogs, and make a cheap and wholesome addition to the grain and hay ration.

An instructive experiment in checking potato rot is reported from Pennsylvania. In a patch devoted to the trial one half had the tops cut off and removed as soon as they showed any signs of rot and the other half remained uncut. On digging the crop all the potatoes from the treated portions of the field were found to be perfectly sound, while those from the other portion were unfit to use. It is of no advantage to plant corn before the ground is sufficiently warmed to germinate the seed. It is apt to rot in damp soil, and then it is important for corn to germinate quickly and get a good start. Plant deep in soil dry enough to make a good tilth, firm the ground, and with good after culture and the blessing of Providence there will be an abundant harvest.

Plan of Hog Feeding.

Mr. Eli Heaton writes in the Indiana Farmer: Through your columns I would like to give my brother farmers my plan of feeding hogs during the past season, which I found was very healthful for the hogs and saves corn cobs. Last spring a year I bought half a bushel of the White Jerusalem artichoke which planted about one-sixth of an acre; from this, in the fall, I sold 25 bushels of seed. I also buried about 12 bushels for my own use, then turned in 21 hogs to help themselves. Here they grew and fattened with only a little corn each day, also with plenty of fresh water, and salt and charcoal occasionally. This year I have about one and one-half acres. I have turned in 39 head of hogs to fatten and 42 fall pigs are also feeding on them. After the fat hogs are sold there will be food enough to supply my brood sows and pigs until spring with only a very little corn. In the spring I have only to turn my hogs out, close up the fence and the new crop comes on without any cultivation. There are always enough tubers left in the ground for the next year. These artichokes are very prolific and will yield hundreds of bushels per acre.

I think that roots are the natural food for hogs, and it is needless to say that I have long since quit the cruel practice of using rings. Let us try more of the root feeding and have better and healthier hogs, especially when it will save time, labor and corn.

Potato Scab.

Extended experience with potato scab leads the North Dakota experiment station to the following interesting conclusions: Scabby seed tubers under ordinary circumstances produce a diseased crop of potatoes. Seed potatoes free from scab, upon soil free from the disease, will produce a healthy crop of potatoes. The disease germs can remain in the ground from one crop to another. The most interesting fact is, that by soaking the diseased seed in certain chemical solutions before planting, an undiseased crop can be grown from the scabbiest potatoes, provided the soil be free from the scab germs. The point to be attained is to kill the adhering germs and not retard the growth of the tuber. For this a treatment with corrosive sublimate, mercuric bichloride, is recommended. In the first place, wash the seed potatoes thoroughly either in running water or in a tub, changing the water frequently; reject the scabbiest ones. For the treatment, obtain a barrel and place in it thirteen gallons of water. Dissolve two ounces of corrosive sublimate in two gallons of warm water; add this to the water in the barrel, and stir it well thoroughly mixed with it. Let the potatoes remain in this solution an hour and a half. The liquid can be used again for another quantity of pota-

toes. After the treatment the tuber can be cut in the usual manner and planted.

A similar scab is found on some varieties of beets, presumably the same. It is unwise to raise potatoes on the same land for successive seasons if they are shabby, and it follows that beets should not be grown after scabby potatoes. It is probable that other root crops may be infested with the fungous disease. If so, it may be expected that preventive will be found which are effective.

Limitations of Soil Analysis.

A great deal is said nowadays of the importance of soil analysis. Unquestionably a good analysis of agricultural lands is useful; but there are limitations to its value. It does not determine everything a farmer needs to know about his soil. Analysis must be supplemented by careful observation of growing plants, and by experiments, intelligently carried on, to discover what additions are needed to bring the soil to a high degree of fertility.

It was said by one of the speakers at a recent Farmers' Institute, that there may be a considerable percentage of plant food locked up in the soil, of which plants cannot avail themselves. Intelligent experimentation will enable the farmer to discover the key to these stored up treasures. If there is a large growth of foliage wood, it is evident that there is enough nitrogen. If the seed of the plant is deficient and the wood unripened, there is plainly a lack of potash and phosphoric acid. One field may have enough of these elements for almost any crop—though this is seldom the case on long-cultivated soils—while the adjoining one is lacking in one or all of them.

The trial of different brands of fertilizers, or of different farm manures, will aid the farmer in determining what his soil needs; but a good analysis affords a helpful starting point for such experiments, and there lies its chief value.

Dehorning.

Use nothing but dehorning saw. My plan for securing the animal is as follows: Make a stanchion 6 feet long, 6 feet high, 20 inches wide at bottom, 3 feet wide at top. Weather board the inside. Make the frame out of 3x3 inch stuff. Make the boards 1x12 for weather boarding. Let the third board from the bottom extend out 2½ feet and on the right side when standing in front of it slope it something like the nose of a sled runner; bore 8 holes in it to tie the cow's head, bore holes in hind part of the stanchion to suit length of animal, say 1½ inch holes. Use inch rod of iron. Also 2 holes in front about as high as brisket; also put a piece above the neck. Make the sills 6 feet long, put braces from ends of sills up against stanchion; 3 cross-beams at top. Put a lever above nose piece about 20 inches. Make it 5 feet long; fasten with iron bolt. You can frame it so you can take it down if you desire. I put nothing on horns after sawing—J. D. Rex.

To Catch a Sheep.

Put the flock in a small pen. Select with your eye a sheep which has not already got his eye on you. Move slowly and quietly and catch with right hand above the hook of left hind leg, so there will be no danger of breaking. Draw firmly to you until you can place the left arm around his neck close down to the shoulder; then change your right hand from the left hind leg over his back to the right hind leg—above hook remember—and you are ready to go.

Short Rows.

A hive of 5,000 bees will produce about fifty pounds of honey annually. For hogs with overloaded stomachs charcoal is an excellent relief.

The hog as a machine, can turn more products into a profitable form than any other animal that we know.

Every day a team is idle foots up a loss equal to the cost of keeps. As far as possible avoid this loss.

Trees properly pruned and the fruit well thinned out need never have their limbs propped. The man who carries out this mode will succeed, where the neglected trees will be unprofitable.

Sleeping in dust is the cause of the premature death of many hogs. Give them plenty of bedding and don't permit them to nest under corncribs or other buildings.

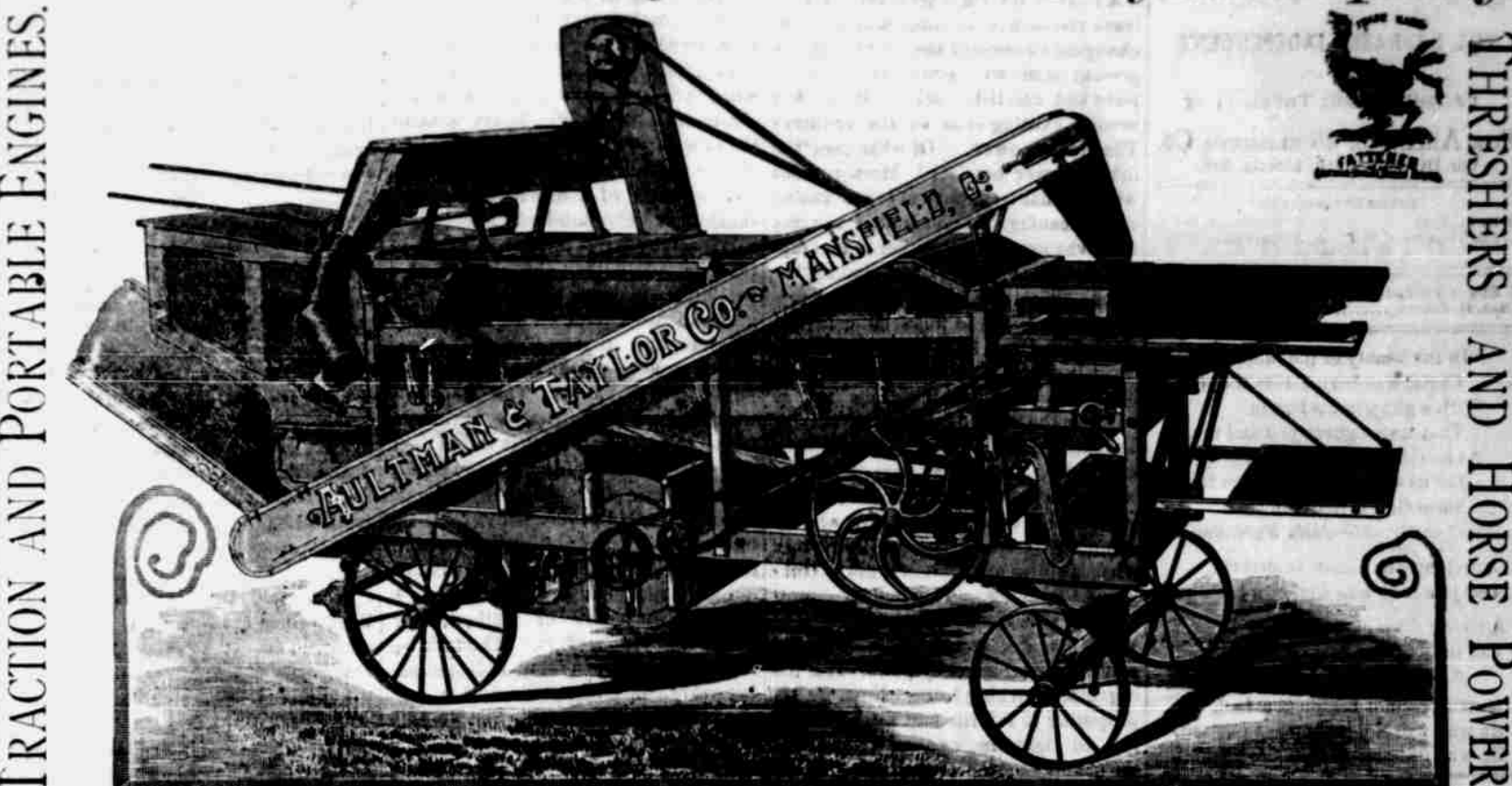
If you know anything about the care of horses, and have any sympathy for them, water them, as often as they want to drink—once an hour, if possible. By doing this, you will not only be merciful to your animals, but you will be a benefactor to yourself, as they will do more work; they will be healthier; they will look better; and will be less liable to coughs and colds, and will live longer.

Mr. Holman, of Virginia, in the American Farmer, states that he had a neighbor who a few years ago bought 100 sheep for \$300, and that the first season after the purchase he sold nearly enough lambs and wool to pay the entire cost, with original flock left. Mr. Holman thinks that no evidence is lacking to prove the profitability of the business of sheep raising.

It is said that these of tarred paper to protect trees is worse than all other evils combined, as it causes the bark underneath it to decay to the wood. A correspondent of the Western Rural lost a fine young orchard of 200 trees by this means, but not until after writing an article recommending the use of tarred paper, which he has been trying to correct ever since.

There is one disadvantage, and but one, in getting the horns off from cattle—it removes the age marks. But the compensating advantages far overbalance this. At two years old a wrinkle appears at the base of the horn, and the following year it is sufficiently developed to be easily seen. At five years of age a second wrinkle is fully developed, and after that one appears every year, until at the age of eleven or twelve the wrinkles are smaller, closer and less conspicuous, and some of the earlier ones will be entirely worn away.

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The People's Party Favors the Only Honest Money.

The Republican and Democratic party leaders look with holy terror upon the financial question and will force the tariff to the front and will ridicule money reform through the cry of dishonest money. At the same time every gold and silver dollar is only evidence of debt, and until both are demonetized and replaced with legal tenders the people should demand the free coinage of silver. If the farmers will be true to themselves they are masters of the situation. I quote from the census of 1890, giving value of the following farm products: Corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, potatoes, hay, tobacco, cotton, wool, sugar and molasses were valued at \$8,000,000,000. Now allow me to add for other farm products such as vegetables, fruits and domestic animals, etc., \$4,000,000,000, giving farm values of \$12,000,000,000. The People's party proposes the government to issue all money at a tax not to exceed 2 per cent, says a writer in the Topeka Advocate, which on farm products as above quoted would amount to \$200,000,000. If we now add coal and all manufactures, we have an amount upon which 2 per cent would meet expenses of government. The 2 per cent would come through government loan tax replacing the present mortgaged indebtedness, which the products of labor must nearly balance, taking the place of present credits as cash, thus wiping out all other taxes and usury, giving us a single tax impossible to dodge. You can readily see that all money issued by government would be evidence of service performed and would take the place of the present dishonest capital commodity credit money now in use, and would nationalize land and our industries. But the farmer will say, I do not want to lose my individual title to my farm. It is the only way to make his title secure. He would hold the improvements and the land being held collectively by the people there could be no speculation in it and would remain as a factor to hold the improvement as homesteads to labor improving each home. Under our present system our exchange is an evidence of debt, thus making our land a commodity or base of investment through which dividends are collected. The farmer failing to meet capital's demand, his farm is taken from him, which could not be done if we nationalized the land through issuing our money as a factor at cost, which is the only honest method. All reformers should rally to the support of the foregoing idea because:

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