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READ ADVERTISEMENTS and if they contain something you want, set down and send for circular, and do not fail, but say you saw it in the WILLAMETTE FARMER.

REMEMBER Joseph Cook's lectures, to take place at Reed's Opera House, November 10th and 11th. They will be interesting to all. The object is a worthy one and should attract a large number.

THERE IS MUCH interest being taken in exhibits designed for the World's Exhibition at New Orleans. Mr. J. W. Crawford has received and prepared for shipment some large specimens of vegetables, etc.

THE WEATHER is showery, and farmers tell us that they have had a very favorable season for sowing fall grain. There will be very little summer fallow this year, as farmers intend raising all the grain they can.

THE ELECTION will soon be over, and then times will begin to pick up and Oregon will be herself again. The news of the world is meagre, and will improve as soon as telegraph companies run out of election news.

THE MECHANICS' FAIR has closed a very successful exhibition. Elsewhere will be found a well arranged report of the various exhibits from the pen of our correspondent "Sapphire." The report was unexpected, but none the less appreciated. Our correspondent has in the past sent us many valuable letters on timely topics, especially as regarding the hop sections of the Puyallup.

THE WINTER SEASON has set in and farm life will be more quiet and enlivened only occasionally by the "dropping in" of friends and neighbors who come to spend the day and evening. Winter on the farm means social gatherings and pleasure. While winter is here it gives many a chance to "jot" down experiences and these experiences will be splendid reading when published in the FARMER.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS are coming in quite rapidly. The 25,000 sample copies we distributed are beginning to be heard from. We should have 10,000 regular subscribers in Oregon and Washington. We can make the FARMER useful as well as ornamental, and all we ask is assistance. Let each reader send us in one new subscriber, and in one year our increased patronage would enable us to give the agricultural community a paper equal to the best Eastern journals.

E. J. DAWNE, of Salem, has a colt which he has reared without the aid of a mother after its own kind. The colt was foaled April 4th last, and the dam died immediately after. The mare had been sick for a long time and had not been up for six weeks. The mare was a valuable one and contained the well known Bell-founder strain, and was bred to G. W. Peck's Mason Chief. The doctor had concluded from circumstances in the case that the mare was without foal. The animal retained vitality enough to bring her progeny into the world and was then, seemingly, content to die. The colt is named Nellie Mason and has many fine points, and considering its being reared without a natural mother, is large. When foaled it weighed about fifteen pounds. We shall watch the colt with interest.

#### AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES

Mr. T. Buckman furnishes a Portland journal with a very practical communication on the connection home manufacture bears to agricultural prosperity. He refers to the fact that the paper in question one year ago was very critical towards Oregon farmers because they could not that year meet the demand for fruit and other products and makes a neat rejoinder that this year the complaint is reversed because the country cannot furnish a market for the products of the country. It is as reasonable for the farmer to complain now as for the newspaper in question to complain then that crops were insufficient. This is a year of unusual abundance and last year was noted for its short crops, due to drouth and a bad season.

The main argument made by Mr. Buckman is that in many lines of business home manufactures should and can thrive and would create a home demand of great value to the whole country. In consequence of the very limited demand for such products as are of a perishable nature and cannot be well shipped abroad we are apt to overproduce and then find the market overstocked and prices not sufficient to remunerate agriculture. The remedy for this, and the encouragement for mixed farming, lies in the founding of home manufactures, the consequent increase of population and increased demand for a great variety of products. Now we grow wheat because it is not perishable.

The argument we have made for protection of home industries is that the support of such industries carries with it general prosperity of all classes. It enables "one hand to wash the other" to use a homely phrase. If we depend only on agriculture and the commerce that is derived from it our means will be limited and our resources unreliable. With such a tariff as will enable factories to pay good, living wages, so that workmen can live comfortably, and we shall see the farm and workshop mutually dependent and mutually prosperous. An enlarged and increased demand will encourage mixed farming and induce a healthy condition of agriculture. It requires time and effort to build up prosperity by developing natural resources. The great and varied resources of our region offer immense rewards for well directed enterprise. As a usual fact many failures occur from immature planning and insufficient means in commencing home industries. A country has to outgrow and survive all such failures before it can stand and go alone as an industrial community. Our men of wealth have made some investments and probably are ready to make more if they can see encouragement to do so. Whenever Oregon and Washington can see the day that they shall produce what they consume in the ordinary course of life then we shall see prosperity to correspond. We have water powers sufficient to manufacture on a grand scale and the time will come when we shall be the New England of the Pacific. The sooner manufacturing begins in earnest and successfully the sooner we shall realize the magnificent destiny that is in store for us. Agriculture will then be at the highest point of success.

#### HOW IMMIGRANTS ARE TREATED.

We have no doubt of the truth of the assertion made lately, that the immigrant is often turned from locating on vacant land by pretenses of stock men that it is taken up. The land office may be a hundred miles away and he cannot easily disprove the claim or pretense. Thus many men, it is said, have become disgusted and discouraged and have gone back East again, who otherwise would have made a permanent home in Eastern Oregon or Washington. It is not easy to meet all these difficulties for government cannot afford to make so many land districts. The stock man sees the doom of fate in the immigration that is filling up the country and destroying his range for stock. If he is unscrupulous he can keep them off for awhile, but this sort of thing must end soon and they trifle with destiny who attempt it.

Immigration has not been as great as was anticipated last winter. The early spring saw thousands pouring across the continent on the newly finished railroad but the tide was not continuous, but was checked. Perhaps the general hard times, prevailing everywhere in connection with agriculture, has had something to do with the ebbing of our tide of immigration. Certainly the country is not nearly filled up and much of the best of it all remains unsettled. A new country offers less inducements for settlers at a time when all products are so low that agriculture offers few

prizes. Those who are settled in the Upper Country have direct interest in its being fully occupied by an industrious population. It would seem both natural and proper for such to interest themselves in securing settlement of the country around them. They may rest assured that a country fully settled can support schools and have better privileges of all kinds than it can possess when only partially settled upon. The prior settlers can do much to secure the right sort of neighbors if they will interest themselves in showing desirable people among immigrants where good claims can be taken up.

#### NEW SCHOOL BOOKS.

We are informed that the enterprising firm of Bancroft & Co. have prepared and issued a new set of text-books for common schools. That is not all: this firm's enterprise consists as much in managing to introduce their books as in manufacturing them. Their agents go through a State and "fix" every county as cleverly as such things can be done. County superintendents become aware that great improvement has been made, and that our schools should keep up with the times. The newspapers will be made to comprehend that the world moves—some of them—though we rejoice to see that the State journals are many of them taking strong and sensible ground in this connection. What seems surprising to us is that common schools cannot get along to-day with far better appliances than the most learned colleges had when we were young. Only a few years ago—very few—we had this school-book matter up, and new text-books were ordered and purchased. Already the schools need improved books. It is necessary to have new books at least every five years, so it seems. Making and lobbying school-books is becoming a learned profession, especially the lobbying part.

In this connection, we wonder how the world got along half a century ago. About that time we studied Noah Webster's spelling-book, and those of us who learned to read and spell in the good old spellers of that time manage to hold our own yet as manipulators of language. According to present programmes, there should have been ten new issues of school-books in the primary department since we commenced learning to read in that red school-house in old Connecticut. Then the great universities gathered recruits from the country school-houses. All the learning of the early part of our century was based on the old spellers and readers, and the art of reading hasn't so wonderfully improved as these modern teachers and book-makers make believe.

We believe in progress, and hope all the talent attainable will be engaged in perfecting the common-school system, but it is hardly possible that we need to have new text-books ground out as by machinery every few years. Without jesting, we ask, what great improvement has been made in the rudimentary books for schools during the last ten years? How came it that the world turned out such scholars centuries ago? We who are over fifty years old have some of us learned the good old mother-tongue fairly well, without having the new text-books to go by, and we cannot see why new ones are needed so often.

Lastly, and not least by any means, farmers, whose children fill the public schools, haven't money to spare to encourage speculation—even in school books. Times are too hard, and money too scarce, to talk about expending it where it is not absolutely and imperatively necessary. So, in view of the financial condition of the farming world, we relegate the school-book question to some time in the dim and distant future.

The law, however, leaves this question, once in a few years, to be decided by the action of the county school superintendents, who select books for the ensuing term. The time for selecting for the ensuing term is close at hand, and people who have to pay for schooling their children are apprehensive lest they shall be called on to buy a new set of books. To put them to such expense will be an outrage, during these hard times, that they will not forgive. We cannot believe that the county school superintendents will take any action that can add to burdens that are already too grievous to be borne. There has not been a time in over twenty years when all property was worth so little, and all the people were so embarrassed for want of means.

#### HOW AND WHEN TO SPREAD MANURE.

Connecticut farmers plow land, then spread on manure and harrow it in. This is probably a good plan, as being covered with dirt, the virtues of the fertilizer are preserved when they are

needed. Many suppose that valuable qualities, such as ammonia, especially, are dissipated and wasted by exposure but old and experienced farmers assert that such is not the case. The subject was lately suggested to the Elmira Farmer's Club, and called out the following editorial note from Husbandman.

In answer to the following correspondent.

NEW YORK, May 29, 1884.  
I find most men in Connecticut spread their manure on land after it is plowed, and harrow it in as well as they can. It lies there exposed for many days before it is even partially covered by the process of harrowing. I should like the opinion of your Club as to the proportions of loss of manure thus exposed to the elements for days and even weeks. It certainly must be great.

A. B. YETTER.  
This correspondent need have no fear that the valuable properties of stable manure will be dissipated by exposure. If the manure be spread on the land and at once harrowed in, a very slight earth covering protects it, for earth is the best possible absorbent of gases that enter into the composition of plants. Of course if the manure be left on the surface exposed to the sun, there will be some waste, but many persons insist that even under this condition the waste isn't great. In practice, however, farmers are forced to the conclusion that long exposure to the drying sun results in material loss. The fault in the case reported is, in leaving the manure "many days before it is even partially covered by the process of harrowing;" but much will depend on the character of the season and the weather at the time of spreading the manure. If the work be done in autumn, loss will be very slight, but if in spring it will be greater.

#### COMMERCIAL INTEGRITY.

The foundation for permanent success in business life has its corner stone in the caption heading this article. As this is true of the merchant, equally so is it with the farmer, mechanic and every other citizen. How often do we find men willing to make promises to meet pecuniary obligations assumed when they have only a remote possibility of doing so. Many act thoughtlessly and with no intention of deceiving, yet if they would but reflect, by so doing, they not only imperil their chances for future success, but also, perhaps, involve the holder of the obligation in their downfall. If this subject were deeply pondered by every young man starting on his business career in life, and the width and far-reaching depth of its importance made plain to him, he would plant himself firmly upon solid ground. He would never embark in speculations on borrowed capital. He would likely be slower in the attainment of wealth, but when it came, he would retain and enjoy it. Look around upon the prosperous and contented men of your own locality and you will find invariably, among those who have secured a competency by their own efforts and who have retained their accumulations, men that have strictly adhered to commercial integrity. Their promises were not idly given, and when given, were invariably met. If a loose system of promises only affected the party making them, the harm would perhaps not be greatly injurious to a community, but its effects rarely end there. The farmer promises his merchant to pay for supplies received by a certain day, the merchant on this promises pledges to the manufacturer to pay him at a certain time, and he in turn expects to pay the producer of the material and his factory laborers. Each and every one of these is injured by the failure of the original promise maker. The merchant has his recourse in charging paying customers higher prices and the community is damaged proportionately by the class who promise to pay without probable means of doing so. This we think a good subject for Grange discussion.

A bright jewel in Life's diadem is Truth and when it is tampered with in the Commercial world, disasters and dangers follow.

#### Sunshine in Stables.

Is your stable light and cheerful, or dark and dismal? "It is pleasant to behold the sun." There is no crueler punishment than to be immured in a dark dungeon. This should be thought of when arranging stables and pens for farm animals, but it appears to be too often lost sight of, and stables for both horses and cattle are too dark for the well-being of the animals. The eyes of horses are not infrequently injured by being kept in dark stables. Our houses as a rule are much better lighted than our stables, yet we all know how uncomfortable it is to go out of a lighted house into the glare of sun-light if there is snow on the ground. The effect is even worse on our horses and cows which are generally kept in much darker places than we are ourselves. Aside from any special effect on the eyes, light and sunshine in stables are of vast importance to the general health and thrift of farm stock, and they should

always be constructed with a view to admitting as much as possible of both. In old barns and stables where the stock quarters are dark (and where they are dark they are usually damp) it will be a good idea to put in some new windows to admit light and sunshine into them. The present is a good time to attend to this, and the considerate person will see to it.

#### Shape of the Horse's Back.

The London Live Stock Journal, in an article relating to the the selection of a horse for the work he is expected to perform, after stating the results of many observations on horses, remarks that it is the arch of a bridge, which from its structure, can bear weight placed upon it, whereas, an inverted arch would fall to pieces, or would withstand a far less pressure. It has been observed that lowbacked, or rather hollow-backed horses, working in harness, kept their condition, while those with high backs lost flesh. Persons not very inquiring or observant dispositions would probably attribute this to the fact that the former were of more hardy constitution than the latter, but this would be a false conclusion. It is owing entirely to the curvature of the back, for a horse which can draw a weight was least able to bear a weight upon its back, while the horse unable to bear the strain of draft could bear the other any day in carrying a weight. The line of the vertebrae indicates the sort of work for which the horse is fitted. If it is high the weight must be on the top to press it together; if low, the pressure must be from below for the same reason. A downward curvature is, therefore, the best form of spine for a draft horse.

Farmers about Cheney are busy sowing wheat. The recent rains were a fine thing for the grain now being sown. The rains thoroughly laid the dust and put the ground in excellent condition for plowing and seeding, as well as putting the roads in good shape for the marketing of grain.

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