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On the 26th day of July, 1882, the Second Grand Distribution of Premiums among Agents for "Our Sunny South" will take place, at which time the publishers will distribute among the agents the following list of Premiums:

GRAND PREMIUMS!

One Im'd Farm, near Brownwood, Tex., val.	$1,200	*One Ladies' Gold Watch, valued at*	$65
One Elegant Rosewd Square Grand Piano, val.	600	*One Cash Premium of $50 in Gold.*	
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One Cash Premium of $100 in Gold.		*One Gentleman's Coin Silver Watch, valued at*	85
One Farm Wagon, valued at	80	*One Cash Premium of $10 in Gold.*	

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HOW TO OBTAIN THE PREMIUMS!

These Premiums are given for (not to) subscribers. We are not in the market buying subscribers, or selling cheap goods at a dear price by throwing in a paper. The Premiums are given to Agents who obtain subscribers for our paper. Anyone can act as Agent. Our Sunny South is an eight-page, forty-column monthly paper, devoted to the interests of the home and farm. It is carefully edited, and elegantly printed on good paper. It has a "State Department," which, each month, is filled with valuable information in regard to Texas. This feature alone is worth the subscription price. It also has a "Ladies' Department" and a "Children's Department." It does not publish continued stories; it contains nothing immoral or sensational; it is not an advertising sheet. The publishers are endeavoring to publish a good paper at a low price, pure in tone and elevating in morals. Its motto is, "Right, the True, and the Beautiful." The subscription price of Our Sunny South is only 50 cents per year. There is no reduction on this price to anyone. We desire to introduce this paper into 50,000 new homes within the next six months, and consequently make this liberal offer. Anyone who will send us a club of four subscribers, at fifty cents each, will receive a certificate entitling the holder to *One Share* in our

Grand Distribution of Premiums!

And every certificate is guaranteed to receive a Premium. REMEMBER, do not confound this with any lottery, or any other humbug. There are no blanks, and every certificate is guaranteed to receive a handsome premium. There will be no postponement, but the distribution will take place exactly on the date specified. The premiums will be delivered to our Agents absolutely free, except where articles are too bulky to be sent by mail, when they will be sent by freight or express at the Agent's expense. If you send us four subscribers you will receive one certificate; eight subscribers, two certificates; twelve subscribers, three certificates; sixteen subscribers, four certificates; or, if you send as a club of twenty subscribers we will send you six certificates; and *every certificate is guaranteed to receive a Premium.* The more certificates you hold, the better your chance for drawing one of the Grand Premiums.

OUR RELIABILITY.

To whom it may concern: This is to certify that we are personally acquainted with the publishers of Our Sunny South, and know them to be responsible business men, who will faithfully do what they promise.

COGGIN BROS. & CO., Bankers. PECAN VALLEY BANK, Smith & Steffens, Prop's. J. MICKEL, Postmaster, Brownwood, Texas.

WHO HAVE RECEIVED PREMIUMS!

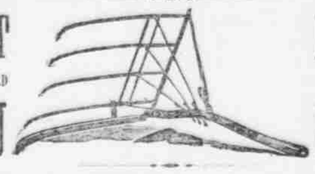
In our December, 1881, distribution, the following persons received the Grand Premiums: Lowry Govan, New Orleans, La., 160 acres of land; H. S. Koons, Audenried, Pa., 80 acres of land; Miss Annie Chapman, Savage, S. C., a parlor organ; Peter Blystone, Youngport, Texas, a farm wagon; and every person holding a certificate received a premium.

Now is the time to make up clubs. Send money by P. O. order, registered letter, or draft on New York. *Write names plainly,* and don't neglect to give your Postoffice, County, and State. Address all communications

[6-9-.5t.] Publisher OUR SUNNY SOUTH, Brownwood, Texas.

THE "BOSS" GRAIN CRADLE.

HARVEST IS COMING, AND NO ONE CAN AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT A GOOD

GRAIN  CRADLE.

THE above "cut" represents the BEST in the market. It is made of well-seasoned wood, put together on SCIENTIFIC principles, and is adjustible in all its parts, so that it can be changed easily to cut any kind of grain. The fingers are all moveable, and the manner of FASTENING will be found to be a great improvement. Each Scythe is hung correct, care being taken that NONE ARE MADE POINT HEAVY. The heel of the Scythe is not buried in the end of the snath, but is moveable, so that it can be adjusted for either light or heavy grain. For easy running, good, clean cutting and symmetrical swath laying the

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This Cradle was formerly known as the "Miller Cradle," but has been manufactured for more than forty years by Philip McGuire, father of the undersigned. It has been greatly improved and simplified, and is a much better implement than the old "Miller." There is an imitation now being manufactured, but a comparison will show farmers and dealers that the "BOSS" is as far the superior

☞ None genuine unless my name is upon the snath. Any one manufacturing or selling any other make under the name of the Miller or McGuire Cradle will be dealt with according to law.

All persons wishing to have their old cradles repaired should send them in immediately, as it will be impossible to accommodate them if left until within a few days of the harvest.

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SUPERSTITION ABOUT BEES.

Curious superstition prevail in England as to the relation of bees and their owners. A writer in *Cassel's Magazine* mentions several of these fancies as follows:

"All of 'em dead, sir—all the thirteen What a pity it is!"

"What a pity, Mrs——? Who is dead?"

"The bees, to be sure, sir. Mrs. B—, when she buried her husband, forgot to give the bees a bit of mourning, and now, sir, they all be dead, though the hive be pretty nigh full of honey. What a pity it is folks will be so forgetful!"

Mrs —— continued to explain that whenever the owner of part of a hive of bees died, it was requisite to have a little bit of black stuff on the hive; otherwise the bees would follow the example of their owner.

Mrs. ——'s husband, who listened while this scrap of folk-lore was being communicated by his wife, now added: "My wife, sir, be always talking a lot of nonsenses, sir, but this about the bees is true, for I seed it myself."

This custom of putting the hives in mourning is very common, and is strictly adhered to, from an apprehension of the omission being attended with fatal consequences.

At Cherry-Burton, on a death in the family, a scarf of black crape is applied to each hive on the occasion of the funeral, and pounded funeral biscuit soaked in wine is placed at the entrance to hives.

"A neighbor of mine," says a writer, "bought a hive of bees at an auction of the goods of a farmer who had recently died. The bees seemed very sickly and not likely to thrive, when the neighbor's servant bethought him that they had never been put into mourning for their late master.

"On this he got a piece of crape and tied it to a stick, which he fastened to the hive. After this the bees recovered and when I saw them they were in a very flourishing state—a result which was unhesitatingly attributed to their having been put in mourning."

A curious superstitious custom formerly prevailed in Devonshire of turning around the beehives that belonged to the deceased—if he had any—at the moment the corpse was carried out of the house.

Some years ago at the funeral of a rich old farmer, a painful circumstance occurred. Just as the corpse was placed in the hearse, and the visitors (a large number) were arranged in order for the procession of the funeral, a person called out: "Turn the bees!"

A servant who had no knowledge of the custom instead of turning the hive round, lifted them up, and then laid them down on their sides. The bees, thus suddenly invaded, instantly attacked and fastened on the visitors. It was in vain they tried to escape, for the bees precipitately followed and left their sting as marks of their indignation. A general confusion took place, and it was some time before the friends of the deceased could be rallied together to proceed to the interment.

JAPANESE TOP SPINNING.—There are very many side-shows to attract the pleasure-seeker, all of them being within the compass of the humblest, the chargest being from one-half cent to one cent and a half. In these places are witnessed juggling tricks of real merit, and top-spinning that is a bewilderment to the looker-on. Tops of all sizes are spun with the aid of a cord, and made to revolve by the action of the hands only. An expert will throw his top from him, and by the action of the string, as it unwinds draws it back into his hand—of course without it having touched the ground. An unopened fan is then taken into the other hand, and the top is placed upon one of its sides, and spun along it. Then the fan is opened, and the top continues to spin along its edge, to its further side, and and along it until the hand is reached, when up it runs on thearm to the shoulder, and across the back and down the other arm to the fan again. Then it is tossed into the air and caught on one of the corners of the open fan, from which it is tossed again and again into the air as it descends.

It is wonderful the way they can manipulate a top. I have seen them take a large-sized one, having a spindle by which it was made to rotate, and by simply placing the spindle between the palms of the hands, and drawing one hand back while advancing the other a number of times it attained sufficient velocity, when it was taken from a table on which it was spinning and a turn taken around the spindle from a string that was pendent from a paper lantern that hung high up against the ceiling of the building. Up went the top into the lantern, which opened like an umbrella, and a wealth of festoons of bright-colored tissue paper descended from it all about the stage. Those who witnessed Little All Right and his troupe of Chinese acrobats that exhibited their tricks years ago in the United States will remember the many surprising feats done by them. What they paid a dollar for seeing can be witnessed here in the open air for just what one is pleased to contribute, or under cover from one to three cents.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

STOVES.—Dr. Franklin invented a stove in 1745. Previous to that time there were stoves in Holland and Germany. Franklin's stove, however, was a great improvement on all that had preceded it. In 1771 he invented several other stove, one for burning bituminous coal, which would consume its own smoke, and had a downward draught; and another, intended for the same purpose, having a basket grate or cage, with movable bars at the top and bottom, supported by pivots at the centre, and which, after being filled and kindled at the top, could be inverted, and so burn from the base. The next inventor of stoves, ovens and heating and cooking apparatus was Count Rumford, who, between 1785 and 1795, devised several improvements, all intended to economize fuel and heat. It may be stated that the box stove now in the State House at Richmond, Va., bears date of 1770, is one of the so-called Holland stoves, and was probably imported from England, as the castings, though rude, are superior to the American casting of that day. For cooking purposes Count Rumford's cooking stoves or ranges, lined with fire-brick or soapstone, and with a ventilating oven, that had been introduced into New York as early as 1798, and into Boston about 1800, were gradually coming into use, and between that time and 1825 there was, considering the period and the obstacles, considerable activity it this branch of manufacturers, which have been increased annually ever since.

HOW SUNSTROKE CAN BE CURED.—As an effective cure for sunstroke the following is especially commended: Remove the patient to a shaded spot at once. Place the body in a sitting posture, the back against a wall, with the feet and legs resting upon the sidewalk and extended in front of the body. Get ice water and a bottle of strong essence of ginger. Pour the ice water over the head, copiously; never mind the clothes. Then pour two tablespoonfuls of ginger in a tumbler of water and make the patient swallow it quickly. Keep the head cool by using ice water, and in case there is not much of a glow on the body give more ginger. If the directions are followed there will be no occasion for an undertaker. Ginger is for the best to use, but where it cannot be had very quickly two or three drinks of brandy will answer.

A NOTED BUT UNTITLED WOMAN.

[From the Boston Globe.]

Messrs. Editors:—The above is a good likeness of Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., who above all other human beings may be truthfully called the "Dear Friend of Woman," as some of her correspondents love to call her. She is zealously devoted to her work, which is the outcome of a life-study, and is obliged to keep six lady assistants, to help her answer the large correspondence which daily pours in upon her, each bearing its special burden of suffering, or joy at release from it. Her Vegetable Compound is a medicine for good and not evil purposes. I have personally investigated it and am satisfied of the truth of this.

On account of its proven merits, it is recommended and prescribed by the best physicians in the country. One says: "It works like a charm and saves much pain. It will cure entirely the worst form of falling of the uterus, Leucorrhœa, irregular and painful Menstruation, all Ovarian Troubles, Inflammation and Ulceration, Floodings, all Displacements and the consequent spinal weakness, and is especially adapted to the Change of Life."

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The Use of Ammonia in Baking.

The recent discoveries in science and chemistry are fast revolutionizing our daily domestic economies. Old methods are giving way to the light of modern investigation, and the habits and methods of our fathers and mothers are stepping down and out, to be succeeded by new ideas, with marvelous rapidity. In no department of science, however, have been more rapid strides been made than in its relation to the preparation and preservation of human food. Scientists, having discovered how to traverse space, furnish heat and beat time itself, by the application of natural forces, and to do a hundred of other things promotive of the comfort and happiness of human kind, are naturally turning their attention to other agencies and powers that shall add to the years during which man may enjoy the blessings set before him.

Among the recent discoveries in this direction none is more important than the uses to which common ammonia can be properly put as a leavening agent, and which indicate that this familiar salt is hereafter to perform an active part in the preparation of our daily food.

The carbonate of ammonia is an exceedingly volatile substance. Place a small portion of it upon a knife and hold over a flame, and it will almost immediately be entirely developed into gas and pass off into the air. The gas thus formed is a simple composition of nitrogen and hydrogen. No residue is left from the ammonia. This gives it its superiority as a leavening power over soda and cream of tartar when used alone, and has induced its use as a supplement to these articles. A small quantity of the ammonia in the dough is effective in producing bread that will be lighter, sweeter, and more wholesome than that risen by any other leavening agent. When it is acted upon by the heat of baking the leavening gas that raises the dough is liberated. In this act it uses itself up, as it were: the ammonia is entirely diffused, leaving no trace of the residuum whatever. The light, fluffy, flaky appearance, so desirable in biscuits, etc., and is sought after by professional cooks, is said to be imparted to them only by the use of this agent.

The bakers and baking powder manufactures producing the finest goods have been quick to avail themselves of this useful discovery, and the handsomest and best bread and cake are now largely risen by the aid of ammonia, combined of course with other leavening material.

Ammonia is one of the best known products of the laboratory If, as seems to be justly claimed for it, the application of its properties to the purpose of cooking results in giving us lighter and more wholesome bread, biscuit and cake, it will prove a boon to dyspeptic humanity, and will speedily force itself into general use in the new field to which science has assigned it.—*Scientific American.*

STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM.—Strawberries are as easily raised as potatoes and corn, and every farmer's family should have an abundant supply of them. This delicious and wholesome fruit has never received the attention it deserves, especially among farmers and those who have gardens of their own. Ripening as it does, when all other fruit is out of season, and in the heat of summer, when its refreshing qualities are so much needed for health and comfort, no one should fail to have a sufficient supply for home use. A small piece of ground, with a little attention, will yield an abundant supply for a family during the season. No other crop is more certain. Farmers, who supply the world with food, too often deprive themselves of 'strawberries and cream,' so enjoyable and promotive to health in the summer. Many are kept from growing this fruit by supposing that there is something mysterious about its culture. This is all a mistake, for by following a few simple directions, for every farmer can as easily raise strawberries as corn.

As soon as the ground is in tillable order in the spring, select a piece of land that has been cultivated in some hoed crop (never plant strawberries on sod). Prepare as for corn and potatoes, by plowing and harrowing until the ground is smooth and level, then stretch a line as a guide to plant by. Plant in rows three feet apart, and set the plants 20 inches apart in the row. As soon as the fruit stems, or blossoms, appear, cut out with a pair of shears. It will ruin a strawberry plant to let it bear the same year it is planted.

The space between the plants should be kept well cultivated, and all weeds hoed out, but never let "earth up" or cover the crown in hoeing, as it will ruin the plant. Let a few of the first runners grow, so as to partly fill the space in the row, but later in the season cut off all the runners that start. When cold weather sets in, about the first of December, cover the plants with clean wheat straw two or three inches deep. In the spring when the plants begin to grow, rake the straw off and leave it between the rows; this will keep the ground moist and increase the yield.

CURIOUS BENEFITS OF DROUGHT.—Drought is dreaded by farmers and gardeners, because it injures grass and grain, fruits and flowers. But scientific observers testify that it brings, as a compensation, subtle gifts which enrich the soil and increase future crops.

Nature has stored in the earth a rich supply of phosphates, silicates, carbonates and other chemical salts essential to vegetable life. Those on the surface of the ground are soon exhausted, and the large supply at greater depths are often unreached by sub-soil ploughing.

But a drought is nature's sub-soil to bring up the rich nutriment below. When the surface is parched the sun draws moisture from the deeper soil, and this moisture brings with it, in solution, salts of lime and magnesia, of potash and soda. The moisture evaporates but leaves the salts for the use of plants and grain.

Drought, therefore, does a double work. It parches the surface and lessens the present crop. It forces up rich nutriment from the deeper soil and enlarges future crops.

SPARROWS PRACTISING LYNCH LAW.—A colony of sparrows in Sharronville, Ohio, were lately aroused to a state of twittering excitement over the conduct of one of their number who had taken forcible possession of a cosy habitation to which, in the opinion of the community, he was not entitled. The case was debated at length before a committee of the whole, and, as every member was determined to be heard, it was not until evening that a conclusion was reached. But the moment the hearing was closed sentence was executed. The intruder was ejected, and, as he emerged from his apartment, was riotously hooted by the indignant populace. The next morning he was found hanging dead from a limb of the tree by a piece of string which had been wound twice around his neck. About noon a committee of six sparrows pecked the string in two, and the body of the malefactor fell to the earth amid a chorus of dismal chirps.

TROUT baked in cream add a new charm to life. Clean the fish, pepper and salt it both inside and out, put it in a dripping-pan and pour cream over it. Give attention to it so that it will not burn. If small, the fish will bake in from fifteen to twenty minutes. Serve with mashed potatoes and vegetables.

A STRONG solution of carbolic acid and water is said to be sure death to ants.

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