

The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

We invite communications from all persons who are interested in matters properly belonging to this department.

"THE KANSAS PACIFIC."

The Rocky Mountains and San Francisco.

"The coaches" on this road are vastly more comfortable than "the street cars of Damascus," as Mark Twain found them. In fact, we may glide over the seas of prairie with scarce a jolt; we may settle down in a velvet cushion, hang our head out of the window and gaze at the most beautiful landscape imaginable, and, without hyperbole, exclaim, all the world's a farm! all the world's a flower garden! Traveling and and sight-seeing are pleasant on a road like this. The chance is that after a trip over the Kansas Pacific Road, you will want to spend your evenings in the city library reading up on natural history and determine to acquaint yourself with botany, so that you may more fully gratify your love for the beautiful when you again snuff the odors of those floral beauties rare.

On this journey you pass over lands once known only to the red men, the buffalo and the prairie dog—so says tradition. Now, poor "Lo," like his companions—buffalo and prairie dog—have vacated before the march of "the pale face" and civilization. And that figment of the imagination, "the Great American Desert," where is it? We've been looking for it; have had our geography on our knee and carefully noted and compared it with our latest maps by authority of U. S. Survey, but that desert, "like the baseless fabric of a vision," doth not appear! The parallels of latitude and longitude run through and bound luxuriant crops of corn, rye, barley, oats and wheat, and totally put to flight even the idea of a desert. May earth's remotest bounds echo with fiercest anathemas on the miscreant who promulgated "the Great American Desert." And let every scribbler view the prospect o'er—beautiful fields are waving—bountiful products greet you, and fair cities, where the busy hum of the workmen and throngs going to and fro, tell of life and activity. We cannot wonder at this, for there is great agricultural wealth surrounding these towns, and plementous reward for labor.

Cowper says of labor:

"Tis the primal curse, But softened into mercy, made the pledge Of cheerful days and nights without a groan."

The opinion too commonly entertained, that the cultivation of the ground meets with scanty remuneration only, compared with other occupations, is altogether erroneous. It is true that agriculturists, for labor, do not receive as high wages as are sometimes paid to first-rate artisans, and particularly confidential clerks and accountants in large mercantile houses, banks and insurance office. But then, it should be remembered, that while here and there a person receives a large salary for personal services, several hundred receive barely sufficient to meet their personal expenses. We will not institute any comparison as to what each class feels necessitated to expend for living and comfort. Owing to the usages of society, the ordinary laboring farmer, however, has been known to lay up more money—though receiving but two hundred dollars a year—than a clerk in a city receiving six hundred. We may not change these usages, however we may oppose them. Each class has its hardships. Clerks and merchants are often bankrupt, and oh how such changes test the moral courage of these! how they destroy the physical energies and mar the social affections! We are too well acquainted with such scenes. Let young men in rural life, inclined to be dissatisfied with their condition, think of all this before they resolve to change their occupation.

The Kansas Pacific Railway is the Grand Trunk Road from Kansas City, on the Missouri river, to the city of Denver, at the base of the great Rocky Mountains. It is 114 miles the shortest between the two cities mentioned; the best line to the San Juan country; the favorite route of the tourist, and is also the connecting link of the most pleasant all rail route to San Francisco. It has opened up one of the most beautiful and fertile districts on this continent, the development of which, by the sturdy agriculturists, is unprecedented. The Kansas Pacific Homestead is a very interesting paper, giving statistics and other valuable information about this country, and can be obtained free by addressing S. J. Gilmore, Land Commissioner, Salina, Kansas.

Fried Cakes.

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