

Emporia is now lit up by gas.

The United States Supreme Court has decided that a Sheriff is not personally responsible for damages resulting from the execution of a mandate of a court of competent jurisdiction.

Junction City claims the champion hog. Its length is 7 feet; girth of neck 6 1/2 feet; girth of chest, 7 1/2 feet; girth of center, 8 feet; width across the hips, 30 inches; weight, 1,532 pounds.

Kansas ought to have a law prohibiting her Governor from running at large. While St. John is running around in the east like a full fledged straggler, he is sending home dispatches announcing the tremendous sensation which he is creating. He pronounces himself the most eloquent and successful temperance orator in the States.

The Standard Publishing Company has been incorporated. The incorporators are E. G. Ross, J. L. Weaver, T. A. Hurd, B. C. Clark, S. F. Neely, H. T. Green, J. W. Crancer, Wm. Davis, Thos. P. Fenion, John Wilson, J. F. Richards, Matthew Ryan, H. C. Burnett and Pitt Ross. The capital is \$30,000. This is one of the ablest and best corporations in the State and under its management the Standard will flourish as a newspaper of which the Democrats of Kansas may well be proud.

Demorest's Magazine is thorough in every department, and is well adapted to the American taste. Each number contains two or more beautiful art pictures. The stories are original, and always interesting, and the thoughtful, timely essays are of the best of their kind published anywhere. The special departments are excellent, and epitomize all the interesting and vital topics of the day. The high quality and low price (\$2 a year) of this admirable monthly explains the wonderful increase of its circulation from fifty to sixty five thousand in the past two months.

The State has been divided into four military districts. First District—Nemaha, Brown, Doniphan, Jackson, Atchison, Jefferson, Leavenworth, Shawnee, Waubesa, Morris, Lyon, Osage, Chase and Coffey counties; Second District, Douglas, Johnson, Franklin, Miami, Linn, Anderson, Bourbon, Allen, Neosho, Crawford, Labette and Cherokee. The Third and Fourth Districts are divided by a line running west from Ellsworth to the western boundary of the State. These districts will each have six companies, and will be known as brigade districts. Brigade commanders will be appointed at an early day by Major-General Wirt Walton.

KANSAS AGRICULTURE.

The Fourth Quarterly Report of the Kansas Board of Agriculture is at hand promptly, and is not only a report for the quarter ending December 31st, but contains a summary for the entire year, together with the most recent and complete State map.

In the first thirty pages is given a statement of the value of the farm products of each county in 1881, and also those of 1874 (when the first authentic statistics of the State were taken) together with assessed and real valuation per capita, in each county, of farm products, the increase in the number of acres of cultivated area, and the number of farm dwellings erected during the year comprised between March 1st, 1881, and the value of the same. It is also as complete an answer as can be made to the oft-repeated inquiry—"Which is the best county in the State?" The statistical exhibits following, showing acres, product and value of field crops for 1881—first by crops, and then by counties—give in compact form all the facts that figures can give regarding the agriculture of Kansas for 1881.

The special subject treated of in this issue is, the raising and profitable cultivation of corn in Kansas. Quantities of twenty-five cor-

respondents, selected for their peculiar fitness, representing every portion of the State, have written able and exhaustive papers upon this subject. Their experience in raising this cereal in Kansas ranges from five to twenty-seven years. It has been generally supposed that the great money-producing crop of the State was wheat. A glance at the totals on pages 31 and 33 will tend to remove this erroneous impression, as it will be observed, the cash value of the corn crop of 1881 exceeds that of the wheat more than 100 per cent. These papers will be read closely by those who either are interested in this branch of Kansas farming, or those contemplating a location in Kansas.

Written for the Courant.

TWENTY THREE YEARS AGO. An emigrant wagon passed over the road from Kansas City, bound for south-western Kansas. The party in charge of this wagon and outfit consisted of three persons of the masculine gender, two men and a boy. The outfit was the joint property of the elder two of the party. A few years previous to the date of our history those two men bid farewell to the Atlantic coast and settled in Illinois; then so called "Garden State of the West." Their agricultural efforts were unsuccessful; crops failed; the hard earnings of years of toil had disappeared like fog from the mountain top. Reduced in funds, and discouraged with the green river back at farming, they concluded to save a small portion of the rapidly disappearing lucre, the possessors of which are called rich. The prairie schooner that we have before mentioned was the result of their conclusion, and right here it may not be amiss to describe that vessel and its cargo. The vessel was chartered, rigged and loaded in North-western Illinois. Loaded did I say? There was not fund-at command to even ballast her. Everything being made ready the party started for the Territory of Kansas, on the 12th of Sept., 1858, crossing the State of Missouri in a south-western direction, landing on the Missouri river, opposite to Kansas City after along and perilous voyage, through to wms whose people seemed to be the most desperate and blood-thirsty I ever saw. A covered wagon going in the direction of Kansas was sure to draw a large crowd of armet villains around, who had no respect for age or sex. If the immigrant happened to be incautious and make known his destination his chance of ever reaching the Territory was slim indeed; but our vessel anchored safely opposite what is now called the "Gate City of the West," and was soon hailed by a pilot who took her safely to the western side of the "Big Muddy. How glad the writer was when we camped at the foot of the big bluff on Main street. What a hatred he acquired for slavery and all its institutions in those three weeks of travel through a slave State, a hatred of human slavery, black or white, that will live as long as life. After a few days rest in Kansas City the party started again, this time taking a little more than what was necessary for ballast, four sacks of flour, some coffee and whiskey, the articles most necessary in pioneer life, the flour and coffee as food, the whiskey as a stimulant. The Territory was soon reached. The hope that we entertained after reaching Kansas, to talk as free citizens, was suddenly dispelled on reaching the first town in Johnson county. Proslavery was rampant in this little burg. A free State settler's life was unsafe east of Burlington. From Burlington to Emporia was unsettled, and a dreary and lonesome road. Emporia was at last reached. We were nearing our future home. Here we halted a few hours while the seniors of the party inquired about government land. What a contrast between Emporia on that wandy October afternoon and Emporia of to-day, a few small houses, a printing office, and a boarding house. The Kansas Press was run then by Stotler, Plumb & Bailey.

The party camped that evening on the Cottonwood bottom close to Joel Haworth's grist mill, the wind blowing furiously, making it unsafe to camp in the timber, the tall dry bluestem grass bending and rattling like the waves on the sea coast. Settlers were few and far

between, making a striking contrast, between the City of New York and the wild western prairie; but, notwithstanding all this, the scenes and freedom of western life, when once rooted in the memory and manners of man, woman or child, can never be eradicated. Early the following forenoon the valley of south South Fork was reached, and the voyage continued up that valley about nine or ten miles, when land was discovered, the land that constitutes the present homestead of that party. A cabin was here built and a sod stable attached to the end of it. Two of the horses died; the flour got wet; the coffee and whiskey ran out; no money to purchase an other supply, and no work to earn money. The spring of 1859 opened; a small piece of ground was broken and planted to sod corn, making a very poor crop of worm eaten nubbins. One of the senior partners seeing the difficulties that were to be met and overcome, after losing every worldly possession, except good health, bid good-by to the other two and tramped to Independence, Missouri. Remaining there a short time, he went down the river to New Orleans, where he is now lost from sight, if not from memory. Destiny I presume kept the other partner where he is to-day. He said he would not go back ragged and bankrupt to his old employer, although repeatedly asked to do so. Another calamity was about to overtake the poor pre-emptors. The time allowed by the government for pre-emptors to prove up was drawing near, and to add to the unfortunate circumstances of the poor people, President Buchanan ordered a sale of all the public lands in this district, to take place on a certain day, all bids to be sealed bids, thereby depriving those very few that were able to pay for them of a fair chance to hold their homes. An indignation meeting was held at Cottonwood Falls, and strong resolutions passed, denouncing the Administration's Kansas land policy, and also threatening to prevent by force the sale of the land-office. The Resolutions, especially the force one, had its desired effect. The land officers were scared, and the sale put off or postponed, although the people who passed and endorsed the resolutions never intended to carry out their purport. They could not on account of insufficient strength. Had this sale taken place as advertised a number of men that are now considered wealthy would have lost their labor and homes, and speculators would have received the benefit of poor men's labor. A span of horses and a wagon would not bring more than \$150 on time, in Lawrence, in those days. The champions of liberty—there have been champions of liberty in all ages and climes—finally succeeded, after a long and heroic struggle, in passing the homestead act, securing to those early and persevering settlers that land the payment for which had caused them so much anxiety, as the payment for said land, under the old system, a large majority of them never would have been able to make. Then all honor to the memory of those brave advocates of free lands for the poor people of this country.

The prairie schooner anchored on Rock creek; her sails were furled and taken down; the changes of 23 years have told the old story of decay and passing away. The captain is still robust and hale and lives north of the vale enjoying the fruits of former years of toil, economy and judicious management, surrounded by an intelligent and happy family. The boy had a crop of wild oats on hand, that he could not dispose of to others. He sowed them, and partly reaped in the States between New York and Louisiana. He has not sufficiently accumulated wealth, as yet, to embark in the banking business; but, McCauber like, is looking for something to turn up. If it does, he will loan money on unincumbered real estate at the lowest possible rate, and give editors and politicians a chance to build up.

Bills Allowed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Table listing bills allowed by the Board of County Commissioners, including names of individuals and amounts.

LEGAL.

LEGAL. By authority vested in me I do hereby proclaim to the voters of Chase County, Kansas, that an election will be held in said county, at the usual voting places, on Tuesday, February 7, 1882, to elect officers to fill the following offices in said township: One Trustee, One Treasurer, Two Constables, Two Justices of the Peace. One Road Overseer for each Road District. One Clerk of Chase County Commissioners. And to be closed at 6 o'clock, p. m. JAMES JOHNSON, Clerk of Chase County, Kansas.

CAMPBELL & GILLETT, HARDWARE, STOVES, TINWARE, IRON. Dealers in...

TIN SHOP. We have in our employ a tinner of long experience, and are prepared to do all kinds of work in this line, on short notice, and at very low price.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS. We have a good stock of breaking and stirring plows, cultivators, harrows, wheels, barrows, &c.

PAINTS AND OILS. We keep a full line of...

GLIDDEN FENCE WIRE. We are sole agents for this celebrated wire, known to be the best now in use.

MAIN STREET, COTTONWOOD FALLS, KANSAS. WHO IS UNACQUAINTED WITH THE GEOGRAPHY OF THIS COUNTRY, WILL SEE BY EXAMINING THIS MAP, THAT THE...

CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC R. R. IS THE GREAT CONNECTING LINK BETWEEN THE EAST & THE WEST! Dining Cars for eating purposes only. One other great feature of our Palace Cars is a SMOKING SALOON where you can enjoy your "Havana" at all hours of the day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS. I hereby announce myself as a candidate for Justice of the Peace in Falls Township, at the election, February 7, 1882. M. H. PENNELL.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW. C. H. CARSWELL, ATTORNEY - AT - LAW, COTTONWOOD FALLS, KANSAS.

MONEY. 7 and 8 Per Cent! CALL ON W. H. HOLSINGER.

SEWING MACHINES. FOR SALE; Apply at THIS OFFICE.

GOLD. Great chance of making money. Those who always take advantage of the good chances for making money that are offered, generally become wealthy, while those who do not improve such chances remain in poverty.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW. F. P. COCHRAN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, COTTONWOOD FALLS, CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW. SPEER & GRISHAM, ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW, COTTONWOOD FALLS, KANSAS.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW. Office at Court-House, COTTONWOOD FALLS, KANSAS.

