# THE PRAIRIE FARMER PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY

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## CHICAGO, SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1869.

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Seedling Strawberries. - Mr. Wm. D. Meff, of Ottawa, Illinois, on Saturday last, exhibited to us some very promising specimens of seedling strawberries, and gave us an account of his method of propagating strawberries from seed. At our suggestion, he has christened one of them "THE PRAIRIE FARMER." This one he considers the most promising as a popular mar-Exet berry, among his collection of some seventy warieties of seedlings. We are having made an engraving of a stool of this plant, and will give with it, when completed, a history of the variesty, together with the facts alluded to above.

New England Fair.—At the New England ffair, which is to be held at Portland, Maine, Farmers' Meetings will be held during three evenfings. The discussions will be upon the follow-Eng topics: Tuesday, Sept. 7th, "The Education of Farmers;" to be opened by Prof. M. C. Fermald, Principal of State Industrial School, Drono, Me.; Wednesday, Sept. 8th, "Insects In-Jurious to Vegetation," to be opened by Dr. Geo. B. Loring, President of New England Agmiculture Society, Salem, Mass.; Thursday, Sept. 19th, "The Diseases of Animals," to be opened by Dr. S. H. Tukesbury, of Portland, Me.

An Annoying Delay .- On account of an accident to our large new printing press, which we Mad just got in working order, the PRAIRIE FAR-MIER of last week was not mailed in time. The accident was a very annoying and expensive one to us, but one that we trust will not soon occur angain. After the present week, we shall have The paper mailed so that it should reach all of its meaders by Saturday of each week, and most of whem by Friday.

The Hedge Growers.—There was not a sufficient number present at Mendota, on the 23rd. to make it an object to organize, hence the conwention went by default. We had made arrangements for a full report of proceedings. We suggrest to the hedge dealers, and growers, that some other month than the busy time of June be appointed for the annual meeting of this organi-

Extensive Planting of Tree Seed.-Mr. W. M. Nourse, of Rock Island Co., Ill., informs us that The has put in ten bushels of Elm Seed and forty Toushels of Soft Maple seed this season. In the ffall he will put in Ash, Box Elder and Sugar Mapole in large quantities. This is just the work meeded in the West, and we trust that Mr. Nourse will be largely patronized by tree-planters.

Steam Plow. - Col. Wm. E. Patterson, of Ashton, N. J., has lately imported a steam plow ffrom Leeds, England. It was tested last week on the Colonel's farm, in the presence of a large mumber of people. Col. Capron, of the Departrment of Agriculture was present, we believe. Whether the trial was satisfactory or not, we Inave not learned.

Stock Sale. - J. H. Pickrell, Harristown, Minois, has sold the Short-Horn bull, Sir Walmer, red, calved May 28th, 1868, by Bon Ton, 5385 out of Canna, by Mead Massie, 5951, etc., to William Hunt, Angora, Lee county, Ill.

Omitted .- On account of the great amount of current agricultural matter on hand this week, we have been forced to omit several of our Poland Hogs Wanted.-Wm. Gallagher, Jr. regular departments. Next week, we shall again sesume our usual variety.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

NOTE FOR CORN PLANTER. - J. M., Big Spring, Shelby Co., Iil. - On the 21st day of August last, two men came to my house, with a sample of the "Alexander Corn Planter," manufactured at Decatur, Ill., for Sloan & Ross, of Springfield, Ill. They represented that they were selling planters to be delivered in the spring of 1869, in time to plant corn. I agreed to take one which was to cost \$65. I gave them my note for \$30, due in one year, the remainder to be paid on delivery of planter. Spring and corn planting time came and went, but no corn planter, men, nor corn planter came. I wrote to Sloan & Ross about it, but did not receive any answer. Do you or any of your readers know of any such named corn planter, or such named firms. They took orders for planters, of other farmers. Some gave their note for the whole amount; others for half. I have not heard from my note, and do not know where it is, and, I suppose, shall not until I am called upon to pay it. Can it be collected by

The persons to whom the note was made payable cannot collect the note, if they are the present holders of it; but if they disposed of the note to an innocent party—that is, one who was ignorant of the transaction—he can collect it; and the maker of the note can only look to the original payee to recover the amount he has had to pay. In case the note has not been disposed of, it would be well to advertise it in the chase it, as it was given without consideration. We know nothing of the firm spoken of.

LIME WILL NOT KILL SORREL.- I have read with much pleasure the first article in the FAR-MER of 29th May. Please put the suggestions of the last paragraph into such definite shape, -giving measure and weight-that I can use them. If you do not know how it should be, guess. I will experiment on your guesses, and report. Last year I tried ashes and lime, using each separately. I began with a little, and doubled the quantity in each successive row, till I reached the 5th. The growth of sorrel was increased by the application, until I got in enough to kill all vegetation, which was the 5th row with ashes and the 4th with lime: On every row to which I applied lime or ashes, all, the sorrel is thicker now, than on the spots to which I applied more. Mowing at any stage, seems to redouble its vigor. Perhaps the Professors in the Industrial University, or Illinois Agricultural College, know how sorrel can be extirpated from a lawn. If they will give me plain directions, so that I can understand what they think should be done, I will try it. B. G. ROOTS.

We would recommend in the first instance, the application of either of the substances spoken of, at the rate of a hundred pounds to the acre. We would also experiment on some small pieces, by putting on two, three, or four times that quantity, and watch the result. It must be borne in mind, that we do not insure the destruction of sorrel by these means. We recommend them rather to test the theory, which we spoke of in the article alluded to. In our opinion, it may be as difficult to find a substance that can be thrown on a field or lawn and affect the killing of the sorrel, and at the same time insure the life of the grass; as it would be to find a chemical that would be wholesome if eaten by dogs, but poisonous if devoured by wolves. We all know, that, as a rule, the application to the soil which benefits useful crops helps weeds also, while what injures the one, is nearly sure to be detrimental

WILL STRAWBERRIES PAY?-H. H., Michigan City, Indiana.—1st, Do you think it would be profitable to cultivate strawberries here for the Chicago market, considering the fact of my being fifty-six miles from Chicago by railroad, and six miles from the nearest station? 2nd, What variety would be the best for cultivation in a sandy soil?

1. At the season of the year when straw- grasses. berries would be ripe in Northern Indiana, this points on the lake in Michigan much cheaper than by rail and arrive in much better condivery flattering.

2. Wilson's Albany is the best market strawsome distance in a wagon.

DITCHING MACHINE.-D. H. C., Manona Co., Iowa.—I see a great deal said about draining and ditches, and I think it is valuable for some lands and particularly in our county. Therefore I wish to enquire what Ditching Machine is the best to cut open ditches, and also the least expense, as I propose to get one. See advertisement of the Wiggin's Open

Ditcher, in this paper; manufactured by Geo. W. Giggey & Co., Batavia, Ill. Others have lately been advertised in the FARMER.

SEEDING WITH CORN.—It has been the practice in some sections of the state to seed with Timothy at the time of planting with corn, by sowing the seed and harrowing or brushing after the corn is planted and then not working the corn. This can only be done on new land or that which has been kept perfectly clean. We should be glad to hear from any one who has tried this method of seeding and knows the result both as to stand of grass and yield of corn.

WHEN TO GATHER FOREST TREE SEEDS .- G. F. H., Brown Co., Ill.—Please inform me when to gather Maple seed, also, Linn or Bass-

We understand that it is the best practice to gather the seeds as soon as they fall from the tree; and if the ground is in good condition to plant them immediately. The turf should be cleared of sticks or bushes, and the grass cut under the trees before the seeds fall.

FRUIT DRYERS WANTED. - W. J. S., of Newbury, Ind., and several others have written to us lately making enquiries respecting fruit dryers. They represent that there are abundant crops of small fruits in their respective regions and that they are without the proper means of curing it. They ask persons engaged in manufacturing fruit dryers to advertise them, giving

such testimonials as will show their value. VINEGAR FROM CURRANTS.-M. A. R., Abbie. Iowa. - Can you or some of your numerous readers give me a good "recipe" for making ripe currants into vinegar? I wish to make my currants into vinegar provided it will "pay better than to sell them for five cents per

POTATO BUGS.-W. W. S. Madison Co., Indiana, -sends us what he calls a "New Potato Bug' for name. It is not new but the old "Ten-lined Spearman," or Colorado beetle. We cannot congratulate our Indiana friends on its advent in their midst

To KEEP AWAY FLEAS. - A correspondent states that, by scattering chloride of lime on a plank in the stable, biting fleas are driven

wants to know where he can obtain Poland hogs. Who has them to advertise?

### SELECTION OF FRUIT DEALERS.

The horticultural societies of St. Joseph and Benten Harbor, Mich., have had a committee sent to this city, to take a measure of the standing of the various fruit commission houses and to make some settlement of the question of return packages. The packages are hereafter to be returned or paid for. The associations have selected thirty five houses here to transact their fruit business. We find their names given as

Scanlan & Fitzgibbon, No. 211 South Water st.; Williamson, Mather & Co., 136 S. Water; C. H. Weaver, 158 S. Water; I. S. Platt, 77 Monroe st.; L. A. Talcott, 67 Randolph st.; Francis & Webber, cor. Madison and State; Wells & Goodale, 75 State st.; J. T. Morris & Co., 120 S. Water; Murphy & Smith, 160 S. Water; Whittier & Sherwood, 132 S. Water; G. H. Brooks & Co., 150 S. Water; Oo. S. Summer, 188 S. Water; Coon, Packard & Lansing, 129 S. Water; F. W. Savage & Co., 11 Dearborn st.; M. George & Co., 200 S. Water: S. McDowell & Co., 184 S. Water; Hoaglan & Kimball, 13 Dearborn; J. C. Scales, cor. Dearborn and S. Water; Wright & Green, 902 S. Water; Bennet & Fuller, 15 Dearborn; T. D. Randall, 134 S. Water; J. H. Phillips & Co., 69 State; J. J. Graham, 209 State; Francis & Raymond, 70 West Lake st.; Ford & Harmount, 213 S. Water; W. Norvell & Co., 127 S. Water. Scanlan & Fitzgibbon, No. 211 South Water

In regard to these selections Mr. G. W. Toles, Cor. Sec., writes to a St. Joseph paper as follows: "It will be seen by a comparison of the list of last year that several houses have been stricken out in the revised list, and for various reasons: Several have changed business somewhat and do nearest paper, advising all persons not to pur- not wish to handle fruit; some have gone out of the commission business; while the character of others and their business qualifications were brought to the test, and found wanting; some with perhaps no particular fault of their own, were found to be incompetent to fill the position, right clever fellows, but possessed of no tact, lacking energy or decision of character. Of course we don't want that sort of men to do our business; they get scared too easily, are weak in the knees, must straighten if they expect to get the patronage of the fruit growers of Michigan. Another class have failed to connect, have not paid up the last year's debts; may be honest and will come out right, but the risk is too great to recommend them. And still another set of commission men are getting rather crank in their notions; don't care whether we send them fruit except where I put enough to kill grass, and or not; will go on the market and buy it. Just as you please, gentlemen. The time has passed when commission men in Chicago or elsewhere can trample on our rights with impunity. The fruit growers by a unanimous vote declared they would not pay a premium on dishonesty, and think they will be able to dispense with their services. In the choice of these men, the character, both as a dealer, and in the private walks of life. was freely and fully discussed, and though it may seem incredible, yet we believe that we are better acquainted with the commission men than they are with each other, and all the caution we have to give is, look out for your laurels. There seems to be several new houses that undoubtedly are trustworthy and deserve patronage; yet the only safe course to pursue seems to be, to cling to the list, not to go outside of it. There is danger if it is done. Nine more are to be chosen either by the associations or by a committee elected for that specific purpose, said committee to consist of Messrs. S. Jackson, David Brown, Mr. Williams,

## NOXIOUS WEEDS.

Besides the useful plants introduced for field and garden culture, mankind have been unwilling agents in distributing a greater number which are classed as noxious weeds. They follow his migrations with never failing certainty, and sooner or later find their way into every nook and corner which is not carefully watched and cultivated. Prompted by a worthy ambition to raise large crops and pretty flowers, and to possess the best of everything, hundreds of men have tried Norway oats, Alsike clover, new varieties of wheat, barley, turnips and various

They have imported from the Middle and Eastmarket is usually very well supplied with them ern States, Canada, and even Europe, Africa and prices rule low. They can be brought from and far off Asia and Australia. After a year or than he bargained for. The thrift which he tion. It might pay to raise them at your place | looked for in his new plant, seems to have defor this market, but we think the prospect not | parted like an evil spirit into the weeds and caused them to grow, and spread and increase with astonishing rapidity. There is trouble berry, particularly if it has to be transported | ahead-"foul stuff," "bad weeds" have come to contest the soil of the virgin prairie, with corn and clover. These unwelcome visitors will crowd hard, and most likely conquer, and at last find a permanent abode. A few men look at the intruders with suspicion, and destroy them all, perhaps send one to some botanist, to learn what to call it, but most likely they are allowed to grow for a while. If the people only knew the nature of their vicious enemy, they would begin the war of extermination at once

Of weeds which may be called troublesome, we raise, perhaps, eighty species, while twenty others are very annoying. If men had good specimens of these with which to compare, in nine cases out of ten they could easily decide the question for themselves.

Professor W. J. Beal, of this city, has called our attention to a plan which we think a good one. That is, to prepare sets of twenty to one hundred species and sell to any who may wish them, whether gardeners, enterprising farmers. schools, farmer's clubs, or agricultural societies. The plants, if possible, will be collected in the Northwest, where they often appear quite different from those growing in the shallow soil of New England. He offers to furnish, if the number of subscribers equals one hundred, sets of ninety species for the very low price of five dollars, each specimen accompanied with a number which corresponds to a numbered catalogue. The catalogue will contain the common and scientific names of each number, and a few words about the habits, origin, easiest mode of destroying, &c. He will if desired make up more extensive collections of grasses, sedges, or any forage plants common in the United States. Those who are willing to subscribe for "a set" or a less number, will please send names at once, that no time may be lost in collecting this season. Address W. J. Beal, No. 3 Scammon Place,

Chicago, Ill. For the general good we shall be glad to see our exchanges copy this notice.

# WESTERN PATENTS.

The following patents were issued from the U. S. Patent Office, as reported by G. L. Chapin, Patent Solicitor, 44 Reynolds Block, Chicago, Ill., for the week ending June 22, 1869: Ground Roller and Stalk Cutter - P. H. Thompkins, Van Buren, Iowa. Stubble and Subsoil Plow—R. R. Fenner, Urbana,

Machine for Plashing Hedges - D. Gore, Carlinville, Machine for Flashing Heuges—B. Gole, Carlinvine, il.

Steam Plow—J. H. Northcott, Mechanicsburg, Ill.
Cultivator—R. B. and J. R. Parks, Neponset, Ill.
Churn Dasher—J. W. Cheney, Shelbyville, Ill.
Sulky Cultivator—J. Robinson, Plainfield, Ill.
Grain Cleaner—W. A. Lewis, Joliet, Ill.
Horse Rake—W. Ring, Springfield, Ill.
Seed Sower—T. Vreeland, Wataga, Ill.
Horse Rake—W. A. Lewis, Joliet, Ill.
Churn—A. M. Powell, Collinsville, Ill.
Harvester—G. G. Lyman, Independence, Iowa.
Plow—W. H. Cummings, Barnsborough, Iowa.
Farm Fence—C. Abbott, Iowa City, Iowa.

### THE FAIR AT ELGIN.

The first annual Fair and Flower Exhibition of the Fox River Dairy, Agricultural and Horticultural Society, was held at Sherman Hall, Elgin, June 23rd, 24th and 25th. Notwithstanding the weather was unpropitious, the roads bad, the farmers busy, and the small fruits less advanced than was hoped, the exhibition was a very creditable one. We made arrangements to procure the list of premiums awarded, but for some cause, failed to receive it.

In the dairy department there was a large number of entries of choice butter, and several cheeses, from the factories in the vicinity. Among these were cheeses from the Elgin Milk Condensing Factory, which were a year old, and of which we shall have occasion to speak, under dairy matters next week. The same establishment also exhibited samples of their condensed milk, both in sealed cans and open packages.

The Strawberry show was very fine. In this department Crystal Lake was represented by Messrs. Crow, Ford & Frisbie. Mr. John Webb, of Elgin, also exhibited splendid specimens of New Jersey Scarlet, Barnes' Mammoth, Green Prolific, Philadelphia and a variety which was labeled "Perpetual." This variety presented a very fine appearance; they were conical in shape, large where they joined the stem and tapering down to a point. This is the second year Mr. Webb has fruited them. He assured us that last year he had fruit on his vines from the amencement of the strawberry season till the first fall of snow. He seemed reluctant to give the history of this berry. The show was too early for a good display of cherries, but some very fine specimens were placed on exhibition by Dr. Tefft and others. On the table devoted to small fruits were also very fine specimens of canned fruits, jellies and native wines.

A great variety of evergreens were shown by D. C. Scofield, which were tastefully arranged and presented a fine appearance. He had also, specimens of the timber of the European Larch sawed into boards and cut crosswise. Among the garden products we noticed six varieties of superior lettuce, grown by H. Gifford.

The display of garden flowers was so extensive that it would require more space than we can spare to mention the many entries or to give the names of the fair exhibiters. Suffice it to say, however, that we have rarely seen so fine collection of pansies, peonies and roses as that which graced the tables of this exhibition. We regretted to note the absence of greenhouse plants, and to learn that Elgin with its many

evidences of taste does not possess a greenhouse. In the manufacturing department, the Fox River Woolen Mills exhibited a large collection of woolen goods in the shape of flannels, cassimere and other cloths. The Elgin Cotton Works showed samples of cotton batting; the Fox River Tannery had some splendid suits of leather; while Frank C. Lamershall placed on exhibition cigars fit to be smoked by a President or a Sul-

tan.
The National Watch Factory made a fine display, not only of their many styles of time-keepers, but of the machinery by which they were manufactured. We noticed among their collection several curious things, among which was a time-piece the hours on whose dial were marked with Japanese characters, and an iron watch case cast for the Superintendent, by R. P. Jack-

There were many other curious things on exhibition, including a beautiful specimen of tapesestry wrought over 150 years ago in England; also, fine cone frames by Mrs. McGlensey, of much attention, was a little wheel for spinning linen. It was of prune wood, ornamented with | knives. ivory, and was sent from Germany as a bridal present to a young couple who are in the employ of J. H. Wanzer, Esq.

Elgin certainly is no place for idle hands among the ladies, if we are to judge from the great number of articles, both useful and ornamental, which filled the tables and stretched from ceiling to floor.

On the whole, we congratulate the managers their series of exhibitions.

# AL OF REAPERS AND MOW-ERS AT SEDALIA, MO.

The most important trial of Harvesting Machinery that has ever been held west of the Mississippi river took place last week at Sedalia. Mo.. (commencing the 22nd of June) under the patronage and direction of the Pettis County Agricultural Society. In fact, there has been no trial in the West, since the one at Dixon, Ill., in 1862, where the interest shown was so great as here. Nearly all the prominent manufactures were represented, either by the Principals or General Agents.

The entries in the various classes numbered forty, which gives some idea of the extent of the affair. They were as follows:

SELF-RAKING REAPERS Champion, New Yorker, John P. Manny, Auburn Harvester, John H. Manny, Dodge.

DROPPERS. Russell, Dodge, Cayuga Chief, John P. Manny. Clipper, World (Ball's), COMBINED MACHINES.

Champion. World. Auburn Harvester. John P. Manny, Cayuga Chief. SINGLE MOWERS. Champion, Cayuga Chief, World's. Dodge,

Kirby, HAND RAKERS. John P. Manny, Clipper

The awarding committee was composed of ight gentlemen, the President of the Society, Maj. Wm. Gentry, being Chairman.

The points to be taken into consideration by the committee were: Quality of Work, Simplicity of Construction, Durability, Ease of Draft, Price, Facility of Management.

In order to make the decision, a scale of points was adopted, aggregating 100, and divided among the points, which at the close were summed up, and the decision arrived at.

# Self-Rakers.

The first day was devoted to the trial of Self-Rakers. The grain selected was a field of May wheat, on a smooth bottom; the grain standing well, with the exception of occasional stools that had been partially thrown out by frost and had fallen down. The work done by all the machines, except the John H. Manny, was quite satisfactory to the crowd, the cutting being well done and the gavels well laid. The favorites evidently were the Kirby, Champion and Wood. The Marsh Harvester was also put at work in this class, although not considered by the committee as in competition. It attracted much attention and did good work. In the afternoon a heavy rain came on, which put a stop to any further trial. At the close of the day the New

The great interest of the whole trial seemed to centre in the Self-Raking machines.

The second day was commenced with a continuance of the trial of Self-Rakers. A piece of badly lodged grain was selected, which was made much worse by riding, driving, and walking through it, so as to put it in as bad a condition as was well possible; much of the grain was laid flat on the ground. The straw was very green and the ground quite soft, from the rain of the previous day.

The Champion was the first machine in, follow-Harvester and the Dodge, the first three being the decided favorites; the Wood, however, from some disarrangement of the rake, was obliged to stop

The Champion also went through the test with much credit to itself and, was thought by some even to do the best work of any.

This test however, was a very unnatural one, as a field in such condition as this was put, will never be found in every day experience.

The committee then commenced the trial of Draft and had gone nearly through the Self-Rakers, when the dynamometer unfortunately got broken and any further tests of draft by the instrument were abandoned.

#### Trial of Droppers.

This class of machines, seems to be in great that many of the prominent manufacturers now attach them to their machines. There was but little of special interest in this part of the trial, as to the quality of work done by them depended more upon the skill and management of the operator than upon any particular merit of the machines. Nearly all did good and creditable

#### Combined Machines.

This class of machines attracted more attention, and the committee carefully scanned the work done by the reapers, and the facility with which they could be changed for mowing.

## Hand Raking Reapers.

There was but little interest taken in this class of machines, as the Self Rakers and Droppers have nearly superceded them. Two of the entries in this class, it will be seen, are well known machines, while the others have never made any pretensions as either Self or Hand Rakes. The raking was accomplished by placing the ordinary dropping apparatus on the machine, and in the rear of the driver's seat, placing a stand for the raker, who, with his back to the driver, and with a large rake catches the gavel after it has been left by the dropper on the stubble, and rakes it one side, out of the track of the reaper at the next round. It will be seen by the result that the committee considered this as a Hand Raking Reaper.

### Mowers.

There was not the local interest in Mowing machines that there would have been in an older county, and where more tame grass is grown, but the contest among the exhibiters was quite spirited. The only ground provided for this trial was a piece of prairie, which was fenced up last year, and the grass neither cut nor pastured, but left to die down and remain at the bottom of the new crop, which in some places was quite a heavy growth. This year the land had been used as a pasture for cattle, horses, and hogs, was pretty badly "poached" up in many places, Elgin. An article of domestic use that attracted | owing to the soft weather. The trial seemed to resolve itself simply into a question of sharp

The machines were marshaled up, driven to the right and the left, up and down, nearly all doing good work. The principal difficulty arose from the accumulation of turf, or masses of dried grass on the ends of the guards, causing the machine at times to skip over the standing grass. At last the machines were all brought in line, and required to cut one short swath through a portion quite rough and full of dried grass at the of this society on the happy commencement of | bottom. The machines were run one at a time, although it is a good one. The trial of Mowers as a test of the relative merits in such work as is to either exhibiters or spectators. Thus ended the trial, and we annex the results,

Self Rakers.-Wood's 92%; Champion 84%. Droppers.—Champion 921/8; Clipper 921/8; Russell 87%

Hand Rakers.—Clipper, 984-5; Excelsior, 901-5.

Combined Machines.—Clipper 96 1-7; World 88-The awards consisted of 1st and 2nd premiums, above. In the class of Droppers, there was a

#### tie between the Champion and Clipper. New Machines.

By a glance at the entries, it will be seen that there are some new machines in the field. THE YOUNG WARRIOR is a single mower from Little Falls, N. Y., and has had no introduction, to speak of, in the West. It seems a very simple, compact and durable machine, but must prove

itself good, to share with the many well known

machines of the West.

THE CLIMAX is also a new machine in the West. It is made at Corry, Penn.; is a simple mower as exhibited at Sedalia, with gearing all snugly encased in an iron frame. It did not make a very favorable impression, but might perhaps have done better in more experienced THE CLIPPER, which carried off three of

the first premiums and was a tie on the fourth, is also comparatively a new machine in the West, and deserves, perhaps, a more extended description, and setting forth of the claims of the inventor and manufacturers. The present form of machine was first brought

forward in 1863, and met with very flattering success at the East, at several important trials, and also in the field. In 1866 the present Clipper Mower and Reaper Company was formed, owning very extensive works at Yonkers, N. Y., and with headquarters at 154 Chamber street, New York City. The works are under the superintendence of the inventor. The Clipper is a twowheeled machine, and possesses many of the points of excellence embraced in the various successful two-wheeled machines; such as both wheels being drivers, with one main gear wheel, hinged finger bar, shippers, etc.; besides several features peculiarly its own. The finger bar is a solid plate of cast steel, rolled into shape, with the front edge turned up like a sled shoe, giving great strength, with lightness; the edge forming a bearing for the sickle bar. The guards are of solid cast steel, with a tempered slot and point, giving great strength, with durability. The knife head has a broad and strong bearing, with a ball

drawn, or not brought forward again during the of wood, and claimed by the manufacturers to be superior, on account of its lightness, strength and elasticity, relieving, in a measure, the force of the thrust caused by the vibrations of the sickle. All the shafting and gearing is encased in a strong iron frame, which also forms the solid boxes or bearings, avoiding the use of bolts to keep them in place. All the bearings are lined with Babbit Metal. The finger bar is capable of a rolling motion at the option of the driver, adapting it readily to the various conditions of grass and grain. The draft of the machine, instead of being applied through the tongue and frame, is applied directly to the gearing frame, nearly on ed by the Wood, Kirby, J. P. Manny, Auburn | a line with the cutter bar, giving a very free and

easy motion of the cutter bar over the ground. By the lifting bar, the operator can readily pass all ordinary obstructions without changing his several times; the Kirby cut clean and laid off | course, and can fold or let down the bar, withwell from the track, and was greatly applauded out leaving his seat. The machines were exhibited without a self-rake, the manufacturers claiming that by the use of the dropper and their hand raking feature, the grain can be left in better order for binding or drying, than with self-rakers, and that there is a saving of power in their use.

There were three sizes of this machine shown at the trial, viz.: a one-horse, a two-horse, four feet cut, and a two horse, six-feet cut. The machines attracted much attention from the excellence of their work and the superior workmanship displayed in their manufacture.

Messrs. Barnum Brothers, of St. Louis, are the general Western Agents for the machines, commencing last year with a sale of only 25, but this year they have sold nearly 500, (which favor in some sections, judging from the fact was all the manufacturers could furnish them) without supplying the demand.

The Messrs. Barnum, are also largely interested in the Industrial Plow Company, at St. Louis, and sell many thousands of their manu-THE KIRBY TWO-WHEEL MOWER, was another

new machine, and has been brought out to meet a demand for two-wheeled machines. In general features, it resembles several of the other popular machines, but preserves all the essential peculiarities which have made the Kirby's American Harvester so universally popular. By the arrangement of its parts the knife bar is placed further forward than in most machines, while the driver's seat is well back, giving the driver the best opportunity to observe the workings of the machine; both wheels are drivers, conveying the motion through converge geers to the main shaft of the machine, which acts independently and freely at any point of the circuit of the wheel. The apparatus for raising and lowering the cutter bar, acts the same as in the other forms of the Kirby, giving easy control in all positions, and affording a safe and easy position for the driver. In raising the cutter bar to pass obstructions, or for high or low cutting, the relative position of the crank and heel of the knife are always the same. The bar is readily folded for moving from place to place, or let down again by the driver without leaving his seat. The operation of the machine in the trial was such as to give much promise for the future, it going through all the tests required, with much credit to itself.

And while speaking of the Kirby machines we should do injustice to them if we allowed the results of the trial to go out, without commenting further on the work done by them in the various classes in which they competed.

In the trial of Self-Rakers the first day, the Kirby did all the work allotted it in the very best manner, and was a great favorite; but when in the field of tangled and lodged wheat, on the second day, it went through without difficulty, cutting cleaner and laying the gavels in better shape than any other machine, the verdict of spectators, as well as many exhibiters, was unqualifiedly in its favor. As a combined machine it showed all the advantages that have given it so wide a reputation, doing excellent work in all

These machines have grown rapidly in popularity, as is shown by the fact that in 1866 only twenty machines were sold in the St. Louis market, while this year the sales exceed two thousand at that point, about sixty-five of which have been sold at Sedalia alone. All of these machines were the Combined Mower and Reapand all but one was obliged to stop and clear er, and nine-tenths of them were sold with the away the clay on the guards, but the knives in no | Self-Raking attachment. There is probably no instance were choked so as to stop their play. other manufacturer in the United States who The machine that went through was the Rus- makes so large a number of Self-Rakers. They sell, but it was really more a matter of chance | are manufactured by D. M. Osborne & Co., at than from any superior quality of the machine, Auburn, New York, who have agencies at Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland and St. Louis. The trial of these machines was conducted by usually required of them, gave little satisfaction | Dick Ransom, the manufacturer's agent at St. Louis.

THE CHAMPION was evidently in high esteem giving the highest in each case on the scale of from the commencement, with a large number points adopted by the society-100 being perfec- of farmers and others in attendance; and in the various classes in which it competed, it made many new friends. In the class of Self-Rakers, especially in the lodged and tangled field, the execution was particularly satisfactory. As a Single Mowers.-Clipper 93 6-7; Champion 91 dropper, it will be noticed, it stands a tie with the Clipper, at the head of the list, and is only second in the class of Self-Rakers and Combined Machines.

The mechanical construction of the machine as manufactured under the supervision of the which were given as indicated by the points | inventor, Mr. Whitely, is excellent. No expense is spared to make it in every way reliable. The inventor claims especial merit in the manufacture of the guard fingers, which are made of the best of wrought iron, and hardened over the whole entire surface, affording a hard cutting edge, combined with great strength.

The Champion has a very ingenious adjustable compensating pitman connection, at the knife heel, by which any wear can be instantly taken up and kept snug without binding. The arrangements for handling the knife bar by the driver are very complete; either the outer or inner end of the knife bar, or the whole, can be raised at pleasure in passing over obstructions, and the bar folded on the machine, in moving from point to point. The tongue is flexibly attached to the machine, allowing the cutter bar to follow over the undulations of the ground, without any undue pressure or working on the necks of the

This is one of the first two-wheeled machines to which the Self Rake has been practically applied by the manufacturers, and they have been eminently successful in its application.

The agents exhibited several patterns of the machines, from a four-foot to a six-foot cut, and to show the ease with which the mower could be operated, run the six-foot mower very readily

The general agents the of machine at St. Louis are Messrs. Swan, Ogden & Co., 602 North Main St., who have not been able to secure near the number of the machines they could have sold this season.

THE "CAYUGA CHIEF" AND AUBURN HAR-VESTER were exhibited by the local agents, A. R. Ellis & Bro., and M. H. Hillburn, the general traveling agent. The Auburn Harvester as a one-wheel Self Rake did good work, and came well up on the scale of points in the competition in the class of Self Rakers and Combined machines, as did the "Chief" in Droppers and Mowers. They are manufactured at Auburn, N. Y., by the Cayuga Chief Manufacturing Co.

THE WOOD MACHINES .- At the commencement of the trial there seemed to be consider-Yorker and the John H. Manny were with- and socket joint for the pitman, which is made able prejudice against the Wood machine as a