

One Kansas woman appreciated what it means to receive flower seeds from the government. Senator Burton was seated too late to receive his quota of flower seeds, but he did not escape, for there was dumped on him a lot of seeds left from Senator Baker's apportionment. He took his pen in hand and sent them out, one of the recipients being the wife of Senator A. H. of Lawrence. He has received from Mrs. A. H. the following letter and bill of expense in connection with the flower seeds.

"My dear Sir: Your very kind donation of flower seeds received. This is a generous gift, but thereby hangs a delusion and a snare. I must first invest \$1 in a spade, and then hire a boy at so much per hour to dig up a flower bed. Then send a man to the forest with a team after a load of leaf mould and then to the river for a load of sandy loam at one dollar per load. For we have always read that leaf mould and sandy loam are necessary to flower beds. Then the aforesaid boy with the aforesaid spade must, at so much per hour incorporate these materials together in a suitable manner in the aforesaid flower bed. Then if congressional flower seeds ever do sprout and send up little green shoots, the next investment will be for a watering pot or garden hose and a boy to be hired by the hour to watch the flower garden while the family is absent during the summer. And the neighbor's huge dog, finding that a cool moist spot, spends pleasant hours there, while the tender green shoots, unlike truth, when crushed to earth do not rise again. And the town cow on its way to the summer resort, concludes to make a short cut across this same flower bed, followed by boy and pony. The surviving plants, should they escape the ravages of slugs, scale, green lice and red spiders, would along in November, show a vast range of foliage and a few green buds, which, were the summer long enough, would burst into bloom. But an untimely frost cuts down these buds of promise, and the garbage man is paid to haul them away, and the garden hose, rake and spade are hung up in the woodshed to be stolen later in the season."

"You do not say at what time of the moon these seeds should be planted; whether they do best when the moon is full, or on its last quarter. It pleases a woman to have some flower seeds sent her as much as if you had praised her Easter bonnet, or her home-made ironclad pies—and visions of gorgeous flowers arise in her mind equal only to those seen on the pages of seed catalogues. We are a cheerful race, forgetting disappointments of the past in the promises of the future."

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. A. H.

"P.S.:—It is never considered in good form to subject the recipient of a present to any expense in connection therewith; therefore I enclose the following bill of expenses which has grown directly out of the receipt of the flower seeds:

"One spade, \$1.00; one rake, 75c; 1 boy, 5 hours, 50 cents; 1 load of leaf mould, \$1.00; 1 load sandy loam, \$1.00; 1 boy, 2 hours' labor, 20 cents; garden hose, \$7.50; 1 package insect powder, 25 cents; 1 dog damage, 75 cents; 1 cow damage, 50 cents; 1 pony damage 50 cents; 1 boy, labor two months, \$8.00; 1 garbage man hauling, 75 cents; 1 grand disappointment, \$5.00; total, \$27.70. Will the Senator from Kansas please remit?

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