

Communications.

A Short and Easy Experiment in Co-operative Buying.

DEAR VISITOR:—A line from your worthy Editor's assistant requests an article on our experience in co-operative purchasing for the Patrons of our vicinity.

A notable wit has defined politeness as "that mental quality which makes one who knows all about a subject listen to the talk of him who knows nothing about it, as patiently and pleasantly as if the talker knew all and the hearer knew nothing."

About ten months ago we were left by the collapse of our co-operative store (a joint venture of the Patrons of Husbandry and Sons of Industry) without business home, agency or place.

Our plan is substantially as follows: The Grange does not put into the business, or become responsible for a single dollar. The entire responsibility is borne by its purchasing agent.

Our purchasing agent buys from manufacturers at wholesale rates, on 30 days time, not whole cases of a kind, but just the number and style that individual Patrons have ordered of him.

Our purchasing agent pays all freights and expenses of every description and receives for his compensation (besides the pleasure of doing good) 10 per cent. on the wholesale cost.

We very seldom fail to get a fit the first time we order if the person ordering gives correctly the length and letter indicating the width of the shoe, even where parties tell us they find difficulty in securing a fit at the stores.

As to wearing qualities and style, all the boots and shoes we get are neat and well finished, and they wear fully as well as those we buy at a much higher price from our best stores.

It is hardly necessary to say that in a trade like this it is all important to have a reliable firm to deal with, and I think it is a common experience that those who represent themselves as the special business friends of our Order are highest in prices and least to be trusted.

P. A. Pennfield and Calhoun County Granges, Battle Creek.

The County Grange.

Pomona Grange, No. 1, met at Pearl Grange Hall on Tuesday, Oct. 25th, for a session of two days, worthy master John Clark in the chair.

After preliminary business came reports of subordinate granges. Many

granges gave full written reports. Others reported orally, and three granges of the county gave no report.

The afternoon session was an open one and all seats were filled. A song was given by the choir, Miss Addie Sutherland presiding at the organ.

The lecturer of the State Grange, Mr. Jason Woodman, of Paw Paw, gave an excellent and forcible address of an hour and a half; contrasted the present and the past and showed the potent work of the Grange in the better condition of things.

Supper was served in the hall and was in keeping with the dinner, ample and excellent. After supper the Grange conferred the fifth degree upon seven candidates.

Wednesday morning, brother W. J. Jones, of Mt. Tabor Grange, spoke upon "How to Resuscitate Weak and Dormant Granges," a discussion of subject followed. Brother Spalding, of Fruit Grange, in a familiar off-hand talk of ten minutes, introduced for discussion the question, "How shall we make our meetings more interesting?"

A brother from Mt. Tabor Grange introduced the subject of the burning of Mt. Tabor Grange hall, and solicited aid from the County Grange and subordinate granges to rebuild their hall.

The delighted guests then bade their entertainers good-bye, every one feeling that this meeting of Pomona Grange had afforded a great deal of enjoyment and resulted in some good.

From California.

HAYWARDS, CAL., Oct. 15.

Our State Grange is now one of the past. There was little done at the meeting except routine business, besides passing a resolution in favor of woman's suffrage.

The present has been a prosperous year with the orchardists of this State. The fruit crop was an enormously heavy one, and, although prices were not high, yet they were remunerative, and the vineyardists, distinct from others fruit growers, I think are doing remarkably well.

Our State, its climate, soil and general fitness for the abode of man to secure to him health, happiness, long life and prosperity is becoming to be generally understood and is being acted on by great numbers who e circumstances permit them to change their habitation.

At another time when I was gone, he helped the hired man kill a bear that was carrying off a pig. By this time I learned that bone and muscle does not make a heroine, but it takes nerve and grit to kill a bear, and drive

equally as desirable lands, so far as climate and productive qualities of soil are concerned, can be purchased at very reasonable rates at, say, from \$10 to \$50 per acre. It is those lands that immigration is now being directed Large grain ranches are now being divided and sold and the time is close at hand when our northern counties will be filled with an energetic, thriving and happy population.

California is capable of great things. She is destined in the no distant future to supply the world with fruits and wines. The restrictions on her commerce are now being gradually removed or reduced to a minimum. The wool growers and the wheat farmer have had their day. They are now compelled to give place to the orchardist vine grower and to make room for a dense population and a more general distribution and development of the great natural resources of wealth pertaining to our State.

Wm. C. BLACKFORD.

A Brief History of the Married Life of Cortland and Lucinda Hill of Bengal, Mich.

Fifty years ago last winter I taught school in the village of Virgil, N. Y., and one evening when going from school to my boarding place, I passed a milliner shop where I saw a delicate young lady making bonnets, and the first time I saw her I took a fancy to her, and strange to say she took a fancy to me, although I was neither tall nor handsome; our affections being mutual we commenced correspondence.

On the 12th of September we had our goods taken to Syracuse and put on the canal for shipment, as there were no railroads to the "great west," at that time. The shipping agent asked me to what place the goods were to be shipped, and I told him to mark them "Cortland Hill, Detroit, Mich.," and he honestly asked me how far Cortland Hill was from Detroit, and I told him at that time it was about 500 miles from Detroit, but in ten days it would probably be in the City. But we went on to the land I had chosen for a home in the west, where there were no roads, no schools, no churches or preachers, only one unbroken wilderness, far and near, not one settler in Bengal, nor a white inhabitant between us and the North Pole.

At a depth of 2,275 feet the Jackson gas well drill is humping along through rock that has an all-fired effluvia, and it is believed that gas is near at hand.

Reached the Limit. A Detroit peddler of tinware took out some egg-beaters on his last trip, and as the price was only 15 cents each and they worked on a new principle, he calculated on big sales. His first experience will answer for all others. He drove up to a farm house in the western part of Wayne county and took a beater in to exhibit. The people liked it exceedingly well, but the old farmer said: "Young man, I want to see your patent."

Another complete victory of organized farmers in the Grange has been achieved by the Patrons of Husbandry of Vermont. The Interstate Commerce Commission has decided in favor of the State Grange in its case against the Central Railroad of Vermont, for its violation of the fourth section of the law in charging more for a short than a long haul.

A Prominent Merchant in Trouble.

Old moneybags sits in his office all day. As snappish and cross as a bear; The clerks know enough to keep out of his way. Lest the merchant should grumble and swear.

Keeping Fruit.

The great secret for preventing decay in fruit through Autumn and Winter is to preserve a uniformly low temperature. If changing and fluctuating, they quickly rot. Currents of air are bad, because they make changes in temperature. We find that apples keep longer in Winter by merely wrapping each specimen in tissue paper, and thus excluding air.

What it Means.

To the man or woman who has never been ill, the word "health" is meaningless. But to the one who has suffered and despaired, health appears as a priceless boon. To the thousands of unfortunate women who are suffering from some of the many forms of weaknesses or irregularities peculiar to their sex, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription holds forth the promise of a speedy restoration of this "priceless boon."

Wall-paper should always be tested for arsenic before it is purchased. The following is a reliable method.— Take a piece of the paper and pour upon it strong aqua ammonia over a saucer. If there is any arsenic present, this will dissolve it. Collect the liquid in a vial or tube, and drop in a crystal of nitrate of silver. If there be arsenic present, little yellow crystals will make their appearance about the nitrate of silver. Arsenical green, when washed with aqua ammonia, either changes to blue or fades.—Ex.

Our lady friends will be interested in knowing that by sending 20c. to pay postage, and 15 top covers of Warner's Safe Yeast (showing that they have used at least 15 packages) to H. H. Warner & Co., Rochester, N. Y., they can get a 500 page, finely illustrated Cook Book, free. Such a book, bound in cloth, could not be bought for less than a dollar. It is a wonderfully good chance to get a fine book for the mere postage and the ladies should act promptly.

The saloon-keepers of the state have determined to form an association for a continued resistance to the new liquor law. It should be borne in mind that the saloon keepers are fighting for rights which law or custom denies to every other occupation and business. All others are limited to 60 or 70 hours a week. The saloon-keepers demand twice that number.

There have been numerous civil cases against Bohemian coats operators, and now the Genesee county court is to try a case in which a criminal charge forms the basis of action. The defendants are A. W. Hamner, of Ypsilanti, and Morris A. Sherwood, of Holly, and they must answer to a charge of false pretenses.

Caller (to old Mrs. Bentley).—The new minister is making himself quite popular, is he not, Mrs. Bentley? Old Mrs. Bentley.—Well, I ain't much sot by him. For the last three Sundays he's prayed for rain, an' there ain't a drop fell yet.

Another big gas well has been bored at Killmaster, Alcona co., and the flow exceeds that of the first gusher found there.

You say, let men drink who want to and take the consequences; but the man drinks, and the woman takes the consequences.

FARM AND GARDEN.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING A BAG TIE THAT WILL NOT SLIP.

Approved Methods of Making Cider Vinegar in Both Large and Small Quantities—How to Prepare and Pack Poultry Destined for Distant Markets.

The season is at hand when poultry may be safely packed for sending to distant markets in a dressed state; a few words of advice on the subject will therefore be opportune to many readers.



FIG. 1—PACKING POULTRY.

To begin with, let all poultry fast twelve hours previous to killing it, to insure empty crops. As the highest prices are...

As some markets require the fowls to be "drawn," while others prefer them with the entrails undisturbed, each shipper ought to advise himself of the requirements of his own market.

Do not pack the birds for transportation until they are quite cold. In cold weather poultry is sometimes shipped in clean boxes or barrels, without any packing material...

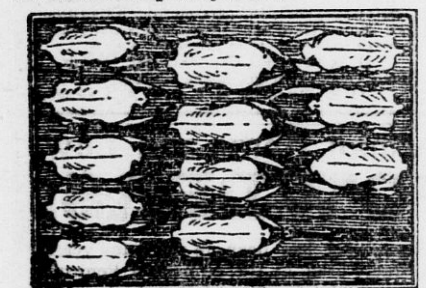


FIG. 2—PACKING POULTRY.

The Stockman, which recommends the above method, adds the following very sensible advice: advice that if followed will save both shipper and consignee much annoyance and trouble.

Vinegar Making.

Vinegar can be easily made from many different substances, but in a country abounding in apples there is no excuse for making it for domestic use from anything but the best.

The hop crop is larger than was anticipated, but not of extra quality.

The New York poultry show is announced for Dec. 14-31.

The last estimate of the corn crop by Statistician Dodge was 1,500,000,000 bushels.

The government now estimates the wheat crop at 450,000,000 bushels.

A New York syndicate, it is told, will shortly invest \$100,000 in the culture of tobacco in Florida.

More fodder corn has been cut throughout the west this fall than ever before.

The dilution with water is generally necessary to some degree, as in many cases the old vinegar is too acid to be agreeable...

The natural process may be hastened by occasionally turning the cider out of one barrel into another, exposing it more fully to the air...

Families without cider mills and with but few apples may make their own vinegar by mashing the apples in a tub with a pounder...

The cellar is not a good place to keep vinegar in unless for a short time in extremely cold weather, for warmth and exposure to a dry atmosphere are essentials in making vinegar.

Strain of the Shoulder in Horses.

Professor Rich in his work on artistic horse shoeing, is generally a cloak for the ignorance of the groom or other attendant upon the horse.

Mason & Hamlin offer, as demonstration of the unequalled excellence of their organs, the fact that at all of the great World's Exhibitions, since that of Paris, 1867...

The treatment for shoulder lameness lies in rest, bleeding, purging, cooling balls, with nitre, etc.

Professor Brown, of the Ontario Agricultural college at Guelph, Can., recently summed up the usefulness of bran to farmers, after having carefully considered its chemical composition.

1. Bran is a concentrated food, which, though variable in composition, possesses high nutritive value.

2. Roller process bran is, on the average, richer than old process bran.

3. Its excess of ash or mineral matters eminently fits it for bone building in growing animals, and for supplementing the lack of mineral matters in roots.

4. Its chemical composition points to the conclusion that it is somewhat better adapted to the formation of fat and production of heat than to the formation of muscle or of milk.

Care of Newly Set Trees.

Professor Budd, of Iowa, advises the mounding in the fall of newly set trees with earth for the first three years after setting the orchard.

The effort to do away with the extra charge for peach baskets has found almost universal support in New York city during the past season.

It is estimated that over 8,000 head of cattle have been slaughtered in Chicago in the efforts of the Illinois live stock commissioners to stamp out pleuro-pneumonia in that state.

A Prize of \$100,000 is a good thing to get, and the man who wins it by superior skill, or by an unexpected turn of fortune's wheel, is to be congratulated.

The progressive men of the day are those who avail themselves of all possible practicable sources of information within their reach.

The spoons and goblins that delight To fill with terror all the night; That stalk abroad in hideous dreams...

Nature is liberal in her ways and means if due regard is paid to her methods, but no farmer ought to expect that she will successfully perform her work if he acts in direct violation of her methods.

MASON & HAMLIN ORGANS.

The cabinet organ was introduced in its present form by Mason & Hamlin in 1861.

Mason & Hamlin's Piano Strainer was introduced by them in 1882, and has been pronounced by experts the greatest improvement in pianos in half a century.

MASON & HAMLIN ORGAN & PIANO CO. 154 Tremont St., Boston, 46 E. 14th St. (Union Sq.), N.Y. 149 Wabash Ave., Chicago.

THE PERKINS WINDMILL



It has been in constant use for 16 years, with a record equaled by none. Warranted not to blow down, unless the Tower goes with it; or against any wind that does not disabuse substantial farm buildings; to be perfect; to outlast and do better work than any other mill made.

AGENTS WANTED. Send for Catalogue, Circular and Prices. Address PERKINS WINDMILL & AX CO., Mishawaka, Indiana.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

Table listing prices for various supplies like blank books, receipt books, and other office materials.

CO-OPERATIVE LITERATURE. History and Objects of Co-operation, What is Co-operation, etc.

Dr. William Rose, Resident Veterinary Surgeon. Graduate of Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto, Canada.

Address: Sec'y Michigan State Grange, Schoolcraft, Mich.

THE Patrons' Grocery House

Under Contract with the Executive Committees of the Pennsylvania and New York State Granges and recognized by the State Granges of Ohio, New Jersey and Delaware...

THORNTON BARNES, Wholesale Grocer and Grange Selling Agent, 241 North Water Street, Philadelphia, Penn.

Advertisement for Montgomery Ward & Co. featuring 'IT IS A WELL KNOWN FACT' and a list of goods including dry goods, books, and musical instruments.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY TIME TABLE, JUNE 4, 1887.

Table showing train schedules for Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway, including times for various destinations like Port Huron and Chicago.

GRANGE COMMISSION HOUSE. THOMAS MASON, General Commission Merchant, 163 South Water St., Chicago.

Advertisement for Burlington Route Excursions, offering travel options to Peoria, St. Louis, Denver, and other cities.

Make Your Money Easy! FARMERS and Farmers' Sons can make more money by engaging with us than at anything else they can do.

