

## THE MARITIME PATRON,

AND ORGAN OF THE

## Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

"In Essentials Unity: In Non-essentials Liberty: In All Things Charity."

[All communications intended for this column should be sent to the editor of the Maritime Patron, EDWIN S. CREED, M. D., Newport.]

No apology need be offered for giving in this column, instead of our own thoughts in our own words, the pleasing variety of the better thoughts of other patrons, gleaned from our exchanges.

The Grange as an educator cannot be outdone. The farmers who have belonged to our Order since its organization can say they owe a great deal to the Grange and its instructions. In fact it has been a better school to them than the one attended in their younger days. The lessons we learn are practical and useful, and we will never forget them. By them the farmers, their wives and daughters are enlightened, lifted up to a higher standpoint; new fields are being opened, and the old routine is being broken. Ten years ago people residing in towns and cities could and would point out a farmer's family as soon as they saw them drive into town, but to-day they cannot do it. The farmers, since this Grange movement began, have come out in a measure from their isolation; they no longer stand back and look on, while their city cousins carry off their prizes. It seems strange that so many stand aloof and see no beauty, no benefit in the Grange.—*Drift Head, Bangor, Maine*

The "Patrons' Reading Circles," under leadership of Bro. R. H. Thomas, of Penn., and Bro. E. C. Ellis, of Ohio, are meeting with the favor of the members of the Order, not only in these States but in almost all the States. When are those Grange classes in Ontario, etc., started in Massachusetts, as was talked of early in the year?—*Our Grange Home, Hudson, Mass.*

While it is nice to say that the Grange should have a home of its own, it is harmful for its best growth and development to be constantly confined. Frequent "farm meetings" held at homes of different members, have always had a beneficial effect upon the prosperity of the Grange. At these meetings stock and farm crops are inspected, different methods of farming are carefully observed, and the result is a practical object lesson for the farmers who attend them. The social relations also of the members of the Grange are greatly strengthened and enlarged by the frequent recourse and friendly greetings of such occasions.—*California Patron*

The papers emanating from our State and National Granges compare favorably with those emanating from the corresponding departments in the State and National Governments. The officers of our State and National Masters and Lecturers compare equally well with those of similar officers in those Governments. The original articles, editorial and contributed, in our periodicals, are equal to any in other periodicals of a similar grade; and a large number of farmers, who can't, or never, write a line for the press, we know can produce clear, vigorous, graphic, even eloquent articles, as rich in thought and expression and fascination as a romance, on various subjects. Therefore we need that these men and women be roused to a conscientious discharge of their duty, that our editor may all the time have a large stock of the richest and most varied articles to select from. None of us need write often, but we should consider well and condense what we do write.—*Weekly Indianian*

We heartily endorse the above and most sincerely wish that our Maritime Patrons who are as able to write well, and to whom the language above quoted applies with equal truth and force, as to those for whom it is intended, would furnish us with "a large stock of the richest and most varied articles to select from." Are we not entitled to—have we not earned this much from you, brother and sister Patrons?—*Ed. Maritime Patron*

The Worthing Lecturer of the Ohio State Grange during the month of August travelled over 1100 miles and delivered 13 addresses. Well done good faithful brother!—*American Grange Bulletin*

The Grange is the strongest and most determined foe of Monopoly, and the heaviest blows ever dealt that monster, have been by the hands of the Grange in behalf of agricultural representations and in opposition to monopoly.—*Ibid.*

The war between Capital and Labor has opened and every farmer in the United States is directly interested in the result. The ballot box is the peaceful remedy, and farmers must in all cases be prepared to honestly act without regard to party politics.—*Ibid.*

Labor creates capital. Capital is inert and useless without labor. Capital is as dependent upon labor, as is the plant upon the soil from which it springs. The best interests of Labor and Capital are really identical. The real warfare is not between Capital and Labor, but between unwise capitalists and foolish laborers.—*Editor, M. P.*

GRANGE INFLUENCE.—Co-operative effort in importing choice stock horses, is rapidly improving our horses in Ontario. It is Grange influence. The butter and cheese co-operative effort has made wonderful advancement since the organization of the Grange. Grange influence is at the bottom of it. The discussions in the Grange, the co-operative trips or excursions to the Ontario Experimental Farm, have done wonders for our boys—the farmers of the near future. Grange influence here also. The Ontario People's Salt Manufacturing Company have saved the farmers of Ontario 50 cents per barrel on one million barrels of salt sold since that company started. That means \$500,000 in farmers' pockets. Grange influence here also. The Dominion Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Co. has nearly 8,000 members, whose average insurance is \$1,200. They have issued about 13,000 policies, and the average saving has been \$7 per policy, or \$91,000 to the farmers of Canada. Grange influence. The Grange Trust brought

down the rate of interest rapidly, secured greater civility from many loaning companies, and has saved many borrowers considerable money. Grange influence. The Grange killed the market fee fraud, by which farmers paid a tax for the privilege of selling their products in a free market. This saved farmers hundreds of thousands of dollars. Shall the Grange, which has accomplished more than any living man will ever estimate, be allowed to become weak, in well doing? What has been accomplished is but a drop in the bucket of what the Grange is capable of doing for the farmers of Canada. What we want is more practical work and less theoretical humbugging and effing seeking.—*Canadian Co-operator and Patron, Owen Sound.*

PACKING APPLES.—"Handle apples as you would handle eggs" is good advice. Old flower barrels, unless carefully washed and dried, will impart a musty flavor to the fruit before midwinter, especially if the air in the cellar is moist. The best apples which are put in market barrels should be "fired." The firing consists in placing two or three layers on the lower end with stems down; that is, with stems pointing towards the head. Clean, bright apples of ordinary size should be selected for this purpose. The rest of the apples may be poured into the barrel. This pouring, if properly done, will not injure the apples. Eggs can be poured. Use a basket with a swinging handle, one which can be lowered into the barrel and turned while there, and hold the apples back with the hand, so that they will not pour out too rapidly. Two or three times during the filling shake the barrel gently to settle the apples firmly. Fill the upper head in the same manner as the lower one. It is desirable not to head the barrel up at once. Cover with boards to keep out the rain, and let the barrels stand open four or five days. It is not, however, always possible to cover the barrels, in which case they may be headed up at once and turned down on their sides. In this condition they will shed water.

The *Country Gentleman* says that winter is the best time to destroy the orchard caterpillars. "They form their rings of eggs on the small shoots, usually within a foot or so of the ends. These are easily cut off with a pair of clipping shears set on a pole, and every nest of eggs which you thus bring down and burn saves your trees from one of the 'big-nests.' One of these rings of eggs is about three-fourths of an inch long, and a third of an inch in diameter, and is larger than the shoot which holds it.

To have a fine crop of large, rich currants, enrich the ground, make it clean and mellow, and thin out the brush. Cut away the old, stunted wood, and leave the vigorous young shoots. Let them occupy equal distances from one another, and give the bushes in some degree a regular form. No fruit is more neglected than the currant, the bushes being allowed to become enveloped in weeds and grass, and the enfeebled bushes allowed to grow into a mass of brush. The difference in the size of the berries raised by the two modes is about as one to four.

FERTILIZING VALUE OF SALT.—Salt consists of chlorine and sodium in proportions, viz., one atom of each combined as chloride of sodium. Both these substances are contained in all plants to a less or greater extent; hence salt is a valuable food for plants as far as it supplies these two indispensable elements of plant substance. But salt has also a chemical effect upon both organic and mineral matter, producing rapid decomposition in both. Therefore, it has a useful effect upon the soil when used as a fertilizer, in addition to its contribution as plant food, for it liberates soluble mineral matter, as silica, potash, and phosphoric acid, from the soil, and helps in the decay of manure. Its effect is remarkable upon wheat grown upon rich soil, and which is apt to lodge, through the weakness of the straw, by want of sufficient mineral matter; such wheat is stiffened and strengthened by release of silica, potash, and lime from the soil, and the grain is made bright and full, with a clean, clear bran. A similar effect is produced on grass and clover. Salt is also especially useful to cabbage and all root crops; 600 pounds per acre is used.—*N. Y. W. Times.*

It is to be thought unwise to grow small fruits, except in the vicinity of cities or the larger towns, but of late years it has been found that the open country furnished a better market for a certain amount of strawberries, raspberries and other small fruits.—*Green's Fruit Grower.*

TO BUILD A CHEAP SILO.—Whatever cheapens the cost of the silo, or lessens the expense of filling it, will hasten the introduction of the method, especially upon the farms of those of moderate means. The important experiments on ensilage conducted at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, have shown that a balloon frame of scantling, of suitable size, covered on the outside with matched boards, and lined on the inside with two thicknesses of one-inch matched boards, with a layer of tarred paper between them, thus securing a partially air-tight enclosure, surrounded by a dead-air space as a protection against frost, is the best and cheapest form of construction. If the boards and timbers are saturated with hot coal-tar, which can readily be done with trifling expense and little labor, the duration of the silo will be very much increased. Silos are, in these respects, similar to ice-houses, their usefulness does not increase with the ratio of their cost.—*Am. Agriculturist.*

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.—The garden should be open to the sky, and as far as possible unshaded by adjacent trees from the morning and afternoon sun. It is even more essential that the trees be not so near that their voracious roots can make their way to the rich loam of the garden.

Now for the soil. We would naturally suppose that that of Eden was a deep sandy loam, with not too porous a subsoil. As we have already seen again and again, such a soil appears to be the laboratory in which we can assist Nature to develop her best products. But Nature has a profound