



Middlebury Register.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1886.

OVER one thousand delegates are attending the annual convention of the Knights of Labor which opened at Richmond, Va., on Monday.

THE annual meeting of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions is being held this week at Des Moines, Ia. A big fight is expected when the question of creed qualifications of candidates for mission work comes up for discussion. The conservative party are said to be in the ascendant.

MAJOR GROIT, the speaker of the House of representatives, will, his friends believe, make a very acceptable presiding officer. The mild support he received from the anti-Edmunds papers augurs well for his freedom from the influences that have sometimes had a good deal to do with the choice of speaker and also with his doings after election.

THE present session of the legislature promises to be known to posterity as the "dry" session of 1886. Seven officers, including Sheriff Barton of Chittenden county, raided seven Montpelier rum-holes, Tuesday, and captured a large amount of the ardent. It is not often that Montpelier attempts to enforce the law, and when it does home talent seems not to be equal to the task.

LECTURES FOR FARMERS.

Mr. W. W. Cooke, professor of agriculture at the University of Vermont and State Agricultural college, Burlington, announces that his department is equipped for active work and says:

It is desired by the university that this department come into close relationship with the farmers of the State, and that it shall be as much as possible a bureau of information through which the farmers can gain access to the latest practical and experimental work done in other parts of the world. The personal work of the department will be two-fold; throughout the State and at the university. The first will be a series of lectures on agricultural topics delivered in the several counties of the State; the second will be a "Farmers' Course" of lectures at the university. The lectures will be delivered by the faculty of the university, with such help from specialists outside as may be found desirable.

Such courses as are proposed would undoubtedly be of great utility if they could be well attended. If the farmers wish to profit by the agricultural fund which the university has, they must do their part. The best possible school is of no use unless it has pupils, and so these courses cannot be of much avail unless those for whose benefit they are established take enough interest in them to attend.

THE SCHOOLS OF VERMONT.

In another column will be found a most interesting letter from a St. Johnsbury correspondent of the New York Evening Post. It contains some startling facts, which are not pleasant reading, perhaps, but need to be known. If it is true, as this writer avers, that the quality of our schools is deteriorating while their cost is continually increasing, something should be done about it, and right away.

In this connection it is worth while to give the figures concerning the schools of our own county as contained in the annual report of Superintendent of Education Darrt, which has just been issued. In 1884-'85 the number of common schools in Addison county was 187; terms of school, 458; different scholars attending school, 5557; different male teachers employed, 48; different female teachers employed, 275; number of teachers who had attended a Vermont normal school, 33; number of teachers who were graduates of a normal school, 15; whole amount expended for school purposes, \$89,758.47.

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These statistics show a number of things that demand attention, such as: I. Teachers are very frequently changed. In 1884-'85 it required 320 different teachers in the 187 schools of the county; and in 1885-'86, 323 in 198 schools. Surely so numerous changes cannot be conducive to the most effective work on the part of either teachers or pupils. Each must become thoroughly acquainted with the other in order to the best results.

II. Our normal schools amount to very little practically. But 18 of the teachers employed in the county in 1884-'85 were graduates of them or of any normal school; in 1885-'86 the number was but 15. The total cost to the State of the normal schools for 1884-'85 was \$82,294; for 1885-'86, \$78,884. During 1884-'85 369 of the 425 different teachers in the schools of the State were graduates of normal schools; during 1885-'86 407 of the 4328 teachers were graduates of such schools.

It is the opinion of very many of the most prominent educators that an improvement of the schools generally can be brought about only through the adoption of the town system throughout the State. Mr. Darrt himself suggests it in the report to which we have referred, and says of the working of the system:

By reports given herewith it will be seen that in towns where the system has been tried, with but one or two exceptions, the schools have improved very much from what they were before the change. There is no more important call, no greater demand pressing upon the people of Vermont at this time than this one for more efficient common schools, and experience with the town system for fourteen years shows conclusively that it would put us in the way of securing them. If other testimony than the experience of towns in our own State is needed, there is abundance of it. Most of the Northern states have some modification of this system. Of the New England States, Massachusetts and New Hampshire, after trying both systems for years, have adopted the town system for all the towns. Maine, Rhode Island and Connecticut are fast moving towards it.

In view of all that has been said and ascertained, it behooves the people of the State to act in this matter of schools, or it will fall behind surrounding States in the education of its youth. It is to be hoped that the present session of the legislature will not pass without a movement in the right direction.

PERSONAL.

John H. Knowles of North Ferrisburgh has lately been granted a pension of four dollars a month.

Gov. Harrison and family of Connecticut are spending a few days at the Lake Dunmore House, Salisbury.

Mr. George H. Owen of Rutland has returned from Germany. He is a graduate of this college and went abroad to establish a school for Americans.

The Senate committee on fisheries, of which Senator Edmunds is a member, is at Gloucester, Mass., taking testimony regarding the recent troubles with the Dominion.

CHANGE OF TIME.

A new timetable went into effect on the Rutland division of the Central Vermont on Monday last. The principal change is in the morning train north, which now goes at 9:50, instead of 7:50, in order to accommodate Montpelier passengers, who can start from home at a reasonable hour and reach the seat of government at about one o'clock p. m.

The night express south gets here 15 minutes earlier than before, or at 10:03. The time of other trains is unchanged so far as this station is concerned.

THE NEW YORK EXCURSION.

The indications are that a large number from this town and vicinity will go to New York on the excursion of Tuesday next, Oct. 12. This is the only New York excursion the Bennington & Rutland railway will run the present season. Fare for the round trip from Rutland, \$3; from Middlebury, probably \$4.35. Excursionists must go to Rutland on the main train at 9:50 o'clock Tuesday morning. Tickets permit excursionists to return on any boat of the Citizens' line up to Monday night, Oct. 18, and from Troy to Rutland on any train up to Tuesday night, Oct. 19.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

During the session of the United States court at Rutland, Wednesday, David B. Blair of Hancock appeared and wanted to be naturalized. In answer to questions he said he came from Scotland when two or three years old and had voted for 27 years without knowing that he was not a citizen.

DEATH OF MOTION.

Mr. Joseph Bartlett's well-known stationer, Motion, record 2:29, son of Daniel Lambert, died on the 5th inst. of epizootic.

COLLEGE SPORTS.

The annual games by the students of the college come off at the county fair grounds at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Admission is free. The sports are as follows: One hundred yards dash, 229 yards dash, one-fourth mile run, one-half mile run, one mile run, five mile run, running broad jump, standing broad jump, running high jump, standing high jump, standing three jumps; hop, skip and jump; pole leaping, high kick, putting 16-lb. shot, tug of war '79 vs. '80.

Tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock will be played on the college grounds a game of base ball by the freshmen of the University of Vermont and this college. An admission fee of 15 cents will be charged to defray expenses of the visiting club.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

One of Mr. Martin O'Connor's hens the other day laid an egg that compared favorably with the achievements of birds whose doings have been recorded.

There was brought to this office, Monday, a spray from a raspberry bush that bore a number of ripe berries and others just coming to maturity. It was from the garden of Mr. Wm. Kyle, where a fine crop of green peas was to be seen before the late severe frost.

Mr. Chas. Bruya this season raised from one small Early Rose potatoe eight pounds and five ounces of fine tubers. All of them were of large size, and one weighed two pounds and an ounce. There were nine of them. They were not hoed or cultivated, and the seed was planted very deep, to which latter fact the grower attributes his success.

Mr. J. J. Manney has our thanks for very fine specimens of King of Tompkins County apples. He raised three barrels of them on three small trees at his home in East Middlebury. They are very large even for this variety.

VERMONT SHEEP IN AUSTRALIA.

In 1883 Mr. V. Rich of Richville sold for exportation to Australia four yearling ewes and two yearling rams. The rams died from the effects of the dipping they received at quarantine on their arrival. Mr. Alex. Macfarland, the purchaser of the animals, writes Mr. Rich from his home in Scotland, under date of September 21. The material portion of the letter is printed below. It shows that Vermont sheep are in demand the world over and compete successfully with the best of other lands. Mr. Macfarland says:

I am sure you will be as pleased to learn as I am to communicate, that the ewe I bought from you in 1883, exhibited by our firm at the Dendiquin Pastoral and Agricultural show, held at Dendiquin, New South Wales, on the 22d of July last, bore off the society's first and champion prize as the best ewe in the exhibition. The Dendiquin show is one of the largest and most important held in Australia of sheep. My partner, Thomas Brown (our firm is Thomas Brown & Co., Tappan), writes in great spirits of her victory, and the more deplorable the cruel misfortune which overtook the rest of my purchase from you in being killed in quarantine at Sydney. At the same show we also bore off several other prizes with descendants of American Merinos bred with our Australian Merinos. The blend promises well. I only wish the ports were again open, that I might repeat my visit and possibly replace the sheep we lost. I was in Australia in the early part of this year, and felt much interested in the appearance of mixed progeny on our estate. They were all then much depressed and suffering from severe drouth and low prices of wool. Rain has since fallen in abundance and wool taken a very decided start, which, it is to be hoped, may hold for some time.

THE LATE ELECTION.

Official figures of the vote at the State election, from the secretary of state, are as follows:

GOVERNORIAL VOTE.	
Ormsbee (Rep.)	37,799
Shurtleeff (Dem.)	17,180
Scott (Pro.)	1,241
Greenback	44
Scattering	18
Republican majority	18,617
CONGRESSIONAL VOTE.	
First District—	
Stewart (Rep.)	15,632
Brigham (Dem.)	5,053
Greenback	158
Scattering	105
Republican majority	9,523
Second District—	
Grant (Rep.)	18,685
Folsom (Dem.)	8,170
Greenback	96
Scattering	5
Republican majority	10,485

STATE OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The report of the officers of the State prison at Windsor for the years 1885-'86 has just been issued. The directors report that they find everything in a very satisfactory condition, the prison economically managed and the welfare of the prisoners properly seen to. They recommend the construction of iron stairs to and walks around the cells to take the place of the wooden ones. They report that the expenses of the prison were \$553.40 less than the two previous years. The superintendent, E. W. Oakes, reports that the income of the prison has been \$20,333 and that there are 88 prisoners.

According to the annual report of the State inspector of finance the whole num-

ber of depositors in all the savings banks and trust companies in the State on June 30, 1886, was 49,453, an increase during the past year of 2675, and being 3616 more than there were two years ago. There was to the credit of such depositors \$14,233,963.47, showing an increase in amount of deposits during the past year of \$554,731.84, and in the past two years of \$829,771.94. Of the total amount of deposits in the different savings banks and trust companies \$11,897,359.39 belongs to depositors living in the State, an increase of \$569,594.16 as over 1885, and of \$572,855.91 over 1884. The amount belonging to non-residents is \$2,334,406.78, a decrease of \$44,862.32 over 1885, and of \$40,211.96 over 1884.

BENONI MEETS A BLACK BEAR, WHILE GATHERING "GING-SHANG."

On Thursday of last week a man of middle age, whose nervous condition indicated that he had recently experienced some unusual excitement, made his appearance at the northerly end of Silver Lake just as the shades of night were falling. He emerged from the woods surrounding the Silver Lake House, which stands on one of the ridges of the Green Mountains, and was met by Mr. Frank Chandler, the proprietor, who kindly made inquiry as to his name and condition. His name, he said, was Benoni Smith, and his time at this season of the year was occupied in the search of "ging-shang." To prove the correctness of his statement he lifted from his shoulder a canvas-bag, opened it and displayed a collection of roots, together with a fine specimen of the *Aralia quinquefolia*. Benoni remarked also that he had experienced an extra strain on mind and body during the afternoon, for he had disturbed the meditations of a bear, black as the ace of spades and equally as dangerous. Bruin, who was roaring thru' the forest at the southerly end of the lake, had evidently dined, and therefore showed no inclination to mangle the affrighted intruder. Our hero, with the Scripture name quickly widened the distance between himself and the quadruped of the genus *Ursus*, and as he flew doubtless he fancied the six-fingers in the wild beast's upper jaw and the six grinders in the lower jaw were likely any moment to close upon him. Happily our worthy friend escaped to narrate his experience, and, having had food and shelter freely offered, he soon regained composure. A couple of huge pine logs blazing in an open fireplace, with other comforts in prospective, prompted him to dilate upon the merits of the exogenous plant which was known to him only as "ging-shang." The ginseng abounds where there are basswood, beech and butternut trees, and the proper time to gather it is in the autumn. The stalk has three branches with five leaves to each branch, and it bears a bean-shaped berry, which when ripe is red. The root has a pleasant aromatic taste and commands a high price in the market, although not greatly esteemed in this country for its medicinal qualities. It is exported to China, where it also grows, and the Chinese are impressed with the belief that it cures almost all the ills to which flesh is heir.

C. W. D.

A PROMISE FULFILLED.

A little more than a year ago, we published in these columns a notice of the discovery of Sheridan's Condition Powder to make hens lay. In making that announcement we relied wholly upon the character and reputation of the manufacturer. To our own mind, at that time, the idea of making hens lay the year round by artificial or any other means, seemed absurd, but we have since learned that it can be done. The notice alluded to above attracted universal attention, and thousands of people, while not believing that Sheridan's Powder could accomplish all that was claimed for it, thought it was at least worth a trial. The trial was made during December, January and February. No other months could have been selected which would have given this Powder so severe a test, for everybody who keeps hens knows that they will not lay during these months except in rare cases. But the result of this trial was most satisfactory and conclusive. Hundreds of those who made the trial received from 18 to 24 eggs per hen per month, while many one egg a day from each hen. The price of eggs during December, January and February last, averaged 30 to 35 cents per dozen. Thus it will be seen that a very few hens each laying an egg a day would support a small family. I. S. Johnson & Co., of 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass., have just published a book entitled "Poultry Raising Guide," price 25 cents. They will, however, mail it post paid to any person sending 60 cents for two 25c. packs of Sheridan's Powders or \$1.20 for a 2 1/2 lb. tin can. This book contains full and complete instructions how to make money in the business. Send for it. You cannot make a mistake.—Ad.

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GEORGE H. WRIGHT, STATE OF VERMONT, LUTHER WALES, V. IN CHANCERY.

Whereas, George H. Wright of Weybridge, in said county, has filed his petition in said court against Luther Wales of Rochester, in the State of New York, setting forth that said Luther on the 20th day of February, 1872, executed to Samuel O. Wright of said Weybridge, a mortgage deed of certain land situate in said Weybridge, described as follows, it being all my right title and interest in and to the second Tuesday of December, A. D. 1866, then and there to answer to said petition, and for that purpose said petitioner shall cause to be published the substance of said petition and this order three weeks successively in the Middlebury Register, printed at Middlebury aforesaid, the last of which publications is to be at least twenty days previous to said term of said court.

Dated at Middlebury, aforesaid, this 5th day of October, A. D. 1886.

RUFUS WAINWRIGHT, Clerk.

STEWART & WILDS, Solicitors.

Said defendant residing without this State so that said petition cannot be served upon him, it is ordered that he be required to appear on the first day of the next stated term of said court to be held at Middlebury, within and for the county of Addison, on the second Tuesday of December, A. D. 1886, then and there to answer to said petition, and for that purpose said petitioner shall cause to be published the substance of said petition and this order three weeks successively in the Middlebury Register, printed at Middlebury aforesaid, the last of which publications is to be at least twenty days previous to said term of said court.

Dated at Middlebury, aforesaid, this 5th day of October, A. D. 1886.

RUFUS WAINWRIGHT, Clerk.

STEWART & WILDS, Solicitors.



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