

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

MOTHERS, Do You Know

that Paregoric, Bateman's Drops, Godfrey's Cordial, many so-called Soothing Syrups, and most remedies for children are composed of opium or morphine?

Do You Know that opium and morphine are stupefying narcotic poisons?

Do You Know that in most countries druggists are not permitted to sell narcotics without labeling them poisons?

Do You Know that you should not permit any medicine to be given your child unless you or your physician know of what it is composed?

Do You Know that Castoria is a purely vegetable preparation, and that a list of its ingredients is published with every bottle?

Do You Know that Castoria is the prescription of the famous Dr. Samuel P. Fitch. That it has been in use for nearly thirty years, and that more Castoria is now sold than of all other remedies for children combined?

Do You Know that the Patent Office Department of the United States, and of other countries, have issued exclusive right to Dr. Fitch and his assigns to use the word "Castoria" and its formula, and that to imitate them is a state prison offense?

Do You Know that one of the reasons for granting this government protection was because Castoria had been proven to be absolutely harmless?

Do You Know that 35 average doses of Castoria are furnished for 35 cents, or one cent a dose?

Do You Know that when possessed of this perfect preparation, your children may be kept well, and that you may have unbroken rest?

Well, these things are worth knowing. They are facts.

The fac-simile signature of *Chas. H. Fitch* is on every wrapper.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

All the latest improvements that skill and experience have suggested in Pianoforte construction renders the



GERMAIN PIANO

Absolutely the Best in the World.

Surpasses all other pianos in Perfection of Action, Quality of Tone, Elegance of Design and Finish, and Durability.

A MICHIGAN PRODUCT WITH A GUARANTY.

Every part of the Germain Piano is manufactured in our own factory by skilled workmen. Every instrument Fully Warranted. The triumph in the art of Piano building. Pronounced by all competent judges the Acme of Perfection.

We wish every reader of this paper who is using or contemplates purchasing a Piano to investigate the merits of "The Germain." Illustrated catalogue mailed free to applicants.

THE GERMAIN PIANO COMPANY, Saginaw, Michigan, U. S. A.

We want a reliable agent to represent "The Germain" in this locality. Write at once for full particulars. Full line of Sheet Music and Small Musical Instruments at our Piano Repository, 405 Genesee Avenue.

OWOSSO HAS HAD A BAD REPUTATION

as a grain market, so it is said. We do not know how it has been, but we do know that now

GRAIN CAN BE SOLD AT HIGHER PRICES TO C. E. BURNS

than in the surrounding towns. Try us. You can afford to drive twenty miles to buy or sell at Owosso.

C. E. Burns' Elevator.

The Radiant Home Air Blast

WITH XXth CENTURY FIRE POT.

(Radiant Home Air Blast.)

For all grades of . . .

SOFT COAL, HARD COAL, or WOOD . . .

If you want a Stove with which you can save money by burning Slack and the Cheaper Grades of Soft Coal, doing away with the soot puffing and smoke that has heretofore made Soft Coal objectionable for house use, buy this stove.

SAVE MONEY BY BURNING SOFT COAL.

It Cakes the Coal and Burns the Gas.



(20th Century Fire Pot)

Call and examine our Large and Elegant Stock of Coal and Wood Heating Stoves, Cook Stoves, Ranges, etc., and you will surely be able to suit yourself as to kind and price.

119 E. Main Street. IRA G. CURRY, HARDWARE

Burton Farmers' Club.

The first meeting of the Burton Farmers' Club for the new year was held on the 7th inst. at the residence of ex-county drain commissioner Geo. T. Mason, who, with the shoulders for a brief time, is standing more erect, and the "slant and width and depth and length" and sort of "ditchy" look of the past few years seems to have fallen from his genial countenance as though life for him henceforth was without a care.

County School Commissioner Bristol was again a guest of the Club. Mr. and Mrs. Valentine, of Middlebury, were also present.

The subject of the visiting of schools by the patrons was continued from the last meeting with no change in the views of those who took part in the discussion. Mr. Valentine, who was a teacher in his early life, and could talk from experience, said parents should visit the schools. When teachers "boarded around," teachers and parents were better acquainted, understood one another better and were more in sympathy, which made it better for both the teacher and the school. Mrs. Woodin said, it is better for the teacher to visit the parents than for the parents to visit the schools.

In reply to "How many quarts of milk does it take to make a pound of butter?" C. R. Woodin said, much depends upon the cow, the care of the cow, the feed, and the manner of feeding, the milk and the care of the milk; but all things properly adjusted it takes from 23 to 25 quarts of milk to make one pound of butter.

Mrs. Randall read a paper full of scripture lessons. She said the hardest of all Christ's commandments for her to keep is, "Love you enemies, bless those who curse you, and do good to those who hate and disrespectfully use you."

Relative to the opening day of schools Mr. Bristol said it would aid the school commissioner if the schools were all opened upon the same day, and suggested that on account of labor day being a legal holiday the first Tuesday in September should be the opening day for schools.

L. S. Bowles gave a review of Michigan Agricultural College Bulletin No. 146 and 147 on bacteria and the dairy and pasteurization of milk. In conclusion he said, milk is free from bacteria when it leaves the udder. Bacteria comes only from the filth of the cow and her surroundings. There is no part of the handling of the milk that needs revolutionizing more than the process of milking. The milk may add much to the contamination of milk by means of dirty hands and clothes. Typhoid fever, consumption, diphtheria and scarlet fever are all germ diseases, and these germs will all thrive in milk, hence the necessity of strict cleanliness in connection with the dairy in all its departments.

The topic for general discussion, "Is it advisable to adopt the township unit system of schools," was opened by Mr. Bristol. He defined the "unit system" of both school and taxation, and gave a concise history of the movement in the different states. He also gave the opinions of eminent gentlemen on both sides of the question. Mr. Rose, who is enthusiastically in favor of the unit system of schools, followed. He believes the system to be both desirable and practicable and that if it was once established it would meet with universal approval. Mr. Randall said the system of the district school as it now exists is the better plan; where the children are under the more immediate home influence; that when the children were old enough and sufficiently advanced in their studies they could go from home to the higher school. Mr. Place was opposed to the one school building and the long distance to school. The expense of abandoning the old school buildings and of building the new, the expense of the teachers and the expense and methods of conveying the children to and from the school were all thoroughly canvassed with the approval and disapproval about equally divided among those who took part in the discussion.

The township unit system of taxation met with a general approval.

Mrs. E. O. Place read an extended report of the State Association of Farmers' Clubs. Representative Shepard, delegate, said, the meeting was the largest and most enthusiastic of any meeting previously held.

Margie Shepard recited a poem entitled, "A Secret," which met with great applause.

The semi-annual election of officers resulted as follows: President, L. S. Bowles; vice-president, F. H. Rush; secretary, Bertha Shepard; reporter, S. Jullford.

Adjourned to meet the first Thursday in February at the residence of N. M. Randall. S. G.

The May Festival.

The annual May Festival at Ann Arbor, which has grown to be one of the most important musical events of the west, will be given this year on May 13-15 in University Hall. The principal number of the program will be "The Flying Dutchman," by Richard Wagner. The sale of reserved seats begins January 15, at 9 o'clock, a. m., at the School of Music. Patrons of the Festival in former years will be pleased to learn that the comfort and convenience of University Hall have been materially increased by the lowering of the floor under the gallery, the substitution of opera chairs for the former hard benches, and the introduction of electric lights.

Owosso Viewed and Interviewed.

Prejudice, like charity, covers a multitude of sins. So in case of Owosso city, if the writer has a bias in its favor, it may be due in part to early impressions.

In the long ago the streets which echoed to the foot-falls of my No. 11's among the scattering buildings and business places of the village of Owosso, are the same in name only, all else has changed, and there are none left of the ramshackle business places which then served as the centre of a large, tho' sparsely settled territory, and when in memory I see again the faces of those who occupied them, my flippancy all leaves me, for most of them have gone to the land of the dead, tho' to me, their shadowy forms still haunt the channels of trade.

A short visit to your beautiful city the other day and the sight of an occasional "old inhabitant," brought back the scenes of long ago when on pleasant days in spring time, when the streets were bare and sugar water was running. I have played ball between the principal business blocks of today in the public highway with E. D. Gregory, Adam Byerly, Randolph Stewart, and others, with none to disturb or make us afraid.

The familiar face of Wyncoop, the mighty hunter of yore, came to me as a reminder of the past, and he told me confidentially that he hadn't employed a doctor in fifty years for himself, to which fact he owed his excellent health. He was advised by me to persist in that course and reach the centennial mark. Wm. Fletcher is another one of the ancients who, tho' always muscular and seemingly robust, always had a way of pulling a long breath out of his lungs and protesting that he wasn't well.

It was a pleasure to see the smiling face of E. A. Todd, who holds his own with remarkably equanimity. In fact it is his freedom from worry that conduces to his health. Worry kills more people than work, and a seeker after longevity should avoid it as he would the plague.

The dear Doctor Perkins resented the intimation that he was nearing the period of the "sere and yellow leaf," while his business partner—always fresh and humorous—still bears his blushing honors so thick upon him that the top of his head shines like a burnished billiard ball. When Doctor Perkins first came to Owosso he was as fine a specimen of physical manliness as one need ask for, but he has worn himself out in the interest of those who will never appreciate him till too late.

M. L. Stewart, another one of the old timers, is always genial and never forgets that he is a gentleman. He is one of the few business men against whom no word of reproach is ever spoken.

Jay Terbusch recounted some of his experience with older toughs in the surrounding country and exemplifies an instance of modest integrity seldom equalled.

Charlie McNally, the Exchange street caterer, keeps a recherche restaurant and he fed me good, clean vitals and gave me a cup of excellent coffee.

So I might go on interminably but for lack of space, and I can only say in conclusion that Owosso is the coming city of central Michigan as a business point and to me it is an oasis in the desert of a somewhat checkered career.

Laingsburg, Jan. 12th.

Free Text Books.

Senator Hadsall has filed with the board of education the correspondence between himself and different school boards throughout the state, and has requested the board to submit to the electors of the school district, the proposition of adopting the Free Text Book system for our city schools, up to and including the 8th grade. According to the report of superintendent of public instruction there are 981 school districts in the State which have Free Text Books.

The correspondence shows that the schools having the system are satisfied with it, and it is in every way a success. The cost per pupil being 33 1/2 cents per year in one instance, and in no instance more than 70 cents per pupil.

Vernon.

The Y. P. S. C. E. gave a Klondike social on Wednesday evening—Miss Libbie Cole and Mr. W. Crook were united in marriage Tuesday evening—Miss May Perry, of Durand, was in town Friday—Mrs. B. K. Holmes returned Saturday evening from a two weeks' visit at Detroit—Miss Mable Paine is improving a little in health—Rev. Davidson is entertaining company from Pewamo—Commissioner Bristol was in town on Wednesday—Prof. Sheehan will preach at the Baptist church next Sunday morning—J. P. Scully is visiting at Lapeer this week—A three-year-old son of Lipe Bailey, in Venice, died Monday—B. J. Chadwic went to Grand Haven on Monday. He will return Thursday accompanied by Mrs. Chadwic, who has been very sick while visiting there—H. B. McLaughlin entertained a number of their friends at a tea party on Wednesday evening—Mr. Glass, of Flushing, is the new druggist at A. G. Holmes—Wm. Cole received a dispatch from New York state, Tuesday evening, stating that his daughter, Laura, was dead. Typhoid fever was the fatal disease. She was married about three years ago and has since resided in New York state.

Pure blood is the secret of health. Burdock Blood Bitters insures pure blood.

What the Money Goes For.

City treasurer Pitts has been a busy man for a month past, especially during last week and Monday of this week. Still every taxpayer who has had occasion to do business with him has only words of praise for the courteous manner in which he has been treated by Treasurer Pitts and his assistants. Mr. Pitts has been fortunate in collecting a very large per cent of the tax assessed. The total amount of the five rolls is \$71,338.85, of which \$3,395.59 is the five per cent penalty to be added if taxes were not paid on or before Jan. 10th. Deducting the latter figures the amount of taxes proper is \$67,943.26, of which \$56,583.64 has been paid in.

The following figures show what the taxes are used for:

FIRST WARD.	
State tax	\$ 1,779 95
County tax	1,641 82
General city tax	6,742 36
School and mill tax	7,717 75
Highway	1,341 00
Bond	1,609 20
Rejected	151 50
Sidewalk	50 32
Sewer	1,529 47
Sprinkling	178 81
Excess of roll	9 26
Five per cent added	1,140 78
	\$ 23,892 22

SECOND WARD.	
State tax	\$ 1,333 83
County tax	1,230 32
General city tax	5,134 00
School and mill tax	5,793 71
Highway	1,026 40
Sewer	1,867 43
Bond	1,231 68
Sidewalk	118 47
Sprinkling	81 95
Rejected	165 30
Excess of roll	3 87
Five per cent	871 35
	\$ 18,352 31

THIRD WARD.	
State tax	\$ 607 25
County tax	560 12
General city tax	2,282 50
School and mill tax	2,633 30
Highway	457 50
Bond	549 00
Rejected	393 40
Sidewalk	192 34
Sewer	311 98
Sprinkling	26 82
Excess of roll	29 35
Five per cent	401 67
	\$ 3,452 23

FOURTH WARD.	
State tax	\$ 1,037 80
County tax	956 30
General city tax	3,915 44
Highway	781 88
School and mill	4,454 85
Bond	938 25
Sidewalk	114 08
Sewer	251 41
Sprinkling	84 93
Rejected	54 19
Excess of roll	3 78
Five per cent	631 45
	\$ 13,234 04

FIFTH WARD.	
State tax	\$ 578 71
County tax	533 80
General city tax	2,177 50
Highway	435 50
School and mill	2,509 30
Bond	523 60
Rejected	84 34
Sidewalk	75 62
Sprinkling	93 87
Excess of roll	21 47
Five per cent	350 34
	\$ 7,383 05

Laingsburg.

Revival services have been held at the M. E. church for the past two weeks, conducted by Rev. Jacobs, of Grand Ledge—The Hartman examination will be continued on the 15th inst.—Eli cooper is under arrest for carrying concealed weapons. He plead not guilty—The case against Pat Cunningham for drunk and disorderly conduct was withdrawn on Wednesday—We have an Anti-Saloon League organized here which promises to be a power for good order in the future—We have a new bakery, and the promise of another harness shop in the near future—Mrs. Olive Freeman has sold her house and lot to James Skarrott for \$400—Last Friday evening Marshal Powell and Nightwatch Ripple entered a rear window of the Dusenbury building and captured the cards and chips being used by a gaming party. As yet no arrests have been made, but the matter will be thoroughly investigated, and arrest will probably follow soon—Jimmie Tillison was found in an unconscious condition on the street Monday, supposed to have been caused by an epileptic fit. He was taken to his home and is now under the care of Dr. Scott—Yes, we have heard who the new postmaster is. The funniest thing about the whole matter is that a single democrat away down in Corunna should have the appointing of the republican postmaster away off here in Laingsburg. Wonders will never cease.

In Modern Times

People overlooked the importance of permanently beneficial effects and were satisfied with transient action; but now that it is generally known that Syrup of Figs will permanently overcome habitual constipation, well informed people will not buy other laxatives, which act for a time, but finally injure the system. Buy the genuine, made by the California Fig Syrup Co.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

Ann Arbor Car Shops. Master Mechanic Tawse and crew returned from Manitowoc on a special train Sunday evening. The boys had a number of startling experiences while away—three got lost in Manitowoc, several were sea sick on their return trip and others made some wonderful discoveries while in that city. They fixed car ferry No. 2 up in first-class order before returning home.

The M. & N. E. engine which was so badly smashed in the wreck at Copemah last week, is being repaired in the Owosso shops. It being through the fault of the Ann Arbor that the wreck occurred, they were compelled to do the work. The engine was a total wreck.

Conductor Jones is recovering from the injuries received in the wreck at Copemah. Several carpenters from here will leave for Whitmore Lake, Monday, to help rebuild the ice house.

Inventory is being taken at the Owosso shops and at every station along the road this week. All business of the old year will be balanced up and give full sway to '98 business.

Wallace Hood, shipping clerk, had his less badly scalded Monday by upsetting a pot of hot water. He will be laid up for a number of days.

Neil Shehee, foreman of the A. A. shops at Durand, visited his parents on Comstock street, Sunday.

Wm. Farrell, of Toledo, engineer, is visiting his brother-in-law, Floyd Bloomer.

A new caboose, No. 20, has just been completed and was turned out Tuesday for its first run.

D. Filmore, Fred Brown and A. L. Goodwin took a two days' outing at Ashley the first of the week.

John Sutton, car repairer, crushed one of his fingers Monday. He is unable to attend to his duties.

The wrecking crew went to Alexis, Wednesday morning to pick up some cars which had been thrown from the track.

J. G. Walton, who has been inspecting the cars being built at Pullman, is expected home tomorrow.

Supt. Bradley, of Durand, was in the city Tuesday.

The largest and most difficult patch for a cylinder was made the first of the week by J. Schlickemeyer. It was made of brass, the pattern being drawn by Geo. Sutton. It is being put on the cylinder of engine 29 which was broke last week at Frankfort.

Master Mechanic Ed. Wiest, of Manistee, employed by the M. & N. E. R. R. is here overseeing the repairing of the M. & N. E. engine.

Benjamin Cross dropped a side rod strip on his foot Tuesday. He is confined to the house by his injury.

A. Alcott, freeman in the shop, is sick. B. Britton is taking his place.

B. S. Stratton, agent, visited relatives in Bowling Green, Ohio, Sunday and Monday.

At the State Farmers' Institute to be held in Owosso, Feb. 9, Prof. V. M. Spaulding, of the University will speak on "Plant life as subject to human control."

FLORAL DESIGNS . . .

for Funerals and Weddings,

at the Greenhouses of

HERB. B. DEAL, FLORIST.

Comstock street east, Owosso, Mich

You will find a good assortment to select from. Orders promptly filled. We have a telephone in our office and can be reached at any time.