



The Ladies of the County

are invited to call and examine the many new pieces of choice

DRY GOODS, OUTING FLANNELS, ETC.

Which we have just received and which have been most carefully selected by a lady buyer so as to avoid duplication of pattern. The goods are "up-to-date" and the prices are low

Sweeney Mercantile Co.

FINE DRESS GOODS

TWO large shipments of fine WORSTEDS, SERGES and other suitings enable us to offer the ladies of the county an unusually fine range of choice in **Dress Goods** at prices that will surprise good judges of quality and taste. We have fine worsteds ranging in price from 65 cents to \$1.25 a yard, and choice wool suitings from 75 cents to \$1.75. Also a fine assortment of flannels and water-proof goods.

C. B. DRIGGS

N. E. CHURCHILL

Dealer in

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

PATENT MEDICINES AT COST UNTIL DECEMBER FIRST

HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR PRODUCE

SACRIFICE SALE

Men's and Boys'

FINE HATS

MEN'S \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50 HATS. Your choice for only.....\$1.00

BOYS' 60c, 75c and \$1.00 HATS. Your choice for only.....50c

Best Opportunity Ever Offered. Here to Get a Good Hat for a Little Money.

P. A. JENSEN

THE LEADING MERCHANT, FRIDAY HARBOR

WHO STOLE GEO. GIBBS' TREES?

FIRST WAGNER APPLE TREES IN SAN JUAN COUNTY

Former Orcas Islander Doing Well in Growing Holland Bulbs in Whatcom County—Pioneer in the Bulb Industry in This State—Has Secured Government Recognition

THE many friends of George Gibbs, formerly of Orcas, will be glad to know that he has at last received from the government the recognition that he has long deserved as the pioneer in growing Holland bulbs in this state. The division of plant industry of the Agricultural department lately sent him 15,000 fine imported Holland bulbs to be grown for two years under contract for experimental purposes. Mr. Gibbs is an enthusiast in horticulture and it is doubtful if any man in the northwest is better posted than he on the soil and climatic conditions of San Juan and Whatcom counties in their relation to fruit and flower culture.

From a personal letter to the editor, dated at Clearbrook, Whatcom county, November 25, it appears that it was he who introduced the Wagener (or Wagner) apples into this county. He says: "I see by the Bellingham Revelle that someone at Friday Harbor is shipping Wagener apples and I would inquire the name and address of that party. I will tell you why. I was the first man who introduced and planted the Wagener apple and got VonGohren, of East Sound, to get grafts from the east and top-graft 200 young apple trees for me. About the time they were heeled in ready to plant a certain fisherman and boatman called at my place at Orcas and I showed him the trees and talked very favorably about their good qualities etc. When the season was ripe, sixty of these same trees came up missing and I strongly suspected this man to be the one who took them. I afterwards learned that a "boatman" had come to Friday Harbor and sold just sixty trees. These were and are today my trees. A year or two later I asked Joseph Sweeney if he knew of anyone who had Wagener apples for sale. But the trees had not commenced to bear only a few boxes at that time. I talked with County Attorney Thacker about prosecuting, but he advised me if the value was not more than ten or fifteen dollars to drop it and I did so. I intend to write the man who has the trees and state the history of the case and see if he is willing to donate a few boxes of apples to the real owner of these trees every year.

"I got the description of the Wagener apple from the Year Book of the Department of Agriculture and they are today the very best dessert apple of their season in Washington, and 500 acres planted to that apple would be a good investment.

"The Anjou pear is a great success in western Washington and should be largely planted.

"We finished planting the 15,000 government bulbs November 9. The Candidum lily is one of our great leaders and a great success. I suppose by this time Myers and I were about right in digging up our 1,000 Italian prune trees, ten years ago. I hear that Mr. Langel, of East Sound, is pulling his up.

"What a record Whatcom county got at Portland on fruits!

The strictly commercial orchards of western Washington have yet to be planted."

[There are few bearing Wagener (or Wagner) apple trees in this locality except in the orchard of L. C. Larson. He bought them nine years ago from the Pacific Nursery, Tangent, Oregon. He has furnished a good many grafts from his trees and quite a large number of Wagener trees have been sold throughout the county in recent years by former County Commissioner Boston, of Orcas Island. Mr. Larson fully agrees with Mr. Gibbs that the Wagener apple is one of the very best that has ever been produced in this section. Mr. Gibbs will probably experience some difficulty in getting any of the product of the trees that were stolen from him—Ed.]

A PRACTICAL OPINION OF ISLAND STONE

NO BETTER SANDSTONE FOR BUILDING PURPOSES

Representative Shultz Favors a Stone Building, Practically Fire-proof—Some Suggestions From Ben.

E. Harrison

EDITOR SAN JUAN ISLANDER:—Having read your paper since I came to this island I am interested in your court house question. I think I know something about stone, having spent my life at the stone business. I have worked all over the United States and have worked all kinds of stone and I will say that I have never seen a better lot of stone than there is in this county. Mr. Sweeney's Waldron island stone is fine, but the color is not as good as that of the Stuart island stone. We have a fine blue stone here and I invite all the taxpayers to come and see it. I have it opened up in good shape. It will make a fine looking building and would last for hundreds of years. I am sending you a sample, the cutting being what we call "Ashler," and think it would be a good plan to have samples from the three quarries and let the people choose.

JACK LAFFERTY,

Stuart Island, November 27.

Foreman for Seattle Stone Co.

The ISLANDER is pleased to be able to give its readers the opinion of Mr. Lafferty, as a quarryman of varied experience, on the question of the quality of San Juan sandstones for building purposes. It will be noticed that his only criticism of the Waldron stone is as to its color, which is a trifle darker than that of the Stuart stone, but it is of much closer grain. The Sucia stone is lighter in color than the Stuart stone and is also softer. Sample blocks from the three quarries may be seen at the ISLANDER office.

EDITOR SAN JUAN ISLANDER:—I have been an interested reader of the comments of the citizens of our county on the court house question.

Good citizens seem to range in their generosity, or good judgment, as to its cost, from about \$5,000 to \$50,000. Now this range of differences of over \$40,000, or about that, proves to me that the average citizen knows just about as much about court house building as I do, and I confess that my judgment is poor on such subjects. I know that we need a court house sufficiently large to accommodate the county officers; sufficiently strong to hold the county law breakers, and sufficiently fireproof to secure the county records.

I am not in favor of the county commissioners building this important building without consulting the voter. I demand, as committeeman of the Republican party of this precinct, that the voter be given a chance to say what he wants.

In the meantime let us have plans—not one but several, with approximate cost given with each plan; let these range in price from \$10,000 to \$30,000, telling the variation of price with the different materials—wood, brick and stone. Let us remember that a debt is a bad legacy to leave to posterity—a worse disgrace, infinitely,

than a modest public building. BEN. E. HARRISON. East Sound, Nov. 27.

WM. SHULTZ, Roche Harbor, member of the legislature, vice-president of the Roche Harbor Lime Company and fish trap owner:—"If the taxpayers of this county want a new court house I favor building it of stone from the quarries of this county, and think it should be made fire-proof, or practically so. It is my opinion that we should build large enough to anticipate the needs of the county for at least twenty years and that the plan should be such that the building can be enlarged whenever it is necessary without detriment to its utility or appearance."

ROBERT SCURR, one of the oldest settlers and best known citizens of San Juan island, was down this week from his and his brother Richard's fine home near Roche Harbor. In response to the editor's request for his opinion on the court house question he said: "I am in favor of putting up a good building, fireproof, of brick or stone, preferably stone. I believe it should cost at least \$25,000 or \$30,000. Neither my brother nor I want to see any money wasted on a wooden building."

Death of Miss May Madden

Miss May Madden, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Madden, of Madden's Corners, died in Seattle Tuesday afternoon from the shock of an operation for appendicitis, which was performed at Providence hospital on Sunday. She had been ill only a few days and felt so much better Saturday that she visited friends at some distance from the home of her aunt, Mrs. Cuddy, where she boarded. Her mother was with her when she died but her father, who was sent for Monday, arrived too late to see her alive. The funeral service was held yesterday, soon after the arrival of the body at Argyle on the steamer Lydia Thompson, accompanied by the bereaved parents.

Miss Madden was twenty-one years old and was a member of the senior class of the Seattle high school. She was a most charming young lady, idolized by her parents and brothers and very popular with the young people of the island.

It is stated by the owners of the little steamer Ilwaco that she will be converted into an oil-burner shortly after the holidays. It is also intended to install an electric-lighting system and build her cabin larger. —Bellingham Herald.

Will Drill Wells Here

George Walrod, of Bellingham, an expert machinist who was for a considerable time foreman of the machine shop of Reed Bros. Company, has made verbal contracts here to drill wells for Attorney W. R. Garrett, Postmaster Hall and Capt. Warbass. He uses six-inch drills, requires no advance payment and guarantees to get water. It is possible that he may move his family here and establish a machine shop. He expects to be here with his drilling outfit sometime between the first and fifteenth of January.

Stewart and Lumley Convicted

Wm. Stewart and Martin Collins, alias Wm. Lumley, who were arrested here June 5, for smuggling a lot of hides stolen from the B. C. Market Co.'s slaughter house at Cadboro bay, Vancouver island, were both convicted in the United States district court in Seattle last week.

The moving-picture entertainment, given in Odd Fellows' hall last Saturday evening by Miller's Wonderland, was all that it was promised it would be. The pictures reproduced on the canvas were well selected and the large audience present appreciated the show from beginning to end.

TO MAKE CEMENT ON ORCAS ISLAND

MILLION DOLLAR COMPANY ORGANIZED IN SEATTLE

Announced That \$600,000 or \$700,000 Will Be Invested in Establishing Plant With Daily Capacity of 2,000 Bags and That 500 Men Will Be Employed.

THE Seattle Post-Intelligencer announces the organization of the "Puget Sound Portland Cement Company," capitalized at \$1,000,000, to manufacture cement on the Walters & Soderburg property on Orcas island. Mr. Soderburg, president and manager of the company, is quoted as saying:

"I have studied the possibility of manufacturing Portland cement in the Puget Sound country for the last three years and there is no question, after the work done by the chemists and experts who have been employed, that the local stone will furnish a cement equal in quality to any made in America or Germany or anywhere else.

"Besides the money furnished by the Seattle men who have been interested with me in bringing about the organization, we have secured New York and London capital, one of the principal subscribers being the big English Silver Lake Syndicate.

"Already we have about thirty men on the site on the northwest side of Orcas island, preparing the ground for the construction of a plant to cost \$600,000 or \$700,000. By the first of the year we will have 400 or 500 men on the ground, which is about the same number that will be given permanent employment in the works.

"The construction will be rushed with all possible speed to take advantage of the scarcity in the cement market. At present the nearest source of supply is California, and a good deal of the commodity is brought in ballast from Europe. The local market is at all times extensive and is bound to grow. At present the demand is very pressing.

"As for shipping facilities, there is a harbor adjacent to the works, between Orcas island and Waldron island, in which the largest steamers on the high seas can come close to shore. It is well protected by the two islands. We will have our men at work making cement by next summer."

The marvelous growth of the American cement industry during the last decade has created widespread interest in the raw materials and in the methods of manufacture of Portland cement—the most important of the cementing materials. This interest is not confined to those who have a direct financial stake in the industry, as the product is so widely used, and its uses are so rapidly increasing that some knowledge of its manufacture and properties is of advantage to everyone connected directly or indirectly with engineering or building operations. In its importance to our present civilization cement is surpassed among mineral products only by iron, coal and oil. In rate of increase in annual production during the last decade even these three products cannot be compared with it. Indeed, the growth of the industry is somewhat marvelous. Fifteen years ago the total production of Portland cement in this country was 335,500 barrels, valued at \$439,050. In 1903 it exceeded 22,000,000 barrels, while the value was over \$27,000,000, according to government reports.

In the state of Washington two distinct fields have been located, one in northeastern Washington, known as the Okanogan highlands, and the other on the San Juan islands. A recent government report upon the Portland cement material of Washington says in part:

"Large limestone deposits, probably of the cretaceous age, occur on

(Continued on Page Four)