



FIFTEEN YEAR APPLE ORCHARD IN BLOSSOM, CRETE NURSERIES, CRETE, NEB.

OUR ILLUSTRATION.

The above cut is a view of the fifteen year old orchard planted by Crete Nurseries, in Saline county. Six and one-half acres were planted in the very dry, windy spring of 1881 without the loss of a tree. The soil is of fair quality, high prairie, 170 feet to water. The orchard was cultivated twelve times the first season. The crops of the first seven years were corn, vines and buckwheat, always cultivating the tree rows one way at least, with a single horse, from eight to ten times a season. The ninth and tenth years the orchard was in

clover to throw it into heavy bearing. The cultivation each year since has been by disc pulverizing and harrowing, nine to twelve cultivations each season working the orchard both ways. The first heavy crop was in 1891, averaging seven to eight bushels per tree. An exact record of the yield was not kept separate from the other orchards until 1894, the very dry year. In spite of the severe drought and small size of many of the apples due to lack of moisture, twenty bushels of apples were picked from single trees. The average yield of all varieties was nearly seven bushels per tree. The yield from the six

and one-half acres was 2,500 bushels. The fruit sold for \$1,400.00, and average of \$216.00 per acre. The crops of 1891 and 1896 were about the same, with smaller lots of fruit in other years. The annual expense of cultivation since farm crops were grown has been \$3.50 per acre. The cost of gathering a large crop of fruit has been about \$10 per acre. The cost of trees, planting and cultivation for the first ten years was about \$50 per acre. The orchard is now in its prime and has paid more than 20 per cent per annum on a valuation of \$200 per acre, for each year since planted. Apparently the orchard is good for

fifteen years more. The recorded yield of about \$600 per acre seems likely to be increased to more than \$1,000.00 per acre before the orchard finally exhausts itself. An orchard of Winesap apple trees standing alongside this orchard, aged fifteen years, in 1891 made the following yield: Trees were planted 12 1/2 by 18 feet, or 193 trees per acre, yield in 1891, eight bushels per tree, or at a rate of 1,500 bushels per acre, the fruit selling at 30 cents to \$1 per bushel, depending on when and where marketed. What business pays better? E. F. STEPHENS.

NO CHANGE OF ISSUE

[Continued from 1st page.] to see you how to the line, let the chips fall where they will. I also desire to congratulate the chairman of the national committee on the position he has taken on this question as well as on the question of United States senator in North Carolina. I am, yours for populist success.—J. H. Edmisten.

Neither did it listen to the reading of any letter to Mr. Edgerton, for none was read or presented to be read. It did however adopt a resolution offering its allegiance to the St. Louis platform and declaring it "it would recognize no other guide or authority." I am in full sympathy with this position.—E. Gerry Brown, member national committee, Massachusetts.

ly possessions consisted of the clothes on his back and a shirt and pair of stockings in a handkerchief. Still he was rich, for he had two strong hands and no bad habits. That night he slept with Joe Searls. Before going to sleep, however, they decided to visit their girls the next day and enlist before night. They did it and their company moved the day following. Sue's hat wounds to Jim were, "if you are sick or wounded let me know and I will come and take care of you, and father won't hinder." [To be Continued.]

A large part of the afternoon and evening session was taken up with secret sessions discussing business matters. At the evening meeting two splendid addresses were delivered by Governor Holcomb and Col. L. C. Pace, for which the association returned a vote of thanks. The body then went into executive session that lasted until after midnight. Important matters were considered that may result in very material good to the weekly reform papers of the state. The association adjourned to meet again in two weeks, viz, Tuesday, March 16, at 1 o'clock at the Lincoln hotel, Lincoln.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FROM MICHIGAN.

I heartily approve your stand for the maintenance of all of the demands of the peoples party. The Omaha platform converted me, and its silver plank I deemed the most important one then, and I see no reason now why it should be disregarded. At the St. Louis convention we reaffirmed it essentially, and this seems to me to be no time to desert it. My greatest hope is that the Bryan Democracy and the silver party will, in the near future, unite with us on the whole platform, for then our party will have achieved one successful battle, and shall have forced the American people to align themselves with one of two great political forces for the battle of 1900.—James E. McBride, member national committee for Michigan.

Artichokes for Hogs.

A great deal has been said lately through the press praising artichokes as a cheap and healthful hog feed. In my judgment, from seven years experience in raising them quite extensively for my hogs, they are spoken of none too highly as a feed for growing hogs. I think that in a very few years artichokes will be found on every farm where swine are raised, especially in the west where we are subject to long dry spells. Artichokes will grow on any soil where corn or potatoes will and yield from six to sixteen times as much per acre as corn, and they have this advantage: They require less attention, both in growing and harvesting, than any other crop that comes any ways near approaching them in value as hog feed. For brood sows and growing pigs they can't be beat, and for fattening hogs artichokes and corn will put a finish on them cheaper and quicker than any feed a farmer can possibly raise. As a supplement to our cheap corn and as a preventive of cholera I regard artichokes as possessing a very high value. A variety is what a hog wants and needs, and this you will find in artichokes and corn. Respectfully, Geo. A. Arnold, Haydon, Neb.

An Example of Economy.

A letter recently sent to the chief clerk of the house by the Keystone Bill File Company stated that the usual number of bill files used by the legislature of Nebraska at all of its preceding sessions has been 410, but up to the present time this legislature had ordered but 300. They expressed a desire to sell the remaining 110, and thought perhaps the clerk would use his influence with the proper parties to secure the sale, for which they would be extremely thankful. The files cost \$2.50 a piece, and the saving upon this one item of 110 bill files amounts to \$275.00. The communication stated that in most instances they were able to sell as many as 600 files, and that the Nebraska legislature had one hundred less than any other legislature in the United States.

MUNICIPAL SUFFRAGE.

The House Recommends the Bill for Passage. House Roll No. 36, which provides that women possessing the same qualifications as to age and residence as is required of men shall be allowed to vote for all officers and all questions submitted to a vote of the people for any county, township, city, town, village or irrigation district, was recommended for passage by a vote of sixty to twenty-seven. This is all the privileges that can be granted them by the legislature until the constitution is amended, as section 13 of article 16 does not allow women to vote at general elections. The discussion of this bill consumed nearly a half day in which some twenty members took part. The bill will now go to the senate and may not receive as favorable consideration. The women's suffrage organizations of the state are on the ground and pushing the measure as fast as possible.

HON. E. GERRY BROWN, OF MASS.

The peoples party was organized as a protest against the incapacity of both of the old parties to deal with the political questions pressing for settlement. As such the party will continue to exist and will grow in strength and influence just in proportion as the old parties serve monopolistic plutocracy and thereby prove their organizations to be false to the interests of the over-burdened people who are now awakening to a realization of the causes which have created existing conditions. The political demands in our platform were originally formulated by the representatives of organized labor. Planting ourselves upon these demands we urged men to work with us on the plea that the success of a principle was more to be desired than the success of a party and we secured the support of those not blind with partisanship. How then can we abandon our advocacy of free silver either directly or indirectly? We taught that our principles were the demands of Jefferson and Lincoln—the essence of true democracy and republicanism—and some of our leaders profess to be amazed because some of those who were enrolled under our banner have rushed to the democratic party to take part in the conflict between the gold and silver wings of that organization. Will abuse of Wm. J. Bryan and middle of road proclamations attract those men again to our ranks? Those converts however will labor for the success of our principles. Why should we seek occasion to express any regret for our part in the grand record that was made last fall? Do we appreciate the wonderful development of reform sentiment that was created? What is the necessity for a double meaning call for a national conference for independent action? Our party organization exists in every state; and it is in this direction that men are so solicitous for its welfare and so anxious to shine in national conferences and conventions have a great opportunity to devote their energies and exert their influence in creating a sentiment favorable to their interpretation of what the party policy should be. Next year our populists will take action in congressional elections and in less than three years our call for the national convention will be promulgated. Until then the St. Louis platform is the latest authorized expression of the united populists. No national conference has the right to emphasize one plank in preference to other planks as the will of the party or to officially declare what is the issue or to "change the issue" or to make any other test of party fealty than that of allegiance to this platform promulgated at our last national convention. Middle of the road men said so in January, 1895, when Mr. Taubeneck called the St. Louis conference. It is as true now as it was then and our chairman, Senator Butler has exercised commendable discretion in not issuing a call. It is stated in populist papers that our state central committee of Massachusetts at its recent meeting in February endorsed Mr. Washburn's proposition to "change the issue." That is not so.

Bryan Their Chosen.

The New York World, the largest democratic paper in the United States, recently sent the following telegram to all of the regular democratic committees and organizations in the United States: "If the democratic national convention met tomorrow would W. J. Bryan again be chosen as the democratic candidate for president?" The result was an extraordinary consensus of opinion showing, with hardly an exception, that the democratic organizations everywhere as well as the democratic national committee was as devoted to Mr. Bryan as ever. A majority of them believe that he will not be nominated but elected in 1900. Forty of the state chairmen responded in favor of Bryan as the candidate for 1900. Never before in the history of this country has a defeated candidate so completely retained the confidence of his supporters.

No Gold Contracts.

House roll No. 154, by Mr. Wooster, providing that gold and silver coin shall be legal tender for the payment of all debts both public and private, thus making it impossible, under the laws of this state to enforce a contract to pay in gold alone, was recommended for passage by a vote of 60 to 27, being a strict party vote. This bill is designed to afford relief to farmers and business men who have mortgages falling due from placing such a clause in the contract, thus increasing the demand for gold and widening the breach between gold and silver. This measure will probably become a law.

THE SIFTING COMMITTEE

Will Recommend Important Measures for Advancement on the File. When the house met Wednesday morning Speaker Gaffin announced the sifting committee as follows: Chairman Jones of Nemaha county, Moran of Platte, Hull of Harlan, Woodard of Hamilton, Robertson of Holt, Wiebe of Hall and and Fouke of Gage. This committee will examine the bills now on general file and recommend the most important measures for advancement and passage. The stock yards bill which has been passed by the senate will be taken up, the city charters, bills regulating telephone and telegraph companies and some of the important railroad bills.

HARDY'S COLUMN.

[Continued from 4th page.] necessarily. To be driven into the woods a second time was once too much. To him it meant no more school or spelling matches, no more sleigh rides or parties. All the friends and scenes of his childhood must be left. While it was yet winter, father and son must go up with the oxen and build a log house and have it ready for the family in the early spring. They must sleep in the sled and cook their own food out of doors until a house was built and a roof on. As they started off their old home disappeared, the school house, the Collins' house, and one after another the familiar objects of boyhood, till all was a dense forest. To add to Jim's sadness Mr. Collins had objected to Sue having anything more to say to him. He is poor and if he gets anything he will feel it away as his father has. It was under these circumstances that Jim made three solemn vows to himself. 1. I will never borrow or run in debt as long as I live. I will pay as I go or stop. No sheriff shall ever sell me out. 2. I will not become surety for any man for any sum. I will never ask a man to sign with me and they need not ask me to sign with them. 3. I will not drink or taste of liquor in sickness or health. The bar tender shall not have one cent of my earnings. These pledges were not surface work, but like indelible ink, they struck in and became a part of his very life. Three long years in the woods with his father only strengthened his determinations. They were almost literally ground into his flesh and bones. March was well along, the house was well up, roof on and one must go for the family before the snow was gone. Jim pleaded until his father concluded to let him go. There were two reasons why he wanted to go. He did not want his father to go in sight of a bar room and the other was he wanted to see his old boyhood friend, Sue Collins, with the rest.

NEBRASKA REFORM EDITORS.

About Eighty of the Free Silver Pencil Pushers Gather at the Lincoln Hotel. In response to the invitation of the Reform Press association for all editors in the state who supported Bryan and Holcomb last fall to meet with the association in Lincoln, March 2, about 80 of the boys, populists, free silver democrats and free silver republicans, gathered at the large room of the Lincoln hotel last Tuesday. Initiation fee was changed to 25 cents. The doors were thrown open and all reform editors were invited to subscribe to the constitution. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, R. D. Kelley, Fremont Leader; Vice-president, R. D. Scott, Battle Creek Enterprise; Sec'y-Treas, Frank D. Lemon, David City Banner; Ex. Com., Roy W. Rhone, Kearney, New Era-Standard; C. Clinton Page, Holdrege Progress; Fred D. Hassler, Pawnee Press.

Important.

We have received cash from the following persons who have failed to give their postoffice address, and those interested should write at once that we may give proper credit: Thos. Barrow.....\$ 50 B Pearson..... 2 00 Wm. Robbins..... 2 00 M V Runyan..... 2 00 H C Crandell..... 26 S D Cole..... 1 50

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After Testing in His Own Case the Merits of a Well-Known Medical System, He Commends the Same to the Public. The merit of Drs. Copeland & Shepard's professional work is daily proven by the best of evidence. Today Rev. McKendree DeMotte, member of the Nebraska Conference and pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church of Talmage and Brock, adds his testimony.

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For five years these physicians have held the leading place in the treatment of chronic diseases. They have patients in every county in the state, and possess every equipment for treating the most stubborn cases, either at their office or through the mails. Read Rev. De Motte's testimony. He was treated by mail at his own home. If you want additional facts write him, inclosing stamp. He writes Dr. Shepard as follows:



REV. McKENDREE DE MOTTE. "Since coming out of the army in 1864, I had been greatly afflicted with enlargement and displacement of the heart with accompanying weakness of that organ. In later years I have also greatly suffered from chronic catarrh. Last winter a very severe sickness left me in an extremely feeble condition and wholly unfit for any work. After a course by mail with Dr. Shepard, it affords me great pleasure to state that I have found much relief and substantial benefit from his treatment. My case was handled with excellent judgment and skill and I most heartily commend Drs. Copeland & Shepard as courteous, honorable gentlemen, thoroughly qualified as specialists in their chosen profession."

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\$1000 Reward

To William Robinson, Non-resident Defendant: You are hereby notified that on the first day of March, 1897, Lizzie Robinson died a petitioner against you in the district court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which are to obtain a divorce from you on the ground that you have willfully abandoned the plaintiff without good cause for the term of two years last past. You are required to answer said petition on or before Monday, the 15th day of April, 1897.

LIZZIE ROBINSON, Plaintiff, By Wm. Leese & Oswald Wilson, her attorneys. Dated March 3d, 1897.

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