

The Farm and Fair.

Local Markets for Farmers.

The Rural New Yorker has reported very largely the organization of Farmers' Boards of Trade, or the establishment of regular markets days at the nearest market place for the sale or exchange of agricultural products. Discussing the question of how far middlemen can be dispensed with, the Vermont Farmer says that the difficulties in the way of dispensing with them "may be overcome to a great and profitable extent by co-operation in buying and selling in large quantities, for cash, and aside." One of the best ways of doing this, in many cases, is by establishing markets in the railroad towns. This, it seems to us, ought to be one of the very first measures put on foot by the co-operative societies. It brings sellers together where they may set up other products and compare them and have instant and practical demonstration before their eyes of the actual differences of quality and the consequent difference in the prices obtained and in the comparative ease of selling. In short it gives merchants educational to the farmer that makes him a match for the middlemen, and enables him to dispense with all but his really necessary and useful aid. This mercantile knowledge, the knowledge of grades and qualities and the corresponding marketable value, is really essential to success, and would produce a wonderful aggregate to the farmers of any state where it is carried fully into effect.

Such products as cannot be marketed in this way could often be sold by the agents of co-operating farmers, some lots of ascertained quality could be guaranteed; with such sure certainty, and at a higher price than under the present system. For instance, the surplus oil crop of twenty-five farmers, graded according to quality, and sold by sample to a single large consumer or dealer by the car load, would always bring a number of cents a bushel more than when marketed separately.

In purchasing every article of large consumption we can buy in wholesale lots, the cost, better and more uniform in quality, and cheaper often by fifty per cent, and always by a good margin, than what can be got at the retail store keeper; and there is no difficulty about doing the business quickly, cheaply, and without any risk of loss, if the proper means are taken.

Supposing the co-operating farmers of Vermont succeed in carrying out the principles outlined above, what would be the result as affecting the present class of middlemen in the State? In our opinion it would reduce their number from fifty to seventy-five per cent. But it would do more than this; it would release a large amount of capital now employed by these trade sites, together impenetrable to the community at large, even while it may be profitably to themselves. This capital must have employment, and some of it would probably go to the cities; but much of it, we believe, would be soon invested in manufacturing enterprises that will build up home markets for our farms. Particularly will this be the case if the farmers themselves will invest a portion of their profits, arising from their sales, in the same business; either directly, or indirectly, bestowing water power, and offering other facilities to all who desire to establish mechanical industries among them.

Family RECIPES.

FEEDING PASTURING HOGS.—A hint to feeders valuable though not new may be found in the following, contained in the Boston Cultivator:

Warm, dry pens should be provided, and their nests comfort studies as much as possible. By so doing we save many bushels of grain. The best feeders change food frequently, and they make a decided profit by so doing. If salt is occasionally given, it tends to keep up the appetite, as well as skin infections. Too much rich food injures the stomach, and can only accommodate a certain quantity at once. If an animal loses its appetite, the food should be once changed, and very generally of something lighter, as roots, pumpkins or apples. Some milk adds much to the growth of hogs (and we have seen it well verified) that raw meal mixed with sour milk, is much better for fattenings than any other cooked food (steves). Fresh food is much preferred by some feeders, and it is well to give it as a change if no more.

ERIE RAILWAY.

Palatine's Best Drawing Room and Sleeping Carries, containing all Modern Improvements, now running between Erie and Utica, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Sycamore Bridge, Cheviot, and Cincinnati, and New York.

ABSTRACT OF TIME TAPE, ADOPTED 25TH

WESTWARD,	NO. 1.	NO. 2.	NO. 3.	NO. 4.
Scranton, Pa.	12:15 P.M.	1:15 P.M.	2:15 P.M.	3:15 P.M.
Dickville, N.Y.	2:35 P.M.	3:35 P.M.	4:35 P.M.	5:35 P.M.
Chesterfield, N.H.	4:15 P.M.	5:15 P.M.	6:15 P.M.	7:15 P.M.
Cleveland, O.	7:30 A.M.	8:30 A.M.	9:30 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
Baltimore, Md.	9:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.	12:00 M.
Salisbury, Md.	10:15 A.M.	11:15 A.M.	12:15 P.M.	1:15 P.M.
Oxon, Md.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.
Garrison, Md.	10:45 A.M.	11:45 A.M.	12:45 P.M.	1:45 P.M.
Baltimore, Md.	11:00 A.M.	12:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M.
Buffalo, N.Y.	12:00 M.	1:00 P.M.	2:00 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
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