msa_sc5130_scm12191-0662 ©Maryland State Archives

MINING JOURNAL.

WEEKLY.

J. B. ODER, Publisher.

Subscription.....$1.50 per annum

Extras, 5 cents, for sale at the Postoffice by JOHN GOLDSWORTHY.

Frostburg, Md....December 17, 1892.

ON A RANCH.

How the Cattle Are Collected Together and Sent to Market.

The wise man from the East, on first visiting a ranch comprising six or seven hundred thousands of acres, can not understand how the cattle wandering at large over the range are ever collected together. He sees a dozen or more steers here, a bunch of horses there and a single steer or two a mile off and even as he looks at them they disappear in the brush, and as far as his chance of finding them again would be, they might as well stand forty miles away at the other end of the ranch. But this is a very simple problem to the ranchman. The superintendent of the ranch perhaps receives an order calling for one thousand head of cattle. The breed of cattle the firm wants is grazing in a corner of the range fenced in by barbed wire, and marked pale blue for convenience on a beautiful map blocked out in colors, like a patchwork quilt, which hangs in the superintendent's office. When the order is received he sends a Mexican on a pony to tell the men near that particular pale blue pasture to round up a thousand head of cattle and at the same time directs his superintendent to send in a few days as many cowboys to that pasture as are needed to "hold" a thousand head of cattle on the way to the railroad station. The boys on the pasture, which, we will suppose, is ten miles square, will take ten of their number and five extra ponies apiece, which one man leads, and from one to another of which they shift their saddles as men do in polo, and go directly to the water tanks in the ten square miles of land. A cow will not often wander more than two and a half miles from water, and so with the water tank or a dammed canon full of rain water as a rendezvous, the finding of the cattle is comparatively easy and ten men can round up a thousand head in a day or two. When they have them altogether the cowboys who are to drive them to the station have arrived and taken them off. At the station the agent of the firm and the superintendent of the ranch ride through the herd together and if they disagree as to the fitness of any one or more of the cattle an outsider is called in and his decision is final. The cattle are then driven on to the cars and the superintendent's responsibility is at an end.

Diamonds.

A lemon diamond is the exact shade of the outside peel of a lemon. It is the fashionable stone of the day, and it is sold as high as five hundred dollars a carat, being a little more rare than the blue diamond. Thirty years ago a blue or lemon diamond was rejected as "off color" by diamond merchants and disposed of as inferior stock at the rate of fifteen or twenty dollars a carat. To-day they rank as high as white stones, though they do not approach the latter in beauty. "It is a popular fallacy," said a jeweller, "that the size of the diamond counts most. It doesn't. I can sell you a diamond weighing one carat for thirty, thirty-five, forty dollars, and at five dollars advance on those prices all the way up to five hundred dollars a carat. I once owned a stone weighing a carat and a quarter that I bought in London for five hundred and fifty dollars. The big stones of the common sort are worth only the same price as the small ones. Thus a twenty carat stone of the thirty dollar per carat variety will be worth only six hundred dollars. But a twenty carat stone of the kind that is valued at five hundred dollars for the single carat would be sold for one hundred thousand dollars. The reason for this is that there is an abundance of the poorer stones. They come from the African mines, which are inexhaustible, and which will supply the world with all the diamonds it needs for a thousand years or more. But the more valuable stones are not found in such large numbers, because they come from the East Indies, where the supply is exhausted, and from Brazil, where there are few good diamonds left."

Charm of Amiability.

When asked how she managed to retain her youthful appearance, Madame Patti brightly answers, "I have kept my temper. No woman can remain young who often loses her temper." The woman who is constantly flying in a rage soon has her reward. A deep-graven line stretches from each corner of the mouth up toward the nostrils. The mouth becomes poutingly flabby or shrewishly compressed. Between the eyebrows appears the fretful, petulant frown, and no amount of dress, no powdering, rouging or face-steaming will bring back the lost beauty. "Handsome is as handsome does," said our grandmothers. An amiable face can never be plain. Bright eyes and smiling lips have their own beauty. The ugly-faced damsel should cultivate placidity of temper, human sympathy and generosity. Let her assume a virtue, if she has it not, for even the assumption of womanly sweetness will lead to its possession, for its own charm, and the naturally plain face will be transfigured by its light.

Victoria's Throne.

The English throne, used in the coronation ceremonies of the kings and queens of Great Britain, is simply an old oaken chair of curious pattern and great antiquity. Ages of use (it is known to have been used in its present capacity for more than seven hundred years) have made the old frame as hard and as tough as iron. The magic power attributed to the old relic lies in the seat, which is a large, rough sandstone. Ages before it was trimmed in velvets and gold for the use of the Stuarts and the Tudors it served as a seat for the early kings of Scotland; tradition even asserts that it is the identical stone upon which the patriarch Jacob rested his head the night he had his wonderful dream.

If the whole volume of money in circulation was doubled, prices would double. If it was increased one-fourth, prices would rise one-fourth.

RUSSIA'S SAVING HAMSTERS.

Tributes on the Avaricious Animals During the Famine.

As the squirrel was said by the old Norseman to bring all the news to Thor, because he was the merriest and most sociable of beasts, so in the talk of the Russian peasants the hamster is the synonym for all that is sullen, avaricious, solitary and morose. Even in color, says the *Spectator*, he is unlike any other animal, being light above and dark below.

This gives the hamster somewhat the same incongruous appearance that a pair of black trousers and a light coat lend to a man; in other respects he is like a large, shaggy guinea pig, with very large teeth and puffy cheeks, into which he can cram a vast quantity of rye or beans for transport.

Each hamster lives in a large, roomy burrow all by himself, in defense of which he will fight like a badger against any other hamster who may try to enter. Family life he wholly avoids, never allowing a female inside his burrow, but keeping her at a good distance and making her find her own living for herself and family. The last burden is, however, not a serious one, for by the time the young ones are three weeks old each discovers that family life is a great mistake and sets off to make a bachelor burrow for itself and save up beans for the winter.

For, in addition to its other amiable qualities, the hamster has that of avarice in a marked degree, and heaps up treasures of corn, rye and horse beans far in excess of his own private wants for the winter. His favorite plan is to dig a number of treasure chambers, all communicating with a central guard room, in which the owner eats and grows fat until the hardest frosts begin when he curls himself up to sleep until the spring.

But this life of leisure does not begin until the harvest has been gathered. While the harvests are ripening the hamsters work incessantly to increase their hoards, and as much as three hundred weight of grain and beans have been taken from a hamster's burrow. After harvest the peasants often search with probes for the treasure chambers of the robbers and exact a heavy tribute from the hamsters' stores.

Sea-Otters.

The Indians on the coast of Washington hunt the sea-otter from long canoes, in which they go out through the surf, and, cruising along a mile or two, shoot or spear the animal as he lies sleeping in the water with only his head in sight. Owing to his extreme wariness, it is hard to approach and difficult to hit the animal after it is found. It is only after long practice that an Indian, accustomed as he is to the use of a canoe, is able to meet with any success at all, for it takes great skill to shoot or spear a floating object in a choppy sea from an uncertain canoe. Very often a hunter remains out five or six days without result. It is not, however, the Indians who secure the most sea-otters, for there are not many natives left, and the pursuit is a hazardous one. It is the white hunter or "Boston man," as the Indians call him, who has devised a way of getting the coveted fur without risking his life in a canoe at sea.

Along the stretch of beach from Gray's Harbor to Point Granville are seven or eight three-legged towers that look from a distance like huge skeleton pile-drivers, with a rude box at the top of each. These towers are called sea-otter derricks and they are erected as far out toward the breakers as practical without danger of being washed away. The beach is smooth, and so nearly level that at a distance of one thousand feet from shore the water is only two or three feet deep. From the top of these derricks the hunters pick off the wary sea otter; and it is not an unusual thing for one to shoot and kill his game at a distance of a thousand yards. But, though these hunters are excellent riflemen and their weapons are the very best, they may shoot a hundred times without killing one otter; so that, in addition to being good shots, they must possess unusual patience.

The Lyre Bird.

In the vast forests of New South Wales, broken up and intersected with rock and ravine, stream and plain, you may still meet with one of the most beautiful birds known to naturalists, that is, the lyre bird.

The form and structure of the tail resembles an ancient Greek lyre, hence the bird's name. The size of this bird is about that of the common hen; the eyes are dark hazel, large, mild in expression, and very beautiful; the wings short and concave, rendering great assistance in running, but of little use in flight. The bird's running powers are extraordinary, and it is not easily overtaken; the legs are rather long; the color of the body is a reddish brown, and the general appearance is exceedingly graceful. The bird is of gentle disposition, and altogether harmless.

It is painful to know that the constant destruction of rare and beautiful birds, as well as animals, is going on even to extermination. An English writer is authority for the statement that the lyre bird will soon be lost to us forever. He says that the tail feathers were formerly sold in Sydney at a low price, but now that the beautiful creatures are nearly exterminated the price has risen greatly. Upon fashion and sport, even more than the ignorant savages, he places the blame of their destruction, adding that the birds might easily have been domesticated and thus preserved.

Ingenuity in Sign Painting.

Sign painters nowadays need not show much knowledge of drawing figures, but very much skill and experience are necessary before one can space letters properly. A poorly spaced sign is a spoiled one, and perhaps the percentage of good "spacers" would not amount to more than one in ten among sign painters.

The plain lettered sign is now most in vogue here, but it offers considerable scope for the exercise of ingenuity and taste in evolving new ideas, fine or quaint forms of lettering, proper backgrounds to the letters, appropriateness of appearance to the business advertised and what not besides.

The virtue of a man ought to be measured not by extraordinary exertions, but by his every-day conduct.

Japan's theology has eight hells.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

EXCELSIOR!

A Fall Day was going fast,
When thro' the streets a youngster passed,
Carrying as high as he could hold
A banner with this legend bold:

"Heating Stoves, Sold Right!"

And as he ran there often fell
From out his lips an awful yell,
That blanched the cheeks of all who heard
The echoes of his ringing word:

"Great Chance, Buy Now!"

"Oh, where?" the housewives eager cry;
They seize their bonnets and then fly
In keen pursuit, when lo! the boy
Led straight them all with earnest joy:

TO THE MAMMOTH STOVE STORE OF

Frank C. Beall
"The" Hardware & Stove Man

Sept 24

OUR STORE

Is not the child of chance, but the ripened fruit of

TRUTH, INDUSTRY AND ACCOMMODATION!

Truth—in the fulfilment of our obligations!
Industry—in our tireless effort to please!
Accommodation—in our endeavor to do all for our customers they cannot do for themselves!

We announce a continuance of our great sales in

Dry Goods,
Dress Goods
—AND—
Milinery,

and that we are better than ever prepared to promise delightful surprises in each department.

We will enter into no detail, preferring that each reader of this announcement shall come and see for him and herself that we are now as heretofore,

First in Style!
Best in Quality!
Lowest in Price!

Under these circumstances the seed of dull trade cannot germinate in our garden, for popularity is the flower that blooms there in profusion, as rich as those which adorn our

LADIES' DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED HATS!

With the axe at the root of high prices, with the dross refined and none but the pure gold of uttermost perfection in all our lines, is it any wonder that our store is the Mecca of fashion-hunting pilgrims? Is it any surprise that all who properly appreciate solid goods and minimum prices should flock to our establishment as did the people of old to the glittering market-places of the Orient?

One suggestion, however, to those who are delaying—remember, it is just as sensible and important to be on time as to be in style. Come at once and see our new goods.

B. STERN & CO.,
FROSTBURG, MD.

April 23

Health Maxims.

Intelligent druggists know that all medicines sold for coughs, colds, consumption, and tickling in the throat, contain opium in some form or other. They repress the cough, but do not eradicate it; hence the first purchase paves the way for a second or a third. Meanwhile, as it is the essential nature of oponion to close up, to constringe, to deaden the sensibilities, the bowels do not feel the presence of their contents calling for a discharge, and constipation is induced, and becomes the immediate cause of three fourths of all ordinary ailments, such as headache, neuralgia, dyspepsia, and piles.

Pickles should never be kept a moment in any vessel except it be of stone, wood, porcelain, or glass. In most other vessels, earthen or metallic, they soon become poisonous.

It is a bad plan to be always taking medicine: such persons are never well.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

Going to Buy A Dictionary?
GET THE BEST,
Webster's International.
A Choice Gift
A Grand Family Educator
A Library in Itself
The Standard Authority

WEBSTER'S INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY

SOLD BY ALL BOOKSELLERS.

The International is a new book from cover to cover, fully abreast of the times, and is the successor of the authentic "Unabridged." Ten years were spent in revising, 100 editors employed and over $300,000 expended before the first copy was printed.

Do not buy reprints of obsolete and comparatively worthless editions.

Send for free pamphlet containing specimen pages and full particulars.

G. & C. MERRIAM CO., Publishers, SPRINGFIELD, MASS., U. S. A.

Nov 26

TO THE PUBLIC.

IF you must grow ill at times, remember that I still dispense

PURE MEDICINES

at the old stand according to prescriptions written by our good physicians. Also a full line of Standard Patent Medicines, together with Fancy Toilet Articles and Fancy Goods, Paints, Oils, Varnishes and Brushes. Window Glass of all sizes, and selling as low as the lowest. I desire particularly to call attention to my Glycerine Lotion, a preparation put up only by myself and guaranteed to cure the most aggravated case of chapped surface—either the face or hands. Try it; it is all I ask and if it does not give perfect satisfaction I will gladly lose the price asked—25 and 50 cents per bottle.

DAN. KRAPF, Jr.,
PHARMACIST.
Nov 12 Main street.

A Rare Chance!

FURNITURE
At Cost!

OWING to the calamity which recently befel my store building, destroying the roof and third story, and not being able to get a place to remove my stock to keep it out of the weather, I am compelled to dispose of same at almost any price in order to save it from ruin by rain or snow, either of which is likely to occur at any time at this season of the year.

The stock comprises Walnut, Oak and Poplar Bed Room Suits; at least 25 Parlor Suits of the latest styles and upholstered in all kinds of Plushes, Brocatels, Tapestries, etc., ranging in price from $25 to $125; also a very fine lot of Upholstered and Rattan Easy Chairs, especially selected for the holiday trade, and a fine lot of Lounges, Bed Lounges, Side-Boards, Hall Racks, Wardrobes, Extension Tables, all kinds of Mattresses, Springs, and, in fact, everything pertaining to a first class Furniture store. Some of this Furniture has been slightly damaged, but the bulk is yet uninjured, and that which has been damaged in any way will be sold exceedingly low. This is an opportunity to get

GOOD FURNITURE CHEAP

which no one in need of same can afford to miss.

Trusting that my friends and the public in general will avail themselves of this chance to get cheap Furniture, and at the same time assist me in a time of need, I am,

Respectfully,

C. F. NICKEL.

Nov 28

JOHN CHAMBERS,
—DEALER IN—
STAPLE AND FANCY
GROCERIES.
Flour, Feed and Provisions.
Queensware, Woodware, Tinware.
Canned and Fresh
Oysters
A SPECIALTY.
Main Street, - - FROSTBURG, MD.
March 29

Have You a House
THAT IS NOT INSURED?

IF so, you want to place a policy on it to-day or tomorrow before you dine.

You want the risk taken, too, by a standard company, such as D. F. MILLER, of Cumberland, represents. Any policy is good until a fire occurs, but then it is you want a pledge of indemnity worth its face in gold.

Rates not quite as low as wildcat figures, but the lowest consistent with certain and perfect iddemnity in event of loss. Apply to

J. B. ODER,
Dec 14 JOURNAL Office, Frostburg, Md.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

WHEN PURCHASING Flannel, Buy —THE— Best.

Clarksburg All-Wool Flannels

ARE the best on the market. This is a fact freely and generally conceded by all who have tested its wearing value. We are offering their

5½ OUNCE FLANNEL

at.....25 cents; former price, 30 cents
4-OUNCE FLANNEL at.....22 cents; former price, 25 cents
Ladies' full size 38 inch FLANNEL SKIRTS at.....90 cents
An extra heavy-twilled FLANNEL SKIRT at.....$1.25

☞ Come and see these goods before you buy. THEY ARE CHEAP.

E. GROSS & BRO.

Nov 19

—THE—
First National Bank
of Frostburg, Md.

THIS BANK, located in the Thomas building, near the Post Office, is doing a

General Banking Business.

CAPITAL.....$50,000
SURPLUS.....9,000

BERNARD STERN, President.
JOHN L. PORTER, Cashier.

DIRECTORS:
A. J. WILLISON. | BERNARD STERN.
JOHN L. PORTER. | T. HUMBERSTON.
J. B. ODER.

☞ Collections made and exchanges sold on all Eastern points. *Deposits solicited.* Frostburg Bonds, Cumberland Bonds, and other good County securities for sale. [Jan 16

FOR SALE.

HOUSE AND LOT on Bowery street.
" " " " Centre "
" " " " Beall "
" " " " Orman "
" " " " Welsh Hill.
" " " " in Grahamton.

☞ Titles perfect. For prices, terms, etc., inquire of JAMES KANE,
March 5 Agent.

Lots for Sale.

TWO of the finest BUILDING LOTS in Frostburg; opposite the residence of Mr. James Dando; 50 by 150 feet; the best sites for homes in that section of town; cheap at $200 each, but can be bought for much less money, with reasonable time given on a portion of the purchase money; title guaranteed. Call at the JOURNAL OFFICE,
Oct 31 Frostburg, Md.

FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKING ESTABLISHMENT
—OF—
GEHAUF & MAYER,

Where all will always find the **Largest Stock, Lowest Prices,** and **Latest Styles** of

Parlor, Bedroom, Library and Kitchen Furniture.

IN THE UNDERTAKING DEPARTMENT our facilities are unsurpassed. We are prepared to conduct BURIALS in a most satisfactory manner. All MODERN UNDERTAKING appliances. Competent management guaranteed. Metalic, Cedar, Walnut and Oak CASKETS and COFFINS, and a full line of BURIAL GOODS always on hand, and in quality second to none. Throughout this and all departments of our business we aim to be prompt, considerate, thorough and reliable.

Prices Reasonable.

☞ OPEN DAY AND NIGHT. Telegraphic orders promptly attended to.

Ravenscraft's Opera House Building,
MAIN STREET, . . . FROSTBURG, MD.

Feb 20

Our Famous Brands of
Reingold, Erlanger and Export Bottle Beer
Are Now on the Market.

☞ Address all orders to
CUMBERLAND BREWING COMPANY,
TELEPHONE CALL, 96-4. [April 4] CUMBERLAND, MD.

Do You Eat Bread?

IF YOU DO YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Gold Medal Flour,

Made by Washburn, Crosby & Co., Minneapolis, Minn., the pioneers in the manufacture of Fancy Flour from hard Spring Wheat.

Made in the largest flouring mills in the world. Daily capacity, ten (10,000) thousand barrels.

Made of Hard Northern Spring Wheat, which makes the Strongest and Best Flour in the world.

☞ *Sold by all grocers.*

Oct 31

FLINTSTONE
CANNED GOODS
Pack of 1891.

I INVITE the attention of the public to the superior quality of my "FLINTSTONE" brand of Canned Fruits and Vegetables, to be found on the shelves of all firstclass grocery stores in the county. My pack is as follows:

Cooking Tomatoes—Choice, fully ripe and superior flavor.

Extra Tomatoes—Finest whole Tomatoes, ready for slicing.

Dessert Apples—Selected varieties, packed in full syrup and ready to serve as dessert fruit.

Pie Peaches—Extra mountain Peaches, fine flavor, all full cans; nearly one-third more Peaches in can than Baltimore packed pie peaches.

Corn—Selected variety of Sugar Corn, packed when young and tender with utmost neatness and care.

My goods are sold to all merchants at moderate prices and will give full satisfaction in every particular.

Notice—All the corn packed at my Flintstone Canning House this season has on the label a *fac-simile* of my signature, thus:

B. L. Turner

Any can which does not bear my signature was not packed this season. [Jan 16]