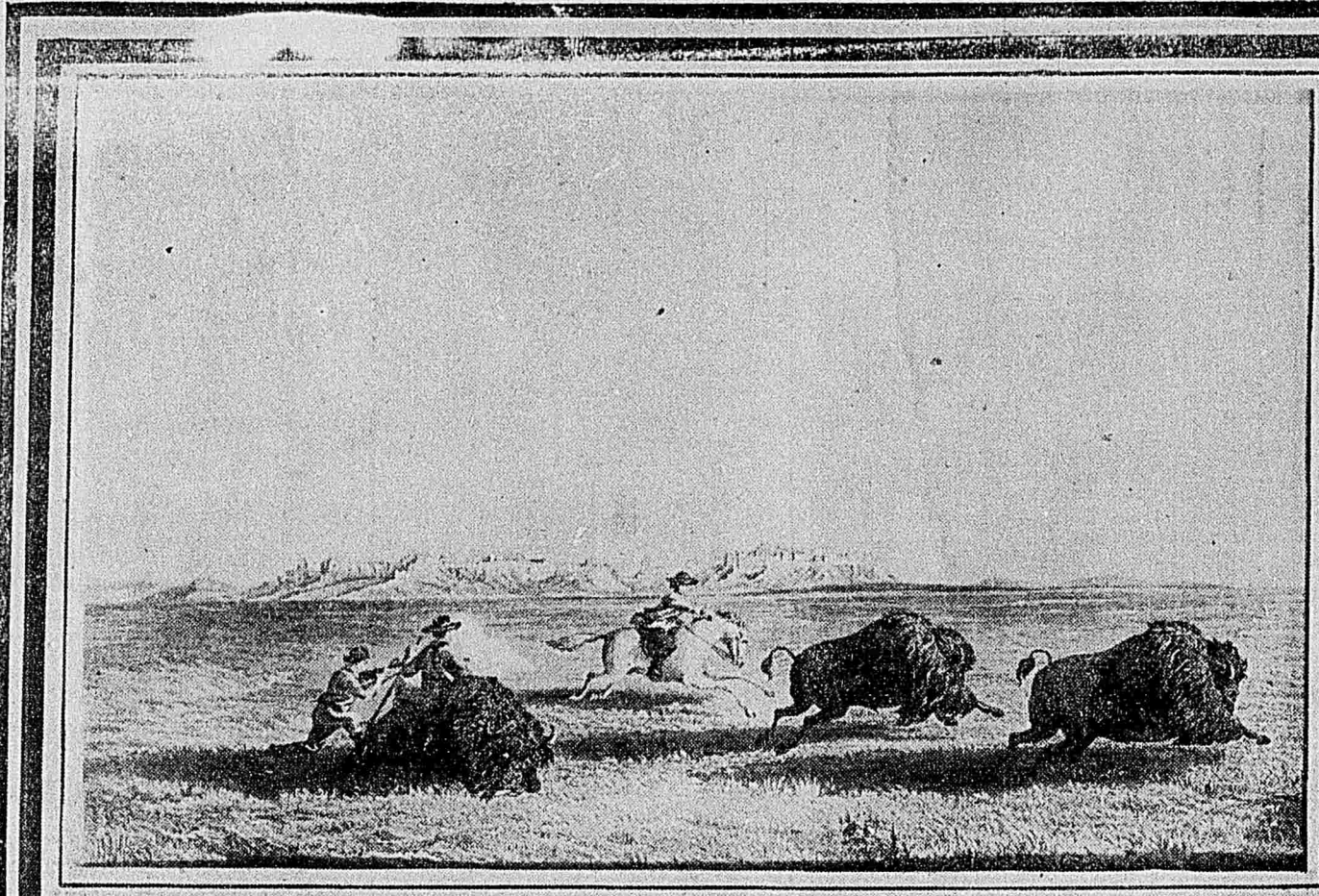


When Prairies Were the Buffalo's Unrestricted Range



Securing Fresh Meat



Typical Encampment

WITH the American buffalo, when this species which we are now so anxious to preserve, ranged free over the western plains, and had not yet been seriously disturbed in his dominion by American settlement, this article has to deal.

With the buffalo as he was known to the pioneer of fifty and sixty years ago, we are already familiar, and with him as he is known now in a few private herds, Salt Lake has an intimate acquaintance through the fact that one of these herds is located on an island of the Great Salt Lake. The keen state of public interest in these western private herds is indicated in the fact that only a few weeks ago when Mr. Dooly presented an eastern fancier with a pair of these animals, it was an item of news important enough to telegraph all over this country.

What a tremendously ruthless devastation must have occurred in the fifty years of careless regard for conserving the nation's fauna, is shown in this article. It is from the diary of a Canadian fur trader who ranged from Red River in Minnesota to the Columbia in Oregon, at the very opening of the nineteenth century. The diary of Alexander Henry, now at Ottawa, has recently been published, and those passages dealing with the buffalo are here extracted. They are scattered through the entire volume, and are here brought together for the light they throw on a present important American problem of saving to the next generation the scattered remnants of resources almost effaced from the earth.

THE RAVAGES OF THE HERD.
Aug. 26, 1799, at 9 o'clock, we found those whom we heard he yesterday (on Red River) they were waiting for me with the flesh of two fat buffalo cows, whose depouilles (layers of fat under the skin) were about two inches thick. The Indians told me they had seen a wounded buffalo bull, which must have been shot by the Sioux. This was enough to give them an alarm. The ravages of buffaloes at this place are

astounding to a person unaccustomed to these meadows. The beach, once a soft, black mud into which a man would sink knee deep, is now made hard as pavement by the numerous herds coming to drink. The willows are entirely trampled and torn to pieces; even the bark of the smaller trees is worn off in many places. Numerous paths, some of which are a foot deep in the hard turf, come from the plains to the brink of the river.

At the Grand Marias a bull rushed up from the waterside. I being the only one on horseback, the Indians wished me to give it chase. I did so and was soon near him. I sent a bull through the river. The blood instantly gushed out of his nostrils and mouth in a stream as thick as my arm; at the same time he turned about and plunged at me with his tongue hanging out of his mouth, and his tail twisted over his back, presenting a frightful figure. I was surprised at his agility in attempting to gore my horse, but I avoided him as best I could until a second shot knocked him down. This was another diversion for the Indians.

NOT VICIOUS FIGHTERS.
Sept. 5.—I went on horseback to chase a buffalo bull we saw near at hand. Just as I came up at full speed and prepared to fire, my horse suddenly stopped. The bull had turned about to face my horse, who was much afraid of buffaloes and, startled at such a frightful object, he leaped to one side to avoid the bull. As I was not prepared for this, I was pitched over his head, and fell within a few yards of the bull's nose; but fortunately for me he paid more attention to my horse than to me. The grass was long and I lay quiet until a favorable opportunity offered as he presented his placid face. I discharged both barrels of my double gun at him; he turned and made one plunge towards me, but had no time to repeat it before he fell with his nose not more than three paces off. I must acknowledge it gave me a fright.

VASTNESS OF HERDS.
Sept. 6.—On approaching Bois

Perce we found immense herds of buffalo which appeared to touch the river and extend westward on the plains as far as the eye could reach. The meadows were alive with them. We soon crawled within gunshot, and each fired in turn, keeping ourselves concealed in the long grass. At every shot they would start but did not appear inclined to run off. We both emptied our powder horns and by that time several cows were down. Having no more ammunition we went to dress our cows, but the herd started and with them our wounded cows; not one remained on the spot. We were horrified to have fired so many shots to no purpose.

Sept. 9.—An alarm was given by a man on guard during the night. He awoke me saying he had heard a great noise in the plains, as if a number of horsemen were coming. I desired him to make no noise while I went with him to the edge of the woods, not more than 100 paces from my tent. There we listened but a short time when a large herd of buffalo came rushing down to the river to drink. Everything was quiet during the rest of the night except for the howling of buffaloes in every direction and the whistling of red deer.

Sept. 11.—I climbed up a tall oak which I had trimmed for that purpose at the edge of the plain from the top of which I had an extensive view of the country. Buffalo and red deer were everywhere in sight passing to and fro. Buffalo came down to drink both day and night near our camp; we seldom molest them but allow them to return in quiet. The Indians this evening loaded our stage with bears' fat and choice meat. This would have been a glorious time for men had not dread of the Sioux deprived them of their appetite and made them only anxious to finish the fort.

FOREST DESTRUCTION.
Sept. 18.—I took my usual morning view from the top of my oak and saw more buffaloes than ever. They formed one body commencing about half a mile

from camp whence the plain was covered as far as the eye could see. This afternoon I rode a few miles up Park river. The few spots of wood along it have been ravaged by buffaloes; none but the large trees are standing, the bark of which is rubbed perfectly smooth, and heaps of the wool and hair lie at the foot of the trees. The small wood and brush are completely destroyed, and even the grass is not permitted to grow in the points of wood. The bare ground is more trampled by these cattle than the gate of a farm-yard.

Feb. 20.—Frogs begin to croak. A herd of cows were crossing the ice near the fort; the dogs chased them and prevented one from getting on shore. Perceiving this the men took a codline, which they doubled and then entangled her legs in such a manner that she fell upon her side. She jumped up and made at the dogs, taking no notice of us. Crow and Pierre both got on her back but this did not incommode her; she was as nimble in jumping and kicking at the dogs as before, although they were two stout men. Crow weighing at least 190 pounds. What must be the strength of a full grown bull, double the weight of a cow? It is common to see a bull exceed 1,500 pounds, and a cow is seldom over 700 or 800 pounds gross.

The dogs have fine sport chasing the old bulls that take shelter in the woods but they are very alert for animals of their bulk and the dogs cannot hurt them. I saw one pass today with a crow perched on his back, pecking raw spots, which caused him to kick and twist his tail. I can count daily from the top of my oak from 20 to 30 herds of buffalo feeding on the plains. It is surprising how the cows resist the piercing north wind which at times blows with such violence over the bleak plains, and raises such drifts that it cannot be faced; still these animals graze in the open field.

Feb. 23.—Wolves and crows are very numerous feasting on buffalo carcasses which lie in every direction. I shot two cows and a calf, and two bulls and got home after dark. A draught of

water was the sweetest beverage I ever tasted.

March 20.—I saw sturgeon jump. Wildfowl and buffalo now abound. Two men coming in report that they saw a calf of this year.

IN SPRING FLOODS.
April 1.—The river clear of ice but drowned buffalo continue to drift by in entire herds. Several are lodged on the banks near the fort. Two women cut up some of the fattest for their own use. The flesh appeared to be fresh and good. It is really astonishing what vast numbers have perished; they formed one continuous line in the current for two days and nights. One of my men found a whole herd that had fallen through the ice in Park river and all been drowned; they were sticking in the mud which had not yet moved in that part. The women had excellent sport in raising the bark fat and tongues.

April 11.—Women still cutting up buffalo to make tallow.

April 18.—Drowned buffalo still drifting down the river, but not in such vast numbers as before, many having lodged on the banks and along the beach.

April 22.—Pigeons flying north in great numbers.

FRIENDLY CALVES.
April 23.—We shot three bears swimming down the river opposite the fort. Desmaris, having brought me a horse I chased a buffalo; but the ground being slippery my horse fell and I cut my head on the neck of my gun. I killed four calves of which I took only the thighs, and brought two calves home alive; they no sooner lost sight of the herd than they followed my horse like dogs directly into the fort. On chasing a herd at this season the calves follow until they are fatigued, when they throw themselves down in high grass and lie still, hiding their heads if possible. On coming on them they start to run, but seeing only the person and his horse remain quiet and allow themselves to be taken. Having been a little handled they follow like dogs. But if they are not discovered by the hunter they keep still until their mothers return in search of them, as I observed today. While cutting up a calf on a low piece of ground I heard something running toward me, and on the little raising ground directly at me. I had only time to catch up my gun and fire, at which she turned about at full

speed. My consternation was so great I did not take proper aim, and so only slightly wounded her; she looked very fierce and I believe had my gun been a few yards further off she would have attacked me.

AN ANNUAL EVENT.
May 1.—The stretch from the vast numbers of drowned buffalo along the river was intolerable. Two hunters arrived from Grand Fourches with 30 beaver and seven bear skins. They tell me the number of buffalo lying along the beach and on the banks form one continuous line, and emit a horrid stench. I am informed that every spring it is about the same.

Buffaloes cost the white men their provisions sometimes as well as bringing them their winter's meat. Thus we have Henry in 1801, now camped on Pembina river, complaining thus: "Buffalo have destroyed all the grass and our horses are starving."

There was honor for particular hunters and some vastly excelled others in skill. Thus the note for Nov. 2, 1802: "I hired La Boeuf as hunter. This man is supposed to be the best among the Indians for buffalo and other strong wild animals; his name is derived from superior capacities in hunting the buffalo. He has often, even in seasons when there was no snow, approached a herd, and then, when on his firing they ran off, chased them on foot for a long distance, loading and firing rapidly, and keeping in the thick of the herd until he killed as many as he wished. He came in today with a lynx which he had caught in the plains in a fair chase and killed with his small ax. He certainly is an extraordinary runner. He is a tall man, spare and lean, and of a mild disposition, but wicked when provoked to anger."

A curiosity to know how such large buffalo bands fared in the forest fires that in those days must have raged as this summer through the same region. Late in 1804 Henry noted the tragic results of these fires in this language: "Nov. 1.—Fire running all over the country. Nov. 25. Plains burned in every direction, and blind buffalo seen every minute wandering about. The poor beasts have all their hair singed off; even the skin in many places is shriveled up and terribly burned, and their eyes are swollen and closed fast. A new structure finer than we see them staggering about, sometimes running about of a large stone, at other times tumbling down hill and falling into creeks that yet frozen over. In one spot we found two dead herd lying dead. The fire freezing

passed only yesterday, these animals were still good and fresh, and many of them exceedingly fat."

Space will not permit going into further details on the life of the animal whose extinction is now the cause of keen regret among all patriotic Americans. Fifty years from the time this diary of a fur trader was kept, the buffalo was dwindling in numbers in great rapidity, and 80 years afterwards it was so rare as to be a circus attraction. With the passing of 100 years we find the Newhouse skyscrapers utilizing the tufted head and the short horns as a decorative building ornament, prominently displayed on a structure which marks the ushering in of the skyscraper era where once the era of buffaloes and Ute Indians held full sway.

Jan. 14.—At daybreak I was awakened by the howling of buffaloes. I got up and was astonished when I climbed into the southwest bastion (of the fort). To my right the plains were black and appeared as if in motion. Opposite the fort the ice was covered, and on my left, to the utmost extent of the reach below us, the river was covered with buffalo moving northward. Our dogs were confined within the fort which allowed the buffalo to pass within a few paces. I dressed and climbed my oak for a better view.

I had seen almost incredible numbers of buffalo in the fall but nothing in comparison with what I now beheld. The ground was covered at every point of the compass as far as the eye could reach, and every animal was in motion. All hands soon attacked them with a tremendous running fire, which put them to a quicken pace but had no effect in altering their course. The first roads beaten in the snow were followed by those in the rear. They passed at full speed until about 9 o'clock when their numbers decreased and they kept further off on the plain.

There was about 15 inches of snow on the level in some places drifted in great banks. Notwithstanding the buffaloes were so numerous and 12 guns were employed we killed only three cows and one bull, but must have wounded a great number.
Jan. 19.—A buffalo followed the plains road within about 40 yards of the fort, when he was perceived by the Indians and fired at. The bull went in at one eye and came out at the other. The poor blinded animal ran at random against the trees and stumps and was dispatched by an ax. This was excellent sport for the Indians. Shortly after another came, but on the same route and was shot dead within 10 feet of the stockade.

GRANTSVILLE, IT'S TURN OF FORTUNE.

MANY a western city has enjoyed more rapid growth than Grantsville, but few have had more interesting experiences. Its history must be told.

Far back in 1851, when Brigham Young was directing parties of Saints to the various settlements in Utah's valleys, a body of minute men set foot on what is now Grantsville, locating some land in the Tooele valley, but afterwards returning to Salt Lake City. Among them was George Grant after whom the present city was named.

In the autumn of 1852, Harrison Severe and James McBride entered the valley with their families; but the Indians were so troublesome that the new-comers were constrained to pass the winter in the forbidding wilderness of Pine canyon. The next spring, however, with the determination that characterized those early days, they again entered the valley and settled on the site of Grantsville.

The first white child born in the vicinity was Hyrum Severe.

Soon other families came; and finally so many had gathered that a fair amount of self-protection was assured. Benjamin Baker was made bishop; and religiously as well as commercially, the village began to be of some importance among the early settlements of the state.

A fort wall was built of adobe; and all of the settlers lived within it for years. William Lee, also one of the early comers, was somewhat acquainted with the Indian tongue, and therefore acted not only as interpreter but was a great factor for good among them.

In 1867, by act of the legislature, Grantsville was given a city charter; and soon afterward Cyrus Bates was elected mayor.

During the incursion of Johnston's army into Utah, many settlers moved away, but with the departure of the menace, they immediately returned to their homes.



JOHN W. ANDERSON, Grantsville's Mayor.

Joseph E. Millward is an able assistant. Tooele valley runs southward from Great Salt Lake, west of the Ogulch mountains. Grantsville itself is on the western slope of the valley about seven miles from the lake shore line.

The soil in the greater part of the vicinity is a dark loam, well adapted to the raising of beets and similar products.

BIG SHEEP OWNERS.
Among the prominent sheep owners are R. T. Brown and sons, the Wrathall family, Sidney and Robert Judd, Robert MacMichael, Mrs. Elita Bates, Levi Bectel, E. S. Woolley and John A. Ellison. Big cattle owners

are Gustav A. and Charles L. Anderson, Alex. and Leo Johnson, James L. Wrathall, Leonard W. Hale, Otto Johnson, the Booth family, R. T. Brown, Rydahl Bros., Matthews Bros. and E. T. Woolley.

Many fine horses are raised by Alex. and Leo Johnson, Percy Wrathall and the Durfee boys. A draft and coach horse company has been organized with A. J. Anderson, president; J. W. Anderson vice president; E. M. Clark, secretary and Alex. Johnson, treasurer. The breeds raised will be French coach and Percheron.

This year the farmers raised a splendid crop of lucerne seed, many having as high as 250 bushels which at 12 cents a pound netted them \$190 per acre. At one time this fall, 75,000 pounds was stored in one place, by a single purchaser.

Much barley is produced on the irrigated land of Grantsville, the average yield being from 75 to 100 bushels though some succeed in getting as high as 115. G. A. Anderson, Charles L. Anderson, Leo and Alex. Johnson all have large grain fields.

AGRICULTURE TO THE FRONT.

Grantsville and the surrounding country is becoming noted as an excellent dry-farming district. For though the greater amount of land devoted to that purpose is in Hickman's Pass, nine miles south of the city, most of the owners live in the town itself. Many big companies have been formed, machinery has been purchased and hundreds of acres are being grubbed up with engines pulling a dozen plows.

Dry farming land is selling at about \$20 per acre, and it is capable of producing from 15 to 35 bushels of wheat. Much ground has been taken up this year, between Grantsville and Tooele, though much more awaits the new comers. These contemplating purchasing a ranch will do well to investigate conditions in this region, for if the great precipitation enjoyed during the last few years continues, fertility will abound in places of the one time barrenness. Government land is of course selling at a government price. All of it is covered with rabbit brush easily overcome by a little cultivation, and the formation is black loam for two feet under which is clay.

The dry farming land extends from Grantsville east, south and west. Among Grantsville men, who own large farms may be mentioned George Hammond, Steve Worthington, Leonard W. Hale, Gustav Anderson, E. T. Woolley and E. M. Clark.

Fruit raising as a commercial industry is new in Grantsville, though Mr. Bagan has one large orchard and many are setting out a few trees as an experiment. The arduous wells deserve mention as some of them have a flow of a hundred gallons a minute. The depth varies from 75 to 300 feet.

WESTERN PACIFIC FEATURE.
One of the most important events to record concerning Grantsville is the coming of the Western Pacific railroad. This line already has its track along the lake six and a half miles north of Grantsville. At present the nearest road is the San Pedro, 13 miles eastward across the valley; so a new station "Grants" only six miles away is expected to be of great influence in the city's betterment.

The city itself is already constructing a new wagon road to the Western Pacific in the hope of inducing the railroad to build a spur over the right of way thus prepared for it. It is expected that the company will install at least an electric service.

At present there is a mixed train making tri-weekly trips between Salt Lake and Grants.

Grantsville has a fine schoolhouse erected at a cost of \$10,000. There are nine teachers with an average salary of \$75. The trustees are James L. Wrathall, Mont Barras and Robert J. Huntington.

FINE OPERA HOUSE.
In 1901, a fine brick opera house was built at a cost of \$13,000. It is owned by the Latter-day Saints and is used as a dancing hall as well as for dramatic entertainments. The seating capacity is about 500. A. K. Anderson, William J. Clark and J. W. Anderson compose the bishopric.

There are many fine residences in the city. James L. Wrathall, Leo Johnson, Alex. Johnson and Ray Rowberry, Morris Matthews and Dr. M. B. Shipp all having new homes.

The city is lighted by electricity furnished by the Clark Electric company. The rates are 60 cents per month, a light of 16-candle power.

Through the activity of the city administration, the town is well supplied with water. South Willow creek has been piped at a cost of \$18,000, the stream so conveyed being capable of irrigating 700 acres. North Willow creek flows toward the city furnishing water for 400 acres.

The present city officials are: J. W. Anderson, mayor; Ed. M. Clark, recorder; L. W. Hale, marshal; Beatrice Anderson, treasurer, and Otto Johnson, Robert T. Brown, William C. Jafferis,

Joseph Millward and Ray Rowberry, council.

There are many diversions indulged in by the people. Dancing, rabbit hunting, duck hunting—these and many more enter into the variety of life's entertainment.

The people feel that there is always room for one more and therefore the homemaker, and the capitalist will do well to think of pretty Grantsville.

GRANTSVILLE CO-OP.

FAR back in 1873, when Grantsville was just beginning to be known, it entered the minds of a few energetic men to erect a store on the general plan of co-operation, much in vogue in those days. James Wrathall, father of J. L. Wrathall, was made president of the institution; Joshua R. Clark was secretary; and the other incorporators were Alma H. Hale, William C. Rydahl, Thomas Williams and Samuel Woolley, the last named being superintendent. The capital stock

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mercantile establishment in the city, and its superintendent, C. R. Rowberry, is one of the brightest and most affable of the county's business men.

December 6, last year, the store was demolished by fire, the total loss of \$5,000, being entirely covered by insurance. A new structure, finer than ever was erected and now the Co-op is in many ways the pride of the city.

CHARLES A. JOHNSON CO.

ON the corner of Main and Main streets is the largest business structure in Grantsville, the well known mercantile establishment of Charles A. Johnson company. No history of the city would be complete without the name of Charles A. Johnson, who for over 10 years has been a leader among the business men of this vicinity. The business was begun by him in 1897, leased in 1900, for five years to Mount & Son, and since then managed personally by Mr. Johnson.

The store is commodiously built there being sufficient room on the upper floor for a dance hall or skating rink. A general line of merchandise is carried, including groceries, hay and grain; and Mr. Johnson is ably assisted by his brother, Leo. Three people are constantly employed.

Mr. Johnson has always been a public-spirited individual having filled with honor various public positions including that of city treasurer, and county assessor. In every way he is a booster, and a popular citizen.

HATCHING BY INCUBATOR.

The hatching of chickens by incubator is no new thing, as will be found by referring to the "Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society" for the year 1781, volume 12, where it is reported that at Cairo, in Egypt, chickens are hatched by means of artificial heat in great numbers at a time. They have a double row of ovens, about 28 in number, in which the hatching is conducted. Each oven consists of two compartments, one above another. The lower compartment is on a level with the ground. It is covered with mats, and the eggs are laid upon these.

Two layers, one above another, except just under the hearths, where three eggs are laid one above another. The fire is lighted on hearths in the upper temperature is kept as near as possible at 100 degrees. The eggs are kept 24 hours in lower ovens, and are carefully turned and shifted every day

in order to give all the same degree of heat. The fires are then allowed to go out, and the eggs are shifted into the upper ovens, the holes of which are stopped up with wax, and the eggs are turned four times a day. About the twenty-first day, the chickens are hatched. They are put into the under ovens on the mats, which have a quantity of bran or corn meal on them. The first day they eat not; next day they are carried away by women, and after a few days, the chickens are hatched.

The property of the oven has one-third of the chickens for his trouble, and two-thirds go to the owners of the eggs—Dundee Advertiser.

THE DOCTOR'S HELPMATE.

One hears a great deal of sentimental talk about the sailor's wife, and even of the trials and troubles of the parson's helpmate. The doctor's wife, especially if her husband be that hard working of men, a general practitioner in a country district, combines the advantages of a forest and two in her own daily experience.—London Daily Mirror.

BUTLER BROS.

GRANTSVILLE'S LEADING MEAT MARKET

Buy Your Christmas Turkey from US.

"Tom" & "George"

WE SELL THE CANDY.

ALSO "Tom" Electrician

"George" Painting and Paperhanging

GRANTSVILLE