

# The College Monthly

Vol. 2.

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## THE AMHERST GRANGE STORE.

About twelve years ago the Amherst Grange was in the habit of buying groceries at wholesale for its members. There was, at that time, no place of business under their control, and in consequence of this fact, when a barrel of sugar or a hog-head of molasses came, it was delivered at a private house. Here Patrons came and obtained the desired amount. This running to one man's house soon became inconvenient. The idea of forming a corporation and opening a store was then suggested. Agreeably to this suggestion, the Amherst Co-operative Society was organized under the laws of Massachusetts, having 120 shares at \$10 each. These were taken and the store opened a year later.

The originators of this enterprise were at first ridiculed, but time has proven the wisdom of effort. The principles on which the store does business are few and simple. They buy for cash, sell for cash and keep no book accounts with customers. They do not trust even a stockholder, and in consequence, loose no bad bills. They sell at a very small profit: but turn their capital often six times in a year. The stockholders receive a good interest on their investment. A fund of about \$500 is retained for contingencies. What profit remain over and above expenses, interest, and contingency fund are expended in increasing their stock of goods. So well have they succeeded, that, although the capital stock is still \$12,000, the inventory shows several thousands of dollars worth of goods on hand. As may be imagined, the shares are not in the market.

Before the establishment of this store, many farmers in this vicinity ran up a bill for groceries and other goods, paying once or twice a year; perhaps being obliged to give his note for the amount and in some cases, even mortgaging his farm when the note came due.

This was a bad state of affairs. Now the farmer has learned to pay cash for his goods. It came hard at first, but having learned the lesson he has profited by it. Paying cash for his groceries brought him into the habit of paying cash for all goods and under this system he saves much hard earned money.

The secret of low prices is simply cash on the spot. In commerce, if a bill is paid in 30 days it is called cash. This generally gets a discount of 5 per cent. If, however, the cash is paid when the goods are ordered, a still larger discount is secured. Ready money can thus, it has been proved, secure the lowest possible prices. In this way the Amherst Grange Store buys its goods where ever it can get the best quality at the lowest prices.

To this Amherst Co-operative Association much honor is due. Opening their store with no profession of philanthropy, they have done a great amount of good in teaching the farmer and laboring man to buy for cash. They have furnished standard goods at low prices, have reduced the cost of living in an expensive town, and have done us all much good. May other towns follow their example in the good work! But all must remember that no store will run its self and that most cases of failure in co-operative stores are due to bad management.

There must be secured at whatever cost a competent agent to take charge of affairs and he must be fully supported by the stock-holders in the formation and execution of his plans.

E. F. M.

For the passage of the oleo bill, especial credit is due to Master Brigham, and other members of the State Grange, for the unflinching energy with which they upheld the bill during its passage in the Legislature.

Don't fail to read the last column.

THE COLLEGE MONTHLY.  
 "Muttin' in Parvo."

Master Claude F. Walker,  
 Editor & Publisher.

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We call especial attention to the article on our first page, as it is a correct description of the origin and present state of the Amherst Grange Store.

We wish to thank the various newspapers for the many notices we have received, especially the Catskill Recorder and Hampshire Journal.

The next issue of The College Monthly, being the Commencement number, will have a supplement, and contain a full account of the Commencement exercises.

We would congratulate the State Grange on the success of its efforts to secure the passage of the oleo bill, showing as it does, that the farmer may have a voice in the government as well as men of other occupations.

We have received a copy of "The Spider", a four-page, monthly sheet, edited by Edward L. Ballard, of Noroton, Conn. We extend a hearty welcome to this enterprising paper, and wish it success in all its efforts.

The faculty of the M. A. C. have sent an invitation to the State Grange to hold a picnic on the College grounds, Commencement day, and to attend the exercises, and

inspect the College buildings. We shall expect as large an attendance as possible.

**The Grange.**

**THE STATE GRANGE**

will, according to a resolve made during the meeting last December, hold a "grand field day meeting on the grounds of the M. A. C." Tuesday, June 19. Patrons from subordinate Granges are expected to be present, and to inspect the College, and attend the Commencement exercises.

**HERE AND THERE.**

—Westboro Grange has interesting meetings. Matron's night the ladies gave a pleasant entertainment.

—Templeton Grange was inspected May 4th by deputy S. B. Cook, of Petersham. The Grange was found to be well up in secret work, but lacked interest in attendance.

—The Springfield District Grange will hold a meeting at Granby, June 6th. A private session will be held in the morning, while the meeting in the afternoon will be public. Lecturer Myrick is preparing for a talk on the tariff.

—Southboro Grange was inspected May 21, by Deputy C. A. Wood, of Hudson. The third and fourth degrees were conferred, and a collation served. Visitors from Upton and Westboro were present. The Grange now has 64 members.

—Petersham Grange has interesting meetings each week. May 8th, the second degree was conferred, and the subject of Poultry discussed. May 15th, the third degree was conferred, and a discussion of the Hygiene of Cooking took place. May 22, the fourth degree was conferred, and it being Matron's night, the meeting was successfully conducted by the ladies. May 29, being memorial night, an appropriate programme was carried out.

The man who is always waiting for something to turn up generally finds it when he steps on a barrel hoop.

Two hens is better than one from the hatter's point of view.

M. A. G. NEWS.

--A new lawn tennis court has been constructed back of South College.

--Rev. Calvin Stebbins, of Worcester, will address the Y. M. C. A. Commencement Sunday.

--Prof. Wellington will build his house on the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Amity Street this summer.

--The fourth game of the season was played at Easthampton, May 9, and resulted in a victory for the Willistons, the score being 6 to 5.

--It has been voted by the faculty that match games of ball are not to be played on the College grounds, during recitation hours.

--The Hatch Experiment Station has at last got into operation. It will issue the first bulletin the first of July, and quarterly thereafter.

--The following will compete for the Kendall Prizes:-- Sophomores; Barry, Felton, Mossman, West. Freshman; Brown, Gay, Richards, Sanderson.

--Friday, May 11, a committee of the Legislature visited the College. After the drill by the cadets, they inspected the dormitories and farm buildings.

--Rev. J. C. Tuttle, Westport, Ct., Mr. T. E. Smith, West Chesterfield, Mass., and Mr. S. S. Warner, of Northampton, Mass., have been chosen judges for the Kendall Prizes.

--The following Trustees are a Committee for the Experiment Department:-- Phineas Stedman, E. W. Wood, James Draper, A. A. Brigham, J. H. Demond, F. H. Appleton, and W. R. Sessions.

--Sunday, May 20, Rev. Isaac Clarke, of Northampton, preached in the Chapel in exchange with Prof. Walker. The next Sunday, Rev. G. S. Burroughs, of Amherst College, also exchanged.

--The following Seniors will speak Commencement day:-- Holt, on Pauperism; Noyes, The Military Resources of the United States; Mishima, Justice for Japan; Shimer, The Value of an Agricultural Education to the Farmer; Brooks, A Defense of Agriculture; Cooley, Success; Moore, The Farmer and the State.

AMHERST COLLEGE.

... Wilson, '89, has returned to College.

... The College Band gave its first open air concert May 29.

... The speakers for the Hardy Prize Debate will be chosen June 2.

... The Banjo and Glee Clubs gave a concert in Worcester a few nights ago.

... Warriner, Porter, and Delabarre were contestants in the Mott Haven games.

... The Hyde prize speakers are Chapman, Goodrich, Hartwell, Prest, Ramsdale, and Wright.

... Amherst won seven first prizes, and three second, in the Worcester Athletic meeting.

... Pres. Seelyee read a paper before the Hampshire East Association, entitled The Philosophy of Religion.

... Rev. Chas. S. Walker, of the M. A. C. preached at the College Church, May 27, in exchange with Rev. G. S. Burroughs.

... The German prizes were awarded as follows:-- first prize, \$40, to E. L. Hayward; the second, \$20, to G. B. Churchill.

... The Commencement speakers from the Senior class are Coombs, Davis, Ewing, Goodwin, Hyde, Moulton, Pierce, and Thompson.

... May 29, the Social Union Prize Speaking took place in College Hall. The first prize, \$15, was awarded to Frederick Sherry; the second, \$10, to W. E. Nelson, and the third, \$5, to J. T. Stone.

... Prof. Richardson has left for Europe where he will study German Life and Literature. He will make Berlin his headquarters, and will be joined by a party of Students later in the season.

... The persons to be voted on by the Alumni to fill the vacancies in the Board of trustees are Prof. J. W. Burgess, of Columbia, Prof. W. G. Hammond, of the Iowa State University, and G. A. Phillips, of New-York City.

... The Hitchcock Society of Inquiry has elected these officers:-- Pres, H. S. Worthy; vice-president, E. H. Parkman; secretary, H. W. Landfear; treas., F. B. Doan; initiation orator, E. M. Callahan; prudential committee, A. L. Golden, F. B. Doan, G. H. Hale; question committee, J. E. Eastman, A. B. McNeil, J. R. Fleet.

To Whom it May Concern:

When first the College Monthly  
 Raised its piping little voice,  
 How it trembled in its shoes,  
 Lest the public should refuse  
 To sustain its weak endeavor—  
 Lest the critic should rejoice,  
 To annihilate forever,  
 Such an enterprising elf,  
 Or with knife and fork in hand  
 Should pick its bones and lay them  
 On the literary shelf;  
 Or even worse than all the rest,  
 How pride would have a fall,  
 If these selfsame dreadful critics  
 Should not notice it at all.

But today the College Monthly,  
 In a voice much stronger grown,  
 Takes great pleasure in announcing,  
 Though the fact is widely known,  
 That its friends have all been gracious,  
 And its enemies, though few,  
 Have advertised its pages,  
 For which hearty thanks are due.

The paper is instructive,  
 It has an ample range,  
 With items from both colleges,  
 And also from the Grange.  
 So listen to this good advice—  
 You'd better not refuse—  
 Just send in your subscription,  
 And we'll tell you all the news.

THE COW.

"Does your cow cringe and curl," asks a New England farmer, "and appear nervous when you sit down to milk her?" Well, not much she doesn't. She isn't that kind of a cow. She isn't one of your shy, timid, bashful cows. She just fixes her eyes on vacancy with a glare that will raise a blister on an oak knot, sticks her tail straight up in the air, stiff as a poker, plants three feet firmly on the ground, and then feels around with the other for the milk-pan, milk-stool, milk-maid; finds them; fires them up somewhere into the blue empyrean, and remarking "Ha, Ha!" amid the shouting jumps over a six-rail fence and tramples down an acre of young garden.

Don't talk about cringing and curling to a cow that has to be milked with a pipeline and pumping station.—[Norwalk Hour.

There are two things in this world that we are never prepared for—Twins.

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