

TALKING TO THE POINT.

MORE TALK ABOUT INCOMES WHICH JUSTIFY MATRIMONY.

Some of the Previous Estimates Analyzed and Criticized—Economy as a Fine Art—An Interesting Table of what Housekeeping has Cost a Citizen.

The letters from various correspondents, last week, on the subject of the cost of living, excited a good deal of comment from all classes of readers of PROGRESS. No one of them, however, appears to have attracted more attention than that of the young woman of 19, who treated the subject in such a practical and business like way as to win deserved admiration.

I must write you a few lines to express my admiration for that young lady of 19, who writes with so much good sense. If I were a young man in quest of a wife, I would like to find her. She is one in fifty. If we had more girls like her there would be more happy homes. They all want so much to start with. Everything depends on living within your means. A man or woman has no business to live in a style which the income cannot support, or to mortgage the earnings of next week or year to keep up that style.

Table with 10 columns: Year, Fuel, Food, Clothing, etc. showing household expenses from 1870 to 1890.

Will the Official Answer? A good many people, in common with the next correspondent, would like the official in question to give the world the benefit of his researches into the science of household economy on \$8 a week.

I have been very much interested in the letters on the question of how to live and enjoy matrimonial bliss on salaries of from \$450 to \$1200. I was thinking of the time the labor commission visited this city, collecting evidence on the labor question.

Thinks the Estimates Queer. "A Practical Housekeeper" takes exception to the estimates furnished last week and thinks it is no wonder that some people never get ahead, and often get in debt.

My husband has a salary of \$1,000 a year, and he had that at the time of our marriage, two years ago. As a matter of fact in our case he had enough ahead at that time to comfortably furnish a flat, and I presume that this is to be understood in all cases.

Table listing household expenses: House rent, Taxes, Housekeeping, Fuel, Light, Insurance, etc.

I do not think \$300 too little for housekeeping, where a woman is anything of a manager. My fuel estimate is as low as I can make it, to keep a house comfortable day and night.

The Experience of Twenty-One Years. Here is a copy of an account of the cost of living of a citizen of St. John who was married in April, 1869, and has kept a record of the household expenses ever

since. There have been three births and one death in the family, but no long illness. The figures represent what it actually cost, whether paid for at the time or not, and in some of the years the man was in debt. For the last ten years he has carried \$10,000 insurance, and previous to that time he carried \$2,000.

The figures show a wide range of possibilities, and will be found worthy of careful and intelligent study. The date is to April 15 in each year:

Table with 10 columns: Year, Fuel, Food, Clothing, etc. showing household expenses from 1870 to 1890.

Several other letters on the subject, including one from the girl of 19, have been received too late for insertion in this issue, and are held over until next week.

YOUNG HICKORY EXPLAINS.

A Great Deal of Good Advice to Those who Would Like to Marry. When Young Hickory contributed a short and sensible letter last week, PROGRESS suggested that he explain his theories more in detail.

When you contemplate marriage, the first thing before going into housekeeping is to buy all the furniture you may require, as the prospect of adding materially to your stock afterward is very slim.

When looking for a partner, have all your wits about you. Let there be the greatest physical contrast possible, a tall thin person should choose a short, plump one.

Next, when any man or woman is about to marry and their stock-in-trade is chiefly common sense, they require an abundance of it to make up for lack of luck, and if properly mated they can marry much better than they otherwise could with a little more capital.

Matrimony. HIGHLY RESPECTABLE TRADESMAN, with means, good appearance, living somewhat retired and quiet, solicits a wife, a working woman, with some means, age, 25 to 45.

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\$30, and bringing the church and mission allowance down much finer than she does. We can comfortably heat, by the use of hall and kitchen stoves, three bedrooms, kitchen, sitting room, hall and parlor, and any one may do this with the intelligent use of a thermometer.

Many families might swim where they now sink, but for their efforts to keep up appearances, or having only \$400 or \$500 per year trying to ape the family with \$1,000. As sure as two and two are not five, just so sure will such efforts prove disastrous.

And to conclude, either do not expect too much from her whom you intend making your wife, or else endeavor to come up to her expectations regarding yourself.

THE THYCKE FOGGE PAPERS.

The Senator Descants on the Question of Marrying on a Salary.

Those of us who showed up on the usual meeting night were pleased to find our genial entertainer in a very hilarious mood, and at first we had doubts of his sobriety, but knowing his capacity for liquors we dismissed that idea from our minds.

"Friends and fellow-bribers," said Mr. Fogge, "I have been reading PROGRESS, and have been moved to mirth at the contributions turned in, and the enquiry relative to the income requisite for a young man to marry on."

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OH, RATS! RATS!

The Latest Recreation of the Genial Citizens of Moncton.

The sporting fraternity of Moncton are having a rich treat at the present time of writing. The particular branch of the powers that be—known as the Market committee—has decided that so long as the hungry and suffering collection of citizen, called by courtesy "the free and independent electors of the city of Moncton," cannot have an adequate supply of wholesome food, they shall, at least, have a clean market house, and a lot of fun by way of compensation.

Therefore, as most of the stalls are unoccupied this spring, the cellars empty, and things in general were very dull in the market, it was resolved that a house-cleaning would give the few lonely people, who still linger around that monument of desolation, something to do, and at the same time impart a fictitious look of activity to that deserted and silent building.

So zealous did the housecleaners become that they proceeded to take up the floor of the market house, greatly to the discomfort of the large and respectable colony of rats, who had been in the habit of bringing up their families in peace and affluence beneath that same floor ever since the market was built.

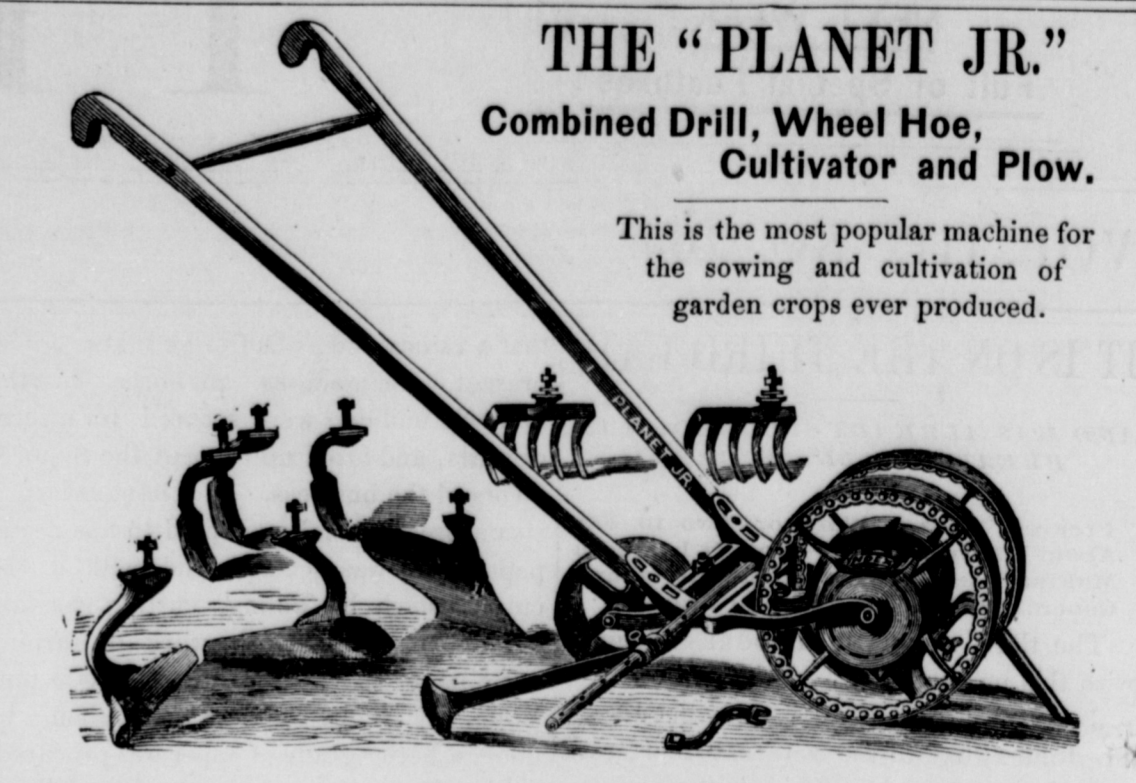
"He ought to be," responded the other, "seeing he has devoured the entire pack of his companions." And the hunters were unable to decide in their own minds how the survivor managed it, and where he found storage room in his internal economy to give all of his friends decent burial.

During the rat baiting of last week, a number of choice spirits assembled in the market building to have a shot at the defenceless quadrupeds. No sooner was one wounded than his fellows rallied fearlessly around him and carried him off for medical attendance.

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