

CAPE COD PORTUGUESE



PORTUGUESE RAKING UP IRISH MOSS

DWELLERS on Cape Cod and elsewhere on the Massachusetts coast are sometimes surprised to learn that many of their Portuguese neighbors never saw the mainland of Portugal, but are Azoreans of island ancestry sometimes centuries old. F. N. Vallanigham writes in the Boston Evening Transcript. When the Portuguese republic was set up its enemies were not slow to annoy the new government by stirring dissatisfaction in the Azores, and some Azoreans here falling in with the movement, suggested that the time had arrived for the United States to annex the islands. Nobody treated the suggestion very seriously; perhaps it was hardly expected that anybody would, and after a few mild demonstrations of discontent, the Azoreans seem to have accepted the Portuguese republic with resignation if not with satisfaction.

As a matter of fact the Azores will celebrate this spring the seventeenth anniversary of their attainment of local self-government. In the winter of 1894-5, Portugal, while still maintaining the islands as a province of the kingdom, yielded to an oft repeated demand for larger local autonomy, and granted permission for the official display of an Azorean flag in honor of the concession.

In designing that flag the islanders took a lesson from us, but the Azorean banner, even more than the stars and stripes, symbolizes the history and political relations of the land. It is a blue flag bearing a white hawk and nine stars, an emblem that proclaims the group to be of nine chief islands lying in the main blue ocean, and bearing a name derived from the Portuguese word for hawk, "acor," with the soft "c," which in English becomes "z." As a matter of fact the Azores are our nearest neighbors on the east between this coast and Europe. Corvo, the nearest of the islands, is about two-thirds the distance from Boston to Lisbon. The summer isotherm of 70, which cuts Boston, runs only a few miles north of the Azores, though the islands are about in the latitude of Baltimore. The winter isotherm of 60 almost touches the most southerly of the group. Caged between these two isotherms, the Azores have an equable climate. Lying in the track of vessels bound for the Mediterranean, these islands are visited by many liners bound for the Italian ports, and thousands of American tourists have touched at Fayal,

The Word "Strike."
The earliest use of the word "strike" in the sense of stopping work occurs in the London Chronicle for September, 1765, in connection with a coal strike. This publication reports a great suspension of labor in the Northumberland coalfields, and the colliers are stated to have "struck out" for a higher bounty before entering into their usual yearly "bond." The time-honored illustration of profitless labor, "carrying coals to Newcastle," appears to have received its first slap in the face during this strike. The Chronicle reports that "several pokes of coal were brought from Durham to Newcastle by one of the common carriers, and sold on the sandhill for 9d a poke, by which he cleared 6d a poke."

Bones Act as Barometer.
The merits of bone as an indicator of fair or foul weather have been vouched for by the captain of an Italian steamer carrying a cargo of bones from the South American port of Buenos Aires to New York. When the ship was sailing toward a storm the

but hardly one in a thousand of such tourists knows any others of the group.

Islands Acquired by Portugal.
During some centuries all knowledge of the Azores was lost even to Europe. An Arabian geographer of the twelfth century described them as densely peopled, and hazarded the guess that they had been known to the Carthaginians. Upon a map made in 1351 the three groups constituting the archipelago appear as the Goat Islands, the Dove Islands and Brazil Island. One of the puzzles of geography is found in the legends of Brazil Island, which was variously located, and which finally gave name to the vast American empire of Portugal. It is said that a Dutch merchant adventurer, driven out of his course, chanced upon the islands in 1032, and reported them upon touching at Lisbon, with the result that a Portuguese expedition was sent out to take possession of them in the name of the crown. Another story is that Dom Henry of Portugal, surnamed the Navigator, mousing over the maps that he loved so well, found the islands laid down, and dispatched an exploring expedition to find them.

At any rate, one Cabral, a Portuguese navigator, did reach the Azores in 1432, and some time later San Miguel, the island that he visited, was officially proclaimed Portuguese territory. Soon after the middle of the century all nine of the islands had been rediscovered, but nobody guessed that they were one-third the way to a vast unknown continent. By the time Columbus made his first voyage to America the Portuguese had made a fair start at colonizing the Azores. In the nearly 500 years since the Portuguese began rediscovering the Azores the islands have had a picturesque and varied history. Once they were given away by a Portuguese king, Alfonso V., called "The African," to his aunt, the duchess of Burgundy. This happened in 1366, when the duke of Burgundy was Philip the Bold, favorite son of John II. of France. In due time Philip became ruler of Flanders and many of his Flemish subjects went to help colonize his duchess' new island possessions. For a time the group even bore the name of the Flemish islands, and they still have traces of the Flemish occupation and colonization. Later Portugal recovered the Azores and they fell with her under Spanish rule from 1580 to 1640. As possessions of Spain they were fair game for the English navy,

skipper stated, recently, the bones creaked and moaned, and when fair weather was ahead they were silent again.

Tobacco Raising in Ireland.
Irish tobacco and Irish cigars and cigarettes are bought in Dublin with patriotic pride and smoked with enjoyment, and it may be only a matter of time when Irish cigarettes will be known the smoking world over. The raising of tobacco in Ireland is one of the new industries which are being undertaken, and the quality is pronounced good.

Majesty of Time.
That great mystery of Time, were there no other; the illimitable, silent, never resting thing called Time, rolling, rushing on, swift, silent, like an all-embracing ocean tide, on which we and all the universe swim like exhalations, like apparitions which are, and then are not; this is forever very literally a miracle; a thing to strike us dumb, for we have no word to speak about it.—Carlyle.

and many a battle occurred in those waters between English and Spanish ships, while the islands suffered from the ravages of the British victors.

When Cabral reached the Azores in 1432 he was astonished at the number of hawks on the islands. Their presence was explained by the thousands of small birds which made the group their permanent home or their resting place in migration. When the islands became settled it was found necessary to offer a bounty for the destruction of birds, they were so ravenous in their attack upon crops. For years thousands of birds of many varieties were killed annually by farmers and gardeners. In some years as many as 500,000 are said to have been destroyed. It is hard for the newly arrived Azorean to understand our protective policy toward birds. To the native Azorean a bird is a noxious animal.

Climate and People of the Azores.
There was a time when a good many Americans made long visits to the Azores for the sake of their mild and even climate, and J. Pierpont Morgan, as a youth of seventeen, passed many months there. An Englishman, in urging his countrymen to make use of the group as a health resort, instanced our example, but Florida now serves our purpose even better when we seek a mild winter climate, and the Adirondacks and other high, dry, cold climates have been found excellent for some who would once have been advised to winter in the Azores or the south. As a matter of fact, the climate of the Azores is extremely damp. It is hard to keep paper on the walls, and veneered and varnished furniture suffers great damage. Pico is the coldest of the islands, for the mountain that gives it name and forms most of the island rises 7,000 feet above the sea.

Azoreans, with their deeply embrowned outdoor complexion and rather low stature, seem all of one race to the casual American observer, but many of them must be of complex racial origin. Portuguese constitute a large majority of the quarter of a million inhabitants, but there are descendants of the Flemish colonists, of Spanish colonists who went to the islands when Spain ruled the group, negroes, Moors and a few English, Scotch and Irish. Emigration has been constant for many years past because land is extremely scarce and wages are consequently low. Meanwhile there are few cheaper places to live than the Azores, and no more courteous people than the Azoreans. In this country they are apt to be confused with the Cape Verde islanders who do all kinds of hard work on the Massachusetts coast and whose condition and mode of life have been so little understood by their neighbors of Cape Cod that a cruel local prejudice against them exists. The Azoreans are a more mixed race than the Bravans, as the Cape Verde islanders are usually called in this country, but have less negro blood than the latter, whose home lies in the torrid zone only a few miles off the torrid French Soudan.

Noble Ideal.
Just to be good, to keep life pure from degrading elements, to make it constantly helpful in little ways to those who are touched by it, to keep one's spirit always sweet, and avoid all manner of petty anger and irritability—that is an ideal as noble as it is difficult.—Edward Howard Griggs.

Off With the Old.
The latest fashion in New York, we are told, is for an engaged girl to wear the portrait of her sweetheart or her slipper. An ingenious bootmaker we understand, has invented a contrivance by which the portrait can be frequently changed without injuring the shoe.—Punch.

High Explosives Used in Mining.
In mining and similar operations in the Transvaal of South Africa great quantities of high explosives are used. It is estimated that \$7,000,000 is invested in such explosives every year.

Stole Hubby's False Teeth.
Daniel O'Connell is a wire worker in the Rankin mills and naturally stands for things being long drawn out, but the tensile strength of his patience snapped and broke after being stretched beyond the limit of endurance by Mrs. O'Connell when she got away with his false teeth while he slumbered. Her alleged purpose was the evening up of a grievance she was entertaining. Now a man who is a wire worker has, as a rule, a very good appetite, and requires solid food. O'Connell sucked in milk and soup as long as he could stand it. Mrs. O'Connell remained obdurate and he becoming thin and weak, applied to the Brad-dock police to assist in the recovery of his store molars. But Mrs. O'Connell has not yet attained the full measure of her revenge.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Women always show more taste in adorning other than themselves, and the reason is that their persons are like their hearts—they read another's better than they can their own.—Jean Paul Richter.

FENCES INCREASE VALUATION OF FARM LANDS CONSIDERABLY

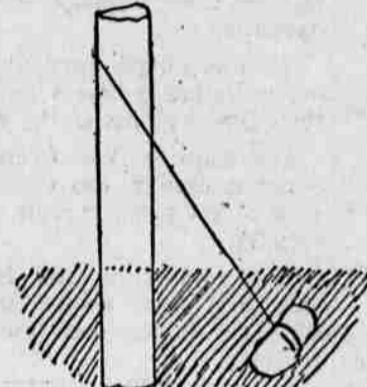
When Well Fenced and Divided Into Convenient Fields and Lots \$10 Per Acre Is Added to Value of Property—Nothing but the Very Best of Material Should be Used.

(By H. F. GRINSTEAD.)

Any farm is worth \$10 per acre more when it is well fenced and divided into convenient fields and lots. As there is more or less work and expense entailed in getting a good hog-tight fence in place, one should get only the best material, and spend more time in setting and stretching than when the common barbed wire is used.

Woven wire, even of the 26-inch width, exerts several times the strain as that of the three-strand barbed wire, and the corner-posts must be of good size, and well braced.

Posts cut in the winter and allowed a season till the summer before being



Corner Post Anchored.

set will be more satisfactory, but this plan is not always practicable.

We have used posts a rod apart on our farm, but I have learned from experience that that is too far and now I am putting them 12 feet apart.

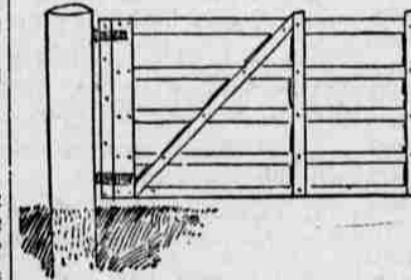
Set the corner or end posts first, then drive the others in line between them by stretching a wire on the ground. This wire must be stretched tight; and in driving do not let the post touch the wire, as it would push it out of line.

The work of "getting ready" is the most important item in making this kind of fence, since a quarter of a mile may be stretched and stapled by two men after everything is in place and the posts set.

Set corner posts at least three feet in the ground, and brace to overcome the direct tension of the wire as well as the tendency to pull up.

Eight or ten feet from the corner posts set the stray post, against which the corner post is to be braced. Cut a big square notch in this post a foot from the ground, to receive the end of the brace, and a similar notch should be cut in the corner post three feet from the ground to receive the other end.

This will throw a large part of the strain on the stray post, but in order to make this more effective, and overcome the tendency to pull upward on



Gate Well Braced.

the corner post, a double strand of smooth No. 10 wire is put around both posts from the top of the stray post to the bottom of the corner post, or approximately at right angles to the brace, then twisted tight with a short stick.

The brace should not be less than six inches in diameter, and squared at the ends.

There is yet another way of bracing corner posts, to be commended for its simplicity and low cost where timber is scarce. It is best suited for back fences, where there is no passing around the corners.

This is an anchor placed in line with the fence for an end post, but where there is a corner it is midway between, or at an angle of 35 degrees with either line.

A pit two feet deep and a foot wide and four inches long is dug back six feet from the post to be braced. A log or chunk three feet long is buried in the hole, two strands of No. 9 wire lled around the middle of it, then secured to the top of the posts.

When this log or "dead man," as it is called, is covered and well tamped, the wire from it to the post should be twisted till the post leans slightly, then when the wire is stretched the post will give sufficiently to put it back straight.

One may think that this anchor would pull up, but there is no danger if it is put in two feet, and the wall of the pit straight down, or a little

caved, with a notch cut in the hank for the wire to make a straight pull toward the top of the post. This form of brace tends to pull the post down—rather than up, as is the case with the other braces.

For a yard fence where appearances count for more than in other places, the brace may be hidden. A hole is dug to the desired depth, being as long as the distance between the posts the stay post being set in one end, and the corner post in the other.

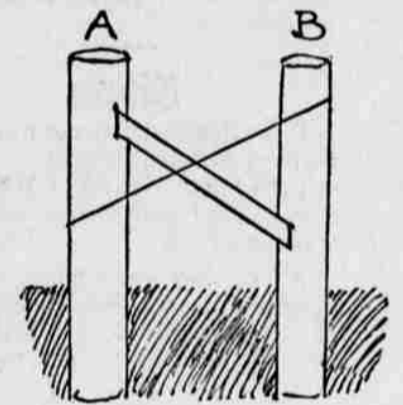
A brace is fitted in tight between them in the bottom of the hole, and the dirt filled in, then another is put in the same way at the surface of the ground.

A modification of the anchor brace is made by running the wire from the top of the second or stay post to the bottom of the corner post, then setting horizontal brace between the posts near the top.

For a good fence I prefer to have the posts set in the early spring and stretch the wire a month later, after the posts have settled, and the weather becomes warm.

There is considerable contraction and expansion due to heat and cold, so a fence stretched in midsummer is more likely to remain tight. In stretching the wire, always fasten the stretcher to the end or corner post, and not to some object beyond, just because it is more convenient.

I have tried this and know that unless the end posts receive the tension when stretching, they will give as soon as the stretcher is removed. A stretcher with two levers, one at the top and another at the bottom is the best type, since on uneven ground the



Brace and Wire. A, Corner Post; B, Stay Post.

wire may be stretched to conform to the surface.

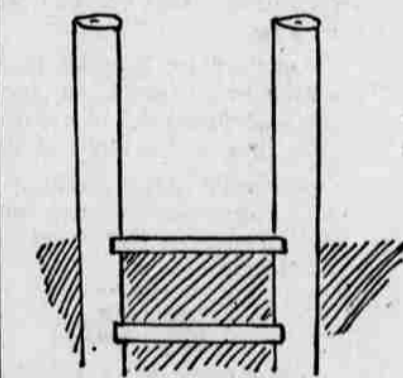
The most important thing in the construction of a fence is having posts well set, for without this it is impossible to stretch heavy woven wire. Never try to stretch more than 40 rods at once, and if this is four-foot wire it will require enormous tension.

A part of the crimp should be drawn out of the wires. Nail to every post, but not to every wire. Staple a part of them to one post, and the alternate ones to the next post.

Make substantial gates, light though strong. Our gates are 1 by 4 lumber and usually 10 or 11 feet wide. In order to save waste, get 16-foot lumber.

Seven pieces of that length, and one ten will make the gate without any waste. There should also be another piece a foot wide and ten feet long, which may be sawed in two and nailed, one piece on either side where the hinges are bolted on.

The gate may be made 11 feet long and five feet high by cutting the 16-foot lumber this way, the short pieces being used in pairs for the uprights, one piece being sawed into two eight foot pieces for the diagonal brace. These short braces are better than



Invisible Braces.

when run the full length of the gate, and the extra pair of uprights keep the gate straight.

Good hinges should be bolted on and bolts used in putting the gate together.

Give Fowls Chaff.
Give the fowls a basketful of that chaff from the bottom of the haymow. They will enjoy looking it over, and to your profit.