your pond, make the dam six feet high, ten feet wide and level the
top with sand, seed it down so as to prevent it washing with heavy
rains, make in dam drip holes by planking about a foot wide at every
fifteen rods; the sides of the dam should slant larger at the bottom
about three feet. In building a reservoir-pond, if you have some
tamarack in the swamp at the head, it will be well to erect it there as
you will not have so much evaporation. You can put your flood gates
in for your supply ditches as prescribed by Chas. Kruger's plan.

CHAPTER XIV.

KEEPING BERRIES AND CURING THEM.

When you receive your berries at the cranberry house from your
pickers, place them away in one or two bushel boxes; some prefer one,
some the other; one bushel box can be handled by one man when feed-
ing the mill. The boxes have lath sides, and bottom, with boarded
ends, and strips to stand on, or you can put your first lath on allowing
a space for the box to stand on the other, and allow for air; fill your
boxes well to allow for dirt and shrinkage and pile them up so that
the air can pass through and circulate around them, have your boxes
or the compartment to hold about one bushel large, allowing for dirt;
the chaff is good to keep in the berries for curing purposes. Then at
any time you can estimate in case you want to make a sale; lay them
away in the cool with not too much light, they will cure nicely in one
week to ten days, ready to run through the mill and barrel. Never
run your berries through the mill until your are going to barrel them,
keep your raked ones from your picked ones. When you run them
through the mill you can assort them to suit yourself, but from my ex-
perience, I think, two grades of berries pay best, give best satisfaction,
and you have no poor ones in to decay, and the third grade will readily sell for little less per barrel. The extra you get on your two grades will amount to more than if you had the three grades together and then the chances are that some would be softening which will not occur with the two grades, if you have a mill that does not bruise the berries.

Barrelling, first thing is to see your barrel is clean, hoops on in good condition. I would recommend the four hoop barrel, it is taking the place of the eight, easier for the grower to handle, and more substantial. Be sure you have standard size, (twenty-two and half inches between heads, eighteen inches bilge, sixteen and a quarter inches head). Take out head, upper hoop off, fill up, put on hoop, fill six inches higher; in the middle above level of the barrel put on head and screw down with force, or use the barrel header which is a very convenient machine, as you can move it to any part of your cranberry house, instead of taking your barrel of berries to the screws and time is saved which is money at cranberry picking time of high wages; nail on the two outside hoops and let it go on its way to the proposed storehouse, to await the advantage of the market and have the case and temperature which we fail to give it in our illly constructed cranberry houses. I think we will appreciate the motion of the association in locating a storehouse, to keep us independent of buyers when prices are low, or made low for purpose of getting our berries cheap, and they selling them dear. Keeping properties of the berries: I think the western berry a better keeper on account of our meadows being covered with thick vines while those East, not so well matted, are subjected to reflected heat from sand, the direct heat of sun ripens them too quickly and they soften. Spots may be seen like a bruise on the berries, from this cause. Here arises the question if sanding will be beneficial, as in our summer month we have occasionally very intense heat from the sun. I think
we all should try and arrive at a point, to construct cooler and more airy places for curing and keeping our berries.

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CHAPTER XV.

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FROST, AND HOW TO AVOID IT.

Hold the water late in spring until the first or fifth of June, this will save crop in spring, also keep off worms. In fall keep your ditches full if a frost is approaching flood. This raises a mist or fog two to three feet high and saves the berries. I have on the uncultivated marshes seen berries covered with frost and not injured; as the frost was gradually removed it lost its power to destroy. Another caution against frost is to clear off all brush and weeds on islands and dams. They claim that berries on a strip where vines in a natural bog had been covered with sand, thrown from ditches being firm and hard, while on both sides of this strip they were softened.

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CHAPTER XVI.

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RATS AND MICE.

Trap the former or shoot them, the skin of every rat will pay handsomely for the carcass the ammunition was spent on. Mice can be knocked on the head with a stick.