



MOWING ON ROUGH GROUND.



BUCKEYE SELF-RAKE REAPER.

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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By C.W. Lattin, Orleans County Historian

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Buckeye Mower & Repair

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Both of today's illustrations are taken from the Hiram Curtis Foundry catalogue of 1869. The Curtis agricultural works was located in Albion at North Main and Orchard streets.

In 1869, they issued a 24-page catalogue with numerous illustrations promoting their Buckeye Mower & Reaper. Although they also made cultivators, plows and other agricultural equipment, this catalogue deals only with the mower-reaper.

This in part states: "While many of the competitors of the Buckeye have ceased to exist, and many imitators have attempted to appropriate some of its reputation, the original and only Buckeye is today everywhere recognized as the Standard of Perfection in Principle, Excellence in Material, and Superiority in

Workmanship.

"The machines we are building for the harvest of 1869 are an advance on any we have heretofore produced ..."

As the illustrations show, this was a machine that could be converted from a simple hay mower to a self-raking reaper for the harvesting of wheat.

In the one picture, we see the mower used on an incline cutting hay. In the other illustration, we see the attachments in place and the machine thereby has been converted into a reaper.

The Curtis Works just north of the canal gave them accessibility to pig iron shipments by canal boats. Likewise being in an area that had become known as the bread basket of the world, it was only natural that machines of this sort were perfected and produced locally.