

# THE Grange Visitor

ISSUED

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE  
Michigan State



COMMITTEE OF THE  
Grange, P. of H.

VOL. 1.

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No. 5.

## Officers Michigan State Grange.

M.—J. J. WOODMAN,	Paw Paw.
O.—P. W. ADAMS,	Tecumseh.
L.—C. L. WHITNEY,	Muskegon.
S.—H. FLEMING,	Pontiac.
A. S.—W. H. MATTISON,	Ionia.
C.—A. M. FITCH,	Albion.
SEC.—J. T. COBB,	Schoolcraft.
T.—S. F. BROWN,	"
G. K.—A. E. STRONG,	Vicksburg.
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POMONA.—MRS. N. R. ADAMS,	Grand Rapids.
FLORA.—MRS. J. J. WOODMAN,	Paw Paw.
L. A. S.—MRS. W. H. MATTISON,	Ionia.

## Executive Committee.

NATHANIEL CHILSON,	Chairman and State Purchasing Agent, Battle Creek.
SAMUEL LANGDON,	Bowen Station.
ALONZO SESSIONS,	Ionia.
J. WEBSTER CHILDS,	Ypsilanti.
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GEO. W. WOODWARD,	Shelby, Oceana Co.
W. A. WALES,	Disco, Macomb Co.
J. J. WOODMAN, J. T. COBB,	Ex. Officio.

## Deputies.

C. L. WHITNEY,	Gen. Deputy,	Muskegon.
THOS. MARRS,	for Berrien Co.,	P. O. Berrien Cr.
EDSON PACKARD,	Gratiot "	" Forest Hill.
P. W. ADAMS,	Lenawee "	" Tecumseh.
RICH'D MOORE,	Clinton "	" St. Johns.
E. J. HOPKES,	Hillsdale "	" Jonesville.
JAS. ANDERSON,	Sanilac "	" Farmers.

THE VISITOR will be issued monthly by direction of the Executive Committee. Each Grange will receive a copy through the Master or Secretary, and it should be read in open Grange for the information of members, at the first meeting after it is received.

Members desiring THE VISITOR sent them for one year, can have it for 50 cents, and in clubs of ten or more, for 40 cents each.

We shall adhere to Grange principles, and require the money with the order.

The last page will be devoted to advertisements, of interest to Patrons, at the following rates:

One column 1 month,	\$12.00
Half " " "	7.00
Quarter " " "	4.00
One-eighth " " "	2.50

On advertisements ordered for three months, a discount of ten per cent. will be made.

On advertisements ordered for six months, a discount of twenty per cent. will be made.

On advertisements ordered for 12 months, a discount of thirty per cent. will be made.

Send money in registered letter, by postoffice money order, or draft, and direct all communications to J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.

—The first number of the *National Granger* has been received.

## Thoughts on Individual Sovereignty as Applied to the Duty of Patrons.

I fully believe, that the future prosperity of our Order, rests upon the basis of prosperity in our financial arrangements. Money is the power that to-day rules, omnipotent, the king to whom all yield homage, men success, nations success, *all success* seems centered in this. It matters not whether this is a wise judgment or otherwise, the fact that it is universal necessitates us to act accordingly.

We have been led to believe by those who have had charge of the work of organization, that we should receive much financial benefit. Have these expectations been realized?—The answer of every intelligent Patron will be, to some extent they have. If I press the question for a bill of particulars, we shall find success here, failure there recorded. If I press the question in regard to the causes of these successes or failures, various would be the answers. Some of my own views in regard to failure or success, is what I desire to set forth.

"Order is heaven's first law," is a saying which I endorse, (if it be possible in nature's laws for any law to be first. Apply this: "Have the Granges in all their workings strictly conformed to the work of the ritual? Has every individual of the Grange strictly conformed to his obligation? Have the mode and means, originated to provide for all our wants, been strictly conformed to? Have arrangements that have been made by those in authority, in the National Grange, in the State Grange, been conformed to?" For answer see failure in *crop reports*, failure in *plaster matters*, etc. Have arrangements that have been made in various parts of the State by County Councils, had that undivided individual support that is necessary to make any arrangement a success? From individual experience in the Kent Co. Council I can say for that at least, no. Patrons, we have yet to learn (if we don't already know) that success in *any direction*, depends upon *strict conformity* to the principles of the order and the arrangements that may be made. All success finally depends on individual action.

What we need now in the various Granges, is that training that will make every Patron feel his individual responsibility, feel that he has a duty to perform, and no one can do it for him, conforming to the powers that be, for the time being, but training

his mind so as wisely to direct those powers, in the future. This is a Democracy entirely upon the individual. Whatever action, or plan that is needed in the future, should spring from the individual man, the individual Grange. These plans should all be eliminated, and when eliminated should be carried by the representatives of the various Granges to the Councils of the State, there to be decided upon, and when decision is reached and they come back as law, every Patron should conscientiously obey as long as the law exists. We must conform to strict discipline, so that like a well-trained army we may be prepared to carry out the plans of our own origination. The point of attack to which we should direct our energies is, in my opinion, in the direction of benefitting ourselves materially, it is the center for the time being, towards which we should concentrate, not to the neglect of the other principles of the order, but as the necessity for success in all things else. Co-operation, both of capital and individual support, is the grand means of reaching our desires, it can be *reached in no other way*. It should be the subject of discussion for the next six months in every Grange in the State, and not only of discussion, but action should be taken. That action from this discussion shall be found to be the wisest, and when action has been taken, remember, brother Patrons, that success depends on your *individual support*.

SAMUEL LANGDON.

## The "Husbandman" and the Grange.

While the *Husbandman* is by no means an organ, there is nevertheless a mutual and common interest between the Grange and the paper. While it makes no claims for the support of the order as an organ, it feels that the Grange will continue its generous support, not because it owes it to the *Husbandman*, but because it needs and appreciates the services of such a journal. It will continue in earnest advocacy of the Grange, not for the sake of gaining its support, but because it has the fullest belief in the need of such an organization and in its ability to bring about needed benefits to the farmer.

A Grange paper, as well as a purely agricultural paper, should be edited by practical farmers, men educated for their business, not only by a knowledge of books, but by the actual experience of the farm. Who else can

know what is demanded of the Grange? Who else than the farmer can know the farmer's needs? Who can as well as the farmer appreciate his circumstances and understand the obstacles to be overcome and estimate the value of means to be used to overcome them.

It is a fact that some Grange papers and would be organs attempt to fasten themselves to the Grange there to become mere leeches, where no leeches are needed. Such papers in most cases are owned and edited by demagogues who are not farmers and ought not to be patrons.

Some political papers put on a show of interest in Grange work, and by sensational publications secure no inconsiderable support from the order. *The Husbandman* has never asked itself the question, "What course shall we take to gain popularity in the Grange and secure its support?" It has never thought of taking this or that side of any question because it would be popular. Some papers have sought to make capital for themselves by attacking the National and State Granges, claiming to be acting in the interests of the masses, a very cheap trick indeed. See who the men are acting thus and ask yourselves "are they disinterested friends?" We see good in our State and National Granges. We believe them useful and necessary to the perfect working of the Grange. There are some things needing correction. Such as may be properly treated in public print we will unhesitatingly discuss, but will not follow the lead of the sensation seekers by exposing to the gaze of the public, matters which ought to be held in the strictest confidence by all members of the order.

What possible profit can there be in having every improper action of our officials, and every mistake or shortcoming of our agents heralded abroad in our public journals, not for the good of our order, but to be used as arguments against it. Yet mercenary members within the gates are thus taking advantage of their connection with the order to which they never should have been admitted. Then if *The Husbandman* does not publicly attack the weak points in our organization it is because we believe that there are other and safer methods by which improvement may be reached. Greater to us than temporary popularity. Greater to us than an increase of readers. Greater to us than success founded on selfish and dishonest labor is the consciousness that we are doing good work for the farmer, and especially gratifying are the assurances, coming from all parts of the country, congratulating us on the discreet and earnest course of *The Husbandman*, and giving it sincere praise as a Grange and agricultural paper.

—From every quarter of the country comes the word that under the new order abolishing the old credit plan, the farmers in the Order of Patrons are attaining to a degree of independence they had never before experienced, and a mutual benefit is seen on all hands. The world is moving.—*Ind. Farmer.*

#### Misconception of the Grange Movement.

In the community at large, and even among men of great intelligence, there seems to be a serious misconception of the Grange movement. Many suppose that it is the sworn duty of the Patrons of Husbandry, men and women, to wage war on the merchants and small tradesmen. Nothing can be more erroneous. Members of the Granges are neither idiots nor unlearned asses. The Grange organization has developed the fact that the very highest order of talent, the profoundest learning and the most solid statesmanship are to be found among the Patrons. Men of every calling and profession, when they have gathered wisdom or grown weary in their own peculiar business, seek repose and recreation in the delights of a farm.

In every Grange, therefore, will be found men well versed in the laws of political economy, and no one is so ignorant as not to know that human society is made up of necessary trades and callings, and that all are so interwoven that each is a necessity to the others.

We cannot more easily do without merchants than we can do without shoemakers; we cannot more easily do without banks than we can do without blacksmiths. Nor can we do without railroads and steamboats. It is only or a more just and equitable dealing with merchants, shoemakers, banks, blacksmiths, railroads and steamboats, that the patrons of husbandry have associated themselves together in their Granges.

Men engaged in farming are differently situated, and particularly in this country, from men engaged in almost any other calling. They are necessarily isolated and scattered at, often wide distances over the country.—The nature of an industrious farmer's business keeps him at home, and prevents that daily intercourse and communion with his fellow man so common in other callings. This separation for long periods from his neighbors, rendered the farmer a fit object for the attack of sharpers and speculators. When the times were prosperous and money was plenty, the love of ease and pride of independence kept the farmer aloof from his neighbor, but when the financial affairs of the country went wrong, and taxation ate up the farmers' substance, the necessity of self-preservation drove him to consult with his neighbor who was in like distress; and from one to another he went until all his neighbors combined with him for mutual protection.

From just such causes and necessities grew the Patrons of Husbandry. They had already far advanced when a happy conception consolidated them into Granges.

These Granges are not formed to make war on merchants, banks and railroads, but they are formed to insure, by combined and mutual support, fair and just dealings with whomsoever they may deal—merchants, manufacturers, steamboat or railroad.

Their necessities require them to procure goods and freights on the best possible terms, but they are well aware of the fact; that a man who cul-

tivates a farm every day in the year, cannot make shoes, hats, cloths, flour, wagons and cotton gins. These must be procured from those who deal in such things, and the object of the Granges is to co-operate, so as to procure such articles as their members need, for the least price for a good article.

And they know that they cannot get their produce to market and their supplies back home without railroads or steamboats; but they mean to control transportation in their interest, as far as possible, without injustice to others.—*Co-operative News.*

**GOOD WORK AND PROSPECTS IN KANSAS.**—I have just made a month's trip through thirty counties in Kansas, in which I traveled by fivry, stage and railroad, over 1150 miles, and delivered twenty-three addresses to county meetings, gave the unwritten work twenty times, organized two district Granges, and instructed nine Pomona Granges. Bro. Thompson, lecturer of the National Grange, was with me over half of the time, and during five weeks he delivered thirty-three public addresses, which averaged two hours in length. We call him a "cast-iron man," who works days and travels nights, and this during the hottest season of the year, and our only trouble has been that time and money did not permit us to visit as many more anxious counties. The south-west is engaged in a grand movement of shipping wheat by the car load to our own agents in Kansas City and St. Louis. The south-western agency must control over 2,000,000 bushels of wheat, which, if rightly managed, will place over \$100,000 in the hands of the Patrons, as we have the lowest rates of transportation, elevatorage, and handling ever known to farmers in the west, and the railroads offer us any number of cars that we may want as low as any one can get them. I find some counties that have annually saved through their county agents from one to twelve thousand dollars each, while a few have set on the axle-tree of progress, Micawber like, and have cried out, *we can do nothing.* The western half of Kansas never had such crops before, and many farmers will clear \$20 per acre this year, and the children of destitution are giving thanks to the great Master above, and the cry of the relief agent shall no more be heard in the land.—We are consolidating weak granges, weeding out politicians and dead beats, and getting ready to do good work.—We must now have thirty district or Pomona Granges, and our worst enemies are inside the ranks. Yet even they shall feel the power of the people, and the Grange is doing a mighty work for the Kansas farmer, and we are full of hope and perseverance.

Fraternally,

W. S. HANNA,

Lecturer K. S. G.

Ottawa, Kan., Aug. 13, 1875.

—Col. M. D. Davie, Master of the Kentucky State Grange, reports that an unusual number of new members are joining the Order in Kentucky, and that a large number of petitions for membership are now crowding in most of the subordinate Granges.

## Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, PAW PAW.

### The Centennial.

By request of Governor Bagley, I have consented to accept a position on the Michigan State Board of Centennial Commissioners. The position involves new duties and responsibilities, with no remuneration; and it is only through a sense of duty, and the deep interest which I feel in seeing the agricultural interests of the State creditably represented in this great International Exhibition, that I have assumed this important trust.

I am confident that no State in the Union can present a greater variety of agricultural products, or of valuable timber and lumber, than Michigan; and in fruit growing, it stands pre-eminent. The reputation of the State and the interests of the Nation demand, that these interests be well and fairly represented in this great Fair, not of the States only, but of the World; and I appeal to the farmers, fruit growers and lumbermen of the State to co-operate in collecting and forwarding specimens for this purpose. We want pure samples of all the different varieties of wheat, and all other cereals, grass seed, peas, beans, &c., produced in the State, also, rare specimens of every valuable product. Samples of grain should contain two quarts, grass seed one pint, to be put in sacks. Selections of grain and other products to be exhibited in the ear, head, pod or on the stalk, should be carefully packed in boxes, so as not to be injured in shipping. Prepared fruit and vegetables that cannot be put in sacks, should be put up in glass jars or boxes of two quarts each. All samples of grain, seeds, etc., selected for exhibition, will be exhibited in glass jars, to be furnished by the Board.

The products of the forests will constitute a valuable and interesting feature of the Exhibition. Specimens of every variety of valuable timber and ornamental wood, from the forests of Michigan, should be selected and prepared in such a manner as will do credit to this great interest of the State. The burden of this division of the work, will naturally fall upon the Lumbermen, and we have every reason to believe, that it will be well done.

Every article, or sample of products should be selected, prepared and forwarded to F. W. Noble, Secretary of the State Board, Detroit, during the coming autumn and early winter.

I am appointing Superintendents in the several counties, who will give their personal attention to collecting and forwarding samples of products; and for that purpose will attend the Fairs of the county; and I trust the officers of the Agricultural Societies, and other Organizations of Farmers and Fruit Growers will co-operate with the County Superintendents and State Board, in this work. Counties and sections of the State, that wish to be represented by samples of products from such localities, can do so, but should apply for space in the exhibition, at the earliest possible moment.

Each sample should be accompanied with a statement, containing the name of the producer, where raised, and such facts relating to soil and cultivation as may be deemed of interest. It would be desirable, to have samples of soil, producing rare specimens, or heavy yields, forwarded with the specimen.

While our State has vast resources in its mineral products, and lumber, yet the great source of its wealth and prosperity, are the products of the farms and orchards. Shall these interests be well represented in the Centennial Exhibition of the nation, is the question for the agriculturists of Michigan to decide?

I trust that every Master in the State will present this subject to his Grange, and urge prompt and active co-operation in this work. Patrons do your duty.

### Qualification Of Members.

I am constantly in receipt of letters from members of the Order, enquiring if a certain lawyer, doctor, merchant, clergyman or editor, is eligible to membership in our Order. In answer to these inquiries I will state, that I cannot decide individual cases, or define the law more clearly than the law itself. Article 5 of the New Constitution reads as follows:

"Any person engaged in agricultural pursuit and having no interest in conflict with our purposes, of the age of sixteen years, duly proposed, elected, and complying with the rules and regulations of the Order, is entitled to membership and the benefit of the degrees taken. Every application must be accompanied by the fee of membership. If rejected, the money will be refunded. Applications must be certified by members, and balloted for at a subsequent meeting. It shall require three negative votes to reject an applicant."

This is clear and expressive, and cannot be misconstrued.

The code of By-Laws recommended for Subordinate Granges by the Executive Committee of the State Grange, were drafted under the Old Constitution, and a very liberal construction given to the language "interested in agricultural pursuits" Sections 1 and 3 of Article 6 of said By-Laws contain provisions which seem to conflict with Article 5 of the Amended Constitution, and must yield to higher authority. Due caution should be exercised in admitting members to our Order. It is a Farmers' Institution, and its only safety is in keeping it as such.

There are those who seek admission to our Order through selfish motives, others from mere curiosity, and some, no doubt, to act as spies, and to injure us. To protect the Order from the blighting influence of such an element requires much discretion and constant watchfulness. The Sentinel should stand firm at his post, and none but the worthy should be allowed to enter.

The following will answer many inquiries in regard to the power and duty of Standing Committees:

All committees appointed by a Grange are subject to its instructions, and can do no act that will be binding upon the Grange, without its instruction or approval. It is the duty of committees to examine carefully all subjects referred to them, and report such facts relating to the matter be-

fore them as they may be able to obtain, and recommend such action by the Grange as they may deem advisable. If the Grange concur in the recommendation of a committee the matter is disposed of; but if the Grange refuse to concur, the whole subject under consideration, is again in possession of the Grange, and may be re-committed to the committee, referred to another Standing Committee, or to a Special Committee; or considered and disposed of by the Grange.

**DUTY TO GRANGE AGENTS.**—Many of the members of our Order seem to think that they are not in duty bound to deal with the agents of the Granges; that there is no obligation on their part to sustain, with their patronage, the brother who has been elected to serve them in a business capacity. This is a mistaken idea.—If there is anything in a moral obligation, they owe their patronage to the agencies.

The agency belongs to the Order and not to any individual member.—If any brother is wronged or defrauded by the agent, he has the means of redress in action for damages, and the bondsmen are responsible for any loss or damage. The members are secured in this way against pecuniary loss; while the agent must depend for his success upon the implied moral obligation of the members of the Order. Whenever your trade is given to other parties, you are working against your own interest, and virtually destroying an institution of your own making through which you proposed to receive large benefits. So long as instability characterizes the acts of the farming classes, there is no hope of success in any particular; and if your agents are incompetent or dishonest, your duty is to remove the incumbent, but don't desert the agency. "Don't give up the ship," but improve the crew. There is just as much good sense and judgment in refusing to obey the laws of the land because the rulers are not the men who received your votes, as there is in refusing to deal with the grange agent who, though not your choice, was elected by a majority of your brethren. Every patron in the State should sustain the State Agent, and every Grange store, whether county or district, should deal with the State Agent, and this should be required by the members of the Order as the only means of success; for wrong doing, remove the agent and collect damages, but sustain the agency.—*Son of the Soil.*

—The Secretary of the Kansas State Grange reports 1,385 Granges organized with 40,440 members.—Though many Granges are in arrears for dues, owing to the damage by grasshoppers and the financial stringency, the tone of their reports is uniformly of hope and confidence.

—This year, thus far, has marked far greater prosperity in the Order of Patrons than any previous one. The country every where is settling down to the conviction that the Order has come to stay, and manufacturers and business men are rapidly adjusting their affairs to this end.—*Ind. Farmer.*

## Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the No. of their Grange.

### About Quarterly Reports-

Although we have more than once referred to the necessity of Secretaries making a report to this office every quarter, and have endeavored to show that the *payment of fees and dues* was altogether another matter, yet we find that *some Secretaries*, knowing that the Master of their Grange holds an *order* for more than the fees and dues, and that the State Grange is really the debtor, seem to think there is no need of their making a quarterly report to this office so long as their Grange is not indebted to the State Grange.

This is wholly a mistake. To withhold quarterly reports is practically to sever the connection between the Subordinate Granges and the State Grange, and allow confusion to supplant a regular business relation.— Without such report we are unable to make a correct return of membership to the National Grange, and determine the quarterly dues of the State to the National Grange.

We have repeatedly asked Secretaries for reports for one or more quarters, and received in reply a prompt assurance that the Master held an order covering all dues, or that they had my receipt for the dues for that quarter. Now we are quite as anxious to know *what to charge* a Grange at the end of each quarter, as we are to credit the Grange with fees and dues received, and we cannot charge up fees and dues without we get a report. *That is the basis of the business*, and we cannot know how our business with Granges stands without it.

In one or two instances a "little unpleasantness" has occurred on account of this matter not being better understood.

We propose hereafter referring to this matter monthly if necessary, until it is fully understood that the *payment of fees and dues in no way releases the Secretary of a subordinate Grange from his duty to make a report quarterly* to the Secretary of the State Grange. With this quarter half gone we find one hundred and fifty Secretaries have not yet sent us reports for the last quarter.

The remissness of officers, the incompleteness and tardiness of reports, all go to show the need of our organization as an educational institution. To conform to the requirements of our By-Laws and the usages of the Order, creates *business* for several members of every Grange, and though that business may not be much, it is educational and serves to develop and improve in some degree each member. We have all much to learn, and while the Order is still in its immature condition, and is pushing forward resolutely determined through organized effort to elevate and benefit the agriculturists of our country, we must expect, through ignorance or

other causes, mistakes will be made, errors committed and losses sustained. But every observing Patron sees and knows that little by little in various ways, very many members are benefited by their connection with the Order, and all who realize the educational character of this movement are proud of the results already achieved.

### Meeting of the Executive Committee.

In compliance with a call from its Chairman, the Executive Committee met on the 6th inst. at Battle Creek.

With the notice of meeting was an invitation from the Chairman to be present on the 5th, at a Pic Nic a mile and a half out of the city, on the banks of Goguae Lake. Nearly all the members arrived in time to join in the long procession of Patrons of Calhoun and neighboring Counties, that between ten and eleven o'clock, extended in one unbroken line from the city to the grove.

The day was all that could be desired; the place one of great beauty, well adapted to the purpose for which it is being improved by the proprietor, — Foster, a worthy and earnest working Brother. Several thousand dollars have been expended already this season in grading, building, boats and fixtures for the accommodation and amusement of all comers. Seats, rising one above another on the hill-side, with speakers stand in front, met the demand of this occasion, which included in its purpose a discussion of various questions pertaining to the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

After arriving upon the grounds no time was lost by the worthy Matrons. Soon the contents of the well filled baskets were spread on table or shaded grassplat, and the lively work of the dinner hour seemed to engage the attention of all alike.

Dinner done the seats were at once filled, and the hundreds who could not get seats surrounded the stand, occupying every available place within and even beyond the reach of the speakers voice. A brief address from the President of the Day, — Austin, of Battle Creek, was followed by singing, and a prayer by the Rev. A. M. Fitch, Chaplain of the State Grange; after which, he introduced as the first speaker, Hon. C. G. Luce, of Branch County, who gave us an eminently practical speech of fifty minutes, and was followed by Brother Chamberlain of Berrien and Childs of Washtenaw, who on this occasion maintained the good name which they have earned by the consistent and earnest advocacy of the principles of our Order from the day when first they became Patrons until now.

The business of — Wood, editor of the Western Rural, who at a convenient place on the platform had been taking notes, was here interrupted by an invitation from the President, to make a short speech. As this was directly in his line of business, the large concourse of people were well entertained for fifteen minutes longer. Bro. Woodman was called on for the closing speech, which was short, sensible and satisfactory as he is not the man that talks when he has

nothing to say. Past Master Brown and State Lecturer Whitney were present, loaded with good speeches, but in words of — Wood of the Rural, "the most intelligent body of farmers and their wives that I (he) ever saw together" had listened for over three hours to so many good speeches that it was time to stop.

With a closing song this harvest Pic Nic was pronounced a grand success by every one present. The big teams and little ones were hitched up, and with flags and banners proudly in place, the Patrons and their friends sought their homes, as we believe, strengthened in their convictions that farmers not only have a *right to organize* for their own benefit, but that through such organization the social, moral, and material interests of the agricultural class of this country will be advanced.

At seven P. M. the Executive Committee met at the Potter House, and had a session of three hours and a half that evening, every member being present.

Several questions were discussed and laid over until the next day.

On Friday morning, promptly at seven o'clock, the hour of adjournment, the Com. were together and devoted the day and early part of the following night to business.

A By-Law of the Mich. State Grange adopted at the last session, provides for making the next State Grange a representative body, and makes it the duty of the Executive Committee to provide a plan for effecting this object. As this is an important matter about which there should be no misunderstanding, we copy the By-Law in full.

SEC. 1, ART. 3.—The membership of the Michigan State Grange shall consist of the Masters of the Subordinate Granges of the State, who shall be chosen in proportion to one for every five Subordinate Granges in the county, or major part thereof, and their wives who are Matrons. The election of these members to be held in a manner to be determined upon by the Executive Committee of the State Grange.

After a lengthy discussion the plan finally adopted by the Committee, requires that a convention be held on the last Tuesday in October in each County, which shall be composed of the Master and his wife and two fourth degree members, elected as delegates from each subordinate Grange in the County. Where a Master and his wife are unable to attend the convention, the Grange may elect four delegates from its membership. The convention to be held at the county seat of the county, or such other place as a majority of the Masters of the Granges of the county may agree upon.

Where one-fifth of the Granges represented in a county convention demand it, the convention shall proceed to district the county before an election is held. The election of Representatives shall be by ballot, and Granges delinquent in reports or in payment of fees and dues for more than two quarters, cannot take part in the election.

It will be seen that while Masters and their wives only are eligible to election as representatives, one-half of the convention will be composed of delegates from subordinate Granges, having an equal voice and vote with

the members of the State Grange, in determining what Masters and their wives shall represent the Granges of the County.

This we think is a move in the right direction, and is as near meeting a demand for an independent representation as the circumstances would seem to permit, while the National Constitution remains as it now is.

The place of holding the next State Grange was not definitely settled, though the chances are in favor of Lansing. The matter may perhaps be definitely settled in time to appear in the August number of the *Visitor*.

The committee authorized Brother Chilson to attend a meeting of State Agents of the Northwestern States to be held at Indianapolis on the 10th inst. As the State Agency in several of the Western States has proved a success, or at least report having done a large amount of business, we can but think such a meeting will prove of value to all concerned.

The rulings of the Worthy Master in relation to representation of Subordinate Granges in the organization of Pomona Granges and in County Conventions for the choosing of delegates to the State Grange, were approved by the committee.

The following report was presented, read, and accepted:

To the Executive Committee of the Mich. State Grange:

GENTLEMEN—At the last regular meeting of the Committee held in the city of Lansing, on the 24th day of February last, the Master and Secretary of the State Grange were instructed to issue for and in behalf of the Committee, a Monthly Circular, two copies of which were to be sent free to each Grange in the State.

In compliance with this requirement, the first number was issued in April and two copies were directed and sent through the mails as second-class matter to each Grange Secretary in the State. In this number Secretaries were requested to furnish Masters with one copy, with as little delay as possible. We have since found that such request, owing to the carelessness of some Secretaries was not always complied with, and have since directed copies to both Masters and Secretaries.

The sheet under the name of "Circular" passing through the mails without a stamp attached, attracted the attention of mail agents, and the fact was reported to the special agent of the Post Office Department located at Chicago. By him we were referred to Sec. 103 of the Act relating to the prepayment of postage on second-class matter.

To avail ourselves of the rights of publishers issuing a sheet periodically, it became necessary to obtain the consent or an order for the CIRCULAR from the party to whom it was sent.

The following explanation with an order appended thereto, was sent with the second number to each Master and Secretary in the State.

To Masters and Secretaries:

WORTHY BROTHERS—In order that this Circular of the Executive Committee may have the advantage of Mail Transportation as Second Class matter, at three cents per pound weighed in bulk at the post office where mailed, we find it necessary to ask you to send us an order for the same. This has become necessary by a con-

struction of the Postal Law by Special Agent U. R. Hawly, of the Postal Service, whose attention was called to this Circular passing through the mails as a regular publication (which it is), though its heading would seem to place it with Third Class matter and make it liable for postage at the rate, under the new law, of one cent per ounce. The point taken is a technical one, and can only be avoided by your signing and returning to us the order appended hereto, which we hope will be done at once. We are getting this sheet printed at a very low price, and as that is all the expense attending it, aside from postage, we know that the advertisements, with a very few subscribers, will cover the cost.

Please sign and return this order to J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich., and oblige,

N. CHILSON,  
Ch'man Ex. Com. Mich. State Grange.

To J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.:

You will please send me continuously, for the use of Grange No. —, without charge to myself or the Grange, the MONTHLY CIRCULAR or sheet printed by order of the Executive Com. of the Michigan State Grange. Direct to me at — P. O., — County, Mich.  
— May —, 1875.

(Sign officially by Master or Sec.)

These orders have been very generally returned, officially signed, since which the subsequent numbers have been sent as second-class matter.

As the word "Circular" seemed to imply a transient sheet and thereby keep the question of its right of transmission through the mails as second-class matter an open one, we were advised to give the sheet a heading that would set aside that objection, and the third number appeared as the GRANGE VISITOR.

Before issuing the first number, we secured a few advertisements, taking care to accept none but such as were of interest to members of the Order.

As directed, we had two thousand copies of the first number printed and have had the same number printed of each subsequent issue. We have made no effort to obtain subscribers, and have as yet but a small list.

The printing has been done by the Kalamazoo Publishing Co., and for the three numbers issued we have paid \$98.00. For all other expenses attending the publication of the CIRCULAR or VISITOR, including postage on copies sent to the Masters and Secretaries of every State Grange there has been paid \$34.08, making a total of \$132.08. We have received for advertising in the three numbers and for subscription, \$145.85; leaving a balance on hand July 1st over expenses of \$13.77. The balance would have been some \$12.00 greater but for the little muddle about postage.

From this showing the Committee are assured that the experiment will not be any expense to the State Grange Treasury.

With this statement of what has been done in obedience to the order of the Executive Committee, we should be glad to close this report. But as we know of no motive that prompted the Committee to determine to issue monthly this little sheet but an honest belief on the part of its individual members that the "Good of the Order" would be promoted thereby, it seems proper that the Committee should be informed of some facts that have come to the surface by the publication of this sheet, that the Committee may be better prepared to determine what its future course shall be in reference to this matter.

The first issue called forth an editorial in the *New Era and Northern Granger* charging the Secretary with

having in the printed Proceedings of the Michigan State Grange either garbled the report or made a mistake, doing the *Eva* great injustice.

Passing by without comment upon the matter or spirit of the article, we will simply recite the facts as appears by the records, as made at the session of the State Grange by Bro. J. V. Johnson.

From that record, which we find made on a Universal Scratch Book in such manner that alterations or erasures without detection would be simply impossible, we find that on the second day of the session a motion was made and carried to have a Committee of Three appointed to take into consideration the expediency of securing a State Organ. Such Committee was appointed and their report made the third day of the session, is given *verbatim* in the printed Proceedings of the Session, and is as follows:

WHEREAS, The Press is recognized as the motive power in moulding public sentiment and in the diffusion of knowledge, and all distinct interests receive material aid therefrom, and

WHEREAS, Our Worthy Master recommends and your committee also believe that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry of Michigan demands a live and able paper devoted to its interests, therefore,

Resolved, That the *New Era and Northern Granger* be the official organ of the Order in this State; and as it must look to Patrons mainly for support, as it will contain matters of vital interest to each member of the Order, therefore we recommend that it be sustained by every Patron, and that it be kept on file in every Grange in this State.

All of which is respectfully submitted,  
ANDREW CAMPBELL, }  
P. W. ABAMS, } Com.  
N. H. ROBINSON, }

On motion, the report was accepted and laid upon the table.

The next day, on motion, the report was taken from the table and a motion made to adopt. A "motion was made to amend by striking out that portion relating to making it (the *New Era and Northern Granger*) an official organ; and also the recommendation to keep on file in Granges. Division called for and allowed. First section adopted; second section lost Report as amended adopted."

The original minutes show nothing farther in relation to the *New Era and Northern Granger* than we have copied, and nothing further in relation to this matter, except what appears in the address of the Worthy Master recommending an organ "as a channel of communication between the officers of the State Grange and the subordinate Granges, as affording a means by which the members of the Order might freely confer with each other," and in the report of the Finance Committee, which says: "2d. That so much of said address as recommends the establishment of a Newspaper Organ for the Patrons of Husbandry in this State we disapprove, and recommend that it be not adopted."

From all this we find that the State Grange by its action upon the report of a committee recommended that Patrons sustain the *New Era and Northern Granger* and that it be kept on file in every Grange in the State.

While at the same time, on a direct proposition that "it be the official organ of the Order in this State" the State Grange voted to "strike out" that portion of the report of the committee.

In the true interest of peace and

Michigan State Fair.

The next State Fair to be held at Saginaw, Sept 13th to 17th, will afford Patrons a splendid opportunity of seeing such sample implements, machinery and goods as have been offered us by manufacturers and dealers who desire to deal directly with the Order. To secure this object I have resolved to exhibit samples of everything for which arrangements have been made to supply the trade for 1876.

We particularly desire that County and District Agents should be in attendance, that an interchange of views may be had, and we may be the better prepared to advance the co-operative work of our Order. Meetings of Agents and Patrons who feel a desire to promote the general good, should be held from time to time during the Fair, at such convenient place as we can obtain. When I go to Saginaw I will secure a place for such meeting. By such a conference I trust we shall be able to adopt some uniform system of business that will be effective and give increased strength and confidence to every true Patron in Mich. A meeting of this kind, we think must be productive of good, and will afford the best opportunity to advance the interests of the Order that can be wished for.

I desire that manufacturers meet with us, and take part in planning this great co operative scheme, in which we are mutually interested. Now is the time to lay the foundation for the work of next year.

Brothers and Sisters, let us make this a time for work as well as recreation, and as true agriculturists, working for the good of all, resolve to make the next State Fair the best held in the State. Let our presence and voice give an assurance to manufacturers that we mean business in every sense of the word—not something merely for the day, but that which will tell for generations to come.

Hoping these few hints or suggestions will be sufficient, I will close by asking all Grange Agents, on their arrival, to report to me at the Pomological Hall on the grounds, which will be my headquarters during the Fair. We will determine time and give notice of place of meeting. We hope counties having no Agents will be represented by delegates from as many Granges as possible.

At present a full list of the articles to be shown cannot be given, but it will consist of Reapers and Mowers, Horse Rakes, Plows, Harrows, Potato Diggers, Grain Drills, Cultivators, Sawing Machines, Engines, Wagons, Buggies, Sawing Machines, Organs, &c., &c.

Permit me to call attention to some facts as appear by a recent investigation, and this I will not do in a fault-finding way but only for the purpose of getting you to understand the situation. About a year ago I visited Saginaw Valley for the purpose of making arrangements for the purchase of lumber and salt. I called upon

good fellowship, we forbear making further reference to the strictures which have appeared from time to time in the *New Era*, only regretting that for want of a full understanding of the case, Bro. Wood has done the Committee injustice to the extent of the circulation of his paper and encouraged disaffection in the Order.

We very much regret this state of things, so unnecessary and causeless, and have so far made no word of reply. With this statement, we leave the whole matter for your disposal, only adding that we have received from Masters and Secretaries many assurances that the *Visitor* was a useful sheet, and that it contained in a compact form much valuable information, and that its circulation must necessarily promote the "Good of the Order"

J. J. WOODMAN,  
J. T. COBB,  
Com. of Publication.

The report elicited much discussion. The action of the Master and Secretary was unanimously approved by the Committee, and they were instructed to continue the publication of the Circular under the name of THE GRANGE VISITOR. A Committee consisting of J. Webster Childs and J. T. Cobb were directed to visit Bro. Wood of the *Era* and *Granger*, and by a full and free interchange of views endeavor to disabuse the mind of Bro. Wood of what appeared to the Committee to be a misunderstanding on his part of the action of the State Grange and the object of the Committee in the publication of the circular.

As at this writing the report of this Committee is before us, it seems quite suitable that it be presented here in connection with the subject to which it relates:

To the Executive Committee of the Mich. State Grange:

In the discharge of the duty assigned us, your Committee on the 13th inst. visited Bro. A. B. Wood in his office at Owosso.

We were kindly received and entered at once upon the business of our mission.

We do not think it necessary to particularly review the discussion of every question of difference between Bro. Wood and the Executive Committee, as only the results of our interview are important, and these may be summed up in a few words.

We think Bro. Wood became fully satisfied of the truth of our assurance that we believed no member of the Executive Committee was actuated by an improper motive in connection with the publication of the Circular, and while we could not harmonize opinions upon the necessity or propriety of issuing such Circular, it was mutually agreed to accept the situation in a fraternal spirit, and commit, without further discussion, the whole matter to the consideration and disposition of the next State Grange.

We are free to say that while we think Bro. Wood has heretofore erred in questioning the motives of any of the officers of the State Grange and members of the Executive Committee yet we think he is doing all in his

power to make his paper useful to the Order in this State, and we sincerely hope that the *Era* may receive that patronage and support from our Bro. Patrons as will make it a success, and secure to its proprietor ample reward for his untiring labor. In the hope that the good of the Order will be promoted by the conference had with Bro. Wood we respectfully submit this our report.

J. WEBSTER CHILDS,  
J. T. COBB,  
Committee.

The action of the committee upon the plaster and various other questions, will be presented to Patrons in such manner as the good of the Order seems to require in due time. The session was harmonious throughout, and we hope will be productive of good.

—The Centennial Celebration to which our attention has been called in the Master's department, having become a fixed fact in the near future, involving an expenditure of several millions of dollars, the question at once arises, how shall it be made a grand success.

The placing by the Governor of the Master of the State Grange upon the Centennial Commission, making it his special duty to see that the agricultural productions of the State were well represented, seems eminently fitting and proper.

That the object of this immense enterprise may be attained, will from this time forward largely depend upon the individual efforts of men and women who are not on National or State Committees, but who are ready and willing to co-operate with such, by furnishing for exhibition articles of superior excellence from every department of productive industry. It seems to me the country will expect our Order, it being so thoroughly identified with Agriculture, to take a deep interest in this subject, and we hope this reasonable expectation may be promptly met by Michigan Patrons.

The following Granges are delinquent in Secretary's Reports for the quarters ending June 30, Sept. 30, and Dec. 31, 1874:

No's 15, 27, 79, 119 and 294.  
No's 163, 293, 367, 369 and 451, are delinquent for the quarters ending Sept. 30, and Dec 31st, 1874.  
And No's 71, 93, 117, 134, 182, 183, 215, 320, 347, 354, 365, 405, 418, 419, 444, and 453, are delinquent for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1874.

—E. R. Shankland, of the National Executive Committee, says that the cash sales for the month of April at some of the Grange State Agencies were as follows: Missouri, \$60,000; Indiana, \$63,000; Ohio, \$80,000 and Kentucky \$48,000. And this is only a beginning, as these agencies are new and only getting into operation.

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 1875.  
The Charlotte Grange has purchased of Mr. C. Cummings a lot 25 by 100 feet, on the corner east of the marble factory. A store-house and hall, for the Grangers' own use, is to be built on it.

most of the manufacturers of these great staples, and to my surprise was informed by them that the Grange was a creature of short life, and could be of no practical value to them—Having been taught that to take hold of the plow and look back, would make a failure in any business, I resolved if possible, to find one man who would recognize us as having rights equal to respectable dealers.

After a long and persistent effort, I succeeded in finding one, in the person of A. W. Wright, of Saginaw City, who agreed to furnish lumber to the Order at as favorable rates as to regular dealers. To my mind this was all we could ask, and on arriving home I made known his terms in a confidential circular to the Granges in the State, and since that time his price list has been re-published in CIRCULAR No. 1 of this year.

This placed Mr. Wright fairly before the Patrons of Mich., and now the question arises, have we whose railroad connections are such that our supply of lumber naturally comes from Saginaw, sustained Mr. Wright as true and faithful Patrons ought?—I will not answer, but leave you to draw your own conclusions after I make known the facts I have learned from another visit to Mr. Wright. I asked him, "how has the Grange trade pleased you?" He answered, "the trade has not been what I expected, and I have thought your people had forgotten the arrangement, nevertheless I am willing to continue with you, and will give you prices equal to the best wholesale dealers."

Patrons, shall our next years' record be like the past, or shall we make it better. Shall we not order a thousand car loads instead of fifty?

This is a matter entirely in your own hands, and remains for you alone to say how well the great fundamental principles of the Order shall be adhered to. I find exactly the same trouble existing in regard to Salt.—While H. P. Lyon was promised the support of the Order, and by his action in the matter was justly entitled to it; other manufacturers that by virtue of an arrangement made with some Agent or Secretary of a Subordinate Grange, claim the same support, and will do so until we have some recognized head through which a general purchasing business must come. CONCENTRATION is the word, and we must recognize it as true before success will crown our efforts.

—We can furnish salt by the carload if ordered soon, at the very low price of \$1.15 per barrel, and we feel confident that Grangers or Company agents who neglect to order at once will pay quite an advance a little later in the season. Order of H. P. Lyon, East Saginaw, or of State agent.

—Definite arrangements to furnish members of the Order, has been made with good responsible parties who are manufacturing knit underwear for ladies and gentlemen, of a very superior quality, and in colors to suit the purchaser, at the very lowest wholesale price when ordered by one or more dozens. These goods are warranted to be made of the very best material, and the best, weighing 12

lbs. is worth \$8.00 per doz. Those weighing 10 lbs., \$7.00. Lighter goods at less price. We are not permitted to give the manufacturer's name and until further and better arrangements can be made all orders should be directed to the State agent.

#### COMMUNICATED.

For the Grange Visitor.

RUBY, St. Clair Co., Aug., 1875

Worthy Patrons:

As it is a fact that we always have to labor for what we get in any department in life, we must some day make a beginning, and it has for some time been a study with me in what way to begin to make our grange meetings more attractive.

Now I know that the Grange is an interesting society, and also that there is no lack of room in the wide-spread and diversified fields that are already opened before us for discussion.—Why then should we be lacking for subjects of debate in the Grange?—There is no more necessity of being without employment for the mind than there is for us to be unemployed with our hands. Now we have the same material to build with that all other great enterprises of the world had at their commencement, and that gives of course a rational supply of brain-work. Patrons, let us set our brains at work—let us raise our Order to a higher standard. But in order to do this, labor must be performed. We can not do it by attending our meetings night after night and repeating the work of former meetings and nothing more. We must think and bring those thoughts to the surface where other persons can get some good from them. Now the question is, how shall we get this started. One can not do much alone. I am anxious to give my opinions of this matter on paper, for I am no speaker, and I think there are but few farmers that are, but most of us can think a little, and as paper does not cost much, we can write our thoughts on it. We can paint a picture of our minds, and in that way bring out our ideas, that they may be compared with those of our brethren. As I have said before, there is labor to be performed. Let us think for a moment what that labor shall be. Some may say of course, labor is work of some kind, for labor means work, and the work of the farmer is chopping, logging, plowing, harrowing or any one of the thousand other kinds of bone and muscle exercises that we farmers have to perform, so that the world may be clothed and fed. Here let us stop and consider in what a state this world would be should the farmer cease to labor.—Half of the universe would starve.—If the farmer should stop his plow, the earth would soon become desolate, for farming is the main driving wheel in the machinery of the world, and the Patrons of Husbandry the propelling power that drives the great wheel and puts it in motion. Patrons, shall we be slaves to the world any longer? Shall we be like the convict on the tread mill, compelled to scratch for life the whole time without stopping to think who we are or what we are doing? The time I trust will

soon be past, when we shall be free from the lesser wheels that have been driving and goading us about for years gone by. I have faith that in time the organization of the Grange will bring around a better state of things than have heretofore existed. Here is the kind of labor we intend to speak of. It is what the Grange is intended for. It is the labor of the mind which controls and directs to a successful issue all the efforts of man.—By well-regulated mental culture we can better our condition as a Grange. We can better our condition as a neighborhood. We can better our condition as farmers. We can better ourselves as citizens in all our moral and social relations. The moral teachings of the Order are among its marked characteristics, and are inculcated at every step of advancement. All religious societies are calculated to be moral, and the principles of morality are taught in the Grange, though the Grange is not specially a religious society.

By the use of our reasoning faculties let us each endeavor to find out what constitutes true morality, and let us stand by our principles, taking no notice of the gossip that is on every side of us, and by so doing we shall be able to better ourselves, and by bettering ourselves, better the Order to which we belong.

Inculcate morality and cultivate the mind, for it is the mind that makes the man,  
GEORGE BROWN,  
Overseer Grange No. 528.

FENCE CORNERS.—When the grain fields are cleared of the crops, see that the weeds and bushes in the fence corners are cut. Don't leave them to seed your farms.

—The State Grange of Kentucky was incorporated last week. It is now in position to receive its proportion of the loan offered by the National Grange to the various State Granges.

#### KALAMAZOO

*Business College*

And TELEGRAPH INSTITUTE.

Send for "College Record" giving particulars.  
W. F. PARSONS, Pres.

#### Old Paw Paw Nursery.

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I HAVE for sale of my own growing, Apple, Peach, Pear, Cherry and Quince Trees. All the standard and many of the newer varieties of Strawberries, Blackberries, Goosberries, Currants and Grape Vines, Evergreens in variety, Mt. Ash, &c., all of which I offer to Granges at strictly wholesale rates.

I grow my trees, and can afford to sell cheaper than dealers who buy all their stock. Make up your lists and send to me for prices on trees.

For reference please address Hon. J. J. Woodman, Master of Mich. State Grange, or any of the business men of Paw Paw.

Fraternally, &c., A. C. GLIDDEN,  
Overseer of Paw Paw Grange No. 10. PAW PAW, MICH.

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THE ONLY MANUFACTURERS  
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We have pleasure in saying that the most prominent members of the Order have heartily approved and recommended our plan, while State, County and Grange Committees have examined the high character and excellence of the Whitney Machine. We have already supplied thousands of Patrons with the Machines, which are giving unqualified satisfaction.

MACHINES SENT TO PATRONS  
ON 20 DAYS TRIAL.

For Price List and Information address your  
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[See Paper.]

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We are furnishing SEALS in BEST LEVER  
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*Engraving done by Workmen of Large  
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Our \$3.00 Seal has a fine design of Plow,  
Sheaf of Wheat, &c. The higher priced Seals  
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Cloths, Cassimeres, Flannels, Yarns, &c.,  
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These Goods have "no shoddy, prepared  
wool," extract of wool, or any other inferior  
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best native wool, and with especial reference to  
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nexed to. **MRS. E. M. MERRITT,**  
Battle Creek, Mich.

## Manual of Jurisprudence and co-operation of the P. OF H.

By A. B. Smedley, Master of Iowa State Grange,  
Published by Geo. Wm. Jones office of *Patron's  
Helper*, Des Moines, Iowa. 200 pages, bound in  
cloth. By mail, postage prepaid, \$1.25 per copy;  
by express or freight, in packages of five or  
more, \$1.00 per copy. Deputies and Masters  
are earnestly requested to call the attention of  
their respective Granges to this book. Send for  
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### REFERENCES:

Col. A. B. Smedley, Master, Iowa, State Grange,  
Cresco, Howard & Co., Iowa.  
N. W. Garretson, Sec'y, Iowa State Grange,  
Des Moines, Iowa.  
Spencer Day, Business Ag't,  
Iowa State Grange, Des Moines, Iowa.  
W. Duane Wilson, Chaplin, Iowa State Grange,  
Des Moines, Iowa.  
J. T. Cobb, Sec'y, Mich. State Grange,  
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