Proceedings of the Meeting of the State Agents, P. of H., held at Indianapolis, Aug. 10th and 11th, 1873.

Pursuant to invitation by A. Tyner, the following State Agents for their respective State Granges, to-wit: W. H. Hill of Ohio, J. D. Guthrie, Ky., L. O. Kniffin, Wis., N. Chilson, Mich., and Spencer Day, Iowa, met at Indianapolis, Aug. 10th at 2 p.m. in the building occupied by the Indiana State Grange Association.

On motion of N. Chilson, was elected Chairman, A. Tyner, Secretary. After stating the object of the meeting to be, to inaugurate a more perfect, uniform and co-operative business system, and the discussion of such business matters of general interest, as may properly come before the meeting—Each individual present gave a history of the rise and progress of the business department of the Order in their respective States, offering such suggestions as their experience had taught them was right and proper.

On motion of W. H. Hill, it was resolved that this meeting proceed to inaugurate the initiatory steps toward the organization of a State Agents Business Association.

In accordance with the proposition, W. H. Hill and A. Tyner, on motion of J. D. Guthrie, were appointed a committee to draft preamble and resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting, in regard to establishing a National Grange Agency.

Meeting adjourned. Meeting convened at 8 A.M., Aug. 11, pursuant to adjournment. N. Chilson in the Chair.

Committee on preamble and resolutions reported as follows, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, Business cannot be successfully and satisfactorily conducted without a sufficiency of means with which to meet the demands of the business; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the National Executive Committee and the chairman of the State Executive Committees and the State Agents of the Granges in the United States.

After a free discussion of matters of general interest, the following preamble and resolutions were presented and adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, We desire the overthrow of the credit and the commission system, thereby avoiding the excessive profits and losses incident to a business conducted on a credit and commission basis.

WHEREAS, Business cannot be successfully and satisfactorily conducted without a sufficiency of means with which to meet the demands of the business; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting, and the only true policy is that the State Granges should furnish their respective agents a sufficient amount of funds to transact the business of their agencies.

Resolved, That a salaried basis is the true basis for compensating state, district and county agents for their services.

Upon motion of L. G. Kniffin, it was resolved that when this meeting adjourns, it convenes upon call of National Executive Committee, and in absence of said call to meet again subject to notice by chairman of this meeting, upon a general invitation as contemplated by the resolutions.

Motion prevailed expressing the thanks of those present to A. Tyner, for the action taken in calling the meeting, and for courtesies extended.

The Secretary was in receipt of numerous letters manifesting great interest in the objects of the meeting, and expressing regrets that the writ
aim to have a good time. Don't con-
side the grange meeting or the club
meet a prayer meeting, where ev-
everybody must keep still and wait for
somebody else to move in or say some-
thing, but as a place where, at least
after the business of the meeting is
transacted, you are expected to per-
take or partake in the program and
enjoying yourself.

We organize for educational pur-
poses. Our agricultural and other
industrial classes are ignorant, and
hence easily deceived. If we can be-
come wiser, we will be less deceiv-
ed? We want to hear speeches, es-
says and discussions on farming, on
finance, on transportation, on taxa-
tion and the various other topics that
directly and indirectly affect us.

We organize for practical purposes,
for selling our produce together, for
buying our supplies in common, and
other co-operative purposes that it
may take long to learn and involve
many failures, but which will make us
freemen eventually; if in no other
way, by teaching us to deal for cash
and not pay huge profits to the mid-
dlean.

These organizations especially the
subordinate granges and the farmers' club,
will need earnest, practical and
persevering men and women to make
them succeed. They will not run
themselves. They must be made at
tractive places to young and old, and
they can be. Three men in every
city or grange who will attend all the
meetings, devise ways and means to
make it attractive and interesting, a
good secretary who will make a good
report of what is done, to the local
newspaper; regular and not too fre-
frequent meetings; open sessions in the
cause of the grange to which those
who are friendly but not members
may be invited; occasional and even
frequent sociable meetings at the
houses of members, would be my pre-
tice for the success of a local
grange or club.

The editor of Coleman's Rural
World, St. Louis, had a call a few days
since from Col. R. R. Shankland, of
the National Grange executive com-
mittee. He informed the editor, as
we told the reader of the Helper last
week, that the executive committee
have not made any attempt towards
perfecting any system looking to an
exchange of commodities between the
two countries—deeming such an
action premature—and that whatever
has been said in regard to the matter
is an informal and unofficial charac-
ter. They have, however, adopted
some resolutions commending the
plan for conducting business such as
has proved to be so uniformly success-
ful among the co-operative societies of
Great Britain, as presented by their
deputation to the United States, prop-
erly known as the Rochdale plan. The
executive committee heartily re-
commends it to the careful consider-
vation of our state and subordinating
granges, and to the members of our
Order, and advise such action on the
part of the executive committee of the-
several states. It may be necessary
to the organization and operation of
such co-operative associations within
our Order." He added: "The secret of
the wonderful progress of the co-
operative societies of England, that
of charging the regular price for
goods and turning the profits over
to increase the capital of the com-
pany, will be well understood by the
members of the executive committee with
whom we have the honor to communi-
cate. The Order in Iowa understood and adopt-
ed that principle two years ago, Col
Shankland believes it would have had
hand in hand at the present
tlement of $2,000,000. Soon af-
after, if not before, the next meeting of the National Grange will
be in possession of the most val-
table documents, rules, forms of ac-
counts, the manner of working out
quarterly and annual reports, with
all necessary information for carrying
out the principles here, he has written
for these things to Mr. Abraham
Greenwood, president of the co-opera-
tive society, and its originator of
Manchester, England."—Pat's Helper.

Bro. T. A. Thompson, National
Grange Lecturer, under date of August 25: "After the
10th, I go home to Minnesota, there
to spend a few days and arrange for
my voyage east, where I shall labor
until the meeting of the National Grange in November. I trust that
I have done some good in Kansas,
where, however, there is need of
the vigilant officers of the State Grange, the Order is very firmly established
and prosperous. The papers and
newsletters have reached me but too
kindly."

A pound of energy with an ounce
of talent will achieve greater results
than a pound of talent with an ounce
of energy.
Election of Representatives to the State Grange.

It will be seen by reference to the action of the Executive Committee, published in the August number of the Patron, that a Convention, "for the election of members of the State Grange," will be held at the county seats of the several counties—unless a majority of the Masters of the county shall call it at some other place—on Tuesday, the 26th day of October.

As this is a matter in which every Grange in the State is directly interested and should be represented, I will suggest, in order to secure uniformity of action and prevent any misunderstandings:

1st. That the Subordinate Granges take action without delay to elect delegates to the County Conventions.

2d. That unless a majority of the Masters in the county sign a call for holding the Convention at some other place, and cause a copy to be served upon the Masters of all the Granges in the county at least ten days prior to the time of holding the same, the Conventions will be held at the county seat.

3d. That the Master of the Grange at or nearest to the county seat, or his legal representative, be requested to provide a place for holding the Convention, and make all necessary preparations for the same.

4th. That the Convention assemble at 10 o'clock A. M., and balloting for Representatives commence at 1 o'clock P. M.

5th. That a certificate of election, signed by the President and Secretary of the Convention, be given to each Representative elected; and full returns of the election, with the names and post-office address of each member elected, be made forthwith to the Secretary of the State Grange.

6th. That the Convention provide for filling vacancies that may occur from the inability of any of the Representatives to attend the State Convention—either by electing alternates or empowering Representatives to appoint substitutes.

Patrons writing to this office will excuse any delay that may have recently occurred in answering their letters. During a large portion of the time for the past six weeks I have been absent from home, attending Grange meetings, and mingling with the Brotherhood in different portions of the State. Almost daily I am in receipt of invitations to attend Grange picnics, mass meetings, hall dedications, and harvest feasts; and not one fourth of these invitations is possible for me to accept, without greatly interfering with the executive duties of the Master's office. Whenever it has been possible for me to do so, I have, in response to invitations, met with the Patrons at their public meetings, in their Granges, and around their hospitable firesides. Everywhere have I received the most cordial welcome and fraternal greeting. The thorough and complete preparations made for these public meetings, imposing and well appointed delegations, beautiful decorations, fine music, sumptuous tables, and the earnestness of the assembled thousands, tell in language too plain, to be misunderstood how the Order is appreciated by those who have connected themselves with it. The general outlook is favorable, and every thing is fair for a bright future for the Order in this State.

It has been the practice in this and some other States for the Master of the State Grange to install Masters of Subordinate Granges presenting credentials, at the State Grange. As several questions of a serious nature have grown out of this practice, I have deemed it for the best interest of the Order to modify the rule, without affecting in any sense what has been done in the past. The rule will stand as follows:

The Master of the State Grange will install Masters of Subordinate Granges at the State Grange, only when requested by resolution of the Subordinate Grange, under its seal, and signed by its Secretary, to do so.

Members attending the State Grange will present certificates of election corresponding with this to the Secretary of the State Grange.

The State Grange will meet at Lansing on Tuesday, the 14th day of December next, at 2 o'clock P. M.

No Abuse of Official Position.

We notice that all the leading agricultural and other papers, whether advocates of the farmers' movement from the first or only in the recent period, are very generally declaring, as this paper declared at the beginning of last winter, in favor of the supremacy of those broad republican principles through the practice of which control is based upon representation. The Order of Patrons is one of those institutions the absolute pre-6cacy of which is eminently proper and absolutely essential to the full performance of the duties of the farmer and his household. Nothing will so dampen the ardor of the subordinate membership as a persistent and inopportune disposition on the part of those who are in official communication with subordinate granges to use the advantages so obtained to get up a renumerative trade in books, dry goods, grange jewels, etc., etc. —Western Farm Journal.

The Patrons of Lane county, Oregon, have succeeded in raising subscriptions to aid in the completion of the University building to the amount of $5,000, and they do not propose to relax their efforts until they have raised at least $6,000. This is in addition to other Patrons who have given heretofore as individuals. This is one of the most favorable indications of the usefulness of the Order, the interest in education and the general welfare of the community which it is infusing among the people. It encourages so many in addition to others who are engaged in neighborhood affairs that tend to allay the causeless jealousy that sometimes spring up between individuals and communities all in a common purpose, the good of the whole.
Before the 15th of September we received several reports from Secretaries for the quarter ending Sept. 30. These and all others that may be made before the close of the quarter, are of course premature, and may not always be made in accordance with the rules which appear on the face of the blanks. A Grange often credits it own books to appear in the report to be due the State Grange, as we endeavor to charge up to the several Granges their dues by one uniform rule.

After the first of October, as fast as reports are received for the quarter ending Sept. 30, we shall, where the report is not balanced, send a statement of account to Secretaries to enable them to correct their books against the Secretary's statement, or ask for such explanation as may be necessary to come to a mutual understanding of the business. It is not only desirable but it is really important that each Secretary have his account with the State Grange in such shape as not to involve his successor in perplexity and trouble. If our account with a Grange is balanced or if the Master of a Grange holds an order that is in part unpaid, we shall not send statement.

Where our statement does not agree with the Secretaries account with us we hope we shall be notified at once of the disagreement that we may adjust the matter at as early a day as possible.

In several instances articles of association for the incorporation of Subordinate Granges have been returned to this office after having been signed by the requisite number of members. In order to check the pretense of incorporation which seems to exist, we will give that section of the Act of Incorporation which relates to subordinate Granges. The whole Act of Incorporation can be found in the April number of the Circular. As the principal object is to give the organization a legal existence so that a Grange may hold property, make and enforce contracts, and have the same rights and liabilities of a citizen, it is necessary to strictly conform to the requirements of the Act of Incorporation else the object is not attained:

Sec. 7. Any thirteen or more persons, of lawful age, residents of this State, and being members of any county, district or subordinate grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, duly chartered by the National Grange, by charter approved by the State Grange, desirous to become incorporated, may make and execute articles of association, specifying therein, as provided in section two of this act, and acknowledge the same as specified in said section two, and file a copy of such articles, together with a copy of the charter granted as aforesaid by said National Grange, in the office of the county clerk of the county where the business office of the Grange is located, and the same shall be recorded by such county clerk, in a book to be kept in his office for that purpose; and thereupon, the persons who shall have signed such articles of association, together with their associates and successors who shall sign such articles, shall be a body politic and corporate, by the name expressed in such articles of association, and by that name they and their successors shall have succession, and by that name may sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, and may have a common seal, which they may alter at pleasure, and may purchase, take, receive, own, and hold real and personal estate, and the same, or any part thereof, grant, sell, mortgage, lease, and convey at pleasure. But every such corporation shall be limited as to the amount of estate which it may hold, and the disposition to be made thereof, and of the income and proceeds therefrom, by the provisions of section four of this act, and a copy of the record of the articles of association, and of the charter thereto attached, certified by the county clerk, under the seal of the county where such record is kept, shall be received in all courts and places in this State as prima facie evidence of the existence and due incorporation of every Grange incorporated under this section.

In the August number of the Visitor we gave the numbers of all Granges delinquent in Secretaries reports prior to Jan. 1st, 1875. We reprint the list still remaining delinquent, and are glad to find the number reduced, several Secretaries having made good the reports due last year and this year also at one time. It should not be overlooked that Granges delinquent in reports and payment of dues for two quarters, are not entitled to take part in the county convention that will elect representatives to the next State Grange. If our account with a Grange is balanced or if the Master of a Grange holds an order that is in part unpaid, we shall not send statement.

Where our statement does not agree with the Secretaries account with us we hope we shall be notified at once of the disagreement that we may adjust the matter at as early a day as possible.

We would call attention to a recent article in the GRANGE VISITOR. We have consulted the Worthy Master upon this point and arrived at the conclusion that prices are so fluctuating that such reports would be of little or no practical value. By the time it would reach the membership generally it would in most instances be too old to be of value.

We would call attention to another item added to list of supplies kept at this office: Bro. A. B. Smedley's Manual of Jurisprudence and Co-operation. It will be found a valuable book. In addition to a general explanation of the rights and duties of officers and members of a subordinate Grange the advantages of co-operation in general business, are fully explained. Also, Banking and Insurance, with a necessary blank form, and general instructions for organizing co-operative associations. If these plans are not considered in every respect perfect, they are certainly very valuable as affording something definite to improve upon, as they may be studied and adapted to the requirements of the minds. Patrons should buy this book.

Will the Secretary of every Grange that has not received its charter, and is entitled to it under the ruling of the Master of the State Grange please give me notice immediately and give particular directions where it shall be sent by express, and to whom directed. On receipt of such direction we will attend to the sending of all such charters still in this office without delay.
Pomona Granges.

I am often asked if any of the Counties have yet formed Pomona Granges, and how many and which? In reply I would say, that on the 11th of June, Berrien Pomona Grange, No. 1, was duly and properly instituted, with the following officers, to wit: W. Smith Farmer, Master; Wm B. Davis, O.; W. J. Nott, Lecturer; Burns Helmick, Sec.; Wm. L. Freeman Fras- flin, A. S.; Jacob Helmick, C.; C. F. Howe, Tres; John S. Beers, Sec.; J. B. Metgur, G. K.; Maggie Mars, Pomona; Mary R. Hallett, Cer; Vig- gian Mason, Flor; K. J. Lamb, L. A. S.

A second meeting was held on the 4th of August, and much important business was done, including the election of an executive committee, and the 5th degree was duly conferred upon thirty persons.

Mecosta Pomona Grange, No. 2, was duly instituted July 17th, and the following officers duly elected and insti- nted as officers: Abel Knapp, Master; C. M. Darrah, O.; Wm. Warren, Lecturer; James H. Deckor, S.; George T. Pierce, Tres; Wm. Lodner, Tres.; D. A. Turner, Ch.; John T. Byers, Sec.; J. E. Evans, G. K.; Sarah Darrah, Pomona; Margaret Medgley, Cer; Kate L. Short, Flor; Laura Snell, L. A. S. Executive Committee, Master, Secretary, John P. Short, Wm. M. Darrah, Ch.; New P. Short, Asst. S.

On the 57th of July, Calhoun Pomona Grange, No. 3, was duly insti- nated under the leadership of the following officers: R. B. Kelser, Master; Ephraim Marble, O.; H. B. Smith, Lecturer; W. N. Boker, S.; A L Johnson, A. S.; Sister Manchester, Ch.; E. G. Manchester, Tres.; Richard Keeler, Sec.; Jonathan Johnson, G. K.; Sister E. M. Merritt, Pomona; Sister N. Chilson, Cer; Sister J. Eddy, Flora; Sister A. Johnson, L. A. S.

The St. Joseph County Pomona Grange, No. 4, was instituted July 29th, with the following officers duly elected, as follows: Richard Doug- herty, Master; Wm. G. Leeland, O.; Daniel Shurtz, Lecturer; Wm. B. Langley, S.; S. G. Leeland, A. S.; S. M. Nash, Ch.; Geo. Schaeck, Tres.; J. H. Gardner, Sec; John Freeman, G. K.; Julia Langley, Pomona; Eliza Cook, Cer; Maria Richards, Flor; Adelia Freeman, L. A. S.

The last three named will also have held their second meeting before this sheet reaches its readers.

In obedience to the petition, a meeting of the Oakland Co. Granges was held in the City Hall, at Pontiac, and Oakland Pomona Grange No. 5 duly instituted, and its officers duly instructed after installation, after which was conducted in due manner upon a large number. The officers are as follows: Sloan Cooley, Master; A. G. Noble, O.; Jas. L. J. W. Leeland, S.; J. W. Leeland, A. S.; S. A. Green, A. S.; Ira H. Dor- aldson, Ch.; Edwin Phelps, Tres.; C. E. Dewey, Sec; Henry Conert, G. K.; Lucy Cooley, Pomona; Maria J.

Phelps, Cer; Sister A. D. Simmonson, Flor; Sister A. E. Green, L. A. S.

An Executive Committee of five including the Master and Secretary, was duly elected.

Genesee Pomona Grange, No. 6, was duly instituted on the 1st of September, with E. C. Rising, of Davi- dston Station, Master; J. M. Davis, O.; Chas. W. Perry, Lect.; M. S. Good- rich, Steward; P. B Taylor, Asst. S.; Geo. Townsend, Chaplain; D. F. Ben- nett, Treasurer; K. O. Brewer, of Flint, Secretary; John Noble, G. K.; Milda Warner, Pomona; Mary Schram, Cer; Rebecca Noble, Flor; Lydia Goodrich, L. A. S.

On the 3d of September, Wachteben Pomona Grange No. 7, was duly in- stituted with the following officers: J. J. Robinson, of Manchester, Master; James W. King, Overseer; J. Webster Childs, Lecturer; A. Campbell, Steward; H. H. Webb, Asst. S.; Robert Campbell, Chaplain; S. Park- er, Treasurer; Geo. A. Peters, Sec; Jane Peters, Cher; Lucy A. Childs, Pomona; Jane Peters, Cer; Lavina Campbell, Flor; Emma Peterson, L. A. S.

The Wayne Pomona Grange No. 8., came into being on Sept. 24th, the officers being installed: Geo. C. Gordan, of Bedford, Master; H. O. Hand- ford, O.; O. S. Straight, Lecturer; J. R. Brighton, Steward; J. Podley, Asst. S.; S. A. Cadby, Chaplain; E. B. Thompson, Treasurer; W. E. Smith, of Physick, Secretary; J. Lee, G. K.; Mary Kellogg, Pomona; Lydia Cadby, Cer; Maria Tinsman, Flor; Carrie Gordon, L. A. S.

Where Pomona Granges have been formed they are productive of good, in that they secure harmony and unity between subordinate granges, are a connecting link in forming thorough and efficient organization, and are a valuable medium for collecting and disseminating information to the members.

Pomona Granges.—One of the ob- jections to the fifth degree Grange is, that it will create an aristocracy among the farmers. Another, that it is a use- less expense, etc. Now we cannot see why masters pay their own fees and dues, who it is go- ing to discommode in the least; they pay their own money for the degree, the subordinate grange does not pay their own fees and dues, who it is go- ing to discommode in the least; they pay their own money for the degree, the subordinate grange does not pay it. But, ah: they say some can never get up so high as to get the degree. Grant it; we are all in the same boat, in the subordinate Grange; we all have a chance to work our way up, and if we that are always at our post, and are skilled in the workings of our Order should happen to be chosen master of our Grange, have we not earned our position? We say we have, and we cannot see where the aristoc- racy comes in if we should see fit to order our men to work in one step higher. We have no room for drones in the Grange room: let the office seek the person; the best qualified to fill the office, and the mem- bers that attend diligently to their busi- ness and are always punctual in their attendance, are the members that the offices should be filled from.—

State Agent’s Department.

Pomona Grange, No. 5, was duly instituted.
Patrons, and cash balances were at their best now in use. It is manufacturing us with anything more. At Cook, of Detroit, who has furnished our orders must be sent to N. Chilson, Bath, Michigan. The Phoenix Foundry and Machine works, at Phoenix, is the Clipper Self-dump Horse Rake, manufactured by the Dayton Machine Co., Dayton, Ohio. To all appearance it is to be the coming rake for the farmer.

This implement will be furnished to the Order for the year 1876 at reduced rates, and will be warranted to do work equal to the very best.

The Phoenix Cross-cut Saw Machine is probably one of the simplest and best now in use. It is manufactured by Chandler & Taylor, at the Phoenix Foundry and Machine works. Nearly 1000 have been sent to the West Washington st., Indianapolis, Ind., and will be sold to Patrons at the low price of $80. Orders must be sent to N. Chilson, Bath, Michigan, purchasing Agent, or to Charles Merritt, of the same place.

We have to announce that C. T. Cook, of Detroit, who has furnished the Order with groceries for the past year, has discontinued his business in that line, and is therefore unable to furnish us with anything more. At present we have no arrangement with any grocer in Detroit; but I will endeavor before long to consummate arrangements and announce them in the next number of the Bulletin.

We have made arrangements with Messrs. Raymond & Hibbard, of Detroit, commission merchants, to handle what for one cent commission per bushel. We have shipped to this firm for the last year, and always found them to be prompt and reliable business men. All members of the Order can ship to them with perfect safety, and all grain they may wish to dispose of.

—For the benefit of Michigan Patrons who may wish to know of a reliable New York Commission House, we clip the following from the Husbandman—"Are Smith & Ensign, 320 and 337 Greenwich St., New York, in the employ of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry!"

This house is exclusively engaged in trade for the Order, and as far as we have given its entire satisfaction. Up to the first of June last it was the recognized agency established by the Executive Committee of this State, but owing to a difficulty in terms and other causes, in no manner affecting the integrity of the firm, on that date it tendered voluntary resignation of this position, which was accepted, without impairing confidence on either side. The books of the concern were then as now open to the inspection of Patrons, and cash balances were at once made up for all who had made consignments and who had not received full returns. The gentlemen composing this firm are thoroughly familiar with the business in which they are engaged, as represented in their advertisement in The Husbandman, and they offer terms so exceedingly favorable to Patrons that they must win support. They take all the risks, trusting the honesty of Patrons. Send to them for circulars explaining the nature of transactions.

—When contracts are made by a Grange with the full consent of its members, there is no plea of expediency or offers of better conditions which can honorably absolve the contracting members from their pledged obligations. No trickery or dishonesty have been tolerated in the Order. Prompt compliance with contracts, no matter how burdensome the obligation, is the first duty of an honorable man.

Communications.

Is the Grange an Educator?

We answer: Most assuredly it is. It educates, excites, refines, and ennobles, both man and woman, in every phase and department of their life and being; intellectually, socially, morally and physically. This last statement some, we are well aware, will deny, but nevertheless we assume that proper cultivation and development of any one faculty of our organism cannot exist without producing like effects upon the whole structure of mankind. For instance, those who have hitherto devoted their entire time, and whatever of talent they possessed, solely to agricultural pursuits, have lived too exclusively confined, narrowed-down and fettered, if not dwarfed to some extent. Every force and energy of their nature being bent upon one aim and purpose, that of confining the hard-earned dollar, by ceaseless, tiresome, earnest toil, and giving little or no time to develop or expand the higher and more ennobling attributes of the soul.

Let it not be understood that we depreciate labor; no, we admire it; but we do most decidedly object to any plan of living, which deprives man or woman of one legitimate right or privilege; or which even through honest though misdirected effort, permits our minds to run in one groove, and our energies to one purpose, at the expense of other faculties.

Therefore we assume that the Grange movement has been one of the greatest educators of any reformatory method of advancement for the laboring classes the world has yet produced. Those whose sympathies have become enlisted in our behalf, and have given their sanction and interest to further our good cause, and many who hitherto have been so absorbed and confined to self-interest, almost without straying from the world at large, have now found time to become socially united with their friends and neighbors, in their respective Granges and in the discharge of their individual duties as workers for one ultimate result, have extended and widened their influence and ideas, by reciprocally and constant interchange of thought and sympathy. —living and tolering, as God designed them, not for self-interest alone, but as one united band and brotherhood.

Grange men take courage, and put his or her shoulder to the wheel, helping to push on and forward the great movement for just, equal rights, equal privileges and advantages for all.

We may cheerfully say with Gen. Massey:

"'Tis coming up the steeples of time, The whole world's growing brighter; We may not see the dawn, But hopes are high, and hearts are lighter— The people's advances coming."

A Nice Little Game.

And now it is the lighting-rod men who defraud the farmers. It is done on this wise. An agent first comes along and solicits orders. He will put rods on a farmer's dwelling and barns for so much per foot, and the entire cost of the work is charged only to $20 or $30. If it amounts to more than $30, he will throw off 10. A contract is signed at so much per foot with the $10 proviso, and agent No. 1 goes on his way. In a few days the workmen come along and put up the rods. They put up a good many, and make what appears to be a very complete job. The farmer feels sure that he will get the benefit of the $10 deduction. In a day or two another agent presents himself to measure the rods, foot up the bill, and to take the farmer's cash or obligation. Thus it is discovered that the house in which they have understood their business. They work upon the principle that if protection is a good thing it is well to have an abundance of it; and the farmer is astonished that the bill, strictly following the terms of the contract, amounts to from one to three hundred dollars! Several of the sharpest farmers of Benton have taken a hand at this nice little game.

We learn from parties who have been victimized by the lightning-rod men, that our statement of their operations was altogether too mildly put. The agent resorts to the farmer, as if to represent interests, representations and promises, to obtain a contract, and the bill, as figured up, amounts, from $100 to $600. Several suits will grow out of their operations in Eaton county, and many will pay only because they will not involve themselves in a suit. We warn our farmers to beware of the tricks of these fellows.

An indignation meeting was called in Benton the other day, to take action with reference to the lightning-rod men; but we have not heard what action was taken.

—Mr. S. Bacon, writing from Yates City, Illinois, says: — The Grange sample room makes a large sale this spring in the way of implements. They propose to start a cooperative store and incorporate it. They have the stock subscribed, and the officers elected, and will meet in a few days to complete arrangements. They own the buildings, and among them are wealthy men of good business qualifications, who must justly feel a pride in their undertaking. It will undoubtedly prove a success.
GRANGE ITEMS.

YOUR DUTY.—Are you eligible to membership in the Grange, and yet not a member? If so, why not? The Grange is a secret society; that is a very small objection, and really means nothing. You object to it because it is secret, and being secret you may know absolutely nothing concerning those things that you term secret, else you are not secret, but public. There is known absolutely nothing concerning those things that you term secret, else it is secret, and being secret you must not be a member. If so, why not? The membership in the Grange, and yet eighty cents. Last week its purpose was accomplished, the road offering to sell five hundred tickets for five hundred dollars, which offer was promptly accepted, the operation effecting a clear saving of four hundred dollars, and nobody hurt. The tickets are good during the current year, but will be used long before the expiration of the time. This is the kind of war Granges are making on railroads. The road in question seems to like it and is likely to have more of it.

—The social feature of the Grange, the fraternal union of its members, the unity of the farmers in one grand community, is what is in the Order to-day. What they will do; what they will make of the organization; how far they will be able to throw off the schemes of wild theorists and confine their efforts to the right and the practical, are questions of the utmost moment, that are yet to be solved.—

GRANGE Tactics—A certain Grange thirty miles from New York City recently attempted to procure a reduction in the price of railroad tickets, the round fare being one dollar and eighty cents. Last week its purpose was accomplished, the road offering to sell five hundred tickets for five hundred dollars, which offer was promptly accepted, the operation effecting a clear saving of four hundred dollars, and nobody hurt. The tickets are good during the current year, but will be used long before the expiration of the time. This is the kind of war Granges are making on railroads. The road in question seems to like it and is likely to have more of it.

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To these questions we devote ourselves. Organization is a problem that will be used long before the expiration of the time. This is the kind of war Granges are making on railroads. The road in question seems to like it and is likely to have more of it.

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On Tuesday morning from the Hon. C. G. Glidden, Master, of Iowa State Grange, I have received a prospectus. Sold by J. T. COBB, State Sec., and co-operation of the members.

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