

saw; for other classes than the farmers would have derived the bulk of the benefits, and large cities, etc., instead of improved farms, would result therefrom; but when the same result has been obtained by the Grange, for the exclusive benefit of the farmers, no one appears to care that the farmer should know it. We must therefore learn it ourselves, as we are fast doing. We will then appreciate the Grange, and give it credit for securing to the farmer more than if it had taught him to increase his yield in produce twenty per cent. per annum.—*Monthly Talk.*

GLEANINGS.

THE Granges in Ohio seem determined to let the country know that farmers can do something besides farming, for they have taken steps to establish another supply house at Marietta. Capital \$20,000, in shares of \$5, members limited to twenty shares.

SPEAKING of capital, the Executive Committee of the Ohio State Grange placed in the hands of the State Agent \$5,000—\$500 more than he needed. With that amount—that is, \$4,500—he transacted a business last year of nearly \$1,000,000, turning over the original capital two hundred times, or nearly four times a week, at a cost of not more than one-half per cent, to the members of the order in that State.

THE order of Patrons of Husbandry has developed in this country more speakers and active parliamentaries than any school or combination of colleges ever started in any country. This fact shows what an educational power there is in the order, if used to an advantage.

PATRONS AND POLITICS.—While it is a notorious fact, that as an organization of Granges, we eschew politics, it is nevertheless true, that each individual member possesses and is entitled to exercise all the political rights as to any other citizen. Being a Patron of Husbandry the duty of exercising this right is more imperative than if they were not members, because the laws of our government control our interests, and it is through these laws that the evils we complain of, in many respects, must be corrected. There is the necessity then, for us, as citizens, to educate ourselves in political economy; to exercise upon all occasions the rights conferred upon us; to use all fair and honorable means to secure the election of those who are friendly to the agricultural interests of our country. We do not advocate the election of a person simply because he is a Patron, but we do advocate the election of those who are friendly to our principles, believing that they will tend to promote the interest of mankind: We conceive, therefore, that prior to any election we should never let an opportunity pass to affiliate with those, and those alone, who will render us service. We should also use all due diligence to discover the proper man for the proper place and make an effort to secure his election.—*Nebraska Patron.*

The Education of our Daughters.

Brother and Sister Patrons:—There has been much written and spoken concerning the education of our sons, while our daughters seem to have been forgotten. Now I am of the opinion that our daughters need to be as well educated as our sons. If we were all rich, it would be an easy matter to educate both.—But the majority of us are poor, or in moderate circumstances, and have not the means to send them to a fashionable boarding school, or female college. Yet I think that we might devise some plan, by which we could give our girls a better education than that afforded by our public schools. I will suggest a plan whereby we might lessen the expense of their education, hoping some good sister will perfect it, or give us a better. It is this: Let enough farmers join and rent, or build, a suitable house, and fit up one room for a school or recitation room; then procure a lady of refined education to act as principal, governess and teacher. As farmers' girls all know how to work, (or should know,) let them do the cooking, chamber and house work. This they can do, and have time for six hours study each day. Let three or four girls do the kitchen work one week, and three or four the sweeping and chamber work. On Saturday they could all sweep, dust, and set things to rights. I am led to believe that such a school, if rightly managed, would conduce to the welfare of the farmers' home, more than all the education they could get at an ordinary boarding school; for it is a sad fact that the majority of boarding school misses forget how to do house work, and know little else than to play the piano. Then they only play the tune, without producing any music. They are schooled in such a manner as to wholly unfit them for a farmer's wife, and are worth little else than to be used for a parlor ornament. If our girls do the work at school, they will not be afraid to do it when they return home. Of all the accomplishments a girl can have, housewifery is the most beautiful.—Add to it refinement and education, and we have at once the real lady—a lady whom any young farmer would be proud to marry, and happy to call his wife. Brother and sister Patrons, let us try and perfect a plan whereby we can give our girls a better education, and at less cost, than our present boarding school system.

Fraternally,

BENJ. F. STAUGHEN.

Pedricktown, Salem County, New Jersey,
Feb. 17, 1876.

A GRANGE co-operative store in Howard county Ind., started with a capital of \$1,000, paid up, each Grange in the county voting directly out of its treasury fifty dollars. The whole business was under the direction of a board, which selected an agent. In a little less than one year they report a business of over \$30,000 and a saving of at least 30 per cent, while the whole expense has been less than 10 per cent.

WHICH SHALL RULE—NINE-TENTHS OR ONE-TENTH.—About one-half of our population belong to the farming class. About one quarter of our population belong to the mechanic class. And about fifteen per cent of our population are laborers who make their living by their muscle. Has any one ever asked himself how much legislation is done by this ninety per cent. of our population? It is a patent fact that they have scarcely any influence in our national legislation? The truth is, the legislation of the country is shaped and controlled by less than one tenth of the population. It is made in the interest of capital, instead of the interest of the people. And this is the reason there is so much suffering among the industrial classes to-day. There has never been such a concentration of capital going on as within the past few years, and a concentration of capital brings a concentration of political and law-making power. Capital has got the people within its toils. Can they release themselves? This is an important question. This must form a political issue. If one-tenth of the people are to govern nine-tenths, and make them subservient to their peculiar interests, it is time we were awakened to the fact. It can do no harm to bestow a little thought upon this matter.—*Rural World.*

A COMMERCIAL PAPER ON THE GRANGE.—The Milwaukee *Journal of Commerce* thus speaks of the Grange:

"The grange movement is broad enough to achieve permanent success. Pretended friends may mislead and abuse it for a time, but they cannot stop it. It is rapidly teaching the farmers and middlemen their respective duties and their respective rights. It is teaching the public servants, whether politicians or corporations to know their place. It is helping to determine what is just between all parties. The association of men against the association of dollars is entirely in accordance with the laws of political economy. Whatever this grange association attempts in opposition to those laws will surely fail. We believe in the grange, and believe there is a code, called "political economy," of unwritten principles of justice and common sense governing men in their relations to one another."

TREASURY DEPARTMENT WHITE-WASH.—The receipt for whitewashing sent out by the Lighthouse Board of the Treasury Department has been found by experience to answer on wood, brick and stone nearly as well as oil paint, and is much cheaper. Slake a half bushel of unslacked lime with boiling water, keeping it covered during the process. Strain it, and add a peck of salt, dissolved in warm water; three pounds of ground rice put in boiling water and boiled to a thin paste; one-half pound powdered Spanish whiting, and a pound of clear glue dissolved in warm water; mix these well together, and let the mixture stand for several days. Keep the wash thus prepared in a kettle or portable furnace, and when used put it on as hot as possible with either painters' or whitewash brushes.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW.

Incorporation of Granges.

Every subordinate Grange that owns a hall or other property of value should incorporate under the General Law of the State, in order to secure to each member of the Grange his just rights, and equal proportion of his investment in the common stock, or property belonging to the Grange. The title to real estate, is vested in the person or persons, or corporation named in the article of conveyance. Hence if a Grange owns a hall, it should have a title to the plat of land upon which it stands; and if not incorporated, the title must be vested in some individual, or committee, selected by the Grange for that purpose, which is not always satisfactory to the Grange, or safe for those who have invested their money.

After a Grange has become incorporated, the title to all property owned by the Grange should be vested in the Grange; then every member in good standing becomes a stock-holder, or joint owner in all the property of the Grange. "An incorporated Grange may sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, 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." The property of the Grange will be liable for the debts of the Grange, and the members will be individually liable, to the amount of their interest in the property.

An incorporated Grange, "may create a capital stock" for business purposes "and divide the same into convenient shares, and make all such rules and regulations in respect to the same; and the management thereof and for the collection of assessments and calls upon such shares as may be expedient."

HOW TO INCORPORATE.

1st. The Grange should at a regular meeting resolve that at a subsequent meeting, the question of incorporating the Grange will be considered, and voted upon. General notice should be given, and all members requested to be present, and take part in the discussion, so that all may fully understand, and learn the benefits of incorporating. A Resolution should be adopted to incorporate, and the Master and Secretary instructed to procure blank forms from the Secretary of the State Grange for that purpose.

2d. The blanks in the form should be filled, and the names and places of residence of the thirteen or more members who are to become the incorporators, inserted. The blank Charter should be filled so as to correspond with the Charter of the Grange.

3d. The thirteen or more incorporators whose names have been inserted, should all go before a Notary Public, or Justice of the Peace, sign and acknowledge the same under the same date.

4th. The articles of incorporation should be recorded in the office of

the County Clerk of the County in which the place of meeting and business office of the corporation is located; also in the Roll Book of the Grange, and the original articles deposited with the Master of the Grange, for safe keeping.

5th. Other members of the Grange, whose names are not upon the original articles of association, should now sign the same upon the roll book; and will thus be entitled to vote at the first meeting of the Corporation, for the election of officers and adoption of By-Laws.

6th. At the first meeting of the Incorporated Grange, provided for in the Articles of Association,—which should be at a regular meeting of the Grange, due notice of the same having been given—the incorporators, and all who have signed the articles on the roll book, should proceed to elect the officers of the Grange to be the officers of the Corporation, during the unexpired term of their offices, or until the next annual meeting of the Grange for the election of officers. The officers elected at the next annual meeting, as provided in the By-Laws, will be the officers of the Incorporated Grange. At this first meeting the By-Laws of the Grange should be adopted as the By-Laws of the Corporation.

7th. The Secretary of the Subordinate Grange shall, within ten days after the incorporation of such Grange, certify to the fact and date of such incorporation, and forward such certificate to the Secretary of the State Grange.

General Rules on Law and Usage.

(CONTINUED FROM MARCH NUMBER.)

POMONA GRANGES.

35. Masters and Past Masters and their wives who are matrons, being members in good standing in subordinate Granges in the County or District, on filing a petition in due form, accompanied by the membership fee, shall be entitled to the degree and membership in a Pomona Grange.

36. Fourth Degree members in good standing in a subordinate Grange in the County or District, "on filing a petition setting forth their election by the subordinate Grange to which they belong, and accompanied by the fee of membership, shall, when duly elected to membership, be entitled to receive the degree of Pomona, and its benefits. No member shall be received except by ballot, and three negative votes shall reject."

37. "The Secretary of the Pomona Grange shall report quarterly to the Secretary of the State Grange, and for the same time Secretaries of subordinate Granges are required to report; which report shall show the membership of the Grange, condition of the treasury, and give such information in regard to business done, stock, crops, implements, etc., as may be called for by the State Grange. Such report should be made promptly and with as much exactness as possible, and be certified to by the Master and Secretary."

38. The Pomona Granges being now a component part of the organization of Patrons of Husbandry, it is both

desirable and necessary that a record of this branch of the organization be kept in the office of the Secretary of the State Grange.

Secretaries of Pomona Granges who have not already done so, should at once report to the Secretary of the State Grange—

1st. The date of organization.

2d. The names and address of the Master, Secretary and Business Agent first elected.

3d. The date of annual meeting.

4th. The names and address of the Master, Secretary and Business Agent elected for 1876.

Patrons of Michigan.

Our brethren in the counties of Lake and Manistee are in need of aid. They have settled in this new portion of our State, and are by honest industry endeavoring to make for themselves comfortable homes. They had cleared away the forest, and planted the ground, which promised an abundant yield; and all looked forward with joy to the coming harvest. But alas, they were doomed to disappointment. The early frosts of last autumn destroyed their crops, and blasted all their hopes. They are now without seed for spring planting; and in many instances, without suitable food for their families.

I am confident this appeal to you in the more favored portions of our State, will not be in vain. The Master of each Subordinate Grange should present this subject to his Grange at its next meeting, and give all who are able and willing, the privilege of exercising this most christian virtue, of "giving to the needy." By so doing they will send joy to many despondent hearts, and find their reward in the consciousness of having relieved their "brethren in distress," and in the truth of the declaration, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Read Brother Whitney's letter in another column, and act accordingly.

J. J. WOODMAN.

"It turns out that the arrangements inaugurated by the Patrons of Husbandry for their Centennial Encampment will furnish almost the only plan yet proposed for visiting the great Exposition with any degree of economy or comfort. The rates to and from the grounds—only fifteen cents both ways, or ten cents one way—are much lower than any other arrangement proposes, and the charge of fifty cents for lodging and fifty cents for each meal is fully fifty per cent. cheaper than that proposed in the city. A Philadelphia correspondent of the New York Times writes: 'The Grangers may have hay seed in their locks, but they certainly have brains under their hair. When the Grangers of Pennsylvania met in solemn State convention and discussed the question of accommodation and prices within the city, they came to the conclusion that things were likely to be dearer than would suit either the pockets or the wishes of a true agriculturist. It may be observed that the farmers in all lands hold on to his money with an exceedingly hard grip, because he really earns it by the sweat of his brow.'"

From the Farmer's Friend.

The Use of Pomona Granges.

Of what use are Pomona Granges? writes a Patroness. We answer:

1. To unite subordinate Granges in a county into a more solid, compact body; a thing impossible without a county organization.

2. To enable Patrons from different parts of a county to become better acquainted one with another.

3. To increase confidence among members of the order. Men always have more confidence in honest men they have met; and so with ladies.

5. To co-operate more successfully. A whole Grange may require only one threshing machine; at this rate the fifteen Granges in a county would require fifteen. If fifteen were ordered at one time, there is a greater reduction in price and freight. So in thousands of other articles.

5. The Pomona Grange is a good drill ground. Farmers who learn to talk at home, can try their hand one step higher in the Pomona.

6. Pomona Granges are admirable places for the exemplification of the unwritten work. It saves the expense to the State Grange of having some one regularly visit the subordinate Granges to instruct them in our private workings.

7. A well ordered Pomona Grange makes better and more active subordinate Granges.

8. Pomona Granges, properly conducted, infuse new life and energy into all who attend them.

9. They aid Patrons and Granges in selling products to advantage.

10. They impart valuable information how to buy and how to sell.

11. A good Pomona Grange, well under way, can expose any humbugs that exist within their jurisdiction.

12. Pomonas can easily and quickly resolve themselves into horse-thief detective associations, and prove as effective, if not more so than any other horse-thief detective body.

13. Pomona Granges can arrange for live stock sales more successfully and profitably than subordinate Granges.

14. By the use of blackboards they can advertise more extensively and satisfactorily what Patrons want to buy or have to sell.

15. They enable the ladies to become more widely acquainted, and increase the blessings of sociability immensely among the fair sex.

17. Pomona Granges teach, in its truest and most expressive sense, the lesson of PERSEVERANCE.

In a week or two we expect to publish a fine picture of the Centennial Encampment. Persons desiring extra copies of the issue of the *Farmer's Friend*, containing the illustration, should order at once, as the number printed will be limited. Price 3 cents per copy, postage prepaid.

The facade building of the Centennial Encampment will be 480 feet long, by 48 feet wide, two stories high, with handsome outside finish. The first floor will be occupied by the offices of the association. The telegraph, express, baggage, railroad, ticket, news, and post offices will also be located on this floor. The second

story will be used for bed rooms. The entire building is now in the course of construction, and will be under roof by the 20th inst.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the *Number* of their Grange.

We send this, the first number of the Second Volume of the VISITOR to all our friends who have taken it from its first issue one year ago, as *The Circular* of the Executive Committee. We hope these friends will not allow us to drop their names from our list, as we wish to send the VISITOR to them another year for 30 cents each, in advance.

Plaster Again.

Its Drawbacks—Change of Firm—Present Condition at the Mill—Future Prospects for Success.

The plaster question comes to the front again in this month's issue of the VISITOR. Within the last month we have answered scores of letters upon this subject, and visited Grandville twice, and am now ready to report the present state of the business.

In the March number we indicated the difficulties which Mr. Weston had to contend with, and the cause of his failure to supply plaster as agreed.

He commenced operations too late in the season to make a success of this enterprise—had not sufficient available means to prosecute it independently, and evidently no stone has been left unturned that the Plaster Association could move, that would impede his business and damage his credit. Bro. Weston is a sanguine, hopeful sort of a man, and has struggled hard to perform all that he promised—but he became so heavily loaded that he has been compelled to give up the business just as he had reached that point where the great burden of the expense of building and furnishing a mill and developing his plaster bed had been incurred.

He has sold 40 acres of land where his plaster mill stands and all fixtures that pertain to the business, to Day & Taylor, of Jenisonville. This firm undertake to carry out the arrangement of the Executive Committee with Mr. Weston, and will, as far as the season will permit.

The circumstances seem to require that a full explanation should be made that no blame should rest where it does not belong.

The plaster bed which Mr. Weston has been developing consists of two strata—the first fourteen feet below the surface, is about 5 feet thick; below this is a strata of sand-rock and shale 5½ feet, and then a bed of plaster 12½ feet in thickness. Mr. Weston last fall commenced stripping (as the plastermen term it,) to reach this first strata. This is a slow, tedious, and expensive job.

The excavation made is about 50 by 100 feet. This body of earth and rock was hauled off by teams and the

first strata of plaster reached, taken out, ground and shipped prior to the 5th inst. Mr. Weston expected to get into the lower strata by the middle of February, but in that he failed, except with a drill, which determined its thickness in a half dozen places. When I was there on the 12th, the day of his transfer to Day & Taylor, the intermediate strata of sandstone and shale was mostly quarried out of the opened pit, and it appeared certain that the lower strata would be opened by Monday, the 17th inst. The parties now in possession assured me that the business of mining and grinding should be pushed *night and day* the rest of this month, or as long as the spring demand continues.

Of course this will do but little toward supplying the orders on file, but we believe the business is now in such shape that the "Grange Plaster Mill" will soon secure the confidence of its friends and command respectful treatment from its enemies.

The Grand Rapids Plaster Association, organized in Nov. 1874, with a lawyer for its president, composed of several business gentlemen, representing a capital of \$1,000,000, started in business as an Association on the assumption that farmers as a class, could not be trusted even when organized for business purposes, and though farmers were the only people who had any use for the product (except stucco) of these manufacturers, yet to do business safely with them there must needs be intermediate agents.

The venerable president of the association made several labored efforts to prove that plaster was worth to the farmer at least \$100.00 per ton, and that we should not therefore object to paying \$4.00 per ton for it at the mills, and whatever profit their agents might require of us. He pettifogged this point until he seemed to believe it himself, and being a lawyer and of course able to give advice, we were kindly supplied with his opinions at less than legal rates.

It has never been claimed by any member of the Association, that to mine and prepare plaster for shipment, cost more than \$2.25 per ton, and the remaining \$1.75, it is alleged, is no more than a fair profit on their investment.

This is perhaps true, but, unfortunately, for their own statements, there is four times as much capital invested in the business as is required by the district or country dependent on Grand Rapids and vicinity for its supply; and the price was fixed with reference to making the farmers of Michigan pay interest on this large amount of dead capital. The price, however, was not the real cause of difference. The Granges and Patrons of Michigan would today have been ordering plaster of the Association, and paying \$4.00 per ton without complaint, if the Association had not discriminated against us, and refused to recognize or fill any orders for plaster from any Grange or County Council without such order was accompanied with the money. Such refusal followed an agreement on the part of the Association to deal with Patrons on the same terms as with their agents. It is not claimed

that before the Association was formed, any Grange or Council ever failed to pay for plaster as soon as received. Everything was done on our part to induce the Association to treat our organization fairly and justly, but to no purpose. The Association had foolishly determined to array itself against its own customers, and it has done it.

We have not time to give in detail the history of this "Plaster war" between the association and the Patrons of Michigan. But to show what business men will do that haven't now got a lawyer for a president, I must refer to a circular distributed lately by the Association.

The first one I saw, was sent to me by the Sec'y of the Association, and is headed "Plaster as a Fertilizer." It is without date or paternity. Nothing on its face to show by whom issued or where from. It is got up on the patent medicine plan, and is simply a collection of opinions favorable to the use of plaster. We have no disposition to quarrel with the face of this circular. Secretary Bates, in sending to me, kindly suggested that I should print this circular in the VISITOR.

I have since received the same circular, but not from Mr. Bates this time, with a little article printed on the back of it, from the pen of some friend of the poor Granger.

The writer, in his haste to get his statement in circulation, forgot to sign his name, and we are left wholly to conjecture who this friend is. His date is Grand Rapids, March 22, 1876, and he goes on to inform us that "dealers and consumers of land plaster being anxious to know the condition of the plaster quarry of Mr. Weston," the writer visited Grandville to ascertain the facts." In this statement there is one truth, probably two—that dealers and consumers are anxious to know about this matter of Weston's, was true. If the other statement that the writer visited "the plaster quarry of Mr. Weston" is also true, it is a pity that all the truth he did tell is found in this first paragraph. We are coolly informed that it is 26 feet to the first strata of plaster—that the quality is poor "largely composed of foreign matter not valuable as a fertilizer"—that there is a "supposed layer of plaster" below the shale and sandstone—that from his knowledge of mining, Mr. Weston cannot compete with other manufacturers, and that last of all "he was told that Mr. Weston had a contract with the Grangers of the State to deliver plaster at \$3.00 per ton at his mill" and "that Mr. Cobb had advised Mr. Weston that they would allow him an extra half dollar per ton on all he can ship this spring."

An association that will publish and circulate such stuff as this, it is fair to presume are responsible for the extravagant and false reports that are being circulated throughout the State with regard to Mr. Weston—the losses the Granges have sustained by sending him money, and all that sort of thing.

That Mr. Weston has filled but a small part of the orders received is true, but that any Patron has sent

him money for plaster and will lose it is quite as untrue, and is of a piece with another statement that Mr. Weston had "contracted to furnish the Grangers with 100,000 tons of plaster," an amount greater than has been manufactured and sold in the Grand River Valley in three years.

We do not advise those of our friends who cannot get plaster on their orders on file in this office, to go without entirely, but trust in Providence for a wet season and buy sparingly. We think next year you can depend on getting all you want from "The Granger Plaster Mill."

ABOUT every fourth letter from Secretaries, gives me notice that I did not send but *six blanks* for quarterly reports. This is supposed to be a mistake on my part. Not so—six covers my official term, and I did not presume to furnish for my successor blanks, on their face returnable to me.

Some enquiry is made for blanks for Treasurer's reports. The March VISITOR gave notice that those were discontinued—none have been distributed this year. With blanks for Secretary's use we send blank bonds for Secretaries and Treasurers of Subordinate Granges.

Sec 1, Art 10, Constitution National Grange, requires Treasurers of Subordinate Granges to give a bond, and the Code of By Laws for Subordinate Granges, approved by the State Grange at its last session, requires Secretaries also to execute a bond.

As the blanks have been furnished at the expense of the State Grange, we hope the constitutional requirement will not be disregarded.

THE By-Laws of State Grange were not in print in time to send a copy with blanks to Secretaries as intended. We now have on hand a good supply, got up in good shape, of the Constitution of National Grange, By-Laws of State Grange, and the Codes of By-Laws for Pomona and Subordinate Granges, recommended by the State Grange, bound in a little pamphlet of 34 pages. Price 30 cents. All Granges should order.

THE Grangers' Bank of California does not rest for its support upon the shoulders of a few large capitalists, who in such cases almost always run a bank for speculative purposes, and generally for their own individual gain; but it has been founded upon the widely divided capital of the "bone and sinew" of the State, some 1,600 of whom have come up and pledged their names and money in aid of a financial institution which shall be as broad as the State, and which shall be so conducted as to grow with its growth, and strengthen with its strength, until it shall equal any other banking institution on the Pacific coast. The future of the Grangers' Bank is now as well assured as anything in the future, subject to human control, can well become. It is no longer an experiment, but is well out on the high tide of successful prosperity. We can freely recommend it to the confidence of Patrons and all others who desire to do business with

a banking institution founded and conducted upon correct banking principles—the good of the stockholders community at large, rather than of the little ring of managers who control its business.—*Pacific Rural Press.*

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, MUSKOGON.

Duties of Officers.

(CONTINUED.)

In the last number the *types* made me say something I of course did not mean. It should read "If you can't say, &c."

A word or two further to the W. M. The Ritual, Constitution and By-Laws of the State Grange, the By-Laws and Decisions of the National Grange and By-Laws of your own Grange not in conflict with the former, are law, and should be well and thoroughly known and understood by you, that you may not only know the mere letter but the whole spirit of them in all their bearings. All these have been provided you without cost, and you have no excuse for not using them in your own action, and teaching them to all your officers and members.

The other works I have named while they are not *absolute law*, are good authority and the usages of the Order in many of the States, and will aid greatly to understand the laws and usages of the Order.

Worthy Master, can your work be too well done? Then don't fear you will know it too well. The influence you will exert will be in proportion to your knowledge, and manner in the discharge of your own duty. You are a lesson to be more or less learned and imitated by those near you. You are their leader and guide.

You should take an active part in arranging the room for meetings: in seeing that it is tidy and attractive, assisting in decorating, and in a way to interest every member.

You should be prompt in opening the Grange at the appointed hour, and then allow no time to waste during sessions, yet giving needed recess.

Arrange with the Secretary and others to have the labors of each session executed in quick succession. Instruct each officer or committee to be prompt, not in open Grange, but in a private talk.

Insist that all the services of the Ritual shall be well done, every prayer said in due reverence, and every charge uttered with feeling and impressiveness.

All this, my dear Brothers, and many more things that I would but cannot write, but which will suggest themselves to you, should be before you and your constant study.

WORTHY OVERSEERS,

To you I now come, although had I time and space, I should have visited the Secretary next. Your first duty is the heartiest and most cheerful support of the Master in all his duties, ever ready to take his place if absent, and of course equally able to fill his vacant chair and do all the Grange expect of him. Then you too should study and learn all that you can of the Order,

and thus be ready to act as MASTER if required.

If the W. M. is not on hand at the hour of meeting, it is your duty, after a brief delay, (10 minutes say, or more if you know the Master will not be present) to take the Master's position and, calling the meeting to order, fill the vacancies and proceed to the business of the meeting.

You have another duty. To be ready to discharge all required of you in the presence of the Master as Overseer proper. You too should be prompt in attendance to assist the W. M. in having the room and all pertaining to the comfort of members and the success of the meetings, put in the best possible condition for use.

Seek to have all salutations rendered with dignity and manly bearing. Give your charges with earnestness, showing that they come from the heart, not the lips merely. In short, do all things well, and in time, remembering that "whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well."

MUSKOGON, April 11, 1876.

To the Worthy Brothers and Sisters of the Granges in Southern, Central and Eastern Michigan, Greeting :

The frost of June last, added to the severe one of Sept. 19th, almost entirely destroyed the crops of portions of Manistee and Lake Counties. I was in the vicinity in June and saw the wheat and other crops laid waste. The September frost visited us here sharp enough to give us a realizing sense of the losses of our brother Patrons in these two Counties.

Some members of eight Granges are without seed to plant this Spring, and the want of snow has prevented their earning anything during the winter, or if earned, cannot be received until the logs reach market in June, or later.

Now, Brothers and Sisters, we have had good crops and an abundance—let us send of what we have to our needy Brothers, sowing the seeds of *Charity* which they may plant with hope of a harvest.

These Brothers need oats, barley, millet, spring rye, buckwheat, clover and timothy, field peas, seed corn. Money also can be given to buy if we do not send enough, and also to pay the freights. I am trying to arrange for freight free upon the railroads and boats, but hardly expect to do so at this late hour in time.

These seeds are needed at once. Will not each Grange lay this before their members, and collecting seed and money, forward it to me at Muskogon, where those going to Manistee will be shipped by boat—the only way to reach them, and there to Lake County by rail or boat as may be best?

In case any surplus of any one article or more being received this is the best of markets to sell and with the money purchase those things lacking.

All receipts will be acknowledged by card and in the columns so that you may know from whence contributions are received, and also where they are sent.

If your regular meeting does not come within a week after this is re-

ceived, please call a special one, and forward all you can and promptly.

In behalf of these needy Patrons, I remain, Fraternally your Brother,
C. L. WHITNEY,
Lecturer and General Deputy.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

Public Installation of Officers of Wolverine Grange No. 104, at St. Clair—A Speech by J. Webster Childs.

On January 28th, the people of St. Clair city and vicinity gathered at the City Hall in St. Clair to witness the installation of officers. Great preparations had been made for this ceremonious occasion. On each side of the stairs leading to the hall, short evergreen trees were planted on each step, from the bottom to the top. The hall looked grandly picturesque, with its rural decorations. Evergreens were festooned everywhere; wreaths, mottoes, and implements of husbandry, fashioned with evergreens and flowers, were placed conspicuously on the walls. Bundles of grains, tastefully arranged, were here and there interspersed among the evergreens, and in their yellow richness gave a mellow beauty to the scene. From the four posts that form a square near the center of the room, long loops of evergreens were attached and woven together so as to form a canopy overhead. Suspended from these posts were bundles of ripe corn, in their golden fatness, suggesting plenty to the "fillers of the soil," at least. Cabbages, with their full, hard heads, were stately reposing in social neighborhood to the corn. The tables were loaded with grains, fruits and flowers, tastefully arranged, showing the industry of Ceres, Pomona, and Flora. As I looked around upon the artistically arranged decorations, I was surprised to see birds fitting (?) among the evergreens; but as if conscious of the dignity of the occasion, they did not intrude songs, but waited quietly until they were invited, which did not occur during the evening—an unpardonable oversight for which somebody is accountable! Squirrels were there, too, watching their opportunity to get a mouthful of the luscious, golden corn.

In one corner of the room, elevated so all could see him, sat an owl solemnly watching the proceedings. Seats were arranged on each side of the hall, fronting a large space which was left unseated reaching from the door to the platform.

The Patrons were seated on one side, clothed with their regalia, and citizens occupied the other. The installation ceremonies took place in the large open space in the center of the room. Mr. Henry Jenks performed these ceremonies with great dignity. Perfect stillness reigned throughout the building during the exercise. The interest manifested by both Patrons and citizens, and the able manner in which the ceremonies were conducted by Mr. Jenks, rendered the same most imposing. Music by the Patrons was discoursed with great credit to the singers. They sang of the sweet scented clover; of yellow waving grain; of rich mellowing fruits and Heaven painted flowers;

Of singing birds, and laughing streams,
That haunt the Farmer's holy dreams,
And cheer him while he makes the hay,
With their glad, ceaseless roundelay.

They sang of toil, and care, and pain;
Of harden'd hands, and aching limbs;
And then the "respers" joyful strain,
Re-echo'd in the "Harvest Hymns."

The following are the newly elected officers:

Master—George W. Carleton
Overseer—Wm. D. Hart.
Lecturer—James Powrie.
Steward—John Brakeman
Asst. Steward—Joseph R. Johnson.
Chaplain—Henry D. Boynton.
Treasurer—Andrew Husel.
Secretary—Horace N. Hammond.
Gate Keeper—Richard Clarke.
Ceres—Mrs. Wm. D. Hart.
Pomona—Mrs. Ellen Slyfield.
Flora—Miss Cora Cornell.
Lady Asst. Steward—Miss Ida Hammond.

At the close of the installation services, Geo. W. Carleton (the newly installed Master) introduced Hon. J. Webster Childs, who then addressed the audience on the necessity for, and object of the Grange. After alluding to the beautifully decorated hall, the speaker proceeded to his subject, by remarking that some people might think the impressive ceremony we had just witnessed "a mere novelty," whereas there was "a spirit in it." Society could not exist without organization. Some objected to this organization on account of its secrecy. Secrecy existed in every department of life—even in the home.

He said there was no secrets connected with this organization except in getting through the door. That it is christian in its character. The farmers needed an organization. The Grange is a blessing to their rural homes; it affords social interchange of thought, and recreation. The farmers and their families must become educated; comparing experiences helped to educate. The farmers, he said, must educate the farmers. He eloquently urged that the farmers' rural homes should be made attractive to their sons and daughters; books and papers should be purchased for them; they should be taught the dignity of labor,—farm labor, kitchen work, he asserted, was honorable; and if only the moral and educated were employed, the social inequality of misses and "help" would be done away with. He remarked upon the oppressed condition of the kitchen girl, "kept ignorant." "It is contrary to the spirit of America," he said. He pitied those who left their rural homes to seek employment in the cities. "The green fields, the birds and flowers, lead the mind to God." He stated the rise and progress of the Grange. It is eight or ten years old, he said, but not till within two or three years had it amounted to anything; now there are one and a half million members. The progress was wonderful! there had been no help from the press; the press could not live without the farmers' support; the farmers should support the press; they could not do without the intelligence that papers afford. Farmers should be Geologists, Botanists and Chemists, he said, and stated the benefits that would

accrue from a knowledge of these sciences. Mr. Childs spoke one hour and a half. I have endeavored to give only the most interesting portions of this lecture, but fear I have failed to do him justice. His manner and language was earnest, and at times enthusiastic, with a very little sprinkling of humor. He had a large and highly appreciative audience. The farmers were there in goodly numbers, notwithstanding the mud, and the darkness of the night. The evening's entertainment closed with singing. Mrs. M. H. CARLETON.

The Granges in Texas are in a most flourishing condition, and with a few exceptions, are used as schools, debating societies, and social reunions for neighbors and friends, where all teach and learn, and feel called upon to give their experience for the general good.

Communications.

HOLLY, Mich., March 25, 1876.

J. T. COBB, Sec'y:

Dear Sir: At a regular meeting of Holly Grange No. 244, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Grange, that the fundamental principal, "That all mankind were created free and equal," and

WHEREAS, We believe in the golden rule, "That we do unto others as we would be done by." Therefore

Resolved, That Holly Grange No. 244, do hereby release all persons residing within our jurisdiction and that each and every person so residing, wishing to join the Grange organization are at liberty to join where it is most convenient, or where they may prefer, and we respectfully ask other Granges to extend the same courtesy to us.

And further be it Resolved, Our Secretary is hereby instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to all contiguous Granges, and a copy to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

D. K. DIVINE,
HARRISON SMITH,
J. H. WENDALL,
Committee.

LIVONIA, Wayne Co., March 27, 1876.

WORTHY BROTHER: Please to send me the VISITOR from Jan. 1st, and oblige.

We are building a hall, have the frame up, and expect to have it finished in four weeks for Livonia Grange 263. Rather dull Grange matters, but some of us are determined to make a success of our grange home. We have persevered under many difficulties, till we are sure of a hall 20x42 feet. Yours Fraternally,

ALEX. TINHAM.

PALO, Ionia Co. Mich, April 13, 1876.

MR. J. T. COBB, Sec'y, Schoolcraft, Mich.

WORTHY BRO.: The convention held at Woodward Lake Grange Hall on the 31st ult., for the purpose of trying to perfect some advantageous plan of co-operation in buying and selling for Patrons, developed considerable interest in this matter. The principal good accomplished was to set the Patrons present to thinking, so that by the next meeting which is to be at Orange Grange Hall, in connection with the County Council, on the 26th prox., they will be ready to work intelligently. The "Rochdale Plan," the rules for the management of which, are to be found in the proceedings of the National Grange, and GRANGE VISITOR for March, was the most prominent, and I think the only plan that covers the whole field of both buying and selling. Now, if the subordinate Granges in the county will take hold of the matter and discuss its merits and instruct their delegates to the Council to support the "Rochdale Plan, Ionia County will add one more to the five hundred stores already in operation in the United States, on that plan.

Fraternally Yours,

GIDEON NOEL.

OBITUARY.

The following resolutions were adopted at a meeting of condolence on the death of Bro. Calvin Thompson, Master of White Swan Grange. No. 426, which occurred at his residence in the township of Courtland, County of Kent, State of Michigan, March 23rd, 1876.

WHEREAS, Death has entered our circle and Grange, and taken from our roll book the name of our Worthy Master and esteemed Brother, Calvin Thompson, therefore

Resolved, That by the death of our brother, Calvin Thompson, White Swan Grange has lost a worthy member, the community an early settler and an honored and respected citizen.

Resolved, That we tender to our bereaved and widowed Sister and other relatives of the deceased, our heartfelt sympathy in this their hour of affliction and bereavement.

Resolved, That our hall be draped in mourning for the space of ninety days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the widow of the deceased, and a copy be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

O. McARTHUR, Sec'y.

The following poem was composed and read by Sister M. J. Kutz on the death of brother Thompson:

Brothers, Sisters, Patrons, in memoria we meet
In honor of our brother, whose outward going feet
Have borne him far beyond us, to the higher plains of life,
To labor with the angels, where love's harvest fields are rife.

We have met in sad condolence, with those who lie
yet,
In the dear home where our brother, with his wife and children met,
But, our work seems unavailing, for our hearts are very sore,
They feebly speak our sympathy, they can do nothing more.

But we fold our sister, in our tender arms of love,
And point her weary footsteps to the sunny home above,
We can tell his stricken children, as they bow their heads in tears,
We are weeping, weeping, with you, for his many blighted years.

I am looking on you Patrons, and you each are in your place,
But our Master's chair is vacant, and we miss his pleasant face,
And stern facts impress upon us, he will never come again
While we meet and part as Patrons, in the busy haunts of men.

We have known how full of kindness was his great and noble heart,
How he strove as friend and Patron, to perform each manly part,
And his dying words are ringing, "Ever strive to act aright,"
If we had them Worthy Patrons, we might live them in our might.

We shall listen for his coming, and shall almost think we hear
His footsteps on the stairway, and his voice of pleasant cheer,
For these walls have heard so often, that they seem to answer still
To the falling of his mallet, and the echo of his will.

But, Patrons, we shall hear him, and shall see him never more,
Till we go to labor with him, on the Great Eternal Shore,
But the words that he has spoken, and the deeds that he has done,
They are ours to keep and cherish, as we count them one by one.

May we wreath his name with garlands with good deeds we perform,
As we labor in the sunshine, and are heedless of the storm.

May we earn a place beside him, when the gates shall open wide
And we hear the Master's gavel, calling us beyond the tide.

OAKFIELD, March 31, 1876.

WHEREAS, The Great Master of life has seen fit to remove by death, our Sister, Marietta Gilmer, which occurred at her residence in Scipio, Hillsdale Co., Michigan, on the 8th day of March, 1876, in the midst of her usefulness as an active and energetic Sister and Officer of our Grange, therefore

Resolved, That we as a Grange deeply lament the death, and most earnestly tender our sympathies to the family and friends who mourn her loss.

Resolved, That to our sorrow stricken Brother, whose pathway is thus darkened by the unwelcome clouds of grief and affliction, we as a Grange would extend the fraternal hand of true sympathy.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the GRANGE VISITOR, and that our hall be draped in mourning for 60 days.

At a meeting of Austerlitz Grange No. 64, held at their hall April 1st, 1876, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Great Creator of the universe has seen fit to suddenly remove by death our worthy Brother Homer A. Gray, therefore,

Resolved, That we as members of Austerlitz Grange extend our united sympathy to the bereaved family of our deceased brother who have thus suddenly been bereft of a dutiful and affectionate son and kind and watchful brother.

Resolved, That while we mournfully deplore our loss, we humbly bow in submission, acknowledging the hand of our Great Creator.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of this Grange, and a copy presented to the family of the deceased, also published in the GRANGE VISITOR and Rockford Register.

Resolved, That our Grange hall be draped in mourning three months.

M. B. HINE, Master,
D. C. FLETCHER, Sec'y.

HALL OF PORTER GRANGE, No. 427,
March 27, 1876.

WHEREAS, On the second inst, Death removed from our midst a beloved Sister, who was endeared to us by her high moral qualities and amiable disposition, therefore

Resolved, By the Patrons of Porter Grange No. 427, that in the death of Sister Francis Holloway, our society has lost an appreciated member, the church an efficient helper, and the community a useful and esteemed citizen. Falling thus early, her death has cut short a life of usefulness, and cast a gloom over her friends who had known her but to love her.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the bereft husband and family in this their hour of affliction.

Resolved, That a copy of these Resolutions be furnished to the sorrowing brother and be printed in the GRANGE VISITOR.

E. C. LONG, Sec'y.

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Sec'y MICH. STATE GRANGE,
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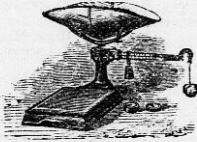
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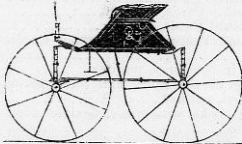
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