

THE Grange Visitor

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BY THE **EXECUTIVE**
Michigan State



COMMITTEE OF THE
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J. J. WOODMAN, } Publishing Committee.
J. T. COBB, }

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A Square is one inch in space, column width.

It is not the purpose of the Executive Committee in continuing the publication of the VISITOR, by direction of the State Grange, to deviate from the course first marked out in February last, which was to furnish the most direct, complete and cheapest medium of communication between the officers and members of the Order throughout the State.

We hope Masters and Secretaries will not fail to call the attention of members to every matter of general interest, which appears in the VISITOR.

Communications on any subject, calculated to promote the good of the Order, are solicited.

For Grange Supplies kept by the Secretary, see "LIST OF SUPPLIES" on seventh page.

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From an Address of Gen. Diven of New York.

"Within the last fifty years immense advancement has been made in the construction of the implements of husbandry as well as in the methods of agriculture. Nevertheless there is something in which the farmers of today need instruction. There is a broad field which has been neglected. While our stock is vastly superior to that of former times, while our crops are better and we have made immense strides in material advancement, we have not done all we might to improve ourselves and to enable farmers to take and hold that position in society to which they are rightly entitled.

As a class farmers are not contented with their condition. Pardon me if I seem to speak too harshly. But when I recall the old men who used to occupy the farms about these lakes, and look upon the present occupants, I am reminded that they are not the sons of the men I knew. Why is this? Because farmers are discontented.—Our sons desire and seek other avocations. The boys have sought positions in the village store or office, where they can escape the drudgery of the farm as they are pleased to consider it.

Money making by farming is considered a slow process. We need not deny this. And yet the farmer and his boys in contrasting other callings with that of farming see only their bright side. The farmer sees his former neighbor and companion living in a fine residence, surrounded with the evidences of wealth, and is dazzled and made dissatisfied with his plodding because of his companion's success. One such instance of success is sufficient to lure from the patient pursuit of husbandry a hundred or more young men. We do not stop to consider that where there is one instance of marked success of this kind there are a hundred who run into dissipation.

I would not have the young men remain upon the farms without improvement—without making progress. I would have them educated and fitted for usefulness and influence. Farmers you do not occupy the position to which your intelligence and business interests entitle you, for you have your full share of intelligence. You do not assert your rights sufficiently. You pay the greater part of the taxes, and it is your duty to participate more fully in the management of public affairs. It is your duty to exert your influence and make it felt more in

proportion to your numerical strength and property interests.

Is it not a fact that a few men in your villages manage your politics? Do not these petty politicians control the political parties? Farmers are scarcely heard in these matters where they are vitally concerned. They permit the influence and prerogatives which rightly belong to them to be used by men who are by no means their superiors in ability and whose real financial interest in these matters are insignificant as compared with those which should stimulate farmers to the performance of duty.

I do not desire to mix up politics with what I have to say, but in all earnestness farmers it is not only your privilege but your duty to exert your full political influence.

Education, mental culture and social intercourse for yourselves and especially your children are what you need to prepare you to act well your part. It is a most pernicious idea that farmers do not need education. There is no occupation with which I am acquainted where scientific education applies more fully than in farming.—Education can give us an important insight into the qualities of our soils and our animal foods and helps us to breed and raise stock intelligently.—There is much need of mechanical knowledge in modern farming.

We should have better schools for our children. All that tends to successful agriculture should be taught in the school where your children attend.

Your county is rich enough, and your population is dense enough to enable you to maintain a first class school within the reach of every farmer's son and daughter. Your school should be equal to the best in our cities and villages. If I could arouse you to thought and action in this important matter, I should be especially glad to have met you in this capacity. Condense your little school districts. Let your children walk three miles if necessary, but provide schools which shall do them good when they have reached them. You can better than you think afford good schools. The future success and happiness of your children are in this question.

With good schools, with intelligent, boys and girls educated at home, with better social advantages we could expect to see boys going from the village to the farm, instead of from the farm to the village. The more intelligence we can engage in agriculture, the more prosperous and attractive will it be

and on agriculture is based all other industries. As that languishes business in general suffers, when that is prosperous prosperity is general.

Statistics show us that when our general government was organized ten out of every eleven men were farmers. To-day farmers are actually in the minority. There is some real cause for this falling off, but they do not remove the fact that farming has not been growing in favor among the intelligent ambitious American youths. And yet farming is the occupation which above all we ought to seek. It has less of chance and risk in it. It is honorable and should be more honorable. We should as I have said exert our full share of influence, we should pay greater heed to what vitally concerns us in the management of government.

Why, if the farmers of New York rightly understood their influence today, and the need of exerting it, circumstances would not exist in this State which are crippling our industries. The people have, through their representatives, granted franchises to railroad corporations. They were expected to enhance the value of your lands by increasing your transportation facilities, and giving you better markets and advantages.

Farmers of Schuyler County what is the condition of things to-day?

Do I need to remind you that farm products are shipped from Illinois, Missouri and Iowa past your very doors to New York city at a less cost than is required to send your own products from here. It is well known to you that I have been identified with railroad interests. I was heartily interested in promoting the construction of roads through this section of New York. I believed they were needed, and have been much interested in the development of our country and its resources in which they have been important aids. I have been concerned in railroad management and have opposed pro rata schemes which seemed to me revolutionary and impracticable but for the railroads which owe their existence to the legislature of New York—to the people producers and taxpayers of the State through their representatives—to carry freight four or five times as far from distant states at a less charge than they make to those to whom they are indebted for their franchise is simply monstrous. If the farmers of this State were fully awake to the injustice of the discriminations against them, if they comprehended the circumstances and realized their influence another session of the Legislature would not be passed without a remedy being applied to these abuses.

Schuyler County farmers are raising grain on lands worth one hundred dollars per acre. One principal cause for its high value, is its proximity to market and yet farmers who live a thousand miles away are competing in the same markets with you and sending their products on the same roads for half what is charged you.

The people, the farmers have it in their power to apply the correction.—How long they will submit I can not tell. Our canals have been ruined and are mainly a tax to the State. Our

railroads have taken freight at less rates than was profitable even to our canals. There are hundreds of important matters which farmers have a right to demand of our legislatures, and yet they content themselves and entrust their business in the hands of men who care little for their interests. I have spoken plainly to you. Permit me now, in a plain, faithful way, to treat of other questions more intimately connected with your fair."

Master's Department.

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

Centennial Exhibition.

PAW PAW, Oct. 12, 1876

After an absence of a little more than four weeks, I find myself again at my table, which is laden with letters, cards, circulars, price lists, posters, pamphlets, books, news papers, &c., &c., being the accumulation from the Post Office during my absence. All letters which reached this office during the first three weeks of my absence, were re-mailed to me at Philadelphia; and answered from there. Those that have accumulated since will be answered without delay.

My visit to the Centennial Exhibition has been pleasant, and I trust profitable so far as sight seeing and the accumulation of useful knowledge is concerned; although a large portion of my time was necessarily consumed in looking after the interests of Michigan in the Exposition. Mr. Ilgenritz, the gentlemanly Superintendent who had charge of the Agricultural and Fruit Departments, and whose duty it is to receive arrange, and place on exhibition, all samples of agricultural products, including Fruits and Forestry, has performed his duty well; and our exhibits have been well and tastily arranged for exhibition. One great source of perplexity through the entire season, has been caused by the delay of the rail road and express companies, in forwarding our collections. Boxes of grain and grasses shipped by me, several weeks before I left home, had not been received when I arrived there; but all came within a few days, and were placed on exhibition adding largely to the extent and interest of our agricultural department. Although the farmers of our State have not taken the interest in selecting and forwarding samples of their products, which I had reason to expect they would, yet Michigan with her Agricultural products and Forestry occupies and fills double the space in Agricultural Hall, of any other State except Iowa; and our winter wheat is not excelled in quality by any State except Oregon. But little of our choice winter fruit had arrived when I left, yet we had a larger quantity of different varieties of choice fruit on exhibition than any other State or Country; and the appearance and quality were highly commended by visitors. Samuel Hoppin, Esq., of Bangor, Van Buren County, is the largest individual exhibitor on the ground. His collection of fall and winter apples, pears, peaches, grapes, and canned fruit is

large and very fine, and speaks volumes for his generosity, enterprise, and success as a fruit grower. The State owes him a debt of gratitude for the interest he has taken in sustaining the reputation of Michigan as a fruit growing State.

Our collection of Minerals is extensive and rich, among which is a block of Iron Ore weighing fifteen tons; and several immense blocks of native Copper weighing several tons each.

Our forestry comprises more than 1200 specimens of logs, timber, and lumber of different species and varieties, so cut and prepared as to show quality and value of timber and lumber; and beauty of ornamental wood. It also contains a large collection of natural curiosities from the forests, such as natural grafts, knots, curls, interwoven branches, &c., &c. Near the main entrance to Agricultural Hall, and around which is constantly seen a crowd of scrutinizing visitors, stands a Michigan logging sled, loaded with six saw logs, sixteen feet each in length, cut from one tree, which scale 4,400 feet, and were drawn three miles on the same sled, with one span of horses.

Of our Educational exhibits I need only state, that the awards given to Michigan, on our Common School and educational system, will make every citizen feel proud of the State.

Our Michigan building which has been erected by the contributions of a few of our generous citizens, for the accommodation of Michigan visitors, is decidedly the finest upon the ground, and more than 20,000 Michigan people have already rested in its elegant and well furnished reception rooms and parlor, from the fatigue of their daily walks through the exhibition buildings and grounds, and will long remember the cordial welcome and hospitality extended to them by F. W. Noble, Secretary of the State Board of Managers, and his estimable lady who have the building in charge. Taking all together, our people may well feel proud of the part our State has taken in this great International Exhibition.

PATRONS ENCAMPMENT.

This is a vast summer hotel, built by Patrons of Husbandry for the accommodation of members of the Order and their friends visiting the Centennial Exhibition, and to protect them from the extortions of hotel and boarding house proprietors, and impositions usually practiced upon people from the country visiting large and crowded cities, and well has it served the purpose for which it was erected. Thousands of farmers with their families and friends, coming from every quarter of the United States and Canada, have found there a home among friends and members of a great Fraternity, have rested in its plain, yet comfortable and well furnished rooms, been refreshed at its sumptuous tables, and entertained in its spacious halls with music, sermons, lectures, discourses, and social gatherings. It has served as a regulator to keep down prices for board, and the benefits in this direction have not been wholly confined to those who have been accommodated at the En-

campment. Our brothers of Pennsylvania who inaugurated and have carried into execution this great and humane enterprise, are entitled to great credit, and will have the hearty thanks and good wishes of the thousands who have been entertained there, and of the Order everywhere.

Business Agencies.

One correspondent asks, "if persons not members of the Order should be permitted to purchase articles through the Grange Agencies at the same rates as members of the Order?" Another enquires, "if any member of a family who is a member of the Order, should be permitted to purchase for other members of the same family who are not members of the Order?" And still another desires to know, "if a member of the Order should be allowed to purchase through the Grange agencies at wholesale rates, and sell to others at cost, or charge a profit or commission and put the same into his own pocket?"

In answering these several questions, I would say:

1st. The business system of our Order has been organized for the sole benefit of members of the Order.—Hence, to allow persons who are not members, and have no interest in the Order, to avail themselves of the same advantages that members have in purchasing through our business agencies, would not be in harmony with the spirit and purposes of the Order.

2nd. It is fair to presume, that in most cases the head of the family, the one upon whom depends the responsibility of supplying the family with the necessities of life, will belong to the Grange, and surely, such person should be permitted to buy for the whole family. But cases sometimes occur when the wife, a son or daughter, may see good in our Order and unite with us, while the husband or father, either from choice, or for reasons beyond his control, is not a member. Now it occurs to me, that the worthy member, having a direct interest in the family, either as wife and mother, or child, should be permitted to purchase through the Grange agencies for the whole family, and have equal rights with other members of the Grange.

3rd. To use the Grange agencies and financial systems of the Order, which has been established with the money of the Grange for the direct benefit of persons who are not members of the Order, and have no interest in its welfare, either as a matter of mere accommodation for personal gain, would be a violation of good faith, if not of obligation, and should not be tolerated.

State Grange.

As the delegates to the State Grange have now been elected, it is highly important that full returns of the elections in the several counties, be made forthwith to the Secretary of the State Grange, so as to enable him to prepare a full list of Delegates at once. I would also urge upon the elected delegates to attend the meetings of the several Granges which they are chosen to represent, prior to the meeting of the State Grange, and

ascertain their condition, wants, and necessities, and what legislation is needed to promote their general welfare.

The wives of the Masters who have been elected delegates to the State Grange, if Matrons, are voting members of that body, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of elected delegates. All Masters and Past Masters, and their wives, who are Matrons, are honorary members of the State Grange, entitled to the fifth degree, and eligible to office, but not entitled to vote. All fourth degree members in good standing are admitted to all the business sessions of the State Grange, and I trust that as many as can make it convenient to do so, will attend this important session.

Lecturer.

It gives me pleasure to announce that our Worthy Sister, Mrs D. C. Blakeman, of Kalamazoo, has returned from her western lecturing tour, and will respond to invitations to lecture to Granges, and at public meetings in this State. Sister Blakeman is a forcible reasoner, and an eloquent speaker. All should hear her.

I am also authorized to state that Brother T. A. Thompson, of Minnesota, Ex-Lecturer of the National Grange, and author of the unwritten work of the Order, will come into this State, if desired, and deliver a few lectures, at any time prior to the meeting of the National Grange. He is one of the founders of the Order, and thoroughly posted in the objects, aims, and work of the Order. His lectures are logical, instructive, and inspiring. His recent labors in New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, have done much for the Order in those States. His terms are twenty dollars a lecture; and his present address is Vernon, Trumbull County, Ohio.

Our Order.

No organization since the establishment of the Republic has been as popular, and has so rapidly taken hold of the public mind, as the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. Its influence is so wide and immense that we scarcely realize its full scope—like the ocean it extends far beyond the ordinary reach of vision, and its power is felt from continent to continent. It has raised the dignity of agricultural labor; it has set bounds to grasping monopolies; it has engendered the free spirit of enquiry; it has caused the most potent class of our citizens to devise better means for material, intellectual and social advancement; it is reforming not only agriculture, but public sentiment, and shaping towards better ends the course of a nation. The principles of our Order are the safeguard of our people.—*Georgia Grange.*

—The Grange movement is securing the attention of Germany. America continues to teach the Old World new ideas. Meetings have been held in Berlin and other places in Germany to consider the practicability of organizing an Agricultural Order in Germany similar to the Patrons of Husbandry in the United States.

—Subscribe for the GRANGE VISITOR.

Half Fare to National Grange.

I have made arrangements with the Michigan Central Railroad, by which all members of the Order in this State, visiting Chicago, and attending the session of the National Grange, and purchasing tickets to Chicago from stations on that line of road, will receive a "pass to return free, to the station at which the ticket was purchased." It will be necessary for all who wish to avail themselves of the benefits of this reduction, to bring a certificate of membership from their Grange, signed by the Master or Secretary, and stamped with its Seal.

J. J. WOODMAN.

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.

State Grange.

The place of meeting of the next State Grange for this year has been determined.

The representatives elect will convene in Representative Hall, in the City of Lansing, at 10 o'clock, on Tuesday, the 12th day of December.

We hope to be able to secure half fare R. R. rates, not only for the members elect, but for all 4th degree members of the Order who desire to attend the session.

The best Hotel accommodations in the city have been secured for \$1.50 per day. Lower rates can be had at other places. This matter will all be definitely arranged by a committee before the meeting, so that parties will have no trouble in getting accommodations. We hope to see a large attendance of the Brothers and Sisters.

We have observed that those Patrons who attend a session of the State Grange, not only find enjoyment enough to compensate for the time and expense, but they get their faith strengthened, and go home better workers—more zealous Patrons.

And more than this, the acquaintances formed with members from all over the State, and the feeling of fraternity exhibited on every hand during the session, is calculated to dispel those suspicions and little jealousies that humanity is everywhere liable to, and even Patrons are not wholly free from. We say then, if you can, by all means, attend the next session of the State Grange at Lansing.

I am gratified that returns are being so promptly made of the members elect to the State Grange. Already 33 Counties have reported, which is about as many as we had received at the opening of the session last year. If any counties are delinquent, we shall in the next number of the VISITOR, call for a report by counties.

WE promised in the last number to print the By-Laws of the Patrons' Aid Society, in the October number of the VISITOR, but after setting the matter in type, I find there is so much original and other matter already set, that this must lie over until our next.

Plaster.

The Plaster question seems again to demand attention. No other subject of pecuniary interest has been so much discussed by members as this one. After a lively fight of a year and a half, the plaster combination that claimed, and probably did represent half a million of dollars of capital, has been broken up and disbanded. This has been accomplished by the perseverance of the Executive Committee of the State Grange. The plaster combination having been broken up, we now find agents of plaster companies in the field soliciting orders for plaster at the price which we first agreed to pay. Bro. Weston, and afterward his successors, Day & Taylor, that is \$3 00 per ton on the cars at Grandville.

One agent, and probably others are no more honest, represents that he is taking orders for the Grandville Plaster Mill, conveying the impression to Patrons, that in giving him their orders that they will get plaster from the Grange Plaster Mill of Day & Taylor.

This is a trick worthy of the Plaster Association in its palmiest days.

We met a Patron this week who had given his order to this agent for three tons. This is not only a desertion of principle, but a betrayal of friends, and for what, not even the poor excuse of a pecuniary return of one dollar. Of most Patrons we expect better things. We expect, and have a right to expect that every true Patron will order plaster through the channel provided by the Executive Committee.

We have given every assurance that reasonable men can ask for, that Patrons who want plaster, can have it this season *just when they want it*—A large amount of plaster has been mined by Day & Taylor, and their mill is running night and day, getting a good supply on hand ready to ship when ordered. The plaster furnished will be in the best condition, and really of better quality than that from any other mill in the Grand River Valley, for the reason that all the other mills select all the purest and best of the rock for stucco. All plaster rock containing foreign and worthless matter is thrown out to be ground as land plaster for farmers use.

Day & Taylor are working a bed of greater thickness than any other that has been opened in the Grand River Valley. They do not manufacture Stucco, and the chances of getting a purer article from their mill than any other are better for the reasons assigned.

We ask Masters to call the attention of their respective Granges to this matter at their first meeting.—Do not forget your duty to yourselves, the Grange over which you preside, and the Executive Committee alike demands that you sustain the Committee in what they have done—sustain Day & Taylor, who have, in the face of a determined monopoly, invested thousands of dollars, and made it possible to buy plaster at less than \$4.00 per ton at Grand Rapids. If Day & Taylor had not, like true men, resisted both threats, entreaties,

and bribes, "The Michigan and Ohio Plaster Association, would to-day have offered to sell you plaster at \$4.00 per ton at Grand Rapids, if the money accompany the order, otherwise you must buy of their agents."—These were their terms to Patrons.

Secretaries have been furnished with Blank Orders which should be filled without unnecessary delay and forwarded. We state with confidence that every duty in this matter on the part of Day & Taylor, and the Executive Committee has been fully and faithfully discharged, and it only remains for you as patrons, to as well discharge yours.

WE clip from the *Husbandman*, part of an address delivered by General Diven at a County Fair in the State of New York. From the editorial reference to the address, and its author, we learn that Gen. Diven "has twice been elected Vice President of the Erie Railroad, and for a considerable period was acting President." A man who has occupied these positions is not unfriendly to rail roads, but he evidently considers the interests of the thousands engaged in Agricultural pursuits of far greater importance than the interests of the few who control rail roads, and dictate terms to their customers. We of Michigan, have perhaps, less reason to complain than many of our friends, both east and west. But the disposition of these vast corporations in our country to violate the rights, and trample upon the very people from whose representatives their franchises were obtained, is a cause of alarm, and has none to soon awakened a spirit of inquiry among the people.

There are many good points in this address, and we would call particular attention to what is said of the political duty of farmers. Although the Grange has had over 30,000 members in this State for more than two years, yet so little have we as Patrons and farmers regarded our duty to ourselves and our country, that we find in the nine Congressional districts, the politicians have secured the nomination of 14 lawyers, mostly young men, out of the 18 candidates of the two great political parties, and this in an Agricultural State, where a very large majority of the people belong to the agricultural class.

Do we need more than a statement of the fact to prove that this is all wrong? I think not. This would indicate that the Grange has not so far, meddled with politics. But it has awakened a spirit of inquiry, and brought to the attention of the whole people, the facts of which we complain, and this is an important step; keep this matter before the people, and sooner or later this state of things will be changed.

IN answer to our offer to furnish the VISITOR the last third of the year for ten cents, we have received a good many names, for which we have to thank some of the brothers who appreciate our efforts to benefit the Order in this State by extending the circulation of the VISITOR. It should not be forgotten that no one receives a cent for getting out the 30,000

copies of the VISITOR that we have printed this year, but the printer.—We are anxious that it be no tax upon the treasury of the State Grange—the price is low, and we feel that we have claims upon the Master and Secretary of every Grange in the State, to aid us in procuring subscribers. We will send the VISITOR for the rest of this year, and all of 1877, for the price of one year's subscription, 30 cents. Send us names with the money, as many as you can before election, and more afterward, when the political storm is over, and you get time to remember that you are Patrons.

As some Secretaries seem to have overlooked the ruling or explanation of Rule 84 of the Parliamentary Guide, which relates to fees of Charter members, found in the July number of the VISITOR I call attention to it, and hope it will relieve me from further correspondence on this subject.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, MUSKOGON.

Duties of Officers.—Concluded.
COMMITTEES.

When any large body wishes to expedite business, or to secure thorough investigation in any direction, or to carry on business during the interval between sessions, or reach into times and places inaccessible to the body as a whole, recourse is had to committees. A committee of three or five persons can usually do more business, and do it more satisfactorily in a given time, than a larger body. A large body, can, through its small committees, have many kinds or forms of business transacted at the same time. In the legislative bodies of our country, nearly all the work is perfected by reference to committees, each having direct charge of its own legitimate business. The same is true of nearly all societies and associations, and none can derive more benefit from such reference of business than the Grange.

1st. Because it places each peculiar kind of work in the hands of those chosen with particular reference to their ability to do the labor committed to them. 2nd. The few to whom such matters are referred, feel a great responsibility in the premises, and thus use great care and take more pride in the discharge of their duties; and, 3rd. The larger body may inflict penalties for neglect of duty, or the misuse of delegated power.

In the Grange, as elsewhere, great care should be exercised in the selection of committees, to secure to the Order the best unemployed talent of the membership for the advancement of the interests of the Order as well as the formation and development of the latent ability of the greater number of the members. In selecting a committee to whom any subject is to be referred, there should be one or more members thoroughly capable to handle and instruct in the subject matter, and a majority of each committee should be favorably disposed

in order to secure the desired attention.

Committees in the Grange are usually three or five in number, and appointed by the Master and Overseer. The first one named is usually considered the chairman, and when a committee has been ordered by a motion, it is courtesy at least, to appoint the mover of the subject, chairman of the committee. Unless a chairman has been designated by the appointing power, a committee may select its own chairman. A chairman should be selected with reference to his ability to report the views of the committee in such a form as to make the report available to the body. In selecting Grange committees, the Master should avoid using the same persons on every occasion as is often done, but bring into use the young and new members by appointing confident members to act with others upon a committee, the reserve will soon wear off, and valuable ability comes into use. We trust that our sisters in the Order may not be passed in the selections made, for they have capabilities often overlooked and underestimated by their brothers.

Committees should meet and in a body consider the subject entrusted to their care. All members should be prompt to such meetings, that no time be wasted, and when every part of the work has been considered, and the work agreed upon and written, all the members should sign the same.

A chairman of a committee should take some pains to get up his report in good shape, expressing in the best possible manner the results of the committee, and write the same in a clear, readable hand, and fold and file the same ready for presentation. The habit of presenting business in good shape will not be a detriment to any farmer.

Grange committees are either Standing or Special. Standing Committees are appointed for a definite time, usually a year, and are to consider any matter in their sphere when referred to them. The names and powers of standing committees shall be determined by the By-Laws of each Grange.

In the form of By-Laws recommended by the State Grange, and usually adopted by Subordinate Granges, there are four Standing Committees, viz: Executive, Finance, Charity, and Grievance. See By-Laws of 1875.

The Executive Committee, as its name indicates, should be chosen to carry out the work of the Order in the interval between sessions, often being obliged to take responsibilities and perform duties which the Grange in session would do. Such committee should be five in number and include the Master and Secretary.—Such a committee is to the Master what a Cabinet is to the President—his counselors or advisers when the Grange cannot be convened. The Grange may refer the execution of any business to this committee, and should require frequent reports of them.

The Finance Committee should be entrusted with the oversight of the ways and means of the Grange—ex-

amining the books and accounts of officers, and all claims and bills, and reporting the same to the Grange, with recommendations.

The Committee on Charity, or Relief Committee, may do great good, but we fear they too seldom act—nay; too seldom exist at all, and what good opportunities the Order has, through such messengers, of sending blessings to the suffering and deserving.

The more such committees do the more highly will the Order be prized and loved. We should not only visit the sick, feed the hungry, and comfort the suffering, but the care and education of many an orphan is in our hands. Subordinate Granges may do much in this field, but Pomona Granges more.

The Grievance Committee is often overlooked, and just when such a committee should be used to investigate and often cause to vanish into thin air, many of the difficulties between members, and complaints about them. Such a committee should be of persons most irreproachable in character, gentle, patient, and fully sensible of their duties. They should examine a case referred to them, settle it if proper, try it if necessary, do justice to all, and preserve good feeling and harmony.

The Grange might well have other Standing Committees, as on music, to bring into use the talent of the membership in that direction, cultivating and utilizing the same. Such a committee could often call into service members not otherwise employed.—We hope every Grange will soon talk of a Committee on Library, who shall devise means of getting and circulating other means and aids to the true work of our Order. A committee on literary exercises, or lectures and debates, might with profit find a place in the Grange programme, arranging for intellectual feasts for members.

Special Committees are created for special purposes when needed, and as soon as they have performed the required duty, and reported, are discharged. The most important of these to the Grange, is the Investigating Committee, to whom is referred an application for membership.—Such committee should be appointed from careful, considerate persons who will do justice to the applicant, and in no wise compromise the Grange.—To these should be given all the facts against an applicant, which they should duly inquire into, remembering that the character of a man or woman is dear to him or her, and that the Grange gate should swing to none but those known to be worthy. Better delay a report for weeks, reporting to the Grange that the committee are not satisfied and able to report, and ask further time to complete the work. The report when fully made, dissolves the committee.

Special committees should be appointed oftener than they are, and yet many matters may be consigned to standing committees with or without instructions. When a matter comes up that properly belongs to a Standing Committee, the Master should at once, if there is no objections, refer it to the appropriate com-

mittee. Standing Committees should have stated times for meeting, and Special Committees should as soon as appointed, before leaving the Grange, arrange for a time and place to meet.

Now, Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters, your humble self-appointed committee would report himself through for the present, and asking a careful consideration of all Grange duties and the overlooking of all faults from haste, would be discharged.

State Agent's Department.

J. H. GARDNER, - CENTREVILLE.

The English Co-operative News of July, states of the wholesale society, that during the last quarter the sales have increased 25 per cent over the corresponding quarter of last year, and the increase of the capital has been in the same proportion.—they have now bought a vessel and import their goods from France, and design before long to import their tea and coffee, thus saving the profits realized by the ship owners on the transportation of these goods, as they now do on French goods. Perhaps at no distant day they will transport American produce in their own ships and thus aid the solution of intercourse between the Patrons of America and the consumers in England.

I desire to call the attention of all Patrons to the necessity of establishing a Wool House at some point in the east, for receiving, sorting, and selling wool. Now is a suitable time to discuss the subject in the Grange meetings, and let each Subordinate Grange, and each County Grange in Michigan forward resolutions at once to the Worthy Master, Hon. J. J. Woodman, urging the necessity and want of it, and desire him to present it to the National Grange at its next meeting in November; and that it be made a National affair, to establish wool houses at one or more places if deemed advisable; at, or easily accessible to the best wool markets of the country.

It is well known to all, that the speculators in wool fix the price and agree how much they will pay, long before the wool is shorn from the sheep. Early in the spring, they, through their organs, commence the story of a "depression in price of woolen goods, stoppage of factories, large crops of wool coming forward in excess of any previous year, great yield in California, Australia, and low prices in Europe, and that farmers must make up their minds for a low price for their clip if they expect to sell." They have already determined on the price which they will offer. We being isolated and but little communication between us, listen to their story and think that it may be so, and conclude to take the first offer for our wools, or they will refuse in a few days to pay as much. When they have got the bulk of the crop in their control, the cry is then a short crop and prices are advanced. It is then too late to benefit us. The same thing is repeated yearly at our expense, and they make sport of our

credulity. They are the shearers' and we the sheep that are shorn.

I think that an arrangement should also be made, by this State at least, for the sale of grain in New York, either by establishing a warehouse or employing a dealer to attend to it. It is well known that Detroit is one of the poorest markets in the whole country for the sale of grain or wool, and we should look elsewhere to market our products.

I have a contract for the Argand coal stoves at 20 per cent from list prices for one or more, when the order is sent by myself. Have also a quantity of boots and shoes on hand which will be forwarded at wholesale price, by the case, on cash orders.—All who desire to get sugar from New Orleans should send me their orders and money by the 15th of November, that I may know how much to buy. The early sugar market there has generally been the lowest in price, as the sugars go into the hands of dealers by the middle of winter, when prices are advanced.—There are but three grades of sugar there, which is advisable for farmers to buy, choicest brown, yellow, and white clarified. The plantation clarified sugars are seldom seen here, as they are pure and worth more to refiners to mix with the low grades to make crushed and granulated sugars, and are therefore bought up by them for that purpose. They are the most profitable for us to get for home use.

The Niles Knitting Company have advanced the prices of their goods 10 to 15 per cent over their first offers, and are unable to fill orders without considerable delay, consequently I have bought some from eastern dealers at a fair price and can have more if desired.

For Sewing Machines, I wish all would try the Home Machine, it is equal to any, and is offered at a lower price than any other, and will be sent on twenty days trial, when, if not satisfactory, it can be returned and money refunded by me. I must remind Patrons that it takes ready money to buy at the lowest price.—Some to whom I have sent goods, delay a long time before remitting the pay, at much inconvenience to me; and dealers in the city who have sent goods to parties at my request, and then have to wait weeks, and sometimes months, for their pay, are notifying me of the failure to be paid promptly and expect me to see that they are paid. This must stop or I shall be compelled to stop forwarding orders without the money comes along. I am under heavy bonds to the executive committee for the faithful application of the money sent me, and discharge of the business entrusted to me, and if you cannot trust your money with me to buy for you, I desire you to keep it in your pockets and buy for yourselves. I have several thousand dollars of my own means invested in goods and implements for the benefit of Patrons, and don't ask or expect a dollar of profit for the use of it from any person. I have already returned to the Treasurer of the State Grange nearly all of the money that was delivered to me last winter.

In sending orders, write on paper,

not cards, as I keep all orders on file for reference, and cards are inconvenient for that purpose; besides the Post Office here is open to any one who chooses to go in, and is daily frequented by loungers behind the counter, to chat and examine the papers of other people.

—Ohio has about 1,300 Granges, with a membership of Patrons equal in size and intelligence to any in the United States.

—Speaking of "dying out," the *Indiana Farmer* says: "The opposition had that complaint badly in this State for a while, but they are subsiding, now that the Grange won't die."

Communications.

The Interest Question Again.

PRAIRIE RONDE, Oct. 10, 1876.

I notice that one brother thinks that the rate of interest on money ought to be regulated by the demand and supply. This is just what the money monopoly desire; just what they are aiming at now. Let the present programme of the money power be carried out, as contemplated, and they can contract or expand the volume of currency to suit themselves. They can contract the amount enough to create a demand, and thereby obtain a rate of interest three or four times as much as the earning of productive industry, because money is necessary to the success of every business.

Money is as necessary a tool for the people to use in the transactions of business as a plow is in the successful tilling of the soil, or machinery in manufacturing, and would it not be as reasonable and consistent, for a few citizens of a county to control the machinery the people may need for their various avocations, demanding an income or interest for its use greater than can be earned by the use of the same, as well as to control the important tool or implement, money, demanding more for its use than the average profits of farming and some other business.

Our government has for fifteen years issued the money we have used. Three hundred and fifty millions have been issued to the banks. The farmers property is held in part as security for this money, his business is fully as valuable and necessary to society and the government as the banks. The banks pay the government one per cent for the use of this money, and charge the people (who must necessarily borrow sometimes) over eleven per cent for the use of the same money—a clean gain of over ten per cent. Is the banker so much better or his services so much more valuable than the farmer or other people, that he should stand between the government and the people and be thus favored? Give the money monopoly what they desire and they will create a demand for money, by making it scarce when it is their interest to do so, and thus obtain a high rate of interest; and the few grow rich, while the millions remain where they are or grow poorer.

A weekly paper published in the interest of the Order for this State, containing the general news, and furnishing a medium for the free exchange of thoughts, opinions, etc., on various subjects and questions of interest, by which a great amount of valuable information could be obtained, would, I think, be of great help to the success of the Order. Could a paper of such a character be started and obtain a good foothold. With some good, efficient workers, who are deeply interested in the success of the cause, to assist, a vast amount of good could be accomplished. Many a Grange now on the decline might be restored to life and usefulness.

A. FANCKBONER.

To our circular of enquiry returned by the Secretary of Brighton Grange was appended the following letter, which shows the possibilities for good which the organization of P. of H. furnishes to the farmers of the country. To the grumbling Patron it is suggestive of something wrong at his own door—to the faithful a word of encouragement. That Grange won't "die out":

BRIGHTON, Oct. 15, 1876.

Bro. Cobb:—Our Grange was organized with only sufficient members to get a charter, and since have increased but slowly, owing somewhat to a strong anti-secret element in our town. For one year we scarcely had a visible existence, holding our meetings from house to house. Most of our members are poor, but willing and courageous—a hall was needed and we resolved to have it. With but little money in our treasury, we had to rely upon the generosity of our members. Some gave materials, others labor, some both, and all gave what they could; we accomplished our object and to-day own a hall 18x28, two stories high, upper part for session-room and below a dining hall, and are now enjoying its advantages. Our success has inspired us with more confidence in our abilities and we are soon to become incorporated. Also have under consideration the raising of a purchasing fund and increase it from time to time as we are able. We are aiming to improve in the social and intellectual features of our Order by original essays, select reading and discussions. Our motto is *progress*. We endeavor to keep posted in the current events of the day, and particularly in all that pertains to the welfare and success of our organization.

Fraternally, WM. PALMER,
Sec'y of No. 336.

TEXAS, Sept. 25, 1876.

BRO. J. T. COBB:—In the last issue of the VISITOR you wished a report from Secretaries of all Granges who have built or own a hall; in response to which I have to report that Texas Grange, No. 171, have erected a hall of their own, 26x50 feet, with 20 feet studding. The lower story is divided into three rooms; dining room 26x48; sitting room 12x13; ante-room 12x13; the upper room, full size with exception of stairway. The funds for building were subscribed by the members, and the work was nearly all done voluntarily. We find that meeting and laboring together tends to cement our fraternity stronger and more firmly than ever before, and I would advise all Granges that are contemplating building a hall, to work in this manner. They will find that a feeling of friendliness and intimacy will grow up among the members that would not exist were they to see each other only at their regular meetings.

At a regular meeting of our Grange, held Sept. 2nd, we had the pleasure of listening to an address delivered by Worthy Bro. R. E. James, Master of Arcadia Grange, and also agent of the Kalamazoo Co-operative Association, P. of H., located at Kalamazoo.

Now I suppose there are but few patrons in this county but what are aware of the existence of such a store at Kalamazoo, but I think I may be justified in saying that there is not one Patron in ten that understands the principle upon which this store is conducted. In my opinion Bro. James is the right man in the right place, and if all Granges in this county would appoint a meeting, all the members turn out and listen to an explanation of the manner in which the business is conducted, few would resist the conclusion that their duty to themselves and the Order required them to abandon their old habit of getting credit, and at once go to the Patrons' store, pay cash or produce for what they get, and get what they pay for.—I think any Grange can get Bro. James to meet with and address it, by making

an appointment that will not clash with any other arrangement. If he cannot be had, get some one else, by all means keep the stone rolling.

Yours Fraternally,
C. S. WHIPPLE, Sec'y,
Texas Grange, No. 171.

GALESBURG, Oct. 2, 1876.

BRO. COBB, SIR:—I write you to thank Mr. Fosdick, through the VISITOR, for the bright ideas he has advanced. If we think that the interest is too high, I suppose that we may give our farms to our creditors, move west and live our grass hoppers.

To me it seems that Bro. Fosdick's notions have the "crab" motion rather than the Galesburg Resolutions. As selfishness must always control men's actions, we cannot expect help from the monied monopolies of this country.—We must send farmers to the Legislature to take care of the interests of the many, the interests of the few have been taken care of by Bankers and Lawyers, lo. these many years.

If we follow the direction of M. F., we shall come out about as Mike did.

MIKE AND THE MUSQUITOES.

Mike is a Farmer and the musquitoes are the rich class.

"Was yes iver in Jersey in the summer sason?" said an Irishman to a friend.

"'Pon me soul, I was onct, an' I raised my winder to catch a whif of braze, an' instead I was attacked by a million of murderin' divils wid prongs in 'em. It was a slap here, an' a kick there, an' a scratch iverywhere. When completely exhausted wid 'em, I gave up me body for to feast the canibals, win, bad luck to them! after gorging their brown bellies wid me blood, the murderin' imps commenced singin' in me ear, 'We won't go home 'til mornin'.' An' we! they kept their word, bad luck to them!" Sez I to my self, as I carried me skeleton out o' the house in the mornin'."

EDGAR ROWLAND,
Galesburg Grange, No. 18.

To the Editors of the GRANGE VISITOR.

BROTHERS:—We of the Grand Traverse region feel confident that the Grange movement would be greatly accelerated in this District if the State, or some other good lecturer could come up here and deliver lectures, not only in Grange halls, but public places through the county. I believe if such a course were taken, and the people instructed in the general objects, as well as the growth and results already attained through the Order, that the number of Patrons in this county would be doubled in six months. What we would ask, is that you use your influence in sending some good lecturer up here the coming winter for a short season. We feel a deep interest in the cause, and will do all we can to advance it. Brother J. J. Woodman when here in August, spoke once only, but the influence is yet felt to a considerable extent. We are sure that a few lectures through the county would have a good effect.

Yours Fraternally,
I. H. CLYDE,
Silver Lake Grange, No. 624.

October 9, 1876.

BRO. J. T. COBB:—In looking over the correspondence of the VISITOR, I see a wide diversity of opinions in regard to the Galesburg resolutions. One Brother asserts, rather dogmatically, that a law fixing the rate of interest would be "unjustifiable tyranny"—"We no more need a law," he says, "to prevent a high rate of interest from being offered and accepted, than we need a law which shall fix a maximum price on our wheat, wool, pork, &c.," while another says that "the resolutions of Galesburg Grange respecting rates of interest, come exactly and squarely to the point." But that some relief from the present exorbitant rates of interest is very much needed, all seem to agree;

but how to accomplish that relief is the question. Now it seems to me that the matter lies almost entirely in the hands of the grangers themselves; in almost all Granges there are more or less men who have money to let, and I notice they are as particular to have their ten per cent, as any of the money sharks whom we are denouncing. Now, brothers and sisters, let us practice what we preach; let us set the example of letting money at a low rate of interest; let those Granges who have money to let, let it to brother grangers, at, say five per cent, and, my word for it, there will be a change in the matter. The more wealthy brothers and sisters might put their surplus cash together into a fund to be let to those who have to hire, and it would help many a struggling one to raise the mortgage on their homes where they could not do it if they had to pay ten per cent. Hoping to hear from others on this subject, I remain, Yours Fraternally,

C. S. WHIPPLE,
Master, West Sumpter Grange, No. 531.

AUSTERLITZ GRANGE, No. 64, P. of H.)
KENT CO., MICH. Oct. 9, 1876. }

J. T. COBB.—Dear Sir and Bro.—Our Grange is in a very flourishing condition. We are small in numbers, without many additions, but our members are alive to the interests of the Order, and to the social and intellectual benefits derived from the same. We make all our meetings (called by the Master with the consent of the Grange) Regular for the transaction of any business that may come before it. This I consider a very important feature, as it avoids any important business being laid over for a long time in case of a failure for any reason, of the Grange to meet on the day set apart in the By-Laws.

Our business is mainly conducted through the Grand Rapids Co-operative Store, which is owned entirely by the members of our Order, and is giving the best of satisfaction. Many of our members massed their wool this season and by so doing realized at least twenty per cent more than they otherwise could have done.

The financial condition of the company is all right, as we buy for cash and sell for cash, and have thus far nearly turned over our entire capital each month since it started, one year ago.

Yours, Fraternally,
M. B. HINE.

OBITUARY.

WOODHULL GRANGE, No. 229, at its regular meeting, Sept. 13th, adopted the following resolutions on the death of Sister Samantha Place.

Resolved, That this Grange has received with a deep sense of sorrow, the announcement of the death of our Worthy Sister, Samantha Place, therefore

Resolved, That this Grange tender its sincere sympathy to the bereaved sons of the deceased.

Resolved, That the above resolutions be placed upon the records of this Grange, as a tribute to the memory of our departed Sister.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR, with the request that they be published therein.

H. A. SPALDING, Sec.

NEWARK GRANGE, No. 592.

Whereas, The great Master has seen fit to remove from the scene of her usefulness, an active and energetic Sister, May Eva Gates, therefore,

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

Resolved, That to the sorrow stricken parents, brothers and sisters, whose pathway has been darkened by the clouds of grief and affliction, we as a Grange extend the fraternal hand of true sympathy.

Resolved, That our hall be draped in mourning for the space of thirty days, and that these resolutions be published in the GRANGE VISITOR and Lapeer Clarion.

VICTOR HOWLAND,
ROBERT WALKER, } Committee.
H. PALMERLEE,
Lapeer, Sept. 22, 1876.

FITCHBURGH, Oct. 4, 1876. }

BUNKER HILL GRANGES, No. 262. }

Whereas, The great Governor of the universe has summoned to his presence the daughter of our Worthy Secretary, Sister Ella D. Brown, thus severing another link from the fraternal chain which binds us together, therefore we do render this last tribute of respect to the memory of our departed Sister.

Resolved, That we do most sincerely and affectionately sympathize with the bereaved family of which our deceased Sister was a member.

Resolved, That as a token of respect, and in honor of her memory, that this Grange hall be appropriately draped in mourning for the next thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Jackson Patriot, Ingham County News, and GRANGE VISITOR, for publication, and also to the family of the deceased Sister.

DALLAS, October 7, 1876.

Whereas, Our Heavenly Father has seen fit in his providence to remove by death, our Sister Mary Ann Plumer, therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of Sister Plumer, our Worthy Overseas, has lost a loving companion, her children an affectionate mother, the Grange to which she belonged, and the community, a valuable member.

Resolved, That we tender our sympathy to the stricken family, in this their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent Bro. Plumer, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR and county papers for publication.

H. A. STOW,
L. W. BALDWIN, } Committee.
GEO. BLISS,

Resolutions adopted by Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5, on the death of Hix Horton, who died Aug. 28th, 1876.

Whereas, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove our Brother, Hix Horton, of Farmington. Therefore be it


Resolved, That in the death of Bro. Horton, the Fraternity has lost an active and beloved member.

Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family and relatives who have been thus so suddenly afflicted.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the wife of the deceased, and to Farmington Grange, also a copy to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

A. J. CROSBY,
IRAN DOWSELSON, } Committee.
LEOY COOLEY,
August 29, 1876.

NATIONAL GRANGE.—The Annual Session of the National Grange meets in Chicago on the 15th of November next, with headquarters at the Palmer House. Arrangements have been perfected by which all Patrons who desire to attend, can do so at moderate rates for board. We understand that all fourth degree members of the Order are cordially invited, and will be allowed to witness the proceedings, and the reduction in board will also be allowed to them. As it may be some time before the National Grange may again meet in Chicago, we presume many will avail themselves of this opportunity to witness its deliberations.


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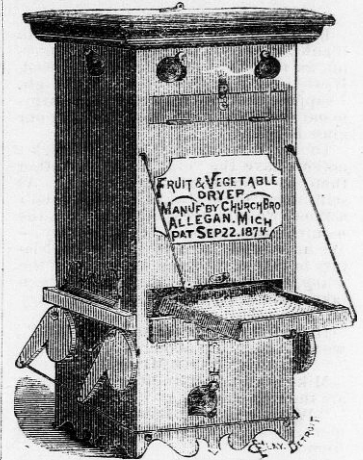
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Manual of Jurisprudence and Co-operation, by A. B. Smedley,.....	1.25
Patron's Pocket Companion, by J. A. Cramer, Cloth, 60 cts., Moracco with tuck, .	1 00
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Address,

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Sec'y MICH. STATE GRANGE,

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