

THE Grange Visitor

ISSUED

MONTHLY

BY THE **EXECUTIVE**
Michigan State



COMMITTEE OF THE
Grange, P. of H.

VOL. 2.—No. 11.

SCHOOLCRAFT, FEBRUARY, 1877.

Whole No. 23

THE GRANGE VISITOR,

Is Published Monthly,

AT THIRTY CENTS PER ANNUM,
Invariably in Advance.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - Publishing Committee.
J. T. COBB, - - -

All communications should be addressed to
J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.
Remittances should be by Registered Letter,
Money Order or Draft.

Officers Michigan State Grange.

M.—J. J. WOODMAN, - - - Paw Paw.
O.—P. W. ADAMS, - - - Tecumseh.
L.—C. L. WHITNEY, - - - Muskegon.
S.—H. FLEMING, - - - Pontiac.
A. S.—W. H. MATTISON, - - - Ionia.
C.—SALMON STEEL, Bear Lake, Manis' Co.
Sec.—J. T. COBB, - - - Schoolcraft.
T.—S. F. BROWN, - - - "
G. K.—A. N. WOODRUFF, - - - Watervliet.
CERES.—Mrs. C. L. WHITNEY, - - - Muskegon.
POMONA.—Mrs. W. T. ADAMS, Grand Rapids.
FLORA.—Mrs. J. J. WOODMAN, Paw Paw.
L. A. S.—Mrs. W. H. MATTISON, Ionia.

Executive Committee.

J. WEBSTER CHILDS, Chairm'n, Ypsilanti.
F. M. HOLLOWAY, - - - Jonesville.
GEO. W. WOODWARD, Shelby, Oceana Co.
SAMUEL LANGDON, Bowen Sta'n, Kent Co.
C. G. LUCE, - - - Gilead, Branch Co.
S. E. JEFFRES, Okemos, Ingham Co.
WESTBOOK DIVINE, Belding, Ionia Co.
J. J. WOODMAN, J. T. COBB, - Ex. Officio

State Business Agent.

J. H. GARDNER, Centreville, St. Joseph Co.

Deputies.

C. L. WHITNEY, General Deputy, Muskegon.
H. A. DANVILLE, North'n Mich. P.O. Marilla.
WM. KILPATRICK, Lake Co. " Baldwin City.
ALBERT DAY, Wayne " " Wayne.
W. O. SMITH, Osceola " " Crapo.
WM. F. LEWIS, Oceana " " New Era.
GEO. B. DELONG, Monroe " " Monroe.

The Grange Visitor.

Subscriptions to the VISITOR have been very satisfactory since Jan. 1st, but while we are at it, we might just as well mail a thousand or two more each month. I hope these Brothers and Sisters who have taken an interest in extending its circulation will not relax their efforts.

We hope any subscriber who does not receive his paper before the end of the month will notify us by card, and the missing number, will be sent.

Some Granges appropriate a sufficient amount from the Treasury of their Grange to provide a copy for the head of each family. This is not a bad move, and we hope other Granges will follow their example.

The January edition was exhausted two weeks ago. Shall have a thousand additional copies printed of this number, and expect Patrons will order them all.

Address of F. Hodgman, Master of Climax Grange No. 72.

Brothers and Sisters of the Grange:

In accepting the trust you have confided to me I feel the responsibility it carries with it, and appreciate the kind feelings which prompted you to select me to preside over the deliberations of our Grange.

I feel too, the difficulties to be overcome, but having a firm reliance on your hearty aid in both word and work I trust that together we may be able to make the coming year one of profit and prosperity, and that it may be the beginning of a brighter era in the history of our Grange. We live in an age of centralizing tendencies. People now more than ever before realize the truth that in union there is strength. Men of every walk in life, artisans of every trade, combine among themselves to secure greater power to promote those interests which they hold in common. He who would hold his own in the race of life must join the ranks.

Farmers were the last men to learn the lessons of the hour, and many of them do not yet appreciate the situation. Those who do not avail themselves of every legitimate, honest advantage to promote their own welfare are sadly lacking in common worldly wisdom. A Grange, properly conducted is one of those advantages. Now what does the farmer want that he cannot obtain as well without as within the Grange? It is *not* legislation.

The laws of trade have stood for a thousand years, are stronger than statutes, and are broad enough to cover all his needs. When the farmers are strong enough to compel the execution of statutes they will be strong enough to enforce all just demands without the aid of special laws.

On the other hand there is nothing which tends to promote the farmer's individual welfare and extend his influence among his fellow men, that cannot better be obtained with their assistance than without it. The aid which a man receives from a well disciplined society is as much more effective than that which he receives from the world at large, as a trained army is more effective than a mob.

We want a better education, not only that which is found in books, but that fund of general information which we gain from contact with our fellow men, from newspapers, magazines and lectures. We need to learn what people about us are doing, what their desires, aspirations and necessities are.

We need to learn what we ourselves do really want. Aside from his general education the farmer needs to acquire a larger fund of special knowledge relating to his avocation in life. This oftentimes receives too scanty attention. We take things as we find them, labor on from year to year, sometimes profiting by our own experience, but too seldom availing ourselves of the experience of others or assisting others with our own experience. It is often said that the farmers life is a continual round of toil and that he has no chance to learn or to do better than he does. Yet you may search the world over without finding among men who live by the sweat of their brow, any class who have the splendid opportunities for self-culture that the farmer has. Years ago, when some of the natural sciences were yet unborn, and the rest were in their infancy, it was held with a good show of truth, that in order to become a scholar, one must study the languages, that there was no other road to profound learning and true disciplin of mind than that which passed through the desert of the classics, where the fallen fruit of dead men's lives lay dry and withered on the ground. All this is now changed. Geology, Botany, Zoology and their kindred natural sciences have grown to blooming youth, ruddy with health, rejoicing in their strength. He who will may travel with them on the road to wisdom, through paths shaded by green trees, beautiful with flowers and rills, and waterfalls, where the ear is gladdened with the songs of birds and the lowing of herds; where the butterfly flits by, and the sweet odor of blossoms mingle with the aroma of ripening fruit. No other laboring man has such incentives or such opportunities for walking in these paths and gathering these fruits of knowledge as has the farmer. In no department of knowledge are there richer and more substantial rewards than in the fields of natural science. He who would reap these rewards needs only to make a diligent use of the faculties which God has given him. As he wanders o'er valley and mountain, through meadow and wood, he will see the frost and the rain, the sunshine and storm, beating down mountains, filling up valleys, dissolving the rocks to make them fit food to nourish the plant. He will see plants with their tiny rootlets permeating the soil thus formed, and with their myriad mouths drawing in the liquid food and sending it upward from cell to cell 'till the leaf

is reached, where the sweet breath of the air and the joyful light of the sun strain out the impurities and send the sap backward through every twig and branch, giving them life and health and strength, laying up food and fuel and clothing for every animate being. He will see earth, air, and water teeming with living beings which in turn subsist upon the plant. He will see all nature, animate and inanimate, at work, and when he carefully observes the processes he will see fine analysis which no chemist may equal, structures of beauty and strength, which no builder can imitate, and pictures of cloud and sky, and bird and brook, and flower and tree, which no painters brush may ever hope to rival. No one should be more interested in all this than the farmer. No one does it affect so immediately in his worldly prosperity as he. No one labors in nature's own workshop with nature's own tools, as does the farmer. No one should know her ways so well as he, and yet how often do we see him walking right through the midst of all these things as lost and lonely as a stranger in the crowded streets of a great city. When we have a perfect farmer he will know all the laws of nature which bear on his pursuit. He will hear and understand the language in which she speaks to him. He is the best farmer to-day who best knows and applies these things. Every farmer should study closely the work of nature and remember what he sees. He should question her and bear in mind the replies she gives. Nature never refuses to answer questions and always gives direct answers. The whole art of farming has been built up from this series of questions and answers, this experimental study. When we would learn what the result of a certain process will be we try it and are certain of finding out.

There are a great many things yet to be learned about farming that must be found out in just this way. In this work will be found one of the great benefits of combination. No one farmer has the time, the means or the ability to do the whole work himself. But if any considerable number of farmers can be induced to work together in harmony, each performing his share of the work and adding his mite to the common fund of information, we shall soon see such advancement in agriculture as the world has never yet witnessed. When we have a perfect Grange this will be one of the leading branches of its work. It is a work upon which I think we may enter with profit during the coming year.

There are many questions to be settled as to what processes of field culture are best and most profitable, as to the absolute and relative value of different manures, and their effects on different soils and crops. Many questions arise in regard to the best methods of reclaiming wet lands and when they are reclaimed what they are worth and what crops are best suited to them. Hundreds of such questions as these are waiting solution at the hands of good practical farmers. Many of them might be regarded as already solved if we could but collect together and aggregate into a single

mass the vast number of facts bearing upon them, which have been picked up by individual farmers all over the land.

These isolated items of knowledge, disconnected and scattered far and wide, carry but little weight with them. Mass them, and they may move the whole productive world. We wish to learn by our own observation, and also by the observation of others. We wish to mass discoveries. Can we not begin the work in our Grange this year? Can not each one of us who has land to work or stock to keep, take some one experiment adapted to his means and inclination, carry it out carefully and report its results to the Grange for the benefit of all. The practical value of the results we may obtain from these experiments and their discussion in the Grange will be very great if they are carefully and intelligently carried out. Negative results from these experiments are not without value. If plaster is worthless as a fertilizer for corn it is well to know it, and so of many other things. One disadvantage we have labored under in our Grange has been the want of talking members. The great reason has been because you had nothing to say, but let matters come up which each one of you is personally interested in and acquainted with, and I have no doubt you will find enough to say to make our meetings enjoyable and profitable. There is not one of you who can not tell in regard to the culture of a crop what he did, and why he did it.

We wish, also, to avail ourselves of the experience of farmers outside of our own vicinity and Grange; and I wish to suggest to you the plan of securing a variety of papers and having them read regularly in the Grange at every meeting. Let each of us who takes a paper so arrange that we may take different ones, bring them with us to the Grange, and thus select the cream of all. Let us have the *Michigan Farmer*, the *Husbandmen*, the *Country Gentlemen*, the *American Agriculturist*, *Moore's Rural New Yorker*, and others read regularly in the Grange by our members. Let us also, occasionally have papers of our own, on subjects appropriate to the time and occasion.

I think we should also make a greater use than we have done of the business arm of the Grange. Other Granges around us have been using it with profit and satisfaction, but we have thus far been too much like the man who should purchase a fine team and tools, put them in the field in the morning, all harnessed and ready for work, leave them and return at night expecting to find the field well plowed and planted. Things do not happen in that way. Fields are not cultivated without labor.

If we do not purchase through Grange agencies they profit us nothing.

It may not be amiss in me to allude to the plaster question. It ought to receive your careful attention. Individual members of our Order have pledged themselves for the payment of certain moneys to enable a friendly firm to furnish the Granges of this State with plaster at reasonable

prices. They did this on the express pledge of the State Grange that the Order would sustain them morally and financially; and relying on the good faith of Patrons to make their purchases of this firm and thus reimburse and secure them for the money they had given their individual notes to advance. They have succeeded for the present in breaking up the great monopoly. How long think you it will stay broken if we assist in breaking down the Grange plaster firm by purchasing our plaster of the monopolists who are now cutting under on prices for the very purpose of destroying our friends and leaving us defenceless in the hands of our enemies.

I trust the Grange as an Order will never become so blind to its own interests, or so regardless of its good faith, as to permit its own agents to be sacrificed by the members of the old Plaster Ring.

And now in closing, let me urge each and every one of you to aid what you can in making our Grange better, more interesting and more profitable every week of its existence. Success does not depend on numbers, although numbers are very apt to depend on success. Ten live members are better than a hundred dead ones, and if each of you will do what you can, I give my pledge that no efforts shall be wanting on my part to make our Grange a grand success.

Woman at the Agricultural College.

EDITOR of the GRANGE VISITOR:

Is it not a curious fact that of all the educational institutions of Michigan supported by general taxation, the Agricultural College is the only one whose doors are closed against the admission of woman?

In ever-increasing numbers women are being admitted to the high privileges of the University, and this full recognition is now affirmed by almost universal assent. The co-education of the sexes has, with us, almost ceased to be a question and so another step has been taken in the progress of christian civilization.

Woman is no longer regarded as a toy to be played with; but as a capable human soul to be educated and adorned with immortal graces of character.

The State Board of Agriculture, by recent action, have called the attention of the Legislature to this subject and have declared in favor of admission. Indeed there seems no obstacle to the introduction of our daughters to the Agricultural College but the absence of a suitable building for their accommodation.

Unlike certain other schools, the opportunities for board in private families are extremely limited here.

A cottage to cost \$5000 or \$6000, where thirty or forty girls could be placed under the charge of a matron, would be sufficient for the first expenditure.

This is not an entirely new proposition. It was prominently before the Legislature of 1873, when a course of study was indicated for the "technological training of ladies in Cookery, Preservation of fruits, Utilization of

Materials usually wasted, Cleansing by acids and soaps, Bleaching, Dyeing, Manufacture of soaps of different kinds, Disinfection, Fermentation and Neutralization of poisons."

To view these subjects in the light of scientific research would lighten the task of the housewife, convert drudgery into a pleasing intellectual pursuit, and encompass the way of routine work with the wondrous revelations of chemistry and microscope.

Ventilation would be another very important subject of study in connection with household affairs. Besides, botany, landscape gardening, floral ornamentation and matters of taste generally, and also literature would be indispensable; and why not music, painting and kindred arts.

If desired there certainly could be no objection to their taking the present college course for young men.

That any present movement would not be in advance of proper demand for it, the numerous applications for the admission of ladies received by the president of the college, already sufficiently attest.

That the farmers of the State would be in sympathy is evidenced in the associations everywhere, by their just and generous recognition of woman's higher nature.

If *this* be so, should we not immediately acquaint the Legislature, by petition, with our desires in this regard? "A word to the wise is sufficient."

If, as has been said, the "Agricultural College, Farm and Grounds are to be made the most beautiful place in the Peninsula," how shall we reach the completeness of these *more* than "classic shades," except there be to grace the scene a goodly number of the fair daughters of Michigan?

NILES MICH., Jan. 13, 1877.

To the Grange Visitor:

Berrien County Grange, No. 1, at a regular meeting held at Buchanan, Jan. 10th, 1877, elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

Master.—Thomas Moors.

Secretary.—Burns Helmick.

Also Berrien County Co-operative Association at a regular meeting held Jan. 11th, 1877, at same place, elected for the ensuing year the following officers:

President.—Wm. R. Rough.

Secretary.—Enos Holmes.

Treasurer.—Geo. H. Rough.

Directors.—Thomas Mason, John B. Metzger, J. F. Peck, Burns Helmick, David Best, E. Wagner, Wm. Burris, Levi Sparks, J. H. Feather.

Auditors.—C. F. Howe, Thomas Maars, D. R. Harding.

We started this store about the middle of May last, with a capital of \$1,600 on the Rochdale plan, and at the end of less than eight months have been able to declare a handsome dividend back to the Patrons. We are now working up a plan of co-operative selling our surplus products by establishing an agency in Chicago.

Yours Fraternally,

JOHN B. METZGER,

Sec'y. Morris Chapel Grange, No. 13.

—The Grange teaches co-operation. Write and send Bro. Gardner an order.

Master's Department.

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

Annual Word.

For instructions how to obtain it, see Master's Department of January VISITOR.

Good Work.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to announce that most of the delegates who attended the session of the State Grange, have visited the Subordinate Granges which they represented, and given the instructions and information they were requested to. Great good must result from such prompt and efficient work.

Law and Usage.

The Laws and Rules of the Order now in force, are to be found in the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Grange, By-Laws of the State Grange, Parliamentary Guide, issued by the National Grange, and General Rules by the Master of the State Grange, to be found in February, March, April, May, June, July, August, and October numbers of the VISITOR.

Dormant Granges.

There are some weak and dormant Granges in the State, which need aid and encouragement; and I call upon all good Patrons to visit such Granges, and by their presence and counsel enable them to see more clearly, and realize more fully the objects and benefits of our Order. County Granges and Councils, should make it a prominent part of their work to "aid, strengthen, and encourage" the weak and dormant Granges within their jurisdiction, by sending committees and speakers to visit and instruct them.

Many Granges in the State are receiving great benefits from the Order, and all may, if the necessary efforts are made.

I am constantly in receipt of letters asking if members can be admitted to a Subordinate Grange for less than the constitutional fees; and as most of these inquiries come from the newly elected officers, I infer that they have not been regular readers of the VISITOR, hence the necessity for referring to this subject again.

One correspondent asks, "if there would be any objection to a Grange taking members for a less fee, provided the full amount required by the constitution was paid to the State Grange?" Another "asks the privilege of taking in members for \$3.00 for men, and \$1.00 for women, as certain other Granges do?" (naming the Granges.) Another desires to know "if members paying full initiatory fees, cannot, by vote of the Grange, receive credit for a portion of the same on dues in advance?" Another enquires, "if it would not be legal to receive the full amount of fees with the application, and after the candidate is initiated refund a portion of the same?" Another "insists that the funds in the treasury of the Grange belong to the Grange, and that it has

a right to dispose of the same as a majority of the members may vote; and may refund a portion or *all* the fees if they choose to do so!" And another Grange "could get a number of members, provided the initiatory fee was not required before initiation, and the new members allowed to work it out on their new hall!"

In answer to all these inquiries, together with a score of others upon the same subject, it is only necessary to say, that the constitution of the National Grange is the highest law of the Order, and every member is obligated to support it. Article 6th reads as follows:

"The minimum fee for membership in a Subordinate Grange *shall be*, for men \$5.00, and for women \$2.00, for the four degrees."

It must be conceded that any attempt to evade this clear provision of the Constitution, either directly or indirectly, so as to admit a candidate without the payment of the full fee, before the initiation; or to appropriate funds from the treasury to refund any portion of the fee after initiation, would be, not only a violation of the constitution, but of the obligation itself.

The National Grange submitted an amendment to the constitution, giving to each State Grange the full power to regulate its own fees and dues; but this amendment has not been ratified by three-fourths of all the State Granges; and it becomes the duty of all good Patrons to cheerfully submit to the will of the majority. The present fees do not seem high, when compared with the fees of other similar organizations; and truly, they are reasonable for the benefits of a well conducted Grange.

WHAT GEN. WASHINGTON SAID.—On the 10th of December, 1799, Washington wrote to the manager of his farm: "Economy in all things is as commendable in the manager as it is beneficial and desirable to the employer; and, on a farm, it shows itself in nothing more evident, or more essential, than in not suffering the provender to be wasted, but, on the contrary, in taking care that every atom of it be used to the best advantage; and, likewise, in not permitting the plows, harness and other implements of husbandry, and the gears belonging to them, to be unnecessarily exposed, trodden under foot, run over by carts, and abused in other respects. More good is derived from attending to the minutiae of a farm, than strikes people at first view; and examining the farm-yard fences, and looking into the fields to see that nothing is there but what is allowed to be there, oftentimes is the means of producing much good, or at least of avoiding much evil."

—Hon. J. J. Woodman, master of State Grange, will install the officers of Pomona Grange No. 11, and give a public address at Newaygo, in Newaygo Co., Mich., March 21, 1877, at 10 A. M. All Patrons are invited.

A. E. UPRON, Secretary.

—The State Grange, by *Resolution*, made it a duty of Secretaries of Subordinate Granges to procure subscribers for the VISITOR.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, FEB'Y, 1877.

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.

Plaster—The Situation.

Six weeks ago I was assured by a manufacturer of plaster in the city of Grand Rapids that "Grangers would buy plaster where they could buy it cheapest—Grangers were not the men who would change the universal law of trade,"—that "our \$2.00 offer will capture the whole lot."

To which I replied: You don't know what you are talking about; you don't deserve the support of Michigan farmers, in or out of the Order of P. of H. These men have made you rich, and now you say substantially this—that there is no honesty or integrity in them—rather a poor return for the patronage you have received from them through all these years, when they have paid you fifty per cent. on your investment, and then paid an intermediate party for standing between you and them.

Now, what is the situation to-day? These few weeks have developed conclusions.

The support of Day & Taylor by the Patrons of Michigan has become a fixed fact. The jeers and sneers of manufacturers who were sure that by their combination they had hedged us in, of agents who were sure of that dollar per ton for handling plaster, and the whole herd of sympathizing middlemen, who saw in our baffled condition last year, the failure, not only of this enterprise, but of the Grange movement. What of all these now? One general expression of astonishment that farmers, that Grangers will stand by and adhere to resolutions adopted by Granges all over the State for the last two years. In short, these gentlemen are surprised that these Grangers are honest with each other, and have sense enough to see through their foolish schemes, designed to entrap, weaken, and demoralize the Order.

These fellows now give it up, and admit that these Grangers stick together, stick to their promises, stick to the Executive Committee, stick to Day & Taylor, stick to common honesty, and perhaps after all know enough to take care of themselves.

In the January VISITOR was published a number of communications from different parts of the State, pledging support to Messrs. Day & Taylor. The February number might be filled with communications of the same character. I should like to give each one a place, but the size of the VISITOR will not permit—shall have to summarize all these letters, giving only enough to indicate the *spirit* and *grit* of an average Michigan Granger.

Bro. James Cook, Secretary, sends a resolution that "Adrian Grange No. 213, will purchase plaster only of Day

& Taylor, and use all honorable means to induce others to do the same.

Danby Grange No. 185 "Resolved unanimously that they would buy all plaster wanted this year of Day & Taylor."

BERRIEN COUNTY GRANGE No. 1 "Resolved that the members of this Grange hereby pledge themselves to sustain the State Executive Committee, and order plaster through our State Secretary of Day & Taylor."

Wyoming Grange No. 353 "Resolved that F. Godfrey's \$4.00 plaster of last year could not be sold to them this year for \$2 00 and give a reasonable profit to the manufacturer, so they conclude not to use it at any price."

Irving Grange No. 55, "Heartily endorse the action of the Executive Committee of the State Grange, and resolve that we will not buy a pound of plaster of any one but Day & Taylor."

Bro. Haslett, Secretary of Buchanan Grange No. 40, writes that "Our co-operative store is doing a good business. Our Grange is flourishing, and has adopted a resolution not to buy plaster except of Day & Taylor."

Vergennes Grange No. 221 adopted a series of resolutions endorsing Day & Taylor and pledging the support of its entire membership.

Sparta Grange No. 340, "Resolved that we buy no plaster this season except of Day & Taylor."

From Sister Lillie E. Hamilton, Secretary of Sturgis Grange No. 332, I received a lengthy preamble and resolutions adopted by said Grange, reciting the manifest purposes and intent of the combination, and pledging the unqualified support of Sturgis Grange to Day & Taylor.

South Lowell Grange No. 113, "Resolved that we buy our plaster of Day & Taylor, and that in case that firm need more assistance than our patronage, that we as a Grange offer to advance to said firm \$10.00; and would recommend every Subordinate Grange in the State to do the same thing."

Monitor Grange No. 553, "Resolved that we will buy all the plaster we want of Day & Taylor, in accordance with arrangements made by the Executive Committee of the State Grange."

Thornapple Grange No. 38, "By preamble and resolutions endorse the Executive Committee, and pledge their support to Day & Taylor."

Wright Grange No. 307, "Resolved to sustain the Executive Committee and Day & Taylor, and that each member should be a committee of one to solicit orders for plaster from farmers outside the Gate, and report at the next regular meeting." Wright Grange further resolved to appropriate sufficient funds from the Grange treasury to supply the head of every family in the Grange with a copy of the GRANGE VISITOR for one year."

With this resolution came a money order for \$7.20.

"Keystone Grange No. 226, propose to buy plaster of Day & Taylor as per arrangement by Executive Committee of the State Grange, regardless of the price asked by other companies."

Centerville Grange No. 76, "Resolved that we heartily endorse all the resolutions in the January VISITOR in regard to the purchase of plaster of Day & Taylor, and that we consider the circulars received from other firms an insult to the Order and the intelligence of its members.

Scipio Grange No. 106, "Resolved that we will not use or buy a pound of plaster other than of Day & Taylor, as we believe in standing by those that stand by us."

Central Grange No. 220 is reported by Secretary Reynolds in a flourishing condition, fully alive to all the interests of the Order, and ready to advance to Day & Taylor \$10.00, if needed, and take plaster at some future time.

Otsego Grange No. 364, "Resolved that the members of this Grange will purchase their plaster of Day & Taylor, regardless of the tempting offer of the bull-doing monopoly."

Penfield Grange No. 85, by preamble and resolutions endorse the Executive Committee, denounce the combination, "and believe pure plaster ground fine is far superior to any offered by stucco-makers."

Lafayette and Emerson Grange No. 521, "Resolved that if this Grange buys any plaster it will be from Day & Taylor."

Quincy Grange No. 152, "Resolved that we will buy all the plaster we use this season of Day & Taylor, though other parties offer at half the price."

THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY COUNCIL at its meeting Feb. 6, "Resolved that we heartily endorse the State Secretary in reference to the plaster matter—that we will not buy a pound of plaster except of Day & Taylor or their successors, while they remain faithful to their agreement with the Executive Committee of the State Grange."

The Secretary, Sister W. K. Sexton, adds: "The prospect of the success of the Grange movement in this County is very encouraging."

Bro. Geo. W. Woodward writes under date of Feb. 5th from Shelly, Oceana County: "The Order in this county and vicinity, seems to be gaining ground. I am speaking once or twice a week, and installing officers. We do not use much plaster this way, all we want in this county will be bought of Day & Taylor."

The baited hook of \$2 00 per ton, offered by members of the Association, wont catch Patrons of the north woods. I trust no Grange will be so weak as to bite at it.

Bedford Grange, No. 65; "Resolved, That we as a Grange stand by Day & Taylor and buy our plaster of them."

We believe the would be monopolists will find that the manhood of some of our members is not for sale for the paltry sum for which they would be willing to sell theirs."

In addition to the foregoing, I have received many letters from individual Patrons indicating the prevailing feeling on this subject all over the State.

From all this let me say the conclusion reached is most gratifying.

The Patrons of Michigan have resisted a temptation, resented an in-

sult, and now command the respect alike of friend and foe.

I am receiving many letters of enquiry asking if Day & Taylor will be able to fill all orders for plaster this season. To which I answer, I think they will.

The plaster season commenced early, and the orders have been, up to this time, so well distributed that I think all will be supplied throughout the entire season.

They shipped 1,300 tons in January, which was a pretty good opening for a seasons work.

Their only trouble so far, has been to get cars. It has been next to impossible to get L. S. & M. S. cars.

I have just been informed that after this they will be able to supply the demand.

Any over charge of freights, or charge for detention of cars by local agents, I hope will be promptly reported to me, and the matter will be set right.

While a local agent may be unreasonable and exacting, relief is often found by applying to the General Agent.

The freight schedule as printed in the Jan. Number, has been corrected and some other lines added to the list.

BLANKS AND PETITIONS.

On the 17th inst., I sent blanks for Secretary's Quarterly Reports for use April 1st. Also headings for petitions to the Legislature. These headings should have been sent long ago. My only excuse for delay lies in the fact that your Executive Committee of the State Grange have a convenient way of leaving all the work they cannot do when in session, for me to attend to. Some of the work will not admit of postponement. Correspondence must be attended to. The Proceedings of the last session of the State Grange prepared for the printer. The VISITOR must be got in shape. The printing looked after, and the whole prepared for distribution through the mails. But the heavy work which the committee generously turned over to me, was this plaster business.

Having accepted this labor and responsibility, I have given my best efforts to make it a success, and am well satisfied with the prospect.

These several matters are in excess of the business that legitimately belongs to this office, and I state the case to justify apparent neglect of minor matters.

Bills covering the several subjects embraced in these petitions have been introduced into the Legislature.

I hope Secretaries will secure names to these petitions at the first meeting of their Grange, and forward the petition to the representatives from their districts or to their Senator.

I have sent a copy of the Proceedings of the last Annual Session of the National Grange to the Masters of all Subordinate Granges whose election has been reported to this office.

The State Grange instructed me to have printed in the proceedings of the last session, the name and number of each Grange, with the name and address of each Master and Secretary.

I desire a complete list, and though

Bro. Woodman has called attention to this matter, and I have lost no opportunity to urge Secretary's to send me an election report, yet the following Granges are not yet reported.

- 12, 15, 28, 36, 44, 52, 71, 93, 98, 105, 109, 111, 116, 117, 119, 120, 131, 132, 136, 139, 141, 150, 164, 165, 184, 193, 201, 205, 207, 210, 211, 212, 215, 224, 231, 233, 236, 240, 254, 257, 277, 299, 302, 305, 306, 310, 311, 312, 319, 324, 341, 347, 349, 352, 354, 357, 365, 369, 396, 397, 398, 402, 405, 409, 410, 412, 413, 416, 419, 531, 434, 436, 444, 449, 453, 466, 467, 469, 473, 477, 486, 489, 492, 493, 498, 501, 504, 506, 507, 512, 515, 524, 525, 527, 5, 28, 341, 543, 546, 550, 569, 571, 572, 573, 575, 577, 576, 586, 594, 601, 607, 609, 615, 621, 626, 627, 630.

Freight Rates on Plaster from Day & Taylor's Mill at Grandville to Stations on the several Railroads of the State.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL—GRAND RIVER VALLEY DIVISION.

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Bowen, Hammond | \$13 80 |
| Caledonia | 14 60 |
| Middleville, Irving | 16 20 |
| Hastings | 17 80 |
| Quimby, Sheridan | 18 60 |
| Nashville | 19 40 |
| Vermontville | 20 20 |
| Chester | 21 00 |
| Charlotte | 21 75 |
| Eaton Rapids | 23 25 |
| County Line | 24 00 |
| Omondaga | 24 75 |

MICHIGAN CENTRAL—MAIN LINE—GOING EAST.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Jackson | \$25 00 |
| Michigan Center | 27 15 |
| Leon, Grass Lake | 28 50 |
| Francisco, Chelsea | 29 10 |
| Dexter, Scio | 30 90 |
| Delhi Mills, Farmer's, Fostor's | 31 50 |
| Kellogg's, Ann Arbor | 32 70 |
| Geddes, Ypsilanti | 32 10 |
| Denton's | 33 90 |
| Wayne Junction, Wayne | 34 50 |
| Dearborn | 35 00 |
| Grand Trunk Junction, Detroit | 36 00 |

GOING WEST.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Sandstone | 27 75 |
| Parma | 28 50 |
| North Concord | 25 10 |
| Bath Mills, Newberg Mills, Albion | 25 00 |
| Marengo | 27 00 |
| Marshall, Emerald Mills, Ceresco, White's | 29 00 |
| Augusta Bedford | 29 00 |
| Mattawan | 25 00 |
| Texas | 22 00 |
| Lawton, White Oak, Decatur, Johnsons | 29 00 |
| Glenwood, Dowagiac, Pokagon | 31 00 |

SOUTH HAVEN DIVISION OF M. C. R. R. VIA C. & M. L. S. FROM GRANDVILLE.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Brownell's | \$16 00 |
| Hopkins, Alamo | 18 00 |
| Williams, Kendall's | 20 00 |
| Pine Grove, Gobles, Bloomingdale | 22 00 |
| Bear Lake, Columbia, Brown's, Geneva, Kibbies, South Haven | 24 00 |

MAIN LINE—M. C. R. R. VIA C. & M. L. S. R. R.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Kalamazoo | \$12 00 |
| Comstock, Galesburg, Battle Creek | 18 00 |
| Oshtemo, Bertran, South Bend | 20 00 |
| Three Oaks, Galien, Wilsons, Dayton, Buchanan, Gitchell's Niles | 24 00 |

CHICAGO, MICH. LAKE SHORE E. R.—SOUTH.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Holland to Grand Junction inclusive | \$12 00 |
| Breedsville, Bangor, Deerfield | 14 00 |
| Hartford, Watervliet, Columa, Riverside | 16 00 |
| Benton Harbor, St. Joseph | 18 00 |
| Stevensville, Bridgman | 20 00 |
| Brown's to New Buffalo | 20 00 |

C. & M. L. S. R. R.—NORTH.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| All points to Muskegan inclusive | 14 00 |
| White Hall to Pentwater | 20 00 |
| Twin Lakes to Big Rapids | 16 00 |

MICHIGAN CENTRAL—AIR LINE.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Three Rivers | \$20 00 |
| Colon, Centerville | 23 00 |
| Homer, Clarendon, Tekonsba, Burlington, Union City, Sherwood | 25 00 |
| Snyder's, Concord, Paulaski, Wassepi, Corey's, Jones | 27 00 |
| Vandalia, Cassopolis, Diley Barron Lake | 29 00 |
| JACKSON, LANSING & SAGINAW, VIA G. E. V. R. R. | |
| Rives Junction, Leslie, Chapin's, Mason, Delhi | \$25 50 |
| Lansing, North Lansing | 21 00 |
| Bath | 27 00 |
| Chandler's | 29 00 |
| Langsburg | 31 50 |

| | |
|---|---------|
| Bennington | 32 00 |
| Owasso | 24 75 |
| Henderson's | 33 30 |
| Oakley | 33 90 |
| Chessaning | 30 90 |
| St. Charles | 35 00 |
| Tittabawassee, Saginaw City, East Saginaw | 36 00 |
| F. & P. M. Junction, Carlton, Zilwaukee | 37 00 |
| FORT WAYNE, JACKSON & SAGINAW R. R.—SOUTH OF JACKSON. | |
| Baldwins, Hanover, Stony Point, Reading, Waterloo | \$27 00 |
| Mosherville, Jonesville, Banker's | 25 00 |
| Auburn, Auburn Junction, Summit | 29 00 |
| Montgomery, Pleasant Lake | 31 00 |
| State Line, Freemont, Angola, St. Johns, New Era | 33 00 |
| Fort Wayne | 30 00 |
| DETROIT, HILLSDALE & SOUTHERN VIA FT. WAYNE & JACKSON R. R. | |
| Bridgewater, Manchester, Watkins Brooklyn, North Adams, Hillsdale | \$25 00 |
| Saline, Woodstock, Somerset, Somerset Center, Jerome | 30 00 |
| FLINT & P. M. R. R. VIA M. C. R. R. | |
| Plymouth | 32 00 |
| Northville, Novi | 36 00 |
| Nixons, Flint | 38 00 |
| Millford | 39 00 |
| Highland, Clyde | 40 00 |
| Grand Blanc | 42 00 |
| Genessee, Ortonville | 44 00 |
| Mt. Morris, Pine Run, Birch Run, Bridgeport | 46 00 |
| LAKE SHORE AND MICH. SOUTHERN—SOUTH. | |
| Byron, Dorr, Hilliards, Hopkins | \$14 00 |
| Allegan, Abronia, Otsego, Argenta | 16 00 |
| Cooper | 18 00 |
| Portage, Flowerfield, Moorepark | 20 00 |
| Three Rivers, Constantine | 21 00 |
| White Pigeon | 24 00 |
| L. S. & M. S. R. R.—GOING EAST. | |
| Douglas, Sturgis | 24 00 |
| Burr Oak, Bronson, Batavia, Coldwater, Quincy, Allens | 26 00 |
| Lansing, Eaton Rapids | 24 00 |
| Diamondale, Rockway, Springsport, Devereux, Albion, Condit, Homer, Litchfield, Jonesville, Hillsdale, Osseo, Pittsford, Hudson, Clayton, Napoleon, Norvell, Manchester, Clinton, Tecumseh, Adrian | 26 00 |
| Blissfield Junction, Blissfield, Deerfield, Petersburg, Ida | 28 00 |
| Ottawa Lake, Sylvania, Monroe, Toledo, Stony Creek, Rockwood, Wyandotte | 31 00 |
| L. S. & M. S.—GOING WEST. | |
| Middlebury, Bristol, Elkhart | 24 00 |
| Osceola, Mishawakee, South Bend, Warren, Laporte | 26 00 |
| DETROIT & MILWAUKEE R. R. | |
| Berlin, Ada, Lowell, Saranac | \$16 00 |
| Ionia | 17 00 |
| Coopersville, Muir | 18 00 |
| Nunica, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg, Grand Haven, Pewamo, Fowler | 20 00 |
| St. Johns, Shepardsville, Ovid, Owosso, Corunna | 23 00 |
| Vernon | 24 00 |
| Durand, Gaines, Linden, Fenton, Holly, Davisburg | 26 00 |
| Clarkston, Waterford, Drayton Plains, Pontiac | 28 00 |
| Birmingham, Royal Oak | 32 00 |
| GRAND RAPIDS & INDIANA R. R.—NORTH. | |
| Rockford, Edgerton | \$13 00 |
| Lockwood, Cedar Springs, Sand Lake | 15 00 |
| Pierson, Maple Hill, Howard City | 17 00 |
| Morley, Stanwood, Rust, Byers, Big Rapids | 21 00 |
| Paris to Reed City inclusive | 21 00 |
| Ashton, Leroy | 23 00 |
| Tustin, Traverse City, Fife Lake | 25 00 |
| South Boardman, to Leetsville, inclusive | 27 00 |
| Havana to Cascade, inclusive | 28 00 |
| Simons to Iowens Falls, inclusive | 29 00 |
| Miller's Petoska | 30 00 |
| SOUTH. | |
| Plainwell | 15 00 |
| Vicksburg | 19 00 |
| Mendon | 20 00 |
| Sturgis | 23 00 |
| CHICAGO & LAKE HURON R. R. VIA VICKSBURG— | |
| Marcellus | \$21 00 |
| Volina | 23 00 |
| Jamestown, Cassopolis, Edwardsburg, Mishawake | 25 00 |
| Valparaiso | 33 00 |
| VIA VICKSBURG—EAST. | |
| Indian Lake | 21 00 |
| Scott's, Pottersville, Sebastopol, Lansing | 23 00 |
| Chimax, Madison, Bellevue, Olivet, Pine Lake, Durand, Bancroft | 25 00 |
| Hamilton | 26 30 |
| Dawson | 28 30 |
| Flint, Davidson | 30 00 |
| Elby | 31 75 |
| Attica | 32 08 |

| | |
|---|-------|
| Imlay City | 32 60 |
| Capac | 34 40 |
| Emmet, Port Huron, Thornton | 35 00 |
| Durand, Bancroft, Pine Lake, Olivet, Belvue, Climax | 25 00 |
| DETROIT, LANSING & LAKE MICH. VIA IONIA. | |
| Collin's, Lyons, Palmers, Woods Corners, \$22 00. | |
| Portland, Kiddsville, Belding, Chad- wick, Tenwick, Greenville | 23 00 |
| Sheridan, Danby, Eagle | 24 00 |
| Colby's, Staton, Grand Ledge | 25 00 |
| Ingersoll's, Delta | 26 00 |
| Freight for Stations marked thus * must be pre-paid. | |

State Agent's Department.

J. H. GARDNER, - CENTREVILLE.

I am constantly receiving enquiries for dealers at Detroit who will do business for Patrons, and fill orders for goods of different kinds. I have therefore made arrangements with Thomas Beck, 106 Woodbridge St., west, to sell grain in car lots for one cent a bushel; and butter, eggs, dried fruit, &c., for five per cent. commission on the sales. I believe him to be reliable, and would advise all who send their produce to Detroit for a market to try him. M. Limbach, 116 Woodward Avenue, dealer in stoves, iron, nails, builders hardware and mechanics' tools of all kinds, will fill orders under seal, to be paid on receipt of goods. T. A. Parker, 91 Woodward Avenue, continues to sell groceries on sealed orders, to be paid on receipt, if the orders are for wholesale quantities; but requires that the orders be large or in original packages, as he can not put up small bills, and requests me to give notice accordingly.

George Peck & Co., dry goods, Detroit, will fill orders if the money accompanies them, but not otherwise, and I am unable to find any dealer that will send out goods to be paid for after receiving them.

If orders are sent to me I can have them filled and sent direct to you, at New York prices adding freight. I have now a stock of groceries and boots and shoes on hand, which will be furnished at cost to all who send cash with their orders; but please remember that I can't give long credits. Also a quantity of flannels, socks, and yarns. For general groceries Chicago is the best market to buy in by the quantity. It is best to put your orders together and make up as large an amount as possible at one time, thus saving something on freight.

All needing wagons during the Spring season had better buy soon, as the probability is the price will advance. I can now furnish either the Niles or Buchanan wagons for \$58.00, warranted to be equal to any made, for finish or durability. I have yet some Esty Cottage Organs on hand at very low prices, Pianos as low as \$175. Clover and timothy seed is firm, now quoted at \$9 56 for clover, and \$2.25 for choice timothy. For plows, cultivators, and farm tools, if I could know soon the number wanted, I could contract for them; but until I receive definite orders I cannot make arrangements. I am now looking after lumber and shingles, and all who intend to build had best consult me for prices.

Report of Committee on Education.

Your committee visited the State farm and Agricultural College, at a very unpropitious season of the year, to ascertain its practical working. We were transported in very comfortable conveyances and immediately began a tour of inspection, beginning at the Laboratory, where we found Dr. Kedzie in his speciality, which is chemistry, who exhibited the lecture room, his study, where is an ingenious application of the Anemometer, registering the rate of the wind, the experimental room, where forty-eight pupils can study at once and are required to study there three hours per day. Next your committee visited the library which we found under charge of Prof. Fairchild. The library is open two hours daily, from four to six P. M. to all students. Students are allowed to draw books from the library for personal use. It consists of 3,700 volumes at present, including nearly all subjects, but more largely those which pertain to agriculture. This library was started by a gift from the State Agricultural Society, which donated their library enlarged by a donation from a publishing company as a model for a township or district library, and by the State Legislature of duplicates from the State Library, personal donations and an appropriation of \$1,000 at the last session of the legislature.

The Museum presented an interesting and instructive exhibit of Zoological, Mineralogical and kindred collections.

In the Green House we saw some 400 varieties, and 3,000 individual plants, among which an orange tree bearing fruit. The building is warmed by heated water which rises up through the rooms by convection.

In the barns we saw many large exhibits of thoroughbred stock of all ages and sizes. Of cattle, Shorthorns, Ayrshires, Alderneys and Galloways, were the principal breeds. Sheep included Merinos, Cotswolds and Southdowns. Swine, Berkshires, Essex, and Suffolk.

The farm comprises 676 acres, about half of which is arable land divided by a farm road well fenced on both sides, making two nearly equal parts, which are again divided by fences into fields of about twenty-five acres.

During the past year 156 students have been in attendance at the farm and college, whose average age is about 20 years. The system of self government among the students which the faculty encourage is commendable and worthy of a fuller notice.

With regard to former, and perhaps not unfounded criticism of an unfavorable character, to the effect that the institution was too much given to theoretical work, to studies which might be pursued elsewhere and give an opportunity to do more practical farming, and another that the students did not become farmers, your committee would say that we believe it is at present, nearly relieved from the former objection, and that under the efficient management of Prof. Gully whom we believe to be one of the most practical and competent farmers

of the State, the farm is, now an important part of the institution and receives its proper consideration. With regard to the latter, that students have not become practical farmers, you have only to refer to the catalogue of the present year and the President's address before the House of Representatives of our State Legislature, March 4th, 1875; to determine that more than forty per cent have gone to farming, fruit raising, and the nursery business, as their chief or only business, while many others are engaged in teaching those things.

And now as it is impossible for your committee to even allude to the hundredth part of the matters of interest which this institution presents to us, we recommend that each member of this State Grange carry home with him a copy of the Annual Report of the Board of Agriculture, and not lay it away upon the dusty and unapproached shelf, but read it, pass it to his brothers for the same purpose, and then order it placed among the documents of the Grange as a valuable book of reference.

Your committee would not discharge its duty without saying that its present success has justified the wisdom of placing its control in the hands of the agriculturists of the State and that the Board of Agriculture are deserving the entire confidence of the members of this Order, and of the farming and laboring classes generally and we recommend that our legislature make liberal appropriations for all its necessities whether for building, other improvements or current expenses, and also a sufficient sum to enable the faculty to provide for the attendance of young ladies, which is at present admissible but impossible with the present accommodations.

We recommend that we express our satisfaction with the courteous treatment and liberal transportation to the farm, by a special vote of thanks of this body to Prest. Abbott, the Faculty and Board.

Your committee also recommend the establishment of a course of study in veterinary science and practice, under competent managers and instructors, be required strictly to follow it.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. A. INGERSOLL,
C. E. HOLISTER,
MRS. L. A. JENNE,
WM. HULL,
MRS. J. M. BRIGGS,
P. Z. SKINNER,
MRS. S. STEEL,
MRS. J. M. WILTSIE,
MRS. A. D. BATES.

Committee.

Report of Committee on Co-operation.

From Proceedings of State Grange.

Worthy Master and Members of the Michigan State Grange:

Your Committee on Co-operation to whom was referred the general subject of co operation and transportation, as well as sundry memorials and petitions in regard to the details of various plans for co-operating together, respectfully report that we have had the subject under consideration and submit the following as the result

of our deliberations, and urge its adoption:

Your committee believe that one of the first lessons to be learned by the members of our Order is to adapt themselves to, and avail themselves of, the methods provided for co-operating together in promoting the general good.

Your committee desire to impress upon the State Grange and through you upon the members of the Order throughout the State, the absolute necessity of reaching out, grasping and realizing all the means that this Order can devise or command for promoting our financial good, as well as to increase our physical comfort and to develop, educate and elevate us morally, socially and intellectually. In order to derive the highest good through our organization *this must be done*. This duty devolves upon the subordinate Grange and the members thereof. Without this support and patronage the wisest and best devised plans are useless.

Your committee recommend a continuance of the policy pursued for the last year in regard to the appointment and employment of a business agent. We are clearly of the opinion that the agent should be paid a salary for his services, and charge or receive no commission whatever, but in all cases the purchaser should receive his purchases at actual cost.

Your committee recommend that the business agent be advised and instructed to confer with the agents of other states in relation to the sale of our surplus products, and for the purchase of goods articles or products of other States that we may require. Thus extending the benefits of co-operation to the widest extent.

We also recommend that the business agent operate and correspond with the agents of all co-operative stores connected with our Order, now existing or that may hereafter be established with a view to benefit all parties concerned. We also recommend that an earnest effort be made by the Executive Committee and business agent to provide additional facilities for the sale of farm products.

We heartily concur with the sentiment expressed by the National Grange, that it is not advisable for Granges, as such, either subordinate, county, or state, to take shares in business or manufacturing enterprises, but for the purpose of business co-operation endorse the following recommendation of the National Grange and commend the subject to the favorable consideration of our Order.

We understand the following to be the leading and essential points that ought to be adhered to:

- 1st. The cash system of business.
- 2d. Sell for a fair marginal profit.
- 3d. A fixed interest on share capital.
- 4th. Quarterly settlements.
- 5th. Division of profits among purchasers.
- 6th. Full dividends to shareholders on purchases.*

The same principles, rules and regulations that are necessary to govern a local association may apply to larger or wholesale establishments.

And we commend to the favorable

consideration of co-operative associations in this State the subject of aiding in the establishment of wholesale houses at large commercial centers. With these two systems in operation, one through the State business agent, and the other through the local co-operative associations, the business wants of our Order will be fully met, and the true principles of co-operation disseminated and persistently taught.

In regard to transportation, your committee are not prepared to make any new suggestions, but would refer to the report of the committee on that subject at the last session of the State Grange, in which your committee most heartily concur. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

J. W. WING,
A. LAMPMAN,
R. E. JAMES,
M. L. STERNES,
C. E. WHITFIELD
Committee.

Labor, Capital, and Co-operation.

The great problem in political economy is, without a doubt, how to secure a more equal distribution of wealth. In every branch of industry the laborers, the real producers, receive but a small share of the results of their labor. Especially is this the case in very populous countries where workman are plenty and wages low. The disproportion between the rewards of capital and the rewards of labor of which we complain in this country, is much greater in all European countries, particularly in England. The laboring classes there were, therefore, led much earlier than we to consider and adopt means for securing for themselves a larger portion of the profits of their own industry. Still the subject has not gone unconsidered here. Our workmen have long had their "Unions" and suicidal "strikes" and they have latterly embarked somewhat in co-operative enterprises.

But yet, neither in this country nor elsewhere; have the efforts to render the relations between capital and labor more equitable been sufficient to materially better the condition of the laboring classes. The laborer still bears much the same relation to the product of his labor as the lathe or engine that he runs does. He receives for his work little more than enough to keep him in good working order. This lack of success arises not so much from the fewness of the efforts as from the misdirection of them. If the money expended and time lost in carrying on fruitless strikes had been employed in establishing co-operative enterprises the benefit to the workmen would have been much greater and much more permanent. "Strikes" proceed on the assumption that the employer is always responsible for the unequal distribution of the profits of labor and can in every case rectify it. The strikers compare only what each receives with the whole of the capitalist's returns. They often fail to consider the large number of his employes and how a large proportion of his income is paid out in wages. The employer, on the other hand, al-

ways looks at the aggregate sum that he pays out as wages, and seldom reflects how small a proportion of the whole profit of his business goes to each workman. Hence the laborers usually consider their employer less generous toward them than he really is, while he regards his payment to them as more liberal than it really is. Strikes are, therefore, frequent, and the employer is usually so obstinate that they result in a loss to the strikers. Even when laborers receive the demanded increase they have to work a good while to make up for time lost in obtaining it.

Thus far the only certain useful method of making the rewards of labor commensurate with its value is co-operation. Co-operative enterprises whenever they have received a fair trial, have been astonishingly successful; and, proceeding, as they do, upon the principle of making each laborer an employer, or part proprietor, and thus giving him an addition to ordinary wages a share of the profits, they can never fail to be so except through mismanagement. Instead of one man furnishing machinery and materials and receiving therefor a much larger compensation than the men who work it up, the workmen themselves supply these and themselves receive the large compensation.

A liberal reward for his labor is not the only benefit conferred upon the laborer by co-operation. It begets a habit of economy that the ordinary system of disinterested labor does not. Co-operation societies secure a working capital by requiring each member to pay into the society treasury certain weekly or monthly dues. Their profitableness depends largely upon the prompt payment of these dues. Members are, therefore, usually careful to save at least so much of their earnings as will enable them to meet their society assessment. They must save something in order to get for their work all that it is worth. If, on the other hand, the reward of labor and capital should be equalized by each individual employer taking for himself only a small share of the profits and distributing the balance among his workmen, if, in short, wages should be largely increased, there would result no additional inducements to economy on the part of laborers. No doubt, many who now spend all, would then save something. But this would be from desire rather than necessity. A failure to save would not directly reduce their wages. Under the co-operative system, however, it would.

But the superiority of co-operation over a direct increase of wages is a matter of slight importance, since workmen are not likely to be called upon to choose between them. Employers will never pay more than the market price for labor and they will combine to keep the market price low. The only way for laborers to secure a larger share of the profits of their labor is by becoming their own employers. When we consider how productive of good results most co-operative undertakings have been, and from what small beginnings they have usually sprung, we cannot but

wonder that they should have been so few. They are, however, increasing gradually, and each year brings forth some new enterprises and makes the principles of co-operation better understood and appreciated. The time when co-operation shall become so general as to have very materially improved the condition of all the laboring classes may not be very near at hand, but it will come some time.

PRICE LIST of SUPPLIES

Kept in the office of the Secretary of
MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.

And sent out Post Paid, on Receipt of Cash Order, over the seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Ballot Boxes, (hard wood),..... | \$1 25 |
| Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred, .. | 60 |
| Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep accounts with members,..... | 1 00 |
| Blank Record Books, (Express paid),..... | 1 00 |
| Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound,..... | 50 |
| Receipt Book, containing 100 Receipts from Treasurer to Secretary, with stub, well bound,..... | 50 |
| Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound, .. | 50 |
| Cushing's Manual,..... | 60 |
| Applications for Membership, per 100,.... | 50 |
| Membership Cards, per 100,..... | 50 |
| Withdrawal Cards, per doz.,..... | 25 |
| Illustrated Visiting or Traveling Cards, each,..... | 05 |
| Dianis, in envelopes, per doz.,..... | 25 |
| By-Laws of the State and Subordinate Granges, single copies 5c, per doz.,..... | 50 |
| New kind of Singing Books, with music, Single copy 15 cts. per doz.,..... | 1 50 |
| Rituals, single copy,..... | 15 |
| " per doz.,..... | 1 50 |
| Blanks for Consolidation of Granges, sent free on application..... | |
| Blank Applications for Membership in Pomona Granges, furnished free on application..... | |
| Blank "Articles of Association" for the Incorporation of Subordinate Granges with Copy of Charter, all complete,.... | 10 |
| Patron's Pocket Companion, by J. A. Cramer, Cloth, 50 cts., Morocco with tuck, .. | 1 00 |
| Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100, .. | 40 |

Address, **J. T. COBB,**
SEC'Y MICH. STATE GRANGE,
SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

SEEDS!

The Best Offer Yet!

The Best and most desirable Seeds furnished at a Discount of 50 per cent. or one half the usual rates for all Seeds in small packets.

I make this a special offer to Patrons of Husbandry, Clubs, &c., which will enable them to save one half in procuring their Garden and Flour Seeds. Address,

EZRA WILLIAMS,
Rochester, N. Y.

The Mentor in the Grange

—AND—

HOMES of P. of H.,

Ought to be in every Grange and read by every member of our Order.
Price, \$2.00. Four copies for \$7.00.

The "Matron's Household Manual,"

By SISTER SHANKLAND, is the best Cook Book known to us. 75 cents each; four copies to one address for \$2.50. One copy of the "Mentor" and one copy of the "Manual" for \$2.50.
Address, **C. L. WHITNEY, Muskegon.**

N. B.

PARTICULAR.

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO.,

The Original Wholesale

GRANGE SUPPLY HOUSE

227 & 229 WABASH AVENUE,

JOBBERS IN

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING,
Hats, Caps, Trunks, &c., &c.

We now have our incomparable FALL AND WINTER CATALOGUE, No. 17, Ready.

These catalogues are in neat book form, contain 154 pages of just such information as every one needs, regarding name and wholesale price of nearly all articles in every day use.

THEY ARE FREE TO ALL. PRICES ARE VERY LOW NOW.
SEND US YOUR ADDRESS.

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO.,

Opposite the Matteson House, Chicago.

PAINTING. THE PATRONS' PAINT COMPANY are manufacturing the *INGERSOLL READY-MIXED PAINTS*, and selling them at full trade discounts, delivering them freight paid, and no money required until the goods are received—making them cheaper than even the material can be bought elsewhere. They are an absolutely pure article, possessing great endurance and brilliancy, and are giving great satisfaction all over the country. We have a Patron friend who saved enough alone on Paint purchased to pay his Grange expenses for a life-time. They also sell *ROOF PAINT* 30 per cent. cheaper than any one else. It is to the interest of all about painting to write and have sent free their book, "Every One His Own Painter." It will save much money, whether you buy their Paint or not. Address, 259 FRONT STREET, NEW YORK.—(From "Farmers' Friend.")

HEDGE PLANTS! GRAPE VINES!

SPRING OF 1877.

I am prepared to furnish strictly first class Osage Orange Hedge Plants, one year old, for \$2.25 per 1000. Concord Grape Vines, strong one year old Plants, \$1.00 per dozen; \$5.00 per 100. Patrons would do well to avail themselves of the facilities afforded by their frequent Grange Meetings to co-operate and order by the 100. Fifty at same rate.

Orders for Hedge Plants should be sent in before April 1st.

HENRY COLLINS,
Box 311, White Pigeon, St. Joseph Co., Mich.

N. B.—Evergreen Trees for Lawns or Wind-Breaks, at low rates; also small Fruit Plants.

HALL, PATTERSON & CO., Live Stock Commission Merchants,

Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ills.,

BONDED AGENTS;

OF THE

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

REFER BY PERMISSION to all the Masters of State Granges in the North-Western States, and to the members of the Executive Committees of the same.

THE Whitney Sewing Machine.

THE PIONEER MACHINE,

To recognize and adopt the Grange Plan of bringing the CONSUMER and PRODUCER in close business relations—dispensing with expensive agencies—and giving the purchaser the benefit of wholesale prices.

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

MACHINES SENT TO PATRONS
ON 20 DAYS TRIAL.

For Price List and Information address your State or County Purchasing Agents, or

THE WHITNEY MFG CO.,

CHICAGO, ILL.

HO, FOR THE WEST!

Round-trip Exploring Tickets to
IOWA AND NEBRASKA.

For full information and for charts and description of the

BEST FARMING LANDS

in the West, call on or send postal card to **FRANK B. WHIPPLE**, Kalamazoo, Mich. Agent for B. and M. E. R., for Van Buren, Kalamazoo, and Calhoun Counties.
Office, 19 North Burdick Street.