

THE Grange Visitor

ISSUED

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE

Michigan State



COMMITTEE OF THE

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J. T. COBB, }

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

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We give below the names of the Brothers and Sisters who have signified their willingness to respond to calls from Granges to lecture. The arrangement was made with them by the Executive Committee, and the conditions are that Granges wanting their services shall pay \$2.00 per day for time spent, and their necessary traveling expenses:

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R. E. JAMES, "

—Almost the entire vast business of the country is built up and conducted on the proceeds of the farmers' toil.

Make a Stand.

There is a very general impression among farmers that they are more poorly remunerated for their labor than any other class of laborers. And with the mercantile and professional classes, their pay bears no comparison at all. It is an accepted fact that what the farmer possesses, except in exceptional cases he may be favored by streak of good fortune, or the accident of a fortunate speculation, is the slow accumulation of untiring industry and the result of the most rigid economy and patient self-denial.

As they look about they see the monuments of labor in the cities and villages that dot the country over. There are to be found costly edifices and abundant evidences of wealth, but they are not found in the possession of the farmer. Farmers habitually murmur against this unjust distribution of estate, and yet seem to regard it an immutable decree of fortune, unjustly discriminating against them, which they are at liberty to rail at, but are not permitted to remedy.

Although many thousands of farmers have organized and united themselves together as Patrons of Husbandry to investigate their rights and protect their interests, they have not made the complete stand in their defense, necessary to insure their escape from the abuses they have attempted to reform. Heretofore they have confined their operations to the narrow sphere of home duties, leaving more important interests unguarded and open to the depredations of others. One very good reason why more privileges have not been accorded the farmer, and other rights recognized, is because he has not made claim to higher privileges or taken pains to assert his right of equality. 'Tis, however, but natural that the class with the most enterprise should secure the most advantages. The only marvel is that it should be so well with the farmer as it is, when his continual neglect of himself has been always tempting the greed of the mercantile and professional classes, and his unprotected condition inviting the wiles of the politician who is looking for just such stepping stones to the position his ambition covets.

It is a universal law, what costs nothing is worth nothing; that whatever is valuable has toil and watchful care as its price. And this is the lesson that farmers must learn. In obedience to this law all the grand

principles in science have been obtained, to it alone are we indebted for the possession of all the treasures of art we so highly prize. If it had been intended otherwise by the Great Master, there would have been one unvarying sameness throughout, and everything laid open to the perceptions of the simplest child; the mighty mind of Newton would never have been required to explore the laboratories of hidden laws and bring forth facts that are the wonder and admiration of the world.

When farmers shall study to know their wants, and knowing them shall direct all their energies to the one purpose of properly providing for them, then may they count upon substantial improvement in their condition. Only consider the amount of material and talent that may be used in the farmers cause, if every one will contribute his share, according to his ability, to make the meetings interesting and useful to strengthen the principles of co operation by encouraging with his influence and patronage every means that may be used to advance and strengthen the cause.

There seems to be a lack of faith with many, in the ability of the farmer to manage his affairs with success; they seem willing to believe him incapable of anything but bearing the burdens. But it is noticed that individuals regarded as having nothing but common endowments, when they have been brought to embrace a cause, and become inspired with its precepts, have given evidence of ability—for works which could not be wrought by those who boasted the highest intellectual attainments. These are to be found in every walk in life; one of the latest and most notable instances is the Revivalist Moody, whose achievements in that direction make the efforts of the ablest preachers seem insignificant in comparison. And we believe the day is not far distant when the agricultural people will discover ability to take care of themselves, and insist upon being represented in all places, and wherever their interests may extend by men of their own class.—*Dirgo Rural.*

—In Ohio the farmers pay 60 per cent of the taxes—do they make 60 per cent of the laws?

—The educational feature of the Order is the highest and best. The social life is a part, the business feature is a part, but the educational is the greatest part and the best part.

Master's Department.

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

List of Granges.

No effort has been wanting on the part of the Secretary of the State Grange, to obtain a complete list of the names and post office address of the newly elected Masters and Secretaries of Subordinate and County Granges; and yet the list is not full. Will the *Master* or Secretary of every Grange which has not reported, *attend to this at once.*

Patronize Your Brother.

In another column will be found a proposition from our Worthy State Lecturer, Bro. C. L. Whitney, to the members of the Order. The loss of his property by fire has greatly embarrassed him financially, yet he is laboring with his accustomed energy, to rebuild and "try again." In view of his long and valuable services in the Order, and his present need, as well as his very liberal offer, I trust that he will have the full and immediate patronage of our members.

I have been requested by a correspondent to answer the following questions through the VISITOR:

1st. "Are Pomona Granges legally constituted by the National Grange; and recommended by that body, as being necessary to complete the system of Granges, which the good of the Order demands?"

2d. "Are they in any sense *Representative Bodies*, or connecting links between the Subordinate and State Granges?"

3d. "Are they not in direct antagonism to the principles of *Equality*, as proclaimed in the "Declaration of Purposes," of our Order,—constituting something of an aristocracy by giving those who are able and desire to do so, the privilege of sloughing off the Subordinate Grange, and forming associations in the Pomona Grange more suited to their tastes?"

4th. "What advantages have they over County Councils, if any?"

5th. "Would you recommend the abolishing of County Councils, and organization of Pomona Granges in the 5th degree, which excludes 4th degree members from their meetings?"

To answer fully all the points raised by the correspondent, would require more space than the columns of the VISITOR will allow. My answers must, therefore, be brief.

1st. The founders of this Order made no provisions for the organization of "County or District Granges;" but the wants of the Order soon demonstrated that an organization was needed in each County or District, through which all the Subordinate Granges could communicate with each other; and co-operate in all the essential work of the Order. To supply this want, Conventions composed of delegates from the Subordinate Granges, were first called, as occasion seemed to require; but these conventions did not seem to meet the exigency; no funds were provided, and consequently no means to do the work most needed. Next, organizations

called Councils, were formed, composed of delegates elected by the Subordinate Granges; and each Grange sending delegates to the County Council, was taxed, for the purpose of creating a fund for the support of the Council. These Councils had no legal existence, they were not authorized by the Constitution of the Order; and could not use the Ritual or unwritten work of the Order, yet they were a great improvement upon the conventions; and lead to the organization of *County Granges*, in many localities, without authority. The National Grange was appealed to, and at the session held at St. Louis, in Feb, 1874, an amendment to the Constitution was submitted, authorizing the formation of "County or District Granges;" and to make them more attractive and interesting, the delegates elected to attend the meetings, were as a matter of right, and justice, made eligible, to receive the beautiful and instructive lessons of the 5th degree. This amendment was ratified by the State Granges, and the National Grange, at its next session, enacted the necessary laws, to regulate, and make uniform these organizations. By the amendment to the constitution the "representative system" was adopted, and but three 4th degree members could be elected delegates from a Subordinate Grange.

Our State Grange gave this provision a very liberal construction, and provided that three 4th degree members could be elected to the County Grange in each quarter. But even this was severely criticized by many members of the Order as being "too exclusive," "creating an aristocracy," etc. The next National Grange was appealed to, for the "removal of all restrictions;" and they were removed, and all 4th degree members in good standing in the Subordinate Grange made eligible to membership in the County Grange. Our State Grange has enacted the necessary laws to carry out the provisions of the Constitution, and, County or District Granges, are "legally constituted" not only by the National but by the State Grange, and are "recommended" to the favorable consideration of the Subordinate Granges throughout the land.

2d. All candidates for membership in the County Grange, must be elected to that position by the Subordinate Grange, to which they belong,—hence they are "representatives" from the Subordinate to the County Grange; and it becomes their duty to act as such.

The following extracts from the laws enacted by the National and State Granges for the organization and government of County Granges, will indicate something of the connection they have between the Subordinate Granges and the State Grange:

RULES OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

"Sec. 1. Reports in regard to business, stock, crops, implements, &c., called for by the State Grange, must be made promptly and with as much exactness as possible, and certified to by the Master and Secretary.

"Sec. 2. All circulars, information, or intelligence sent to the County Grange shall be communicated to the members without unnecessary delay, and through them to the Subordinate Granges in their district.

"Sec. 3. All members of County Granges shall be on the alert to aid the Subordinate

Granges in their district, and shall be prompt in communicating to them all matters affecting the interests of the Order. To this end they shall make it a rule to attend all the meetings of their Subordinate Grange with punctuality, and by their example and influence encourage the members, in accordance with the design and purpose of the organization."

RULES OF THE STATE GRANGE.

"1. That the Lecturer of Subordinate Granges shall report quarterly to the County or District Granges under whose jurisdiction they may at the time be, the general condition of their respective Granges, socially, financially, and educationally, and also report the condition of the growing crops, yield, when harvested, amount raised, surplus for market, etc.

"2. That the Lecturer of County or District Granges and County Councils shall compile these quarterly reports and forward the same to the Secretary of the State Grange.

"3. That such blank forms shall be furnished to both County and Subordinate Granges and County Councils as our Worthy Master and Secretary shall deem best suited to this purpose.

"4. That the Lecturer of County or District Granges shall visit each Subordinate Grange in his jurisdiction at least once a year, and exemplify the *unwritten* work of the Order, and give such instructions in the unwritten work as he shall, in his judgment, think best suited to its wants and the wants of our Order, and shall report all troubles and grievances that may exist between Subordinate Granges under his jurisdiction to the County or District Grange, and he shall adjust the same if possible, and shall receive such compensation for said services as the Grange may direct, to be paid from its treasury."

3d. In answer to the third question, I can say emphatically, no! The following from the Declarations of Purposes, is probably what is referred to, as being "antagonistic to the principles of equality":

"We desire a proper equality, equity, and fairness; protection for the weak, restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens, and justly distributed powers."

All of these rights are as fully guaranteed in the County as in the Subordinate Grange; and it is the very object of the County Grange to labor for a fuller recognition of all these rights, in social life, business life, and as citizens of the State and Nation. Equality is one of the cardinal principles of the Order; and any organization, which does not aim to secure this to all worthy members, is subversive of the noblest principles of the Fraternity.

All members of the Order, who are in good standing, and have received the lessons of the 4th degree, are eligible to membership in the County Grange, upon an exact equality. In a Subordinate Grange, the admission fee is \$5.00 for men and \$2.00 for women. In the County Grange it is \$2.00 for men and \$1.00 for women. The ability of any organization to do its work depends largely upon its treasury. Money is necessary in the County as well as the Subordinate Grange, and if any one will suggest a more feasible or equitable way to provide it, let him do so, and it will be adopted. True, the poor are taxed equally with the rich; but is not the organization intended to benefit the poor more than the rich? As a general rule, it is said that "the rich can take care of themselves." This may be true, financially, but in the great, and humane work of the Order, it is not true. Thorough co-operation is necessary, among all its members, and all will be benefited.

Is it not evident, that if the allegation is true, that the County Grange "constitutes an aristocracy," that any poor but worthy member of a Subordinate Grange, can in three days earn enough with the labor of his hands,

to enable himself and wife, to become "Aristocrats;" and by paying fifteen cents per quarter each, they can not only continue to be such, but grow more and more "Aristocratic?" Truly, it is not the policy of our Order to level down, but to level up; not to make the rich poorer, but the poor richer; "to help the needy," strengthen the weak, encourage the disheartened, cheer the despondent, and make all better, and wiser, and truer, and happier. Such is my understanding of the objects of the County Grange, and such is the work being accomplished by them wherever organized, and made to fulfill the objects of their mission, by the united co-operation of all the Subordinate Granges in the county.

4th. The following are among some of the reasons, in addition to the above, why County Granges are more advantageous to the Order than "County Councils."

1st. They are organized and governed under the laws and rules of the Order; and the same rules of discipline can be used, that are practiced in the Subordinate, State and National Granges.

2d. Means are provided for supplying the treasury with funds, without taxing the Subordinate Grange.

3d. The presence of lady members is secured at every meeting, thereby retaining all the social, moral and educational features of the Subordinate Granges.

4th. All unworthy or designing persons can be kept from the meetings.

5th. Uniformity of work, in everything essential to the welfare of the Order, can be secured among all the Subordinate Granges in the County or District; and full instructions given and received, in all the unwritten work, as well as Law and Usage.

6th. They are better appreciated by those who are in full sympathy with the objects and aims of the Order, because they are a part of it; and therefore capable of accomplishing more.

5th. In answer to the fifth and last question, I will say, that I would not recommend the doing away with County Councils, and establishing of County Granges, unless the members of the Order in the county are very generally of the opinion that it is wise to do so. Fourth degree members are not excluded from the business sessions of the County Grange. They are only excluded from the meeting while the lessons of the 5th degree are being given.

In conclusion I will state, that there is on file in this office, a remonstrance against the organization of a "Pomona Grange," from one of the best Granges in the State. The high standing of the Grange, and the known ability and fidelity of its members, are sufficient to entitle the petitioners to the most respectful hearing. After making seven distinct objections against the organization of a "Pomona Grange" in that county, the remonstrance closes as follows:

"Therefore, Resolved, That we have a County or District Grange, organized upon the same principles of a Subordinate Grange, being recognized by both State and National Grange; and that said Grange have the power to give the Fifth Degree to persons properly qualified."

According to my understanding of the matter, that resolution defines very clearly just such an organization as the "County Grange," authorized by the laws and rules of the Order; except that only members of Subordinates in good standing can be admitted, and their application must receive the sanction of the Grange to which they belong.—hence, I infer that when the principles of the County Granges are fully understood, all objections to them will cease. Sixteen have already been organized in the State, and two more applications are in.

Communications.

Interest.

Some of those who are staggering under debts which they voluntarily contracted with their eyes open, with the probabilities in plain view, now try to gloss over their own blunders by talking about "high interest." But the legal rate of interest is but one of the minor causes of a man up to his ears in debt, being unthrifty and disconsolate. It is not difficult to find men who, having a better faculty for running into debt than for running a farm, have become poor without ever paying but a very little interest.

Buying a farm, (and that is for what the bulk of farmer's debts are made), is a speculation in which the purchaser has as good an opportunity of knowing what his chances of success are, as has the seller. A man is at liberty to buy where he can do the best, or not buy at all; and if he should err in judgment, the fault lies not with the law makers, but with himself. If he seeks only for credit, not exercising any circumspection as to what and how to buy, no amount of legislation can protect him against his own acts as long as he is allowed to run at large.

As the law allows a man to sell his farm on credit at any price he and the purchaser may agree upon, why should it interfere with the rate of interest one chooses to offer and the other consents to accept? Is a man more competent to judge of the value of a piece of land than he is to decide upon his ability to meet the interest? Unless the law fixes a price on land and other property, it will be useless to try to make poor men roll in wealth by cutting down the rate of interest, for, if a man must sell on credit at a low rate of interest, he will sell at a high price, and give the debtor but little ease when the debt becomes due.

I have no aversion to the interest law that we now have, but I would rather have it repealed than to see it patched with the provisions which have been suggested by some of my brethren. A repeal of it would ruin no one. Many might expect that a repeal would give them an opportunity to loan at a heavy per cent., but they would soon learn that it takes two to make a bargain, and that people will not persist in paying more for a thing than it is worth.

In Rhode Island any rate of interest may be agreed to and collected. I received a letter from there yesterday informing me that the prevailing rate there at present is seven and three-tenths per cent., and that money can be hired on good security for five years, or longer, for only five per cent.

With due respect to those who differ with me, I say, let us make progress or not move at all; and let us not bring contempt upon our Order by engendering in the Grange a communistic hostility to those whose hard labor have enabled them to have something to lend, or to sell on credit.

M. FOSDICK, Sec'y. of No. 3.
KALAMAZOO, Jan. 27, 1877.

GALESBURG, March, 1877.

Bro. Cobb.—There are a large number of petitions relating to the interest question being sent to Bro. Reed, who has

charge of the bill in the Senate. It is uncertain when the bill will be reached. It is therefore very important that our Patrons and friends should circulate the petitions with promptness, and forward them to Senator Gilbert E. Reed, Lansing, Mich., as early as possible. It is only necessary for two or three persons in each Grange to spend a day each in canvassing their neighborhoods, allowing any one Patron or otherwise to subscribe, and in ten days not less than 20,000 names can be in Brother Reed's hands, which will ensure the passage of the bill beyond a doubt. Brother Patrons, this is your work! Shall it be done?
H. DALE ADAMS.

Until we examined the Feb. number of the VISITOR after the edition was printed, we supposed this first letter of Bro. Sessions was in that number. By some means that we cannot explain, it was crowded out, which we very much regretted. Bro. Sessions is a thoroughly practical man, whose success in life should give weight to his opinions and advice.

Worthy Secretary Cobb:

The management of the GRANGE VISITOR has been so able, and so satisfactory to the members of the Order that I am not anxious to meddle with it, and it is not without reluctance that I now proceed to fulfil a promise made to the Worthy Secretary some time since, and to comply with a request just made to me by the Worthy Master of the State Grange.

It is not because I hope to do better work, but because it is reasonable and just that the work should be divided and some share of it performed by those who are not officers of the State Grange.

And in the outset I desire to have it understood that what I say in the VISITOR will be said kindly, but frankly and plainly. Some things will be said that are not flattering to the members of the Order, yet more worthy of consideration on that account. We cannot build surely, unless the foundation is first made solid and secure, then we must see that our materials are all sound and well adapted to the use for which they are intended.

We all desire that our Order of the Patrons of Husbandry should become a grand and noble Order. It will become so if the foundation is first made secure and the materials used are all approved and perfect.

The first and greatest need of the Grange is to secure a perfect manhood and womanhood for its membership, and the chief obstacle to be overcome in the outset is the bad habits that have grown with the strength of the membership before the Grange was organized or thought of, and still holds them in bonds too strong to be broken.

So familiar is the yoke, so accustomed are we to the slavery that oppresses us that we bear it with patience and seem powerless under it.

It is my purpose in future articles to speak briefly but plainly of some of the bad habits indulged in by members of the Grange and to show as well as I may the effect those habits have upon those who submit to them and upon the Grange. Very Truly,

Lansing, Feb. 77. ALONZO SESSIONS.

—Grangers are prospering as usual, and merchants are beginning to regard them as "necessary evils" to their business. The prediction of some, that the organization was merely a bubble, and would soon burst, has not come true, and now these "false prophets" are predicting the downfall of "The Patrons of Husbandry" after the presidential election. But their predictions amount to nothing. This order is as firmly established as the Masons or any other organization.—Indiana Farmer.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, MARCH, 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.

BLANKS.

Blanks that are sent free from this office on application are:

- Blank Quarterly Reports of Secretaries of Subordinate Granges.
- Blank Quarterly Reports of Secretaries of Pomona Granges.
- Blank application for organizing Pomona Granges.
- Blank applications for Membership in Pomona Granges.
- Blank Bonds of Secretary and Treasurer.
- Blank Election Reports of Sub. Granges.
- Blank Certificates of Election to County Convention.
- Blank Certificates of Representatives elected to the State Grange.
- Blank for Consolidation of Granges.
- Blank Application for Certificate of Dimit.
- Blank Plaster Order.
- Blank Certificate of Incorporation.

Plaster.

Since the last issue of the VISITOR, the plaster trade has been lively. If we were not ready when the Feb'y number went to press to pronounce our venture a success, we are now prepared with the stubborn fact, that Day & Taylor have already shipped nearly 6000 tons of plaster to set up the claim that THE GRANGE PLASTER MILL is the leading establishment of its kind in the Grand River Valley. Our friends in this business, we mean THE MICHIGAN AND OHIO PLASTER ASSOCIATION, give it up, and admit that we are Masters of the situation. The Patrons of the State have stood by their "Resolutions," stood bravely together and vindicated their claim to fair and impartial treatment—more than that, they have never asked.

I am not only pleased with, but proud of the Brothers who have maintained their position against all influences, and have proved in this substantial manner that farmers can do business when they set themselves about it. In the outset of this contest, we, the *many*, were fight—the Association, the *few*, were wrong.—They refused to recognize the onward march of improvement and progress which characterizes this century, and insisted that an established usage, an old system of doing business should be maintained—that as farmers had heretofore bought plaster of their agents or middlemen, no trespass upon that plan should be allowed.

The advantages we have gained are important. More important to the Order, in showing so conclusively that where there is concerted action the end sought can be attained, than in the amount saved this year to the Order by the defeat of the plaster monopoly. This however, is no trifling matter to the farmers of Mich.

While Patrons are getting better plaster for less money than ever before, we cannot forbear saying to our fellow farmers outside "the Gate," as they pay \$2.00 for plaster, that they should remember that the Patrons of the State are entitled to the credit of

saving them \$30,000 this year. This little brush we have had with the Association has done us all good—has improved our business usage and stimulated us to more prompt payment than was our habit.

The Order is doing itself credit by treating this matter in a business way. I have no apprehension about these bills. The pay is coming forward every day, and *will all come*. At the end of the season there will be no 30 or 40 per cent of the business worth 50 per cent to collect.

Messrs. Day & Taylor have spared no pains to meet the demands upon them for plaster, and have so far been able to do so. They have been diligent in ascertaining the best routes to reach their customers at the lowest rates, and have spared no effort to secure reductions from the rates of last year.

We have satisfied the R. R. Companies that we could give them some business, and we now have no trouble in getting mistakes or overcharges corrected, and in many instances have secured lower rates. A reduction of \$3.00 per car from the schedule rates as published in the February VISITOR, has been secured to the following points on the M. C. R. R.: Texas, Mattawan, Lawton, White Oak, Decatur, Johnson, Glenwood, Dowagiac and Pokagon. There is a very general expression of satisfaction with the quality of the plaster shipped by Day & Taylor, and with the weight.

Since the last issue I have received many more letters, promising support to Day & Taylor, endorsing what the Executive Committee have done, and pledging support to whatever plan they may adopt to protect our plaster interests in future; as the general character of these letters is the same, we do not think it best to fill half our little sheet with them.

In the list of Granges now in the hands of the printer, there will be quite a large number of blank spaces on account of the neglect of Secretaries to report the names of the officers elect for 1877. I have called attention to this matter in every way I could—have sent a postal card to every delinquent Secretary of last year, asking for the names and address of the Master and Secretary. I regret the incompleteness of the work, but can delay no longer. The list will be sent out the last week in this month.

BRO. WHITNEY'S article has been laid over for two or three numbers for want of room. All old matter set up is disposed of in this issue. Have several Communications on hand that we should have been glad to have found room for in this issue, but we have to stop when it is full.

The following letter explains itself. Probably this high-toned C. C. Bloomfield has sufficient city trade so that he can afford to be independent of the farming community. To save him from annoyance by our Jackson Co. friends, we are willing to advertise his business and principles:

JACKSON, MICH., Jan. 6th, 1877.

MR. FRANCIS HOGMIRE, Marengo, Mich.:
Dear Sir—Your order for barrel of oil is received. In reply, by your stamp we see that you belong to the Grange, and we decline to

sell them any oil. Yours, Respectfully,
C. C. BLOOMFIELD.

Granges delinquent more than one quarter in reports from Secretary:
No. 51, 54, 70, 71, 93, 103, 116, 117, 119, 120, 131, 132, 150, 163, 165, 182, 184, 198, 201, 215, 224, 233, 236, 240, 245, 246, 257, 277, 299, 300, 305, 312, 324, 327, 341, 349, 352, 354, 357, 365, 396, 397, 398, 399, 412, 428, 467, 489, 490, 493, 507, 512, 522, 523, 524, 525, 527, 532, 535, 543, 546, 560, 569, 571, 572, 573, 577, 578, 583, 586, 598, 601, 607, 612, 615, 621.

I have several communications that I am unable to answer for want of P. O. address of the writer, and one list of officers of a Subordinate Grange, without name, number of Grange, or P. O., or any clue by which I can tell where from or by whom sent.

By-Laws of State Grange as amended, are being sent to the several Granges of the State.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

Duties of Members.

More important even than the duties of officers, are those of members, for the reason that if every member does his or her whole duty, and every officer being a member the work of the officials must be well done, or being neglected, or illy performed; the ill effects would be counteracted by the intelligent membership. No one should ever be promoted to, or intrusted with the duties of office, who is not a good member and well and thoroughly posted in his duties as a member.

Brothers and Sisters—fellow Patrons—as we again address you we have stronger hopes of reaching the larger portion of our Order in this State than in the months past.

1st. Because the officers, will, we trust, be more ready to read these columns to the members for whom they are specially designed and because the VISITOR is getting a larger circulation among the members of the Order.

2d. Because, having safely passed the quadrennial contest in National affairs—in which has been spent more time, strength, good feeling and money to secure the triumph of party and men regardless of principle—than the cost of our Order since its conception—than it would cost to give four years good instruction to the masses, making them purer men, truer citizens—too pure and true to be bought, too bold to be driven—thinking men ever ready for duty.

This election has taken much of the time of our members and officers who have not had time to attend to the Grange as well. The true, earnest Patron would not as either officer or layman, neglect his Grange in such times, but faithfully attend the meetings, there to learn those lessons which make the learner a better, nobler man, less selfish, more charitably, more devoted to his God, more faithful to his country, more loving to his family and truer to his own interests, fitting him the better for action on any field, for duty in any sphere. We congratulate all that the contest is over with its noise and confusion, its excitement and feeling, that has to long and too much

claimed the attention of too many of our brothers, neglecting in the meantime their own interests and that of the Grange.

Then, dear friends, we have all something to do or we are not *Patrons*. What are our duties as members of the great Brotherhood of *Patrons of Husbandry*, and we are members although called to official stations for a time. It is not the officers but the members that make a Grange. What constitutes membership? Having the name upon the roll and paying monthly or quarterly dues? By no means, an idiot could do these and comply with even other necessary forms.

Who then are members? Are they those who attend the meetings regularly and know how to get in? A child might do as much. Are they those who buy and sell largely through the agencies of the Order to the benefit of themselves only? No, the true members do not only comply with the forms and mechanical means of organization, but are regular attendants of all meetings, regular contributors to all the legitimate calls for means, as well as to the intellectual, social and moral fund. They are the agencies of the Order as a matter of economy, not only to themselves, but by using them enable the less favored of those associated with them to have the advantage of large orders and wholesale rates.

Every true member should do these from their necessity to secure the greatest good to the greatest number with the least possible attention. He should not consider them irksome, but cheerfully perform them as a means to a great end.

Members need to think more than they do of the great Brotherhood of which each is only a unit. They should ever remember that as are the units so will be the body, large or small, which these form. If the members are in earnest, active and advancing, so will be the Subordinate Grange. So will be its officers and work. Then as are the Subordinate Granges, so will be the County and State Granges so the intire Order and its great head the National Grange.

Let every member keep in mind the fact that ever so well organized a Grange will not run alone from the fact of being or having been a good organization. It must have and keep employed an active membership. It must have and use funds, regularly collected. It must hold and provide for frequent meetings at regular intervals. It must make each and every meeting a social and intellectual feast as well as a farmer's routine of business or a consultation upon the pecuniary advantages of the Order. All this is possible and easy when every member gives his mite of time, money and effort. *For without effort there is no excellence.*

Then, Brothers and Sisters, the work is with us as members. Are we regular and punctual as members in attendance? Are we prompt in the payment of dues? Do we use to the best advantage all the social, intellectual, moral and pecuniary advantages of the organization? Have we that high respect for the Order and its general work that we ought?

Have we made ourselves acquainted as fully as possible with the teachings of the *Ritual*? Have we *studied* it and applied its precepts to our daily life? Have we earnestly studied the *Constitution* and *By-Laws* of the Order and thus informed ourselves of their import and requirements? Do we read as we ought the literature of the Order, to glean from that the advance the workers are making, to learn more fully our duties and relations to the Order and each other.

Each member should familiarize himself and herself with the *Ritual*, *Constitution*, *By-Laws* and all the work of the Order, from any and all sources, by any means at command, for his or her own good, and being thus prepared as a member, will make a good officer if called.

If all have not read the *Visitor*, ask the Master or Secretary of your Grange for it, or have it read in the Grange for all. A file of the *Visitor* should be made and kept where every member can read it at will. Every member should subscribe for it and read at leisure at home.

Now let us all work to improve and perfect ourselves that we may improve our Grange and extend its influence. Let us take an interest in every meeting and be present and prepared by reading, study and thought, to do all we can to secure success. Let us not think we must have our own way, but let the majority decide and then all acquiesce in, and carry out the will of the majority. Even a bad law is soonest changed by having it strictly enforced.

A Proposal to Patrons.

Brothers and Sisters:

Most of you are aware that on the 9th of December last my greenhouse and valuable contents, valued at nearly \$5,000, were destroyed by fire; a total loss.

I am rebuilding, endeavoring to be ready for business by April 15th, but finding myself greatly in want of ready money, I make the following offer to the members of the Order of P. of H.: For each and every dollar sent me by mail before April 15th, I will mail the sender one dollar and fifty cents worth of Flower or Garden Seeds, in papers, on or before April 25th, or by express. Will send the same amount in House or Bedding Plants or Bulbs, as soon after May 1st as may be desired.

If you state fully the purpose for which the seeds or plants are wanted, and what varieties you now have, also the soil and location, I can guarantee you satisfaction in making selections for you.

If you prefer, you may make a selection from the retail catalogue of Jas. Vick, of Rochester; Peter Henderson, or B. K. Bliss & Sons, of New York, or Detroit Seed Co., Detroit, or any first-class seedman's list of 1877, at their retail rates. Full directions for cultivation will be sent with each lot, if desired. All inquiries freely answered. Inclose stamp.

Special rates given on other articles for the garden. Receipts sent as soon as money is received.

Fraternally, C. L. WHITNEY,
Muskegon, Mich.

State Agent's Department.

J. H. GARDNER, - CENTREVILLE.

The following firms at Detroit agree to do business for *Patrons*, and with whom I have arrangements.

Thomas Beck, 106, Woodbridge St. Commission.

M. Limbach, 116, Woodward Avenue, Hardware.

T. A. Parker, 91 Woodward Avenue, Grocer.

George Peck & Co. 155, Woodward Avenue, Dry Goods.

Cleveland Bulk Oil Company, Foot of Woodward Avenue.

Farrand, Williams & Co., Drugs, Paints, and Oils.

A. F. Starling, Boots and Shoes.

Detroit Paper Company, Stationery.

Wilson, Luther & Wilson, Reeding, Lumber.

Fuller & Potter, Greenville, Lumber

E. Hayward & Brother, Casinovia, Lumber.

Either of these three firms will sell lumber, lath and shingles in car load lots at wholesale prices, rough or dressed, and all wanting to use lumber this season, had best to consult me or one of the above firms for prices, by sending a bill of the kinds wanted. I also have an arrangement for doors, sash and blinds at low figures.

I am now issuing a short price list of articles which I have on hand, to be sent to all applicants, and known officers of Granges in the State; asking all to remember that prices are constantly changing.

When my arrangements for implementations are completed, I will send out a list of them, and prices, as far as they can be obtained.

I can order any Dry Goods* from Detroit or Chicago, if you send along the money, but not otherwise.

"Remember, you do not hurt your Agent when you do business with outside agents, but you hurt the Order to which you belong, and strengthen and encourage the enemies of the Order." I want all to understand that when goods or articles are delivered to a Rail Road and receipted, they are then at the purchaser's risk, and any damage or loss must be collected of the carrier and not of the shipper. I am informed that in a few instances articles have been delayed somewhere on the roads and have caused anxiety and trouble in tracing them out. I have always endeavored to give plain directions to dealers and manufacturers of the name and place to which goods are to be sent. I must again insist on money being sent with orders, as I cannot keep long running accounts. Some are apt to forget that several small amounts make quite a sum when put together, and are very forgetful about sending the pay after they get the goods.

I hope *Patrons* will co-operate together and use such implements and articles as I am able to contract for, and not let each ones preference for a different tool keep us divided and thus make my efforts of no avail to secure co-operation. It is impossible for me to buy a few plows from a

dozen different makers at as low a price as I should, if I could say I will take a hundred; and so by all the implements used on the farm. I am offered the Mishawaka and the Jonesville chilled plows at 25 discount from usual retail lists to be sent anywhere I direct; and I believe that these with the Kalamazoo Diamond Iron and Steel plows are sufficient for any kind of work to be done, and that any of these are as good plows as are made anywhere. I hope all will be satisfied with these and not be buying any others.

Col. W. H. Hill, the Ohio Business Agent, says: "The Buckeye chilled plow has given such general satisfaction that it must drive the Oliver plow out of use." It is made at Mishawaka, and will be furnished for \$10, and if I had orders for twenty or more, a further reduction can be had. However partial some may be to the Oliver or Gale plows, it is their duty to drop them when they can buy another plow equally as good to say the least, and one that is sold direct to Patrons for considerable less.

Stick together if you expect to accomplish anything. "If the Grange is expected to reach a higher plane in the business world, you must help elevate it by patronizing your own agents to the exclusion of all others."

The Buchanan and Niles Wagon Companies still furnish their wagons so that I can sell them at \$85.00 for either make. I now have my building filled with them ready to ship. There are no better made, and I aim to procure good implements of all kinds for your advantage, and not for any benefit to me.

I have the Three Rivers fallow cultivator; the Brown corn cultivator; the Richmond cultivator, and the Challenge riding cultivators on hand; also two and three shovels one-horse cultivators.

The Singer Sewing Machine is now offered at a discount of 40 per cent from list price, and any who want that machine can send their orders to me, when it will be forwarded; but no trial is allowed, and pay must accompany the order. I think the Howe is fully as good, and twenty days trial is given, when if not satisfactory, it can be returned. I have a good stock of nearly all kinds of groceries on hand, so that I can fill orders as fast as received.

Communications.

Worthy Master and Patrons:

The request having been formally made at the last meeting of the Grange, that I should write something for this anniversary, and recognizing the duty of every member to contribute his mite to the advancement of the great work before us, I have not felt at liberty to wholly decline the task, although I am conscious that I have nothing new or of especial interest to say to you.

It seems to me that on this Ninth Anniversary of the birth of the Order, it would be fitting and appropriate to review the progress which we have made and also to note the causes of failure to realize all of our high expectations. Nine years ago to-day the Order of Patrons of Husbandry came into being. A few men in Washington silently laid the foundations of a structure which has since overspread the Union. What

was at first an experiment, has now become a living, inspiring reality.

The Grange movement which started with less than twenty members within its gates, now counts its devoted adherents by hundreds of thousands, while tens of thousands of Subordinate Granges indicate the gigantic growth of our Order.

Such has been the amazing rapidity with which our numbers have increased that in nine short years our numerical strength has greatly outstripped any similar organization known to man. A growth so sudden, a result so marked, could have been produced only by a patent cause, simultaneously and universally operating upon the masses. The restless tendency of the age is to bring into harmonious association and union all those who have common interests. *Combination* is the watchword which animates every calling in life. It was this ever active and all-prevailing impulse which has produced what we see to-day.

The Order of Patrons of Husbandry was established to increase the prosperity and promote the social enjoyment, and the moral and intellectual advancement of the agriculturalists, and I am bold to say that in all these objects and purposes it is already a great success. Hostile combinations, exacting and oppressive monopolies, which no man *unaided*, could resist or overcome, have been made to succumb to the united power of the many.

Many cases might be enumerated, in which powerful combinations of organized capital have with insolent defiance refused to meet us and deal with us on terms which would be alike just to us and to them, but which have been compelled at length to recognize our power, and to accord to us every right and advantage enjoyed by those engaged in any other legitimate pursuit in life; and thus, my friends, has been exemplified the truth of that old maxim which is hallowed by time, that: "In Union there is Strength."

The farmer's enterprise, the Grange movement, rests upon the plainest principles of common experience and common sense. If we would go forward and achieve complete success, let us remember that it can be attained only by harmonious, united and persistent effort on the part of the members of the Order. It is a law of nature, inflexible and universal, that all effects have a cause, and that human amelioration and human advancement can be secured only by the use of adequate means. Radical changes of the methods of business and the habits of society, are results to be secured by agitation, discussion and earnest effort. I have said it already in this article, that the Grange, in a pecuniary point of view, is a great success. It may be that some *skeptical* Patron may ask me for the proof of this declaration, I will say that the proof is abundant and conclusive on every hand. I will cite only a few of the cases which illustrate our progress in that direction.

In Missouri the Grange State Agency has been eminently successful and the business of that department amounts to \$2000 per day. Brother Allen, of that State, says that it gives universal satisfaction, and that through the policy of co-operation a vast sum has been saved to the farmers of that State.

In Ohio the agency established by the Grange does a business which amounts to tens of thousands of dollars per month and through its instrumentality the profits of agriculture are much increased. In Indiana it has likewise been successful.

In Iowa the principles of co-operation as applied to the farming class have been growned with the most gratifying success.

In Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota the same results have followed co-operation.

In California the great shipping combination of Friedland & Co. was successfully resisted last summer by the Pa-

trons, and hundreds of thousands of dollars were saved to the wheat growers of that State.

In Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, and in fact in every State where a proper effort has been made to practically apply the policy of co-operation to the tiller of the soil.

In our own State, the agency established by our State Grange, has, under the energetic management of Bro. Gardner, become a means of obtaining many articles of necessity to farmers at a great reduction from former prices.

In foreign lands, through the efforts of Bro. J. W. A. Wright, of California, the 400,000 persons of Europe, who are united in the various co-operative associations are in full sympathy with us, and desire to establish depots and deal direct with our agents. In short, in every State, in every county, and in Subordinate Granges throughout the length and breadth of our vast Union, wherever an earnest effort has been made to profit by the policy of co-operation, a saving in dollars and cents to the Patrons of Husbandry has been the inevitable result. But the money saving feature of our Order, although important and necessary to our pecuniary independence is not the only nor the chief feature which commands our approbation. The social, the moral, and the educational features are, in my judgment, the crowning excellencies of the Order. By social communion and contact of mind with mind, a higher standard of intellectual development will be attained. The charities, the finer impulses, the lofty aspirations and all the God-like attributes of the human heart are here, in the Grange room, cultivated and strengthened, and ties of friendship and fraternal sympathy are awakened which otherwise would have lain dormant forever. A beneficent and all-wise Creator has fitted man for society, has made him a social being, with social needs and aspirations.

The scattered and isolated situation of the farmer, away from the crowded city or village, compelled to spend a large part of life in comparative seclusion, the Grange is to him, full of promise and hope, the estrangements of yesterday give place to the warm friendship and confiding sympathy of to-day, and those who were strangers have become acquainted and have learned to love and appreciate each other. Within these walls, are we taught to reverence God and to practice the divine virtues of kindness and charity.

Time may go on in its ceaseless flight bringing sunshine and storm, joy or sorrow to our pathway, yet the Grange with its kindly greetings, its instructive lessons and its gladsome associations will be ever welcome. S. F. BROWN.
SCHOOLCRAFT, Dec. 4th, '76.

MARTIN, Feb. 28th, 1877.

Worthy Bro.—The following preamble and resolution were accepted and adopted by the Martin Grange at its last meeting, and the Secretary was instructed to forward a copy of them to the Secretary of the State Grange:

WHEREAS, It has been reported to Martin Grange, by authority believed to be reliable, that H. E. Buxton, a member of Plainwell Grange, has been guilty of conduct affecting adversely the interests of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and the farmers of the State generally, by making contracts with Patrons and others for the sale of plaster, fraudulently representing that he was working in the interest of the Grange, and in opposition to the plaster ring, when in reality making sales of plaster for the very men who were members of that ring, thereby aiding to break down opposition to the monopoly and secure the manufacture and sale of plaster to the very men who, only two years since, violated their word, repudiated their contract, and who, we believe, are seeking to promote their interests by the destruction of our Order; therefore,

Resolved, That the said H. E. Buxton, in thus permitting himself to become the ally and tool of the Plaster Ring, has demeaned himself in a manner unworthy of a true Patron, and is deserving of the severest censure and condemnation.

Wm. H. SOUTHWICK,
Sec'y Martin Grange, No. 238.

SOUTH LOWELL, Mich., Feb. 9, 1877.

J. T. Cobb,

DEAR BROTHER: After attending the last meeting of the Lowell District Council of P. of H., held in the new hall of the South Boston Grange, lately dedicated by W. M. J. J. Woodman, I am induced to give a brief sketch of the proceedings.

The Council is composed of nine Subordinate Granges. About one hundred and fifty Patrons met and the Council was opened in due form for the transaction of business.

The Committee on Co operation and Transportation made a report which after being discussed at length was adopted.

The Committee on Sale of Farm Products made a report favorable to fixing prices so as to be remunerative and below which we will not sell. Laid on the table.

The Committee on Butter Making made a partial report and called for more time. Granted.

A very able report was presented by the Committee on Dress Reform. Report adopted and committee discharged.

All business subjects for the good of Patrons, were ably argued and disposed of to the satisfaction of all present.

A very scholarly essay was read by Sister Eva White. Subject, "Toilers", which was received amidst deafening applause.

The South Boston Choir furnished splendid music for the occasion, and when the hour arrived to retire from labor to refreshment in the dining hall: Oh! such a profusion of good things for the inner man, as made every hungry soul rejoice.

Truly these meetings help us all to be better men and women, and better Christians also. This great, grand and noble institution of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, is one of the blessings of God. It tends to more closely unite us in the bonds of friendship, love, and charity. And may Patrons never forget their fealty to the Great Master of the Universe, who has taught us to love one another as He has loved us.

Fraternally, MATRON.

P. S.—Why can we not have the VISITOR changed to a weekly or semi-monthly?

At the last meeting of the St. Joseph County Grange, held at Oakwood Hall on the 1st inst., the subject of publishing the proceedings in the county papers being under consideration, Brother Himebaugh, a wealthy and influential member of Burr Oak Grange, advocated enlarging our own GRANGE VISITOR into a first-class weekly, to meet this want. As this is a matter of interest to Patrons all over the State, as well as those of St. Joseph County, I thought it would be proper to call attention to it.

Brothers and Sisters, do we not all feel the necessity of this? We have started out in a grand movement to elevate the farmers' profession and to advance the interests and better the condition of the farmer himself. Shall we not, then, have a newspaper of our own, which shall be a medium of communication with each other, and give to each other our best thoughts through its columns? We all have our experiences; shall we not lay them on the altar of our common humanity? Patrons of Michigan, what say you? Shall we make of our little GRANGE VISITOR a first-class Agricultural and Grange weekly? I believe if we look at this matter in the light of its importance in connection with the growth of our Order in this State, the advent of 1878 will witness its consummation. Let us hear from every Subordinate Grange in the State.

HENRY COLLINS,

Past Master of No. 333.

WHITE PIGEON, MICH., March 12, '77.

KALAMAZOO, March 7th, '77.

J. T. Cobb, Sec. State Grange:

WORTHY BRO.—I send you herewith the names for eight copies of the VISITOR, members of Arcadia Grange. Our

Grange is in a prosperous condition; our meetings are well attended, they have been held once in two weeks thus far during the winter; had some lectures, and occasionally a visitor from another Grange steps in to give us a little variety. Good fellowship pervades and members are coming to have a better understanding and appreciation of the principles of our Order, as they are more fully carried out in practice. Socials have been held in the evening after Grange meeting, in which the young as well as more mature Grangers have participated, and seemed to grow young in the enjoyment of the social festivities. A most royal feast has occasionally been indulged in, prepared by the skillful hands of our fair sisters.

Our Grange Store is prospering, and Granges will find it to their interest to call and patronize. Fraternally,
Box 962. E. BUELL, Sec'y.

Sec'y. Cobb:

Last month I promised to write for my brother farmers a few brief, plain letters on the subject of their bad habits. In this I shall speak of the habit of running in debt, and in order that what I say may not be misunderstood, it is admitted that it is often proper, sometimes necessary, for farmers to contract debts. But the habit that prevails every where to a greater or less extent, of running to the store, or of allowing the family to do so, and getting things on credit, because they are credited, things not always necessary, and that would not be ordered if the payment was required at the time, and submitting to charges that would never be made had I had the habit, and I shall ask the consideration of your readers a few moments to the results that must inevitably follow the practice.

1st. It is a constant injury to the man who indulges the habit pecuniarily. He is required to pay an extravagant price for things that he does not need.

It engenders loose and careless notions of economy in small things in himself and in his family. When he is called upon to settle, he finds his account much larger than he expected, and often more than he can pay. He is asked for note *with interest*. He cannot refuse so reasonable a request—it only requires his signature—and the note often goes to the bank, and he often renews it, compounding the interest, and before it is paid there is another account, and perhaps another note, etc. Need I say more in that direction?

2d. It is an injury to a man morally. It leads him into a path where there is a constant temptation to deceive, to equivocate, in short, to lie. And I have often thought that getting in debt led to more and meaner lying than all other causes combined.

3d. It makes a man the subject and slave of other men and takes away his manhood. He lives and labors and lies, to pay the interest on what he owes. He is in the grasp of his master and must yield at last, however manfully he may struggle for a time. He loses confidence in himself, his courage leaves him, his self-respect and manhood depart, he does not hold up his head, he cannot look honest men in the face, he has become a poor, weak, trembling, cowardly, palsied, shaw of a man, and all because he yielded to the miserable habit of running in debt needlessly and thoughtlessly.

I am aware that it may be deemed impertinent for an old fogey to give advice, or even make suggestions, to younger and wiser men, yet there are some that will consider what I say, and to such the best thing that can be said is this: If they are reasonable they really need but little to make them comfortable and happy. What they need first is self-confidence and independence, and they can supply all their wants. They can do more, they can earn money and save it to provide for future wants. In other words, they can thrive. And the man or the woman that earns money and saves it, is always a better man or woman on that account. They have more confidence in themselves, more respect for themselves, and they always command and receive the confidence and respect of others.

What I desire, is to see every farmer independent, intelligent and thrifty, and to see their sons and daughters grow up—not gentlemen and ladies—but useful, independent, noble men and women. Very Truly,
Ionia, March 5, 1877. ALONZO SESSIONS.

EAST RIVERTON GRANGE, No. 567.

Bro. Cobb:

Our Grange has been in a very low condition for the past few months, and one would think, judging from outward appearances, that it was determined to die. But thanks to a few staunch grangers in our midst, who were still determined that it should live, it is alive, and

my opinion is that it is in a better condition to work than ever, since its first organization. It has only a small membership, but I think all are true hearted and will do their best to keep the Grange alive and in healthy condition.

The most favorable symptom I see, is that almost every family in the Grange have subscribed for the VISITOR.

As Secretary of the Grange I have received it free, and when I began to give it a thorough perusal, my faith began to increase, and at our last meeting I offered as a suggestion for the Good of the Order, that every family, at least, should subscribe for it, and was surprised to find so many willing to subscribe at once.

Please send to my address seven copies for one year, money remitted with this order. Fraternally Yours,

MARY E. HULL, Sec'y.

DEAR VISITOR:

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted at a meeting of Birmingham Grange, No. 323:

WHEREAS, In our last Congress there was a Bill introduced to revive the Reciprocity Treaty between the United States and the Canadian, which we as an organization consider detrimental and unequal to our commercial interests. If the bill now before Congress becomes a law, our Canadian neighbors can compete with us duty free, in helping supply a demand for our produce which we heretofore have always had the ability to supply, thereby greatly benefiting them at our expense, while we are the losers in the same proportion as they are benefited, nay, even more, when we take into consideration that we have to support our government, they are on equality with us in the advantages of our markets while they pay not one cent toward the support of our government. Therefore,

Resolved, First. We are opposed to the bill in all its features and desire that it does not become a law.

Second. That a copy of these proceedings be forwarded to our Member of Congress, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR.

A. D. SIMONSON,) Com.

G. M. TROWBRIDGE,)

ADAMS BAGLEY, Sec'y.

MANILLA, MANISTEE, JAN. 16, 1877.

Worthy Secretary:

It may be of interest to you to know how the officers of some of the Granges of this county were installed. Three Granges, viz: Pleasanton, Bear Lake and Marilla, met at the Bear Lake Grange Hall, on Friday Evening, the 12th, and installed the officers of these three Granges at one time. The members of Marilla Grange had thirty-five miles to go. They started eighteen in number, nine males and nine females, at 7 A. M. with the mercury marking eleven degrees below zero. I leave you to judge whether the ladies were or were not warm in the cause when they all declared they were not cold when they got to the end of the journey that cold and stormy day.

Arriving at Bear Lake we found the tables bending under the weight of the bounteous feast prepared with care and served with taste by worthy sisters.

The installation was public and there was a very large attendance of members from all the Granges of the county. The hall was filled with members and guests. We had the pleasure of meeting Brother and Sister Steele. They threw off their ministerial robes for the occasion and put on the garments of the husbandman and matron. Their eloquent speeches on the aims and principles of the Order, will long be remembered by Patrons in this part of the State.

Fraternally Yours,

H. A. DANVILLE, Master.

OBITUARY.

The reaper death, since, our last issue, has gathered to the Great Grange above—

Sister Adaline Rowe, of Eureka Grange No. 2. Also Bro. Edwin T. Carpenter, of Woodman Grange, No. 610.

And Sister Julia Smith, of South Jefferson Grange, No. 182.

Died at his residence in Ransom, Hillsdale Co., Bro. John Coppins, a worthy member of Ransom Center Grange.

Our much esteemed Bro. Spencer Williams, of Sturgis Grange, No. 332, died March 1, 1877.

Each of the above notices were accompanied with preambles and resolutions of condolence, which we would be glad to publish if room could be spared.

—Now is the time to subscribe for the VISITOR The third volume commences with the April number.

PRICE LIST of SUPPLIES

Kept in the office of the Secretary of the
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
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Membership Cards, per 100,.....	50
Withdrawal Cards, per doz.,.....	25
Illustrated Visiting or Traveling Cards, each,.....	05
Dimits, 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, 60 cts., Morocco with tuck, .	1 00
Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100, ..	40

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

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