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Michigan State

Grange, P. of H.



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J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager.

To whom all communications should be addressed, at Schoolcraft, Mich.

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To Contributors.

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RATES OF ADVERTISING:

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By order of the State Grange at its late session, Masters no longer receive a copy of the VISITOR free.—Secretaries, or other persons, sending ten or more names, with pay for the same, will receive an extra copy free. Sample numbers furnished on application.

Communications.

Graduates of the Agricultural College— Do They go to Farming? An Answer from each Member of the Last Class.

Another class has just graduated from the Agricultural College. This one contained 30 members. The question is repeatedly asked, "Do your students go to farming?" I thought answers touching this question could be best made by the young men themselves. Consequently I asked each for a note on the subject. I give all the notes which I received nearly complete. I trust they will prove quite satisfactory to the most ardent advocates of farming as a business. I omit the name in each case. The first one I take up reads thus: "I expect to follow the business of landscape gardening and farming, being led to this choice by the influence of my college course, and by good opportunities to enter the business." The next is yet undecided. "I expect to study law with my father for a year or two, I had no thought of farming when I came to college; but I am more powerfully impressed with it as an occupation now than then." The third writes: "I expect to work on a farm." In explanation of the last, the student teaches this winter, and begins work on a farm in the spring. The fourth one says: "I shall follow horticulture as a pursuit as soon as I have the art once thoroughly learned, and as soon as I can secure the means with which to start." The fifth note reads: "I have no farm, and no money to buy one. I have a good offer in a commission house with a chance to do better in the course of time; situated as I am I think I can do better than take up farming at present." The sixth reads: "If an opportunity is offered, I shall at once proceed to farm, otherwise I shall wait for sufficient means. The seventh: "I do not go to farming, because I leave here in debt, and can not buy a farm." The last graduate goes by request as one of the workers on the *Rural New Yorker*. The next note reads, "I would go to farming if I had a farm. I shall help my father in business in town for a year or so, till I get money enough to set up alone." The next reads: "I have chosen a profession that I think I am better suited for; however I expect to pay considerable attention to landscape gardening and rural architecture." The latter is quite an artist. The next reads: "I expect to go to work next winter on my father's farm." The next reads: "I am going on a farm as soon as I get home, and shall stay there if I like it, and can get capital enough to start alone." The next in order reads: "I intend ultimately to go to farming, but cannot do so immediately, as I am in debt. I must go into some other business that will bring returns immediately; I shall teach or survey two or three years." The next says: "I would like to be a farmer first rate; I like it.

My father is a surveyor, and needs my help. I can earn with him two to four dollars per day. I have no farm, and am in debt for my education. I shall probably become a farmer as soon as I can buy a farm. My sympathy is with the farmer and I mean to be one." In the last two cases, the boys, perhaps, would have gone to work by the month on a farm if their education had not included surveying or information enough to enable them to make more money at teaching. The next says: "When I first came here it was not my intention to become a farmer, but I wished to obtain a knowledge of farming, and to get a practical education. I think I have a taste for some other business—some mercantile business." The next: "I cannot go to farming at present, because of a lack of funds, and because I wish a more complete course of studies than I have been through." The next in order: "I did not come to college thinking to be a farmer, but to get a good practical education. Another employment is offered which is more congenial to my taste." The next reads: "Two things keep me from the farm—a lack of money to buy a farm and poor health. If these can be overcome I shall follow farming." The next says: "After closing my winter school, I shall give my time to farming, and the pursuit of studies relating to agriculture." He intends to study veterinary science for a year or two yet. The next reads: "I did not intend to follow farming when I came to the College. I would now be a farmer if I had a farm. I intend to try editing a newspaper, and to do this successfully in a country town in this advanced age of the world, I need an agricultural education." The next reads: "I expect to go on the farm in the course of a year." The next says: "I am going to work on a farm with my father for a few years. My reasons for being a farmer are these; it is an honorable calling, I have been brought up on a farm, and like the business better than anything else." The next: "I choose the occupation of a farmer and stock-raiser believing it to be the most independent, healthful and enjoyable of all trades, and at the same time adapted to my wants, education, and character." The next: "I intend to go immediately to farming and expect to follow it." The next: "I intend to go immediately to farming, as it is my ideal of a pleasant business. I have a farm to go to." The next: "I am going to work on the farm as soon as I get home. I have no farm of my own, and am in debt. I want to go to school more when I can. I expect to be a farmer." The last of my list writes as follows: "I know of no business that would suit me as well as farming. I was brought up on a farm, always lived and worked on a farm. The influence of my college course has served only to strengthen my attachment to the farm, and love for country life. But what shall I do? I have no means with which to buy a

farm and start in the business. More than that I am \$150 in debt. Shall I run in debt for a farm? rent a farm? go into the woods and clear up a farm? or work at some other business until I can save up enough to buy a farm and get started on it?"

I have only to add that these answers are just about the same as those given by former graduates of this College, especially of the last few years.

W. J. BEAL.

Farmers' Institutes.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

The time for Farmers' Institutes has nearly arrived. The series opens January 13th, and closes on Feb. 5th. This season we need all the assistance we can yet to keep up the reputation established in the past. They have been very successful in other parts of the State; let us as members of the Grange seek to make this series even better and more successful if possible than those in the past. It is a good time for farmers and others to become acquainted with each other, and with their Agricultural College and its work. Let not any one think that because the Institute is not in his county, that he has no business there. Each separate Institute is for all who can reach it; and as there are only six in a wide area, let all the Granges within a reasonable distance be represented by two or three delegates at least. I am personally interested in the Howell Institute, and would like to see it a grand success—a rally of the Farmers of Livingston County, but more than that, I hope to see all of the Granges of eastern Ingham County represented there, and especially those contiguous to the rail road.

Brothers of Livingston and eastern Ingham County, let us turn out and make this Institute a grand success. Try and spend a day and a half away from home and help to do something for the profession you follow. Come prepared to take notes, and also to take part in the discussions; for these well conducted are often the most profitable portion of the Institute.

Please give this a place in your columns if you can consistently, and oblige

Your Friend and Bro.,
C. L. INGERSOLL.

Lawyer—"How do you identify this handkerchief?" Witness—"By its general appearance and the fact that I have others like it." Lawyer—"That's no proof; for I have one just like it in my pocket." Witness—"I don't doubt it at all. I had more than one of the same sort stolen."

EX-GOVERNOR SEYMOUR, of New York, is earnestly endeavoring to induce the Government to adopt cheese as a ration in the army. It is quite likely that he will finally succeed, as he ought. No portion of a soldier's diet could be more nutritious or healthful.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW

MASTERS' ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Worthy Patrons, and Members of the Michigan State Grange:

For several years the State Board has extended to our organization the privilege of holding its annual sessions in the Representative Hall of the old State House; a courtesy which has been appreciated by the State Grange. In 1871, the Legislature provided for the building of a new State Capitol. Building Commissioners were appointed, a plan for the building adopted, and a contract let for the work. Now we behold this beautiful and substantial edifice, in which we have assembled, complete in all its parts, an honor to the State, and highly complimentary to those having its construction in charge.

We, the Representatives of the State Grange of Michigan, have been invited to hold its Sixth Annual Session in this elegant and commodious Hall, being the first deliberative body convened within the walls of the New State House. In this official recognition by State authority of the importance of the interests we represent, and the beneficent objects and aims of our Order, we have reason to feel that our organization has been honored. We have met, not only as Patrons of Husbandry, but as practical agriculturists, to counsel together and recommend measures best calculated to promote the interests of agriculture, and extend the influence and usefulness of our great Fraternity.

The year just drawing to a close has been to us a fruitful and propitious one. Our labors have been crowned with an abundant harvest, and from the terrible scourge which has almost devastated some of the fairest portions of our land, we have been spared. For these and other recognitions of Divine goodness and mercy; it seems fitting that we should return thanks to the Great Giver of all good, and invoke His aid and guidance in our deliberations.

With this session, my labors as Master of the State Grange closes, and in returning to the "Altar of the Grange" the emblem of office with which I have so long been invested, it seems proper that I should render to you some account of my official labors since our last session, and make such recommendations as in my judgment the good of the Order may require. The Representatives who assembled in the last State Grange congratulated each other over the good results already accomplished, and having firm faith in the correctness of our principles and their ultimate triumph, inaugurated wholesome measures, and with new inspiration gathered from their associations with members of the Order during the session, and the cheerful reports that come up from every portion of the State, returned to their labors in the Subordinate Granges, better prepared to infuse new life and interest into the general work of the Order. There seemed to be a general waking up among the Subordinate Granges, and I am confident that much good was accomplished. During the winter and spring months, I spent a large portion of my time among the Subordinate Granges, and was everywhere met with the most encouraging prospects. Some Granges were making their meetings so interesting with

singing, music, essays, and discussions that members could not afford to stay away from them. Some provided for a course of lectures during the winter, with good results.

PARIS EXPOSITION, AND AGRICULTURE IN EUROPE.

Congress authorized the President of the United States to appoint twenty Commissioners to the Industrial International Exposition to be held in Paris, in 1878, three of which were to be practical artisan experts, three skilled representatives of commerce and manufactures, four practical agriculturists, and nine scientific experts corresponding to, and specially assigned to report upon the several groups into which the Exposition, under the official regulations, were to be divided. Late in February, I received notice that the President, on the recommendation of the Michigan delegation in Congress, had appointed me one of the Agricultural Commissioners. The appointment was unexpected, as it was unsought by me, and my first inclination was to decline the position; but upon mature deliberation I concluded to accept it, and surrender the Master's office to the Executive Committee of the State Grange. The judgment of the Committee was against my resigning the office, and yielding to their wishes. I have continued to hold it, entrusting its duties to the Secretary of the State Grange, during my absence. I returned on the 27th of September, and resumed the duties of the office.

My time in Europe was divided between official duties and the Exposition, and visiting different countries for the purpose of obtaining information relating to practical agriculture, and the condition of the agricultural classes. A brief summary of but few conclusions formed from my travels can be given in this communication. In thorough cultivation of the soil, systematic rotation of crops, and in the preparation and application of fertilizers, valuable lessons can be learned from the agriculturists of Europe; but in economizing labor by the use of improved implements and machinery, utilizing the labor of domestic animals in general farm work, and in substituting brain power for mere muscular force, in the general business and operation of farming, the farmers of our country are a hundred years in advance of them. In farm houses, barns, and out-buildings, with home comforts and cheerful surroundings, as well as in general reading, social, moral, and intellectual standing in society, there is a striking difference in favor of our American farmers. To the question as to what has brought this degradation upon the farmers of the Old World, there can be but one answer. They are oppressed and ground down by an unfeeling, relentless moneyed aristocracy, called Nobility, who control the legislation, own the wealth, and rob labor of its just reward, thereby reducing farmers to mere ciphers in political influence—underlings in society. I am confident that we have the best country, the best government, and, as a whole, the most enterprising and intelligent people in the world. The farmers of our country can thank God and congratulate themselves that their lot has been cast in so favored a land; but the history of the Old World should be a "lamp to their feet"; for in it can be seen as clearly as the noonday sun, the impending fate of agriculture in this country, unless the farmers in the exercise of their rights and privileges, granted to them by the fundamental laws of a free country, combine their influence throughout the land, and maintain for themselves and

their posterity, equality of birth, position, and political influence, free schools, a free and untrammelled ballot, free religion, and proprietorship of the soil. For this grand and noble purpose was our organization formed, and to maintain these "God-given rights" should all of its influence and power be directed. There is not a single instance in the history of the world, where agriculture, unorganized, has maintained the position given it by the Creator, as the "first great calling of man;" and in no country has full power been given to tillers of the soil, to claim and perpetuate that supremacy. With fifty-two per cent. of our entire population engaged in agriculture, every one of whom is a sovereign, and should know no superior, we must take upon ourselves the blame for unjust and oppressive laws, or encroachment upon our natural rights.

OBJECTS OF THE ORDER, AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS.

The following extracts from the Declaration of Purposes issued by the National Grange, will indicate some of the great objects of our Fraternity, and the duty and rights of members:

"We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange, National, State, or Subordinate, is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations can discuss partisan, political or religious questions nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings.

"Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and, if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country. For we seek the greatest good to the greatest number.

"We must always bear in mind that no one, by becoming a Patron of Husbandry, gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country.

"On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption, and trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful, and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests; are nominated for all positions of trust; and to have carried out the principle that should always characterize every Patron, that *the office should seek the man, and not the man the office.*

"We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is not a crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion," while "the fault lies in bitterness of controversy."

"The industry upon which our order is based is agriculture—the most important of all industries—the foundation and support of all others—the true basis of all our national prosperity. We have observed the condition of our people, and viewed with alarm the encroachments upon their natural rights. While agriculture is the chief source of all wealth, and therefore deserving of at least equal recognition with other vocations, it is deprived of its just rewards and oppressed by methods of law. It is made to bear grievous burdens not its own; it is compelled to pay taxes which an equitable distribution would place elsewhere; it is forced by wicked combinations to submit to hurtful discriminations against its products both in transportation and in the marts of sale; its votaries have been and are now denied that consideration in public affairs to which the magnitude and the importance of their calling entitle them. The laws of the nation and of the several States are so framed as to divert from our great industry the rewards which are the great incentives to toil, and an earnest remonstrance against their injustice spurned.

"In view of these truths we are bound in defence of our manhood to assert our rights, and we therefore declare our unalterable purpose to emancipate agriculture from the burdens unjustly heaped

upon it, and the means by which we shall seek to secure the desirable ends.

"1. We shall strive earnestly, within and without our order, to extend the benefits of education, which shall comprise knowledge of public affairs and the methods of self-government.

"2. We shall demand admission in the legislatures of the several States, and in both houses of the National Congress, for representatives of agriculture chosen directly from its votaries, as the only means of relief.

"3. We shall accord to other industries all the rights, privileges, and immunities, which we claim for our own, and join with their representatives in earnest endeavors to impress upon the Governments of States and Nation habits of wise economy and frugality as essential to the thrift and prosperity of all the people.

"4. We shall give constant care and attention to the public schools, in which the youth of the nation are deeply interested, limiting expenditures thereof only by their usefulness, striving always for that higher and practicable enlightenment which should become the distinguishing feature of a free people.

"In accordance with the above objects of our organization, and the methods by which they are to be obtained, we pledge our unyielding devotion to the work marked out. We believe the principles enunciated in our declaration are in full accord with the highest welfare of our country, and that they deserve support, especially by all farmers. The history of agriculture on this continent shows that no organization in its behalf has ever been attempted without direct effort on the part of those who prey upon its products to neutralize the work, and the lessons of the past establish the conviction that our only hope is in the full and cordial cooperation of farmers, wherever located, to insure that success which is within their grasp.

We appeal, therefore, to good men and women, whose interests are our own, confident that with their support we shall not wait long for the consummation of our hopes. We appeal to the agricultural journals in aid of the above objects as a potent means for the attainment of a great object. To these forces and to the intelligence of our people we present the purposes which animate many thousands of farmers in every State of our Union, and reverently trust in the direction of the wise Providence by whose decree we were made tillers of the soil, that our efforts may be rewarded by the full accomplishment of the measures which justice demands in the relief of an oppressed industry and the higher enlightenment of its votaries."

LEGISLATIVE PETITIONS.

It cannot be denied that practices of unjust discrimination against the debtor class, have resulted from the present law regulating interest on money loaned, and real estate securities. For several years past, money loaning has seemed to be almost the only business that has been remunerative, and the latitude given to those who are fortunate enough to have money, has caused many hardships, if not abuses. Money is usually loaned at about ten per cent. interest, and secured by mortgage upon improved farms. The interest alone is greater than any farmer or business man can afford to pay, and there is no limit to the fee, which may be placed in the mortgage, to pay the attorney for foreclosing the same. This fee, together with advertising and court fees, are onerous, often equaling the amount of the mortgage. In addition to this, there is no limit to the amount of interest which the mortgagee may demand of the mortgagor for an extension of time, in case he is unable to meet his payments when due; and as a general thing these mortgages bear little or no portion of the burden of taxation. In view of these facts, the last Legislature was appealed to by the State and Subordinate Granges to provide:

1st. For taxing real estate mortgages.

2d. To limit too reasonable amount the fees, and cost of foreclosure.

3d. To prevent the taking of usurious interest.

4th. To reduce the rate of interest that may be taken under special contract.

None of these measures met with favor before that body; but in my opinion these propositions should be re-submitted to the Legislature soon to convene. The interests of not only the debtor class, but of the laborer, the mechanic, the farmer, and nine-tenths of all other business men in the community demand these wholesome changes.

CONGRESSIONAL PETITIONS.

A bill was introduced into the last Congress, to again reduce the duties on foreign wool imported into the United States.

By order of the State Grange, blank remonstrances against the passage of the bill were sent out to the Subordinate Granges, which were numerous, signed, not only by members of the Order, but by citizens generally, and forwarded to our members in Congress. A motion to take the bill up for consideration, after it had been perfectly and favorably reported by the committee, was lost by a small majority. The bill is yet upon the clerk's desk, liable to be called up at any moment. This action of Congress, in not summarily disposing of the bill, left the wool trade unsettled, and has had the effect to greatly depreciate the price of the last clip of wool. Farmers must learn that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and be prepared to again act whenever the time shall come, and aid our members in Congress in fighting this odious and unjust measure.

Congress was also petitioned to amend the patent laws so as to protect the innocent purchaser in the use of any article or implement sold in the market, making the manufacturer and seller alone responsible for violation of patent rights. A bill was introduced for that purpose, but for some reason was not called up. The recent swindles attempted to be perpetrated on the farmers of our State, by patent right tramps, who claim royalty on the common sliding gate in common use on almost every farm in the State, and the recent decision of the Minnesota court favoring the "drive-well swindle," makes it necessary that we should again press the matter before Congress, and request that action be taken without delay.

THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT AT WASHINGTON.

I have recently visited Agricultural Department at Washington, and was favorably impressed with the changes and improvements which have been made there since my visit to the department in 1875.

The system of distributing seeds of plants for experimental purposes has undergone a radical change. Instead of giving them to members of Congress for distribution, they are sent direct to practical farmers, whose names have been furnished the Department, by the Sheriff's of the counties, and other reliable persons; and to farmers' Organizations. A system of experiments have been inaugurated, and so far with favorable results—in manufacturing sugar from sorghum and other saccharine plants adapted to our soil and climate. Also experiments in the cultivation of tea, and other foreign plants, the products of which are largely imported and used in the United States. These changes indicate progress and practical work. The interests of agriculture demand that these experiments should be made, and farmers should not allow their minds to be prejudiced against the Commissioner or the Department

on account of the criticisms attempted upon these experiments, by the political press of the country. The National Grange has taken action upon this subject.

STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

I need make no apology for referring to the State Agricultural College. Whatever tends to promote the welfare of farmers cannot be without interest to the Grange. We are thankful for the Farmers' Institute, which the College has inaugurated and carried on the past three winters, for they have served to show the citizens of the State, that the work of the professors, their investigations and lectures have been in the direct line of agriculture. We are informed that the reports containing the papers and discussions of the Institutes are widely read by farmers, and the number printed is inadequate to the demand for them.

Intelligent farmers who have taken pains to become acquainted with the institution generally admit its usefulness. Some of the old expectations that a few years' experiments conducted there would remodel farming altogether, or that young graduates without experience would give models of excellence in their vocation so striking as to attract universal attention, have been given up by those who possessed them. They were unreasonable from the first. But the College has remained true to the purposes of its establishment, and is yearly sending a fair proportion of its graduates upon the farm. Agriculture, including the breeding and the care of stock, horticulture, and the sciences underlying these arts have received due prominence in the course of study, and if political economy and other studies not technically agricultural have been admitted into the course, they are studies which the farmer ought to know.

The College has been doing valuable work aside from the instruction of students, and its Farmers' Institutes. Analyses of soils and grains, experiments with Paris green to determine the action of the soil upon it, and whether it is taken up by the growing plant, experiments relating to poisons, to lightning rods, the fattening of stock, fertilization of orchard grounds, the vitality of seeds, identification and destruction of injurious insects, wintering bees, discussion of gate patent rights, form but a very partial list of the other work that is doing at the College.

We are glad to see a steady growth in the number of students. The total given in the last catalogue is two hundred and thirty-nine. Such a growth was unexpected by the officers of the College. Laboratories, lecture rooms, and dormitories, which were thought to be ample for half a dozen years to come, are already outgrown, as is also, to some extent, the conveniences for furnishing work to so many students.

Why may we not see at the College in the no distant future, a veterinary establishment? and when the enlargement of laboratories have provided for the young men, and the growth of the farm and mechanical shops shall have provided them with ample labor, why should we not see there at the College, a department for young ladies, who should perform their daily three hours of labor, while securing an education? We should hope then to see an ample dairy connected with the institution. Meanwhile we can all rejoice in the prosperity of the College, and help it to a larger success.

CO-OPERATION.

Co-operation means working together, buying together, selling together and acting together. With-

out co-operation in our Order, but little can be done for the benefit of its members, with thorough practical co-operation, its power for good cannot be estimated. As far as I have been able to learn, the co-operation stores in the State are in a prosperous condition. In compliance with the action of the last State Grange, a business agency has been established in the city of Detroit, for filling orders and selling farm produce. The Co-operative Association of Berrien County has established a similar agency in Chicago. These agencies supply a want, long felt by the farmers, who will now be able to ship their produce direct to market, and thereby obtain the highest market price for the same. The Plaster business is in the best possible condition, and the whole business arm of the Order seems to be prospering.

THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

The 12th annual session of the National Grange closed its labors in the City of Richmond, Virginia, on the last day of November. Twenty-seven States were represented, and upon the whole, was one of the most harmonious and interesting sessions ever held. A large amount of earnest, practical work was done, which will soon be placed before the Subordinate Granges in printed form. Bro. O. H. Kelley, who has so long held the office of Secretary of the National Grange, resigned that position on account of his private business and location. He has recently moved to the State of Florida. Wm. M. Ireland, of Washington, who was one of the founders of the Order, and has officiated as Assistant Secretary at every meeting of the National Grange, was elected to fill the vacancy.

The following amendment to the Constitution was submitted to the State Grange for ratification:

"Amend Section 1, Article 8, of the Constitution, by striking out the word 'ten,' and inserting thereof the word 'five.'" So that the section will read, "The minimum of regular monthly dues shall be five cents for each member, and each Grange may otherwise regulate its own dues."

DORMANT GRANGES.

As will be seen by the Secretary's Report, there are many dormant Granges in the State. The principal reason why Granges become inactive and cease to hold meetings, is a failure on the part of its members to make the meetings interesting, or to provide practical means for business co-operation, whereby a pecuniary benefit may accrue to the members, both of which can and should be done. The work of devising means for reviving these Granges should receive the earnest and careful attention of this body.

CONCLUSION.

The above, with many other subjects relating to the interests of agriculture and the work of our Organization, will demand your attention. I am aware that the time limited for the session is not sufficient to enable you to give that consideration to all the subjects, which will come before you, that their importance demands; but by earnest and constant work, much can be accomplished. The future of the Order in this State will depend much upon the work of this session. For the time being its interests and welfare are entrusted to our hands let us be faithful to the trust; and endeavor to discharge our duties well.

For four years I have held the Master's office, borne its responsibilities, and endeavored to discharge its duties faithfully, and according to my best ability. It is now my desire to

surrender the office into other hands and again take my place in the ranks of the Order where I shall continue to work in the good cause. In conclusion I desire to express my firm conviction, and leave the same on the records of the Grange, that the only means by which the agriculturists of this country can avert the fate which has befallen the farmers of the Old World, is by thorough organization, and increasing work: if that fails, the last hope of the American farmers has vanished forever.

J. J. WOODMAN.

Best Things.

The best philosophy—a contented mind. The best law—the golden rule. The best education—self-government. The best medicine—cheerfulness and temperance. The best art—painting a smile upon the brow of childhood. The best science—extracting sunshine from a cloudy day. The best war—to war against one's weaknesses. The best music—the laughter of an innocent child. The best journalism—printing the true and beautiful only, on memory's tablet. The best telegraphing—flashing a ray of sunshine into a gloomy heart. The best biography—the life which writes characters in the largest letters. The best mathematics—that which doubles the joys and divides the sorrows. The best navigation—steering clear of lacerating rocks of personal contention. The best diplomacy—effecting a treaty of peace with one's own conscience. The best engineering—building a bridge of love across the river of death.—*Exchange.*

The Feet of Horses.

Few men who handle horses give proper attention to the feet and legs. Especially is this the case on farms. Much time is spent of a morning in rubbing and smoothing the hair on the side and hips; but at no time are the feet examined and properly cared for. Now be it known that the feet of the horse require more care than the body. They need ten times as much, for in one respect they are almost the entire horse. All the grooming that can be done wont avail anything if the horse is forced to stand where his feet will be filthy. In this case the feet will become disordered, and then the legs will become sadly out of fix; and with bad feet and legs there is not much else of the horse fit for anything.—*Home Journal.*

INSECT REMEDY.—A correspondent of *Vick's Monthly* says: "Numbers of your readers are troubled by ants and other insects, and want advice.—Tell them to use from one-half to one ounce of potash in a pail of water, and give the insects a shower-bath, and they will go without saying good-bye. Near plants and roots I do not like to use this alkali; neither do I like to destroy ants, as they are good hunters after still worse insects. Then I use Red Pepper and create a flight that leaves not a little soul behind. For, or against, rats, mice, moles, &c. I also use a paste of potash, and put some in their holes or runways, where they have to walk. As they wear no shoes, they burn their feet, and like most people, when they burn a finger, put them in their mouth, then they burn their tongues and run for water, get suspicious, and go away very fast. For cleaning trees, shrubs, &c., I use soft soap mixed with some potash and water, and instead of a brush, I take the garden syringe to give some good washings."

The average horse of China is about ten hands in height.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, DEC. 16, 1878.

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.

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Worthy Master and Fellow Patrons:

Again we come before the representatives of the Patrons of Michigan, assembled for the sixth time in their legislative capacity, under circumstances and surroundings of more than ordinary interest, to render to them, and through them to those they represent, an account of our stewardship.

Though reference to the work of the Order which has now become history, to its present condition or future prospects, may not be in the exact line of official duty, yet, by the precedent of former years it seems to become almost obligatory.

The fact of the recent origin of the Order, and of its rapid growth is everywhere known, not only in our State but all over our broad land.

The evidences of its having in the few brief years of its existence fought its way to a position of prominence and importance in the country, appears in a judicial decision rendered by the highest tribunal known to our government, by which a great cardinal principle of protection was established—again, in the very general admission that the objects, purposes, and principles of the Order are legitimate and right—also in the successful resistance, defeat, and overthrow of a powerful combination that undertook to lay an unjust tribute upon us—and lastly, in the unquestioned occupancy for this annual session of the State Grange of Michigan, of this beautiful Capitol Building, the common property of the people of our favored State.

This is certainly a cause of congratulation. And yet while the Order has been making this positive progress in our own State and the country, it cannot be denied that during the last half of our existence we have lost a large number of the Subordinate Granges by surrender, or suspension of Charter, and many others have failed to retain their maximum membership.

My last Annual Report gave 288 Granges that had at the close of the fiscal year fully reported; 119 were delinquent in reports for one quarter, 42 for two quarters, 35 for three quarters, and 23 for four quarters. We now report 253 square on our books. Delinquent for one quarter 110, for two quarters 65, for three quarters 40, for four quarters 13.

Some of those undoubtedly, and all the remainder of the Granges in the State are in a dormant condition, and sadly need missionary labor to restore them to a condition of activity and usefulness.

The cause of the decline in numbers has been so often considered that I shall not consume time or weary you with a prolonged reference to it. Human nature is much the same in all ages, and voluntary organizations of rapid growth have never retained their hold on all their followers after the flush and excitement of such growth had subsided.

As the Worthy Master has given the subject of dormant Granges needful reference we will only add that

we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that many of the Granges of the State will not by virtue of the advantages which organization affords for the social, educational, and financial improvement of our class, of their own motion, and by their own unaided powers, put forth the necessary efforts to hold their position in the Order.

It is therefore necessary that aid be rendered, and no more important question can come before you for consideration and determination than how such aid shall be bestowed.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

At the last session of this body received a good deal of attention, in answer to numerous demands from the membership of the State, that some changes should be made—that it should be enlarged, issued semi-monthly, or weekly. In whatever way referred to, the demand was for something more than the small sheet that had been issued since April, 1875.

Of course those who made this demand knew but little of the additional labor and cost that would necessarily follow the change demanded.

After considerable discussion the whole subject was referred to the Executive Committee with a recommendation "That as soon as the Ex. Com. deem it prudent, the GRANGE VISITOR be enlarged and issued as a semi-monthly Journal; thereby making it a better means of cementing the bonds of fellowship, and of promoting fraternal feelings among the members of the Order in the State."

The Committee, after the close of the session, and before leaving Lansing, met, and a comparison of views developed but one opinion—that for the Visitor something must be done, and as no member had personal knowledge on which to base calculation as to the increased cost of any desired change, the matter was finally referred to a special Committee consisting of Bros. Childs, Mars, Woodman and Cobb.

This Sub-Committee determined on an enlargement of fifty per cent., and its issue semi-monthly, and placed its entire management in the hands of your Secretary, with the understanding that if the support given it did not warrant the increased expense of a semi-monthly issue, at the end of three months it should fall back to a monthly, retaining its increased size. On the 1st of April we found we had received on subscription \$1,107 50, and from this we concluded that we could safely continue its publication semi-monthly through the year.

In these three months, however, the greater part of the subscriptions for the year were made, and though each month has added some new names to the list, yet we regret to say, the VISITOR has not received the patronage of the Order in the State that we had a right to expect at the end of the three months of experiment.

As indicating some of the work connected with the VISITOR since the first of January last there has been folded, directed, and mailed from our office over 80,000 copies of the paper.

We give herewith our account with the VISITOR:

RECEIPTS.

For the fiscal year on Subscriptions,	\$1,454 50
" Copies sold on orders,	5 07
" Advertising,	192 45
Total,	\$1,652 02

DISBURSEMENTS.

Total of Bills of Kalamazoo Pub. Co., including No. 56 of Dec. 15,	\$1,392 40
Total of Postage for full year,	126 00
Paid for folding, mailing, and labor, chargeable to this account,	143 82
Wrapping paper,	13 63
Stationery,	4 35

Freight and drayage,	11 50
My Expenses,	22 45
Total,	\$1,714 15
Deficit,	\$62 13
	\$1,714 15

To cover this deficit we have uncollected bills for advertising, amounting to \$55.00.

From this showing we find that with an increased expense of \$1,034 over last year that this "bantling of such wee proportions" has not only made respectable growth, but has visited you twice as often as before.

While we hear no word of complaint against the paper from any quarter, yet we are constrained to enquire whether the conditions referred to in the recommendations to the Ex. Com., which we have recited, have been met. Its value to the Order in the future must largely depend on the willingness of those who, having faith in the general mission of the Grange, are willing to prove their faith by their works. No one on whom its future management may rest can make it of indispensable value to the order without the co-operation and aid of his fellow Patrons in the State; nor will that duty be done by simply recounting the work of some regular meeting where "a feast of fatness, and a flow of soul" were the crowning glories of the occasion. This is well enough, but not all. The Grange has already accomplished much—far more than the majority of its members to-day realize; but its mission is only begun. The needed work of improvement in every department of practical farming lies just before us.

The task of recovering rights that have been invaded by monopolies and chartered corporations, and of protecting the great masses of the people against the crushing, grinding power of vast accumulations of capital—this task lies at our very doors; and what power is effective without organization; and what organization in the interests of the people stands in the foreground with a Declaration of Purposes of such unquestioned excellence, such purity of purpose, and fidelity to human rights, as does the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

On every hand are manifest wrongs. In our judicial system, in the unequal distribution of the burdens of taxation, in the salaries and perquisites of some of our elective officers—all these things and many more, demand attention; and organization alone will not secure any valuable purpose if such organization has simply a listless passive existence. An army doing camp duty only, will win no laurels, and know no victories.

Without some medium through which to reach, not only the Order, but to a limited extent the general public, we shall make little progress in correcting existing abuses, or introducing and urging measures of reform demanded by the great interests which our Order represents. But with such a medium—and such to the Patrons of Michigan is the GRANGE VISITOR—and a willingness on the part of our intelligent, thinking Patrons to use it as an educator of our people; let me say to you, fellow Patrons, that only a few years will elapse before some of the evils complained of will be remedied, and the Order of which we are justly proud will be entitled to the lasting gratitude of the people.

We ask, then, of those who recognize these statements as true, "Have you done your duty—have you given the Order in this State your views and opinions through the VISITOR or otherwise upon any subject of vital interest to the Order, or to the people?"

If you have not—and I incline to the opinion that most of you have not—then I say to you in all sincerity that I fear you have come short of the requirements of your obligations as good Patrons, and failed to do what you might have done to promote the good of the Order. And permit me to enjoin it upon you to remember this duty in the future, and heartily co-operate with him on whom the future work of conducting this organ of the Order in the State may fall.

As the report of the Executive Committee will give a detailed statement of the financial condition of the State Grange we shall omit reference to any financial matter except as relates to the GRANGE VISITOR already detailed.

In August last we received from the Secretary of the National Grange a supply of DIGESTS for distribution to the Masters of Subordinate Granges. These were sent to Masters of Granges that were not more than two quarters delinquent in reports and dues to the State Grange.

By order of the Executive Committee we performed the work of the Master's office during his absence as United States Commissioner to the French Exposition for a period of four and one half months. The work done pertained almost entirely to correspondence, as we were not required to visit but one Grange in an official capacity while the work of the Master's office devolved upon us, and we have reason to believe the service rendered in that instance was effective.

PLASTER.

The plaster business will not, as at previous sessions, necessarily occupy much of your attention. Associated as I have been for four years with this important interest, and having recently visited Grandville, I am prepared to say the firm of Day & Taylor by the expenditure of over \$10,000 in permanent improvements of the most substantial character, (among which are a set of railroad track scales), have now the best facilities for furnishing plaster of the best quality and in the best condition of any manufacturers in the State. And if we but stand by them in the future as they have stood by us in the past, we shall not only discharge a solemn obligation, but shall be acting in strict accordance with true business principles, and protecting by a wise foresight, the future from the merciless exactions of combinations.

We might make reference to other subjects, but forbear. Important work is before us, and we trust it will be well done.

As we look around upon this goodly gathering of the tillers of the soil—these men and women who for themselves and those they represent are here banded together for the praiseworthy object of advancing in a legitimate and proper manner the best interests of the agricultural class—we fondly indulge the hope that this meeting together under such auspicious circumstances will strengthen our resolutions for faithful future work, and cement more firmly the bonds of fraternity and good will.

If stimulated to increased diligence in carrying forward the laudable objects announced to the world in our grand "Declaration of Principles," not only you, but those that come after you, will have just cause of pride and congratulation as the farmer, year after year, rises to a higher plane in social life, and with more development, more education, more influence, and more real independence, obtains—as he will—a higher standing among his fellows.

And now, worthy Patrons, with the close of this, my third term of

service, grateful for the many marks of your approval, and cherishing a kindly regard for not only those with whom I have become personally acquainted, but also for the great body of the Order; with undimmed faith in the beneficent objects and vast possibilities inherent in our organization; I commend to your hands the important interests with which I have been charged, and the welfare of the Order in this State, confident that a review of its history will inspire you with fresh courage and a re-inforced determination to sustain, uphold, and perpetuate this hope of the farmer—the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

THE "VISITOR" AND THE STATE GRANGE SESSION.

AFTER a week of long days and short nights spent in Lansing, I find myself at eight A. M., this Monday morning, Dec 16, in the office of the Kalamazoo Publishing Co., looking after the make up of the VISITOR of the middle of December, already behind time, on account of the session of the State Grange last week.

We left our sanctum just a week ago, fully expecting to father the next or last number of the VISITOR issued in 1878, but wholly uncertain as to the future, not only of the paper itself, but of our connection with it.

What a body, largely strangers to each other, composed of 140 voting members, and 300 or 400 visiting members, quite as much interested in the work of the session as the voters themselves, might do or leave undone, no one could foretell.

But the work of the session had not progressed far, before we were fully satisfied, that about no other one thing was there more perfect agreement than upon the continuance of the VISITOR.

By our re-election, and the determination of the Executive Committee, its management remains in our hands. We have heretofore said little of its merits, and we shall in future occupy but little space extolling the VISITOR. We cannot follow the lead of many of our contemporaries, and try to prove in about every other column of each issue, that the paper is the best that is printed, and indispensable to the Patrons of Michigan.

In resuming this work, we cheerfully promise, with the help of those who from love of the Order, and faith in its usefulness, are ready to co-operate with us in the great work before us, to devote our best efforts to make such a paper as will be worth more than its cost as a medium of communication, and an educator of the people.

We shall endeavor to give prominence to practical questions that concern not only the Patron and the agriculturists, but affect all tax-paying citizens as well.

There are plenty of heads up to hit, and ninety-nine of every hundred of the papers in this State dare not strike at evils which have become chronic, lest a friend is wounded or a political party damaged.

We have stirred up this matter of appeals from Justice Courts to an extent that is certain to bring the subject before our next legislature, but the papers of the State have not ventured to touch it with a ten-foot pole, nor will they, as every publisher seems to be affected by the influence of lawyers to such an extent as to shut off all independent expression that would in any way break in upon established usage and revered precedent.

One thing more: with this number at least one-third of our subscriptions will expire by limitation, as we shall

never run a Grange paper except on Grange principles.

Pay with the order for the paper, must remain the inflexible rule of our business. The disposition to postpone what we really intend to do, will cause many of our subscribers to lose the next number if Masters, Secretaries, or some other person in every Grange do not immediately canvass their Grange for renewals, as well as for new subscribers.

The last No. paid for, will be plainly marked on the margin of the paper, right-hand side, first page.

We hope the large meetings for election and installation of officers will be improved in the interest of the VISITOR.

But we began to write something about the Sixth Annual Session of the State Grange, which closed its labors at 10 o'clock P. M., the 13th inst.

In the business of the session, we were not confronted with any such difficult question that imperatively demanded solution, as at the sessions of 1875 and 1876, when several thousand farmers of the State were depending for plaster on promises that it was quite impossible for the Executive Committee to make good.

There was a feeling at that time of apprehension, and of peril lest the untoward events that threatened our plaster enterprise might weaken and demoralize the Order. But the resolution and pluck of our Executive Committee, sustained by the good, practical sense of our people, secured for us at last a substantial victory, and we have learned to look upon a fight as something not so bad after all; particularly when you happen to be wholly on the right side. At the late session, we had no aggressive element outside the gates to resist, and therefore attention was turned to several subjects that will be very likely to appear to the next Legislature in form and shape.

We have time to say but little The session, in point of influence, was the most important that we have ever held.

As an Order we are being better understood, and the events of the session in connection with the public, will largely relieve us from any remaining prejudice entertained by fair minded people.

That the Order is making positive progress needs no better evidence than the occupancy of the Hall of the House of Representatives in the new Capitol building at Lansing last week not by sufferance, but by the very cordial invitation of the Board of Control. Every courtesy was extended, and every accommodation afforded on the part of those in authority that in any way could contribute to our convenience and enjoyment.

The presence of the Governor and other State officials at an open session of the Grange on Wednesday evening was an event of special interest. Some 400 members of the Order were upon the floor, and the galleries filled with the citizens of Lansing, when a committee consisting of Brothers Thos. F. Moore and Westbrook Divine escorted his Excellency Governor Croswell, Lieut.-Gov. Sessions, and other State Officers into the Hall and assigned them positions. The Governor occupied the chair of the Speaker, with Lieut.-Gov. Sessions and Master Woodman on either side. We should be glad to give a full record of the evening, but time and space forbid. Can only add that the speech of Gov. Croswell and the response by Worthy Master Woodman were of that clear, candid style that characterize the men, and are so convincing to those who hear.

After them came Treasurer McCreary, Secretary of State Holden,

Gen. Ely, Commissioner Partridge, and other State officers. Their speeches were sandwiched by very able efforts on the part of Brothers Luce, Childs, Mickley, Whitney, and others.

The speeches were interspersed with music, and every event of the evening was harmonious and satisfactory.

WHEN we took account of stock this morning, we found nearly material enough to fill the present number of the VISITOR already set, and some matter which we very much desire to see in this number, must go over until January 1st. There is no room for the very valuable and able Report of the Executive Committee, which we expected to print in this number, and to set aside other matter already set, for that Report would delay the issue another day.

We have several excellent articles that we shall use as soon as we can find room for them.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

Brothers and Sisters:

I have engagements to install officers, and lecture for January as follows: Jan. 4th, at White Pigeon, Jan. 10th, at Virgennes, Kent Co. Jan. 23d and 24th, at Berlin, Ottawa Co. Any Granges in the neighborhood of either of these appointments, that desire my services will please give me early notice that my arrangements may be so made as to require the least travel and expense for the most work.

Communications.

Our Educational System.

"This education forms the common mind, Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined."

So says the poet, and I am inclined to agree with him, at least so far as giving direction to the mind is concerned. But if we are to take Webster's definition of the word "form to make, or cause to exist in a particular manner," then the poet's idea is incorrect. But be that as it may, the proper education of the masses is the bed-rock of our free institutions.—Ignorance and superstition are twin sisters, and have no place in a free country. "The popular idea of education is, a knowledge of books, and hence, what are considered the best schools of the country, resort to the "cranning process," regardless of the health or natural bent of the mind of the child placed under their care, and he graduates from the Institution, where he has spent from four to ten of the best years of his life, as ignorant of anything that will benefit him in the "battle of life" as an infant. These four or ten years have been spent within the walls of the Seminary or College, as much isolated from the world, as if he had been shut up in a convent. The cranning process has been going on during all these years, but, shut out from the world into which they are now to be ushered, they come to its duties and responsibilities, ignorant of the duties devolving upon them, with impaired health and weakened energies, and it is no wonder that so many of them fall in the strife. The great difficulty is that practice has not kept pace with theory, and the result is, failure. Of course, but comparatively few of our population attend such schools as I have described. The masses get no education, except what is furnished by the common schools of our land, and by a wise provision these schools

are free to all. The boast of the American people in regard to the superiority of their free institutions has become traditional. Unfortunately, the facts in the case do not always sustain us in this boast, and we have to endure the mortification of seeing this thin web of superiority torn away by the stern logic of truth. Our conceit has led us to the conclusion that our educational system ranked first among the nations of the world, and so firmly had this idea fixed itself in our minds that the census returns of 1850-1860 fell upon deaf ears, and even the facts brought out by the census have failed to exert their full force upon us. We commenced our existence as a nation, a little over a century ago, with a population very generally educated and yet the census of 1870 shows that we have been so blind to our own interest, so unmindful of our God-given birth-right, that one-fourth of our adult population, can neither read or write. This of course includes the colored people of the South; excluding them, and we have ten per cent. of our adult white population lost in the darkness of ignorance.

In our next, we propose to give some figures taken from the census returns to prove our assertions. Given, Dec., '78. A. A. LUCE.

Celebration of the Anniversary of the Order.

FERRIS GRANGE, No. 440, Dec 4th, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

In compliance with your invitation to all Granges who have interesting meetings on this anniversary of the Order, I wish to say that we had one of the most enjoyable times imaginable. Ours was a feast in the full meaning of the word; an intellectual feast, as well as a feast of viands, for all seemed to come imbued with a desire to make all around them happy; and our Worthy Master, as is usual with him, both pleased and instructed, not only the Members of the Order, but all others who were on this occasion our invited guests could not but be convinced that "it is good to be a Patron." His well timed remarks on the principles of the Order, will, I am sure, bear fruit by inducing many to join us who are now eligible, and the impression made upon the minds of the youthful portion of the assembly will, I am sure, make a lasting impression, and when they are called to fill our places as men and women they will be found associated with our Noble Order. Our Treasurer made a short but effective speech, full of fun for the little ones, and wise suggestions for the older people. Bro. Charles Dyer made a very effective address, particularly pointing out the way in which the Lecturer was personally responsible for the intellectual portion of the feast, but happily on this occasion several Brothers and Sisters were prepared with short speeches, essays, poetry, and music, thereby causing splendid enjoyment for old and young. The Lecturer had made a mistake and left his laboriously prepared speech at home, but he spoke extemporaneously in his usual vein upon all he could think of to interest and instruct those present, and as a "Little nonsense now and then, is relished by our wisest men," succeeded in creating a great relish (for the good things on the table.) As for the table, it was all the veriest epicure could wish; the Sisters evidently tried to excel their French sisters in the line of pastry. And, oh! the poor chickens, how they must have suffered with anxiety previous to this occasion, if it was given them to know the positions they were to occupy,—and I heard it intimated that the Worthy Master, Treasurer, and Lecturer would probably suffer from compelling the chickens to occupy the places they choose to have them, but I picked the bones out of mine, and I feel the better for it.

Yours Fraternally,
O. F. MASON,
Lecturer of Ferris Grange No. 440.

There are now five cheese factories in Colorado.

Ladies' Department.

What are the Objects of the Grange?

Read before Centerville Grange, No. 76.

Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters:

This subject is one of the utmost importance, and one in which each member of our Order ought to feel a deep interest, for it is one which presents a wide range in which to extend our thoughts.

We are banded together as brothers and sisters, and one great aim should be to assist each other in every possible manner. If we unite with the Grange merely for the purpose of receiving the advantages which we may obtain pecuniarily, we shall be somewhat disappointed; for, although it has proved to be of great value for this, yet we should aspire to something higher than merely dollars and cents. The Grange should be used as a school in which we may all learn, and those aims which have ever inspired the good men and women of our land should be ours. Each member should feel an individual interest in trying to make our Institution one of the grandest on earth. I think that one of the great objects of our Grange should be to promote the social qualities which we here enjoy. Sociability tends to make us better. Were we to toil on from day to day without any recreation, our lives would become monotonous, and our hearts discouraged by the trials of life. We all feel the need of recreation, and where can we find a better place than the Grange?

We meet here and exchange the friendly greetings of brothers and sisters, and return to our homes refreshed, and ready to resume again our labors.

Let us then, when we enter this Hall, cast aside all cares of the world, and with smiles and pleasant words greet each other. Let us strive to make every one who enters here feel that he is at home, among his brothers and sisters. Formality should not be found in our Order; a hearty shake of the hand conduces to kindly feelings. Another object of the Grange is the refining influence which it promotes among us. Perhaps we do not, as much, feel the need of this element, as do those who live in more sparsely settled districts; yet, even we, welcome it for this. The farmer, busy with his daily avocation, is not brought in contact with his fellow-men as are those who reside in the towns and cities, and were it not for some institution like this to induce him to leave the seclusion of his farm life, he would become uncouth in his manners, and would wish to shun society; for, as by the friction of a wheel upon the surface of the diamond, it is ground and polished, and made the most beautiful of gems; the Grange, with its wheel of sociability, revolving upon our intellects, shapes and polishes our thoughts and manners, and makes our lives beautiful and noble.

The intellectual features should be another great object of our Order. Here we all ought to feel perfect freedom to express our thoughts, and this is the only way by which the standard of our intellect can be elevated. No matter how intelligent a person may be, if he keeps his thoughts hidden within his own bosom, who shall be the wiser. Plants hidden from the light soon lose their healthy appearance, wither, and die; so our thoughts, if not properly developed, will become dwarfed, instead of being extended, and we shall only be worthy of the appellation given us in the days gone by, that of "Nothing but Farmers."

"The world is moving, its history is being written, and every page is headed, progress." "Although agriculture existed before literature or government, and was made by Creative wisdom to be the first and most important calling of man," yet it belongs to us of the present generation to place it on a higher plane, where it justly belongs. There was a time when it was thought that all that was necessary for a farmer, was well developed muscles and an inclination to use them; but that time has passed. Nothing presents a wider field for thought and the utilization of the deductions of science, than agriculture; and although much has been accomplished, it is but as a drop, compared with the refreshing showers which are yet to come. If we are to reach the standard which truly belongs to the tillers of the soil, we must arouse and apply ourselves more vigorously to

our work. Then, brother and sister Patrons, if any of us have slumbered in this work, let us now awake, and with heart and hand apply ourselves, never ceasing in our efforts, until the light of knowledge has so shed its beams upon us that none may say that farming is not a noble occupation.

BELLE HULL.

A Talk with My Sisters.—No. 2.

In my last article which appeared in the VISITOR, Nov. 15, I advanced the theory that it was better to lead a life of usefulness and self-sacrifice than only to aim to be a model housekeeper. To substantiate this theory, let me give an illustration.

In my girlhood days I was intimately acquainted with two ladies—farmers' wives—and of nearly the same age. I will designate them as Mrs. M. and Mrs. L. Mrs. M. was a quiet, modest little woman; she would not be called a model housekeeper, only a medium and comfortable one. Her household arrangements were well enough. The food she cooked was of the appetizing kind in quality and abundant in quantity, and all were made welcome to enjoy the hospitality of her home; but she found time for something else besides work. She was the mother of several children, and she reared them well, and to-day they are honored members of society. She took time to cultivate an abundance of flowers, and many of them of the choicest varieties. She read many books, and was posted on all the topics of the day, and interested herself on the various questions of these times. She endured many severe trials and years of intense suffering, but she came forth purified, and "meet for the Master's use." She found time to go from home, and minister to the needs of the sick and dying. Her hand was ever open to dispense charity to the needy and friendless. She had time to go from home to call on ladies of culture and refinement, and exchange a book or slip of some rare plant, and interchange sentiments and ideas, and feelings of joy and sorrow; and she found friends wherever she went, because she had a smile or kind word for those she met; and thus she lived on her three-score years and ten, until one cold day in February, her family laid her away under the snow. Many came to her funeral and shed the silent tear, and one neighbor said to another, "We have lost a very dear friend," and one lady robbed her flower stand of all its blossoms, and brought beautiful wax flowers to place in the folded hands of the friend in her coffin, and said to her daughter, "I brought them because she loved flowers so well."

Mrs. L. was a model housekeeper, and was held up to the entire neighborhood to follow. The floors and ceilings were the whitest, and as one lady remarked, "A fly would slip on them"—they were so clean. Her bread was always the lightest, her cakes so feathery, and pies unexceptionable—but she never had any time for anything but work. She scarcely ever went into a neighbor's house, and if the ladies ever went in to spend the afternoon with her, she worked all the time cooking and baking, that her table might be laden with all the delicacies she could place thereon. She never took time for rest or recreation, and her reading consisted of the yearly almanac and *New York Ledger*. She never found time to visit the sick, or relieve the wants of the poor. She was the mother of one son, and he a spoiled child, and a terror to those of his own household on account of his ungovernable temper. While under the influence of liquor, he enlisted in the army of our late rebellion, and in a few months, tidings came back that he died rolled up in his blanket, alone, outside his tent. Mrs. L. never did any harm, but who will say she ever did any good? She may have had good principles—I think she had. She probably had a kind heart and sympathetic feelings, but she allowed them to be so crusted over with the cares and duties of her own household, that none knew of her joys and sorrows; she shut them all up within her own breast, and the world was none the wiser. She lived her four score years, and one bright, beautiful day in October, when the trees were clothed in their vestiture of crimson and gold, and the rich autumnal flowers nodded their heads in the sunlight, I went back to the old neighborhood to attend her burial-service. No flowers decked

her coffin; no tears fell from the eyes of weeping friends; no words were spoken telling of friendship broken. It was the loneliest funeral I ever attended, and as I drove slowly homeward, the tears would come when I thought of her wasted life, of her neglected opportunities of being and doing good, and I mentally said, "I hope I never will drop out of existence like this; I hope the light of my life will not go out in such obscurity as hers!"

And that is the lesson I learned that day. Sisters, don't mistake my idea, and think I advocate slatternly house-keeping or poorly-cooked food! I have not much patience with either. I greatly admire, (I don't know but I had better say venerate,) any woman who has the capability to manage a well-ordered household, and make home so pleasant that the children will not go astray through any fault of the mother; and yet has time to do something for others, and the light of whose influence shines outside her own home-circle.

MYRA.

Women Holding School Offices.

SCHOOLCRAFT, Dec. 4, 1878.

Dear Sisters and Bro's of the Visitor:
We have waited for the plaster, wood, judicial system, and many other subjects to have their say, and will ask a small space in the VISITOR for ours, with an earnest wish for a reading of the same by the Secretary in every Grange in the State.

Nearly a year ago I wrote an article, published in the VISITOR under date of January 15th, setting forth some reasons for a change in our common school system. For the benefit of those who have not the paper at hand, I will insert an extract of the same.

"In order to have our school system complete, I would have women hold any school office. Some of our sister States have already granted this, and that women are worthy officers is shown by the fact that their number is increasing every year.

"There are many reasons why I think they would fill that position better than men.

"1. They would make a business of it.

"2. They understand, better than men, the wants and requirements of small children.

"3. A woman, as a general rule, approaches nearer a child's heart, and for this reason would be better able to judge of their abilities and needs."

It seems to me the primary schools are where the work should begin. A select school is very nice, provided you live in a community where there are sufficient pupils to support one—and just here, let me say, is where the trouble arises. If your small children are taught in such branches and in such an interesting way, they will have a desire for a higher education themselves, and we would have a larger number to help support a high school at home. Some parents think—and transmit the same idea to their children—that it is not necessary to go to school any longer than to learn to read and write and cipher, and just about the age they would make improvement, they leave school; and fathers have to pay more money to keep their sons and daughters in superfluities to adorn their bodies, which tend to make them frivolous and unhappy, than they would to have adorned the mind with an education that would have fitted them to hold any position their tastes might dictate. Now if every supporter of district schools could see the necessity of a higher and better education, there would be no need of change; but they will not. There has been a good deal said, and laws made, to have a uniformity of text books in schools. I know of a district school that was taught this summer, of 45 scholars, and the teacher had 32 different recitation classes, and several scholars without books—and this is not an isolated case. We will all concede that the laws seem sufficient, and the "making of many books" ought to supply the demand—now whose fault is it? District officers fail in their duty, and why? Invariably you will hear the answer, "They are ignorant themselves, and cannot realize the damaging effects it has on the school, and the misuse of public money that we are taxed to pay." Must we sit idle, and see no more improvement in our schools for the next twenty years to come, than has been in the last twenty years? If we do, it is our own fault. Nearly all the members of the Legislature are from the cities and

towns where they have colleges and Union schools, conducted by able teachers, with all the fixtures and apparatus to make their school a success—what do they know about the majority of district schools? If we make no complaint, they will justly think, that if we are satisfied, they ought to be. The people are inactive; they need some changes that will give them an impetus so far out of the rut-holes that they can never return to them. This is not a movement that we need feel in doubt about. It has been tried successfully in other States; Illinois, in making her school report last year, spoke in the highest terms of the efficiency of women in every department, and wherever entrusted with funds had used discretion in their appropriation. That this will become the law in our State whenever the Legislature is called to act, I have no doubt, and I would like to have the petitions for this object, sent from the Granges of the State.

I have no idea but what this movement, when they granted that which all other orders denied—the right of membership, voting, and the right of holding office to women, expected she would do for herself and the Order something worthy of record. I am not satisfied that the report should be as we often read in the VISITOR, "The sisters were present with an abundance from their larders, and the table groaned beneath the load of good things for a feast." Let us try something for the good of the Order. I read the VISITOR, and like the whole of it—J. J. Woodman's letters, Prof. Kedzie's lectures, and the Ladies' Department are all excellent and instructive reading for the family. I fully agree with Sister Sexton, and in fact all the sisters; wish I could become better acquainted with them. Write us your ideas and opinions about this school question—all of you. "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

I will close this article by appending the following preamble and Resolution, adopted by the State Grange at its session of 1877:

WHEREAS, The fitness of women for the official position of officers of schools, District, Township, and County Superintendents of Schools, has been conceded by our best thinkers in the cause of education; therefore,

Resolved, That justice and the cause of education alike demand that our laws be so amended as to make eligible the election of women to any civil office, the duties of which relate to education.

MRS. ADELAIDE KNAPP.

Advice to Young Folks.

Every one feels interested in the young folks, and our sympathy and love is naturally drawn toward them. We can not forget that we were once young ourselves, and therefore understand all about the ambition that stirred our young hearts and lead us to desire to do something that would merit approval. I believe this germ is found in every heart. In some those noble impulses are not fostered, therefore they die, and from their ashes will spring evil desires. The wise man hath said, "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: for they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck." A good son should feel that no words, either of reproof or counsel, should have the influence over him as a father's should, for they are dictated by love. "Honor thy father and thy mother," is the first commandment with a promise. You may be tempted to withstand a parent's commands, thinking it is manly to do so, but let me tell you, you are grossly mistaken. You show your manliness of character by yielding implicit obedience to your parents, unless they counsel you to evil. Truth is the fundamental principle on which to build a noble character. Shun a falsehood, be honest in all your dealings. It is natural for boys to love to trade; do not for the sake of a good trade lie and cheat; it is mean and low, and will grow upon you and make you a dishonest man. In all your dealings with others act from a strict principle of equity and justice; observe the golden rule, "Do to others as you would they should do to you;" avoid evil companions, a young man is known by the company he keeps; shun saloons, whether for drinking or gambling, they lead to death, morally and eternally. If you are enticed, consent not; learn to

say that little word "No" with decision; be brave and true to yourself; eschew the use of tobacco; the use of tobacco in youth is the first step in a downward course, it leads to other impurities. I feel like weeping when I see a young man with a cigar in his mouth, for I know if persisted in it will lead him lower and lower till he becomes a by-word, shunned by the pure and good. Be kind to your sisters, let them feel that you are their champion, and that you are willing to perform any little acts of kindness they may desire of you, they will appreciate it and feel proud of their manly brother. The society of your sisters and their girl friends will help you to withstand temptation, and smooth off many rough edges in your character, while you, if your mind is rightly trained by a course of study, may impart strength to their minds; whatever you undertake, either of work or study, give it not up till you are master of it, be not afraid to work. It has been said that "labor brutifies," but that is a mistake. Idleness brutifies, for "Satan finds some mischief still, for idle hands to do," there is no improvement without labor.

This will likely be read mostly by farmers' sons. I would counsel you to stand by the farm, leave it not for a city life. If father is in debt, work and help clear the debt off the home of your childhood. If it is free, work and beautify it, you will not then want to leave it. If we had what we desired, how noble would all the sons be, and how sweet and pure would every daughter be?

There are, I rejoice to say, some true, perfect types of noble manhood and womanhood. And we often find them in the youth of both sexes. And we would increase the number, if, by word or deed, we may be permitted to do so. Dear girls, how I wish I might say something that would sink deep into your hearts, and prove a lasting benefit. I would say cherish tenderly your mother, who has suffered and toiled for you, perhaps deprived herself of comforts and enjoyment that you may be spared work and care and live easy, who has put up with your petulance with unselfish love and patient forbearance and devotion. Try and return a tithe of the devotion lavished upon you. Do not let her wear out her precious life laboring in the heated kitchen while you are enjoying yourself in the cool parlor practicing your last music piece, or reading some interesting book. Strive to lighten her cares, you will feel better for it. A time may come when you will have no mother, then you will know how to appreciate her, if you never did before. And, oh, the pang you will feel if conscience tells you have not done your duty. It is an honor to a young lady to share the household cares and work, and to be able to cook a good dinner. Attend to the commands and comfort of your father. Be kind and loving to your brothers and sisters. Treat your brothers with the courtesy you would extend to other young gentlemen, let them see you prize their company, make them your confident, especially with regard to other young men who may seek your society. A brother is better acquainted with the private life of young men than you possibly could be. Be very guarded with whom you associate. Oftentimes appearances are deceiving, and it is hard telling the pure gold from a counterfeit. Avoid secrecy in love affairs, it leads to ruin; beware of him that counsels it. Do not flirt; a coquette is a slur on maiden purity. I have been pained in witnessing the behavior of some young ladies on the street when in company with young men, and wished they could see themselves as others see them. Give not any countenance to young men that drink intoxicating spirits, or use tobacco; if every young lady was firm, and not suffer such to escort her, there would be fewer inebriates. It is better to stand alone in the world and to carve out your own fortune than to be linked with an inebriate. Then, oh shun such a life as you would a pestilence. There are many ways open wherein a woman might gain a respectable competency, that they need not fear to take up life's burdens and stand alone rather than wed a licentious despot. Dear girls, I feel so interested in your well-being, I can hardly break off, and would not, only I fear the editor will scold at this lengthy article. But I hope, as it has been dictated by love, the young folks will take in kindness every word from the pen of

AUNT MARGARET.

WHITE LAKE GRANGE, No. 253.
Worthy Secretary:
Although the Ladies' Department is usually well filled, yet we suppose it is like a stage coach—always room for one more.

I notice a communication from Grange, No. 335 in your last issue, a very beautiful plea for housewives, yet the writer says she is not one. We hope the day is not far distant when she may prove the words of the poet true,
"A Home, the best place for men that is known,
The sooner, the better, make one of thine own."

We think a happy, pleasant home is one of God's greatest blessings to man, and I think it is our duty to get all the joy and gladness into our lives we can. Always look on the bright side. Every cloud has a silver lining. We may not be able to discern it here, yet if we so live here, that at last we shall hear, "Well done," we may look back on our lives, and see that we have not lived in vain. Let us remember that it is not "all of life to live, nor all of death to die," for after death comes the judgment. Then where shall we be? We must each stand for ourselves in that great day, for only through the merits of our Savior can we be saved.

We are having discussions and essays in our Grange, and all seem much interested. I think if rightly conducted, they may be a source of enjoyment as well as benefit to each member, help us to more easily to express ourselves intelligibly, and become more intimately acquainted with each other. We would be glad to welcome visitors from other Granges. Come and lend a helping hand. Let us encourage each other, and by so doing, recommend the Order so highly that our membership may be increased more rapidly.

KATE.

Correspondence.

BEE HIVE GRANGE, No. 158,
Dec. 6, 1878.

Dear Bro. Cobb:

Here I come buzzing right into your sanctum, to disturb your peace of mind, just a minute, and then I will fly away home, that is if you don't raise that hat of yours and brush me into that inevitable "waste basket."

I have often thought when reading those friendly letters from other Granges in your valuable paper, that I would like to see a communication from some brother or sister in our Grange. But I suppose the most of them are diffident, like myself, about appearing in public, and also dread that basket. But we have so many invitations to write, that I have taken courage to tell you a part of what we are trying to do.

We are not a very large band, but what members we have are earnest workers, and our Grange is in a prosperous condition. At our last meeting five new members took their last degree, and "first supper" with the "Bees." We are holding a series of meetings to improve our music. Commencing at our W. Sec., G. H. Barker's, the last meeting at W. T. R. Barley's, next Tuesday evening, Dec. 10, at W. M., Wm. F. Traffords, and so on around. Our Lecturer has a query box, I believe, but it is laid away for the present. We have bought a new Hive, and the all-absorbing topic now is to get it paid for and made comfortable for the winter.

Our Purchasing Agent, Wm. F. Connor, received one of those neat and necessary articles, a set of scales, for the Grange, for sending a club to the Live Patron. That paper says, "Ornament the Grange hall, make it attractive, beautiful, and home-like, and the Patrons will come to the meetings."

We have our charter framed, then we have a beautiful fruit chromo, presented by P. M., I. S. Bunnell, also the picture "I feed you all," presented by J. B. Ray, now in the far west. We have a stand for the Chaplain, made and presented by J. McNitt, now deceased. Thus, each one adding their mite, we hope to have our Hive in "honey-comb" order. "In union there is strength."

I must say, to Myra, before closing, your letters are never too long, and your last one was very consoling to one poor heart at least. How restful to have such a kind, sympathetic friend; but it is so hard to learn that lesson of patience, "With Charity toward all and Hatred toward none!"
And now, if some one will tell me,

through the VISITOR, how to take sweet apple stains out of linen, I will fly away home.
A. BEE.

At the annual meeting of Kent Co. Grange, No. 38, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, In consequence of the high rate of interest allowed by the statutes of Michigan, a heavy and burdensome tax is imposed upon all encumbered real estate; productive industry materially crippled; the manufacturing interests of the State depressed, and many branches amounting to almost a total prohibition.

THEREFORE, Resolved, We the members of Kent Co. Grange, will petition the next Legislature to amend Sections 3 and 3, of Chapter 41, of the Compiled Laws of Michigan so that the legal rate of interest of money shall not exceed 7 per cent. per annum. Also a restrictive usury law be passed, making it a penal offense for any person to receive more than the legal rate of interest.

Resolved, That the representatives to the Michigan State Grange from Kent County be requested to ask that body to memorialize the Legislature in favor of the above proposed amendment.

Resolved, That these resolutions be presented to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication, and ask the co-operation all County and Subordinate Granges throughout the State.

W. B. HINE, Sec.

BERLIN, Ottawa Co., Mich.,
Dec. 7th, 1878.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

Western Pomona Grange, No. 19, of the Counties of Ottawa and Muskegon, will meet at the hall of Allendale Grange, No. 421, Allendale, Ottawa Co., on Friday the 20th day of Dec., 1878, opening at 11 o'clock, A. M. The afternoon session will be devoted to the general good of the Order, and the following topics will be discussed viz:

How to increase the usefulness of the Grange.
What shall the Grange do for our public schools.

What do farmers need at the hands of our legislators the coming session.
A public lecture will be given by State Lecturer C. S. Whitney, at 3 o'clock P. M., to which effort should be made to have every farmer and family in the vicinity attend.

CHAS. W. WILDE, Sec.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Please notice in the GRANGE VISITOR that St. Joseph Co. Pomona Grange, No. 4, will hold its annual meeting the first Thursday in January, 1879, at ten o'clock, A. M. at the Grange Hall in the village of Centreville. The election of officers in the Fifth Degree will take place during the forenoon.

At the meeting of November 4th a motion was passed, requesting each Subordinate Grange to appoint a Brother and Sister to make a written report upon all subjects pertaining to the prosperity of their Grange, and to be read at the annual meeting. The installation of officers will be public and at 2 o'clock. W. G. LELAND, Sec.

BIRMINGHAM, Mich., Dec. 3, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

The next regular meeting of Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5, P. of H. will be held at Pontiac on Tuesday, January 14th, commencing at ten o'clock A. M. Election and installation of officers, and other business will come before the Grange. A large attendance is desired.
J. JACKSON, Sec.

MATTEWAN Dec. 10.

Worthy Sec'y Cobb:

At a regular meeting of Eureka Grange No. 11, held at the Grange Hall, Dec. 7th, 1878, the following preamble and resolutions, presented by Bro. A. Jones, were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The laws of the State of Michigan allow parties to appeal in matters of litigation from Justice's Courts to the Circuit Courts, however small and paltry the amount in controversy may be, and thus delay justice and aid in expensive neighborhood broils, largely at the expense of the people; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the duty of our Representatives to use all honorable means by their votes and otherwise to enact laws prohibiting appeals to the Circuit Court from Justice Courts when the first judgment is not more than one

hundred dollars, providing in the same enactment for a new trial before another justice and jury, or by arbitration in case the defeated party shall appeal from such first decision, and providing that such second trial shall be final.

Resolved, That the Secretary send copy of the above preamble and resolution to the Secretary of the State Grange, and request that he prepare printed petitions to the Legislature in accordance with the above resolution, and furnish one to each Subordinate Grange in the State for the signatures of all citizens who protest against bearing the burdens of expensive litigation, in which they have neither direct nor indirect interest.

CHAUNCY BONFOY, Sec'y.

Worthy Secretary:

In accordance with the command of the founders of our Order, our Grange celebrated the 11th Anniversary of the Order.

We met at the Grange Hall on Dec. 4th, where, after conferring the third and fourth degrees upon the candidates present, we seated ourselves at a table loaded with the necessaries and luxuries of life, spread by our good Sisters. After partaking of a bountiful repast, and listening to the reading of an able article and a short exhortation by our Worthy Lecturer, we finished the day exchanging views and transacting other business. Each one went home, I hope, and think, benefited and strengthened in this good work. Our number is not great, but I think we are decidedly stronger and more determined than we ever have been before. We are having applications presented for membership at almost every meeting of our Grange. The drones have nearly all left the hive. Wishing you abundant success with the VISITOR, which, by the way, I prize very highly.
I am, fraternally yours,
I. N. CARPENTER,
Master Sherman Grange, No. 632.

The Interest Question.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

It seems to me that no legislator who is disposed to legislate for the great mass of the people, should object to the Calhoun County resolutions. Had they been incorporated in our tax and usury laws ten years ago, three fourths of our real estate owners and business men would not be groaning under the burdens of unjust taxation and ten per cent. mortgages. No man can hire money to invest in any legitimate business, at the present prices of the products of industry, and pay over five per cent., and the penalty of the forfeiture of the entire debt by the one who take more than the legal rate, has operated admirably in New York State for more than forty years. Let our Legislature enact similar laws, and it will save thousands of our farmers and business men from bankruptcy and financial ruin. Money being the creature of law, its use should be regulated by law.

H. H. TAYLOR.

The American name for oleomargarine—"bull butter"—takes well in England. The *Mark Lane Express* says of it: "Sufficiently correct and far less objectionable than any name which has hitherto been applied to it."

MAINE packed over five millions cans of corn last year, for which about \$1,150,000 were received. The industry gave employment to some 9,000 people during the packing season.

TRULY WONDERFUL.

\$14.00 and \$15.00 SEWING MACHINES.

At last the Sewing Machine is within the reach of all. Ingersoll, of the Patrons' Paint Company has brought out a Machine, Lock-Stitch, and with all the advantages of the old monopoly machines, at the above figures. They are warranted to give satisfaction and no money required until they do. The book "Every one their own Painter," with also full illustrations of six styles Machines, sent free by mentioning this paper, and addressing O. R. INGER-SOLL, Patrons' Paint Co., 162 South Street, New York.

Pictures of To-Day.

Those vultures of society, the lawyers, may read a needed lesson in the series of cartoons on our first page this afternoon. Lawyers make our laws, lawyers counsel our litigants; lawyers dispense our laws from the bench, and lawyers execute our laws. We are literally in the power of lawyers. Dishonest and misleading in their inception, deceptive in their elucidation, unjust in their dispensation, and merciless in their execution—the lawyers as a class have well merited the criticism of the press and the resistance of the people. And for how many generations has it been a maxim among men, that "law is not justice?"—*Graphic*.

Two years ago Ohio had one able-bodied dog to every 225 sheep, and every third dog killed or injured a sheep.

Prices of Paint Again Reduced.

The Patrons' Paint Company having largely increased their steam machinery for producing Ingersoll's Ready Mixed Paints have again reduced the price of their celebrated Pure, Fine, Ready Mixed Paints, making the discount 40 per cent from the retail price, which makes the price much less than the materials can be bought for mixing paints in the old way; and besides the Ingersoll paint looks elegantly, and will endure so much longer.

Any one can have the company's Book, "Every one their own painter," and decorated with illustrations of Colors, Brushes and Putty, mailed free by mentioning this paper, and addressing R. Ingersoll, Manager, 102 South Str., New York.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

JACKSON, Mich., Dec. 11, 1878. WHEREAS, On the 27th day of May, 1878, our Great Master above saw fit to remove from our Grange, by death, Brother W. W. FULLER, therefore;

Resolved, That we as members of Rives Valley Grange deeply mourn the loss of so valuable a member of our Order;

Resolved, That to our bereaved Sister whose pathway through life is thus clouded by the loss of a kind husband, we as a Grange, do extend the hand of true sympathy;

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of the Grange, a copy be presented to the bereaved Sister, and also sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

JOHN B. BROWN, Com.

Olive Grange, No 358, Nov. 30, 1878. WHEREAS, The merciless hand of Death has removed from our midst our Worthy Lecturer and Brother, WM. VAN DYKE, aged 67 years, therefore;

Resolved, That in the death of our Brother we have lost an efficient officer, and an earnest, faithful member of our Order, and that the members of Olive Grange sincerely mourn our loss and tender our sympathies to the bereaved family in their affliction.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family, to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication, and also be spread upon the records of this Grange.

THOS W. BALDWIN, Com.
MRS. J. W. ENNESS, Secy.

German Horse and Cow Powder.

It should be the aim of every farmer to make his horses and cattle as handsome and useful as possible. Nearly every teamster who drives a team of very fine horses feeds Condition Powders, either openly or secretly.

The German Horse and Cow Powder is of the highest value for stock. It aids digestion and assimilation. It helps to develop all the powers of the animal. It improves its beauty and increases its usefulness. It makes fat and milk. By using it a horse will do more work, and a cow give more milk, and be in better condition, with less feed.

By giving poultry a heaped tablespoonful occasionally in a quart of chop, it will keep them healthy and increase the quantity of eggs. By giving hogs a large heaped tablespoonful, with the same quantity of salt, in a half peck of scalded wheat bran for every four hogs, twice a week you will prevent Hog DISEASE.

Put up in five pound packages, six packages in a box, at 12 cents a pound; or in sixty pound boxes at ten cents a pound. The receipt is posted on each package and box. Made by Dr. Oberholzer, at his mills, No. 2 Fetter Lane, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by R. E. JAMES, Kalamazoo Co-operative Association, No. 31 North Burdick St., Kalamazoo, Mich., and by J. M. CHAMBERS, Illinois State Business Agent, Chicago, Ill., at the Lowest Wholesale Price, when ordered under the seal of the Grange. may15-tf

The Husbandman!

EVERY FARMER Should TAKE IT.

It is thoroughly Reliable and Practical in Every Department.

It is Owned, Edited and Managed by FARMERS, and is an able Exponent of the Agricultural Interests of the Country.

THE HUSBANDMAN discusses public questions from the farmer's standpoint. It demands that the burdens of taxation should be more equitably placed on all classes of property, and that the farming interests be thereby measurably relieved.

THE HUSBANDMAN contends against unjust discrimination in freight charges, by which the present railroad management is heaping heavy burdens on the farmers of this and other States.

No other farmer's paper pays as careful heed to its Market Reports, which are thoroughly reliable and accompanied with comments showing the condition of the market and tendency of prices.

In short, THE HUSBANDMAN seeks to promote in every way the greatest good of the agricultural class, and is such a paper as farmers everywhere ought to read and support. The reports of the discussions of the famous

Elmira Farmers Club

occupy about one page of the paper each week, and are about worth more to any practical farmer than the cost of subscription.

Many of the leading farmers in different parts of the country are among its large number of correspondents.

Hon. Alonzo Sessions, the present Lieutenant Governor of Michigan, and an old and successful farmer, in a letter urging the farmers of his own county to take this paper said: "I have read THE HUSBANDMAN for more than two years, and I do not hesitate to recommend it as the BEST FARMERS PAPER that I ever read. I take and read several other papers, but I will say frankly that no paper comes to my house that is more welcome to myself and to all my family, and not one that is read with so much pleasure and profit."

As a representative of the GRANGE, THE HUSBANDMAN is highly prized by the leading members of the Order, in all sections of the country. It is not sensational, but is candid and influential.

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