THE

GRANGE VISITOR

ISSUED SEMI- MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE Michigan State Grange, P. of H.

[Kalamazoo Publishing Co.'s Print.]

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THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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AT FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM,

Invariably in Advance.

J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager.

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

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft.

To Contributors.

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RATES OF ADVERTISING:

Acceptable advertisements inserted at the rate of $1.00 per square, for each insertion.

A Liberal discount will be made on standing advertisements of three months or more.

Officers National Grange.

MASTER—S. E. ADAMS, Minn.
OVERSEER—J. J. WOODMAN, Mich.
LECTURER—MORT'MR WHITEHEAD, N J.
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J. M. CHIDESTER, - - - Detroit.

General Deputy.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - Muskegon.

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Thos. F. Moore,.....Adrian,.....Lenawee Co
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Samuel Langdon, ..Bowen Station,...Kent Co
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Andrew Campbell,..Ypsilanti,.. " "
Mrs. Salmon Steele,..Bear Lake,..Manistee Co

County or District Pomona Grange Meetings.

DOWAGIAC, Mich., Dec. 15, 1878.

The annual meeting of Cass Co. Pomona Grange, No. 20, will be held in the village of Cassopolis, at Cassopolis Grange Hall, on Wednesday, the 8th of January, 1879. The election of officers and other important business will come before the meeting. All members are requested to be present. The Grange will be opened at 10 o'clock, A. M.

G. CORY, Master.

Exect've Com. Department.

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.

Report of the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange.

To the Master and Members of the Michigan State Grange:

The undersigned Executive Committee would respectfully submit the following report:

Your committee organized in the City of Lansing, Dec. 14th, 1877, by the election of F. M. Holloway as chair-man.

Our first session was occupied mostly in considering the questions which had been referred to us from the State Grange then in session, among which of paramount interest were the questions of enlargement and more frequent issues of the GRANGE VISITOR, an Agency in Detroit, and the propriety of longer continuing the per diem of State Agent Gardner.

In the matter of the VISITOR, your committee were in full sympathy with the members of the Grange then in session, as well as thousands of the Order throughout the State who had reached us by petition.

We therefore raised a committee composed of Master Woodman, Secretary Cobb, and Messrs. Childs and Mars—sent them to Kalamazoo to investigate cost of different sizes, frequency of issues, and make temporary contract for publishing on a larger scale, if future results should warrant. At the same time appealing to the Order for subscribers at the rate of 50 cents a year, the paper to be published semi-monthly, and on a scale to be determined by the patronage it received.

To this appeal many Granges responded promptly and with a liberality of appreciation, others turned a deaf ear or gave so sparingly, as to cause your committee to make their second appeal, with due notice that the enterprise must be abandoned, unless more extended aid could be had. This led to a renewed effort, the result of which has caused your committee to continue the issue of the paper through the year 1878.

To meet the demands of the Order and the instructions of the Grange, your committee, at this first meeting, delegated Messrs. Satterlee and Childs to visit Detroit, to look over the ground and if possible find a person who would work for, and in the interest of the Order, in selling the products of the farm, and in making such purchases as might be desired by Granges or members of the Order, from that city. In their investigations they found no disposition on the part of dealers to ignore the patronage of the Grange; but the difficulty that met them among heavy jobbers was that all houses are now run in the line of specialties—while you could find one to sell your grain he would have nothing to do with your cattle, sheep or swine, your butter, cheese, and fruits; neither could he supply you with but very few, if any, of the requirements of a Grange order for goods, made up as they generally are of a medley of articles, of which they would be poor or indifferent judges as to quality and cost, and which, in their judgment, would not pay them in undertaking to fill.

In the light of these facts, our subcommittee found it necessary, if an Agency was established, to find some man who was perfectly familiar with the practice of the trade, who was withal a close judge of values, possessing the indispensable qualifications of ability and integrity, willing to work on small commission "a necessity," if any saving was made to the Order in these times of low prices and small profits.

In following up these investigations, our committee found in the person of James M. Chidester, of Ypsilanti, one who they thought would fill the place, and so reported to the Chairman, who at once convened the full committee in the City of Lansing, March 5th. At this meeting Mr. Chidester was invited to meet with us. Our joint conference resulted in an arrangement whereby he was to make purchases on Grange orders, for a 2 per cent. commission on the bills of purchase. He was to sell our products on a sliding scale commission varying from a half of one per cent. to 8 or 10 per cent., depending on the article and the facility for disposing of it. Reports of work done was to be made monthly; and we were to guarantee to him a return of $90 a month for his services, including the commissions received. On this basis the Chairman and Bro. Childs closed a contract with him March 23d, having been previously authorized to do so by the Board.

The Agency was fully opened for business April 1st, and in that issue of the VISITOR was published to the Order, and the plan on which the Agency was to be continued.

His report for the month of April gave good evidence of a continued draft on the Grange treasury, his commission being less than $15 for the month. To this constant draft for Agenciss, your committee were unitedly opposed. Believing that every enterprise should pay its way or be abandoned or closed out, we hastened put the Agency on another footing.

Mr. Chidester being willing to carry out his contract with us, by our consent that he should be permitted to open a general Commission House, doing for others as well as the Grange. To this we readily consented, and changed the contract May 1st, since which time the Grange treasury has not been liable for any expense in keeping it up.

There has been some complaint of large per cent. in selling perishable fruits, poultry, etc., but we apprehend that if the persons complaining would take account of the time spent to sell in haste on a glutted market these perishable products, before total loss, they would not be so ready to censure.

Your committee have taken pains to verify the profits of this Agency up to November 1st:

From commissions on purchases for the Order, . . .	$122.50
From commissions on sales, "approximated"	171.58
From commissions on sales outside the Order, . . .	155.00
Making total for 5 mo's of	$449.08

Giving unmistakable evidence that the Agency was doing a very limited business, barely covering rents and other expenses, and a small per diem salary. With this discouraging beginning, Mr. Chidester is still hopeful, believing that in the near future, times will improve, the avenues of trade be extended, and give a brighter outlook to the producer.

Looking to the wants of the Order from numerous stand points in the State, we recommend the continuance of the arrangements with Mr. C., and again invite our people to patronize him, when by so doing it will work no injury to local institutions in which they have invested and are trying to sustain.

In sending our products to headquarters for first price, we meet the consumer half way, and share with him the profits, without the intervening middle-man. May the day hasten when the methods of the producer in working his wares shall so change as to compel a large majority of this class to the legitimate business of producers, instead of as now, feeding on what should be the divided profits of the producer and consumer.

* * * * * *

Your committee have but little to say on the plaster question. The contract with Messrs Day & Taylor for $2 per ton aboard cars at mill, runs for another year, and we would not question the integrity of any Patron by supposing for a moment that he would wish to evade or dodge that contract although the ring should offer it to him for half that price.

Patrons, you bear in mind that these sales have been obtained only through a persistent struggle of three years, that present rates barely pay for manufacturing with a very small profit. The extent of our wants and influence outside of the Order should be given Messrs Day & Taylor to supply. We learn from them that they are more fully prepared to supply finely ground plastar from first quality of dry rock, than ever before. To all who can find storage at home we would urge them to make early orders, to avoid delay from obtaining cars when spring opens.

Your committee at their November session delegated the Chairman to settle with the Master, Secretary and

Treasurer, and prepare the annual report for consideration.

We herewith give his statement of account with those officers.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in Treasury Dec. 1st 1877, ...	$1,871 33
Cash in Stamps " "	23 64
Receipts for Fees and Dues for fiscal year,.....	5,218 02
Receipts from Visitor for fiscal year,.	1,652 02
Receipts from Supply account,.....	305 65
Reimbursement from Nat'l. Grange,..	7 50
Postage from Sec'y of Nat. Grange,..	8 88
Total.....	$9,087 04

CONTRA.

Expenses of Session of State Grange, December 1877,..	$1,859 15	
Expenses of Executive Committee for 1878.....	342 08	
Dues to Nat. Grange five quarters,.....	1,088 16	
Order to C. L. Whitney, services of 1877,.....	77 75	
Extra amount voted Master for service 1877,.....	100 00	
Masters pro rata salary for 1878,.....	308 32	
Expenses of Masters office,.	48 08	
Secretary's salary,.....	1,000 00	
Clerk hire Sec. office, Plaster account, ...	23 12	
Traveling expenses of Sec'y,	9 50	
Postage, Secretary's office,..	165 96	
Exchange paid,.....	1 95	
Freight and drayage,.....	5 33	
Office rent,.....	30 00	
Stationary, Sec'y. office,....	35 42	
Stationary, St. Agt. Gardner	5 00	
Stationary, Ex. Com. and Master's office,....	10 00	
Salary, Treas. Brown,.....	100 00	
Expense State Agent Chidester,.....	70 67	
Printing Proceedings and Circulars,.....	148 18	
Expense Publishing Visitor including clerk hire in Sec office,.....	1,533 85	
Postage on Visitor,.....	120 60	
Supply Bills,.....	242 56	
Stamps on hand,.....	35 37	
Total,.....		$7,361 05
Which taken from Receipts leaves a balance of.....		1,725 99

Showing a deficiency in the Treasury for expenditures for the fiscal year 1878, of $145 34. To this add the amount paid to State Agent, Gardner, for services to april 1st, 1878, of $250 00 and we have the sum of $395 34 as the actual expenditures over receipts for the year. To our balance on hand of $1,725 99 we'add monies received from State Agent Gardner which we have filed into the treasury $1,-021 91, and we have the sum of $2,747 90, now, as the treasury balance at the close of the fiscal year 1878.

It is due Sec'y Cobb to say that his office is conducted on business principles. *Economy, punctuality* and *system* stand prominent on every page; and we find it an easy and pleasant labor to verify his accounts which are made up from more than four thousand sources every year.

The office of Treasurer Brown has been well protected through his banker. A sufficiency to balance his account with the State Grange, was found placed to his credit on his bank book as Treasurer. His vouchers were on hand to verify payments made.

His account shows as follows:

1877—Dec. 1st—	
Balance due on Settlement.....	$1,871 33
Amount from Secretary Cobb.....	6,933 11
" " J. H. Gardner.....	1,021 91
	$9,826 35

CONTRA.

By paid Orders.....	$7,078 45
Total in Treasury.....	2,747 90

In the matter of Master Woodman a settlement has been made on a basis of a fractional year, deducting *pro rata* for his time while absent attending the Paris Exposition, making the expenses of this officer as follows:—salary, $308.32; expenses, $48.08; total, $356.40. In his absence, the Executive Committee placed the responsibilities of the office, with all its cares, on Secretary Cobb, It is due him that some recognition of these extra labors be taken by this body, and some compensation made therefor. Your committee find from the preceding showing that the expenses of the year have exceeded the receipts in the sum of $395.34. In this ratio it will be but a few years before our treasury will be swamped. We have been trying too many experiments, financially.

Our work on the plaster question stands to the credit of the Order as having been well done, through which not only the Order but the State at large has been greatly benefited. Salaried State Agents have been a failure; in as much as they have been supported from the general treasury, and the benefits derived from their work divided among a minority, as their reports show. This is not the fault of the Agents, but a natural result of trying to run a homogeneous mass through one channel. The trite saying, "Let every tub stand on its own bottom" is especially applicable to Grange enterprises. While we find it necessary to apply it to our agencies, what shall we say for our GRANGE VISITOR? Apparently it has paid its way, as appears from the report; a showing much better than your Committee hoped for when they tried the experiment of enlargement and double issues. Still there is a feature about it that prevents its self-support. It is this: The expense of its editorial management has fallen, thus far, directly on the Grange treasury. In that the duties and labor incident thereto have been imposed on the Secretary of the State Grange; without which the duties of that office could have been discharged for near half the sum we have felt it incumbent on us to pay that officer. We bear testimony to his zeal in the interest of the VISITOR,—and let the publication speak for itself for the ability of its management.

Your Committee are firm in the belief that it is in the power of this Grange to overcome every obstacle, apparent, or otherwise. And were your Committee to suggest anything, they would say: Cut off the free papers to Masters, but continue the free copy to clubs of ten or more. Second, let every delegate, whether Husbandman or Master, on their return home, see to it that every Subordinate Grange they represent be fully canvassed, and a copy subscription secured, if possible, from every family therein represented. If this is done, and subscriptions renewed as fast as expiring, it would place the paper on a firm footing and on a living basis.

The weeding out process of dead and dormant Granges, of disinterested or unworthy members, has nearly run its course, and if we judge correctly from the fees and dues paid for the year now closed, we may rely on the future to develop strength and permanency to the Order. This is as it should be, as was contemplated by the obligations we took in the beginning. Through our Order, many abuses in society have been corrected, many more need our attention. Our statutes are too much in the interest of lawyers, speculators and monopolies; we can each help to correct these abuses.

And in our organized capacity, we can make our voice heard, our strength felt in the interest of equal legislation for all classes as never before. Our calling embraces three-fifths of the population of the land. Why should we continue longer the practice of drawing a majority of our law makers from these minority professionals; when we furnish a majority of the population and produce nine-tenths of the exports of the land—the true index of a nation's prosperity.

All of which is respectfully submitted. F. M. HOLLOWAY,
Chairman.

Pomona Granges should report at once the officers elect, and give the post office address of Master, Secretary and Lecturer, and from time to time announce meetings and proceedings of meetings through these columns.

THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE WORLD.

BY WILLIAM ROSS WALLACE.

Blessings on the hand of Woman;
Angels guard its strength and grace
In the palace, cottage, hovel—
O, no matter where the place,
Would that never storms assailed it.
Rainbows ever gently curled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Infancy 's the tender fountain;
Power thence with beauty flows,
Woman 's first the streamlets guidance,
From it soul with beauty grows—
Grows on for the good or evil,
Sunlight streamed or tempest hurled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Woman, how divine your mission
Here upon the natal sod,
Yours to keep the young heart open
To the holy breath of God;
All true triumphs of the ages
Are from mother love imparted
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Blessing on the hand of Woman;
Fathers, sons and daughters cry,
And the sacred song is mingled
With the worship in the sky—
Mingles where no tempest darkens,
Rainbows ever more are curled,
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, - - - PAW PAW

The annual meeting of the National and State Granges have been held, and both sessions have been perfectly harmonious and unusually interesting throughout. Much valuable and earnest work has been done, which must have the effect to stimulate renewed interest in the Order. The Subordinate Granges have also held their annual meetings for the election of officers, who will soon be installed, and take their places at the head of the four hundred active working Granges, which were represented in the recent session of the State Grange. With this force, not less than 20,000 strong, nearly all of whom are veterans in the work, we enter the campaign of 1879, and if officers and members composing this great army, in State, County, and Subordinate Granges, stand firm and act well their part, great good will be accomplished.—Surely there is no cause for being discouraged. If all that we could have desired has not been accomplished in the short period that our organization has had an existence, much more has been done for the elevation, and pecuniary interests, of the tillers of the soil than our Order has received credit for. We have demonstrated that the underling principles set forth in our "Declaration of Purposes" are something more than mere "glittering generalities;" that they are living principles, and thoroughly practical in the work of our Order. We have done away—to a great extent, with the prejudice and jealousy which existed in the minds of those engaged in other pursuits; and our Order is no longer made the butt of ridicule and diversion, by the public press; or looked upon as an impediment to legitimate business enterprises, which secure equal rights and justice to all. The barrier between the manufacturers and wholesale dealers, has been removed, and a Subordinate Grange may, under its seal, or through its agent. buy or sell in the general market upon the same terms with retail dealers or commission men. We have demonstrated that farmers can ship their produce direct to market, and sell through their own agents, and receive all that it is worth. We have solved the problem, that farmers can associate under the Patrons co-operative plan, and run a retail store, furnishing to members of the Order goods and wares of almost every description, at a price not exceeding on an average four per cent. above first cost. We have by our resolutions and petitions, from National, State and Subordinate Granges, to some extent, influenced the legislation of the country, so as to give greater protection to the Agricultural interests, and have made politicians acknowledge that there is a power in our Order, which can no longer be ignored.—Congress is now in session, and the State Legislature soon will be. It is our right and duty, to petition these bodies, for such wholesome and just changes in the laws, as past experience has shown, that our interests demand; and then watch the action and votes of the members, who have been elected by our votes, upon them, and make note of the same to be remembered hereafter. It would be well, and interesting, to have the votes of members upon all questions for which we petition published in the VISITOR, and read to every Subordinate Grange. But there is work for us in another direction, more important to the welfare of the Order than anything else, that will claim the attention of all good Patrons the coming year. In addition to the four hundred working Granges referred to, there are not less than one hundred and fifty, which have not reported for a year or more, and most of them for obvious reasons, have ceased to work altogether. In these Granges are many good, true, and valuable members of the Order, who do not desire to, and will not leave it. They appeal to the State Grange for advise and aid. I have counseled them to hold on, and stand by their Grange, as long as there is hope of reviving it; but after exhausting all reasonable efforts without effect, to apply to the State Grange for demits, and then affiliate with other Granges. Hundreds of them are thus "*holding on,*" *and looking to us for help. Shall they be disappointed?* Will not the active working Granges, and the County and District Granges come to their relief. Two thirds of all the Dormant Granges, in the State can be put in working order, and the balance consolidated with active Granges, if the necessary efforts are put forth.

This work is specially assigned to County and District Granges. The first great object of their organization was to "*aid and strengthen the Subordinate Granges.*" If they neglect or fail to do this, are they doing the work, and answering the great object which brought them into existence. I appeal to the officers and members of every County and District Grange in the State, to consider this matter seriously, and if possible send the Master and Lecturer of the Grange with as many other brothers and sisters, as can make it convenient, to accompany them to every weak and dormant Grange within their jurisdiction; and encourage and revive them if possible, otherwise report their condition to the State Grange. I am confident that this is the only practical course to pursue, and it should be thoroughly tested.

I also appeal to every Master and Secretary of Subordinate Granges, to solicit subscriptions to the VISITOR, at every regular meeting, until all who can be pursuaded to subscribe for it have had an opportunity. Let us, one and all, aid in this work, place the VISITOR where it belongs, in the hands of every Patron, and beyond the necessity of aid from the State Grange Treasury.

Ladies' Department.

Training Children.

Training children is a subject which requires thought; and from its great importance may seem to require the attention of *greater* minds than ours. Even admitting this, it, from this same great importance, also demands our close study. Each child that God places beneath our care has a nature plastic and impressible as clay, and whether *we will* it, or not, will bear the impress of our moulding hands, whether skillful or unsteady, whether put forth in earnest wisdom or vague uncertainty. The potter has power over clay. The vessels which he so skillfully moulds into forms of grace and beauty have different purposes to serve.

Some to honor, some to dishonor, according as he shall determine, but this only for a few years, or at most a few centuries. The vessels which *we* are called to fashion *they too* have their destinies, but *their* honor or dishonor is *unchanging* and *eternal*. Earth yields no product so beautiful as our material, *a loving soul*,—least of all the soul of a young child. Childlife is, perhaps, the fairest picture on which the eye of man can rest.

As the ancients looked back upon a golden age long passed, so the adult delights to gaze on the bright visions of his early days, and sighs that they can return no more. In the society of childhood, manhood forgets its cares, and age its decrepitude.

Few parents and teachers realize the great responsibility resting upon them in the training of these God-given treasures. Instead of studying this child-nature which wins us by its grace, as well as confounds us by the problems which it offers to our consideration, we are apt to minister to the mere animal life, and leave the mind to expand only by the help of nature. Encourage that investigating spirit. If the child asks a question which seems weak and silly to you, do not laugh, and tell him he ought to have known that long ago, but rather explain to him as best you can, remembering *some one once had patience with you*. Teach them to be manly. We can not expect a child to be as sober in mind as an adult, neither do we wish it. We would not cloud the sunshine of his little day, yet, we would rather have *manly* boys than *boyish* men. We are unconsciously influencing the young mind to a higher and better standard of excellence, or exerting a counter influence, thus rendering it course and unrefined. We are not aware how closely children watch those who guard them. As they have not so many cares as older ones, they closely observe the little passing events, which we hardly notice, and which have much to do with the formation of their characters. The above thought occurred to me by a little boy entering the school-room and asking me if I were sick. I was very busy and hardly realized that my head was paining me severely, until I heard his remark, showing how quickly he noticed the change in me. There is something very affecting in the simple and solemn earnestness with which children look into their elders' faces. They know by an instinct that they shall find there an unmistakable signal of what they may expect. Therefore, how carefully should we guard every look and action of ours. Above all, never deveive them. When they lose confidence In a parent or teacher, the good he otherwise might do, is comparatively lost. Do not threaten or tell them one thing which you know you cannot accomplish. What we wish our children to be, we must be, for like produces like. Yet, we often find good men who have wayward children.

This often occurs from merely setting the example of moral worth instead of imparting lessons of truth by precept. Children like a change. Many times they tire of the humdrum life of their homes, and if we never allow them pleasure at home they will seek it elsewhere. Give them some pleasing task to perform, for they will be busy about something, and if they have no work with which to employ their minds, they will find mischief and be nourishing seeds of vice. If they do make mistakes we should not scold because it is not done as well as we older ones can do. Cause them to think they have done very well, and as they grow, and their faculties expand, they will greatly improve. No scolding, or fretting, nor the sharpest correction, will wield the influence that kind counsel, the light in your pleasant eye, or the pleading tones of your voice. And in the training of these little ones we should never permit ourselves to feel as a teacher once remarked: "In the education of children there is no room for lofty intellectual enterprise."

In watching the development of these young minds, as day by day we observe some new feature in their characters, and when we succeed in awakening a feeling of that great principle of truth at all times, by the earnestness and the magnetic devotion of our own minds, can we feel otherwise than that we are working in a sphere which opens upward into God's boundless heaven?

MRS. A. N. WOODRUFF.
Watervliet, Dec. 8, 1878.

A Word to the Unwise.

DECEMBER, 18, 1878.

Worthy Secretary:

While visiting the State Grange, and meeting so many brothers and sisters with far more ability than I possess, the feeling came to me that I can never hope to write anything for the VISITOR that will interest or assist its readers; but after thinking the matter over, I came to the conclusion that because others were more highly gifted than I, was no more valid an excuse why I should not do what little I could to help fill its columns, than it would be to decide that because I was not beautiful, I should neglect to be tidy, or to make myself agreeable.

In looking back to the many happy hours spent there, this thought occurred to me. The State Grange is like a pebble thrown into a placid lake, that causes the tiny circles of waves to widen and widen, until they reach the shore. Our annual gathering dropped in our quiet life will enlarge our circle of acquaintances and friendships, until they reach the shores of eternity.

It is true that we, as a class, enjoy far greater privileges than ever before, and it is equally true that we shall be required to give an account of our stewardship, and be judged accordingly.

Patrons, let us not forget the precepts of our Order, but ever remember that unless the mantle of charity be often remembered, it will prove a sorry protection, both from the chill of sarcasm, and the heart of indignation.

It is not necessary that we lose our individuality, but those of us who have not had the early advantages of education and society, that give ease of manner and gracefulness of carriage, can learn much by observation, and we may eventually be like the stones in our beautiful Capitol, polished, and fitted each to its proper place, and together rising into a complete whole.

Let not envy or jealously find a dwelling place in our hearts; all cannot be leaders, any more than each stone in that grand structure can be the corner stone, but each has its own appropriate place that no other can fill.

CHLOE.

Breaking the Ice.

BALTIMORE GRANGE, No. 472.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

As you were kind enough to offer the sisters a place in your paper, I think we should appreciate it, and make an effort to write.

Previous to our Grange meetings, we had become somewhat dull. The brothers have been so deeply engaged in political affairs that they have not had time for much else: and the sisters seem to rely on the brothers for most of the talking. The Worthy Master, however, was equal to the emergency. and turned it into a sort of class meeting, calling upon each member separately. The effect was beneficial, as many spoke, that would otherwise have kept silent.

Just a word to the sisters. If we would be benefitted we must learn to do our own talking, and there is no better place than in the Grange; and it is no worse for the brothers to listen to a little of our (as I suppose they sometimes think) senseless chatter, than for us to listen to them all the time, Besides, I think they wish us to take part with them. The Grange may well be termed a school, for it is a place where we keep learning continually, and it is also a place of refinement. Lest I weary you with this, my first, I close. Humbly yours, J. A. R.

Communications.

Interest and Salaries.

It has been said in times past that one of the best methods of arousing the people to action on any important question was to keep agitating it. Acting upon this advice I have penned a few lines for the VISITOR upon the questions of interest, and salaries of public officers.

Every thinking person must be satisfied by this time that the rate of interest charged for the use of money in this State is too much—is wrong, unjust, and if continued in must work great detriment to those who have to borrow. There is no just reason why money should earn more than labor. According to the United States census of 1870. The earnings of agriculture was a little less than four per cent. while the rate charged for the use of money was on an average throughout the United States nearly three times that amount. At this rate, in favor of the money lender and against the borrowers, or industrial classes, it is only a matter of time when the money lenders will absorb the wealth and earnings of the balance of the people. The earnings of productive industry are less than ten years ago; while the rate of interest demanded for the use of money is from eight to ten per cent, in this State. In some other States laws have been enacted and are now in force restricting the rates of interest to six or seven per cent. It is now but just or fair that laws should be enacted by our legislature restricting the rates of interest for the use of money in this State to seven, if not to six per cent. The producer is of more importance to society and the country than the money lender, yet these money lenders are bound to live fat and sleek, by charging high rates of interest, and will do it as long as the people will allow it.

The salaries of some officers in this State are too high. The necessary expense of living is reduced nearly one-half. The products of the farm are lower than they have been for years. The farmer's taxes are nearly the same. The incomes of salaried officers are the same as when the expense of living was nearly double. I am informed that the salary of some professors of our State institutions are two thousand dollars per year, and the State furnishes them houses to live in, besides. Some other officers still more, some less. Now let every farmer ask himself the question, is this right and just? No matter whether his wheat crop yields him five or twenty bushels an acre, or whether he receives seventy-five cents or twelve shillings per bushel he is taxed to support these officers with salaries, even if his own family is destitute of some of the necessaries of life. No wonder some of these officers boast about the good times at present. It is good for them, but hard times for many who are taxed to help pay the salary.

Now shall this injurious condition of things continue? It rests with the people to say. We universally refused, in many localities to elect men to the legislature who are in favor of reducing the rates of interest, and the saleries of public officers. The legislature soon meets, every farmer should reflect upon the questions and be ready to sign a petition asking our legislature at the coming session to reduce the salaries of certain officers, and the rates of interest for the use of money. A. FANKBONER.

SO. BOSTON, Dec. 22, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

On Friday last at noon, we hitched up our horse and cutter, took in our better half, and started for the Hall of South Boston Grange to visit their school the last day of the fourth term. When well on our way, we found we were not alone to attend this pleasant duty. We arrived before school call, and were soon joined by other patrons of the school, till there was about the same number of visitors as students. Soon the bell called every one to his place, which was quickly heeded, and was followed by the review of their studies, by two or three classes, after which Prof. Carus gave two or three readings, which every one enjoyed,—they were both entertaining and instructive. The teacher then called the name of each student that was prepared, who responded promptly to the call with a rehersal, an essay, or a song, to the delight of all, till long after four o'clock The teacher then announced that the students' standing for the last month was ready on her desk. After each had received his standing, the teacher called on the patrons of the school to call the name of any student, and the student would respond by reading his standing. This opportunity was generally accepted, and gave a good opportunity to learn what progress was being made, and we are sure the schools are very few that can show as high an average. A number were perfect in all their studies. The teacher then announced the closing song. At this time one of the lady students approached the teacher's desk, and presented her with a large and elegantly bound bible, as a token of the high respect the students felt for her. For once we believe the teacher was taken by surprise, but at the close of the song she was herself again, and in a happy and appropriate manner, she thanked them for the valuable and beautiful gift. She then dismissed the school until Monday, January, 6th, 1879. After the close, commendation seemed to flow spontaneously from the lips of nearly every visitor, expressing themselves as more than satisfied.

The teacher had assigned some of the students extra long lessons the last of the term, in order to complete some studies with this term. After witnessing many a hearty good-bye and handshaking, we returned to our home with the consciousness that the Grange was the means of untold benefit to many a farmers' son and daughter, who would not fail to bless it and honor it in years to come. Our school is a success, and we would be glad to, and will accommodate a few more students, if any should apply.

J. C. ENGLISH.

YPSILANTI, Dec. 23, 1878.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

On my arrival home from Lansing, I found the company owning the patent gate had been busy in my absence getting ready to collect under the Teal patent. They say they are going to start twenty agents out this week. The same testimony that will kill the Lee patent will kill the Teal patent,—that is, previous use.

Now all that can fix a date that they commenced using or used the sliding gate prior to 1860 will please write me, giving me the time and place they used them.

Also work hard to prevent their collecting from your neighbors, or in your town or County; remember that this will cripple them more than anything that you can do, for they depend on their collections for means to fight the Farmers' Mutual Defence Association in the Courts.

Those localities where they wish to organize auxiliary to the Farmers' Defence Association of Michigan, will please write me for articles of association.

In electing officers, I would suggest that one be elected in each organization looking to a final settlement, that he may be present to look after the interests of his organization.

These organizations can be started in the Grange, and then work outside. I do not feel as though the burden of this fight should all rest on the members of our Order.

Yours truly, H. D. PLATT,
Pres. Mutual Defence Association.

The next meeting of the Manistee District Pomona Grange, (which is both quarterly and annual) will be held at Bear Lake, January 14th, 1878. Commencing at 2 o'clock P. M. Bro. J. J. Woodman is expected to be present and give a public address. Fraternally

MRS. JENNIE A. POPE, Sec.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, JAN. 1, 1879.

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.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mary Jane," will give your article place as soon as as we have room.

"Aunt Kate," in next issue.

"E S," of No. 505, shall appear.

"Agricultural Fairs," postponed until more congenial weather.

"M. H. Hillyard," we think your article should not appear.

TO PATRONS ALL.

With this number of the VISITOR we send a New Year's Greeting, and with this early call we unite a promise, if life and health permit, to continue our pleasant acquaintance for the year before us with our many old familiar friends. We shall venture to assume that our acquaintance through the VISITOR has not only been pleasant but in some degree profitable.

When a year ago by determination of the Executive Committee, the experiment of supplying the readers of the VISITOR with an enlarged sheet whose visits should be made twice a month, and we were charged with the duty of carrying that determination into effect, we took hold of the work with reluctance and misgivings. A year has passed—a short year to those of us who are over the divide, and on the down hill of life. The work assigned us has been done, how well we leave for others to answer.

The same work has again been committed to us, and with more experience, we may reasonably hope in the future to make this medium of communication between the members of the Order of greater value than ever before.

With a small beginning in 1875, the VISITOR undertook the work of aiding the Order in this State. The subscribers to the first volume paid fifty cents for twelve numbers, with but little more than one half the reading matter in each number, now furnished semi-monthly for the same money. Its subscription list has increased each year, and without making charge for its management, the paper has always been self-supporting, though carrying a large free list. With this volume, it has started out on business principles, and will no longer give away 1000 copies each month.

Its receipts should cover every legitimate charge upon it, and that would certainly include something for its management.

"Be just before you are generous," is a maxim not to be despised when your larder is not well filled, or your bank balance is small. The State Grange of Michigan has carried the plaster business—has carried, in a certain sense, the VISITOR, but has always prudently kept its expenses within its income, and with its present Executive Committee, it will never become involved in debt.

We offer you a sheet mainly of original matter from Michigan Patrons—a sheet that, small as it has been, and still is, was essential as an indispensable agent in the fight with the plaster monopoly, the result of which has already saved to the farmers of Michigan more than its present price of circulation will cost them in fifty years. Through it, reforms have been broached and urged that will come before the Legislature within the next sixty days for action; and if our demands are backed up and supported by the people whose interests are involved, we shall find before the close of the session, some laws amended and statutes enacted in harmony with common sense and equal rights.

It is conceded that no State in the Union is in advance of ours in the intelligence of its people, and with this standing for the citizens of our commonwealth, shall not her Patrons vie with those of other States for as high a rank among their fellows. Will they not by their contributions, aid in giving such a value to this paper that it will be a necessity in the family of every Patron, and largely aid in disseminating the principles of the Order, and in educating the farmer, both in his special calling, and his rights and duties as a citizen.

PLASTER.

We have consented for three years past to receive orders for plaster, and forward them to Day & Taylor, and also collect pay for them.

The business demanded a good deal of careful attention, and aside from the responsibility, was quite a tax upon our time.

As it was the opinion of the Executive Committee of the State Grange, and also of Day & Taylor, that this course was advisable we made no objection. We had always been so identified with the plaster business in this State since the first hitch between the manufacturers and consumers, that we were not disposed to shirk any responsibility or work that would in any way conduce to success. We were anxious that a great principle should be vindicated, and that the Patrons of Michigan should not be the victims of a combination that ignored a cardinal principle of our Order.

The work undertaken, we believe has not only been done, but it has been *well done*. The victory of the Patrons was complete, and it only remains for those who for the last two years have been reaping the benefits resulting from this contest with the Plaster Association to continue faithful to their principles—to their obligations—and to their best interests, that the advantages already gained may be made permanent.

Messrs. Day & Taylor are now in undisputed possession of the best quarry of gypsum that has ever been opened in the Grand River Valley; they have expended large sums of money to develop the business; they have better facilities for the manufacture of plaster, and for keeping it dry and in good condition for shipment and use, than any other manufacturers in the State. They make only *land plaster*. They have made those large investments because of their faith in the Patrons of Michigan.

The business is now so well established that there seems to be no longer any need of the State Grange standing between Day & Taylor and the Order of the State. Therefore we shall ask you to send your orders direct to Day & Taylor, Grandville, or Jenisonville. Correspond with them. Order plaster of them, and pay them. By ordering direct, less time will be lost in the season of the year when time is sometimes important. The business should work with less friction and at a saving to the State Grange Treasury which has heretofore been considerably taxed on account of this business

We shall be ready to print in the VISITOR any communication relating to the plaster business that may be of interest to the Order, and we hope to be able to give in the Spring a good account of the business done during the season just before us. We advise all who can find storage, to order at once. Make use of this good sleighing to get it home, and you will perhaps be doing a good thing for your spring work on your farm.

When a Grange has a store house their order should certainly go in early, before the demand for cars makes it uncertain when it can be filled. Day & Taylor would rather ship out 2,000 tons of plaster soon, even if they do not get their pay for it until next March, than to have the same orders come in February or March, when the demand for cars will be likely to exceed the supply.

Grangers should improve in their business habits faster than farmers outside of the Order, for, by frequent intercourse their opportunities for improvement are largely increased.

THE NATIONAL GRANGE AND OVERSEER WOODMAN.

We clip from an Eastern paper part of a letter which we give below from Wm. G. Wayne, Master of the State Grange, of New York.

The outlook for the Order as seen by him is encouraging, and it is very gratifying to know, and this fact is becoming more apparent every year, that while the Order has adhered with commendable fidelity to its principles, and, as an organization, kept out of party politics, yet by insisting that the great interests of agriculture had never been fairly represented, and that those who "feed the world" should no longer be counted unworthy to occupy seats in halls of legislation, we have in a few brief years not only educated public opinion, but the claim which we set up—the demand made, begins to yield returns.

Master Wayne's complimentary notice of Brother Woodman's success and skill as a presiding officer will find endorsement from all who have attended the sessions of the Michigan State Grange.

Without farther reference, we will let the letter speak for itself:

It was my duty to attend the twelfth annual session of the National Grange which convened in Richmond, Va., on the 20th of November last, and as it may not be generally known how the Grange is constituted, and who compose its members, let me say that it is made up of Masters of State Granges and their wives as Matrons, and they comprise the voting members of the body. The Executive Committee is composed of three members, one elected each year from the body of the membership to hold for three years, and are by virtue of their office *ex officio* members, entitled to all the privileges of the body, except voting. The officers of the Grange are elected biennially, and the present Worthy Master was present, but from ill health was prevented from taking any part in the work during the session. Under such circumstances, it became the duty of the Worthy Overseer, J. J. Woodman, of Michigan, to fill the chair, and although born on a farm, reared on a farm, and still living on a farm in one of the best agricultural States in the Union, he came to the chair like a veteran to his work—for twelve years experience in the Assembly of his State, six of which he has spent in the Speaker's chair, made him so familiar with his work that it is safe to say that no legislative body in the country was ever presided over with more ability, or in more strict conformity to parliamentary law than was the last session of the National Grange.

The entire membership of the body was composed of farmers and their wives, who live upon their farms and work them with their own hands, and who are fair representatives of our agricultural interests. Among them were men who hold official positions in their States and in the nation. One holds a seat in the present Congress, two have been elected to the next Congress, three are now members of the State Senates, and quite a number are members of their State Legislatures. Twenty-eight States were represented by their Masters, and all but four were accompanied by their wives. To say that such a body of farmers, from so many different States, can meet annually and spend ten or twelve days in close business relations with a definite object in view, and not accomplish good results for the benefit of producers, would be putting a low estimate on the intelligence of our class. That the Grange, National, State, and Subordinate, has met the ridicule and sarcasm of the aristocracy of the land is too true, but that such ridicule and sarcasm has lessened the value of their work, or in any manner diverted them from the objects in view, is not apparent from the body of farmers who compose its membership. We have been misrepresented by the press, ridiculed by political demagogues, and assailed by all other classes and professions, but we have never for one moment been diverted from the real purpose of elevating, instructing, and educating our isolated and scattered people. That we have made progress against all these obstacles, and passed the point where there is danger of dissolution, is now fully apparent to the membership; and that we are now ready for an advance movement that will give us our proper position in the affairs of government, is equally apparent.

COUNTY OR POMONA GRANGES.

Our correspondent "B" asks certain questions in regard to Pomona Granges which we think have been answered in the VISITOR, but as those who now read this paper have not always read it, we will briefly answer:

To many Patrons there seemed to be room for an intermediate organization between the subordinate and the State Grange, and while the Order was making rapid growth, not only in this State but in many others, County associations, mainly for business purposes, were formed, and there sprung up a demand that these organizations should be known and recognized by the National Grange, and should become a part of the Grange system—a link in the great chain. In compliance with this demand, the National Grange at its session in 1875 so amended the Constitution of the National Grange as to incorporate County Granges into, and make them a part of our great organization.

There has existed in many places, and with many good Patrons, a hostile feeling against County or Pomona Granges.

Our observation has brought us to this conclusion as to the cause of this hostility. In the days of County Councils, before Pomona Granges had a legal existence, those who thought they saw the need and value of a County Council very naturally and properly, as we think, thought it desirable that such organization should have the sanction of law, and become a part of the general whole.

In the course of time, after such organization could have a legal, recognized existence, in their zeal to push forward and perfect the new organization, some persons may have said, done, or insisted on their opinions at such time, or in such manner, as to offend those who were well satisfied with the County Council. Injudicious talk on the part of those who entertained adverse and positive opinions on both sides of this question has probably done more to prejudice members of the Order against the County or Pomona Grange than anything else.

It is a voluntary matter,—those who do not desire to belong to a County Grange can stand aloof, just as farmers who do not desire to become Patrons can remain outside the gates. Kalamazoo County has no County Grange. I am therefore not a member of a County Grange. I

wish it had, as the uniform testimony from those Counties that have a good County organization is, that the Subordinate Granges in such Counties are in a better condition on account of the work and salutary influence of such County Granges.

We are not sure but what those Patrons who are opposed to County Granges may sometimes be benefited by their existence, as farmers are benefited by the existence of the Order, though they refuse to become members.

Any organization with a good object, may and will do good, if faithful to its purposes.

Subordinate Granges have existed, or started out to live, that with discordant elements and without any appreciation of the noble aims and objects of the Order, have been of no advantage to their members, but a discredit to the Order. "The Grange is what we make it." A County or Pomona Grange, with a membership solicitous and intent on maintaining the principles of the Order, is a good institution, and likely to be fruitful of good works. One organized by Patrons anxious for some official position, without vitality or laudable motive may be a stumbling block to some good Patrons, and a reproach to the Order.

TO MASTERS AND SECRETARIES.

The election of officers for 1878 has been held in every Subordinate Grange, we suppose, in the State. It is the duty of Secretaries to report to this office the names of the Master and Secretary elect. This has not been generally done. One-half are at this date still delinquent. Will Masters please make enquiry at once, and ascertain whether Secretaries have attended to this matter. We want to make up a new list of Granges, and at present it is of no use to attempt it. Every election report should be in before the middle of January. If the old Secretary has not reported may we not look to the new one for such report and a better attention to official duty.

The VISITOR and *Husbandman* one year for $1.70; in clubs of five or more for $1.60 each.

MAPLE RAPIDS, Mich.,
Essex Grange, No 439,
December 14, 1878.

Worthy Sec'y Cobb:

Our Grange was represented in the Clinton County Grange Convention, which met in October to elect delegates to the State Grange. Among other things ably discussed in that convention, was the question of the benefits that would accrue to the members of the Order from the organization of a Pomona Grange in this County. The discussion was partially reported to this Grange, but I think the majority of the members have not a fair understanding of the rights and privileges of a Pomona Grange, or of its standing in relation to the State and National Granges. I know *one* member who does not understand all about it, who would be very thankful for information. Is the Pomona Grange, as some say it is, a link in the chain of Granges, connecting the subordinate with the State Grange? or is it only a side show, as others say, having no claim on the State Grange, nor any right to representation in that body?

No. 439 has not been at all well represented in the VISITOR, and after waiting a long time for some capable member to lead off, the duty has fallen on the ignorant and unlearned, and I come humbly, asking questions. If there is any good to the Order in a Pomona Grange, we would like to know all about it that we can learn from others, before we set out to learn by experience.

From one, whose faith in the Grange is renewed and strengthened semi-monthly by the words of instruction and encouragement which the VISITOR always brings. B.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

LANSING AND THE STATE GRANGE.

The people of Lansing have ever been cordial in their attention and hospitality towards members of the Order and the State Grange. We have always been the recipients of favors at their hands, as any convenience or loan asked has always been freely given by mechanics and merchants, and without return; but never more so than at this, our Sixth Annual Session. Not only did hotels give reduced rates, but private houses opened their doors to accommodate the crowd of Patrons there assembled. The State officials did all in their power to make our session pleasant by marked attention and hearty words of welcome, and we must say that both State officials and citizens we heartily thank, and we regretted to leave them and the place of so many pleasant associations, but the good-byes were spoken, and the New Hall of Representatives and its adjoining rooms and halls, once crowded by our brothers and sisters in its dedication, are left with our blessings upon them, and upon those who shall hereafter use them. Marked among all our hospitality was that so cordially given by E. Bement & Sons, manufacturers of farm implements, at Lansing, who invited the State Grange of Michigan, with visiting brothers and sisters to a reception and supper at the Lansing House on Thursday evening, December 12. The invitation was accepted with thanks, and at 9 P. M., at the close of the labors of the day, we took a recess and repaired to the bountiful repast spread for us. At the entrance of the Lansing House we were met by our host, and the enchanting music from the K. T. Band, of Lansing, told us that we were welcome. Crowded were offices and halls, full all the parlors, full all accessible rooms, yes, all full of Grangers; and yet they tell us the Order is dying out! The band still discoursing melody, supper was announced, aed then full, fuller, fullest, was the dining room. The tables were expanded to their utmost extent, and literally groaned under the good things to tempt, and appetize, and refresh our bodies. The proprietor of the house, assisted by his brother, T. Hawley, of Sweets Hotel, Grand Rapids, commanding as by magic an army of attendants, and ready for the hosts of Husbandmen and Patrons, fresh from the enchanted Courts of Pomona. The dining hall will not soon be forgotten by us. The Plow was King there, as it stood upon the centre table beautifully decorated with plumes of the lovely pampas.

The bill of fare! We only have time to say that it was in keeping with every thing else. Enough for all, and good enough for the best. Four times the long tables were filled, and more than 500 guests made attacks upon fish and fowl, roasts, relishes and pastry to their minds', and even more,—their stomachs' content. During the supping, the halls, office, and parlors were the scene of mirth and music. Social nature was predominent, and many an old acquaintance was found, and many new ones formed. Good feeling every where reigned, even among those waiting an introduction to the supper table.

Supper over, a long bill of fare was presented for the mind—a literary feast of toasts and responses; but already in the small hours, time prevented full description of this repast.

The band now stood at the head of the hall, and tried our very *soles*, for few could keep them quiet upon the floor; some had to be seated, or give up in despair.

Hon. S. D. Bingham welcomed us as guests. He said he was glad to meet the farmers of Michigan. He was glad they had come up to dedicate the new State House; it was meet that they should do so, for theirs was the greatest interest of any class in our State. He rejoiced that the Grange was not partisan, but for intellectual, social, and moral culture. Our greatest men had come and ever must come from the farm, and sad would be the day for this Republic when the farmers no longer gave educated sons for the Nations' use. He rejoiced that we brought our wives with us, and that the Order recognized woman's equality with man. Educate your boys in the school, train them in the Grange, and all your Congressmen will not then be lawyers. God bless your Order! God made the farm before he made the lawyer.

This address was received with rounds of applause, and we regret that we have not room for it all.

C. G. Luce our worthy Brother, was next called, and responded briefly, thanking our hosts and the citizens for our welcome and entertainment.

The Hon. O. M. Barnes next spoke briefly, giving the sentiment "As speeds the Plow so speeds Education,"—they were inseparably connected—advance the one and you advance the other.

Our Worthy Master, the Hon. J. J. Woodman, after repeated calls, was induced to speak briefly, telling us of farming in this country as compared with farming in Europe, and the farmer's life here as compared with the farmer's life there—giving us illustrations of dress, dinners, etc.

Mr. Bement also in person welcomed us. The fete closed by another excellent selection by the band, after which we hastened each to his lodging place, feeling that we had indeed had *a good time* and long to be remembered. Bro. Welch, of Ionia, purchased the plow for use upon his own farm.

Besides many citizens of Lansing, we noticed several Professors from the Agricultural College, with their wives.

IN THE FIELD.

Since Nov. 1st, my field notes are as follows: On the 15th of the month business called me to Grand Rapids, and I went home with Bro. S. Langdon, and spent the evening at the house of Bro. and Sister Davis, where were gathered a score or more of brothers and sisters from the neighhood. We had a pleasant evening, made so by singing by those present. The following day I visited Bro. and Sister Norton, of Grandville Grange, where I met Bro. Barsman, of Grandville.

On the 19th I went to Hudsonville, and with Bro. Hudson, visited James town, where once flourished a large Grange, which is now dormant. After talking with some of those who were members, I decided to hold a meeting at some future day, which I shall do in January if not before.

On the 20th I lectured publicaly in the afternoon and evening to Georgetown Grange, and then assembled with them, after the public lecture in the evening, and gave the Grange instruction.

On the 21st I went to Allindale, gave a public lecture in the evening to a grand house. This Grange has a good hall in which the Western Pomona Grange, No. 19, will meet on Dec. 20 and 21. Returning to Hudsonville I came by way of South Blendon, Grange long since dormant, and finding the case a hopeless one from removals, deaths, and dimits furnished, I took up the charter, yet at some future day I hope and trust a Grange will exist there.

On the afternoon and evening of the 22d gave public lectures at the hall at Hudsonville for the purpose of reviving that dormant Grange. The lectures were both well attended, and at the close of the one in the evening I asked the former members to remain, and from them re-organized the Grange with 22 members. New officers were then and there elected and installed. Since this the Grange has reported to the State Grange, and a letter just received says that two meetings have since been held, and that eight more of the old members have returned and paid up dues, and at the last meeting eleven candidates were balloted for by the Grange, and elected to receive the degrees. May not other dormant Granges be thus revived?

I would call the attention of any wishing my services, to my appointments for January.

ADDRESS OF LECTURER C. L. WHITNEY, BEFORE THE STATE GRANGE.

Worthy Master, Officers and Members of the State Grange:

Neearly seven years have passed over our heads since the Order of Patrons of Husbandry first took root upon Michigan soil. For nearly a year after the first organization was established the growth was slow indeed. Then followed the organization of this body, the Michigan State Grange of Patrons of Husbandry. It represented 21 Granges, though but 17 were present at the orgsnization. Thirteen of that 21 are represented here to-day by 3 members of this body.

Let them and the two veteran officers of that first body, now officers of this, and the other officers, present members of that thirteen, tell of the early history of our work, how that body grew in one year to a representation of 216 Granges in the first annual session of the State Grange of Michigan.

Many, if not most of you can tell of the growth during the next year, which culminated in the second annual session at Grand Rapids, and since then you all know of our growth, until to-day, 574 Granges are represented by 142 persons in the Sixth Annual Session of the Michigan State Grange.

The seed of our order was being planted during the year 1872, and at Kalamazoo formally took position as an independent body. The matter was duly canvassed during that year, and at the First Annual Session held at Kalamazoo, the ballot was taken. Thus the Michigan State Grange was duly admitted to be, and to continue to be, an organization *of* farmers *for* farmers, *by* farmers.

From that time it became a laborer in the great field of human action. It had rough field work too, as it blindly groped its way among the manufacturers, encountering slight, and rebuff at the hands of the large, well organized hordes of middlemen who had long lived between the producer and consumer, drawing sustinence from both, who were growing poorer while this middle class was growing richer. It had, as usual with all who enter and advance in this world to contend with ignorance, prjudice, social exclusiveness, and all the hindrances that beset the pathway of those who desire and attempt to rise, but it persevered and heeded not

the discouraging taunts that were heard everywhere, and overcoming as best it could, the obstacles in its way, it at last became popular with the masses of the tillers of the soil who came in hundreds to join its growing ranks.

It did its work rapidly, *yea, too rapidly* as has since been found, too many took position in the ranks as husbandmen who should have still been laborers, or not at all within the gates.

While it heard the voice of the W. O. to labor with diligence, it did not enter the field with true caution and discretion, and many of the laborers forgot to obey orders. It did not well learn the use of the implements of labor. It used the axe, but forgot the perseverance it teaches. It used the plow but not diligently enough. The harrow was used, but not over the whole field, and hence the lessons were not as firmly implanted as they should have been. Too much surplus water was allowed to remain upon the surface for the want of that thorough use of the spade, which permits the warmth of the brotherhood to permeate the cold, unproductive soil.

Thus it labored and toiled until the Second Annual Session, held at Grand Rapids, when the time for its work as a laborer was past and the work of cultivation began. Our Order was then in the second degree, but I fear the Assistant Steward did not answer quite correctly all the questions propounded. He seemed to forget that "order was Heaven's first law," and forgetting it, many did not keep their tools in place, and hence were not ready to work when r quired. Many lessons were learned but not practiced, for had that of charity been truly used less selfishness would have been planted and instead, more of kindly sentiment and refined feelings.

The Order heard the Master say, "as we sow, in like manner shall we reap." He also taught the use of the pruning knife and the hoe. Many a weed was eradicated, but not enough, for the cultivation was very faulty. Many a useless and injurious growth was lopped off, but too many a restraint was weak or forgotton, and the results have ever since been seen, and will continue to be seen for many years to come.

With labor and effort, Michigan Patrons entered for the Third Annual Session, yonder old Representative hall, in which the Order was to begin the higher work of gathering in the harvest of the preceding years of industry. From 525 Granges in 44 counties came the selected representatives to report upon the condition and prospect of the harvest in their respective fields of toil.

We caught new spirit from that gathering and went home instructed to reap for the mind as well as for the body. In reaping we found *tares* with the good wheat, proving the old saying "as is the sowing so shall be the reaping." Many did not work in the harvest season of our Order for they had laid down the hoe and neglected to take the sickle. Instead of taking the advice of the Overseer to cultivate the habit of looking for brighter and better days, they became discouraged and left the field, so that when we assembled in our Fourth Annual Session, the harvesters and gleaners assembled, came representing only 439 Granges. This report showed the want of care and obedience in the laborer, the need of greater promptness and diligence in weeding and pruning, and that many had become disheartened and had not entered the harvest at all. But those left had higher hopes and nobler aims. Their zeal and industry had fitted them to become husbandmen and matrons, and the State Grange went forth from its Fourth Annual Session in the enjoyment of the fruits of its labors well done.

It had mastered the monopolies of plaster at last as well as of others. It had shown the true principles of manhood, and thus the friendship of the Order was as firm as the everlasting rocks. It treasured the lessons it had learned both of successes and failures, and made them useful in securing the objects for which the Order was given. At the end of that year all were ready to return and take the beloved Order into the courts of Pomona, bearing many evidences of their skill as husbandmen and matrons.

The numbers were perhaps fewer but the interest was not less. Many were discomfited and somewhat discouraged by the loss of some of their former companions, but "Hope on, persevere ever," was given them as the watchword and reply. We had then learned that attention, observation, reflection and judgment were the four corner stones of our Patron-Temple, and who so built thereon built to success.

Again the representatives of our Order in this the Peninsular State are assembled. The sixth year is completed. We look around and miss many who have been strong pillars in our noble structure, but we trust their places are filled by brave, earnest men and women from the reserves of our forces.

We have bidden adieu to the walls and narrow quarters before used, and with little difficulty were allowed the use of this, OUR OWN. Our very thoughts ought to be inspired by these massive walls that surround us, and rectified by the lofty ceilings that give our words resonance, go out to the world the purest crystals. Our words here should be redolent with wisdom, and freighted with feeling, and all our acts here should be tempered by the firmness of these foundation stones, and as this building is of the people of an entire state, and for them and their posterity, so may our actions as a representative body be for all we represent, and the thousands of our and their successors in this our organization.

Pardon me for a diversion, as I sat near the opposite corner of the foundation walls of this structure during the ceremony of the laying of the corner stone by one of the most ancient of orders, in the presence of the thousands assembled as invited guests the representatives of the various civic orders of our State, I was asked sneeringly by an acquaintance where the Grangers were. I replied, a little hurt, that they had not time to lay the corner stone, but must industriously labor and lay by of their substance to pay for the work wehn done, and when done they would *dedicate* it and I hope *use* it in the interest of the sovereign people. Are not my careless words almost true. We are by invitation dedicating this room, and may our work be such that all who hereafter use it or any part of this building, may feel that the Grange did set an example worthy of imitation.

If the place we occupy is any index of the standing and condition of our Order to-day, we and our Brothers and Sisters everywhere ought to rejoice. But is it? I feel that it is. While from imperfect work in former years, later carelessness and disobedience of law have suffered much, and while our ranks have been thinned by many harvesters and gleaners, yet to day I believe our Order in this our State, occupies a more favorable position than ever. As proof; 1st, we occupy this building, proving that we are an acknowledged power among the powers that be. 2nd, Our railroads and manufacturing corporations respectfully listen to us. 3rd, Other organizations and other trades and vocations admit that in intellectual and social standing we have taken a high position and they all look forward to a soon-present day when we as a class shall be peers of the most exalted, and for once a *farmer* has been selected to represent the Agriculture of the land at a foreign nation's capitol. 4th, We stand better among ourselves. The doubters in our ranks have left or turned their doubts to admiration. The interest in social and intellectual culture is on the increase, new and valuable material is gradually being woven into our ranks, bringing young hearts and vigorous minds to take hold of the work, and not only add to numbers but add to the influence and stability of our fraternity.

Everywhere nearly that I have visited, and from correspondence comes cheering intelligence of applications and initiations, add to this the fact that mental, moral and social growth is also being more and more fostered and stimulated by the various means always at hand.

The Co-operation of Granges in the County or Pomona Grange is another leaver- power in the advancement of our work. Wherever they have taken hold and done the work assigned them they have merited and received the plaudits of all working under them They are collecting and disseminating knowledge and wherever that is being done, the people whether within or without the gate become attentive, those within to their broader duties and higher obligations, and those without to the fact that the Grange is a power in the interest of agriculture and the advancement of the farmer and his family and their interests.

But Worthy Brothers and Sisters of our Order we cannot stand still, but on the verge of success as an order, we must look back and see what we have left undone, what errors we have to correct, and then forward to secure and employ the means at command to correct errors past and to promote a continued advance of all our forces, without loss of any, in the grand cause we have undertaken. Like an advancing army, we must look after the sick and wounded and the stragglers left behind. With us the enlisted Brothers and Sisters in arms are entitled to themselves enjoy the blessings a common brotherhood bestows, and leave to their children the pensions all true soldiers should have for their offspring.

In many dormant Granges slumbers the vital forces that needs but re-awakening to bring these organizations to position once again. Not only right and justice demand of us that we should attempt their recovery but wanting this, the lessons charity has ever taught, asks us to lend a helping hand, for they are needy.

One third of our dormant Granges are past recovery, but there are here and there solitary members that we can by our efforts restore to position in the Order by aiding them to connection with some other Grange. The charters, seals, rituals, etc., of these Granges should be taken up at once. Another third may by a vigorous effort be induced to consolidate with near Granges, saving a large portion of the members. The other third can, I believe, be resuscitated and restored to position, but these and the others know not *how to come* to us. We must *go* to them. To stand at a distance and call, coax, or threaten, will be of little avail. We must go to them and with loving arms embrace them and once more bring them into communion with us. Will it pay, says one. Yes, even if the State Grange bear the whole expense and remits all past dues.

Let us figure, a short time since I visited a dormant Grange. A year or more had passed since a meeting had been held, and by talking with members and officers, made up my mind it could be restored. I called a public meeting and after addressing it at length dismissed it requesting all who were ready to take hold and sustain a Grange through evil and good report, and by effort make it what a Grange should be, were invited to rise, 23 arose, the rest were asked to retire. From the 23 a Grange was organized, the obligation taken anew. Officers elected and installed, quarters (the past quarters) dues being paid, report to be made to the State Grange, and the dues upon this number for the one quarter paid. The entire expense of the re-organization will be paid in three quarters from the membership dues alone. But other old members will return and new ones are making application.

(Since writing the above, a report from this Grange has been received showing that this Grange has since re-organization (three weeks) taken in eight more old members and balloted upon eleven applications.)

Another Grange near the former was found to be worse off than this. All the members of any stamina having either died, removed or taken dimits, one or two dimits more may be taken, but if our Order moves forward, another Grange will some day, not far distant, occupy the ground of this dormant Grange whose charter etc., I took with me as I left.

A remark should be made right here. Some general officer should be charged with this work and make a business of *doing* it, with power to restore, re-organize consolidate, suspend, grant dimits, and whatever else needs doing to save the Grange if possible, but to save all the members who have a spark of co-operative life left in them. Another Grange in the same county of the other two, will, I think, re-organize as soon as I can reach it. I believe that some Granges who have returned their charter can be restored to activity again.

This would pay, in dollars and cents, but ought we to stop and think of pay when *charity* to Brothers and Sisters calls us to action? No *such* charity was taught by the Great Teacher. To do this work of restoration would do much to prevent additions to the number of dormant Granges.

In short, the matter needs prompt, vigorous action, and decisive steps should at once be taken to secure the co-operation of members of Subordinate Granges, and Pomona Granges with the State Grange in removing from our history these blots. With the past all before us, what shall we here do to enable us to do in the future what we have in the past failed to do, to awaken a greater interest, and arouse every tiller of the soil to co-operation with us? What a glorious future would ours be with a united brotherhood embracing every family interested in our calling. But to secure such a future, *work* must be done. Laborers must be sent into the field to teach the masses. Our public meetings must be more frequent and more practicable, and our literature must be more fully circulated. Now, let the State Grange provide a plan, and then let Pomona and Subordinate Granges aid in carrying out such plan. Lectures should be given to enlighten *all*, rather than to secure a *few* new members. Our VISITOR should be taken more, and

read more. Every Grange should subscribe for every family belonging to it, and I wish I might say, for every family in its jurisdiction. At least, each Grange should have a few extra copies to sow here and there as seed in good soil.

Among, and prominent in our future plans, should be one for the enlistment of the young men and women of our own and our neighbors' families. Upon them will be bestowed the results of our action. Our work they are to take and carry forward, and how are we assisting them in their preparation for active life? They are past the schools, and the Grange and Grange influence, may be the academy, even the university, to them; and well may it be prepared by us to do its work.

I would say a word about the material charity done by our Order. It is right to help a needy Brother or Sister, but not to blow a trumpet while doing it. Our ritual teaches that "in giving alms, not to let our left hand know what our right hand doeth;" and yet a vote must be taken in the Grange to give Brother and Sister So-and-so, etc., or instruct the committee on charity to expend so much upon such a person, and report; and such report made often before the recipient, and the amount unwillingly given.

Would it not be better to practice our teachings, and place the amount in the proper person's hands, instruct him or her to dispose of it to the good of the needy, and no one know whence it goeth, and the recipient not know from whence aid cometh.

What questions shall a Grange, under the constitution, have liberty to freely discuss? is a query that often comes to me. My answer is, "any, and all questions that affect the interests of the country, and especially the farmers' interests." But let us here define this more fully, and enumerate them, if need be. And would it not be well to act upon this by reference to a special committee.

Our Master has told you of needed changes in our Organic Law and By-Laws, and the general visible prosperity and advance of our Order; our Secretary shows by the figures the condition, numerically considered, of the Fraternity; the Treasurer reports his balance; the Executive Committee has told, or will tell, of work accomplished in the year; and the State Purchasing Agent details the value of co-operation in buying and selling. All these come tangibly before us; but who reports upon the

UNWRITTEN WORK

of our Order? Who tells of the silent seed it has cast, or "bread upon the waters," that unknown, because unwatched, has taken root and grown, and we know not where, when, or how? A word let fall at a public meeting by the earnest lecturer, has, unnoticed, developed into good to the world. A public ceremony has revealed a light before hidden or unobserved, which sends but a single ray of hope into some bosom, yet that single ray illumins the whole being, and lights it upward to a nobler, because more useful, life.

The regularity of meetings of a Grange has taught lessons of regularity and punctuality to observing men without the gates even, what has it done within? And the contrary is also true. Habits unwittingly formed last longer than those gained by repeated precept and action. The very walls of a Grange hall may have taught lessons as surely and lasting as the words of any Master or Overseer. The music, and the very manner of the service have taught unwritten lessons of love and beauty on one hand, of distrust and dislike on the other, as they were seriously and appropriately given, or otherwise. The closing service at an organization of a Grange, all given by the Deputy, for want of books, has planted good seed to my certain knowledge: For the words, "are the implements all secure for the night?" ringing in the ears of an earnest but guilty listener caused a *reaper and mower*, before unhoused, to be brought from the field in late autumn, and, with other tools, to be housed from the weather.

A careless young man elected A. S. of a Grange at its organization, could not read even the short part of the work assigned him, but equal to the task, and stimulated by pride, he reads well to-day, and is eligible to a position here as a representative of his co-workers. Tell me where, in *ritual*, or proceedings of State or National Grange is the written lesson that has taught so many young and bashful men, and women too, how to appear well upon the floor to-day, and hold an argument with any.

The Latin words "*Vis Unita Fortiar*," seen upon the wall of a Grange by an opposer of all secret societies, was thought to be something diabolical, but, weighing upon his mind, he asked a translation of it, and when told, that "Power united was stronger," a train of thought was set in motion that led him to say that he ought to unite his strength with his neighbors and make them stronger, and he did. The simple emblems of pouch, memorandum-book, knife, and pencil, have led to inquiry and to membership.

I have known many habits of cleanliness and neatness learned from the school that were not taught by the home, so also has the Grange, by the very neat and tidy appearance and arrangement of it, taught habits not mentioned in the "golden pages."

So I might, and doubtless many of you might, tell more of the unwritten work of our Order. Its sound sentiments of morality have been, silently it may be, sowing seed that unknown to us shall give the Great Harvester golden sheaves in the day he makes up his jewels.

How many thousands of young men and women, yea, even children, have been provided by the Grange with a place to go, at least, and a place to learn as well, and made so pleasant that they do go instead of to those dangerous places once frequented.

Woman has, by her presence, done much in the unwritten work of our Order. Without her presence there would have been more dormant Granges to-day than there are, and those now dormant, hopeless. But all praise to the *founders* of our Order, and glory to Him who taught them to build wiser than they knew, for woman's presence in the Grange. Thanks for the first organization of the land whose doors swing as easily to woman's gentle effort as to man's action. Woman's work here has made it only a matter of time when other organizations now unknown to her shall welcome her presence to their halls, and invite her assistance in their councils, aye, more, she will soon be able to attend, and by her hands to decorate, and by her presence cheer and refine places that now know her not. At the primary school meetings, at the primary political meetings, and more, at the polling places of our land, is her presence needed to restrain passions, refine speech, and purify politics. If the unwritten work of our Order in the past is beyond computation, whether for good or evil, how much greater will it be in the future, and how important that it be only for good.

Then let the words of every public lecture, the arrangement and conduct of every public assembly under the sanction of our Order, be so directed that the unconscious tuition therefrom shall not only be great, but worthy. Let regularity and punctuality of attendance at Grange meetings be perfect, if possible. Let the halls be comfortable, cheerful, attractive, tidy, and then let the manner and forcibleness of each service, the earnestness and wisdom of each discussion, and the impressiveness of all done be such that there can be no doubt as to the quality of the future unwritten work of our Order.

Let woman's presence and effort in the Grange increase until it shall refine the work, and purify the very thoughts of all within the gates.

May all these, and more, be done to make the Order a power indeed, and a power in behalf of the truer and higher aims and objects of life, and speeded be the day when the social, mental, and moral advantages of the Order will be felt on every side, and the gates of the Grange sought for them alone.

In securing these objects, I firmly believe, we shall not only do a service to ourselves and our children, but to all around us, and the world at large, and doing this secure to each true worker the signal that will open, and the password that will admit to the portals of Christ's kingdom and be prepared when within to properly salute the Great Overseer of all things, and receive the plaudit in return, "Faithful servant that hast wrought well in a few things, be thou master of many."

Don't let a meeting of a County or District Grange pass without urging the claims of the VISITOR upon all the members—taking names and money, and forwarding.

Lecturer's appointments for January are as follows: Friday, January 3d, Porter Grange, Cass Co.; Saturday, January 4th, White Pigeon, St Joseph Co.; Monday, Jan. 6th, Schoolcraft; Monday, January 10th, Verginnes, Kent Co.; Jan. 15, Lansing; Jan. 23d and 24th, Berlin Ottawa Co. Other appointments are pending, but cannot just yet be announced. Those wishing public lectures, private instruction or installation can secure my services at times not engaged when near them at small expense. Letters directed to me should be to Muskegon or to the above places in time to reach them a day at least in advance of my appointments.

C. L. WHITNEY,
Lecturer, State Grange.

OAKWOOD GRANGE, No 333.

Editor Visitor:

I feel a little hesitation, worthy brother, about taking up any of your valuable time, or even occupying a brief space in the VISITOR. I have only this to say.

When the Grange wagons were on exhibition at the St. Joseph County Fair, inquiries were often made in regard to Oakwood Grange, its location, etc. The Hall is on the Chicago road, just half way between Sturgis and White Pigeon, at Douglass Station. Our Hall is a one-story building, twenty-two by forty feet, and was built four years ago when we had but little over half our present membership, which is seventy-six. We find our building rather small for public speaking.

A few words in regard to our Worthy Master, C. Y. Runyan, who spares no effort on his part to make the Grange a success; and he never looks so smiling and happy as when he knows that each brother and sister feels that it is good to be there. His residence is three miles from the Hall, and now at the close of his third term of office, the Grange has never missed the sound of his gavel, nor has he been absent from duty but once during all that one time.

Fraternally,
A PRIVATE.

WHITE PIGEON, Mich.,
December 10, 1878.

In the number of the VISITOR for December, I find under the head of "Two Things that Meet with Approval," a letter signed "B," the most of which meets with my approval, unqualifiedly.

The one thing that don't meet with my approval is that the writer does not give us the benefit of her name, or the name and whereabouts of the Grange to which she belongs. A woman or man that can write such a letter as that should not be bashful. It robs an article of one-half its usefulness not to know whence and from whom it comes. I trust Sister B will, in time, overcome this bashfulness. She did not ask *me* for a remedy, but with your permission I will give mine, and it is the only one I know of. I think it will be equally effectual for either writing or speaking. It is this:

Always sign your name when writing for others to read, unless there are good and sufficient reasons for withholding it. In the case of speaking, get right up and speak, and persevere until you overcome the feeling of diffidence. I am almost sixty years old, and have tested this remedy mostly since I was fifty, and it has worked well in my case. True, what I say in the Grange don't amount to much, as the members of Oakwood, No. 333, can testify. I doubt whether any of them can say they ever saw me refrain from talking through fear or bashfulness. But I have passed through all that feeling, and can truly sympathize with those who have it. To overcome it, and acquire the ability to talk with ease, the Grange affords the grandest opportunity that has ever come to us of the rural districts. Those Patrons, men and women, young and old, who do not avail themselves of it, are losing much that they might gain by their membership. True, we cannot all talk fluently, but we can all talk common sense in the same degree. When I joined the Grange, I did not do it to be an idle spectator, while others did the work. I meant to derive some benefit from it, and knew very well that I could not unless I made the very best use I could of such abilities as I possessed, small though they were. I have endeavored to use my opportunities in the Grange in this direction, and for the benefit of such as are inclined to try the same things, I will say that every article I write, makes it easier to write the next one; every speech I make, short though it be, makes it easier for me to speak again.

The sister says the Grange to which she belongs numbers nearly one hundred members, meets once a week, and has never had an essay or discussion since she has been a member of it. Now I hope she will try my remedy for bashfulness at the very next meeting. Her excellent letter in the VISITOR proves that she can write letters, and an essay is not so very different. Let her then write a letter on the "Usefulness of Grange Meetings," and if it don't produce a discussion before the meeting closes, I don't know but the case would be hopeless. In one of our meetings not long ago, an elder brother said to me, that he would be glad to talk, but he could not do it. Before we closed, I rose and made some remarks which called the old man to his feet, and he did talk, commending what I had said. Now I advise this worthy sister to introduce some question of interest to farmers' wives and daughters, get some other sister to respond to it, and if it don't make some of the brothers ashamed of their backwardness, then I am mistaken, that is all.

Seriously—and I want to assure Sister B. that I am perfectly serious in giving this advice—it will not do to wait for others to work. Waiting for others is, in the main, the trouble. We must go right to work ourselves, if we would achieve the results we wish for.

I cannot close this already too long letter without commending the sister's view of Grange feasts. A feast late in the evening, after we have already had our three meals, cannot be indulged in without breaking the laws of health. Let us hold meetings where we must have eating, in the day time, so that we can observe proper hours. Then we might simplify our Grange meals. I guess the sisters themselves are a little to blame in this matter. It they didn't tempt us with something more than an *apple*, there would be less sin in the eating line.

HENRY COLLINS,
Past Master of No. 333.

The State Grange.

POKAGON, Dec. 22, 1878.

Well, Bro. Cobb, we were not there, finding myself laboring under what Tom Hood would call a serious attack of impecuniosity, we could not come; but would have enjoyed it first rate, but with $100 to make up in taxes, just at this time of low prices for all kinds of farm products, we had to forego the pleasure of attending the State Grange of 1878. I notice with pleasure that the attendance of visiting members was larger than usual. This is a good omen for the future of the subordinate Granges of the State; in fact, I know of no better cure for lukewarmness in the Grange than for the person so affected to attend one session of the State Grange. My word for it, it will cure every time.

Not seeing anything in the VISITOR, from Cass County lately, I will add that we are alive and prospering moderately. Most, if not all, our subordinate Granges have held their annual elections, and will report in due time. Our County Grange meets at Cassopolis, Jan. 8, for the annual election of officers, and the transaction of such other business as may advance the interests of the Order in this County. For one of the best agricultural counties in the State, I can see no reason why Cass County should be so far behind Berrien, her sister county on the west, in every thing pertaining to agriculture.

Our County Fair this fall was a miserable failure—a disgrace to a county that has been settled for half a century.

No one but the farmers themselves are to blame for this state of things. They have been taking one of Rip Van Winkle's sleeps it would seem, and nothing short of a good sized earthquake will wake them up to their interests in Cass County.

But there is a bright side to this dark picture. Cass County is to have a Farmers' Institute in January. Let all who can possibly spare the time give one or two days to the Institute. Accommodations for all will be provided.

Fraternally,
R. J. DICKSON.

LOWELL, Dec. 16th, 1878.

Dear Bro. Cobb:

The Lowell District annual P. of H. will meet in the Hall of South Boston Grange, on Saturday, January 4th, 1879.

J. E. ENGLISH, Sec.

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. INGERSOLL, Patrens' Paint Co., 162 South Street, New York.

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 Powdor is of the highest value for stock. It aids digestion and assimulation. 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 occasionaliy in a quart of chop, it will keep them healthy and increase the quuntity 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. Oberholtzer, 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

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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 alone worth more to any practical farmer than the cost of subscription.

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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.

The Husbandman is a Large Eight-Page Paper, and Only $1.50 per year. Postage Free.

The interesting character of THE HUSBANDMAN, and low price, commend it at once to farmers everywhere, and make it an easy task to secure a club of subscribers in any Grange or community. Send for sample copies which are furnished free. Address,

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We will send THE HUSBANDMAN and THE GRANGE VISITOR for one year, for **$1,70.** and in Clubs of five or more, for **$1.60** each.

1879. 1879.

—THE—

Michigan Farmer

Will inaugurate the new year by many important and useful additions to its specialities We have made arrangements with the following well known writers for regular contributions to our columns during the coming year:

T. T. LYON, President State Pom. Society;
Prof. W. J. BEAL, State Agricultural College;
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