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GRANGE VISITOR

ISSUED SEMI-

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE OF THE

Michigan State

Grange, P. of H.



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THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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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.

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

Exec'v Com. Department.

CIRCULAR.

HILLSDALE, Mich., Feb. 22d, 1879.
To the Masters and Members of Subordinate Granges in Michigan:

BROTHERS—At the last session of the Michigan State Grange, a Special Committee was appointed on Patent Rights, composed of H. D. Platt, of Ypsilanti; A. S. Stannard, of Ionia; A. E. Green, of Farmington; E. B. Brown, of Ingham; and J. H. Vreeland, of Wayne, to whom was referred the matter of the Lee & Teal patent gate swindles. On their report, the State Grange took action, recommending to the Order, as follows:

1st. To pay no royalty to anyone claiming under these patents.

2d. Endorsing the Farmers' Mutual Defence Association, of Ypsilanti, organized to test these claims of patents in the Courts of the State, of which Bro H. D. Platt is President.

3d. Inviting the Subordinate Granges of the State to make common cause with this Association in defending the suits brought to collect royalty, when in the judgment of the Ex. Com. of the State Grange, it shall become necessary to take action and co-operate with said Defence Association.

4. It having been made known to us that within the last ten days, a very large number of writs issued from the U. S. Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Michigan are now being served on the farmers of Eastern Michigan for the purpose of collecting royalty on these gates, and, if successful through indifference, or neglect of thorough defence by those summoned, the possibility, even probability, is that every man in the State, who has ever used a gate sliding half its length back and then set open, will be called upon to respond through the Courts.

5. Believing the Patent to be a gross swindle on the people, issued long subsequent to the gates coming into general use with farmers, should prompt them to make common cause in defence of their rights.

6. We renew the invitation of the State Grange to every Subordinate, County, and District Grange in our jurisdiction to take action in this matter at once, by voting from their Treasury such a sum as they may be able or willing to pledge towards this defence—the same to be drawn upon *pro rata*, as the necessities of the case may require, by the Executive Committee of the State Grange. In case any amount should remain after said suits or suits shall have been decided and costs paid, the balance so remaining shall be refunded to the sources from whence it came.

7. Granges responding to this invitation will please notify Bro. J. T. Cobb, Secretary State Grange, the amount so voted, and on which they will be prepared to pay assessments.

F. M. HOLLOWAY,
Chairman Ex. Com. Mich. S. G.

NANKIN, Feb. 12th, 1879.

Worthy Sec'y Cobb:

By a resolution from Wayne Pomona Grange, No. 8, you are hereby authorized to inform the Executive Committee of the State Grange:

That their order for \$25 upon the treasury of this County Grange will be honored at any time when necessary to defend the Patrons of this State, in a Court of law against the Lee & Teal patent gate swindlers.
W. E. SMITH, Sec.

ESSAY.

Resolved, That Moral Power When Brought to Bear Upon the Human Mind Exerts a Greater Influence Than Money Power.

Money is that kind of wealth by which it has been agreed that the value of wealth shall be estimated, and for which all other kinds of wealth can be exchanged. Its two qualities are that it is a standard of value and an instrument of exchange. Money differs also from currency (as paper for instance), bills and notes have in themselves no intrinsic value. Money (that is, gold and silver) has an intrinsic value; anything that has value may and has been used as money, as tin, iron, lead, platinum, silk, tobacco, wheat, &c. Therefore money power is the power of wealth. What is its influence when brought to bear on the human mind? That depends upon its effect. The love of money is the root of all evil. It is not money but the love of it that causes evil. We ascribe power to any quality or thing in proportion as it affects mankind for good or evil; then we conclude that a power regarding man's chief good must be greater (when brought to bear on the human mind) than a power which considered in itself alone awakens and encourages man's vilest passions. To illustrate: Nero, an absolute monarch, lived a long time ago, but the same great principles of right and wrong existed then as now; his was the power of position and wealth not directed by moral power, consequently his wealth and power were used to gratify his appetite and passions. He sought to invent means of torture the most excruciating and cruel. He would have young men of the best physical development engage in deadly combat to gratify his thirst for blood and excitement. Not satisfied with this, his selfish cruelty enjoyed the rare sport of seeing his fellow men cast upon the arena with the most ferocious beasts, to live as long as they could keep them at bay. Money power is arbitrary. Possessed by the few, it seeks to increase its power by oppressing the unfortunate many. The miser is an example of the power of money to debase and destroy the man. The miser hoards his money and counts it o'er and o'er until his love of money has rooted out every noble principle of his nature and he is ready to starve and freeze from very want rather than use his money. The man who sells intoxicating liquors, his love of money causes him to ruin his fellow man; he takes his money, clothes or furniture, even if his family is sick and starving, and gives him what? That which deadens and destroys the moral sensibilities—agony of mind and heart, with final ruin and death. Time will not permit me to enumerate the many instances of murder, robbery, theft, betrayal of trust, etc., caused by love of money. One instance more and I turn to something more agreeable to contemplate. Benedict Arnold the traitor, his name is handed down to posterity disgraced, dishonored, amid hissing and reproach; because he sold his country and his honor for British gold. A lasting monument of money power. I think we may conclude that money power is a very bad master; yet I hope to prove that when directed or controlled by moral power it is an excellent servant. I will now endeavor to define moral power. Moral, conformed to rules of right; hence moral power is the power of right. The moral law must be a rule that is fit to be universal. The fundamental axiom of morals is, act in such a way as is fit and possible for you in all conceivable circumstances. The beginnings of moral science are found in

those practical sayings which embody the sagacious observations of the wise men of their time, who are interested in the improvement of their fellow men and society. Moral power is directly applied, not to actions as they are, but as they ought to be. It contemplates that side of man's nature which is the most exalted, and it discusses questions and principles which are concerned with the most valued human interests. Not alone with the relations which a man holds to his Creator and immortality, but to those rights of property, of liberty and of life which are the most sacred and important of man's nature, and those duties of truth, gratitude and humanity, which are essential to human society, and those sentiments of honor and self respect, of loyalty and courtesy, which are the support and ornament of human civilization. Moral action signifies right action or obligatory action, which is duty. What is the relation of the feeling of obligation to the desire of happiness? "I slept and dreamed that life was beauty, I awoke and found that life was duty." The desire of happiness is deeply implanted in the human mind, is a law of nature, and as nature does not err, is right. If in sleep the ideal predominates so that all of life seems beautiful, shall we be less happy when our moral sensibilities are aroused by the living realities of life to a sense of duty or obligation. When moral power prevails, we then attain a higher happiness than is possible to attain by the qualification of self and sense in the use of money power. We read of moral culture, therefore it is progressive. The science of duty has made as conspicuous progress as any other science. The virtue of the heart is courage; of the reason, wisdom; of the senses, temperance. The virtue which regulates all others is justice, which is moral power. Let us consider for a moment the effect of money power upon the human mind unrestrained by moral power. The more a man has, the more he wants. Get money is the principle, no matter how—oppression, cruelty, every form of vice that human nature is capable of, would prevail until such a reign of terror would exist as the annals of history have never recorded. But moral power seeks man's best good, every reformer, every lover of humanity, every benefactor, every truly noble honest man that lives or ever lived, represents moral power. George Washington and his cotemporaries are noble instances of the triumph of moral power; reached to France and brought help in time of sorest need. It was moral power that gave us our freedom, liberty of speech and free institutions.
Otisco Grange, Feb. 6, 1879.

A Letter from a Hot Plaster Man.

To the Public.
It has come to my notice that a circular has been issued and spread broadcast dated Jan. 1, 1879, and headed: "Office of A. D. & F. L. Noble, successors to Grandville Plaster Co.," quoting prices on plaster, &c., calculated to mislead all those interested in the plaster business. I have had several inquiries in regard to this circular, and take this means of replying to this and all other circulars headed in this way, we wish to brand as utterly false, as the only successors to the Grandville Plaster Co. is the Union Mutual Life Insurance Co., of Maine, who now have possession of the mills, quarries and all property owned formerly by the Grandville Plaster Co., as well as the mills, quarries and property of the Grand River Valley Plaster Co., all of which is now known as the Union Plaster Mills, of which I am manager.
T. N. BRONSON.
Feb. 7, 1879.—Grand Rapids Democrat.

Communications.

An Enemy to Every Farmer.

Bro. Cobb:

We have within the borders of our State an enemy that is encroaching inch by inch, foot by foot, and rod by rod, upon the industry and wealth of the farmers of Michigan. An enemy that the present law is inadequate to subdue. An enemy which if not subdued in the next few years will decrease the value of farm property from one-half to one-fourth. I refer to the *Canada Thistle*. That the present law is insufficient, even if complied with, the present steady increase of this detestible pest is the best evidence.

Our Grange appointed a committee to investigate, and we found ten "patches" where one was supposed to exist. This we believed to be the case in every vicinity that has not been canvassed. Even the new counties north are supplied with patches of Canada thistles sufficient, if left undisturbed, to seed down the whole northern country. Is not this a question of vital importance to the Patrons of Husbandry? To allow this pest to take peaceable possession of the finest farms in one of the richest and most beautiful States on the continent, is a stigma and disgrace to our Order, a reproach which future generations would be justified in if they heaped upon us terms of the strongest obloquy for our stupidity in allowing a simple weed to master the situation, take possession of our soil and rob us and them of a large share of the profits of labor. They would wonder what the Grange was organized for, if it could not grapple with and subdue a vile weed.

There are remedies, and there should be a law to compel people to use them. It affects the interest of every individual in the State. The *Canada Thistle* has no commercial value whatever, and the thousands of plants that are now growing, and the millions that will grow if left unmolested, displace so much of the growing crops that are valuable, and the loss to this and future generations cannot be computed. Our farms at present pay less than five per cent on the capital invested. What will they pay seeded down in *Canada thistles*? We cannot afford to raise them, we can afford to suppress them.

Common salt is a remedy that will effectually destroy them if applied to the root after the top has been cut off. All stock should be kept away from them. A law to compel people to serve them in this manner would completely annihilate them. It has been tried, and proved beyond question in badly infested districts. A liberal appropriation should be made by the State Legislature. If prompt vigorous measures are taken, the *Canada thistle* will soon be a thing of the past. If we as an organized body of farmers cannot destroy this obnoxious weed, let us fold our arms quietly and acknowledge that we have found a master, not in the scientific and intellectual fields, but in the vegetable kingdom.

Yours, for the good of the Order,
J. RANDOLPH.
PEWAMO, Ionia Co. Feb. 2, 1879.

Many points in this letter seem well taken, though Brother Randolph has not told us what he wants that "liberal appropriation" for—Ed.

WE received a printed programme which we reprint, showing how the Patrons in the east part of the State occasionally spend a day. Is it still an open question whether the Grange is of any value to farmers and their wives or not?

"The Fifteenth quarterly meeting of the Detroit and Bay City District Council P. of H. will be held in the basement of the M. E. Church, Orion, Tuesday, March 11th, 1879, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Order of exercises.—Music by the Choir. Opening exercises of the Council. Report of officers, and presentation of accounts. Appointment of Committees.

Music. Basket lunch at 12 o'clock, noon. Tea and coffee free.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Music. "The Education of our Girls" by the Lecturer of the Council, Mrs. Pearsoll, of Disco.

Music. Report from the different Granges, as to the condition of Granges. Estimated amount of wheat on hand within the limits of each Grange as compared with the amount of last year's crop. A Talk on Illuminating Oils, by Dr J S Calkins, of Thornville, with discussion.

Music. Salt vs. Plaster as a fertilizer, opening by J. M. Norton of Rochester. Report of Committee on resolutions. Music.

Besides the delegates from Granges all Fourth Degree members are invited to attend, and participate in the proceedings. Members will be admitted on last year's password. Music under the direction of J. M. Letts, and A. W. Owen. Half fare on the railroad to parties of five or more.

H. ANDREWS,
Sec'y D. and B. C. Council.
Orion, Feb 20, 1879

An Echo from Abroad.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

My personal acquaintance with you is somewhat limited, but is very extended through the regular reading of the *VISITOR*, and my respect impels me to repeat what the Michigan State Grange at its last session, by its vote, said so forcibly, "Well done good and faithful servant!" You have struck the key note, the only one in fact, that insures permanent success for the Patron—independence of all rings—no trucking to any party or clique.

Now that the principles that have heretofore distinguished the great political parties have vanished into thin air, and are only historically remembered, is it not about time that the Farmer should be guided by his interest in the use of his franchise? It is a duty which every Patron in the State of Michigan owes to himself as well as the Grange, to subscribe for the *VISITOR*—read it carefully, and lend it to his neighbor. The pure seed contained in its columns will take root and bring forth abundant harvest.

Instill our principles into the minds of any community, and whether they join our Order or not, the result will be a revolution at the ballot-box.

JONES OF BINGHAMTON,
Binghamton, N. Y.
Feb. 1879.

The Patent Gate Controversy.

YPSILANTI, Feb. 22.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

I wish to inform the readers of the *VISITOR*, and through them the farmers of the State, the exact status of the patent gate controversy.

Eight of the cases under the Lee patent have been dismissed, and on Monday, the 17th, the court moved an order apportioning time for taking testimony in the balance of the cases (18), giving 20 days to complainants, 40 days to defendants, then complainants 30 days for rebutting. By this (which is a rule of the court) you will see the U. S. Court is a slow coach. We proposed to stipulate with them and go to trial immediately, but they claimed the last minute of the 90 days, in order to give their agents time to collect all the royalty they can of those that are willing to pay, and of those whom they can force to pay by intimidation or otherwise.

There have been two suits brought under the Teal patent, one against Wm. L. Randall, of Pittsfield, Washtenaw County, and one against Amos Piedmore, of Ellington, Tuscola County, this patent was issued Dec. 1st, 1863, to A. C. Teal, of Gerard, Macoupin Co., Ill. Our defence will in part be, previous use of the gate and abandonment of the patent to the public for over 15 years. As to the result I have no fears, if we are properly supported, and the farmers will refuse to pay them royalty until the question is tested by the courts. To those wishing information in counties where these patent right sharks are collecting, please write to Beaks & Cutcheon of Detroit, the attorneys for the farmers, they will cheerfully answer all communications.

Now a word for our plaster interest. Ypsilanti Grange received its first car load this week. The roads were in fine condition, so I drew home two tons at a load, and I can say without fear of contradiction that it was as finely prepared a car load of plaster as ever was shipped from the Grand River valley.

Wednesday evening, Feb. 26th, at Ypsilanti Grange Hall, the fourth degree will be conferred on 22 candidates. Who says the Grange is dead or dying?

Yours fraternally,

H. D. PLATT.

AN ESSAY BY S. O. BUSH.

Read at the Climax Institute, January, 1879.

In order to feed sheep for market successfully, one must be careful in the first place, to select sheep of the right age and quality. Lambs of the right quality will feed well. Yearlings are objectionable. Some two-year-olds will answer, but generally sheep from three to five years old will feed the most satisfactorily as well as the most profitably. Every person who intends to follow feeding sheep for market should understand how to select sheep according to their ages, by their teeth. This information can be readily gained by observation, by asking some individual of experience, or by referring to some work upon sheep husbandry.

In order to select sheep of good quality for feeding, one should have experience. As to how this experience is gained I have but little to say. In fact it is not included within the scope of this essay. I would say, however, to the inexperienced, be careful; it does not cost you to delay. The poorest sheep are generally the most expensive when bought for feeding purposes, and especially so of late, since our English cousins seem willing to pay extra prices for extra sheep that will meet the requirements of their markets. Success in selling, depends largely upon the buying. The old adage, I think, is a true one, that "an article is half sold if well bought." Of course this does not apply to those persons who select from their own flock for feeding purposes. But in these cases I am of the opinion that the result would be more satisfactory if the so-called "culls" were sold for what they would bring and replaced with No. 1 sheep.

In regard to shelter and protection from the storms and cold of winter, I find that men agree essentially in their opinions, while they differ widely in their practice. Nearly all agree that sheep need protection from the chilling blasts of our northern climate. The lack of this in some of the more southern and southwestern portions of our country, is made up in part, by a more liberal supply of cheaper food. The heat generating power of three pounds of corn per day, without shelter, is perhaps about equal to the heat generating power of two pounds of corn per day, with shelter. But where corn is only worth from ten to twenty cents a bushel the saving of food by shelter does not amount to as much as it does where corn is worth from thirty to sixty cents per bushel. It has been estimated that the feed required to fatten twenty head of steers in Southern Ohio, with the care and protection there received, will fatten thirty head of steers in Michigan with the care and protection here received. If this be true with cattle, methinks we can safely apply the same rule to sheep.

We must compete with eastern feeders in selling our sheep if not in buying. And allowing ours to cost the same as theirs of like quality to start with, it is evident we must put on more pounds per bushel of grain fed than they do in order to feed with equal profit. And I think it is a safe rule to adopt, that it will require one-third more feed without shelter and protection, than it will with.

In practice, as I said before, men differ largely. Some of our most successful farmers, have commodious and well arranged barns which they think none to good for even sheep. Such generally use the lower part for pens or yards, while the upper is used for storing hay and corn fodder, while the straw is easily stacked upon the outside. Others will try to arrange comfortable quarters and protection in some way, either by building temporary sheds with boards for a roof, or by the use of straw, salks or marsh grass for a shelter.

There is still another class of so-called farmers who allow their sheep to make their own protection by eating into one side of a straw stack of two or three years standing, or perhaps of getting upon this side or that of a three-railed fence (which forms at the same time a good, cheap and convenient place for the reception of their hay, stalks or straw, as fed to them by their kind master.)

This last picture may be slightly overdrawn, but it will bring to the minds of most any of my fellow farmers, some individual who keeps his flock in about the above mentioned manner. Such a man will always be wondering how Mr.

A. or M. keeps his sheep looking so nicely, or how they succeed in getting such good prices for both sheep and wool. This class of farmers do not generally advocate "book farming."

Judging from experience and observation, the most practical and feasible plan to adopt for feeding sheep is to confine them in small pens or yards, (of course under some kind of shelter,) allowing for each sheep, according to size, from seven to ten square feet of room. I would not include much over fifty in each pen, and from that number down, according to the number of sheep desirous of feeding and the room I wish them to occupy. I do not think it practical, however, for the average feeder to make the number so small, as it only tends to increase the labor of feeding, and make the arrangements more expensive with, so far as I can see no very great advantage. There are several reasons why I think this plan is preferable to the one adopted by some of our most extensive feeders. I refer to the plan of feeding from one hundred to one thousand or even more in one flock, and of changing them from one yard or lot to another for the purpose of feeding grain. In one case I have in mind there were five hundred being fed in one flock. They were fed grain three times a day. The grain was scattered in "V" troughs, placed end to end, reaching from the sheds to a distance of perhaps ten rods. When this was done, a gate was thrown open and the sheep were allowed to rush through as fast as they could for the purpose of getting to their grain. The largest and strongest sheep passed through first and of course stopped at the nearest trough, while the weakest and poorest sheep came last and had to pass to the farthest troughs before they could get to any of their feed. This is just the opposite of what it should be. The weakest sheep should have the best chance. The advantages of feeding in pens, as I have suggested, are: First, the sheep do not become so wild and nervous as when allowed to race from one yard to another. And this matter of keeping sheep quiet is a very important thing to think of in estimating the success or failure in feeding sheep. There are some men I would not have fed my sheep if they would feed them for nothing and furnish half the grain, while there are other men we can afford to pay a good price for the winter's work, in order that our sheep may be cared for properly.

Another advantage: Sheep feed more uniformly when fed in flocks not too large. If properly graded at the commencement of feeding, very little trouble need be experienced afterwards in this respect. It is well however to have one extra pen, not too large, to be used as a hospital, and in case there should be a sheep failing from any cause whatever, to put it in the hospital for proper treatment, and perhaps a little better care and more nourishing food.

Again, I think more pounds per bushel can be made when fed to sheep confined in small yards as suggested, than is possible when fed to sheep having large yards to run in, or even by changing them from one yard to another in feeding.

As to food, corn is the kind most commonly used for fattening sheep with. It is well, however, to mix with the corn something else of a less concentrated nature, such as oats or bran. It not only prevents the sheep from eating too fast, but also furnishes a more healthful food.

Some who have had experience recommend feeding roots as often as once a day. I do not think it would be good policy to depend wholly upon roots and no grain. One case I have in mind where seventy-five sheep were fed six bushels of turnips per day, from about December 1st to March 1st. They were fed oat straw and hay, (if I remember correctly) in connection with the roots. The sheep weighed in November, 104 pounds, and on or about March 1st, they weighed 97 pounds. They lost seven pounds. Sugar beets, according to the analysis of Drs. Voelcker and Lankester, as given in Stewart's manual, are the best roots to feed, as they contain less water and more fat-forming elements than any other kind of roots. White turnips are the poorest, as they contain ten per cent more water, and about one-seventh of the fat forming element of sugar beet.

As to the different kinds of coarse feed fed in connection with grain and roots, clover, if cut while in blossom, is the best of all grasses. If not cut until the blossoms have ripened, it contains according to different analysis, about

four per cent. less of fat forming elements.

Corn fodder, if cut and secured without being injured by the frost, makes a good feed for sheep. This used in connexion with either wheat or oat straw, makes a very cheap feed. If the corn-fodder and straw now allowed to waste in Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties, were properly saved, and economically fed in connection with a moderate supply of grain, to sheep, a large amount of money would be added to the income of the farmers in these two counties, besides adding largely to the fertility of their farms.

The question is often asked, "How much feed does a sheep require?" I would answer that a sheep weighing one hundred pounds requires about three pounds of corn and clover hay, or an equivalent to that. The larger the sheep the more feed they require. For instance, last winter I had one pen of 50 sheep, which weighed out 146 pounds average, which would only eat two and one-quarter pounds per day of corn, besides hay, and another pen of 50 Southdown lambs that weighed out 98 pounds average, which would only eat one and a half pounds per day of corn, besides hay. I weighed every feed so there was no guess-work about it.

Sheep will eat less on a warm sultry day than when the air is cold and freezing, hence it is necessary to change the supply of feed according to the climate. The amount of feed required for a cold day, would be too much for a warm, damp day, and if fed, would be worse than no feed at all. Sheep should have access to good, clean, pure water at all times. "But," say some, "my sheep do well without it." I answer, they would do better with it. I have seen sheep go and drink as many as six times in eating one feed of hay. Next to spring water, that drawn from wells is the best. Hard water is better than soft.

My experience in giving salt has been varied. I have made a brine with which the hay or straw was sprinkled two or three times a week. It has been fed to them mixed with their grain. It has been scattered in their troughs as often as needed. I now mix one-third unleached ashes, with two-thirds salt, and keep it in a box where the sheep can have access to it at all times. It is less trouble, and nature is a better guide to them as to the quantity they eat, than is the judgment of the most careful feeder.

It is desirable to sell sheep during the latter part of December or month of January, or even first half of February, it is best to give them all the grain they will eat, after the first week or two. One-half pound per head a day is enough to feed the first week, unless they have become accustomed to grain before leaving the pasture. If they are to be fed until March or April before being sold, it is better not to feed so heavy until some time during February, when the feed can be increased gradually until a full feed is given. The plan adopted by some of our most successful feeders, is to feed about one pound to one pound and a quarter of grain per day, together with straw and stalks, until about the middle of February, when the grain is increased, and fed in this manner until sold.

On the 8th of February last, I bought and commenced to feed 50 sheep two pounds of corn per day, together with what clover hay they would eat. I fed them seventy-eight days, or eleven weeks and one day. Their average gain was 21½ pounds per head or nearly two pounds per head a week. The average cost was \$4 97 per head. They brought \$8 03 per head. They consumed \$1 12 worth of corn at 40 cents per bushel; leaving a balance of \$1 94 per head for interest, salt, hay and labor of feeding.

I have said nothing in this essay so far, in regard to the increased fertility of the soil, as a result of feeding sheep. It is sufficient to say, however, that shep husbandry and grain-raising go hand in hand. As a result of this combination, the average yield of wheat in England, has been increased since the Elizabethan age, from six hundred and thirty bushels per acre, to one hundred and thirty bushels per acre. Great Britain has one sheep for every two acres of land. The United States and territories have one for every fifty-eight acres. Michigan, one for every eight acres. Kalamazoo Co., one for every four acres and Calhoun county the same. We may well increase the number of our sheep with safety as well as with profit. In 1877 there were exported from this country to English markets, over one million of our choic-

est sheep, and this in the face of the fact above mentioned. New York markets alone require over one million per year. It is true that the price of wool has been decreased somewhat in the last century. The soldiers of the Revolution were clothed in linen, and Jas. Otis has said that at that time there was not wool enough in America to furnish every inhabitant with a pair of stockings. It was worth seven shillings per pound in Philadelphia. In our last war we clothed over two millions and a half of soldiers as no army in the world had ever been clothed before, and at the close of the war we had enough overcoats left for nearly one-third of the voters of the United States. There is no branch of agriculture that adapts itself to so many different soils and climates as that of sheep-husbandry. It forms a source of profit to the farmers upon the low damp soil of Holland as well as to those upon the rough rugged hillsides of New England. It withstands the severities of a Russian winter, as well as adapts itself to the more pacific climate of our Southern States; and on the whole, wherever agriculture is carried on successfully, there sheep-husbandry may be prosecuted with the surest degree of success.

The Oil Monopoly in Another Light.

LANSING, Feb. 22, 1879.

Worthy Brother;

Permit me to say a few words through the VISITOR, on the matter of "light." There seems to be quite a general opinion that the people are being oppressed by a monopoly in Michigan test oil, and that we are paying too much for our "light." Is this so? From the report of our State board of health, (whose duty it is so examine this subject,) we find that in our State there has been but one accident in the use of Kerosene of the Michigan test, and in that one accident, it was an alcoholic, rather than a Kerosene explosion. In those States using the 110 test, we read of explosions nearly every day. We all know that before our present test was adopted, our "light" was as dangerous, as gunpowder, and that now our lamps are as safe as the old saucer of lard used by the pioneers. None of us would risk a can of powder in our rooms, nor would we be apt to have Nitro Glycerine on the table where children were playing or studying. Has not our safety made our "light" much cheaper than that of those States using the low test oils?

How many of those who are now signing petitions for a lower test, and cheaper oil, have made any experiments that will show the quantity and quality of light from the high and low oils?

This can be easily done with but little expense or trouble.

Let every Grange make this a special subject for one evening. Choose one of your members, and vote him two dollars, and you can then know by an actual test which is best and which is cheapest.

Make a box two feet long and four inches wide, open at both ends, have an aperture three inches wide in one side, with slits in the top cut at an angle of 45 degrees, into these slits drop a small mirror or piece of a broken looking glass so that lights from lamps at each end of the box will be thrown upon a piece of thin white paper over the aperture in the side of the box; have two low lamps with burners exactly alike, and new wicks; light the lamps and darken the room, and the difference of intensity will be plainly seen. Then move the lamp giving the greater light from the box until they show equal, this difference in distance will enable you to form a near estimate of the difference of intensity.

It is much more difficult to test the difference in time that the same quantity of oil burns. But if you place the lamps at the same distance from the ends of the box, and then turn the wick up or down until they show the same intensity, and let them burn the same, you will be near enough to an accurate test, to enable all to say which is the cheapest oil. This experiment you can have under your own management, without depending upon any chemist, who may, or may not be under the influence or rings.

If we have a monopoly, break it up, but if our present light is better and safer than the low grade of oil gives, let us hold to the good that we have, rather than seek cheapness at the expense of safety.

We have become so accustomed to fighting monopolies, that we often think

all dealers are seeking to rob us, and often cry "fraud" before we learn where the "fraud" is, or how to remedy it.

There are some other topics that we are petitioning for that need talking up, but this is enough for this time.

L. G. HUNT.

The Meeting of Co-operative Association, at Battle Creek.

BATTLE CREEK, Feb. 17, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

By request of a convention held at this place recently, I hereby hand you a statement of the same for publication in the VISITOR.

In accordance with a resolution offered at the last session of the State Grange, by J. D. Adams, of Climax, and adopted, a committee of the officers, directors, and managers, of the various co-operative associations in the State of Michigan, was held at Battle Creek, Feb. 13th and 14th, 1879.

The following associations were represented, viz., one located at Buchanan, by Brother Franklin; at Kalamazoo, by Emmons Buell; at Chicago, by Thomas Mason; at Marshall, by Bro. Day and Bro. Woolsey; at Lansing, by Bro. Goodnough; at Battle Creek, by E. White, B. Morgan, Wm. Morgan, J. D. Adams, and R. Payne. A goodly number of 4th Degree members of the Grange were present and participated in the deliberations of the convention. The first session on Thursday evening was occupied with remarks from the different Brothers present, which proved very interesting and profitable to all.

On Friday two sessions of the convention were held, at which time three plans of co-operation were presented and partially completed, as follows, viz.

A plan for the purpose of co-operating in the purchase of certain articles of merchandise.

A plan of co-operation in the sale of our surplus products.

A plan of co-operation in handling agricultural implements.

I cannot here give the details of these plans as adopted by the convention. But to all who may feel a sufficient interest in them, to be present at the next meeting of the convention, I will say that they will be made conversant with them, and also allowed a voice in their completion.

On the part of those present at this convention, a lively interest was taken in this work, and there was indicated a disposition to unite their efforts on these various plans of co-operation, hoping thereby to increase their power for their mutual, and the general good of the Patrons, of their several localities.

It is desired that a large representation be present at the next convention, that by united wisdom, we may be able to devise and consummate such plans as shall carry forward the great work of co-operation, which is acknowledged as one of the main principles, and greatest powers of the Grange organization, and if we would become the power for our mutual good as agriculturist, that we may, we must expect to perform well our individual part in every work of co-operation among us. We are led to believe that if the various co-operative associations in the state would sufficiently unite their efforts, that they might become such a power, that they would not only have an acknowledged existence, but also become a potent power for good.

By instruction of the convention, I hereby extend a cordial invitation to all the officers, directors, and managers of the various co-operative associations in the State of Michigan, and also any 4th Degree members of the Grange, or Sovereign societies, who may feel interested in co-operation, to be present at the next meeting of the convention, which will be held at Battle Creek, March 6th, 1879. First session commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Yours Fraternally,

H. B. HOAGLAND, Sec.

Free Passes on Railroads to Members of the Legislature.

The Detroit & Bay City District Council of Patrons of Husbandry at its last meeting passed a resolution to the effect that railroad passes to the members of our State Legislature should be abolished, and instructed the Secretary to have blank petitions printed for signatures to be presented to the Legislature for this purpose. c.

The Grange.

Essay read at Cass County Pomona Grange No. 20, by W. E. Williams.

Worthy Master Sisters and Brothers:

If I could be heard by every Patron in the land, I would say, stand firm; don't give up the Grange. We are dealing with great questions, which require time for solution. We must learn that patience and perseverance will overcome great difficulties. We must learn the great lesson contained in the Talmudic words, *Hope and Persevere*.

Our enemies are thoroughly organized and plant themselves squarely in our path, and our progress has been slow during the past year and will be in the coming year. Slower but more substantial than in the first years of our existence. As an Order, we organized very rapidly, that is, we got ourselves into the Grange, now let us look to the condition of our Grange. Are we thoroughly drilled in the work, written and unwritten? We must study, we must know how to do business with dispatch, we must discuss subjects in the Grange that will interest the whole membership. We must carry our fraternal and kind feelings with us all the time, and be true Patrons as well without as "within the gates." In short, let us all live up strictly to the pledges we have taken.

Too many Sub. granges are idle waiting for something to turn up. No Grange need be idle. The principles that govern the fate and fortunes of men will apply to the Grange.

We see in our land the man of industrious habits always has work to do, while he with idle habits finds nothing to do. This same rule will apply to the Grange. Each Grange is master of its own destiny, and will be what its members make it. The safe keeping of each Sub. Grange is confided to its own members, and as "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," let us all strive to be ever ready to do all we can to make the Grange a success. Then let us trust our leading men both in the National, State, and Subordinate Granges to do much for us. Let us use the utmost care in the selection of our officers, but after we have made our choice, let us make our officers feel that they have a firm hold on the sympathies of the members of the Order, and that they will be supported by us in all laudable undertakings.

We as an Order have done much, and very much yet remains to be done.

There are certain evils we all wish to see remedied, and in order to accomplish our aims, we must be prompt in our attendance at the Grange, and study to thoroughly understand the principles of our Order. Study Parliamentary law, so as to be skillful in its use; study to be able to submit gracefully to the results of all legal votes, and study above all things else, and at all hazards, to keep strictly secret all things done inside the Grange. Then all members will feel their equality in all the rights and privileges pertaining to the Order, both within and without the gates.

All Patrons should keep thoroughly posted in all matters pertaining to the Grange, and in order to do this effectually, the GRANGE VISITOR, published by direction of the Michigan State Grange, should be read by every Patron, also as many other Grange papers as possible should be read.

Let us not forget our duty to trade, if possible, through agencies, thereby strengthening our trust and confidence in each other, then we will daily increase in Faith, Hope, Charity, and Fidelity, but more especially that Charity and Fidelity which is the bond of peace and the perfection of every virtue, always remembering that the obligations we have taken are intended to unite us more firmly into one society of Sisters and Brothers, among whom no contentions should ever exist, but that noble emulation in work for the welfare of our Order, for I am convinced that the only hope for the farmers of our country to rise above the position of "hewers of wood and drawers of water" is by organized and united effort, and if the Grange fails, the last hope of the American farmer has vanished forever. But it will not fail, for the principles upon which it is founded are as eternal as the hills themselves. It must go forward in its glorious work, overcoming every obstacle, and bringing all within its gates nearer to the good, the beautiful and the true, and I hope our labors will ever be characterized by harmony and wisdom, and all our acts result in promoting the welfare and prosperity of our noble Order.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, MAR. 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.

PETITIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE.

The Michigan Legislature by the expiration of the constitutional limitation of fifty days for the introduction of Bills have the work of the session before them, and as nearly 1,000 Bills have been introduced it is to be presumed that our affairs have got in a pretty bad way to need so much legislative mending to enable us to get along a couple of years more until we have another Legislature to repair these great restrainers of personal liberty—the laws. We notice in this long catalogue, bills covering the various subjects to which the Grange has given special attention, and as these several matters interest other classes quite as much as they do the Patrons of the State we have a right to expect that they will be acted upon fairly and free from any prejudice.

We also notice that the petitions which have been distributed throughout the State are coming in every day from various quarters. And as the legislation asked for by the petitioners is not local, but general in its application, and involves the interests of the *people* rather than any particular class, we expect that something will be done by their representatives in answer to these petitions. With so much business to dispose of in some way, there is of course a liability that some of these matters to which the Grange has given attention, will be overlooked if left to the Legislature without farther attention. We would therefore suggest that petitions throughout the State not only be well signed and forwarded, but individual members of the Order who take especial interest in the passage of any bill or measure should by letter to the member from his district, in one branch or the other of the Legislature, call attention to such bill, and ask for it his support.

Those who represent us will best know what the people want, if the people are not slow to state those wants, supported as they should be by good and sufficient reasons.

GRANGE WORK.

We are pleased with the programme provided for the consideration of Granges by Professor Beal, and which was printed in the last VISITOR. Of course all will not adopt just the course there marked out, but it is quite apparent that the basis of the very general complaint that there is a lack of interest, lies in the fact that the members of a Grange meet together at the appointed time without definite ideas of what any one is to do beyond the written order of business. If several members knew that they were depended on to do some particular thing, and had so known for a month, we believe that not only more would be expected but more would be had. No one should be allowed to feel that he or she is of no more value to the Grange than to pay dues, but all should have some duty assigned to them from time to time. To designate the right subject for different members requires

good judgment on the part of the Master, and the usage should include the privilege of presenting some subject, by the consent of the Master other than the one assigned.

We commend this subject to the consideration and action of all Granges that are suffering from a chronic want of interest. In relation to subjects, some topic relating to farm work that is *reasonable* should always have a place in the programme, but not to the exclusion of everything else. The Sisters will not always be interested in how and when to sow clover seed, and therefore they should have a chance when this subject is considered to give their views on the treatment of house plants, or poultry raising, or house cleaning, or something else that is *reasonable*. The main point is to have work systematized and include as many members as can be employed for performing that work, so that no time will be lost, and, if possible, all made to feel an interest in a part, if not in the whole of the work.

THE PATENT GATE BUSINESS.

The circular on our first page from Brother Holloway should not only be read, but considered and its suggestions acted upon by the Subordinate, County, and District Granges of the State. This is not a case of *may be* or *perhaps*, but one of *fact*, and the Order should by prompt action show the value of organization. We should show a bold united front, and take hold of the matter in a business way, prompted alike by personal interest and the obligations which we as an organization recognize.

This is our fight, and we who do not happen to be visited by a legal process, have a common interest with those who are, in this defense which has been organized in the eastern part of this State. Do not fail to attend to this matter at your first meeting.

By the courtesy of Hon. Henry W. Lord, Sec'y of the Board, we have received the "Fourth Biennial Report of the Board of State Commissioners for the general supervision of Charitable, Penal, Pauper, and Reformatory Institutions" of the State; also copies of an address read by Secretary Lord, before the Michigan Superintendents of the Poor at their sixth annual convention in Lansing, Jan. last. Subject, "Relations of Education and Industry to Crime and Pauperism,—Idleness more demoralizing than Crime." This address from one of the best *thinkers* in the State is full of suggestive ideas, and should be read by all our thinking people, by all who take an interest in society as a whole, as well as its individual members. We shall give extracts from it later in the season when we are not crowded with manuscript matter from members of the Order throughout the State.

SECRETARIES or others sending us names of subscribers for the VISITOR, frequently order to different offices, and send us a few names at different times. This fact must account for neglect in not always sending the free copy to persons entitled to it. Such persons should not be slow in reminding us that they are entitled to an extra copy. We hope that no one who has this claim on us, and does not get the paper, will fail to remind us. Don't wait three months and then growl and complain that we do not make good our promises.

Do not overlook the general invitation from Bro. Hoagland, to attend the adjourned meeting of the agents

of the various Co-operative Associations of the State, to be held at Battle Creek, March 6.

In reference to the petitions asking for a change in the test of kerosene oil, we have only to say that we understand the test of head light oil is 135°; Michigan test, 140°.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

Correspondence.

BERLIN, Ottawa Co., Jan. 24.

Dear Bro. Cobb:

Western Pomona Grange No. 18 (Ottawa and Muskegon) met at the Hall of Ottawa Grange, Berlin, on the days named, yesterday and to-day, for its annual meeting. Ottawa Grange has ever used and to-day uses for a hall the Floral Hall of Ottawa County Agricultural Society, fitting it up with anterooms and conveniences. This is a very large and flourishing subordinate Grange, as the fact that in subscribing for the VISITOR from the common treasury for each head of a family belonging to the Grange, it takes forty-four copies to go around. The stables upon the fair grounds, 50 or more in number, are at the free use of Grange attendants, and there is plenty of hay in the barn to feed the horses while there. At the hour of opening the Pomona Grange, Bro. Wm. F. Kelly, the lately installed Worthy Master of Ottawa Grange, took the chair and calling the members present to order, read an appropriate address of welcome, bidding them, in the name of his Grange, welcome to the hall and all appurtenances thereto for their use during their stay, also its members, welcome to their homes, to rest from their labors. Worthy Master Wilde, of Pomona Grange, then took the chair, and thanking Ottawa Grange for its welcome, opened the Grange in due form, the officers and members being nearly all present. The Worthy Secretary then read the minutes of the last regular meeting and of one special meeting, since then both of which have duly appeared. The annual report of the Secretary was then read. It showed an addition to membership during the year of 34 members, making a total of 75 members at the date of the report, to which a still further addition was made last evening of 13, giving a total of 88 members. The report further showed the expenses of the year to have been \$34.65, leaving an amount on hand of \$95.70, adding this to the receipts of the past meeting, \$29.50, there is now on hand \$65.20, to be used in the general work of the Order entrusted to our hands the ensuing year. The report showed meetings during the year at Lisbon, Trent, Allendale and Ottawa Granges, and the dues to be well paid up on the books. The Worthy Treasurer followed with his report, showing the same facts of finances as above. The chairman of the Executive Committee also gave a brief report, which, with the reports of the secretary and treasurer, was referred to the Committee on Finances.

The hour of high noon having arrived, the Grange took a recess till one o'clock to aid in lightening the heavily laden tables, spread in bountiful supply and variety by the quick and willing hands of our Ottawa artists. After dinner our work was resumed and the Grange heard the report of the Finance Committee—which showed the reports to be correct and our finances in excellent condition.

The Worthy Lecturer then read his annual address, and on motion a copy was asked for publication in the VISITOR.

The question of "What legislation is needed by farmers?" was then taken up and the several subjects sent out in the petitions ordered by the State Grange were discussed at length; the only fault found was that they were not radical enough. A motion was made and carried, endorsing the action of the State Grange and recommending that a committee be appointed by each subordinate Grange in this district for each school district in its jurisdiction to circulate and obtain signers to the several petitions placed in their hands.

On motion it was unanimously ordered that the Western Pomona Grange,

No. 19, directly memorialize the senate and house of representatives, in legislature assembled, urging the enactment of the needed legislation to secure the desired objects.

On motion it was agreed that the above memorial should also ask that the law regulating the number of copies published of the annual report of the State Board of Agriculture and of the State Pomological Society be amended to increase the number to correspond with the demand arising from increase of population and of increased interest in their subject matters.

On motion, Bros. Lawback, Wilde and Harris were appointed a committee to draft and circulate petitions to the legislature adverse to the granting of a claim for ground by the Alpeua and Walton Railroad.

A resolution was offered fixing the place of the annual meeting, and was referred to the Committee on By-laws. On motion, a recess was taken until six o'clock, during which the tables, which had by some magical process been again loaded, were again relieved of a portion of their burden.

Pursuant to the recess order, the Grange resumed its work at 6 o'clock, when it closed in the fourth and opened in the fifth degree, when it received the report of the committee on candidates recommending thirteen for membership and the lessons of the fifth degree, all of which were duly balloted upon and received the beautiful and impressive, as well as instructive, work that fits members for Pomona's Court. Some instruction was then given by the lecturer on the degree lessons and the unwritten work of the Order; when the Grange closed for its members to rest in the homes of the hospitable Patrons of Ottawa Grange, No. 30.

This morning at 9:30, the work was resumed, the Grange being opened in the fourth degree in due form. The subject of a Patron's Benevolent and Mutual Aid Association was introduced by the Worthy Lecturer and referred to a committee to report at the next meeting. The question of a law being needed to protect farmers, fruit-growers and others consigning their products to commission men from fraudulent dealing, was discussed and referred to a committee, instructing that a petition be drafted and sent to the Secretary of the State Grange asking that if practicable it be forwarded to the Granges of the State asking their co-operation to secure a law to secure the desired end.

The annual election being the special order of the day it was taken up and the following officers elected: Master, Nathan Whitney, Trent, Muskegon County; Overseer, M. E. Hudson, Hudsonville, Ottawa County; Lecturer, C. L. Whitney, Muskegon; Steward, K. D. Harrington; A. S., Samuel Stouffer; Chaplain, P. D. McNaughton; Treasurer, William Gillet; Secretary, Charles W. Milde, Berlin; G. K., Warren Lilly; Ceres, Mrs. Eliza Miles; Pomona, Mrs. C. L. Whitney; Flora, Mrs. L. F. Beardsley; L. A. S., Mrs. Van Skiver; Executive Committee, S. Stouffer, A. M. Koehler for one year and Wm. Rose and Thomas Wilde for two years. The special order completed, the Grange closed. Roast turkey, chicken pie, &c., good enough for royal palates and enough for a regiment, appeared before us, and with the aid of Bro. Thos. F. Moore, W. O. of State Grange and such allies, we did the subjects justice, washing them down with copious draughts of delicious coffee and tea. In the afternoon we had a public meeting. The officers-elect were installed by W. O. Moore of the State Grange. This service was ably supplemented by the accompanying address of our worthy Bro. from Lenaue, who showed what the Order had and is now accomplishing, and that it still has great work before it. He urged those within to labor more faithfully and unitedly, and those without to come within for they must not always expect to share the results of our labors without doing something toward securing these results. Homeward then went the crowd, all without and within the gate joining in saying they had enjoyed a good time.

The next meeting is to be with Hudsonville Grange, on the 13th and 14th of February. Brothers and sisters invited.

G. D.

Organization.

Man is by nature weak, he can do nothing alone, his only hope of success is through co-operation—that is, working together—concurrent effort and action. Organization is the universal me-

dium through which co-operation is accomplished. It is the machine and instrument by which all human success ever has been or ever will be attained. Civilization is but the result of successive organizations, and history is simply the records of organized efforts at progress. Agriculture, the worthy calling of man, has been the last to try co-operation—a union of purposes, a union of minds and means, a massing of forces and in obedience to the general laws of united effort and concurrent action. The first and only true co-operative effort the farmers ever made was in the organization of the Grange. The Order of Patrons of Husbandry is an organization of farmers, for farmers, by farmers—the crowning act of American independence, Columbian glory and Western enterprise. Its motto: "In essentials unity; in non-essentials liberty; in all things charity." Its object: "To labor for the good of our Order, our country and mankind." "To develop a better and higher manhood among ourselves." "To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits." "To farther mutual understanding and co-operation." "To reduce expenses." "To buy less and produce more." "To diversify our crops." "To condense the weight of our exports." "To systematize our work." "To bring producers and consumers together." "To inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman." "To maintain inviolate our laws." "To discountenance the credit system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy." "To meet together, work together, buy together, sell together, and in general to act together for our mutual protection and advancement." "To avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange." "To strive to secure entire harmony, good will, vital brotherhood among ourselves, and make our Order perpetual." "Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social and material advancement."

Communications.

Personnel of the Sixth Session of the Michigan State Grange.

Editor Grange Visitor:

In our last paper, we briefly referred to our Executive Board, and their importance to us as an organization. We are now at liberty to ramble more largely among the Fraternity, and will introduce to our readers, some of our Worthy Lecturers.

Our Worthy State Lecturer and General Deputy needs no formal introduction to Granges. He can be seen almost anywhere—where there is a gathering of Granges. He comes the nearest of being in two places at the same time of any man we ever knew. He is small in stature, nervous in temperament, energetic in his movements, and a little quaint in his manners, yet clear in his perceptions, prompt in his actions, and possesses an enthusiastic zeal which indicates the deep interest he feels in the success of the Patrons of Husbandry. Advance! is his watchword that he sends to the long line of Grangers throughout the State; and from none could it come with better grace, as his own example is in beautiful harmony with his well-chosen motto. Let us as Patrons heed his order, and imitate his bright example.

First upon his list of Special Lecturers, is the name of Hon. E. R. Trowbridge, and we think worthily so—not that we would unjustly discriminate between our brethren—yet we believe in the Scriptural maxim, "Honor to whom honor is due." Bro. Trowbridge is one of the very few farmers who have been honored with a seat in the National Legislature, and we most sincerely hope that this honor is awaiting many more in the near future. The Grange is educating men for the higher positions of responsibility and honor all over the nation, and farmers are coming more fully than heretofore, to the front. The time is passing rapidly away when only lawyers and other professional men can direct and control the elective franchise of the State and nation. We feel honored in the privilege of enrolling such names as Trowbridge among the earnest workers of the Patrons of Husbandry of this State. Bro. Trowbridge is one of the most modest and unassum-

ing of men in his manners and general characteristics. He cannot intrude himself upon the notice and attention of others unbidden. He must not only be invited, but almost pressed before his modesty yields to his sense of duty; yet when upon his feet, few, if any, are more forcible, clear, and convincing as a speaker. Those present at the public meeting of the State Grange will remember with what reluctance he responded to the call of his name, and with what honor he acquitted himself before the dignitaries of the State. We owe him personally a debt of gratitude for favors bestowed when a member of Congress, which we are hereby pleased to acknowledge.

The Hon. Thomas F. Moore fills the chair of Worthy Overseer in the State Grange, and is also one of its Special Lecturers. From my observation of him in the State Grange, we judge that no better material could have been selected for the office which he fills. He possesses both dignity and grace of manners, his conceptions are clear, and his expressions earnest and at times eloquent. He is, without doubt, the best adapted to speaking in open air of any upon the list. He has both compass and volume of voice, and yet his cadences and modulations fall gently upon the ears of his hearers. We can but congratulate the State Grange upon having so valuable an officer in the chair of the Overseer. In the event of a vacancy of the Worthy Master's office—which we sincerely hope may not occur—we have a guarantee that the office will be both ably and honorably filled.

We regret that with the honored names upon the list of Special Lecturers already considered, our want of personal knowledge will be a bar to our further reference, if we except the only Lady Lecturer upon the list. With her, we have a very intimate acquaintance; often have we felt the power of her eloquent tongue as a Lecturer, when her audience was limited to a single person, and such has been her persuasive power and her eloquent appeals as to make a virtue of necessity, for unconditional surrender to her policy. We doubt not but she might be equally successful before much larger audiences.

Our Personnel would be sadly imperfect without the honored name of our Worthy State Treasurer, S. F. Brown. He was our first Worthy Master of the State Grange, and has since been entrusted with the keys to its funds. His very appearance is a guarantee of its safety. We have seen him in the State Grange when some interesting topic was under consideration, watching its progress—in a moment he comes to his feet with the salutation, "Worthy Master,"—he levels his well-loaded piece with an accuracy of aim that would do honor to a trained sharpshooter, and always discharges his weapon with precision and effect. His name is everywhere familiar among Grangers.

Our Personnel is sadly deficient and incomplete; we have as yet made no reference to any of the noble women of our Order, except in a single instance. For this we would most humbly apologize to the sisters—not being able to do them justice. As a class, they will not suffer in comparison with any gathering we ever met. We do not mean in the style and fashionable display of their toilets, but in those higher qualities of intellectual culture, goodness of heart and character, which are woman's brightest ornaments. Some of them we know to be pre-eminent in mental and moral culture—as the columns of the GRANGE VISITOR attest.

Will not Sister Sykes, who attempts to hide her brilliancy in the dim light of a feeble Star, continue her Pen Photograph of Leading Grangers, particular of that class which we have modestly omitted from our imperfect Personnel?

Bear Lake, Feb. 4th.

How it Works.

In the early part of the winter, Orion Grange voted to have Visiting Committees appointed to visit the house and farm of any one of the members they might choose, and report to the Grange at its next meeting whatever they thought of general interest.

The Visiting Committee consists of two brothers and two sisters who select the members to be visited, and at the time of their visit, a division of subjects to be reported on, is made; one of

the brothers generally taking the farm and its operations, the other the stock and its care, and the buildings as to convenience, structure, etc.; while one of the sisters usually takes the house and its keeping, and the other the cellar and its appointments, as connected with butter making and other household operations.

Thus far we have had reports from four of these committees, making reports from sixteen different persons, and they have all been very interesting. Some of them have been written out for delivery, and others have been given verbally.

These reports have been looked for with much interest at every meeting since the plan was adopted, and has a tendency to increase the attendance at our meetings. The reports give to the members much valuable information, which could not be obtained in any other manner, and on the whole, it is proving to be a very valuable auxiliary to our Grange work.

One of the most important things in making up a good Grange is to keep all the members at work, if possible; and this plan brings in and interests nearly all the members in the course of six months, and thus identifies all with the active work of the Grange.

A WESTERN lawyer included in his bill against his client: "To waking up in the night and thinking about your case, \$5."

Correspondence.

CHURCH'S CORNERS, }
Feb. 18th, 1879. }

Bro. Cobb:

Enclosed find \$3.50 for seven copies of the VISITOR, as follows:

Wheatland Grange is still alive, and from present appearances, we are on the road to success. We are having full and interesting meetings; at our last meeting we conferred the Fourth Degree upon six members. The Order has come to stay, and farmers outside must accept it as such, and I believe a large majority of them will join us in due time.

We are now receiving our plaster from Day & Taylor. Our members say they would have no other plaster, if they could get it for nothing. I hope the brothers in other parts of the State, as was suggested in the last VISITOR, will each appoint himself a committee of one, and draw up this resolution:

Resolved, That so long as the Grange Plaster Mill runs in the interests of the farmers, and Day & Taylor deal honorably with the Patrons, we will give them our undivided support.

Then just put it to vote, and when you vote on it, stand upon your honor as a man, and unanimously adopt it. It has taken work, time, and money to bring about the low price of plaster, and to break the plaster ring, and the benefit comes to all farmers in Michigan, as well as to the Patrons.

With a Wood-man for our leader, and Childs, Luce, Holloway, and that Divine-man to back him up, we can knock the props from under any combination that invades our rights in this State. They made it warm for the plaster combination, because they gave them more Cobb than they could digest, and if they have not had enough, we will sharpen our Steele and give them Moore and then we will soon have them done Brown.

We are doing business for ourselves in a small way, with a capital of \$180. We have bought during the past year nearly \$1,400.00 of groceries, nearly all of Bro. Chidester. It is not a very large amount, but suppose we have saved only 12 1/2 per cent, it would be \$175.00 saved. This is not all; outsiders say we have better goods than they get. The reason is, we buy of Chidester, and he knows how to buy for us. On the 4th of December, we had an oyster supper at our hall. A number of outsiders were present, and they all gave us the credit for having the best supper they ever sat down to—the best oysters, the best tea, the best coffee. Why did we have the best? Because, like good healthy Grangers, we sent to Bro. Chidester for all the supplies we had to buy.

Brother Grangers, if you have not yet tried Bro. Chidester, try him. He gives us Grangers at the Corners, perfect satisfaction.

Yours fraternally,
JAS. HUMPHREY, Sec. 273,

SHERMAN, Mich, Jan. 18, 1879.
Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Not knowing whether you had received the returns of our election of officers for Sherman Grange, No. 632, which was held on December 20, 1878, I thought I would write you a few lines, thinking perhaps you would like to hear from us.

I can say we are alive and would be kicking, could we find the parties who claim the Grange is dead. We have worked in some good material during the last six months. Some of our outsiders who two years ago predicted our death and burial inside of six months opened their eyes in wonder to see how great a number of Patrons gathered in our quiet village, and wended their way to the Church on Thursday evening last, about the hour 7 P. M., and see the interest manifested by the company. Listening to the very able address delivered by Worthy Master Woodman, would convince anyone that if the Grange was dead, it left a large number of mourners, to say the least—as all there would testify. In fact, it was a time, long to be remembered.

Last evening our Grange met at our Hall, and its officers were duly installed. Bro. H. A. Danville, of Manistee District Grange, officiated at the installation, and gave us some instruction in the unwritten work. Taken altogether, we had a very pleasant time. The prospects just now look brighter than ever before, our membership is still increasing, and we propose to discuss such question as shall tend to the elevation of the Grange and the benefit of its members. If the objects of the Grange are carried out, a noble work will be accomplished. Co-operation, social intercourse, and the free discussion of all question within our province, will surely lift the entire farming community out of the old rut in which they have so long travelled.

Enclosed please find Post office order for \$2.50, for which send the VISITOR to

Hoping the VISITOR may receive the support it deserves, I am,

Yours fraternally,
I. N. CARPENTER.

MONTEREY GRANGE, No. 247.
Editor Visitor:

As our Grange is assuming its place among the powers of the land, it feels as though it would like to let the world know, through the columns of your paper, that we are doing our level best. This Grange was started in February, 1874 by Bro. King with thirty-seven charter members, which number has been increased from time to time, until our last report showed one hundred and eleven members, and we have added nine new names since Jan. 1st. We meet once a week, and have demonstrated that farmers and their wives can enjoy a good time as well as any body; and that socially, the Grange is a grand success—financially, the success of the movement has not been so marked. We have had a County co-operative store at Allegan, presided over by Albert Stegeman and wife, which has done a business of over \$69,000, during the past year on a profit of 4 per cent, and it still lives. But we cannot touch the big jobs, agricultural implements, yet. I venture to say that if the Patrons of Michigan would agree to buy no implements of any firm except those who sold through the agents of the Order, we could command any article in the market at manufacturers' prices; but so long as we allow ourselves to be gulled by middlemen into buying their wares, just so long we have got to depend upon their generosity for our mowers, reapers, ploughs, etc., or take up with an inferior article. We have responsible manufacturers all over the land who are anxious to deal with us upon the Grange plan. But how do we meet them? I can tell you how it is done here. We call them good fellows; they store their goods away out of sight, and pay him 25, 30, 50, or 100 per cent. for the privilege of convincing us that the Grange is a humbug and is fast dying out. When we take hold of co-operation in its true sense; when we have a man in every county, at least, to handle their goods and keep them on exhibition, and to see that they are properly advertised; then we will find manufacturers ready to meet us; then we will be able to buy what we want, whether it is a steam thrasher, a self-binder, harvester, or a pair of pocket-combs, on Grange terms, at Grange prices.

Truly yours,
MOSES FARMER.

Ladies' Department.

BUILDING CASTLES IN THE AIR.

The little birds sing merrily at early dawn of day;
The little streamlet glistening goes dashing on its way;
The trees upon the sunny banks wave gently to and fro,
And meet above the little stream that ripples on below.

A sound of happy laughter, a little gleam of white,
And round a curve an open boat comes drifting into sight;
A child with lilies in her hair, and standing at her side
A laughing boy, with flashing eyes, come floating down the tide.

"O! I shall be a soldier, just as brave as brave can be,
And with ten hundred thousand men I'll sail across the sea.
I'll fight a hundred battles, and I'll win them every one;
And I'll be called the bravest man that lives beneath the sun.

"And then, when I come back again, the people will turn out,
And all the hands will play for me, and all the men will shout;
And all the ladies in the land will kiss their hands to me;
And may be you among the rest. How funny that would be!

"But then, you know, I couldn't see just little you alone,
And if I did, I'd only say, 'Why, how that child has grown!'"
Because I'd be a soldier then, a-riding on a horse;
I couldn't stop to notice any little girl, of course.

"O! I shall be a princess then. A fairy prince will come,
Like Cinderella's did for her, and take me to his home;
And then I'll be a haughty Queen, with jewels in my hair,
And dance all night with lords and kings. But you will not be there.

"Or if you did peep in the door, I'd only toss my head,
And say, 'Why, dear me, it's time the children were abed!'"
And now a peal of laughter rises on the summer air;
And still the boat goes drifting on, and all is bright and fair.

They're drifting, drifting from our view, a brave, right royal band;
The hero of a hundred fights, the Queen of fairy-land!
And as they vanish through the trees, their voices die away;
And still the birds are singing, at early dawn of day.
—Hearth and Home.

Notes by the Way-Side.

As I sit by my fireside alone, husband gone many miles distant to visit relatives, children at school, my thoughts turn involuntarily to the VISITOR, and the many sisters who read and contribute to its columns. Some of them I met at the State Grange, and as they pass one by one before me in memory, I feel that I have much that is pleasant to think of to cheer me this cold stormy day, when all is so unpleasant without. I had felt very lonely until these thoughts came "stealing o'er me." Were I to write out pen-photographs of those I met at Lansing, I would delineate a picture of one who resembled a sunbeam flitting here and there, whom to know was to love, and as the session closed, and she, with her genial husband came to say good-bye, and give the parting hand-shake, I felt way down in my heart that I had formed one friendship worth all the sacrifice I had made to attend the State Grange. But I am not going to write out any, as some might think me partial. Probably all whose acquaintance I made at that time would prove choice friends, did I know them in their every day life. That this one may recognize her own picture, I will say that it was the one who took my arm and said, let us go and register our names, stopping on our way to give me an introduction to Brother Luce, whom I found very pleasant to talk with. But I took up my pen to have a little practical talk with the sisters, not to those in particular who are favored with a well filled purse, and have ways and means to do all they wish, but more especially those to whom the word economy means more than "paring the potatoes thin," as the

little boy replied when asked its meaning. To those who toil early and late to make home comfortable, and the family happy. For the next few weeks there seems to be a little leisure time, (if such a luxury ever comes to a farmer's wife), before the spring work comes on, or the extra men are hired to do the farm work. Our task might be lightened somewhat by taking "thought for the morrow," notwithstanding the Scripture injunction to the contrary. In looking over the closets and drawers it is found that the stock of sheets and pillow cases needs replenishing, or the men folks need new, strong, well made shirts, or mother and girls need new calico dresses that they may appear tidy while doing the house work the coming summer, and numberless other things that readily suggest themselves to you that will be needed the next few months. And then there are the quilts that have seen so many years of service, and look the worse for the wear and tear, and which will take so long to mend. In these days of cheap calico, it is a good way to cover them all over and tie them like comforters. If you do not feel able to wash and tie them yourself, give the work to some poor woman who needs the pay to keep her family from suffering. In helping these, the blessing comes to us. But someone will say where is all the money coming from to purchase this material that we may do up the family sewing now? The family pocket book is empty. Butter brings a low price, eggs are scarce. Admit all that, but by taking a little thought, cannot some way be devised. "If you have kept your accounts the past year" you will more readily see whether there is any surplus on hand to meet this emergency. Cannot some imaginary want be set aside, or by cooking plainer food for a few weeks, thus cutting down the grocery bill, a little money can be obtained. Perhaps you had promised yourself a new neck tie, or some of that beautiful lace that you think would be so becoming to wear with your best new dress. Cannot the ones you have, be renovated some way, and thus give the desired amount? Don't imagine that I think shabby neck fixings are just as well, for if I am fastidious about any one way for a lady to make herself look becoming, it is in dressing her neck; and I hold it to be a woman's duty, as well as privilege, to make herself look as beautiful as her means will allow. Yet, "there is a time for every thing," and why not a time to save? In saying, it is well to have an object in view, and what will do the most good, answer the best purpose, and last us the greatest length of time, and if by doing up the family sewing now as the days brighten, and lengthen, we save our strength, and hurry, and worry of mind, and give to ourselves time for rest, recreation, and the cultivation of our social and mental qualifications, have we not gained a very great advantage, and saved what is of more worth to us than dollars and cents?

By and by, mountains of work will loom up before us. Cooking for harvest hands, berries to be picked, fruit to be canned, and the care of the dairy, (be it large or small), will demand our attention, and the warm weather unfits us for work to a great extent; then if all this sewing is out of the way, what a saving. And besides, now is a good time to purchase, as the merchants are over anxious to sell off the old stock of goods, to make room for the new, and will sell at a bargain, oftimes.

It is not what we earn, so much as what we save, that gives us the best satisfaction.

But I did not expect to bring out any new ideas in presenting this article. You knew all this before, but as it is line upon line, precept upon precept we need, I send you my crude thoughts as a sort of reminder. Live to learn and learn to live, should be written upon the door posts of our households. But I have one thing to learn, that is to "boil down" my articles, if I would find favor with the columns of our cheerful little VISITOR.

MYRA.

A Good Time Generally.

ALLEN GRANGE, Jan. 21st, 1879.

Worthy Secretary:

As I scarce ever see anything in the VISITOR from Allen Grange; a few words might not be amiss. We are in a prosperous condition; we own our own Hall, and are gaining in membership. At our last regular meeting, after conferring degrees and partaking of a bountiful feast, Bro. Freeman, of Litchfield Grange, installed our offi-

cers for the ensuing year. Our Master's chair is filled this year by Bro. Ranney. Past Master H. D. Pessell has served us faithfully since the Grange was first organized. After the installation services were over, Worthy Lecturer I. W. Sheriff, in a few appropriate remarks, presented Bro. Pessell with three volumes of historical works as a testimonial of the good wishes of the Grange. It was a surprise, and was received with much feeling. When the Grange closed, all felt to rejoice in the present, and were full of hope for the future.

Fraternally yours,
MRS. E. WELLS.

A Little of Everything.

MONTEREY, Feb. 1st, 1879.

Ed. Grange Visitor:

The last VISITOR I find marked, showing that our time has expired, and I told my husband to write and renew the subscription, for we do not want to be without a single number. What does he say? "I am very busy, wife, why can't you write?" I have enough to do to take up all my time, but I think I will let a few cobwebs about the house go, and brush them sufficiently out of mind to take a little time to have a chat with my sisters.

I have often wished that some of the sisters of our Grange would send a message to the Ladies' Department. Of late, every time the VISITOR comes, it is crisp and clean, and laden with good thoughts.

I have looked, but looked in vain, for words of cheer from those brothers appointed at our installation to correspond with the VISITOR. Why they don't unpack their minds, and let the world know something of No. 247, is a mystery to me.

No. 247 is a success. Every time we have met, and together participated in the exercises, and then after their completion, have wended every one his way homeward, we have borne with us pleasant memories of the friends we have met, and of the truths that have been expressed. We started out few in numbers, but now have about one hundred and twenty. Once the Reaper Death entered our circle and claimed a young sister.

"O, it seemed too soon, for life's high noon
Had not come at the close of her earthly day;
As the roses fade at the evening shade,
So she passed from earth away.

"She felt no fear when the angles were near,
Nor shrank from the dark, narrow way,
For she caught a faint glimpse of the crystal stream,
And the light of the heavenly day."

I would tell my sisters, if I could, how much you have interested me in your talks about our children. Aunt Kate's question is one I have long thought of; and if what we read of is true, there are many mothers thinking how they may train their boys in virtue and integrity.

A few years ago, Mrs. Livermore, of Boston, while delivering a lecture before a literary society in Allegan. Speaking of one of her former lectures on the subject, "What shall we do with our daughters," she said something to this effect; "In many places where I have been, mothers come to me after my lecture, clasping my hands, and, with tears in their eyes exclaim, 'You have told us what to do with our daughters, but O, what shall we do with our sons?'"

History, both ancient and modern, reveals the fact that much has been said on this subject. Many noble men and women have devoted a great part of their lives to devise methods for the advancement of humanity. Still there are by-paths that we do not wish our boys to walk in, and there always will be. And if we would have our sons high types of their race, we must always be doing. As mothers we must not relinquish our position; as teachers we must make our sons feel that we are interested in their welfare; we must make them feel that they are in this world for some noble purpose. Did you my sisters, ever read of a noble or distinguished life, but that it was your wish to become noble? Then let us remember that our children partake of our natures. I am glad to hear so much said about the daughters of Michigan having equal privileges with her sons in the Agricultural College, Mothers, let us not say, "I never studied chemistry, and I can make a good loaf of bread." Remember—

"They have wrought as best they might,
Who in darkness whispered, 'Light!'"

The world is progressing, and the daughters of Michigan should progress with it.
MOTHER.

Short Lessons in History.

Brother Cobb:

I resolved when at school to review my history, and give it more time than I could then. I have been out of school since June, and will no longer defer my review. There are two reasons for not beginning sooner: 1st, our house, with almost all our worldly possessions contained therein, was burned, and there has been so much working, planning, and contriving, for we are a large family, not rich by any means, and as the old house was not insured, the new one made us poorer still, so I have not taken the necessary time; 2d, most of our books were burned in the general conflagration. We had a small but well selected library, and miss it as much as anything. We are not able to replace it *in toto*, if it were advisable. Libraries are made little by little, not bought in a lump. Ours had accumulated one at a time. The reading or studying of a certain subject would lead to the purchase of a work by the best authors on that subject, bought with the savings of many little economies, and now we must commence again. Father and mother were in the habit of presenting each other with a book as a Christmas gift to be read the long winter evenings, and we children now adopt the same plan. Mother encouraged me to begin my history lessons, assuring me that I would find help if I but studied hard enough. Father suggested that I write them briefly and send them to the GRANGE VISITOR, and said it might encourage other boys and girls to do the same. I thought the plan a good one, and took for my guide the same history I had used in school, but I intend to read and study others written on the subjects, in order to look up, and, as Dean Stanly says, "verify the references."

Egypt, Greece, and Rome I purpose to devote the most time to, but first let us take a brief glimpse of the Oriental monarchies.

The Caucasian race is by most historians divided into three branches: the Aryan, to which we belong, and also the Hindoos and Persians, in Asia; the Semitic, which includes the ancient inhabitants of Syria, Arabia, and of the Tigris and Euphrates; the Hamitic, which has but one prominent representative in the Caucasian race—the Egyptian, yet claims the Chaldean.

We will take up the Hindoos, as they are a distant relative of ours, inasmuch as their language was found but recently to bear a strong resemblance to the Latin, Greek, German, etc, is now looked upon as the nearest to the original speech of the Aryans. The first seat of the Aryans is supposed to have been northeast of Persia, in the region of Oxus and Jaxartes rivers.

The Hindoos, leaving their native home, settled in India, between the Indus and the Jumna rivers, about 3,000 B. C. They believed in one Supreme Being, and that he manifested himself in three forms: Brahma, the creator; Vishnu, the preserver; and Sive, the destroyer. They believed also in the transmigration of souls. Their literature is far more curious than valuable. It contains everything but history—the only thing they thought was not worth preserving. Very little is known of the Hindoos until the conquest of Alexander, B. C. 326.

The Sanskrit language is receiving great attention at the present day, and is taught in our most prominent colleges.
DORCAS HOPKINS.

An Interesting Grange Meeting.

WEST HANDY GRANGE, No. 613.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

I have never found any communication in the VISITOR from West Handy Grange, No. 613, and perhaps a few lines may not be amiss.

There has been considerable dropping off of members in our Grange since the first years; but it has been those whom we could well spare.

For two years, we met from house to house, wherever the kindness of some members invited us, but during the past summer have built us a Hall, which in June last was dedicated to Grange service by Bro. J. W. Childs. Our Hall is 20x34 feet, one story high, and cost about \$450, and though times were hard, I do not think there is a single one who regrets the share he put into our common home.

And the ladies have thrown in their mites in decoration, and now we feel very proud of our Grange home, and glad when the night for meeting comes.

On the evening of the 22d of January, our officers were installed by Bro. Sexton, of Howell. Bro. Stevens, of Perry Centre, then addressed the meeting. The installation was a public one. Many outsiders were present, and before the meeting closed, two applications for membership were presented.

With best wishes for the success of the Grange movement, I remain,
Fraternally yours,
MRS. H. H. WARREN.

Oakland Pomona Grange.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

Not seeing much in the VISITOR concerning Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5, I thought perhaps, it might interest some of its readers, to hear of some of its doings heretofore.

Its regular meetings have been held at Pontiac, the County seat. It holds special meetings with different subordinate Granges throughout the county, as it is invited, sometimes as often as once in two weeks. Its last meeting was a special with White Lake Grange, No. 258, Feb. 12th. First came the regular order of business, which consisted mostly of reports of subordinate Granges, which are of very great interest to us. Most of the Granges as reported, are in a healthy working condition, and all speak with much enthusiasm on the educational work of the Order. Next in order was the question, "How shall we make our Subordinate and Pomona Granges more interesting and useful?" This was taken up and a very spirited discussion held, during which, many useful suggestions were offered, and much information received. The question arose whether it was a benefit peculiarly, or useful to sustain some of our country stores, in connection with a P. O. This discussion closed by a graphic description of a country store in that vicinity, where our boys congregate and spend their evenings, obtaining information which does not add to their moral, social, or intellectual education. I think it was decided for this time, that such a place was not a benefit to our youth.

In the evening the 5th Degree was conferred upon ten members, principally from among the Brothers and Sisters of White Lake Grange.

Last but not least, was the bountiful feast spread before us, mostly by the industry of the Sisters of White Lake Grange. This Grange is few in numbers, but large of heart. They have no hall but hold their meetings in the union church, which can be so arranged as to accommodate them nicely, and their worthy Master, R. Garner, has purchased an organ for their use. They have a fine choir, and the sisters were ready with essays, which were good. In the absence of our lady editor, it added very much to the interest of our meeting.

This closed a very pleasant session of Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5. We meet next with the Tenny Plains Grange, the first Tuesday in March. Brothers and Sisters, go to White Lake, where a generous hospitality awaits all good Patrons.

A MATRON.

Correspondence.

HIGHLAND, Feb. 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Tenny Plains Grange, No. 335, is in working order, after having new officers installed for the present year. I think its members will justify me in saying that we have passed a pleasant as well as a profitable year ending Jan. 31st, 1878. In trade we have saved 20 per cent on groceries purchased, which shows that co-operation is profitable to the farmer; why should it not work the same way when disposing of the products of the farm? Having a Commission Agent in Detroit, we should patronize him to his and our mutual benefit.

But the financial part is really the least of our advantages from the Grange—the literary and intellectual being the chief benefit and the great objects of the Order. Are not the farmers' sons and daughters to be educated here for positions of honor and trust? Here are they to learn the experience of others, which, if heeded, will benefit them all through life. We should

feel proud of our Order and sustain it. We cannot fold our arms and say our work is done, for we have just fairly got in working order. There is much to be so long as there is dishonesty and corruption in trade and legislation.

With good wishes for you and your work, and poor farmers and farmers in every neighborhood in the land, I remain,
Yours fraternally,
W. W. BAKER, Sec'y.

SPRINGVILLE GRANGE, No. 279.

J. T. Cobb, Esq.—Dear Sir:

Allow me to trespass once more upon your time and space by writing a few words for the VISITOR, which is a great favorite of mine. Its semi-monthly months visits to our household, and I am confident that were it possible to place a copy of it in every house in the rural districts the Grange would soon be seen in its true light—as something that was intended to advance the interests and elevate and improve the agricultural class all over the country.

I will not weary your patience, but wish to touch upon one point, the plaster question. Do we, as Patrons, realize the interest which we have at stake here? Have we forgotten the high prices we formerly paid for this article? Do we understand why we are now getting it at reduced rates? Do we see the efforts which are being made to undermine the Grange plaster mills? and are we going to sit still and calmly abide the results? I don't know how it may be in other localities, but we can buy the Grand Rapids plaster for 50 cents per ton less than we can the Grandville, but we don't propose to sell ourselves for so small a sum. We have already ordered one car load and shall soon order more. Patrons, go and do likewise.

BERLIN, Feb. 20th, 1879.

J. T. Cobb, Editor GRANGE VISITOR:
Enclosed find fifty cents for another copy of the VISITOR. This being 45 copies this Grange has ordered for its members. It decided to furnish each family with the VISITOR. We have about ninety members in good standing, and nearly all good, earnest workers. We initiated twelve persons last fall, have some applications on hand, and are confident of more soon. There seems to be a decided interest taken by the members, and outsiders are beginning to think the Grange is accomplishing a good work, and has come to stay. About one-half of our members have joined the Pomona Grange. They hold their meetings throughout the District which comprises Ottawa and Muskegon Counties. Last week we had a meeting at Hudsonville, conferring the 5th Degree on 20 candidates. Wherever they hold their meetings, new interest is awakened. We expect to make live Granges of most of the dormant ones in the District. I find it true of the Grange as of other societies—the more we do to make others interested, the more interested we become ourselves. Our Subordinate Grange adopted and circulated all the petitions sent it, except the one for reducing the tax on tobacco, which the majority of the members thought it best not to alter. This decision was very pleasing to the ladies.

Fraternally yours,
E. J. McNAUGHTON,
Sec'y Grange No. 30.

TUSCOLA, Feb. 1879.

Worthy Secretary:

Whitney Grange, No. 513, is in a prosperous condition, holds its meetings every Tuesday evening when the weather will permit, and generally has a good attendance. We rent a pleasant hall and have furnished it with all necessary articles except an organ, which we hope to have soon. Our meetings are profitable, for we discuss questions given out the week before. The question now pending is whether "Woman has any Rights which Men are bound to respect." We think this will draw the ladies out, and that they will assert their rights. This Grange is represented through J. Q. A. Berrington—a member of the Executive Committee. We keep adding to our fold, good and respectable farmers. The most that we need now is to persuade the young people to join, as the most of our members are somewhat advanced in life. We are always happy to welcome Patrons to our meetings. A few of our members recently visited

Birch Run Grange, and returned so well pleased that they will repeat the visit.
Yours truly,
EDGAR A. FOSTER.

MADISON, Lake Co., D. T.
Jan. 20, '79.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I see by the last VISITOR that my time has expired, and I hasten to renew. Please commence with Jan. 15th, as I do not wish to miss a number. If I can not participate, I like to read of the pleasant social gatherings of the Patrons and note their gradual ascent among the different societies to a position second to none.

Holding your annual session in the new Capitol at Lansing was certainly good evidence of progress, and at this great distance it done me good to learn it. I hope those who follow to legislate for the State may prove as faithful to their trust as were the Patrons who just dedicated Representative Hall.

I noticed with pleasure the formation of a Pomona Grange in Oceana County, where we formerly had a County Council, the death of which it was my sad duty, as secretary *pro tem.* of the last council, to record. I shall now watch with interest for reports from the new organization.

I am glad to see the Ladies' Department of the VISITOR filled with so many able articles, on subjects of vital importance, especially to parents and those having the care and training of children. Hope they will be continued until a greater interest is taken in this all important subject.

Yours fraternally,
L. F. PACKARD.

GRANDVILLE, Feb. 1879.

Worthy Secretary:

Permit me, through you, to make a few suggestions to parties ordering plaster. Give the correct name of the railroad station. For instance, if it is *Denton*, do not say *Dentonville*; if it is *Warren*, do not say *Warren Station*. Give the name as published in the railroad time tables. Give also the line of railroad on which the station is situated, and don't forget to give the State. These rules are simple, but are important. A failure to observe them has been the cause of some cars going astray, and of delay to others.

Truly yours,
J. A. KNOWLES,
C. & M. L. S. R. R.

HUDSONVILLE, Feb. 13.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I want to say a word about Hudsonville Grange, No. 112, which was dead only three months ago. At that time, with the help of Bro. C. L. Whitney, we organized anew with 25 members; since then we have increased to 46 good working members. On the 13th of the present month, the Western Pomona Grange, No. 19, held a meeting at our hall at Hudsonville, had a very nice time, instructed 20 in the mysteries of the fifth degree, and all went home feeling well paid.

L. T. BURSBY,
Treas. Hudsonville Grange.

Important Testimony on Paint.

NEW EGYPT, N. I. Feb. 12, 1879
O. R. Ingersoll, Esq., Manager Patrons' Paint Company. Dear Sir and Bro:—My house, painted last year with your Ready Mixed Paint, looms up before the eye grandly, and is the cynosure of all sightseers. You recollect I tried to have Dr. and Mr. S. of this place adopt your paints, but could not induce them. Now mark the contrast at this present time. The Doctor's is in streaks and looks dirty and old, as if painted many years. Mr. S's house has faded very much, while mine looks more brilliant than ever. When the full moon shines upon the house, it looks like a block of silver at broad daylight. The verandah ceiling reflects the arched brackets of the columns like a huge mirror. Every one notes the contrast of the mixed paints over the old way, and admires the glossy appearance of the building. You can fully refer any one to this house, for it is the largest and most conspicuous building on the line of the Camden & Amboy R. R. via Pemperton. Signed,
JOHN S. MALLORY.

NOTE.—Patrons' Paint Company's book, "Every one their Own Painter," mailed free. Address, South and Dover streets, New York. Cheapest and best paints in the world.

Meeting of the D. & B. C. District Council, P. of H.

The Detroit & Bay City District Council of Granges holds its 15th Quarterly meeting at Orion on Tuesday, March 11th.

H. ANDREWS, Sec.

Twenty New Members at Once.

Orion Grange, at a meeting a few weeks ago, appointed a committee of seven to solicit candidates for admission, result: Twenty applicants, made up of leading farmers and stock growers and their wives, were initiated in the First and Second Degrees on Saturday, the 22d, and nine more applications. Am the Grange dyin' out? c.

Dividend.

The Patrons' Paint Company have declared a cash dividend of seven per cent for the year 1878, payable March 1st 1879, to stockholders of record, Dec. 1st, 1878. This is the 3d annual dividend the company has paid, and with guaranteed dividend, 25 per cent, makes 96 per cent for three years.

Fraternally, O. R. INGERSOLL.

Sugar and Other Adulterations.

Quite an excitement is manifested in many parts of the country on account of adulteration of many articles of food and clothing. A large mass meeting was lately held in Chickering Hall, N. Y., to discuss the question of the adulteration of sugar. The press of the country is full of "adulteration." But the Grangers who have been agitating this question for years, and trying to get goods as near as possible from first hands, and thus run less risk of impurity, have been cried down as "all wild" and impracticable. Yet they with their constant and quiet agitation have had much to do with opening the eyes of the people to the fact of their being poisoned, cheated and swindled almost every day of their lives. Oh! No! a "grange agent" does not know how to buy a hoghead of sugar, or a piece of pure wool goods!—*Wool Growers' Bulletin.*

"Don't you love her still?" asked the judge to a man who wanted a divorce. "Certainly I do," said he; "I love her better still than any other way, but the trouble is she never will be still." The judge, who is a married man himself, takes the case under advisement.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

Died at her residence at Allendale, February 3d, 1879, Sister MARY B. QUICK, an honored member of Allendale Grange, No. 427.

WM. ROSE, Sec'y.

Died Nov. 16th, 1878, in Alpine, Kent Co., Mich., JAMES E. JOHNSON, a member of Alpine Grange, No. 348.

WHEREAS, It pleased the Divine Master to remove from our midst by death, our brother, James E. Johnson, therefore,
Resolved, That as a Grange we mourn the loss of our brother, and tender our sympathies to the bereaved family and friends.
Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the family of the deceased, and to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication, and also spread upon the records of the Grange.

H. A. GREENLEY,
JOHN FRESTON,
CHARLES DOLL, } Com.

Died Dec. 30th, 1877, in the 63d year of his age, Brother MARCUS TUTTLE, a beloved brother of Otisco Grange. The Grange adopted the following resolutions.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the family of our deceased brother in the loss of one so dear.

Resolved, That we mourn the loss of our brother as one of the pillars of our Order, and as one of our best citizens.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

F. MOOREMAN, Lecturer.

DIED.—Dec. 21st, 1878, John F. Conrad, a Charter member of Plainwell Grange, and one of its most reliable supporters. For over three years the Grange had been held at his house, and his large hearted liberality and generosity had endeared him to every member.

To this sad record, we are compelled to add that unwelcome death again visited the same house, and removed Sister Rhoda Conrad after a brief widowhood of twenty-five days.

Resolutions of respect and condolence were adopted by Plainwell Grange, and that our entire membership most deeply feel their great loss, no one can doubt.

WILL science please stand up and tell us why a girl who freezes to death every time she has to sweep off the front steps, can ride 15 miles in a sleigh with nothing around her but another girl's brother's arm, without even getting a blue nose.

"WHAT did you do then?" asked Col. George after badgering a witness in the Lowell railroad case, at Salem. "I went to the rescue like a lawyer for a man's pocket-book," replied the witness, and the retort was enjoyed all around.

Wagons! Wagons!

Prices to the Grange Trade.

I will sell three inch and three and one-fourth inch THIMBLE SKEIN WAGONS, complete on cars at Niles, Michigan, for (\$45) forty-five Dollars each. Without Box or Seat, Thirty-Five Dollars.

E. MURRAY.

Niles, Mich., March 1st, 1879.

Important to Bee-Keepers!

COLVIN'S

Excelsior Bee Hive!

With the Latest Improved Honey Racks.

THE GREATEST ADVANCEMENT in BEE CULTURE Ever Made.

Great scientific principles involved for Wintering Bees and securing a larger amount of honey, in lightest but strongest Racks now in use, its weight being one-half ounce for each pound of honey. Every Bee-keeper NEEDS these Racks. Can be used on nearly all hives.

Sample Hives with Racks for 60 pounds of Honey,\$2.75
 Sample Hives with Racks for 30 pounds of Honey, 2.25
 Two Section of Honey Racks sent free on receipt of 5 cents.

Address L. F. COX,
Portage, Kalamazoo Co., Mich.

SMALL FRUIT

Low Prices to Patrons.

GRAPES.

Per 100
 No. 1 well Rooted Concord plants,\$3.00
 No. 1 well Rooted Delaware plants,5.00

RASPBERRIES.

Per 100
 Mammoth Cluster, (Black)60 cts.
 Doolittle, 60
 Highland Hardy, (Red) 75
 Turner, 75

STRAWBERRIES.

Wilson's Albany, Jucunda, President Wilder, Seth Boyden No. 39, and Monarch of the West.

Any of the above varieties at 50 cents per hundred, well packed and delivered at the Express Office at Benton Harbor. Or will send in small quantities, by mail, any of the above plants, to any one forwarding pay for plants, and money to pre-pay postage thereon.

Please send money in Registered Letter, or Post Office Money Order, to
 WM. J. NOTT,
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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 feels Condition Powders, either openly or secretly.

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

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

Put up in five pound packages, six packages in a box, at 12 cents a pound; or in sixty pound boxes at ten cents a pound. The receipt is posted on each package and box. Made by Dr. 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. may15-1f

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Ingersoll's Ready Mixed Paints,
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Best and Cheapest Paints in the World.

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 Mortimer Whitehead, of N. J., Lec. Nat. "
 O. H. Kelley, Past Secretary National Grange.
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The Husbandman!

EVERY FARMER Should TAKE IT.

It is thoroughly Reliable and Practical in Every Department.

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

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

THE HUSBANDMAN contends against unjust discrimination in freight charges, by which the present railroad management is heaping heavy burdens on the farmers of this and other States. No other farmer's paper pays as careful heed to its Market Reports, which are thoroughly reliable and accompanied with comments showing the condition of the market and tendency of prices.

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

Elmira Farmers Club

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

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

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

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

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,

HUSBANDMAN, Elmira, N. Y.

We will send THE HUSBANDMAN and THE GRANGE VISITOR for one year, for \$1.70, and in Clubs of five or more, \$1.60 each.

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A Great Advancement in BEE-CULTURE. Gives UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION where introduced.

Sample Hive—Complete, - - \$3.50.

Liberal discount on large Orders.

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GENTS:—After a thorough trial of the EUREKA BEE-HIVES, both for Comb and Extracted Honey; I can positively assert, that for saving, and making large colonies, and for the production of surplus Honey, it is unequalled by any Hive that I have ever seen or used.

Yours,

LYMAN THOMPSON.

I do hereby endorse the statement of Mr. Lyman Thompson.

O. H. FELLOWS.

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183 SOUTH WATER STREET,

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Respectfully solicits Consignments of

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In Car Lots. Also,

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Having a large and conveniently arranged House in the business part of the city, we are prepared to handle goods in any quantity, and, being on the SHADY SIDE of the street, can show PERISHABLE goods in BEST CONDITION, throughout the day. With

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and close personal attention to business, we hope to merit, receive, and retain a liberal share of your patronage.

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Cash must Accompany Orders to Insure Prompt Attention.

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H. H. Taylor, of Dowagiac, Cass Co., has for sale, at hard pan prices, a first-class Business Horse, the choice in two fine grade yearling Durham Bulls, and a fine three-year-old Merino Buck.

5-TON STOCK SCALES,

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FREIGHT PAID, AND NO MONEY ASKED TILL TESTED.

JONES, of Binghamton,

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Paw Paw, Mich., May 18th, 1878.

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My Scales give entire satisfaction. I have subjected it to the most severe tests, and find it not only correct in weighing large or small amounts, but perfectly reliable.

[Signed] Yours, Fraternally,
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