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Michigan State

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To Contributors.

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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.

Letter of Acceptance of an Invitation to Give a Reading of Original Poems Before the Watson Grange, April 12th, 1879, by the Farmer Poet.

My dear friend Haynes, 'tis justly due That I present my thanks to you, And to that strange, mysterious band Called Grangers, as I understand, For giving me a friendly call To give a reading in your hall. It does not come within my range To say one word against the Grange; Indeed, I've formed the resolution Of friendship for the Institution, And frequently have thought that I Would join the Grange—at least would try; But when I came to look ahead— How could I otherwise than dread The horrors, torture and vexation Of what they call initiation. Now I've a curiosity To get inside a Grange and see. That I may know, from inside view, If what I have heard and read is true. Therefore I've had consideration Of your most courteous invitation, To read before the Watson Grange, And yet I thought it very strange That I, comparatively a stranger, Who never dared to be a Granger, A backwoods farmer at the best, Of small ability possessed, Should be called out in this relation To read to your association. I pondered deeply on the subject, Now what, said I, can be their object, That they invite me to go there With my poor stock of rhyming ware. Indeed, thought I, 'tis very strange, Have they no rhymers in the Grange? Or have the hard, depressing times Dried up the fountain of their rhymes? Did they to this course resort To get me there to make their sport? Or have they yet another object, And do they want me for a subject, To put me through in this relation The process of initiation? Of which, as I before have said, I entertain a perfect dread. I couldn't believe you would consent, Or give the least encouragement To any purpose, trick or plan, That would deceive an honest man. Or if you would, I couldn't believe, Your old friend, Stoddard, you'd deceive, Now I am cautious, as you know, But yet I will consent to go And do, in my poor way, my best To entertain and interest Men, women, children, great and small, That shall assemble in your hall. And further, I will not disclose Your secret to my friends or foes, — Unless, to lessen words of strife, I may be forced to tell my wife; But then, of course, as you must know, It will not any further go,— For where's the man that will believe That a daughter of old Mother Eve Will tell a secret anywhere That has been trusted to her care? Then on your part I shall require That you shall furnish hall and fire, And what's of greater consequence, You furnish me an audience. Nor do I think it more than right That you should keep me over night, And treat me, though an outside ranger, As kindly as you would a Granger. There is another stipulation That you must make in this relation. Please to excuse me when I say, I've heard some hard things, by the way. Of how they treat (it beats creation) Their subjects for initiation. I can't consent to be put through The course I'm told that they pursue. I can't consent, I'll plainly say, To be blindfolded any way. I can't get down upon all fours And trot around your slivery floors, And carry a two-bushel sack Of rutabagas on my back. With the addition of a peck Of onions strung around my neck. I can't allow your wives to spread A buckwheat pancake on my head, And then to bind, in place of hat, A fleece of wool atop of that. Nor give consent in any wise To have the wool pulled o'er my eyes, Nor must a lady Granger there Sift thistly hayseed in my hair, Nor Granger girls, in any case, With sorghum syrup smear my face, Unless (in this I must be plain)

They'll come and kiss it off again. I can't be harnessed anyhow To some old-fashioned Granger plow, And then required the plow to draw With collar made of buckwheat straw, A corn cob bit and driving lines Made up of squash or pumpkin vines— A pumpkin hung to either ear, And then spurred on in pain and fear With three-tined pitchforks in the rear. Then for a harrow, drag a cat Around the floor—tail first at that. I'd surely balk, then what a fuss, And is it not ridiculous To have such doings when you win Some silly-pated greenhorn in? You who have passed through all of this, Of course know better how it is. My person and the clothes I wear Must be secure and sacred there. And if in their mysterious rites They conjure up demoniac sprites, I takes this time and way to tell, I'll not be held accountable. To finish in this direction You must assure me full protection From all these dangers and these harms That may result from witching charms. And furthermore, I briefly note, You must protect me from the goat; Must keep him chained while I am there, Or hold him by the horns with care. And now my friend, Haynes, if it should be To these conditions you agree, On April twelfth, you understand, If all is well, I'll be on hand.

EDUCATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL CLASSES.

A Speech by Hon. C. E. Mickley, delivered on the Occasion of the Formal Opening of the Weston Grange Library, April 19th.—Published by Request of the Grange.

I see around me men who, more than forty years ago, felt the want of homes; a dear spot on earth they could call their own. To supply this common want of our nature they changed the forest into fields. The place on which we are assembled to-night, a few years ago was a howling wilderness, inhabited by the untutored savage who offered his sacrifice to the great spirit of storms and darkness. Look out and see school-houses, churches, mills, railroads, a thriving village. With cherished remembrances of the past, with grateful hearts, you come from your rural homes around which cluster the joys of domestic life, to participate in the exercises of the occasion—the formal opening of the library of Weston Grange.

We need but look around us to see everywhere abundance of material wealth, enough of cattle and corn and to spare, an abundance for the wants of the body. Were these our only great concern, we live for little purpose. Mind is immeasurably more valuable than any form of material wealth. "Knowledge is power," said Lord Bacon, many years ago. This is true of agriculture as well as any other pursuit or profession. Now more than ever before, the fortunes of men, the welfare of the State, depend on mental efficiency. Through mental energy must agriculture, as well as architecture, look for any triumphs.

It is important that we leave behind us well-cultivated farms, homes, mills, factories, railroads, magnificent edifices: More important still, that we leave behind us well-educated, strong-minded young men—strong women as well. The latter is as much more important than the former, as well cultivated mind is above property. "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom; and the man that getteth understanding, for the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, the gain thereof than fine gold." We don't believe that any institution can supply all the wants of life, but are of the opinion that a well-selected library—books mostly treating on agriculture, home life, the farm, scientific, social, moral and intellectual subjects—under the control of

the Grange, will tend to the improvement of our physical condition, as well as the elevation of the immortal mind. The use of reading is to aid us in thinking. Reading is to the mind what food is to the body. It is in fact the nourishment of the mind, for by reading we know our Creator, His works, ourselves chiefly, and our fellow creatures. There is a great difference in the kind of "nourishment" for both mind and body, a wise provision to meet our varied wants, for the constitutions of minds differ (like those of bodies.) We should be careful in our choice of books. It is not so much the amount, as the kind of reading that will do us good; for "books as affected are as men." Let us read with method and propose to ourselves an end to which all our studies may point—the highest development of all our faculties and power in harmony and obedience to the law of God as revealed in His works and word.

The press furnishes us with books exceedingly cheap, even the best books—the works of the great masters of thought are within the reach of an industrious farmer or mechanic—the educational power of books is felt, known—books of a high order constitute our permanent literature.

We are assembled to-night as farmers, farmers' sons, wives and daughters, engaged in agriculture. The first, most noble of all occupations, it is the only one of Divine origin. It was the command of the Almighty that man should till the ground. History proves that where agriculture has been fostered by a people; that nation has prospered and reached a high degree of perfection; and where it has been neglected, degeneracy began. In evidence of this fact we read the history of classic Greece, of manly and majestic Rome at the tomb of nations—a warning voice comes to us over the age and the ages. All acknowledge dependence on the hand of the husbandman. Important as is agriculture, it has not until recently been regarded with public favor. The ornamental has been too often fostered to the neglect of the useful. For thousands of years farming was held to be a plodding industry, a dirty drudgery; the son falling in the footsteps of the father. I am sorry to say this is the case now in many countries. The man that owns the land furnishes the brains, the serfs do the work.

In this favored land of ours, there is no royal road to honor or fame, no "Royal blood." Here it is a strife together for the prizes of life; a contest of mind with mind. In this onward march of mind, do farmers keep abreast with the times? A few claim a knowledge of science, as applied to agriculture; the masses acknowledge a want of it. Farmers, as a class, are just beginning to discuss the question: whether success in agricultural pursuits depend more on the energies of the mind or on the body. History has rendered a verdict in favor of the mind in military achievements. A more complete knowledge of science as applied to agriculture will be attended with like results. Our occupation in life is a matter of our own choice. We are tillers of the ground and take the responsibility. We have warranty deeds of our farms, yet are only "tenants at will," for the "earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof." Soon we shall be succeeded by others.

It is not enough that we plow, sow, harvest, but that we bring science to aid us and work intelligently. I speak as a farmer of more than forty years' experience, all along my life journey I have suffered greatly through ignorance. In my travels I meet occasionally one who suffers from, or has an inkling of a like inconvenience. How

often we have done with our heels what we might have accomplished with our heads had we known more; and how often we hear it said, had I known when I commenced farming what I know now, how much better off I would have been. Yes; and if some wiseacre should tell you what you don't know now (about farming,) your stock of knowledge would be increased. As men, we have other duties than farming, we have a common interest with the masses, the great bulk of mankind, "the State" all that constitute a people worthy of the blessing—moral, intelligent and progressive. I hold that those who do the work, produce a large share of the wealth of a country should take an active part in public affairs. Those who toil and produce should shape the character of the government, which should be to the fullest extent a government of the people, by the people, for the people, and in the name of the people. Farmers represent the most important industry of the State and of the nation. There is no productive industry so general in character. The interest of the man who tills the soil on the granite hills of New England, where it yields reluctantly to the hand of the husbandman, is identified with the one who tills the fertile valley of the Mississippi, the rich prairies of the West, or the sunny fields of the South. We aim through the Grange to unite this great interest in bonds as lasting as life, as strong as death. All we ask, as patrons of Husbandry, is an equal chance in the race of life with those engaged in occupations and pursuits no more important to society than ours; and that we are determined to have. It is education which forms the common mind and enables it to give character as well as direction to events. Our educational institutions as well as our governmental, are outward indications of the progress of mind; to shape these so as to reach the highest, aims of life, education of the masses is our first and great concern.

We are proud of our educational institutions, our schools and colleges—no better in the land. But the prevailing opinion is that farmers need but little of the education to be had at schools and colleges. The history of the past reveals the sad fact, that boys that graduate at our colleges where physical labor does not accompany and form a part of education, return to the farm in old age, if ever. The tendency of the higher education is, as a rule, to take farmer boys from the farm. This is not the fault of education proper, but of the kind and the way it is obtained. As suggested by our worthy brother Woodman, in his address at a meeting of the State Grange, our system of education can be improved by making it more practical and demonstrative, less showy and superficial; more for practical business life, less of "Paris finish." Little has comparatively been done for the education of farmers, this is the reason why they so seldom come to the front and represent their interests in educational and governmental affairs. A young man may choose out of hundreds of schools, in which to study law, or medicine, or the higher mathematics, or Greek, or Latin. In these branches teachers are plenty. Only here and there a college where agriculture is taught in theory and practice, science as applied to agriculture. Those who toil and produce should shape educational institutions to meet the wants and needs of the people. Is there a demand for the large number of lawyers and doctors? The hundreds unemployed can answer this question. A lawyer of prominence in the county told me recently: "I have but one son; I shall make a farmer of him"—(a wise conclusion truly.) He was attending a Farmers' Institute at Hudson.

Two hundred and sixty lawyers and doctors have recently been turned loose on the unprotected people. (I quote from the press.)

This conclusion then I draw,
That no exercise of jaw
Twisting Indian rubber law,
Is as good
As the exercise of paw,
On the handle of a saw—
Sawing wood.

It is true "the profession of the law is venerable for its antiquity, rich in the illustrious names which adorn its history, and unequalled for the aggregate of talent and eloquence which have in all ages characterized its leading members." Among the learned or liberal professions, the one that offends tempts and dazzles the youthful mind is that of the law, it has ever been the

natural avenue to political preferment and judicial honors.

Everywhere there is demand for "skilled labor, scientific farmers," to "mix brains with soil," "to spread thoughts on the fields;" skilled mechanics, inventors to harness the wind, fire, water, steel, iron, electricity, and make them do our bidding. While I believe strong common sense—(strong horse sense as ex-Gov. Bagley puts it)—coupled with good judgment, wins in the race of life, yet it cannot be denied that education is as essential to success in farming as in any other occupation or pursuit in life.

Colleges and schools at best are only means to an end. We only commence the better part of education when we have done with them; application of what we have learned to real business life. The means of education, outside schools and colleges accessible to all, was never so general, so great. No means of education can compare with newspapers and periodicals. In 1833 there were but six agricultural papers in the United States. Now, about one hundred; and well-edited columns in almost every weekly newspaper or monthly periodical in the State, treating on agricultural progress and improvement. There were in 1832 only four agricultural societies in the United States; in June, 1872, 1,980 such societies and clubs reported to the department of agriculture in Washington. Michigan sent in the names of 58.

The press is a power in the land, greater than the purse or the sword. To the press of the county, of the State, we are largely indebted for the advance made in rural pursuits; ever ready to report the proceedings of agricultural meetings; the discussions of farmers' clubs; the objects and aims of the Patrons of Husbandry, who discuss in their meetings a wide range of topics, prominent among which are the farm, home, health, sanitary arrangements, political economy, the relation of farming to other business in the world. Mankind are slow, to acknowledge benefactors; no where does this more fully appear than in the way we patronize the press. Farmers are growing rich! In the language of one of our old, their eyes stick out with fatness. Who ever knew an editor to get rich unless in the consciousness of wearing himself out for the benefit of others. This is the reason, no doubt, so many connected with the press enjoy "single blessedness." Brothers and sisters of the Grange, and others, consider well your interest, and patronize more liberally the press.

It is plain to be seen, plain to every observing mind, that farmers, as a class, don't take the social and political rank that their numbers and the importance of the industry they represent entitle them to. Consideration cannot be forced, it must be the outcome of genuine respect. We aim through the Grange, to aid dignity to labor, "to restore the deranged balance to society, its old honor must be rendered back to labor." Industrial pursuits must be raised in respectability and dignity above the lower walks of commerce, and fully to a level with its higher departments and functions. "Both agriculture and handicraft must be made liberal professions." This can be done only by stocking them with men of liberal culture—for it is not the profession that gives character and standing to the man, but the man to the profession; the hat for the head, and not the head for the hat. However varied the source, men of superior culture get it at the cost of the whole community, and therefore at first owe for their education. They must pay back an equivalent, else remain debtors to mankind—not in dollars and cents, but by teaching or working each after his kind.

"Self-educated men" appropriate to themselves nothing taken from other men's share; they pay as they go, owing the academic ferryman nothing for setting them over into the Elysium of the scholar. They have behind them an ancestry of broad-shouldered, hard-handed, stalwart, temperance men, and deep bosomed, red-cheeked, industrious mothers, to whom they are indebted for the richest inheritance—a strong, sound organization, with corresponding mental vigor, energy, power and endurance. This class of men, as a rule, keep out of ruts, and by the force of innate power make their mark in the world. Self-educated men seldom take what they don't want; are schooled in self-reliance.

Individualized men,—Our famous names of to-day are all new names in

the States; for though a man may be born to rank and wealth he is not born to knowledge nor practical skill. There is a test by which we measure the power of a horse, the steam engine, the raising of so many pounds through so many feet in a given time. The test of the scholar's power is his ability to raise men in their development. Actual service is the test of actual greatness. He who renders of himself the greatest actual service to mankind is actually the greatest man.

All truly great men are lovers of books, whether of the learned professions or self-educated. Much as has been said and written on education, we come to this at last—here nearly all agree—all manly education must be bottomed on religion; it is essential to the normal development of man, and all attempts at education without this, must fail. As the primeval rocks lie at the bottom of the sea and appear at the top of the loftiest mountain, so in a finished character religion underlies all and covers all. It is written on the iron leaf of destiny: "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." Piety, the love of God, and goodness, the love of man—these two parts of religion are taught in the Grange—the soul of the Grange movement. What remains of religion after these two parts are removed may safely be left to the sects.

As Patrons of Husbandry, we aim at the highest social, moral and intellectual developments, first by individual culture, as all reforms must commence with the individual, each doing his "level best;" secondly, by associated efforts, assimilation, organization and co-operation. Through this channel, by diligence, industry and proper improvement of time, we aim to restore labor to its ancient honor.

It has long been considered among men that by far the best part of humanity, physically as well as mentally, are the women; and it is no wonder that a fraternity like the Patrons of Husbandry, recognizing woman's great mission and the adaptiveness of the association to her nature, should provide an Order in which she is equal with man, a helpmeet for him in all the rights and benefits of the fraternity—men and women! brothers and sisters! Woman is more industrious than man; she therefore derives physical benefit by uniting with the Order. The objects, aims, principles and teachings of the Order are such that when fully understood they captivate women. The evidence of this is in her presence and the active part she takes in all the meetings of the Grange. The success that has attended her effort in procuring this library of useful books is largely attributable to her industry, zeal and good judgment. We claim all the advantages of the "higher education" for women, because she is mother of the race and wields the greatest power in the world.

We invite all who are interested in agriculture, and who are not in antagonism to our Order, to join us in the world's great work—to organize the rights of men.

What Came of one Hive of Bees.

In a memorial to Congress relative to the coming census of the United States, the superintendent of the census of 1880, Mr. Kennedy, gives the following statistics as an illustration of the stupendous results from a single hive of bees, transported to the Pacific coast less than thirty years ago. From the single county of San Diego, California, in 1876, there was shipped the astonishing figure of 1,250,000 pounds of honey. In 1877, there were in that county, 23,000 colonies of bees, and in one day, Sept. 6th, 1878, there were shipped from that port 73 barrels, 1,053 cases, and 18 tons; and from that and including July 17 to November 10, 1878, less than four months, that one county exported over 1,000 barrels, 14,544 cases and nearly 20 tons. He who would strike out from the census report the item of honey, could not have known, so great has the interest in this product become, that many people of California have from 500 to 1,000 hives, and that over 100 people in one county have each more than 100 colonies of bees. According to the London News, of January 18, there arrived in Liverpool, 80 tons of honey, the product of the bees of one individual; and that a Mr. Hodge in the first week of January last, landed 100 tons at a London wharf, the product of California. The annual product of honey has grown to 35,000,000 pounds annually

AGRICULTURE.

As Exhibited at the Paris Exposition.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The report of J. J. Woodman, of Paw Paw, Mich., Assistant Commissioner to the Paris Exposition on Agriculture, embracing alimentary and other farm products, has been received. It contains a very interesting account of the exhibit of grains. The finest exhibit of agricultural products from the United States was that of the Oregon State Commission. Of the other great agricultural and cereal producing States of the Union, some were not represented at all and some but partially, the shortness of the time of preparation having prevented. Cereals and other farm products were exhibited by all the nations of Europe except Germany. The culture of sugar beet was shown to have made important advances in Europe, amounting to 632,500 acres in France alone. This industry has increased five-fold since 1840, and doubled since 1862.

FARMING IN FRANCE.

In speaking of the agriculture of France, the report conveys much interesting information, showing the distribution of agricultural wealth and the agencies by which France has become opulent as a producing nation. The average size of farms is 16½ acres arable or 33½ acres of productive land, making 3,977,781 farms; of these 2,826,388 or 71 per cent. are cultivated by the owners, 831,943, or but 21 per cent. are rented at a fixed price, and eight per cent. on shares. The confiscation of many of the lands of the nobility and the church, and their sale by the Government in small parcels led to the system of small farms. Some are long, narrow strips, a few feet wide resting on the driveway. The first demonstrates a model farm of fifteen acres divided into thirty-five detached parcels. The pay of farm hands is \$11.00 per month with board. Women one-half. Twelve hours constitute a day. The free use of fertilizers is mentioned as the reason for the heavy crops realized from small area. The advantage of rotation has also been fully demonstrated in France, three systems being in vogue, viz: the biennial the triennial and quadriennial. In thirty-six departments the first mentioned system has been adopted; in forty-six, the second; and in five, the third.

IN THE ENGLISH EXHIBIT.

Samples of Mold's new varieties of wheat were shown in the straw, and attracted much attention. It was claimed that this wheat could be sown one month earlier, required but one-half the quantity of seed, as compared with the old varieties, and produced 105 grains from a single stalk, and 112 bushels from a single acre. But few of the English farmers cultivate their own lands, but lease for a period from fourteen to twenty-one years. The land is under a high state of cultivation and very productive, the average yield being greater than in any other country in Europe if not in the world.

IN AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

Ninety-two and a half per cent. of the whole territory is productive, and the soil is highly favorable for agriculture. The farmers generally own the soil they cultivate. The average yield of wheat is fifteen bushels an acre, which is much below the average of other European Nations. The "three annual rotations" system is in vogue. The Hungarian mountain country is admirably adapted to the cultivation of grain. The Government is doing much for the encouragement of agriculture and the dissemination of important information relating to the different branches of farming. Much has been accomplished in the improvement of the breed of horses by crossing with English and Arabian races. The report also gives an interesting summary of agricultural development in Norway, where the winters are unfavorable, but wheat yields an average of 22 70-100 bushels to the acre, and other crops in proportion; in Russia, where the wheat yield averages 17 bushels to the acre; in Holland, where the average of wheat is 24 bushels; in Greece, where the production of wheat is less than is required for home consumption; in Switzerland, where the crop does not meet one-third the home demand; and in Belgium, where the yield of wheat is 27½ an acre, the government patronizes agricultural societies with a membership of 17,000, and where the average prices of farming land is at the high rate of \$300 per acre.

In the German Empire, the vine and cereals thrive with equal abundance. The rotation of crops is a subject of government compulsion. In Turkey the wheat yield is thirteen bushels to each inhabitant. In Roumania the production of Indian corn excels all other countries in Europe, with an average yield of thirty-four bushels.

AGGREGATES OF PRODUCTION.
An elaborate and comprehensive table giving the average amount of the cereal productions of Europe, and its countries which furnish a surplus for commerce, and also those which are obliged to import breadstuffs, shows that the average annual production of cereals in Europe, amounts to 5,147,795,000 bushels, of which Russia produces 1,655,021,000 bushels, or nearly one-third. The whole of Germany, 765,000,000 bushels; France, 710,130,000 bushels; Hungary, 300,330,000. On the basis of an average of 15 58-100 bushels of cereals for each person for home consumption, Roumania, Denmark, Russia, Prussia, France, Hungary, Bavaria and Sweden alone raise sufficient for home consumption, while the following countries in their order are importers: The German Duchies, Belgium, Spain, Austria, Wurtemberg, Ireland, Turkey, Finland, Great Britain, Saxony, Servia, Holland, Norway, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Switzerland.

The report shows that the whole of Europe, with a population of 297,000,000 inhabitants, produces 5,147,396,000 bushels, or only about seventeen bushels for every inhabitant, while the United States, with 40,000,000 inhabitants, produces 1,629,027,000 bushels, or forty bushels for every inhabitant.

AMERICAN CATTLE IN ENGLAND.
Concerning the exportation of cattle from the United States, the report says a new idea has just entered the English mind and the importation of American cattle is to be made quite as beneficial and remunerative to the English feeders as it is to the American farmers. It has been shown by experiment that American cattle can be imported and fed on English soil, as the English feeders know how, at a profit even if the grain fed them is of foreign production. All of this would be satisfactory to the American farmers who are seeking a market for their coarse grain and cattle, provided this system would be as remunerative to them, but certainly the idea is not flattering to our skill in feeding and calls for more science and economy in this branch of American agriculture.—*Special Cor. to the Philadelphia Press.*

THREE RIVERS, May 8th, 1879.
J. T. Cobb, Esq.—Dear Sir:

St. Joseph County Grange met at Sturgis, May 1st, by invitation of the Sturgis Grange, and was attended by a large gathering of Patrons. The Grange was opened in the 5th Degree by the W. M., J. H. Gardner, and fifteen applications for membership were presented by the Secretary. After the usual transaction of business in this degree, the Grange closed in the 5th degree, and adjourned for dinner, which the sisters of Sturgis Grange had prepared. Notwithstanding the weather was disagreeably cold, Master Joseph Sheap, of Sturgis Grange, had in readiness ice cream for all that wished to be further chilled. After dinner the Grange opened in the 4th Degree, and Bro. Isaac Runyan, of Sturgis Grange, read an essay in opposition to washing sheep. Bro. George Schock, of Riverside Grange, read an essay on Sorghum, giving twenty years of his experience in raising and manufacturing the same, with all the various varieties of sorghum, and closed by urging Patrons to plant the Minnesota amber sugar cane. Bro. William Hull, of Centreville Grange, read an essay on our public schools and their needed points. Bro. C. Y. Runyan, of Oakwood Grange, read an essay on horses, their care and feed. This essay produced the most discussion. Bro. Gutelius Snyder, Lecturer of the County Grange, gave his experience in regard to the care of horses upon horse-railroads, and the iron mines and iron works of Pennsylvania, setting forth that ground feed, mixed with good cut straw or timothy hay, gave the best results. Bro. C. G. Lace being present from Branch County, gave his views also upon the same subject, after which the Grange closed in due form, to meet at Centreville the 1st Thursday in June.

Yours fraternally, E. L. S.

Communications.

Legislation—State Grange—Plow Manufacturers.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

The VISITOR came duly to hand at 12 M. to-day, and I have already taken in its contents, with good relish and much profit.

Your article on the tax laws and the operations of our present Legislature is good, and it suggests to me this question for you to answer, if you can, for the benefit of the tax-paying farmers of the State, to-wit: What really useful law has the Legislature of 1879 as yet passed, and what is the expense to the State of this unlimited session,—who is to blame, and how can we abate this over-dose of government.

I was particularly interested in the defense of the State Grange by M. E. C. While I fully realize the fact that the members of our State Grange, in their representative capacity, should avoid all appearance of favoritism, and, as a body, the State Grange should be careful not to incur suspicion of corruption by any of its acts, but at the same time, as members of the subordinate Granges represented, we feel proud to have our State Grange made up of courteous as well as dignified men and women representatives.

It seems to me that to have rejected this kind invitation to enjoy these generous hospitalities would have placed our State Grange at a great disadvantage as to courtesy and the usual amenities looked for in such bodies.

I was not a member of the State Grange, neither have I ever met one of the gentlemen of this firm of manufacturers, nor have I ever used, or to my knowledge seen any of the implements of their manufacture,—but I am fully impressed with the belief that, as farmers, we owe much to the skill and ingenuity of those who are engaged in improving and manufacturing the unequalled farm implements which we find in our markets, the perfection of which has done so much for American agriculture. Verily, we, as farmers and Grangers, may well strike hands with them without compromising ourselves as Grangers.

I would say a few words about railroad passes but I am already too lengthy. C.

Ingham County Pomona Grange.

Worthy Brother Cobb:

The last meeting of this Grange was held in the rooms of Bunkhill Grange, at Fitchburg on the afternoon and evening of the 25th of April. The meeting in the afternoon was open to the public, and a large number of persons were in attendance. The meeting was called to order promptly at 2 o'clock by the W. M., Prof. W. J. Beal. The Master read a very interesting paper relating to various topics of interest to the farmers, which drew forth a lively discussion from a large number of those present. The following resolution was offered, and after an animated discussion, participated in by many wool-growers, it was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the custom of washing sheep, practiced by the farmers of this county, is cruelty to the sheep, barbarous in its nature, and wholly uncalled for, and should be discontinued, and the practice entirely abolished.

The following resolution was also introduced, and discussed by several of the sisters present, after which it was adopted with only one dissenting vote:

Resolved, That the difference in the price paid by dealers between good and poor butter will not justify our sisters in bestowing the extra labor necessary to manufacture a prime article.

In the evening, the Grange was opened in the 4th degree, when business pertaining to the good of the Order was transacted. Verbal reports were made by members from nearly all the Granges in the County, which reports were, in the main, highly encouraging. Eleven members of Subordinate Granges united with the Pomona Grange at this meeting. The sisters of Fitchburg did their part well in supplying a bounteous repast, sufficient for all present. The table was spread in the room below the hall, and everybody that would come was invited to partake "without money and without price." This was a very interesting

meeting, and cannot but result in good to all in attendance.

Yours fraternally,
O. F. MILLER, Sec.

Grange Mass Meetings.

It is now the most propitious time since the organization of the Order for holding public meetings to set forth our articles of faith and make known our purposes, designs and objects to those without the Gate.

The masses comprising the agriculturists of our country are still ignorant, or they do not realize that our interests are identical with theirs, and that we are laboring heart and soul for their benefit. They do not read Grange literature,—all the information they receive is from those periodicals that are indifferent or utterly opposed to our interests.

We have been represented as a mere tidal wave, soon to be lost and forgotten. This weeding-out process we have gone through has been represented as indicative of weakness, when in reality we were only getting rid of those who joined us out of selfish motives and were really retarding our work.

The Grange is not dying out. Every Grange that has weathered the storm is growing or assuming conditions favorable to growth. Never were our Pilgrim Fathers more zealous in the cause of their religion than the present membership of the Grange in our faith. They have had the Grange faith ground into them. They are Patrons in muscle, bone and sinew. They are elders and deacons, yea, more, evangelists, in our work. Such members as these are in every Grange, but they need setting to work. We should hold public meetings in every school district in our State,—the result of which would be such an uprising and victory for the Order as was never known in the history of the world. County Granges, where organized, could appoint suitable persons to carry on this work. But this would not be complete without having the power conferred upon them to reorganize and assist in the consolidation of any weak or dormant Granges found within their jurisdiction. It is too expensive, and in many instances impracticable for the County Lecturer to get a dormant Grange in just the right condition for reorganization, and then send for the State Deputy to complete the work, and perhaps wait weeks or even months for him to come, when the same work could be done without any extra expense, and at the proper time, by a local Lecturer, or Deputy.

I feel perfectly free at this time to urge this measure and call the attention of the State and County Granges to this matter without any fear of being accused of having an axe to grind, for the reason that this year ends my labors in this County and State.

SAM'L J. BARNARD,
Lecturer Berrien Co. Grange.

More One-Sidedness.

At the meeting of the Pomona Grange of Ingham County, held at Fitchburg on the 25th of April, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, D. M. Ferry & Co, of Detroit, have formerly dealt with us in the seed line, and only last fall, through their agent, did solicit our further patronage, promising us faithfully to send us a certain amount of seeds as we wanted on application for the same; and

WHEREAS, On application being made to them at about the usual time for purchasing seeds, this spring they totally refused to have anything to do with us; and

WHEREAS, They have before done the same thing with others Granges, stating they wanted nothing to do with Grangers, as they had regular customers through which they could deal, evidently to maintain high prices or to spite the Patrons of Husbandry; therefore,

Resolved, That we express our most unqualified disapproval of their action, and that we will not plant a seed around which is enclosed a paper stamped with D. M. Ferry & Co.'s name, until such time as they shall agree, upon their honor, to furnish seeds to the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR

for publications, also a copy sent to the *Live Patron* for the same purpose.

E. H. SHEPARD,
F. W. HAVENS,
P. M. ETCHELLS, } Com.

Monterey Matters—A Discussion on Plowing.

MONTEREY, April 23d, '79.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

As I have never seen anything from Monterey Grange in the VISITOR, I thought I would try and let you know that we are alive and growing.

Our Grange was organized six years ago last February by Bro. King, with 37 charter members, and for the first year or two we grew quite rapidly, and have been growing ever since, and for the past six months our membership has increased rapidly. During the first quarter of this year we initiated 15 new members, several of the best farmers in our town being of the number. To-day we number 127 members.

The hall we use is too small and we ought to have a new one, but times are rather close and it is hard work to talk of such matters at present.

We have had several animated discussions at our meetings this last winter. One question of some importance, on the subject of plowing, was argued at some length by our members, and the following is the substance of the remarks made by Bro. Sylsbie Rumery on the subject:

The question is hard to get at; it is expected that everybody knows how to plow, even small boys and women sometimes hold the plow. It is the most important work of the farm,—if it is poorly done, the result is a poor crop. No amount of cultivating can make good the loss occasioned by poor plowing.

Every man's farm has two kinds of soil, agricultural and sub-soil. The agricultural soil may be two inches, or it may be nine, but it is not 20 feet,—it is no deeper than the air can penetrate. If the agricultural soil is too shallow it may be gradually deepened by lifting an inch of the sub-soil at each plowing, bringing it up to the air and enriching it with manure. Our agricultural societies, by their premiums for smooth, shining, flat furrows, have done the community great harm. That which often takes the premium is the poorest kind of plowing. The soil is the best plowed when most thoroughly crushed, twisted and broken, with the sod well covered. On some kinds of land I would have the furrows lapped an inch. Let the air and water have a chance to circulate underneath the surface. Light soil, however, should have a flat furrow, to make the land more compact.

I have studied the subject of plowing for the past four years, and during that time my mind has changed materially on the subject of plowing. I don't care how often the sod is broken, if it is turned over. I used to think the flat smooth furrow was right, but I now think it a sad mistake. The plow that raises the furrow and then lets it fall and breaks it all to pieces is the plow for me. I do not care how rough it is after plowing, so everything is turned out of sight, and the soil is well crushed and pulverized, that is the main thing. Ground plowed in this way will work up mellow and nice, while your flat furrow will be hard and unproductive.

Several brothers agreed with Bro. Rumery, while others thought a smooth flat furrow, well rolled down, was the best. Respectfully yours,

B., Sec. Grange, No. 247.

Notice of Meetings.

The next meeting of the Ingham Co. Pomona Grange will be held in the rooms of the Alaidon Grange in the afternoon and evening of June 6th, commencing at 2 o'clock P. M.

O. F. MILLER, Sec.

The regular quarterly meeting of Kent County Grange, No. 18, will be held at the hall of Harmony Grange, in the township of Walker, on the 4th of June, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Geo. W. EWING,
Sec'y, pro tem.

Oakland Pomona Grange, No. 5, P. of H., will hold a special meeting with the Four Towns Grange, No. 408, on Tuesday, May 30th, 1879, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. All Fourth Degree members are cordially invited to attend.

J. JACKSON, Sec'y,
Birmingham, Mich.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, MAY 15, 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.

SHALL SUITS FOR PETTY SUMS BE APPEALED TO THE CIRCUIT COURT, AND FROM THE CIRCUIT TO THE SUPREME COURT WITHOUT RESTRICTION OR LIMIT?

That is the question that the people, by petition, have asked the Legislature to settle by a negative answer at this session.

House bill No. 286, restricting appeals from justice courts to judgments of \$50, which passed the House on the 30th of April, by a vote of 54 yeas to 22 nays, has for its object the protection of the tax-payers of the State from the onerous burden of taxation which annually falls upon the people on account of suits for petty sums that are appealed from our justice courts to the Circuit Courts, and in the prosecution of which the litigants themselves are often impoverished.

We learn that the bill met with strong opposition in the House, one of the chief objections urged, being its alleged unconstitutionality. As we considered that objection in the Visitor of April 1st, we shall not go over the ground again at this time. As we then showed, the objection does not seem to be well taken, and the objectors, we think, use it for the simple reason that they can urge no good and valid reason against a bill, that if enacted will save many thousands of dollars annually to the taxpayers of the State, who have no sort of interest whatever—not the most remote, in the class of suits that this bill is intended to affect.

Another point made is, that the rights of the citizen should not be abridged, that every man should be permitted to prosecute a suit to the highest tribunal known to the law. That all sounds very well as a naked proposition, but practically it ignores the rights of communities and associations of men, leaving them at the mercy or meanness of the individual, which, taken in connection with the usages of the courts and the bar to postpone, defer and prolong indefinitely all cases once within their grasp, justifies the demand on the part of the people for protection from litigants and lawyers, who with only a bone of contention will consume years of time dragging it through the courts of the State, largely at our expense.

Communities certainly have rights as well as individuals, and when under the operation of law provision is made for giving every man two chances with his little case, his rights can not be very much in jeopardy, while as the matter now stands, the great body of the people have no protection at all. In considering this question we are not disposed to spend much time with theories, but think it just as safe, and far more business-like, to regard the situation in the light of actual experience.

There is probably not a County in the State in which the court calendar has not been encumbered for years with cases in which the costs to the litigants themselves have become the most important feature in the suits, and instead of hazarding the personal rights of the individual, the passage of this bill will protect men from the

consequences of their own folly. It will also protect the man of small means, who now has no even chance in court, as by appeal it soon gets beyond his reach, no matter how good his case.

Permitting a suit that began in a neighborhood quarrel over some petty difference to monopolize the time of courts and all the machinery of the law, frequently for days, only to be sent forward to the Supreme Court to pass upon the case, and perhaps return it for another trial, and this at an expense to the County of hundreds of dollars, may be a good thing for somebody, and probably is, but it has had the effect to undermine the people's confidence in an institution established ostensibly for the protection of their rights. About no one thing is there greater harmony of opinion among the people than upon this question. Present the matter just as it is to the first fifty men you meet, and forty-nine of them will promptly approve of this bill.

The State Grange at its last session unanimously adopted the following resolution, reported for its consideration by the Committee on Resolutions:

Resolved, That the laws of the State relating to the Judiciary, be so amended that in any case where a judgment of less than \$100 shall be rendered in any Justice Court of this State, that no appeal shall be taken to a higher court, or court of record; but either party to the suit may appeal to a court of arbitration—to be composed of three persons, one to be chosen by each of the litigants, and the third arbitrator to be chosen by the other two.

The subject had been before the subordinate Granges of the State for some months, and their representatives were fully posted as to the views of the membership, and there is no question but this resolution is in accord with the deliberate opinion of a very large proportion of the people of the State.

The practical effect of this bill, if it becomes a law, is so obviously in the interest of the people that we can hardly justify any opposition to its passage on the ground of its unconstitutionality. For we find many able men who favor the measure and hold to our opinion upon this question of constitutionality, and while the practical results can only be good, it is safe to regard it constitutional, until otherwise determined by the proper tribunal.

As, probably but few of our readers have seen the Legislative Journal, we propose to place upon record for their benefit, and for the information of their constituents, the names of those gentlemen who voted in the negative on the final passage of the bill in the house. They are Briggs, Cutcheon, Francis, Granger, Holt, G. H. Hopkins, Kuhn, McGurk, McNabb, Moore, Moulton, Noah, Palmer, Powers, Sawyer, Stanchfield, Stevens, Turnbull, Waltz, Yerkes, Young, and Speaker.

The cost to the County of maintaining its judicial system in any of the populous Counties of southern Michigan will fall but little below \$20,000 per annum, and in Kalamazoo County the civil business constitutes about four-fifths of the whole amount.

As to the propriety of taxing the public for its criminal business there is but one opinion, but when we are invited to pay four times as much to help along the quarrels and crookedness of our neighbors we should like some protection against this usage which requires us to pay \$5, and perhaps \$50 to aid our neighbor to collect \$1. Every observing man can call to mind instances when civil suits for a few paltry dollars have cost the County hundreds, and we are coolly informed that this condition of

things is necessary and must continue—that nothing short of this unlimited right of abuse on the part of the individual, is compatible with the liberty of the citizen, and the great fundamental principles of our government, and all this sort of talk that ignores equal rights, justice and common sense.

The legislator who by his vote refuses to aid in diminishing this expense to the several Counties should be prepared to defend the present usage. We hold to the opinion that progress has been stamped upon every department of business, that each year develops in science and art some new and useful feature or discovery. Medical science is keeping pace with the progress of this most wonderful century. The fields of religious truth are being rapidly relieved of that narrow sectarian bigotry so common 50 years ago. But what advance has been made by the legal profession in the administration of justice between man and man. If any advance has been made we pity our grandfather's.

It is manifestly a reproach and a stigma upon the profession, when we can assert without fear of successful contradiction that in the administration of our judicial system the advance made has been of a retrograde character, and to-day every business man knows that to attempt to collect \$25 of a perverse customer is necessarily a losing business.

Careful, prudent men who are more ready to suffer wrong than to lose money, are practically excluded from the use of the legal machinery designed for the protection or enforcement of the rights of the citizen.

Our Mexican neighbors that we look upon as a half-civilized race apply a little good common sense to the little differences that arise between citizens.

A party having a grievance goes before the *Aleutle*, or Justice, and makes his complaint. The Justice hands a huge *cane* having some inscription denoting his official position, to a Constable. This is an order to bring forthwith the other party before him. Each party tells his story, and can send the Constable with the *official cane* to bring witnesses to testify in the case.

The witnesses are questioned by the Justice and the parties, and the decision is rendered then and there that is final, and each goes about his business. There is no humbug about it, no long talk about great cardinal principles, and the terrible hardships that the individual citizen may suffer if not allowed to spend his time and money, and involve others in his little affair who have no interest in the matter. To the man who has not read Blackstone it seems a waste of time and money to send for a blacksmith and pay him \$1.50 for killing a troublesome fly with his sledge hammer, and the *Greasers* don't do it, but we submit to a folly more regular, more dignified, more red tape in it, but just as senseless, when we allow a petty suit to remain in our courts for years, to the injury of the parties themselves, to the disturbance of a neighborhood, to the detriment of every interest involved, except the fee of the lawyer and attaches of the court.

We may mention as illustrating the unbusiness-like character of the laws and usages which govern the trial of causes once launched upon the judicial sea of uncertainty, this provision of law—a party to a suit is allowed two years in which to take an appeal from the Circuit to the Supreme Court. The necessity for such a length of time may be apparent enough to a judicially educated mind, but to the

man who has a good valid claim against another, that he has undertaken to collect by the aid of the judicial machine, this delay seems not only unnecessary but purposely intended to defeat the object for which courts were established.

The present system, and usage, is so loaded with delays, exceptions and motions, for this, that or the other thing, that it is rapidly breaking down of its own weight of useless lumber.

This attempt to restrict appeals is a move in the direction of reform that has the approval of many of our best lawyers, and includes, as we have been informed, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, who in most decided terms declares against the present usage which permits a five-dollar suit in a justice court to come to the Supreme Court for determination.

ANOTHER GRANGE PAPER.

We have received sample copies of our namesake, the Iowa *Grange Visitor*, a neat four-page monthly, issued by Bro. Carpenter, by direction of the Executive Committee of the State Grange of Iowa. It seems to be conceded that the Order in each State must have a paper, and we welcome this new representative to a place in the family of Grange periodicals that are doing, we believe, a good work for the great agricultural interests of the country.

This number appears without a portrait and biography, which have for the last three issues given variety, and added a new and interesting feature to our columns. We shall be able, in our next issue, to give a likeness and biographical sketch of W. A. Armstrong, Secretary of the State Grange of New York, who is best known as the editor of that popular journal, the *Husbandman*; and that is promise enough for this time in that direction.

The Lawyer Again.

A bill is now pending in the House of Representatives to fix the compensation of the Reporter of the Supreme Court of the United States. This Reporter is a very great man. His name is Otto, and if the reports of his remuneration be correct, his emoluments are equal to his accomplishments and deserts, however high they may be. He is paid by the United States \$2,500 per annum, as long as only one volume of reports are issued yearly, and an additional \$1,500 when two volumes are issued. As two volumes a year have been issued for several years past, the Reporter has been in regular receipt of \$4,000 yearly. The cost to the Reporter of a volume of reports is about \$150. The Reporter has a monopoly of the sale. Each volume is sold at \$500 per volume. Leading lawyers and all law libraries must have the reports of the Supreme Court of the United States. It is estimated that its Reporter is in receipt, from his office, of about \$20,000 a year. The Secretary of State, one of the leading lawyers of the country, is paid \$8,000 a year, and the Reporter of the Supreme Court, a lawyer not as well known as Mr. Evarts, receives \$20,000 a year for his valuable services. This anomaly should be removed. The bill now before the House proposes to fix the salary of the Reporter at \$4,500 a year, and an additional \$500 for every additional volume published in any one year. The Public Printer would have the sale of the volumes of reports after they were printed and bound. The price is fixed at ten per cent. above the actual cost of printing and binding. Even this is an extravagant salary for the work required to be done. The editing of modern reports is a very slight matter. The old reports are full of the learning of the reporters—enriched with notes. The new reports are rushed through. All their learning is contained in the opinions of the judges. The unofficial learning of the professions now goes into special articles in the law magazines, and into the discussions of the authors of textbooks. The modern reporter of decisions is simply an index clerk and

proof-reader. The ability required in a Reporter is not very great. His salary should be small. Reporters are usually lawyers without practice, but with good friends. The whole people should not be taxed to support them in luxury.—*New York Graphic.*

Correspondence.

COLDWATER, May, 9, 1879

Bro. Cobb: The Branch County Pomona Grange met with Bronson Grange on May 2d, and it was the meeting of the season. A lively interest was manifested by all, and we believe the plan of meeting with the different Granges of the County is working admirably. Our exercises consist of reports from Subordinate Granges, essays, discussions upon topics of interest to the agriculturist. The question box we find of advantage, and a fruitful and profitable source of discussion. A farm visiting committee is appointed, consisting of three brothers and sisters, who are expected to visit the farm and home of some brother, and report at the next meeting, with such suggestions and criticisms as they shall deem proper. As your humble servant is one of the victims to be visited next time, you may expect rather a blue report. The question will be: "Is the cultivation of Flowers Profitable for the Agriculturists?" But I see I am taking too much space and have but commenced. Of our meeting, suffice it to say it was a perfect success. We are receiving applications for membership at every meeting, and this year we have decided by a unanimous vote to hold our annual picnic on June 11th at William's Grove, to which all friends of the agriculturists are cordially invited. With such men as our Executive Committee is composed of, or a Committee of Arrangements, there is no such word as fail. Again let me say, that we desire all to join us for a day's recreation and profit, whether identified with the Order or not, who are friends of the laborer. When our arrangements are more fully made, we will write you in time for your next issue.

Fraternally yours,
WALLACE E. WRIGHT,
Secretary.

COLDWATER, April 30th.

It has been some time since I have told you anything about Coldwater Grange, No. 137, but it has not been because there was nothing to tell.

Our Grange is in a fine condition. We have had meetings semi-monthly all the Spring, with a good attendance. We have had some excellent articles read before the Grange, and the discussions of the questions brought up have been well sustained. The 15th of April we had a fine article on the culture of corn, followed by a discussion, and last evening we had an article on the raising of calves and colts, by one of the younger brothers, also a declamation.

We voted to hold our meetings semi-monthly through the summer.

We have a Farm and Home Visiting Committee, from which we expect to be greatly benefited, in fact it seems as though each member was doing his or her best to make the meetings interesting.

We have, in the last three months, initiated three new members, and taken five by demit.

Hoping that other Granges may be as harmonious as we are, and as prosperous as they deserve to be, I remain fraternally,
EMILY A. HORTON,
Secretary.

OAKLAND County.

Wheat in parts of this County looks poorly. Spring has been cold and dry, and has been fine for putting in barley, spring wheat, and oats. Goodly breadths of all these have been put in, and at this date, (May 6th), are very promising. Wheat is 94 cents; corn, 32c.; oats, 25c.; potatoes, 60c. We send considerable produce to Mr. Chidester, our State Agent at Detroit, to sell, and make well by so doing. C.

THREE RIVERS, May 8, 1879.

The next meeting of St. Joseph Co. Pomona Grange, will be held in Centerville the first Thursday in June at 10 o'clock A. M. All 4th Degree members are cordially invited to attend. The 5th Degree will be conferred upon all persons applying in due form.
W. G. LELAND, Sec.

THE GAME OF LIFE.

BY JOHN G. SAXE.

There's a game much in fashion—I think it's called *euchre*, (Though I have never played it for pleasure or lucre.)

In which when the cards are in certain conditions, The players appear to have changed their positions,

And one of them cries, in a confident tone, "I think I may venture to go it alone!"

While watching the game, 'tis a whim of the bards,

A moral to draw from the skirmish of cards, And to fancy he finds in the trivial strife Some excellent hints for the battle of life; Where—whether the prize be a ribbon or throne— The winner is he who can "go it alone."

When great Galileo proclaimed that the world In a regular orbit was ceaselessly whirled, And got not a convert for all of his pains, But only derision, and prison and chains, "It moves, for all that," was his answering tone, For he knew, like the earth, he could "go it alone."

When Kepler, with intellect piercing afar, Discovered the laws of each planet and star, And doctors, who ought to have lauded his name, Derided his learning and blackened his fame, "I can wait," he replied, "till the truth you shall own," For he felt in his heart he could "go it alone."

Alas, for the player who idly depends In the struggle of life, upon kindred or friends, Whatever the value of blessings like these, They can never atone for inglorious ease, Nor comfort the coward, who finds, with a groan, That his crutches have left him to "go it alone."

There's something, no doubt, in the hand you may hold, Health, family, culture, wit, beauty and gold, The fortunate owner may fairly regard As, each in its way, a most excellent card, Yet the game may be lost, with all these for your own, Unless you've the courage to "go it alone."

In battle or business, whatever the game, In law or in love it is always the same, In the struggle for power, or the scramble for pelf, Let this be your motto—"Rely on Yourself," For, whether the prize be a ribbon or throne, The victor is he who can "go it alone."

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

WESTERN Pomona Grange, No. 19, Ottawa and Muskegon Counties, holds its regular quarterly meeting at Muskegon on the 22d inst, at 10 a. m., and continues until noon the 23rd. This meeting is Flora's festival. W. M. Woodman and Bro. Thomas Mason, agent of the North-western Produce Exchange Association, will be present and address the Patrons.

National Lecturer.

It is expected that Bro. Mortimer Whitehead, the Worthy Lecturer of the National Grange, will visit Michigan between June 9 and 19, unless he can be induced to defer the time until August. County and District Granges wishing to have a lecture and instruction from him should inform this office or the Master at once, that arrangements may be made to save time, travel and expense.

Bro. Whitehead is an earnest, zealous Patron, and believes in the higher aims and objects of our Order. I wish that every Patron in the State could hear him. Let Counties so arrange that the greatest number can come with the least time and expense to those who attend.

P. S. Bro. Whitehead will come to Michigan on the 9th of June, and will give us 10 days work. Send in your applications to fill up the whole time. He is ready to work and will give private meetings in time.

Twenty years ago, this country did not export more than a million pounds of cheese. The aggregate is now over sixty millions.

A sudden lowering of the temperature of the stable, or the exposure of cows to a cold rain storm, has been found in several instances to reduce the yield of milk from twenty-five to forty per cent. in a few days.

Communications.

Programmes for Mason Grange, No. 265.

APRIL 5TH, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Sowing Plaster, A. J. Holley, J. Q. Thompson, Miller & Fitzsimmons; Clearing Waste Places, N. H. Gardner and L. H. Ives; Reading, Mrs. Nettie Rowe; Windmill and Pumps for Watering Stock, G. W. Shafer.

APRIL 12TH, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Profitable Truck for Farm Garden, W. Asa Rowe; Family Literature, Mrs. L. H. Ives, Mrs. R. C. Rowe; Corn vs. Oats for Profit, D. C. Smith, C. A. Holden, James Wiley; Reminiscences of Pioneer Days, H. H. Hawley.

APRIL 19TH, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Raising Calves, E. P. Rowe, O. E. Miller; Care of Front Yards, Mrs. N. H. Gardner, Mrs. Nettie Rowe; Telling A Story, H. Bristol; How I Manage Wash-days, Mrs. D. Fitzsimmons, Mrs. J. Q. Thompson.

APRIL 26th, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Proper Food and Care for Work Horses, D. L. Cady; Training Colts, C. A. Holden and Chas. Kendall; How to Make Little Attractions for Home Adornment, Mrs. H. Bristol, Mrs. Thompson.

MAY 3d, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Shall We Wash our Sheep? Messrs. Hawley, Stillman, Bullen, Ives; Care of Swine in Summer, O. F. Colgrove, D. C. Smith; The Back Yard, L. H. Ives, Mrs. Colgrove, Mrs. Miller.

MAY 10TH, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Can We Afford to do without Suitable Scales for Weighing Produce? Messrs. H. Bristol, Hawley, and Bullen; When to Cut Clover for Hay, W. Asa Howe, O. B. Stillman, and others; How to Amuse the Little Folks, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Ives.

MAY 17TH, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Does it pay to Make Rag Carpets? Mrs. Shafer and Mrs. Miller; Care of Farm Implements, H. A. Hawley and D. L. Cady; Odd Jobs for Rainy Days, Huntley and H. C. Rowe; House Plants, Mrs. Dwinell and Mrs. H. A. Kendall.

MAY 24TH, 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Insurance of Farm Property, O. F. Miller; The Most Profitable Disposition of Ashes, Messrs. Bullen, Booth, and Fitzsimmons; Management of Farm Help, Messrs. Bristol, Ives, and Booth; The Opportunities of To-day as Compared with Those "When I was a Girl," Mrs. O. B. Stillman.

Farmers Should Have a Scrap-book.

To the editor of the *Homestead*.

I saw in the *Farmers' Review* some valuable suggestions from Prof. W. J. Beal on the importance of study by farmers and of their keeping notes, both of their own plans, and such as they might find of others in reading. The article "not me to thinkin'" and I chide myself for not having had a better plan before in saving valuable articles, receipts, and suggestions of others. Who does not get in every paper ideas valuable for reference, short notes—the cream of some one's thought? But, when wanted, the paper is either gone, or else one is unable to turn to it, having lost the date.

The case is not much better, even if the paper is filed, as without proper index, we might look in vain. Farmers are a busy class, and when they want a mislaid scrap or memorandum, they never like to turn the bureau or book-cubboard inside out, or call to their aid a pitchfork! Oh, no! that would be unfeeling like. How can we preserve all these good things so as to find them in the decimal of a second? That is the question.

It has some difficulties. Want or time and skill to cut out, write or arrange printed clippings with a good article on one side, and no good plan. "Mark Twain" scrap books are nice, so are cut-glass paper weights and many other things, but they are not in this cheap method. When reading such papers as you do not care to file, have a scissors at hand to cut out, and if your fingers are all thumbs from hard farm labor, just ask your little Bessie to do it. Make notes also of such as you wish to file, and any experiments, studies, or plans you have in progress, address of any person, price list, or any thing liable to be wanted on short notice, and equally liable to be just in the wrong place at that very time. Put

these in a big book (portfolio) or some safe place, until they begin to look "sizeable;" when that rainy day comes, sort them and fasten in a scrap-book with paste. Mucilage discolors the paper so as to make it exceedingly difficult to read. A good scrap book is such a volume as "Joint Documents" issued by the periodical publishing house of the State of Michigan. Be sure, though, and not take one which is *in use*.

Take out some leaves, but keep the paging of those pasted upon it in sight; fasten those with articles on both sides by the left edge, keep similar articles together as much as possible, and don't crowd any of them. When one book is filled, plenty more can be had. Perhaps the University will be investigated, or the Commissioner of Agriculture will send his report from Washington. Letter the scrap-books A, B, C, etc., on the back.

For the index, which is the important part, get a thin, good sized blank book with alphabet on margin, like the index to a ledger. For example, enter under A. Address—A 10, meaning somebody's address may be found on page 10 of volume A. Bees—B 2, C—14, meaning that in volumes B and C, on pages 2 and 14 will be found something on bees, it may be clipped from a paper, or a written observation of your own. So go on, leaving plenty of room under each head, and enter in place such as Corn, Cattle, Horses, Potatoes, Wheat, etc.; or if the entries are more for the household, such as Cake, Pies, Pansies, Washing, etc. Where reference is made to papers on file, it might be indexed, M. H.—No. 2, to be found in *Michigan Homestead* No. 2, etc. After the headings are once made, the index will last a long time, the entry is made in a moment, and everything can be found quickly. The scrap-book, in time, then becomes of much value and of constant reference. G. E. S.

Elk Rapids, April 5.

Canada Thistles.

THORNAPPLE, May 4th, 1879.

Worthy Secretary:

I noticed in one of your late issues a plan to kill Canada thistles. Perhaps I might be of service to my brother farmers by giving my plan.

As soon as they appear in the spring, every time I salt my sheep or cattle, I go to the patch and drop a small handful of salt upon each spear. The stock will eat them off below the ground, and will scoup out a small cavity to get the salt. That will have a tendency to carry the salt water down upon the roots when the rains come during the summer. I continue at least every two weeks or so, every time they show their heads, and as the leaves are the lungs of the plant, you keep the air from them and they soon die, it rarely takes more than the first summer to get rid of them. When I come into possession of the farm I now occupy, it had six patches upon it, the size of a table to six rods square. I have eradicated every one with very little trouble. But I did not let them get over one inch high, before I gave them another dose. If you only attend to them, you can get rid of them every time.

Fraternally yours,
E. K. LENT.

Food for Granges—Programme.

ORON, May 6th, 1879.

It has been said that "many Granges die for want of food."

I have no doubt that most of our Granges realize great difficulty in making the meetings interesting and attractive. In our own Grange we have often found this difficulty, and have sometimes spent unprofitably the time which should have been devoted to discussions of subjects in which we could all join.

At our two last meetings we have adopted and worked on a regular programme, *a la Prof. Beal*, and we find it works admirably.

Here is a programme for our next meeting, and you will see that it contains subjects of interest to all farmers and their wives.

- Making and applying barnyard manure.—D. B. Swayze.
- The Grange paper.—Miss Andrewa.
- Song.—Clara Axford.
- Salt as a fertilizer.—R. D. Andrews.
- Can dairying be made profitable on opening lands?—A. B. Frost.
- Song.—Blanche Carpenter.
- Treatment of a hired girl.—Mrs. Ella Owen.

Ladies' Department.

An Essay on our Common Schools,
Read before Branch County Pomona
Grange, No. 22, by Emily A. Horton.

Believing, as I do, that our common or primary schools are the foundation of our National prosperity, I feel that it is a matter of vital importance to us, whether they come up to the high standard of perfection, or not. Day by day, all over the land, in our common schools, the Nation is being built up. Teachers who are competent, and those who are incompetent, some good and some bad—for there are both—have charge of this most important work. From all these different fountains of knowledge, the youth of our country are being fed and nurtured. And according to natural laws, they will be largely made up of the ailments they consume. As there should be no lack of good, healthful food to develop their bodies—and all good parents see to that—so should they have good mental food, and all they can digest too, not weak, trashy stuff, upon which they will develop into wishy-washy men and women. Our school system has made great strides in the last fifty years, but has it made the progress it ought? How many of us think we would hire a man to plow our land for crops, and never go into the field to see how he did his work? And yet how many of us visit our schools? We do not teach our children by example that we consider their education of the first importance. We do not give the teacher to understand, by visiting the school, that we are interested in the manner in which he does his work, and will have no skip in his plowing the fair soil of our children's minds. We should demand the best qualifications, both of capability and adaptation, in our teachers. In return we should give good remuneration and just commendation for work well done. Under the present arrangement of our schools, there is not much incentive for an ambitious young man or woman to adopt the vocation of district school teacher, as they must change their field of labor every few months; they must be without a home as long as they teach; and their salary is not large enough to warrant them in pursuing it as a business for life, with the expectation of a home in their old age; so no matter how well they like, or how well they are adapted to the business, common prudence forbids them from engaging in this most honorable calling. I know a lady thirty years of age, who has taught for several years, who is an excellent teacher, and loves the calling, who will probably never marry, who will, in the coming spring, quit teaching to write for the press. I said to her, "I am sorry to see you step out of the teachers' ranks, you are so well qualified to teach, and you can do so; much good." Her reply silenced me she said, "I don't know whether I am called upon to forego a home now, and no prospect of one in the future, as the result of my labor, even if I can do more good teaching than I can by writing stories." It told a sad story to me. The editor of our fireside papers can afford to pay one dollar per column for just average stories, and the people foot the bills; but we cannot afford to keep the best talent in our schools. We pay high prices for all goods we wear and food we consume, if we are satisfied we are getting our money's worth; but when it comes to employing our teachers, we do not say, "What can you do for us?" but, "What do you ask per month?" and if the price exceed enough to keep the aspirant in shoes and umbrellas, we think it is too much, they must either come down in their demand, go bare-foot, or give up the idea of saving any money for future use.

Now it seems to me there is no place more fitting than the Grange to discuss our educational interests, and by "discuss" I mean for all to feel an interest, and take part in thought at least. Let us agitate the subject, let us look at it in all its bearings, and there will surely be results following investigation and thought that will be astonishing, for there are many good minds in the Grange; and towards whatever objects they direct their thoughts, it is sure to be moved.

I liken the management of our district schools to a man who is building a house that he hopes will last for his

children's children. He consults an architect, he has a fine plan drawn up, perfect in all its details, he accepts it. "And now, my friend," says the architect, "if you want a good job of work, one that you can depend on and be proud of, I would recommend Mr. A. He has worked out many of my plans, he is a skillful workman, and never fails to give satisfaction." "Well," you say, "what are his terms?" He replies that they are about fifty cents per day more than ordinary workmen, "but," he says, "I think it pays, as his work is exact and substantial, there being no tearing down and building again where he has the job." But you, feeling that fifty cents a day is worth saving, look around, and you find a man out of employment, and he will work on your house for half the money Mr. A. demands; and although you do not know much about his work, you think there is so great a difference in the price, you will give him your work to do. He begins, and carries on the work with vigor. He is merry and gay. Care sits lightly, if at all, on his shoulders, and you are delighted to see your building progress so rapidly. He is always saying, "Hurry up there, boys; that's all right, no use spending too much time measuring; we want to get this job done." But by and by you begin to see cracks in the walls, and even to your unpracticed eye, they are not just plumb, and you remonstrate with him, and finally dismiss him, for fear the walls may fall on your head. And at last you call in your skilled workman. You say, "Mr. A., what will have to be done?" He examines it carefully, and finally says the trouble is in the foundation, and one of two things will have to be done; either to take down every brick and stone, and build a substantial foundation or else strengthen the structure with bolts and props, and always regret its weakness every time you look at it. And either way it will cost him more than to have employed the better workman in the beginning.

But it is not houses we are building in our schools; it is the future men and women of our land—your children and mine. They are to be the Nation when we are no more. And shall we give the building of their character less thought and care than we do the building of houses? All the higher branches are well taught. Our colleges, State normal, and union schools are all doing their part in a workmanlike manner; but they have many bad foundations to build on. It is in our common schools that the greatest defects are found; there is a lack of thoroughness in rudimental teaching; there are too many text books; there are too few maps and charts; in many school houses there is not even a dictionary, and the only way to remedy these defects is for each one of us to give the subject careful thought. Let us visit the schools now and then. Let us have good teachers and give them wages enough so that they need not board around. Let us feel that they are co-workers with us in building up the characters of our sons and daughters, and give them our hearty aid in their work. It seems to me if we could make a reformation in the matter of text-books, there would be a great saving in time. All text-books of the same grade, even by different authors, teach the same thing, or should; and if all of the same grade used the same books, the time used for two or three recitations might be had for one, and there would be much more time for explanations and illustrations. History, philosophy, physiology, physical geography, and mental arithmetic—all need at least one-half hour for recitation; but where is the time if you have two fourth reading classes, two third reading, and two second, and so on *ad infinitum*. No wonder our teachers fall in many points to fill our expectations. And shall we allow this state of things to go on year after year without any change. We see improvements springing up on every hand, as by magic; but no fairy wand touches the district school with its enchanting spell, and never will, until the plain, practical men and women, and their earnest thought are brought to bear upon the defects in the system, and as an out-growth of their thought, will come the reformation. Think and talk about it. Let us have the library money used for its legitimate purpose, and, by the by, why not have the library in the school house? It would not be much trouble to the teacher to act as

librarian. If we had the amount appropriated by law—if but ten dollars per year—expended in good books adapted to school use—such as elements of botany, physical geography, astronomy, geology, zoology, standard histories, and encyclopedias, and the library kept in the school room, it would be a help to both teacher and pupil, and it would not take many years to collect a valuable library—one that would have a great effect on the general intelligence of both teachers and pupils, and even society at large would be benefited by it. The Grange is the fit place to begin this work.

Governing Children.

There is nothing that comes into one's every day life, wherein is more diversity of opinion displayed than in governing children. All look to the same end, namely: to bring up their children so that the world shall be the better for their having lived in it; but there are nearly as many ways of reaching this end as there are parents or guardians. While some seem to think the only way to rule them is with a rod of iron, and are sure to quote the proverb, "Spare the rod and spoil the child," others take the other extreme, and believe entirely in moral suasion. While we do not look upon the rod as the only means to be employed in teaching the child the difference between right and wrong, we also believe a certain amount of correction, judiciously administered, has often a salutary effect, and enables a wayward child to discriminate between what it should and what it should not do. Our children are, in a great measure, reflections of ourselves. If we give way to a hasty temper, and are overbearing in our treatment of them, can we expect they will be models of good nature and even dispositions? If we depart from the strictest integrity in our dealings with them, who is to blame if they grow up with lax ideas of truth?

How many parents try to govern their children by telling them the old woman will catch them, or the bears will eat them up, or something else as far from the exact truth as that; and when they detect their children in what is known as a white lie, are extremely shocked at the innate depravity of human nature. There is no such thing as a white lie; oh, no! they are all black lies, and the parents who allow themselves to "sow the wind," will most assuredly "reap the whirlwind." But some mother may say, "I don't govern my children in that way, but what I want to know is how to make them mind."

Experience has shown me that a good way is never to really command a child, unless you expect them to perform, and when you give a command, make them *look you in the eye*. This may seem very foolish to those who have never thought of it before, but I have found it a great help in governing children. I have seen parents who always *asked* their children to do or not to do, instead of ordering them, and I have noticed they were more apt to be heeded than those who were more peremptory in their manner. Children like to be treated with a certain amount of respect as well as those of a larger growth; and the surest way to make children bad is to be always reminding them how ugly they are. We know how pleasant praise is to ourselves, and why withhold it from the little ones when they are justly entitled to it.

Never oblige one child to give up its rights to another, but rather encourage them to each vie with the other in being unselfish. I once heard a mother say of a grown son, "It was always his greatest pleasure when he was a child to see others happy," and it seems to have grown with his growth, and strengthened with his strength, judging from his actions. An unselfish child is almost sure to become a generous man or woman; while, on the other hand, one who is allowed to tease and injure anything merely to gratify his own selfish nature, will be very apt to ignore the rights of both man and beast when grown to manhood. King Lear says,

"How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is
To have a thankless child."

He might have added, "And sharper still to have one never governed."

CHLOE.

DETERIORATION is simply the result of bad farming.

Farmer's Daughters.

The following sensible essay on the education of farmers' daughters, was recently read before the Farmers' Institute at Mason, by Mrs. E. M. Moore:

Very much has been said in regard to how we should bring up our girls. In the great battle of life, what will be likely to be of the most practical use to them—a thorough knowledge of household duties, or a musical education? If they are to become the wives of farmers or mechanics, what will best enable them to be, what every woman should be, a helpmate for the man she wed—a knowledge of mathematics, or a knowledge of how to make good light bread? What do you think will give them the most satisfaction? If they chance to rise some morning, a few years hence, in a house of their own, where there is breakfast to get, milk to skim, pies to make and bread to bake, churning to do and butter to work, rooms to sweep and beds to make—and those are but a few of the many things that need to be done—perhaps two or three little ones to care for, then they will realize the necessity of knowing how to accomplish those duties at a proper time. If they chance to get a husband who is able to keep a hired girl (and all girls do not), do you know of one who is capable of taking care of another woman's household, managing it all, or in part for her? I do not think the experience of those who have had to depend upon hired help is pleasant enough to induce any sane woman to wish to trust the management of her household affairs in the hands of hired help, who are often inexperienced and incompetent, and only fit for help, and quite generally poor help at that. Many an unhappy, accomplished woman has had to learn of her mother-in-law how to perform those little every-day duties which must be attended to in every home, and which every mother should take care to teach her daughters before they are qualified to take charge of a house of their own.

Then what will lighten the burden of care, which rests heavily enough upon the young mother at best? I will tell you what I think about it: A thorough knowledge of homely household duties. Yes, there is no mistake about it. There is nothing like knowing just what to do and just how to do it. Under such circumstances, a woman whose mother taught her how to do all kinds of house work when a girl, can accomplish more in one day than can be done in three by the inexperienced one who has to work at a disadvantage for a lack of knowing how.

Can any one doubt this? Let them make inquiry among their friends, and take a peep into their kitchen pantries, and see if this is not true. Do not understand me to advocate keeping girls in ignorance? Far be it from me to say anything of the kind. I believe in sending them to school and giving them an equal chance with their brothers, whenever it can be done. In fact, parents owe their children a common school education, and all the extras they can afford to give them besides; but, mothers, do not neglect the practical part; if you do, the result will be bitter tears, many hardships—smiles and mirthfulness all gone, simply because they do not understand the practical workings of science of domestic economy, and struggle and labor hard to do well, what they might do well with ease, if they only knew how.

Right here allow me to say a few words about the fashionable ladies of the day. What are their aims in life? They do not appear to have any outside of the desire to dress finer and be considered more fashionable than their neighbor, and to look upon farmers' sons and daughters as inferior beings.

A few evenings since a young Miss, upon being introduced to a fine, generous, open-hearted fellow, whose broad and expressive forehead was the symbol of his acres, was heard to exclaim, "O! he is nothing but a farmer!" And who was she that looked thus disdainfully on God's noble men? Why, she was the daughter of a broken-down merchant, whose fortune had been ruined by the extravagance of a wife and a foolishly-proud daughter. Though her father's heart had been wrung by misfortune, and he had paid the penalty of his extravagance by being incarcerated in the home prepared for criminals, his daughter had not yet learned the difference between pride and worth, extravagance and wealth.

Did these foolish persons ever read

their bibles, they would find that God Himself has selected his prophets and kings from among farmers. Noah was a husbandman and planted a vineyard; Abraham was rich in cattle; and Lot had flocks and herds, inasmuch that there was not pasture for both, and they divided the country. Lot took the great plains of Jordan, and Abraham took the hilly country of Canaan, Jacob was a great cattle grower, as he presented Esau with several hundred cattle. Moses was a wool-grower, and Gideon was taken from the threshing floor. Saul was a herdsman, even while he was king. David was a shepherd, and was taken from that occupation to be king of Israel. Uzziah was a cattle-grower. Elisha was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen when Elijah cast his mantle on him and called him to be a prophet of the Most High. And yet, though God has honored the husbandman — selected his kings and prophets from among the farmers — are some so foolish as to cry out, "O! he is only a farmer!"

Now, mothers what shall we teach our daughters, aside from household duties? I answer, teach them to be courteous to the poor and lowly as well as to the wealthy; to be self-reliant in all cases; teach them to have some aim in view; cast aside all foolish pride and work for some good, be it ever so lowly; teach them to carry themselves so loftily that men shall look up to them as models of all that is worthy the name of woman. In conclusion, I would say to my young sisters, encourage the farmer boys; their faces may be browned with the sun, their hands may be hardened with labor; but beneath their jackets are hearts that are loyal and true, to which you may safely trust your happiness, and on whom you may depend for your pork and cabbage.

Encouraging the Sisters.

SALEM, March 11th, '79.
As I make the attempt to write, such a multitude of thoughts occupy my mind, so many subjects present themselves to me that, I scarcely know which to select, but I have finally decided to say a few words to the sisters, by way of encouragement.

I must say that a thrill of joy and gladness came over me as I thought what a desirable change this Grange movement had brought about, more particularly to my sisters and myself. My sisters, we should be glad that we have lived to see the day when farmers' wives are something more than mere household drudges, when the chief aim of our life is not to cook, eat and wash dishes.

Words are inadequate to tell the great good that has come to us. Now we are permitted to write with our worthy husbands and brothers, to elevate and promoting the interests of husbandry. We can now stand beside them and do earnest work in the Grange, in the temperance cause, or any cause that has for its motive the uplifting of fallen humanity.

My sisters, the most of you are much younger than myself. I hope you have a long life before you, in which you may do much to bless the world, and that you will do all in your power to make the Grange inviting and instructive.

It is a recognized fact everywhere that there is enough to be done to elevate the plane of humanity, both in the moral and intellectual world to engage the best efforts of all men and women. Accepting these facts, as all must, and as we are banded together by a common calling, influenced by a general necessity, inspired by a true faith, animated by a lively hope, all fostered and nurtured by a common brotherhood, how can we best accomplish the work before us? If we would have a good effective Grange we must do the work that such a Grange should do, remembering that each separate Grange is just what the members that compose it make it.

Sisters, it appears to me that our duty is clear; let it never be said that the only organization to which women are admitted languishes, or is in danger of extinction. Let us be sure to do our part of the work well, and in faith that our Order will be permanent and effective. Our order was a necessity, and it is still demanded by the agriculturists for their mutual benefit and protection, and organized for wise and beneficent purposes. Very much has already been accomplished, but it really appears to me that some expect

to have a good Grange with very little, or no effort, to make it such.

Sister Patrons, I have been greatly pleased and encouraged of late by the apparent interest you have taken in the literary exercises in our Grange; I have also been benefited and strengthened.

My experience has ever been that when I lay aside self and act with reference to the good of others I receive the greatest benefit and blessing myself, oftentimes in ten-fold proportion.

My sisters, let us show our worthy brothers that we appreciate their kindness to us in making us their equals in the Grange. First, by standing erect and defending the Grange when it is assailed, not simply because it has been or is a benefit to us, but because it is right in itself, and a blessing to the world at large.

It is an old adage, "give some an inch and they will take an ell," and as women are here allowed to be equal to men, we are inclined to make the most of our opportunities. The good the Grange has done us, and the experience it has given us, are remembered, and we shall never settle down to the position we once occupied.

Let us convince our worthy husbands and brothers that we live for a higher and nobler purpose than simply to be controlled by fashion and display, and make ourselves a bill of expense; but we consider ourselves under obligations as helpmates, and also fully competent to use the means within our reach for such purposes, and in such a manner as to help them to enjoy the good things of this world, and add to their comfort, prosperity, self-respect, dignity, independence and usefulness, and improving our time profitably, so that its effects upon them shall be elevating and our example such as to convince all that we are just what we appear to be.

Let us not be vain or foolish enough to suppose that true womanhood consists in elegance of dress or finery; let us aim to glorify God by useful and holy lives, and prove ourselves a blessing to the world, and such as are anxious to know what good will come as a reward of our Grange work. Show that one of the best of farm products is grand noble men and women, and there will always be room for them to work, and work for them to do. Let us, then, work in true love and abound in that charity which is the bond of perfectness. Let us work faithfully, add dignity to labor, and never be ashamed to have it known that we are members of the Grange family, and that we have the good of the Grange at heart, and are trying to act well our part in the great battle of life. Life is real, and time fast passing and too full of importance to be trifled with. Let us seek, to elevate ourselves to a higher plane of existence, and take up life's burdens with strong hearts and willing hands let us aim to catch every little sunbeam that flits across our pathway, instead of grasping heartaches and shadows.

None of us are exempt from early trials and crosses, but they may act upon our lives as refining fire to give us strength of character.

There are many ways to draw happiness from every day circumstances of our life, a cheerful word, or even a smile, may send gladness into somebody's heart, then when we lay down our life work and take that long dreary sleep that knows no waking till the judgement morn, it is not so much matter whether the question then be asked if we were model housekeepers and good cooks, but it does matter if the question arises whether we have done any good in the world, and if our memory is precious to any outside our own home circle. It will be a precious legacy to the world if we have brought up our children well, so that they may say of us, like George Washington did of his mother, "All I am I owe to my mother."

My sisters, may our brothers never have cause to regret that we were admitted into the Grange; let none of us fail to do our part in helping to push forward this glorious work, until the farmers of this fair country rise above the position of hewers of wood and drawers of water. Let us go forward in this work, overcoming every obstacle and bringing all within its influence, nearer to the good, the beautiful and the true. May all our labors be characterized by harmony and wisdom, and our acts result in promoting the welfare and prosperity of our Order.

And now, my sisters, my heart goes out to you one and all, as members of

the same fraternity, and I earnestly desire that none shall excuse themselves from any work assigned them in the Grange, for it is evident that if every one does his, or her part, we shall prosper as a Grange, and improve morally, intellectually and socially.
Yours fraternally,

Correspondence.

WESTMINSTER WEST, April 26, 1879.
Worthy Brother:

I had not intended saying anything further on the interest question, but since receiving the VISITOR of the 15th inst., I have been reading carefully what Bro. Spaulding says for "Vermont farmer to consider," and while I agree with all he says in regard to law regulating money, etc., except perhaps the "meeting-house upside down," I still fail to see a single word bearing upon the point under discussion, viz: What right has the State to say what I shall get for the use of my money? I rather suspect from Bro. Spaulding's article that he has the idea that our hard times are caused by the want of more money as a circulating medium. If he will consider how rapidly our Government 4 per cent bonds are taken by our own people, I think he will see his mistake. And right here let me say, Does it not furnish food for reflection, that while our brother farmers in Michigan are petitioning the Legislature to limit the rate of interest to 7 per cent, Government 4 per cent bonds are taken readily — even in Michigan. Why is it?
VERMONT FARMER.

DOWAGIAC, May 7th, 1879.
Worthy Bro. Cobb:

Since a high railroad official in Chicago made his boast that they could control and direct any legislation which affected their interests by a judicious distribution of railroad passes among members of the Legislature, it has aroused the people of Illinois to the danger of this pernicious practice, and the result is that the Judiciary Committee report and recommend the passage of a bill making it a penal offense for any member to receive, or any railroad official to offer, free passes. If Michigan had such a law, all necessary business of the legislative session would have been completed in 90 days, saving the tax-ridden people over \$40,000 or \$50,000, in expense. Now they go home nearly every Friday on their free passes, and no more business is done until the next Tuesday, while they draw pay for every day, Sunday and all, from the commencement to the final adjournment of the session, let the people agitate this subject, and never vote for another member of either house unless he is pledged to support a law prohibiting the free pass railroad bribes.

It looks now as if all the general reforms demanded by the people would be defeated by this expensive and dilatory Legislature, which seems to be controlled by interested lobbyists, as was the Senate interest bill, where the people demanded a stringent usury law, they have thrown the door wide open to Shylocks and extortioners. How preposterous to enact any law without restriction or penalty, and I am surprised that some men who appear to be sound on other subjects should advocate such an absurdity.
Yours fraternally,
H. H. Taylor.

ORION, May 8th, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb,
Enclosed find \$25.14, being fees and dues for the first quarter of this year. Our Grange is in good working order, but the most of our work has been initiating for the last three months. We have over one hundred active members. Last fall our W. M. Hiram Andrews, appointed a visiting committee of two brothers and two sisters, who were to notify some brother that such a day they were coming to his place. Then each sister took a part of the household, and one brother examined the farm, and the other the stock and the buildings. Each would make a report at the next Grange meeting, either in writing or by verbal statement. Our Grange has a good attendance every two weeks. Another thing I wish to mention: Our Worthy Lecturer, C. K. Carpenter, to avoid work himself, prepares a programme of questions, and names the brothers and sisters that

shall lead on those questions. Last Saturday we had a meeting and there were four questions discussed. We also have good singing. We are fully persuaded that the Grange is of great value and advantage to all farmers who really desire to be benefited by it. Last spring I sent you a small club for the VISITOR. Please send me a few copies, and I will get up another club.
PAYNE AXFORD,
Secretary Orion Grange, No. 259.

"Five or six years of married life," remarks a veteran, "will often reduce a naturally irascible man to such a condition of angelic humanity that it would not be safe to trust him with a pair of wings."

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.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

GLASS — Died, in Flint Township, Genesee Co., Mich., April 8th, 1879, Sister Margaret A. Glass, aged 42 years, a beloved member of Flushing Grange, No. 387; wife of John Glass. In this dispensation, the Grange has lost a cherished member and friend, the memory of whose cheerful countenance, gentle and affable manners and gentle spirit will not soon be forgotten by those who knew her best.

PRICE LIST of SUPPLIES

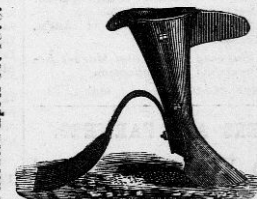
Kept in the office of the Secretary of the MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.
And sent out Post Paid, on Receipt of Cash Order, over the seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.

- Ballot Boxes, (hard wood),.....\$1 25
- Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred,.... 60
- Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep accounts with members,..... 1 00
- Blank Record Books, (Express paid),..... 1 00
- Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound,..... 50
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- Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound,.... 50
- Cushing's Manual,..... 60
- Applications for Membership, per 100,.... 50
- Membership Cards, per 100,..... 50
- Withdrawal Cards, per doz.,..... 25
- Dimits, in envelopes, per doz.,..... 25
- By-Laws of the State and Subordinate Granges, single copies 3c, per doz.,..... 35
- New kind of Singing Books, with music, Single copy 15 cts., per doz.,..... 1 80
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- Blanks for Consolidation of Granges, sent free on application.....
- Blank Applications for Membership in Pomona Granges, furnished free on application.....
- Blank "Articles of Association" for the Incorporation of Subordinate Granges with Copy of Charter, all complete,.... 10
- Patron's Pocket Companion, by J. A. Cramer, Cloth,..... 60
- Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100, .. 40

Address, J. T. COBB,
SECY MICH. STATE GRANGE,
SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

THE KALAMAZOO DRILL TOOTH!

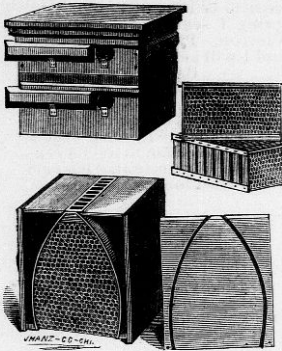
Patented April 30, 1878.



Also, Jan'y 21, 1876.

SCATTERS THE SEED EVENLY 3 1/2 inches wide under the Shovel. An Adjustable Governor Regulates the Depth, and Covers the Seed Uniformly from one to three inches, as desired. Combining all that is desirable in Broad-cast Seeding, with the advantages of Drilling. We also manufacture a Grain Drill, using this Tooth, which is Warranted to Give Satisfaction, or no sale. For further particulars address KALAMAZOO GRAIN DRILL CO., KALAMAZOO, MICH.

COLVINS' EUREKA BEE-HIVE and Honey Racks.



—ARE—

A DECIDED SUCCESS.

Fifty per cent more surplus comb honey than from any other Hive now in use. Highest testimonials from the most successful Bee-keepers in the State. New beginners, start right! Old Bee-keepers, look to your interest! Give this Hive a trial and see its superior merits.

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Schoolcraft, Mich.

Grange HEADQUARTERS.

THOMAS MASON,
General Commission Merchant,

183 SOUTH WATER STREET,
CHICAGO, - - ILLINOIS.

Purchasing Agent for the Patrons of Husbandry, authorized by Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange; Agent of the N. W. Produce Exchange Association, principal office, Buchanan, Mich.; also, Agent of the Michigan Lake Shore Fruit Growers' Association, Stevensville, Mich.

Respectfully solicits Consignments of

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, BUTTER, EGGS,

Poultry, Wool, Hides,

PELTS, TALLOW, and DRESSED HOGS.

GRAIN, HOGS, and CATTLE

In Car Lots. Also,

LUMBER in Car or Cargo Lots.

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

SUPERIOR FACILITIES,

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

Orders for goods in this market will be filled at lowest wholesale rates.

Cash must Accompany Orders to Insure Prompt Attention.

—REFERENCES—

Executive Committee of Mich. State Grange.
J. J. Woodman, Paw Paw, Mich.
J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.
Herman Schaffner & Co., Bankers, Chicago, Ill.
Thomas Mars, Berrien Centre, Mich.
W. A. Brown, Sec'y Mich. L. S. F. G. Ass'n, Stevensville, Mich.

Stencils, Shipping Tags, and Market Reports furnished on application.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED. mar.12'79

GRANGERS AND FARMERS,

Look to Your Interests!

We are now prepared to furnish you with the

Wolcott Patent Sectional-wheel Windmill,

Put on the cars at Albion, at regular WHOLESALE PRICES. This offer holds good wherever we have no Agents. The

Wolcott Mill has been 6 years in use. We can furnish hundreds

of testimonials. Write for Circulars and Price-list.
L. G. WOLCOTT,
Box 298, Albion, Mich.

Paints and Paris Green.

PRICES REDUCED FOR 1879.

PATRONS' PAINT COMPANY!

Ingersoll's Ready Mixed Paints,
Paris Green and Brushes.

Best and Cheapest Paints in the World.

Freight paid on Paint and Paris Green to all parts of the country. So it makes no difference where you live, you get goods at the same price as if you were at the Factory.

Our Book "How Every one can Paint," with 20 Brilliant Colors, Brushes, etc., illustrated, mailed free upon application to PATRONS' PAINT CO., 162 South St., N. Y.

—TRUSTEES:—

T. A. Thompson, Pres., Past Lec. Nat. Grange
Samuel E. Adams, of Minn., Master "
D. Wyatt Aiken, of S. C., Ch'm Ex. Com. "
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
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Department.

It is Owned, Edited and Managed
by FARMERS, and is an able Ex-
ponent 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.

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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

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

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

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

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



Our 24th

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Ladies' Linen Suits, at \$1.10 and upwards.
Serge, Mohair, Poplin, Bourette and Cashmere Suits at \$4.50 and upwards. All well made in the Latest Styles.

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We sell all goods at wholesale prices in any quantity to suit the purchaser. The only institution of the kind in America. Address,

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO.,
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I AM RECEIVING ORDERS FOR HONEY LOCUST,

From Patrons at Wholesale Prices, as follows:

One year, No. 1, very fine,..... \$4.00 per 1000
" " No. 2, good,..... 2.50 " "

I wish to deal directly with the farmer. Dealers are taking orders at \$6 to \$10 per 1000. Patrons will save money by dealing directly with me. I have several thousands yet to sell.

HENRY COLLINS,

Past Master 333, White Pigeon, Mich.
April 1st, 1879.

I WILL SELL

THREE INCH AND THREE AND ONE-FOURTH INCH THIMBLE-SKEIN WAGON, COMPLETE, FOR \$45.

THREE AND ONE-HALF INCH FOR \$48

THREE INCH AND THREE AND ONE-FOURTH INCH, WITHOUT BOX OR SEAT, \$35.

THREE AND ONE-HALF INCH, WITHOUT BOX OR SEAT, \$38.

ONE-HORSE WAGON, THILLS, BOX AND SPRING SEAT, \$35.

Delivered on Cars at Niles, Mich.

E. MURRAY.

MASTER'S OFFICE,

Paw Paw, Mich., April 20th.

E. Murray, Niles, Mich.:

DEAR SIR.—Your's of the 7th came in my absence, hence this delay to answer. In reply to your inquiry, I will state that the wagon you sent me, and which has been run one year, is entirely satisfactory. As yet, every part is perfect. There are several of your wagons in this vicinity that have run for several years, and I have heard of but one complaint, and that I do not regard as strictly reliable.

Yours truly,

J. J. WOODMAN.

Garden & Flower Seeds.

Thanking former patrons, we again offer GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS and PLANTS, &c., at low rates.

We Will Send \$1.50 worth of Seeds, in Papers or by the Ounce for One Dollar.

We will send PLANTS and SHRUBS by Express at 25 per cent Discount—and add enough to pay expressage. Correspondence, with stamp, invited. Send Orders early to

Lake Shore Greenhouse and Garden,
March 12-72. Muskegon, Mich

J. M. CHIDISTER,

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DEALER IN

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All kinds of Country Produce,

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BEES! BEES! BEES!

For Sale.—Choice Italians in movable-comb hives. For particulars and price address,
SOUTHARD & RANNEY,
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5-TON STOCK SCALES, \$50.

FREIGHT PAID, AND NO MONEY ASKED TILL TESTED.

JONES, of Binghamton,
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Paw Paw, Mich., May 18th, 1878.

JONES, OF BINGHAMTON: 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.

Yours, Fraternally,
[Signed] J. J. WOODMAN.

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PHILO OTIS,
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Manufacturer of
MORGAN, HALF MOOLEY
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Telegraph Grain Cradles, Hand Rakes, &c.

To Patrons, I offer my entire stock at wholesale prices, in lots to suit customers. Long experience, improved machinery, competent workmen, good timber, and honorable dealing. I ask and expect your patronage. Correspondence solicited, and promptly answered.

I will deliver goods by team within a radius of forty miles. Outside of that, will ship at Mason, or Williamson.

Repairs furnished when ordered.

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AFRIQUE.

AMERICAN,
CAPT. JACK,
CHAS. DOWNING,
GREEN PRAIRIE,
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JUCUNDA,
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AND 20 OTHER VARIETIES,

At 15 cts. per doz., 50 cts. per 100, \$2.50 per 500, \$4.00 per 1000.

HORT. DEPT. AGR'L. COLLEGE,
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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 feeds Condition Powders, either openly or secretly.

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

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

Put up in five pound packages, six packages in a box, at 12 cents a pound; or in sixty pound boxes at ten cents a pound. The receipt is noted on each package and box. Made by Dr. Oberholzer, at his mills, No. 2 Fetter Lane, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by R. E. JAMES, Kalamazoo Co-operative Association, No. 31 North Burdick St., Kalamazoo, Mich., and by J. M. CHAMBERS, Illinois State Business Agent, Chicago, Ill., at the Lowest Wholesale Price, when ordered under the seal of the Grange. may15-74