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THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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To Contributors.

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The "Legal Rights and Liabilities of the Farmer."

(Concluded.)

FENCES.

The doctrine is very generally held, I believe, notwithstanding the statute law of this State to a certain extent indicates a different theory: That the primary object of a farmer in fencing his farm, was too keep his own cattle and other animals within the limits of his own domain, not so much to keep other people's cattle out. On this theory the farmer, if he kept cattle of any kind, recognized the necessity of a suitable fence around his close, knowing full well that if they strayed into other people's grounds, and did any damage he would be liable therefore.

The statute law of this State makes it obligatory upon every farmer to keep up and maintain a lawful division or partition fence, between his own and his next adjoining enclosure in equal shares, so long as they shall each continue to improve them. (Compiled Laws, sec. 2, chap. 14).

All fences, four and one-half feet high, and in good repair, consisting of rails, timber, boards, or stone walls, or any combination thereof, and all brooks, rivers, ponds, creeks, ditches and hedg- es, or other things which shall be considered equivalent thereto, are legal fences within the statute (C. L., sec. 1, chap. 14).

If any party shall refuse or neglect to rebuild or repair his share of any partition fence, which of right he should maintain, he may be compelled by law to do so, or compelled to pay double the expense of repairing or rebuilding such partition fence, upon the certificate of two or more fence viewers; in an action for money paid out and expended. (C. L. 3 and 4, chap. 14). Since it is fixed by law what shall be deemed a legal and sufficient fence, and also that adjoining owners of improved lands shall keep up and maintain partition fences in equal shares; we naturally conclude, and such I believe to be the law, if your adjoining neighbor fail to keep his share of the division fence between you and his lands in repair, and your cattle pass over it, and into his fields, and do damage to his crops, he can have no redress against you; since the damage arises mainly through his neglect. But if your cattle shall stray beyond the enclosure of your next adjoining neighbor, and into the fields of a third party, whether the third party's fence be defective or not; and they do him damage you will be liable therefore; although your cattle escaped first from your lands through the neglect of your adjoining neighbor, and not by any fault of yours. Because you are bound to all persons, to keep your next adjoining neighbor, to keep your cattle within your own enclosure. There are two principles here involved:

First—By the common and general law, every man is bound to keep his own animals on his own land, at his peril.
Second—The statute varies this theory, in making it the duty of every farmer to build, and keep in repair the half of a lawful partition fence between his and his neighbor's cultivated or improved fields; in so far, it compels him to fence, not only to keep his own cattle in, but also to keep his neighbors' cattle out.

TRESPASSES AND DAMAGES BY ANIMALS.

If a farmer turn his animals loose into the highway, and they there injure the person or property of another lawfully using the highway, he is liable for all damage they may do, whether he know they have vicious traits or not (4th Allen 444) for he had no right to

let his animals loose in the highway. In the Mosaic law it is declared: "That if the ox were wont to push with his horn in time past, and it hath been certified to his owner; and he hath not kept him in, but that he hath killed a man or woman, the ox shall be stoned, and his owner shall also be put to death."

If a farmer keep on his own premises and unconfined, an animal, known to have vicious traits; one that is dangerous, and liable to do injury to person, or property, upon opportunity; the law deems him guilty of culpable neglect, and he will be liable for any damage such animal may commit, upon the person, or property of another, even within his own enclosure. On the other hand if a man's horse runs away in the road, and comes in collision with, and injures, and breaks another's vehicle, besides his owners, the owner is not liable, as some suppose; unless he is guilty of some culpable negligence in the matter, such as leaving his horse unhitched or some other act of gross, and inexcusable carelessness on his part. In touching upon the liabilities of the farmer for damages committed by his animals, I cannot overlook those of a character more annoying if not more serious; and of quite as frequent occurrence which the farmer sustains, who keeps sheep, and all good farmers do. Damages for which no law now on the statute book makes adequate provision or sufficient protection. I refer to damages done by

DOGS.

I believe that most of you will agree with me when I say that more hard feelings are caused among neighbors and more lasting troubles arise from the trespasses and sins of our neighbors' "worthless cur," than from the trespasses of all his other domestic animals, swine not excepted.

So general is this nuisance that in some States it is impracticable and almost impossible to carry on sheep husbandry with any degree of success, owing to the destruction of sheep and lambs by dogs.

I do not, by any means, utter anathemas against all dogs; there are some which are an honor to the whole canine race, gifted as they are with remarkable sagacity, rendering them useful, and valuable to man for various purposes. But it is against the thieves of the race that I invoke the protection of the law for the farmer, whose flocks are so frequently decimated by them.

It ever has been, and still is, a perplexing question, how to secure adequate compensation for the damages committed by these animals.

Tax the owner of a dog, and he "says" his dog is not property, and is worthless. But kill him, and his price is above rubies. By the law of this State the owner or keeper of a dog is liable for all damages to persons or property he may commit outside his owner's inclosure. You may take the law into your own hands, and kill the dog that suddenly attacks you while peaceably passing along the public streets, and you may kill him if you see him outside his owner's enclosure, and off his premises, worrying, wounding or killing any cattle, sheep, lambs or domestic animals, (C. L. sec. 1, chap. 50). You must not believe, however, that you have the right to pursue the dog into the premises of the owner, or keeper, and into his house, and there kill him, contrary to his owner's wishes, for in that case you might find you had gone too far, and might be compelled not only to pay for the dog, but for unlawfully entering upon another's premises, (11th Allen 151) (109 Mass. 276). But you must notify the owner or keeper of the dog of the facts in writing, and the owner or keeper must

then, within forty-eight hours thereafter, cause the dog to be killed, or pay the penalty fixed by law for such neglect, (C. L. sec. 3, chap. 50, laws 1850), which penalty shall be collected by the supervisor of the township in a suit at law, and the money recovered pay into the Township treasury, (Laws of 1850, page 155.) (C. L. 1857, sec. 4, chap. 50). The liability of the owner or keeper of a dog or dogs for damages committed by them upon the person or property of another is fixed by law, at double the amount proven, (C. L. sec. 3, chap. 50, Laws of 1850, page 155), and the damages will not be limited to the mere bite of the dog, but extend to any direct injury however caused, (4th Allen 431).

While you may shoot a dog that habitually roams over your fields, disturbing your animals, stealing eggs and otherwise annoying your family, you may not poison him or expose poisonous substances with the intent that it shall be eaten by him, for that would prove an expensive proceeding, whether the dog touch the poison or not. The questionable practice of some persons in leaving poisons or poisoned substances exposed as bait, with the intent that they shall be eaten by foxes or other wild animals. In view of the law, and the fact that such poisons are not always placed securely beyond the reach of domestic animals, and sometimes easily accessible by them, the practice is reprehensible, if not actionable, and should be discontinued.

There are trespasses against which neither statute law, fences or walls will prevail to prevent. They are trespasses committed by fowls, sometimes very annoying, and at times aggravating, and yet you have no right to kill your neighbors hens while scratching up your corn, melons or cucumbers; to do so might afford some satisfaction, but would subject you to pay their full value, (107 Mass. 406).

The law governing such cases is the same as applies to trespasses, by other domestic animals; but the rule practiced is, by the courtesy so happily existing among farmers, *forgiveness*; so that serious trouble very seldom arises from them.

Let each farmer be considerate of his neighbors' rights, and govern himself, his household, his horses, cattle, sheep, dogs, swine and fowls accordingly, and there will be but little need of lawyers, courts and constables to settle their differences.

I am led from this topic to one of a more individual and personal character.

TRESPASS BY INDIVIDUALS ON THE FARMER.

Every person who shall willfully commit any trespass, by entering upon the garden, orchard, or other improved lands of another without his permission, with the intent to carry away any vegetables, fruit, grass, hay or grain, or do injury or destroy any fruit or shade trees, is liable to an action of willful trespass, and may be fined and imprisoned in the county jail; and for the willful and malicious injury to or destruction of any fruit tree or trees, or any shade or ornamental tree, the damages for which destruction or injury to the owner thereof shall amount to the sum of twenty-five dollars, he may be imprisoned in the State Prison not exceeding five years. (C. L. 1857, sec. 51, sec. 52, chap. 181, Laws of 1853, page 75).

If a man come into your premises with the intent and object of taking and carrying away any of your fruit, vegetables, berries, nuts, grapes, or other crops; although he may not accomplish his purpose he commits a crime, and you may put him off by force, after giving him notice to leave; being careful not to use unnecessary violence.

The general rule with regard to the

trespassing upon the lands of another by frequent and in some cases quite constant passing and repassing over the fields or across the farm, for convenience or shortening the distance to town, church or school house, or for any purpose is quite well understood; but there is a mistaken impression in the minds of some, with regard to rights acquired by such crossing, if extended to the period of twenty or more years, without objection from the owner, and with his implied permission. By some it is claimed, that after such period of time has elapsed the right to continue such crossing cannot be questioned or stopped by the owner. This idea cannot be correct, since the very foundation upon which such right must be acquired lies in the fact, that such crossing must have been adversely to the land owner, and contrary to his permission, expressed or implied, and under claim of legal right to do so, by the person crossing. The owner of the land if he desires to stop the further crossing of his fields by all parties, he has to post a notice to that effect forbidding any further passing, and all who pass thereafter will be trespassers. Perhaps the trespasses committed by hunters and fishermen are the most annoying and damaging to some farmers, of any trespasses they sustain. There are some who seem to act as if they believed a gun and dog, or rod, hook and line, were passports by which without further leave or license from any one, they might pass through fields of grain or grass, into orchards and gardens, open gates and bars, throw off rails, and break down fences, split and use rails for torch wood and bon-fires, "ad libitum." All these things they do, and more, under the guise of "Sportsmen of the Field and Stream," and by virtue of customs and privileges assumed and freely appropriated by themselves. These practices, unlawful, as they are, are largely engaged in, and by some on the Sabbath.

Trespass, so flagrant and outrageous upon the rights, and property, as well as upon the good nature, and patience of the farmer, I am warranted in saying can never be charged to the true sportsman, those who commit them are amenable to the law, and the law is: "It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to hunt for game with gun and dogs, otherwise upon any inclosed lands or premises of another in any county of this state without the consent of the owner or lessee of said land," any person violating the provisions of this law, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and may be fined not less than five nor more than twenty dollars, or may be imprisoned if the fine is not paid in the county jail, not less than five nor more than thirty days. (Session Laws 1877, page 241).

I have previously stated who legally owns the fruit upon trees standing in the highway; the question often arises as to who owns the fruit of trees standing on or near the boundary line of, or between two proprietors. If the tree be a line tree, there can be no doubt that both parties own the tree and fruit in common, and neither can cut down the tree or injure it without being responsible to the other. (25 N. Y., 123). But where the tree stands wholly on the land of one, and the limbs overhang the land of the other, the entire fruit belongs to the owner of the tree, (25 N. Y., 126) and he has a legal right to gather it, and should he be foretold prevented from gathering it, the person so doing would be guilty of an assault and battery, (28, N. Y., 201, 46 Barbour 337).

Some unprincipled persons have been tempted, under the plea that trees standing near the line, and upon their neighbors' land gave them a damaging shade, and have destroyed the trees, by secretly poisoning or girdling them; but they found it a business dangerous to their liberty, while it furnished them time and opportunity for personal examination, reflection, and repentance inside the county jail. If the limbs of your neighbors' trees overhang your land, you can require him to cut such limbs off; if he refuse, you can do it yourself; being careful not to use the limbs, for they are his property.

ESTRAYS.

The laws of this state provide that any resident freeholder of the township may take up any stray horses, mules, or asses, by him found going at large in such township, also, may take up between the months of November and March, any stray neat cattle, sheep or swine by him found going at large. C. L., sec. 3, chap. 47. It will be no-

ticed that no one but a resident freeholder has the right to take up any stray animal under this law and the act by any one not a freeholder, except the overseer of the highway, is a trespass which cannot afterward be assumed and made lawful by a freeholder (Newsome U. S. Hart 14th Mich.) By law, it is now made the duty of the overseer of highways to seize, take into custody and possession any animal forbidden to run at large which may be found running at large in any highway of which he is overseer; and it is also lawful for any person to take into custody and possession any animal in the highway in front of his land, or take into custody and possession any animal which may be trespassing upon his or upon premises occupied by him. (Session Laws, 1877, page 199).

It will be the duty of any one taking up a stray animal, to notify immediately the owner of such animal, if he be known; if not known, to cause notice to be entered in a book in the township clerk's office, which notice shall contain a description of the animal, and name of the finder, and also cause notice to be posted in two of the most public places in such townships. If the owner does not appear, and make claim to the animal within one month, and it or they be appraised at more than Ten Dollars, the finder must cause notice to be published in some newspaper in the county six successive weeks, and if the owner does not appear in six months, such animal or animals may be sold by any constable in the township by auction giving ten days previous notice. The finder may bid at such auction sale, the excess of money if any after paying all costs and expenses will be deposited in the township treasury.

WATER AND DRAINAGE.

Water is truly an essential, and cannot be dispensed with on the farm. It is required for so many, and desired for so many more purposes, that a prudent and careful purchaser will fully consider the advantages the farm has for water, constant and unfailing; he will with like care examine the practical facilities there may be for drainage, if such shall be required upon any part of the land. If through the farm there flows a stream, the farmer has the right to convert to his use any reasonable amount of the water for farm purposes, such as watering his stock, irrigating his land, and for all domestic purposes about his dwelling; but he cannot use it all (8 Mass., 135). Nor can he legally change the course of the stream from his neighbor's land below him without his consent, for his neighbor's cattle must have water also. But while his neighbor next below can claim the right to a share in the water that naturally would pass to his farm, he has no right to dam up the stream on his land so that the water flow back on to the land of another above him. In such case the farmer whose land is thus flowed will have the right to take down so much of the obstruction as will relieve his own land from this overflow, and commit no trespass by so doing. The farmer has no right to flow his neighbor's land without his consent. The mill-owner, by statute, acquires, upon payment of a fair compensation; the right to flow lands above his mill; but the law only applies to mill-owners and mill-dams, not to fish or duck ponds, or the like. You can drain your land and conduct the water into a brook or living stream, if one pass through your farm. You have a right to this natural channel for drainage, and if beyond the limits of your land it shall become obstructed by timber, rails, sticks or leaves or other deposits, so as to prevent drainage, and the water flows your land, you can go and remove the obstruction, placing the deposits causing the obstruction on the banks of the stream, but in no case take any away without the consent of the land-owner, unless there be some timber, rails, or the like, which you can clearly identify as your property, which has been floated there by the current of the stream. You may drain your land to the bounds of your farm, and discharge the water so that it flows on to your neighbor's land, providing it is the natural place for the surface water to flow over in passing from your land to his, even if it do him injury. The surface water he must take from you if you have more of it than you want; you have, however, the right to use it all if you choose. Not so in the case of a living stream or brook. Your neighbor, it is true, may dam the water from your drain at his line, and may do so you for delivering it to him so freely, but he can do no more. The

water he must take, whether he "don the red ribbon" or no.

I am aware that I have already taxed your time and patience in listening to the dry and cursory manner in which I have discussed this important and otherwise interesting subject. I am also aware that but a small part of the substance of the main subject has passed in review in this paper.

I purposely selected, or endeavored to, the more prominent points or leading topics embraced in the question of "Legal Rights and Liabilities of Farmers," relating to the farm and farmer's affairs. For the time and labor I have devoted to its preparation, I shall feel amply compensated and satisfied if I shall have collected and read to you any information of value, have written any word or expressed any sentiment that shall confirm and strengthen you in the knowledge and in the maintenance of your own rights as farmers and citizens of the Commonwealth, or stated any principle or doctrine of law or equity that shall lead you to consider more carefully and regard more justly the rights of your fellow-citizens and neighbors.

Communications.

The Future of the American Farmer.

The following essay was read to the Ypsilanti Grange, May 21st, 1879, by Wm. H. Lay:

Worthy Master and Patrons:

In the VISITOR for March 27th last, we find an editorial upon "The Plight of the English Farmers," which contains some statements and views not only upon the condition of English farmers, but also some conclusions deduced from the status of agriculture and the farming classes in the Eastern States of the Union, that seem to us to be worthy of consideration, and to which we desire to call your attention. The editorial is based upon an article in the *Fortnightly Review*, by Mr. W. E. Bear, on authority upon all matters connected with English agriculture. In this article he gives as the result of enquiries in thirty-nine counties as to the condition of agriculture a very gloomy picture indeed. The farmers are described as losing money and heart, the land as declining in quality, and in many counties as going out of cultivation for want of people willing to work it as tenants. The causes of this state of things are said to be, a succession of bad seasons, the competition with foreign products, notably with those of the United States, the rise in the price of labor from 20 to 40 per cent. within ten years, the high rates of rent fixed ten or more years ago, and the increased cost of living in style to which the tenant farmers have become accustomed in the prosperous years which have gone before. After stating that the rental of English land does not pay one-and-a-half per cent. upon the cost, and even that, the tenants are not able to give, and that great political as well as economical changes will be likely to follow, the conclusion is drawn that, "It seems all but certain that the fate which long since overtook land owners in the Eastern States of the Union is at last overtaking those of England." The cheap lands of the west, the rapid and easy communication by steam with all the markets of the world, has made it impossible for land in any of the Eastern States to support the one who works it in any but a very plain way, and "that the farms of that region are passing into the hands of Irish and Germans who are willing to work the land more distinctly in the character of peasants." The article concludes in the following language, to which we call your earnest attention. "In fact, the history of agriculture in the most as well as the least prosperous parts of the world lends strong support to the view that on the whole, the farmer can not any where rise much, if any, above the French and Belgian type, and that the land will not yield permanently, the means of sharing in the elegancies of life, or with much keenness in its intellectual movements." Is this a fair statement of the destiny of the American farmer? Are we drifting towards the condition of the European peasant. Is it possible the history of American agriculture is to be but a reproduction on a gigantic scale of that of western Europe?

Can it be that the fair domain of the American farmer, rich in soil, rich in

climate, rich in easy and cheap means of communication with all the markets of the world, and above all so rich in its free and intelligent owners who have made their homes upon its noble soil, and beneath its genial sky—is to be swallowed up by a few immense land holders as in England, where one hundred and fifty persons own half the land in the kingdom, and less than three thousand are the proprietors of all her soil, while the mass are but tenants at will, or still worse day laborers with nothing before them but a life of unceasing toil and drudgery, unrelieved by a single hope of better days to come, with the parish work-house to shelter them in age, and a paupers grave to hide them at last? Has the fiat of the Great Master of the Universe ordained that the tiller of the soil is to be the "hewer of wood and drawer of water," the slave of the rest of mankind, that in spite of all the generous impulses, the noble aspirations which fill his soul, it is impossible he should rise above the "peasant type," and share in the elegancies of life, or with much keenness in its intellectual movements?" It may be that in the very nature of things, that in accordance with the laws which govern this world of ours, the former is condemned to lead the lowly life here termed the "peasant type," but we do not believe it, and shall be slow to cast upon Providence the blame which we judge more properly belongs to the ignorance, the selfishness, the wickedness of man. You see at once that this question is a very hard one; of interest, not only to the agricultural class, but to every patriot as well. If the half of the American people are condemned to the life of the "peasant," if they are educated like "peasants," and live like "peasants," they will vote like "peasants," and we will have a government of "peasants" and for "peasants."

Without professing to consider the "Future of the American Farmer," with any degree of elaboration for which we do not possess the time nor ability, we simply desire to offer some thoughts which have occurred to us as aiding perhaps to a right solution of this interesting problem. We start with the great advantage of an immense territory of available land practically free, without all that complicated machinery of Feudalism, which has in some countries of Europe to this day, and in France and Belgium, till the French Revolution kept the great bulk of land in the hands of a small class, thus causing the labor of the many to swell the overgrown riches of the few. Here every man may hope by industry and economy to become a land owner, and gain a good competence to share in the elegancies of life, and take some interest in the intellectual movements of the time.

While this is true to-day and must be for some time to come, we do not disguise the fact that in the not very distant future much of the available land will be taken, and it will not be as easy as it is to-day to obtain land for the trouble of tilling it. The happy, easy good luck, days of American farming are rapidly passing away, in that portion east of the Mississippi at least. Another great advantage which we possess over the old world is the popular character of the government, and the intelligence of the great mass of the people. The government is exactly what the people make it, and if it is not just, if they tend to build up monopolies at the expense of the mass of the people, if the public money is wasted or stolen, if it is squandered in extravagant or merely ornamental buildings, if a hungry horde of office holders fatten at the public crib, if unreasonable salaries and emoluments are conferred upon the public servants or master, if you please to call them so, if the meeting of Congress is dreared and its adjournment greeted with a sigh of relief, a "thank God" that the country can have a few months rest from their constant tampering with the currency and the tariff, their appeals to party passion and sectional fury, their waving of the bloody shirt and threats of revolution—who is to blame for all this, but the people themselves who have chosen such political trickstees to enact laws for the nation.

We believe the mass of the American people to be honest and to desire none but good and true men to administer the affairs of State; but it is undeniable that they frequently make great mistakes in their choice of rulers. This arises largely we believe from a too

great devotion to party, to the spirit of going it blind, voting for the devil if he is only on the party ticket. We do not know that farmers are sinners above all others in this blind devotion to party names, but it is certain that they do not take that intelligent interest in the shaping of public opinion, that attention to their duties in the primary meetings of their party, which is all important, for it is there that the men are named who fill our legislative halls, and administer the functions of government. But we are happy to say, that we think we see a marked improvement in this regard within a few years, and hope to see the time when a good citizen will no more lose his vote in the primary of his party than he would his ballot on election day. But methinks we hear some one say, what has this to do with the future of the American farmer. Much every way as we hope to show upon what the American farmer of to-day is, depends largely what the American farmer of the future is to be. Upon the intelligence, the virtue, the devotion to every duty of a political and public character depend the weal or woe of all who shall come after us. We are the heirs of all the ages past. In the failures and the successes, the defeats and victories of all the noble army of martyrs and heroes who have struggled for the rights of men, labored to found free governments and to make earth a paradise again, we have a rich inheritance to be transmitted to coming generations uninjured, and with fresh guaranties which the experience of the present has given us. Again the means of free and universal education, has given us the hope that in the future as in the past we may be kept from the condition of the "peasant." It is not only necessary that the mass of the people should be virtuous and desire that only good and honest men direct the affairs of State and enact just laws, but they must possess that degree of intelligence that savors of discriminating between true and false policy in public matters, that shall enable them to choose the wisest course almost infallibly, though it may not always be perhaps the easiest and most plausible. Upon the education of all the people hinges the prosperity of the republic. The half of the American people are engaged directly in agriculture, and so long as the virtue and intelligence of this great mass is assured there is hope of the nation. But if the time ever comes when the country ceases to be the home of the intelligent and virtuous, and is but little removed in morality and knowledge from the slums of the cities, then indeed will the days of the prosperity of the republic be numbered.

The problem is one of the Almighty dollar—how to make farming pay. How to attain the maximum of production at the minimum of cost is the constantly recurring question to the tiller of the soil. The point to be gained is not so much to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before, as to produce the too at the cost of the one. It would be of little avail to the farmer himself if he should succeed in doubling the production of his acres if the increased cost absorbed all the profit. The kind of education here demanded to command success, is not one to be obtained in schools and books, it will not be assured you, because an Agricultural College has finished you and given you a degree, that you have a smattering of science, a little knowledge of Chemistry and Botany, and the higher Mathematics, that you have analysed snails and listened to lectures on scientific farming. All this and much more you may possess and yet be far from becoming a good farmer. We have no sympathy with that class that sneer at book farming, and deride every thing that savors of culture, but there must be something more than a mere gathering of other men's theories and a blind adherence to Professors Blanks formula's to make a successful farmer. The education required is, that keen sympathy with nature, joined to habits of close and accurate observation of her laws and phenomena, that love of knowledge that is the outgrowth of a broad and generous culture, that faculty of adjusting the means to the end—the clear head, the observant eye, the skillful hand.

The question of the extent to which the State should go in educating the people is one in which there is a great diversity of opinion among equally good and intelligent citizens. That all should receive the rudiments of a good English education is conceded, but shall

the State go further and provide professional instruction at the public cost for those who choose to enter upon a more extended course of mental training. This is an important point, if answered in the negative it would overthrow at once the Agricultural College, the Normal School, the University with all its professional schools, and all the higher departments of our Union and Graded Schools. We can not stop to discuss this matter here and but call your attention to it as a no small factor in the problem of the future well being of the State and Nation. We will mention some things which we deem essential. The farmer of the future should be educated if he is to be other than the simple "peasant" who sows that others may reap, and plants the goodly tree that another's hand may gather the fruit. And 1st, the farmer should be thoroughly educated in all that pertains to his own calling. He should be the master of his business, guiding and directing the affairs of his farm with that foresight and sagacity which comes of a clear apprehension of the means of success, and an ample knowledge of every detail of his profession. The farmer should be so educated as to bear about at all times a professional pride, a belief in the dignity and nobility of his calling, a respect for himself and his brother farmers, that no sneer "only a farmer" should ever shake or cause him to stand abashed in the presence of any man or class of men. The way to be respected by others is to respect oneself, and when farmers act as though they were not ashamed to be known as farmers, other classes will respect them too. The education that too many of the young bring from our halls of learning, the dislike of all manual labor, the desire for some soft job, the foolish notion that they are educated and fitted for taking the most elevated places in the world's work at once is so ridiculous, and its possessors make so often a complete failure, it is no wonder that the entire system is brought into contempt. No education that leads a young man to look down upon so honorable a profession as that of farming, and to despise honest workers of any calling, can be anything but a shame to its possessor, a curse to the community.

Not only should the farmer be educated in his own calling, he should also be proficient to a good degree in the duties and privileges of an American citizen. If the American farmer of the future is to be something nobler and better than the "peasant" of western Europe, it will be because his own intelligent predecessor in the ownership of the American soil, so wisely planned, and so fearlessly upheld the rights of man, that all the devices of the greedy horde that fatten on their fellow men, all the crafty designs of monopolists were incapable of striking him down to that degrading level. It will require a higher order of intellectual endowments, a broader culture, a greater knowledge of political economy, and the teachings of history, a more unselfish devotion to the right, then falls to the lot of many in our time to settle great questions which are agitating the civilized world to-day, and which bid fair to be problems hard of solution for ages to come. The relations of capital to labor, the currency, the tariff, the proper adjustment of the relations of the nation to the State, how to make liberty compatible with laws, taxation, intemperance, pauperism, crime, all loom up an ominous cloud in the national sky, and darken all the heaven of the future. These questions are here and must be answered, right or wrong as it may be, still an answer must be given. One is appalled as he looks forward and sees the elements at work to disorganize and ruin society; and the patriot must welcome every conservation movement that tends to the right solution of these momentous problems. To the proper and final adjustment of these all important questions with which the prosperity and well being of every class, and especially of the agricultural is inseparably connected, the American farmer should bring on ample knowledge, a breadth of view, a clearness of vision, a love of country, a sympathy with man as man, that no safe history can delude, no appeal to party passion sway, no dictate of personal selfishness mislead.

Take for example the R. R. monopoly. When one sees a gigantic R. R. monopoly grasping an entire system of railways and sheltering itself behind its charters and pleading the inviolability of contracts, fixing its charges arbitrarily without regard to cost or distance, levying a tax upon every bushel

of grain and every product of industry, by combinations and poolings of earnings, carrying whole States at the feet of one man, as the State of Michigan is today at the mercy of Wm. H. Vanderbilt, who will say that it is not time that the productive classes should arise in their might and throttle the monster, ere it has crushed them to death in its fatal coils. But this is no child's play, no recreation for a summer's day. The power of money in the hand of a single individual, the ability to employ the ablest talent regardless of cost, the difficulty of arousing the public to united action, the knavery of the average politician, more given to serve self than the people, the "laws delay" all render the work of successfully coping with the R. R. monopoly, a task not to be lightly entered upon, nor easily accomplished. But if prosperity is to be the portion of the future American farmer, this question must be met and the rights of the people as against the claims of a few asserted and enforced, and so placed beyond the reach of selfish greed in constitutional enactments and legal checks, that no efforts however great, or pretences however specious shall ever be able to defraud the public of their just rights.

This work of coping with gigantic monopolies and peacefully but absolutely detroning them is not one that can safely be left to some distant age, to the good time coming when all are to be honest and just, but must be settled ere long, or the farmer will insensibly drift toward the "peasant type" and become the slave of the privileged classes as his brother farmer of Western Europe is to-day. To do his proper share in the work of settling these pressing questions aright, the American farmer needs all the wisdom which the best mental training can give, and an intimate acquaintance with the best thought of the writers past and present, who have investigated their intricate masses. The conceit that possess the brains of some farmers that they who have given but light attention to the study of these not easy problems, know more of them than those who have given years of study to the investigation of the facts that underlie them, that they hold the secret of the universe, the philosophers stone, that is to make everybody rich and happy, is a dangerous one—for an ignorant and misguided zeal is almost certain to lead to hasty and unwise action which will only fasten the evil more securely, and render the work of its overthrow the more difficult. Is it not too true, that many farmers sneer at all the lessons of the past and scoff at all the teachings of history, because it too truly shows the folly of some pet theory for the regeneration of society, or the fallacy of some panacea for the ills of the agricultural class.

No, fellow Patrons, "there is no royal road to knowledge," no flowery pathway to national prosperity and happiness. The same old dusty, rugged way up which the fathers trod in their pilgrimage to the heights upon which we stand to-day lies before us, and the fair regions to which we aspire can only be reached by climbing the rugged pathway of labor cheered by the promise of the rich reward that follows well-doing, and the consciousness of having done something to aid and elevate the race. The remedy for the ills of the nation we apprehend is not to be found in calling upon a paternal government to come to the help of the struggling masses, not in vast schemes of Public Works to employ the idle and set in motion the wheels of business, not in giving every man \$500 to enable him to settle on the public domain, not in showering a billion of greenbacks upon the American people, not in short in the numberless ways in which the sanguine theorists and hobby riders of the day would save society—but the remedy is to be found in the industry, the intelligence, the virtue, the wisdom of the American people themselves, embodied in just laws founded on correct principles of free government and a sound political economy—impartially executed upon every class and individual in the republic. "The gods help them that help themselves" It will not do to sit down and fold one's hands and trust that an Allwise Providence will care for us, and that some how or other all will come out right in the end. The days of miracles are past; the Great Master of the Universe will not suspend the laws which govern this world of ours at the prayer of any body, nor save any nation from the just consequences of its sins—no not even the fiat of sovereignty of the great American People, can change the

decrees of the Eternal. The old Puritans "who trampled down king, church and aristocracy," "prayed with convulsions and groans and tears," he prostrated himself in the dust before his Maker,"—"but he set his foot on the neck of his king." "They trusted in God, and kept their powder dry." That they trusted in something more than their prayers, let Marston Moor and Naseby, "the heights over Dunbar," and the dark tragedy of old Whitehall testify. The patriots of "76" too were men of prayer. They not only "feared God, hated the devil—but fought the British." Prayer and work went hand in hand with them. To labor was to pray in their creed. It will come out all right in the end if we have the wisdom to adapt the proper means to the end and not otherwise. The crusade to which we summon you is not to buckle on the sword and to go forth to war against any external foe that threatens the independence or unity of our country—but the enemy is a more insidious and deadly one to be found even at our doors and entrenched within our gates. It is against the ignorance, the intemperance, the crime, the corruption in high places and low places, the selfishness of classes and class legislation, and all the debasing influences which fill our streets with tramps, our county houses with paupers, our jails and prisons with criminals, which loads down the honest and industrious with one almost unbearable weight of taxation, and which if not speedily checked, threatens to undermine the very structure of society itself. The relief will not come in a wholesale denunciation without reason or discrimination of the money power, the banks, the bloated bondholders, R. R. monopolies, lawyers and the professional classes generally, but in an intelligent study of the great problems of Finance and Trade, as developed in the history of War and Government, and action in accord with the conclusions to which those studies lead. Remember, that like causes will produce like effects and that ignorance and passion will produce, as they always have produced, evil and only evil continually, while intelligence and virtue bring happiness in their train and showers of blessing to enrich and fertilize the heaven-blessed land. We have no faith that society is to be saved and a glorious future assured, the American farmer by any easy road that shall save him the trouble of working with head and hand, but that rather he shall come to the end of his desires as the rich reward of well directed labor, the natural out-growth of the principle, "that whatsoever a man soweth, that also he shall reap." Let the American farmer of to-day master these momentous questions which so nearly concern the future well-being of his class and country, and see that they are settled right, let him guard with jealous care the rights of every man as he would his own, let him foster education and virtue and all that tends to the elevation of man, and the thanks of the "millions yet to be," shall be his, yea, they shall rise up and call him blessed. Let the same intelligent devotion to every duty and demand of country and of his fellow man, characterise him as filled the patriots of "76" with holy fire, and the day will be far distant when a "peasant" class shall till the American soil and make their humble home beneath its sunny sky.

Clover Bloat in Cattle.

Keep clean dry straw or hay in reach of your cattle when running in fresh clover pasture, the cattle will eat it, it will absorb the gas from the young clover and prevent the bloat. If however this is neglected, and your cattle are any of them attacked with it, throw cold water over them by the pailful and rub thoroughly; this I have never known to fail.

In the last election in Nevada, as is usual in that country, several dead persons took part in the vote. That is to say the politicians caused a number of non-electors to vote in the place of men who had died, but whose names had not been erased from the voting-lists. As one of these illegal voters approached the ballot-box, a little Irishman stepped forward and announced that he challenged the vote. "For what reason?" demanded the judge of election. "For what reason?" echoed the Irishman. "Tom Riley is buried in the Fourth Ward, and yere after votin' him in the Third, begorra!"

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, JULY 1, 1879.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

Officers and members of Subordinate Granges in corresponding with this office, will please always give the Number of their Grange.

LEGISLATIVE CRITICISMS.

In compliance with a promise made in a late number of the VISITOR, we wish briefly to refer to Senate Bill No. 238, "To regulate attorney and solicitor's fees in Mortgages and on the foreclosure of the same."

All who have given the mortgage matter any attention know that in all mortgage blanks there is a contract for payment of a blank amount for attorney fee, "should any proceedings be taken to foreclose this indenture," and all know equally well that as a rule those who execute mortgages expect to pay the liability expressed without foreclosure, and give little heed to the amount which the conveyancer inserts in the contract as an attorney fee.

The vicissitudes of business brings many a mortgaged property under the sheriff's hammer, and the amount of the attorney fee named in the mortgage becomes then a matter of some importance to the mortgagor.

Until our civilization demands that no statutory limitation shall be prescribed or enforced against a citizen for the protection of other members of society, and it shall be held that individual freedom shall be subject to no restriction except for the commission of crime, we must go on with our legislation for the protection of the weak against the strong,—the simple against the crafty, and the honest against the dishonest.

The time for throwing overboard all this protecting legislation which has been accumulating for years has evidently not yet come, and it therefore seemed desirable that legislation should be had at the last session which should protect the unwary from the rapacity of sharpers who were careful to have inserted in a mortgage contract, an attorney fee out of all proportion to the amount of the debt secured by the mortgage, as well as an extravagant and unreasonable price for the service rendered.

The language of that part of the contract leaves room for extortion—"Should any proceedings be taken to foreclose this indenture." No matter how little is done, if done according to law this exorbitant attorney fee becomes a part of the liability of the mortgagor from that moment, however soon thereafter he may be able to pay the mortgage.

But a few months since we cut from a County paper an advertisement of mortgage sale in which the amount claimed as due of principal and interest was \$28.60 and the attorney fee was \$40. This covered the house and lot of a poor villager who was unable to pay the debt when due, and proceedings were at once commenced against him, which by the terms of the contract increased at once his indebtedness more than 140 per cent.

The necessity for restrictive legislation was so apparent that Senator Childs early in the session introduced a bill gradating the attorney fee from \$10 to \$75, for the foreclosure of mortgages. His Bill was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee. As \$10 is not much of a bite for a lawyer, the bill was smothered by the Committee, and months afterwards,

near the close of the session, apparently hoping that by some chance, in the rush of the last hours of the session, it might run through, this same Committee reported a bill graduating attorney fees for the foreclosure of mortgages from \$25, (the lowest sum,) to \$100, and, "Provided, no attorney or solicitor's fee shall be collected, received or taxed unless an attorney or solicitor in chancery forecloses the mortgage."

We prefer no law to that which passed the senate. That, not only fixed an exorbitant price and made it a legal charge but created a monopoly, giving all the work to the legal profession. No more absurd thing was ever attempted in the way of legislation. Here is Senator Patterson again, and more so—for in the liberality of his legal mind he conceded that a job done by an "experienced non-professional man" (Senate Bill No. 168), was worth one-fifth as much as the same work done by a lawyer, but later in the session it was found that the relative value of work done by lawyers and "experienced non-professional men," had not been correctly ascertained at a former setting of the senate judiciary committee, and their conclusions were revised and reported to the senate in the last proviso of Senate Bill No. 238, as quoted above. It is encouraging to know that our lawyer friends made some progress in their search after the relative rights of the citizens of the State, between their consideration of Bill No. 168 and Bill No. 238.

Where the Bill came up for final disposition in the House this ridiculous proviso bearing the imprint of the Senate Judiciary Committee was stricken out and then lost by a very decided vote, which was perhaps quite as well, as the Senate seems to have been quite averse to taking care of the interests of the people and would probably have insisted that the whole business of foreclosing mortgages should be done by attorneys at high prices or done for nothing.

HOUSE BILL NO. 545,

Introduced by Mr. Parsons, which proposed to repeal a law passed in 1877, which permitted champerty to be practiced in this State, was supposed to be sure of passage when its object was known and understood by the Legislature. Its reference to the Judiciary Committee was suitable, and their adverse report characteristic.

It seems that for years a law against champerty had been upon our statute books until the session of 1877, when a bill repealing the law was smuggled through the Legislature, and it has been found so convenient and profitable by large numbers of the more unscrupulous of the lawyers of the State that this Bill, No. 545, which intended to restore the law against champerty, was opposed by every lawyer in the House but one, Mr. Palmer, of Osceola County, and so controlling was their influence that although its friends worked faithfully for its passage, yet it was finally lost by one vote. The members who voted nay on the last ballot were (lawyers in italics):

Allen, Baldwin, Bennett, Bowen, Campbell, Chase, Cottrell, Donnelly, Francis, Goebel, Gould, Granger, Grimes, Hall, Holt, G. H. Hopkins, Knight, Kuhn, Kurth, May, McAllister, McCormick, McNabb, Moore, Noel, Nocker, Miller, Raymond, Sawyer, Stevens, J. Strong, S. A. Strong, Thompson, Thorpe, Turnbull, Waltz, Young, Speaker.

We find here 26 members that do not belong to the legal profession and cannot furnish the selfish excuse of the pettifogger who voted for a measure that is pronounced by some of our best lawyers as a "statute most

pernicious in its purpose and effect and most demoralizing to the legal profession." Chas. E. Stuart, of Kalamazoo, gives the opinion that this law had cost the County not less than \$30,000 in the two years it had been in force.

It seems surprising that so many representatives should disregard the petitions of their constituents and the opinions of the most eminent legal gentlemen in the State and appear on the record as opposed to the passage of a bill which had for its object the protection of the people from a class of lawyers who too often bring discredit upon the profession.

If the Bill had reached the Senate and gone to its Judiciary Committee, it is not likely that it would have had the approval of the Committee, but would have followed in the track of other bills, the passage of which was demanded by the people and would have promoted their interests.

In conclusion, we say the lessons taught us by our representatives should not be forgotten. Let us next time, know what are the opinions of those who desire to represent us upon the important questions that are to come before them for determination, and invite these men who are so indifferent to the best interests of the people, to remain at home.

OUR TRIP TO THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Accepting an invitation from Prof. Beard, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, to be present at a meeting of the Board at the Agricultural College on the 25th of June we left home Tuesday noon for Lansing, over the C & L. H. R. R. Commissioner Neasmith of the State Land Office, came on board at Vicksburg and furnished us good company to the Capitol city.

The Secretary with the invitation had given us to understand that the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society and the Committee on the State Agricultural College of the State Grange, and Master Woodman, of the State Grange, were also invited.

A pleasant run of about four hours and we arrived safely in Lansing. We had but just registered at the Hudson House when we were surprised to meet Brother Luce. As one of the Committee on the Agricultural College we supposed that he would be present but did not expect him until the evening train. His appointment as State Inspector of illuminating oils under the new law which takes effect July 1st, had started him out Monday morning, as the little time remaining to get the machine under the operation of the new law all in working order demanded constant and active work in the few remaining days of this month. The whole business will probably shift from one administration to another, and from a high to a lower test with so little friction that in a few days only a few interested parties will remember that there has been any change. As the Grange had very generally petitioned for a low standard we hope the change will not only be of pecuniary advantage to the people of the State, but also hope it may be found quite as safe in ordinary use.

We found Bro. Childs and some others had come on early and the prospect of a very full attendance of invited guests on the morrow seemed good. We did not reach the College grounds on the 25th until about ten o'clock. The day was extremely warm and served to keep our ambition to explore the farm in check. We first stepped into the office of Prof. Kedzie, and found every place in the laboratory occupied by a stu-

dent busy with some experiment. This is one of the most valuable departments of the College. But there is a vast educational work to be done among the farmers of the State before this fact will be accepted by them. There is perhaps not a single agricultural neighborhood in the Country where quite a percentage of the farmers will not wisely shake their heads, or stick up their nose at any mention of book-farming.

These prejudices are old, firmly established, and will be removed only by years of talking, writing and lecturing in schools, by agricultural papers, and societies, through Grange agencies, and in a thousand ways that it is quite impossible to describe. But we believe these prejudices will be gradually overcome, until the farmers of our country will generally recognize the value of scientific knowledge in its application to farming. But we are wandering.

Besides President Abbott, Secretary Beard, and Treasurer Longyear, resident members of the State Board of Agriculture, there were present J. Webster Childs, Franklin Wells of Constantine, George W. Phillips, of Romeo, Milton G. Gard, of Volinia, and the newly appointed member, Mr. Reynolds, of Grand Traverse. The representatives of the Executive Com. of the State Agricultural Society, were, President W. L. Webber, of East Saginaw, Secretary Johnson, of Detroit, and Messrs Beckwith of Dowagiac, Burrington, of Tuscola, Ball, of Hamburg, Childs, of Ypsilanti, Cobb, of Kalamazoo, Dewey, of Owosso, Fralick, of Grand Rapids, Hyde, of Marshall, Hanford, of Plymouth, Manning, of Albion, Phillips, of Romeo, Parsons, of Detroit, Sterling, of Monroe, and Wood, of Mason. The State Grange was represented by J. J. Woodman, J. Webster Childs, C. G. Luce, J. Q. A. Burrington, and J. T. Cobb.

The examination of the farm, the stock, buildings, and the several departments of instruction, was pursued in squads, each following its own inclination. This was interrupted about one o'clock by a call to dinner, served in the dining hall of the College after the students had come, and gone. This dinner was disposed of in a most satisfactory manner, and the examination resumed much as before, until about five o'clock when all brought up at the chapel for a general meeting which was called to order by Pres. Webber. By invitation, Pres. Abbott first addressed the meeting. He expressed much gratification that so large a number of gentlemen representing the agricultural interests of Michigan in one way and another, had responded to the invitation of the State Board of Agriculture, and were on the College grounds to-day. He was glad to have the work of the College examined, and not claiming to be perfect he was glad to have its friends point out any defects that they might discover. He said we desire this guardianship of the people of the State, and hope the arrangement for an annual meeting of this character will be continued, as he was quite sure that great good would result to the College from a better acquaintance with it by those interested in the agriculture of the State.

Mr. Luce as a representative of the State Grange was called on to respond to the remarks of Pres. Abbott. He said he recognized in the several associations represented here to-day a unity of effort for agricultural advancement.

Michigan is and must be an agricultural State. We shall have some manufactures, but the basis of our prosperity and our future character, strength, and greatness must be agri-

culture. Michigan is in no way behind her sister States, and can successfully compete with them in every department of agriculture suited to our latitude.

We should foster and encourage every institution that makes a man an intelligent farmer, for in so doing we lay broad and cement more firmly the foundations of a prosperous and enduring State. He explained how the State Grange through its representative body of several hundred of the most intelligent farmers of Michigan and their wives, had without a dissenting voice or vote endorsed the Agricultural College at its session in the State Capitol building last December.

Mr. Childs addressed the meeting, and expressed his great gratification, after these long years of service on the Board of Agriculture, at meeting so many representatives of different organizations, having a common object, and finding so much friendly feeling toward the College as had been expressed by gentlemen during the day.

He believed that when the objects for which this institution was founded were better understood by the people, and the honest, earnest work that was being done by its professors shall be better known—then we may expect the support from the farmers of the State, which has been largely wanting in the past history of the College. He believed this meeting would promote the best interest of the Agricultural College of Michigan.

Mr. Fralick saw the necessity of popularizing these several institutions—the Agricultural College, the State Agricultural Society, and the Grange and every organization that encouraged in any way the paramount and leading interest of the State. The lumber interests of Michigan in a few years will dwindle away, and be followed by the farmer, and Michigan will be known almost wholly as an agricultural State.

Mr. Parsons hoped that in future the invitation to the annual meeting here, would not only extend to the Executive Committees of the State Agricultural Society and State Grange, but also to the representatives of the press. He thought that the advance and real improvement made in agriculture in the State was due more to her amateur farmers, than to the great mass of plodding farmers, who seldom leave the rut of established habit. He was sorry to say the opposition in the late Legislature to appropriating money for agricultural improvements came almost entirely from members who are farmers.

As some remarks had been made that indicated that the real objects of P. of H. were not well understood by some gentlemen present, Bro. Woodman made a few explanatory remarks, setting forth very clearly its principles, purposes and the real work it is doing. We have little doubt his speech, candid and assuring in manner as his speeches always are, dispelled some prejudices that at this time men of intelligence should not harbor for a moment.

A series of resolutions that were offered by Hon. Philo Parsons, of Detroit were to have been furnished by Secretary Johnson the following day, but they have not been received. As they should have been a part of this article we very much regret this omission.

After the adjournment, while the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society were having a business session, we visited the boys assembled in the chapel for an afternoon lecture. The opportunity was too good to be lost, and Bros. Wood-

man and Luce were called on for speeches, and of course they responded at some length. It is sufficient to say of the speeches, that the gentlemen both said they never before had such an appreciative audience, if the repeated cheering of the boys was an indication.

The boys were certainly a fine, bright-looking set of fellows, and some of them are bound to make their mark in the future of our state.

For want of time we must defer much that we should like to say in this number of what we saw at the Agricultural College. The press can not wait for more, and so we desist.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

Bro. Whitehead in Michigan.

In the last issue you read of Bro. Whitehead at Kalamazoo and Coldwater. It remains for our humble pen to give a meager description of the other meetings.

On the morning of the 12th, met Bro. Whitehead as he stepped from the cars at Grand Rapids, and with a good horse and carriage we soon reached Berlin fair grounds where, in the hall, meets the Ottawa Grange, No. 20, and whose anniversary was that day to be celebrated. Long before we reached there we saw that the grounds were fuller than at the annual fair. Dinner awaited us and when we had helped the small brother from mouth to mouth that they were to be disappointed in a speaker, but the clouds were soon dispelled by an introduction here and there of the speaker who had left his gold bound spectacles aged locks, gold-headed cane and aldermanic proportions, all of which he never had, at home, at Coldwater or elsewhere. The question was raised at dinner why lecturers eat so much and not get fat. People forget that it takes food to make brains.

The crowd before dinner was increased by numerous additions who ate dinner at near homes or with friends. Thirteen Granges were present and well represented. Two brass bands were at hand to keep the crowd happy and expectant. When the people were well filled and the fragments taken up, many baskets full, they filled and surrounded the grand stand and adjoining space, and with singing, band music, and prayer, the Worthy Lecturer of the National Grange was introduced and held the close attention of all present for nearly two hours. Patrons were cheered friends pleased; sleepy Granges woke up and rubbed their eyes; scoffers had to listen and own there was something in the Grange. Four papers were reprinted by reporters one of which gave a verbatim report which we hope to see in these columns. Bro. Whitehead spoke to the point and rapidly but easily. He is used to meeting and answering the various objections raised against our Order.

The afternoon meeting was a success, not less so that of the evening, when the hall was crowded to its utmost with Brothers and Sisters who for two hours listened to the teachings of the Order to its members, proving that not all within the Gates really understand what the Grange is. At 11 o'clock p. m. we started on our return and after a few hours rest sent Bro. Whitehead on his way to Kalamazoo, where the Worthy Secretary has reported him. On the 14th inst Worthy Master Woodman accompanied Bro. Whitehead to the village of Cassopolis, when for the rain and short notice the attendance was small, yet the few profited by the meeting and want Bro. Whitehead again. The Worthy Lecturer spent Sunday with W. Master Woodman, and on the 16th started for Howell.

At Lansing Bro. Beal took Bro. Whitehead in charge and showed him somewhat of the Capitol of Michigan. Capitol Grange, No. 540, had a meeting in the evening and had the pleasure of instruction from one able and willing to instruct. The night and following morning was given to our pride, the agricultural college, and thence to Howell was the order, and a good meeting and attentive audience was the result. A night ride to Grand Haven and a morning sail on Lake Michi-

gan brought the humble Lecturer to our home and the meeting of our State Pomological Society. At this meeting Bro. Whitehead was at home and gave us in the evening some choice thoughts in well selected words about homes and how such organizations tend to make and beautify them. The morning of the 19th, the last field day with Bro. Whitehead, found us en route for South Boston, Iowa Co. At Lowell Bro. A. S. Stanwood met us and after a short ride we dined in the beautiful and tasty Grange home of our Brothers and sisters there. Everything is just right as our thought. The floral and other decorations filled our eyes, these any Grange can have, they do not take money, only taste and time, the humblest can enjoy them if they will. Fair hands can weave beautiful garlands anywhere, and good taste if duly encouraged may be cultivated by exercise in a lighthouse and the barren walls into lovely and attractive surroundings.

The hall was at the appointed hour well filled by expectant listeners, and they were well satisfied. Eight Granges were represented and each by a goodly number, and all entitled, stayed until night to the evening session. On the following morning the Worthy Lecturer of the National Grange started for his home on the Ohio, which a card at hand tells me he reached Saturday morning, well pleased with his visit to Michigan. Before parting with Bro. Whitehead we arranged for a series of eleven meetings the second and third weeks in August or from the 11th to 22nd inclusive. The route will be across the southern tier of counties along the west portion to Traverse, thence through Saginaw towards home. All appointments must be arranged before July 10th to put into the VISITOR of July 15th. The time of each meeting must be left with us. A day and an evening will be given to each place if possible and make the railroad connections, hence meetings on or near railroads should be considered. Let us have these meetings where the greatest good to the Order and those interested in telling the same will be attained. County and District Granges should act at once through their executive officers. Neighboring Granges should co-operate in securing a good attendance and in meeting the expenses of these meetings. Let there be action all along the whole line.

Among the Laborers.

Our readers enjoyed a rest last number, at least, they had nothing in our department. Many no doubt enjoyed it, and wish to have it extended, but like meat in warm weather, our notes will spoil if not used. In this free country you are not obliged to read unless you choose.

As we mentioned in our last, Bro. Woodman, W. M., Bro. Mason, of Chicago, and—visited and spoke to a small assembly at Spring Lake where the Grange was struggling with a bare existence. On the Friday following we visited this Grange, and after a little effort, reorganized the Grange with about 30 members. New officers were elected and installed, and Grange No. 201 again rejoices in hopes of prosperity. Here we met Bro. Phillips, formerly an officer of the Order from Iowa, and he has assured us of at least the prospect of a new Grange at Peach Plains, south of Grand River.

The officers of Spring Lake are as follows: M., Geo. Seagrave; O., A. M. Hoher; L., Chas. Orchardson; S., C. M. Kay; A. S., M. McLean; Ch., W. F. Booth; T., D. G. Alston; Sec., J. S. Dewey; G. K., T. Petty; C. Sister Dewey; P., Sister Orchardson; F., Sister Curtis; L. A. S., Sister Kay.

This Grange has since, with the co-operation of the neighboring fruit growers, obtained a reduction of fruit to Milwaukee of 2 cents per case or basket—equaling in amount hundreds of times the cost of a Grange.

It has been said by some outsiders that the reduction of freight from Muskegon on fruits—obtained by the efforts of the Grange—from 12¢ to 6¢ per case, from 15 to 5 c. per basket, will amount to \$10,000 this year to the community; yet these instances of Spring Lake and vicinity are no more than any Grange could do with equal effort and united action. Try a little unity and pursue it to the end if it takes five years.

Six corners Grange has also been revived, and is again laboring in Faith and nurturing hope.

On the 28th ult. we met the Board of

Directors of the Western Michigan Agricultural and Industrial Society, and assisted in arranging the premium list for the First Annual Fair, to be held at Grand Rapids on Sept. 22-29 inclusive. The list is liberal and has two new features—no premiums are offered to patented articles, but ample room is given for exhibition, and we believe this will bring as good, and no biasing of committees. Each spectator can then see and judge for himself. No entrance fee or membership is required to become an exhibitor. No liquor or gambling allowed upon the grounds. We hope thus to have a large and well attended exhibition. Bros. Divine, Ramsdell, Adams, Whitney, Averill, Ladner, and others were present.

On the 17th inst. we met with the Patrons of Montcalm County, and instituted Montcalm Pomona Grange, No. 24, with the following officers, to-wit: Master, Bro. J. P. Shoemaker, Amstden P. O.; Overseer, Bro. Geo. H. Lester; Lecturer, Bro. Stephen Rossman; Steward, Bro. N. H. Evans; Asst. S. Bro. Lewis E. Fuller; Chaplain, Bro. W. Taylor; Treasurer, Bro. C. Case; Sec'y, Bro. B. B. Crawford, Greenville; Ceres, Sister Lester; Pomona, Sister L. E. Fuller; Flora, Sister Shoemaker; L. Asst. S., Sister Wilson. On motion, the Executive Committee consisted as follows: Master, Secretary, Lecturer, Bros. Divine, Evans, and Lester. The meeting will be the 4th Thursday in August. After a bountiful picnic dinner in the grove, and singing and prayer, we spoke for an hour to an attentive audience, and then hastened to the train, well pleased with our first visit to Montcalm Patrons.

The evening found us at home accompanied by Bro. and Sister Mattison, of Ionia, who came to attend the State Pomological Society. The evening session was small, but of interest, as received from various parts of the State regarding the prospects of fruit of which there will be an abundance of all kinds except apples.

On Wednesday, the session of the Pomological Society opened full—Bro. Gulley coming from the Agricultural College, Bro. Mortimer Whitehead from Howell meeting, Sister Ramsdell from Traverse City, and a host more of worthy brothers and sisters from various parts of the State, bringing with them fruit of various kinds. The exhibition was very good: of strawberries large—60 or more varieties being on exhibition—plums, monarchs, captains, triumphs, stars, queens, globes, chiefs, champions beauties, prolifics—all in defiance of the half dozen promising new seedlings from Michigan growers. Yet we look for something better, larger, firmer, sweeter and redder than any yet, as the model of the strawberry kingdom, some so large that you could not shake a stick at a dozen of them, and some so sweet as to vanish from sight. The apples were good and well kept for so late in the season. The beautiful baldwins of Mr. Tyler, of Muskegon, were as fresh as if just picked, and the basket of apples from Mr. Sherwood, of Watervliet, were large and handsome enough to tempt every visitor, without the aid of Eve. The flowers were beautiful and plenty, and well appreciated by all in their varied and tasteful arrangement.

We regretted having to be absent from Thursday a. m. session, but duty called us to the fine Grange home of South Boston Grange, where we spoke a half hour each in the afternoon and evening. The remainder of the time we gave to our worthy Bro. Whitehead who always fills it to the edification and instruction of all present, both Jew and Gentile. Of this and Brother Whitehead's other work, I will speak in another article. Read it, if you do not this.

Age of a Sheep.

The first year a sheep's front teeth are eight in number and are all of equal size. The second year the two middle ones shed out and are replaced by two much larger than the others. The third year two very small teeth appear, one either side of the eight. At the end of the fourth year there are six large teeth. The fifth year all the front teeth are large. The sixth year all begin to show signs of wear.

LEMONS can be kept sweet and fresh a long time by putting them in a clean tight cask or jar and covering with cold water. Keep the vessel in a cold place, and renew the water every other day.

Communications.

Co-operation a Necessity.

So much has been said and written upon this question that it seems almost unnecessary to keep agitating it, and yet it seems to me impossible for the Grange as an organization to ever accomplish some of the most necessary objects they have in view without practicing co-operation.

We all know that in union there is strength, that a few working together will accomplish what many would otherwise fail to perform. If the principles upon which the Order is founded and the object had in view is right, and just and necessary, and will have a tendency to elevate, improve and benefit the farmers, if carried out, then it is of the utmost importance that the Grange as an organization should conclude what course is best to pursue, and the members of the Order should work together as one individual towards accomplishing the desired object.

The declaration of principles adopted at St. Louis by the National Grange seems to me to be just, wise, and the nearest right of any platform of principles ever adopted by any organization of men. If these principles are practiced by the members of the Order as was originally intended, it will prove a blessing physically, mentally, morally and financially beyond what many of us now imagine. It will work almost a revolution for the benefit and welfare of the farmer. Yet these benefits and blessings will not be realized by many without some hard work. There is a power in this country in the form of monopolies, rings and combinations of men, who will do what they can to defeat the objects of the Grange. They have lived a life of pleasure and have grown rich upon the labor of the farmer and working people, and they are not going to surrender the fat situations they have occupied so long without a desperate struggle, and it will require independence of thought and unity of action on the part of the members of the Order to compel these kid-glove gents to relinquish their hold upon the people.

We have already some evidence of what the Grange can do by co-operation in the one matter of the price of plaster. There is not a shadow of doubt in my mind that were it not for the efforts of the officers of the State Grange in establishing the plaster mill of Day & Taylor, supported by the members of the Order throughout the State, that the farmers of this State would have had to pay a higher price than ever before for their plaster. Were it not for this Grange effort, other plaster firms would not have offered plaster as low as they have. Undoubtedly, the object of these firms in offering plaster so low is to finally crush the effort of the Grange, undersell the Day & Taylor mill, and make up in the future what they have lost in the past, by monopolizing the trade. It is the interest of every member of the Order who use plaster to patronize Day & Taylor, and refuse to buy plaster of any other firm. Farmers outside the Grange in this State have saved thousands of dollars by the Grange movement, and they may well give the Order the credit.

Again, the effect of the co-operation of the Granges throughout the State in voting aid to defend the farmers against the attacks of the patent gate swindlers is another evidence of the benefits to be derived by members of the Order in uniting together to protect themselves from being robbed by a set of rascals. It is stated that this gate swindling movement is dropped for the present—perhaps for all time, and it is not doubted that the determination of the Granges throughout the State to defend themselves has brought these sharpers to their senses. They scared a few farmers, but the wealth and power of thousands of farmers was more than they could handle. Should this movement rest where it now is, thousands of dollars will be saved to the State, and to the farmers who are not members of the Order will be benefited equally with those who are.

The same disposition ought to be manifested by members of the Granges in regard to the gigantic and infamous Birdsell clover huller swindle, mentioned in the last issue of the VISITOR by Bro. Lamb, of Rollin Grange, No. 388.

I can see no other way for the farmers of this country to protect their

rights and interests against the robbing schemes of the rings, wealthy corporations and companies, but to unite together as one individual, furnish money if necessary and defeat them in their thievish plans. Self-protection in the future makes it a necessity to act at once.

Many of the abuses farmers are compelled to bear come through legislation, and it seems to me we must look in that direction for a remedy. We must send men to represent us in our State and national legislatures who are in favor of such measures, such laws as we demand. It is utter folly and shows a lack of wisdom and shrewdness on our part to send men to the legislature for us who are directly opposed to the principles we wish carried out. To elect men to make laws for us who are opposed to the reduction of the rates of interest, who are opposed to the appeal question—so long worked for by our worthy Secretary of the State Grange—and other reforms, and then get down on our knees, and beg of them by petitions to legislate contrary to their wishes and interests, and intentions looks too much like child's play. The wisest, most consistent, and surest way to secure such legislation as is for the best interests of the Order is to select only such men to represent us as we have confidence will work for such measures, laws, and reforms as the Grange wish, and then unite and elect such men to office.

This is the shortest and most direct method of effecting the desired object, and the very course that is pursued by those who are determined to defeat the more important aims of our organization.

So long as we allow our strength and influence in this respect to be divided, we fail to a greater or less degree in establishing some of the most necessary reforms, so essential to the success of the Order.

A. FANCKBONER.

Transportation and the Railroads.

When the Grangers of Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa a few years ago revised the question of the right of the Railroads to charge rates of freight just according to the caprice of the managers of the roads, they found but little sympathy with any of the grain dealers of the cities in any part of the country.

The leading newspapers of the cities so ridiculed the movement of the Grangers in this matter, that the victory won by them, both by the ballot and in the courts, prove but a banner one, and for want of proper expression of public sentiment through the press, and of the necessary means to enforce the law, unjust discriminations have been continually practiced by the roads, much to the detriment of the farming interest, and the smaller country towns. These monopolies having grown to enormous dimensions now, and taking courage no doubt, from the general subservience of the Press, have, it seems, begun to use their power to crush out the commercial interest of some of the most important cities of the country, and to favor the trade of some of the less important towns, just as the interests of the managers of the lines may seem to dictate. The Board of Trade of Detroit, and the Chamber of Commerce of the city of New York, have both very recently been aroused to the great danger that now menaces these two cities, through unjust discrimination of freight charges, both easterly and westerly bound, and each one of these powerful influential bodies have appointed committees to investigate the question, and to devise and suggest some remedy for this injustice on the part of the Railroads.

It is the same fight in principle which the Western Grangers had a few years ago, and powerful as these two commercial bodies are, they will stand sore in need of these same Grangers as allies in this controversy.

Very few men can realize the magnitude of the task which these gentlemen now have on hand, they will find in prosecuting their work, that the task has not been undertaken any too soon. With every State Legislator and State officer and member of Congress armed with a free Railroad pass, and a large and perfectly disciplined army of employees, and an unlimited amount of money on our side, and the unorganized and disunited people on the other, these gentlemen will find the need of long continued and well directed work to accomplish the task they have begun, and it is to be hoped that the Grangers and

farmers of the west and of the whole country, will forget and forgive the gibes and jeers of a few years ago, and come at once to the rescue, for nothing short of persistent and united effort of every element opposed to these usurpers of power can bring them to a realizing sense of just and fair dealing with those to whom they owe for the charter which now gives them place.

Our Detroit Agency.

DETROIT, June 20, 1879.

To the Readers of the VISITOR:

To those of you that are not aware of the fact, we wish to say there is a business agency in this city established for the benefit and convenience of each individual member of the Order of P. of H. in the State of Mich. We have been appointed by the Executive Committee of the State Grange to succeed Mr. J. M. Chidister as your agent, the probability is, that this agency would not have been established by the Executive Committee, if they had not thoroughly investigated the matter and decided that it was a necessary, further, the fact of its having been so well sustained during the year past, by the members of the Order, is satisfactory evidence that it is a success, now, if a portion of the Order have availed themselves of the advantages of the agency, and continue so to do; is there any good reason why all should not avail themselves of it.

This is your business house. Your produce exchange, and your purchasing agency, here you can send all of your surplus produce, and for a small commission, yet the highest market price. We cannot be expected to get more than the market price, but for a good article we can obtain that, and for extra choice butter we do get a price higher than the present retail price. You can purchase your supplies of all kinds at wholesale prices, by forming clubs and having goods shipped to one address. We want your hearty co-operation to sustain and build up this agency, not merely words of encouragement, but your produce to sell, and your orders for goods.

If you have any doubt as to our responsibility, we can say, that we have deposited our bond of ten thousand dollars with the committee, signed by two well known and responsible men, beside, we are personally responsible for all the goods we could get into our building; in addition to that, our reputation ought to be good, having been in the employ of one of the largest wholesale houses in Detroit for more than thirteen years.

Yours truly,
GEO. W. HILL & Co.

A Candid Opinion.

A Detroit lawyer, famous for his wise and candid opinion, was the other day visited by a young attorney, who explained:

"I was admitted to the bar two years ago, and I think I know something about law, yet the minute I rise to address a jury I forget my points, and can say nothing. Now I want to ask you if this doesn't show want of confidence in myself, and how can I overcome it?"

The wise attorney shut his eyes and studied the case for a moment before answering.

"My young friend, if it is want of confidence it will some day vanish, but if it is want of brains you had better dispose of your office effects and buy a pick ax and shovel."

"But how am I to determine?" interjected the young man.

"I'd buy the pick-ax anyhow, and run my chances!" whispered the aged adviser, as he moved over to the peg for his overcoat."

THE State Agricultural college of Michigan asked for \$6,000 for a chemical laboratory and didn't get it. The State University asked for \$40,000 for a museum and got it. The Agricultural college is seeking to advance the status of agriculture in the State, the chief industry. The State University is engaged in making fledgling lawyers, doctors, and ministers, for which the farmers of the State have largely to pay. Perhaps if the Agricultural college was not agricultural it would get what it asks for. The Illinois Industrial University is not agricultural to any alarming extent, and gets good fat appropriations at each session of the Legislature. When will farmers instruct their Legislative servants.—*Prairie Farmer.*

Ladies' Department.

The Future of the Butter Question.

It has been said, and perhaps truly, that the American people are a nation of grumblers, but I will say in the outset that it is not with a grumbling or fault-finding spirit I write this article, but with a view of bringing this question before our brothers and sisters to devise some means by which a few of the wrongs on this question may be righted. It is a subject of vast importance to every farmer and his wife and upon which we should all interest ourselves—the high or low price of butter. We should see whether we are getting the equivalent for the labor and money invested in this department of farming—the diary, and whether it pays to keep more cows than enough to supply the needs of the family.

In the first place, there is not distinction enough made in our home markets by dealers to make it an object to produce superior butter. For instance, housekeeper No. 1 is thoroughly intent on making good butter. She preaches cleanliness to the good-man of the house or hired help or anyone concerned with the care of the cows and the milking, until they are disposed to believe that she is a woman of only one idea. She insists that no turnips or cabbage stumps or other odorous feed shall be fed to them that will impart a bad flavor to the milk. She never uses the pans, pails or jars for anything but milk and butter, and she washes and scalds them with the greatest care, drying them in the sun—the great renovator of all impurities—until they shine like silver.

She churns often, works all the butter milk out, uses the best of salt, perhaps paying an extra price for it. She makes it into neat rolls or golden balls beautifully stamped, places it in a bright tin pail or clean basket, covers it with a snowy napkin or towel and carries it to market. As the grocer opens it he finds it, A No. 1, or calls it gilt edge. She inquires the price; he replies, Well, I am paying ten cents to-day. The disappointed woman turns over in her mind how hard she has worked, how many extra steps she has taken, how much there is to buy, and how little all this beautiful butter brings, but as there is no alternative she accepts the price, buys what she needs most, and what is not absolutely necessary she sets aside for another time.

Housekeeper No. 2 don't trouble herself whether the men folks are cleanly or not about the milking. All the garbage of the farm is fed the cows because it increases the quantity of milk. The milk pans, pails and jars are used to stew apple sauce or wash the potatoes, or make receptacles for onions, codfish, or boiling hot lard which finds its way into every crevice of the utensil, until there are seventeen or less smells combined. She churns when enough has accumulated to make it an object to spend her time that way. She works out" what buttermilk shows itself on the surface, uses salt from the barrel at the barn in such quantities as will hide any unpleasant flavor from the mess before her. She carries it to market in a dingy old pail or basket which looks as if it came over in Noah's ark, covers it with a cotton rag which has served its time for other purposes. She asks the price. The grocer replies that he is paying ten cents to-day. She hesitates, but as there is no alternative she accepts the price, and congratulates herself that she gets as much for her grease as the woman did for her gilt-edge, and has not worked half as hard.

Some one says this is an over-drawn picture. I assure you it is not. All this has come under my own personal observation. Now I ask what encouragement is there to make superior butter when a poor article commands the same price.

In some localities, farmers have combined and erected cheese factories which brings a fair compensation if not a very great interest on their investment and production of milk. Others living near town or city sell a few gallons of sweet cream for ice cream while others sell milk by the quart or pint to be used in families. But all are not thus favored. Those living more remote from these outlets cannot dispose of the milk only as it is made into butter. At the present prices, farmer do not get pay even for the milk, to say nothing of the hard-

ship and money invested—as it takes three gallons of milk to make one pound of butter.

In different parts of the West, creameries and butter manufactories are springing up, and the owners of these establishments are commanding high prices and getting the monopoly of the trade, and home manufactured butter cannot compete with them, both in regard to the varieties and the grade of it—the lack of proper facilities and the cost of producing a small quantity, compared with a large one is so much greater. In looking over the price-list of the city market, I notice creamery and manufactured butter command 20c. and upwards, while home made butter or that produced on the farm is way down from twelve to five or six cents.

Looking from the present standpoint, it would look as though the day for successful butter making on the farm was about over, and farmers must look to some other way of disposing of their surplus milk. They will be obliged to feed it to calves to produce choice veal, or raise superior stock for fancy markets.

And now the thought occurs to me—why not cause creameries to spring up throughout our own fair State? People always need butter and if it is good, will use the more of it.

Farmers can take the milk to these creameries where it can be made of a uniform grade, have enough for their own families, and the overplus send to the city market, which will command the highest price and compete with the Western States, and not be crowded out by a few that monopolize the whole trade.

And then another idea—sending all the milk off from the farm to be made up at factories does away with so much dirt and drudgery incident to the care of milk and butter by the farmers' wives and daughters, which will give them more time for rest and recreation and the cultivation of their minds, and to go more into society, and we shall not grow prematurely old so fast.

And now Patrons, why not?

MYRA.

At Home in the Grange.

GRATTAN GRANGE, No. 170.

Do we feel at home in the Grange? I fear not, but I think we should just as much as if we were in our own house, and by our own fireside. We should feel at liberty to talk and discuss questions without fear or trembling. But do we? I answer, no. What is the reason? Because we lack confidence in ourselves, or are afraid some one will laugh at us, or will not agree with us in our opinions. Well, if they do not see as we do, then we will agree to disagree, and be good friends as brothers and sisters of one family should be.

I should like to see better order in our Grange home. I think it is a duty and should be a privilege for every member of the Grange to help keep the hall in order. When every thing is out of place, help set it right, and by so doing it will be more pleasant for all. I believe we all enjoy a good, clean, orderly Grange hall, but are willing to assist in making it so ourselves or contribute a few cents to have it done. If we are not, then it falls on the few to do the work of many. It is not very hard for ten or a dozen to clean a hall, but for four or five it is. Money will hire our halls cleaned, but I think we should do it ourselves. I have always enjoyed myself well when I have helped clean our hall, and I am willing and glad that I can help, and hope that I may live to do so many years.

I think we do not have sufficient confidence in each other, and that harmony which is always essential to make home happy. We must have confidence in each other, and we must work together. "In union there is strength." God knows we are banded together for no evil purpose. Our principles are equal rights for all.

We should be cordial in our homes. A cool greeting I hate. I love the pleasant face and a hearty shake of the hand. It betokens a large heart. It makes me feel bad to see members of a Grange that will not speak. This is wrong. We must have a good deal of charity in our homes, or we cannot agree. We have all done wrong some time and may again if tempted. It is better to suffer than do wrong. I hope we will all try and work in our Granges. There is much to do. We

must not think because we have a nice hall, that we can sit down and listen to what others have to say. Try and think of something that will interest or instruct others. Perhaps you may blunder on to some good ideas, and when written or spoken, will help mature other thoughts. I hardly know how I ever dared to write for a paper, but I lay it all to the Grange. I was very shy. I did not wish any one to know that I wrote for our paper, for we had a score of school-teachers in our Grange that could have written, but did not. Well, I did write, and they guessed every one but me, and I am glad of it, for I am such an old lady, [with trembling hands and dimmed eyesight, and I thought they would laugh at me. But the spirit of the Grange was in me, and it must work out in some shape, so I thought I would write, and I did. Let us all think for the Grange and work for it, and then we shall be benefitted by it.]

AUNT KATE.

Correspondence.

AMSDEN, Montcalm Co., Mich., June 19th, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

As you are aware negotiations were being made for the organization of a Pomona Grange in this County. Accordingly by appointment Bro. Whitney met with us at Greenville, on Tuesday the 17th. Bro. Whitehead was expected with him, but owing to previous engagements could not come, we were disappointed somewhat, but hope at some future time to have him with us. Bro. Whitney arrived about 10 o'clock, as usual proceeded to business by appointing temporary officers, after which the election took place and the following officers were chosen:

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|---|---|
| Post Office. | Master, J. P. Shoemaker, No. 312, Amsden. |
| Overseer, Geo. H. Lester, No. 441, Crystal. | Lecturer, S. Rossman, No. 318, Greenville. |
| Steward, N. H. Evens, No. 630, Fegwicks. | Chaplain, Wm. Taylor, No. 318, Greenville. |
| Treas., Chancy Case, No. 441, Crystal. | Sec'y., B. B. Crawford, No. 318, Greenville. |
| Gate Keeper, P. Loag, No. 441, Crystal. | Asst. Steward, L. E. Fuller, No. 318, Greenville. |
| Ceres, Sister Lester, No. 441, Crystal. | Pomona, Sister S. E. Fuller, No. 441, Crystal. |
| Flora, Sister J. P. Shoemaker, No. 312, Amsden. | Lady Asst. Steward, Sister Wilson, No. 318, Greenville. |

Bro. Whitney, then installed the officers, which occupied the time till dinner was announced when we went to a Grove on the farm of Bro. Snyder, and partook of the many good things from the baskets provided by the Sisters. After dinner, Bro. Whitney addressed us in his usual happy business-like style for an hour or more, when he was obliged to leave us to get the train, that he might meet the pomological Society at Muskegon the next day. After Brother Whitney left, we were finely entertained by Bro. Cornell, of Grattan Grange, who spoke of the educational needs of the Order, and our duties as Patrons in relation thereto, this together with good music, singing and the usual amount of social visiting, made the day both pleasant and profitable. Owing to the short notice given of the meeting—the attendance was less than could have been wished, but three of the six Granges were represented, the next meeting was appointed for the 4th Thursday in August, to be held at Crystal Grange No. 441, when we hope for a good attendance and profitable time, we hope to induce Bro. Whitney to be with us at that time,—also Bro. Whitehead, if in the State.

Fraternally Yours,
J. P. SHOEMAKER.

Worthy Brother:

In reading the article in your last issue on "The Two Purse Question" I was decidedly struck by the one-sidedness of the argument.

Now it seems to me that we should show the bright side of life, and not what happened or might happen to one or two out of every one hundred lives. Had the writer pictured some home in her neighborhood where happiness and equality were the ruling elements, would it not have aided some Patron to enjoy the same, and it would especially have given the younger members of the Order a better opinion of matrimony.

But the question followed, would lead to woman's rights, which I do not wish to meddle with, unless drawn into it by some article which would excite my "combative bump."

Hoping I am not alone in my opinion, I remain fraternally yours,
WALDO.

ALAFIA GRANGE, No. 141, Florida.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I sometimes think your readers would like to know how the Grange is getting along in the land of flowers. I will try to give you a little idea.

In the upper portion of the State, where the farmers are blessed with good transportation, the Grange is flourishing, but here, in the extreme southern point, where we as yet have no railroads, it is not doing so well, but our Grange has resolved to make it a success. We contemplate starting a co-operative store on the Rochdale plan by the first of next Jan., and have no doubt but that it will be a success. It has already caused considerable excitement, both in and out of the Grange, and some are at the gate. We have regular meetings once a month, and it consumes the greater portion of the day conferring degrees, and the prospect for the future is still brighter. By the help of the great Master we shall not let the Grange get sick down in these low lands, much less die out as a great many of our enemies are prophesying that it will.

Time will not permit me to say much more, but if this meets your approval you will hear from me again soon.

Fraternally yours,
G. W. WELLS.

(Written by request.)

WEST CASCO GRANGE, Allegan County, Mich., June 23d, 1879.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

The last meeting of the Michigan Lake Shore Grange, No. 407 was one of interest to us, and thinking that the brothers and sisters scattered abroad would like to rejoice with us, I herewith send you a brief account of its work for that meeting. Our Worthy Bro. C. A. Seymour has been Secretary for many years, and it was proper, inasmuch as he always refused any compensation for his services, to offer him a little token of kind regard and appreciation. So the members contributed from 10 to 50 cents each, which in all amounted to \$6.00. With this we purchased a gold pen and gold plated holder—the best we could find in the market. This cost \$3.00, so we had \$3.00 left to put into the organ fund, according to the conditions of the contributions.

The evening of June 14 finally came around, and the hall was filled with brothers and sisters to witness the presentation. Bro. Seymour came, all unconscious of what was coming, and wondering what had brought out such a crowd. After the usual business was finished, the Master addressed them in substance as follows:

BROTHERS AND SISTERS:—In all the walks of life, and in all the varied and multifarious relations that we bear to each other, we are mutually dependent on each other. And from this dependence follows corresponding mutual obligations. And the nearer and closer the relation, the stronger and more imperative will be the obligation. You, by your kindness and partiality, have placed me at the head of this Grange, and you would naturally suppose that the Master would be independent; but what could I do without your charity and forbearance, your assistance and co-operation. And while I acknowledge that you have not been tardy in manifesting this charity to me, yet I think in the common walks of life we are a little slow in manifesting our love and kind regards. That is we do not always impart to the dear ones of earth what we feel. We as husbands, wives, and parents love our dear ones. But do we always give expression to the love we feel, so that they know we love them. Little birthday and holiday presents are worth many times their cost to the giver and to the receiver. It is a little mine of untold wealth, for it is an expression of that love which to them is sunshine, joy, and life itself.

In carrying out this idea of manifesting our love and appreciation, I have a very pleasant duty to perform this evening. You all know our Worthy Brother Clarence A. Seymour has been our Secretary for many years. I need not tell you how faithfully and unselfishly he has labored in the discharge of his duties; for there are but few indeed who have not received favors at his hands. And now, my brother, allow me in behalf of the members of this Grange, to present you this gold pen. [Takes it out of the case and presents it.] It is but a trifle

in itself considered; we offer it only as an expression of kind regards and our appreciation of the services we have received at your hands. Often times, no doubt, you have felt almost discouraged—not knowing how much we felt towards you. We hope when you look at this little expression of kind regards, your own loving heart will tell you all we desire to express. We do not offer it to you as a reward for the valuable services you have rendered us, but simply as a token of the love we feel for you."

Bro. Seymour arose and said: "Worthy Master; You all know I am no speaker, but this much I can say: I do most sincerely thank you for this beautiful present, and very deeply regret that I cannot express my feelings as I would like to."

W. A. WEBSTER,
Master Mich. Lake Shore Grange, No. 407.

ALAFIA, Fla., June 4, 1879.

To Ed. Grange Visitor:

I am a little boy, 11 years old, but I have as much Grange at heart as if I was 40. My papa and mama are true Grangers, and have been ever since the Grange was organized here. I am going to be a Granger too, as soon as I get old enough.

The Grange here is going to start a co-operative store. It had a hard time getting started, but pa says it is doing first rate now.

It has been a dry spell here for the farmers, but we had a rain the other night that supplied some. This has been a cold and dry year. The storm last year injured cotton and the wet spring drowned out both cotton and corn so badly that there was not very much corn made, and times have been hard with some of the people who had to pay their debts with their cotton.

I will close by asking every little farmer boy to take and read the VISITOR as I am doing. Hope I will soon see this in print.
G. B. WELLS.

THE HONEY-BEE.—The honey-bee is an inflammable crittur, sudden in his impressions and hasty in his conclusions, or end. His natral disposition is a warm cross between red pepper in the pod and fusil oil, and his moral bias is "get out of mi way." They have a long boddy, divided in the middle by a waist spot, but their physikal importance lies at the terminus, or their suburb, in the shape of a javelin, iz always loaded, and enters a man as still as a thought, as spry as littenin, and as full o'p' melankolly as the toothake. Bees never agry a case; they settle awl their differences of opinyun bi letting their javelin fly, and are as certain to hit as a mule iz. Bees are not long-lived—I kan't state jist how long their lives are, but I know from instinkt and observashun, that eny krittur, be he bug or be he devil, who is mad all the time and stings every good chance—he can git generally dies early.—Josh Billings.

It is a remarkable fact that every day in the week is observed by some nation for the public celebration of religious services. Sunday is devoted by the Christians, Monday by the Greeks, Tuesday by the Persians, Wednesday by the Assyrians, Thursday by the Egyptians, Friday by the Turks, Saturday by the Jews.

Appointed by the Executive Committee of the State Grange, and a \$10,000 bond deposited with them.

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For Sale.—Choice Italians in movable-comb hives. For particulars and price address, SOUTHARD & RANNNEY, Kalamazoo, Mich.

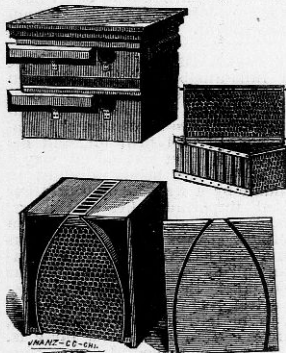
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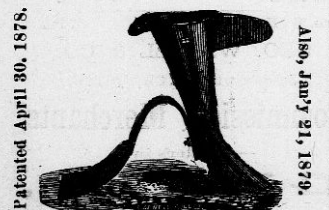
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ONE-HORSE WAGON, THILLS, BOX AND SPRING SEAT, \$35.

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.

Grange HEADQUARTERS.

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