

HEALTH AND MORALS.

Laws Enacted by the Last Legislature
Relating to Public Health and the
Reform School for Girls.

Michigan is a State distinguished for her public institutions. Not to enumerate them specifically, it will be sufficiently introductory to say that two new institutions were provided for at the late legislative session—a separate school for the blind, to take the place of the blind department of the Flint asylum, and a Reform School for Girls. This last is

AN EXPERIMENT.

in which the public have felt much interest, and regarding the practicability of which probably there will be differing opinions. The sum of \$50,000 was appropriated for purchasing grounds, erecting buildings, and to pay current expenses, though of the latter there probably will not be much before the next meeting of the Legislature. The bill also looks to possible donations of land, money or material as an inducement for location. It is to be distinctly

A WOMAN'S INSTITUTION,

the board of control to consist of four women and two men, and all the governing force, so far as practicable to be women. The board having established a site of not less than 24 acres, are to prepare and adopt a plan for the grounds, buildings, etc., which, when completed, shall come within the cost and limit of the sum appropriated. Contracts are to be let to the lowest responsible bidders. Deeds, bonds and vouchers are to be deposited with the Auditor General. The board are required to make out and deliver to the Secretary of State on or before the first day of January in each year a detailed statement of their operations and of all expenditures made by them. The traveling and other expenses necessarily incurred by members of the board are to be audited and allowed by the State Board of Auditors, and paid out of appropriations for the institution.

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

of the institution are to be a chairman and treasurer, and a clerk who may or may not be chosen from the board of control, to be elected at the annual meeting of the board. The board is to meet once in three months, and oftener if deemed advisable, and annually on the first Wednesday of May. They are to prepare, systemize and adopt a system of government, having reference to discipline, instruction and health, and for the proper physical, intellectual and moral training of the inmates, and for this purpose one member of the board is authorized to visit similar institutions. The school is to be conducted on the cottage or family plan for girls from 7 to 20 years of age, in which there must be thorough, systematic teaching of all domestic industries, which industries shall take precedence of trades, and be a thorough education in every branch of household work.

When prepared for the reception of inmates, every girl between the ages of 7 and 20 years who shall be convicted before any court or magistrate of being a disorderly person, or of any offense not punishable by imprisonment for life, shall, except in cases deemed incorrigible, be sent to such school until the age of 21 years, if the court or magistrate deem the person a fit subject to be committed to the school. The board of control may, as a

REWARD OF GOOD CONDUCT,

reduce the time sentence. All courts and magistrates are required to certify to the keeper of the school the age of every person committed by them, as nearly as can be ascertained. Sentences by police courts or justices of the peace are subject to review by the circuit or probate judges of the county. The board of control may discharge or indenture, or return to their friends, girls who are so far reformed as to justify it, under certain prescribed conditions. Any girl who may be found incorrigible may be returned to the court or magistrate by whom she was committed, who may pass such sentence as would have been legal in the first instance. A record is required to be kept of the names, ages and religious profession, dates of reception and leaving, and names and residences of parents of all girls, with facts of their discharge and destination. The board

is required to report biennially to the Legislature.

INSPECTION OF ILLUMINATING OILS.

The act passed (reprint of house file 53) is a revision of the old law, and takes immediate effect. The changes in the first section authorize inspectors to enter upon the premises of manufacturers and dealers, and to inspect any untested oils. A change in the phraseology also includes within the purview of the act all products of petroleum used for illuminating purposes. But gas machines having closed outside reservoirs, street lamps, and machines or generators on the principle of the "Davy safety lamp," are exempt from the law. The test clause will probably interest the public as much as any feature of the law, and in order to a full understanding the language of both the old and the new law are given. The old law requires the inspector "to reject for illuminating purposes all oils which, by reason of being adulterated with paraffine oil or other substance, or for any other reason, will not remain colorless and transparent when cooled for ten minutes to the temperature of 20° above zero, or which will emit a combustible vapor at the temperature of 140°." The new act omits the first test, and simply requires the rejection of "all oils which will emit a combustible vapor at the temperature of 120°." The provisions relating to the qualifications and duties and to penalties attaching to the inspector and deputies, and to penalties for violations of the law, are not essentially different from those of the old law, except that whereas the old law an inspector was subject to a fine of \$1,000 for being interested in the trade while such supervisor, by the new law penalty is made \$300. The salary of the State Inspector is fixed at \$1,500, and the pay of deputies is graduated according to the amount of oil inspected, but in no case to exceed \$100 per month. Inspectors are required to take cognizance of violations of the act, and to make complaints, and the prosecuting attorney is required to prosecute in behalf of the people.

THEATRES AND PUBLIC HALLS.

A new act (senate bill 206) provides that all school-houses, churches, and other places of public assembly, in cities and incorporated villages, shall be provided with ample means of egress, with doors made to open outward, which the proper examining officers shall so order. Such places of public assembly are forbidden to be used under a penalty of \$100 for each offense, until the certificate of safety is procured from the proper officers. The act applies as well to public officers and officers of corporations having control of such places of public assembly, as to individual owners.

BOARD OF HEALTH—HEALTH OFFICERS.

Section 1740 of compiled laws has some provisions added designed to make it more effective. A supplemental act makes it the duty of health officers to report to the prosecuting attorney all cases of neglect to give notice of the existence of small pox or other contagious disease, as required by sections 1734 and 1735 of the compiled laws. Another act authorizes boards of health to provide for the free vaccination of persons who have never been vaccinated, or who have not been vaccinated within five years.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Senate bill 181 provides for the collection and compilation of vital statistics. It is made the duty of the county clerk to collect and compile, on blanks to be furnished by the superintendent of the census, the statistics comprising schedule five of the U. S. census law. The words, "superintendent of the census," cannot be supposed to refer to the officer of the United States by that title, as a State law could not command the performance of duties by such officer, and there is no such officer under the State government. It is probably the Superintendent of Vital Statistics who is meant. It is made the duty of the treasurer, register of deeds, superintendents of the poor, prosecuting attorney, and supervisors and clerks of townships, to furnish to the county clerk, on his application, the information required. County clerks are allowed compensation proportioned to the population of the county, for the service performed—\$30 being the least sum in counties of 10,000 inhabitants or less, and \$70 the highest in counties having over 40,000 inhabitants, except

Wayne County, which is \$100. The sum of \$5,000 is appropriated for the general purposes of the act. The statistics are to be returned to the Secretary of State, and by him to be condensed and published. The statistics required are of deaths during the year, showing the name, month of death, age, sex, color, married or widowed, place of birth, occupation and cause of death.

MALICIOUS ATTEMPTS AT INJURY.

A special act provides that if any person shall maliciously send or deliver to, or cause to be taken or received by any person, any explosive substance, or any noxious or dangerous thing, with intent to burn, maim, disfigure, or disable any person, or do them bodily harm; and every person privy to such intent, who shall aid in the commission of such offense, when death shall not result, shall be punished by imprisonment in the State prison not exceeding five years—*Lansing Rep.*

Preserve This Carefully.

In answer to C. W. C. I can give some facts which may be of use to somebody, thereby saving life. The time between the biting of an animal by a mad dog and showing signs of hydrophobia is not less than nine days, but may be nine months. After an animal has become rabid, a bite or scratch with the teeth upon a person, or slobber coming in contact with a sore or raw place, would produce hydrophobia just as soon as though he had been bitten by a mad dog. Hydrophobia can be prevented, and I will give what is known to be a sure remedy for man or beast. A dose for a horse or cow is four times as great as for a person. It is soon enough to give medicine any time before the spasms come on.

The first dose for a person is one and a half ounces elecampane root, bruised, put in a pint of new milk, reduced to one-half by boiling, then take it at one dose in the morning, and fast until noon. The second dose same as first, except take two ounces of the root; third dose the same as last, to be taken every other day. Three doses are sufficient, and there need be no fear. This I know from my own experience, and know of a number of other cases where it has been successful. This is no guesswork. Those persons I speak of were bitten by their own dogs, that had been bitten by rabid dogs, and were penned up to see if they would go mad, and they did go mad and bit persons.

This remedy has been used in and about the city of Philadelphia for 40 years with great success, and is known as the Goodman remedy. I am acquainted with a physician who told me he knew of its use for more than thirty years, but never knew of a case that failed where it was properly administered. Among other cases he mentioned was one where a number of cows had been bitten by a mad dog. To half of this number they administered the remedy, to the other half not. The latter all died of hydrophobia, while those that took the elecampane and milk showed no signs of that disease.—*E. C. Shoemaker in Country Gentleman, Montgomery Co., Penn.*

If oak, hickory or chestnut timber be felled in August, in the second running of the sap, and barked, quite a large tree will season perfectly, and even the twigs will remain sound for years; whereas that cut in winter and remaining till next fall (as thick as your wrist), will be completely sap-rotted and will be almost unfit for any purpose. The body of the oak split into rails will last ten or twelve years. Chestnut will last longer, but no comparison to that cut in August. Hickory cut in the eighth month is not subject to be worm-eaten, and will last a long time for fencing. When I began farming in 1802, it was the practice to cut timber for fencing in the winter. White oak posts and black oak rails, cut at that time, I found did not last more than ten or twelve years. In 1808 I began cutting fencing in the eighth month. Many of the oak rails cut that year are yet sound, as well as many of those formed of chestnut. If the bark be not taken off this month, however, it will peel off itself the second or third year and leave sap perfectly sound. The tops of the trees are also more valuable for fuel than when cut in the winter. I advise young farmers to try the experiment for themselves,

and if post fences do not last twice as long, I forfeit all my experience as worthless.—*Cor. N. Y. Herald.*

Fattening a Calf.

A lady correspondent, writing to the *Germantown Telegraph*, gives her method of raising veal calves without feeding the cream with the milk. The method is nothing new, yet there may be many who have never practiced it.

My principal object is to show farmers and others that they can raise or even veal their calves without giving them the new milk fresh from the cow. The best food to fatten a calf, without whole milk, is oil-meal, molasses and skim milk for the first two weeks, after which a little oat or barley may be used. A calf may be made to weigh one hundred and twenty to one hundred and forty pounds at four weeks old, never having had any new milk after the cow's milk was good. The oil-meal should be scalded and allowed to form a thick mucilage before being mixed with the skimmed milk. The molasses may be added directly to the milk, and the whole may be given blood-warm. The proper quantity for a young calf is a tablespoonful of oil-meal, the same of molasses, divided into three parts for one day's feed, added to the milk. After the first week, it may be gradually increased, and at the commencement of the third week a spoonful of oil-meal and molasses may be given to each feed; a quart of boiling water being turned on the meal over night, and also in the morning to form a mucilage, and a spoonful of oat or barley meal may be added, but this should be cooked. At present prices, the whole feed will not cost more than one dollar for five weeks, and an early calf of the weight mentioned, will bring from ten to twelve dollars. I raised one late in the season, two years ago, by the above method that cost less than one dollar for feed, aside from the skimmed milk, and it brought nearly ten dollars. Should they have scours, give them a tea made by boiling corn cobs in water and to add to the milk.

Manure for Grasses.

The Michigan Agricultural College has made careful experiments with different manures as top-dressings for grasses, with the following results:

The result of a single top-dressing on eight plots of nearly half an acre each of sandy, warm soil, exhibited the following facts at the end of three years: The top-dressing was applied in 1864, and the grass was cut twice each season in 1864 and 1866. The product of each cutting and of each lot was weighed separately, and a perfect record kept. The results for the four seasons were as follows: On the plot on which no manure or fertilizer was applied, the total weight of hay yield per acre was 8,740 lbs. Where two bushels of plaster per acre were applied, the yield per acre was 12,907 lbs., a gain of 4,167 lbs. Where three bushels of salt were sown per acre, the yield was 12,867 lbs., a gain per acre of 4,127 lbs. Where twenty loads of muck per acre were laid on, the yield per acre was 13,816 lbs., a gain of 5,047 lbs. Where twenty loads of horse manure were laid on, the yield was 14,986 lbs., a gain of 6,226 lbs. These are results which indicate that there are fertilizers which will produce as good results as plaster. For instance the plaster yielded a gain of 51 per cent., while the horse manure gave an increase of 81 per cent., or nearly a ton more grass per acre in three years.

TO PRESERVE MEAT IN WARM WEATHER.—Submerge in sour milk, changing milk when mold appears. Rinse in cold water when wanted for use. Animal heat must be out. Keeps any length of time and retains flavor.

HOW TO CLEAN A TEA OR COFFEE POT.—If the inside of your tea or coffee pot is black from long use, fill it with water, throw in a piece of hard soap, set on the stove and let boil from a half to an hour. It will clean as bright as a dollar, and costs no work.

An amateur singer frightened a pair of canary birds to death. It was a case of killing two birds with one's tone.

When you are losing money the most economical thing you can do is to take in a partner. That is the way careful business men do.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, JULY 15, 1879.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

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

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

We find quite a full report in the *Lansing Republican*, of July 2d, of the meeting at the Agricultural College, noticed in our last paper. The resolutions which we were compelled to omit, and which were unanimously adopted were as follows:

Resolved, That in the opinion of the State Agricultural Society, the end and aims of this society, of the Agricultural College, and the State Grange are the same,—that of educating and elevating the farming class.

Resolved, That it is eminently wise that there be an annual meeting of the State Agricultural Society at the College for the purpose of examining the work done by the College, and of aiding the Faculty by advice and criticizing them when necessary.

Resolved, That the members of the State Agricultural Society commend the work done by the College, and that they believe it to be exerting a great influence in behalf of agriculture.

Resolved, That we learn with pleasure that more than 50 per cent. of the graduates are farmers, and that the influence exerted by these graduates is a hopeful promise for the College and for the elevation of the farmer.

Resolved, That the State Agricultural Society expresses a feeling of regret that the last Legislature denied the College the appropriation asked for by the board.

Every notice of the meeting which we have seen has been favorable, and in one or two instances such notices have extended to some sharp criticism of the action of certain members of the Legislature who during the session spoke disparagingly of the Agricultural College, and opposed making the necessary appropriations to carry on the work undertaken, while these same men were willing to vote any amount asked for by the University. Those Hon. gentlemen probably belong to the old school of worthies who think "anybody knows enough to be a farmer," but lawyers and doctors should be manufactured at the public expense.

It is a pity that the farmers of an agricultural County, in an agricultural State, should be so indifferent to their own interests as to send such men to legislate for them.

We fancy that we have a model government—that we, the people, govern ourselves, and we have nursed our conceit until we really think this Yankee nation takes the lead in everything.

When we come to look the facts square in the face, we find there is scarcely a government on the face of the earth that claims to be civilized that does not foster and encourage agriculture more liberally than the United States. We have an Agricultural College in Michigan. It is but one of many State institutions that demand and receive support at the hands of the State Legislature at each recurring session. Is it not true that the appropriations for the Agricultural College are more grudgingly bestowed than for the support of other State institutions.

If, as some allege, the Agricultural College is not up to that standard of excellence that it ought to occupy, then, instead of trying to kill it, or make it a reproach to the business or science of agriculture, our best efforts

should be directed to making the College more useful and valuable to the agricultural interests of the State.

There is and will be a diversity of views as to just what should or should not be done and how the institution should be conducted. No man can be entirely sure that he knows what the College should be in all its departments in order to subserve the agricultural interest of the State, but he may be sure that the more interest is felt, the more the subject is discussed, the better acquainted the people become with the College the sooner will it become a model institution.

We trust that before members are again elected to the Legislature from agricultural districts, that their views upon this question of sustaining the Agricultural College will be known to their constituents, and then if they fairly represent their district we shall have no cause for complaint.

Meantime we deem it the duty of our agricultural papers to fairly and frequently call the attention of their patrons to the objects sought to be attained by the establishment of this institution—to the work already done—and to the work now being prosecuted in the interest of the farmers of the State.

LAWS AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

The *Lansing Republican* has in its last issues an abstract of, or some reference to laws passed at the late session of the Legislature. In looking them over, we have so far found but two that were petitioned for by the Patrons of the State.

The first law reducing the test on kerosene oil, and the other amends section 749 of compiled laws by providing:

"That any female of or above the age of 21 years, who has resided in this State three months, and in the township ten days next preceding any election, shall be eligible to the office of school inspector, or superintendent of schools."

The last amendment is an act of simple justice, and can do no harm. We hope to see good results from the exercise of these newly acquired rights of the ladies. In time Legislatures may get as far advanced as the Grange, and accord equal rights to the sexes. Every change by way of legislation is in that direction.

But three amendments to the Constitution are to be submitted to the people. The first relates to the disposition of penal fines assessed and collected, which are now required to be appropriated to the support of public libraries, and which the proposed change will leave for disposition to future legislation.

The second amendment proposed, relates to the salary of the Governor, which by the Constitution is now limited to \$1,000. This amendment, if adopted, will increase the annual salary of the Governor to \$3,000. It is notorious that being Governor of Michigan is rendering service that takes nearly all of some man's time, and requires the expenditure of an amount of his own money about equal to the salary given him by the State. The Legislature by the proposed amendment have recognized the fact that the people are unalterably opposed to high salaries. This is but a moderate and reasonable compensation, and submitted for the first time as an independent proposition we have no doubt will be adopted. These two amendments will be submitted to a vote of the people on the first Monday in April, 1880.

The third amendment proposes to add an additional section to article 14, to stand as section 15 of said arti-

cle, to enable the city of Detroit upon such terms and conditions as the Legislature may prescribe, to aid in the construction of a railroad bridge or tunnel to an amount not exceeding one per cent. of the assessed value of the taxable property of the city. This amendment is to be submitted at the November election in 1880.

A large proportion of the townships of the State have no library fund, and the amount of fines collected is so meager that practically the provision of the Constitution as it now stands is a dead letter, and the amendment perhaps be better adopted. Though we are free to say that if the fines collected are doing good anywhere now the matter had better be left as it is, for the Legislature, if the amendment is adopted, will probably squander an equivalent of the whole amount in determining what disposition to make of this money.

The second amendment should be adopted. The third amendment is a matter of some interest to the whole State, but appears so local in its character that but little general interest will be felt.

In a conversation recently with a member of the Board of State Auditors, some facts were developed that speak very favorably of the management of the State government under the present administration. In the Auditor General's office the work is farther advanced than at the same date last year, although the clerical force has been reduced from 86 to 57, and the monthly expense account is \$2,000 less than it was last year. In the office of Secretary of State there has been an increase of two Clerks, without additional expense. In the office of the State Land Commissioner—Mr. Neasmith—three clerks have been dispensed with, and the work of the State Road Commissioner, formerly carried on outside, at a cost of \$1,000, has been taken into that department in addition, making a net saving of \$3,800. The work of the office is kept up, though with less force. The total saving in the departments is at the rate of more than \$26,000 annually.

The Board of State Auditors visited Jackson last week for the purpose of examining a tract of 26 acres of land contiguous to the State Prison, through which in working out a new and extensive plan of sewerage, there was developed last year sufficient coal for prison use. The annual cost of coal has been about \$4,000, and if the examination which the Board have authorized should prove satisfactory by the use of short-time convict labor, that is not available to contractors, a saving of three thousand dollars per annum can be made. The legislature appropriated \$10,000 for the necessary estimates and purchase of this tract of land, if the Board of State Auditors should determine that the interest of the State requires such purchase. The examination so far made, indicates that the proposed purchase contains coal enough to last the prison for fifty years.

BRO. WHITNEY had hoped to get the appointments for Bro. Whitehead's August lectures in Michigan all complete in time for this number of the VISITOR. But it is harvest time and there is so much to do that must be done at once that some have been a little dilatory in this matter. It is now the 14th, and we must go to press to-day. Our next number will give the programme of Bro. Whitehead's appointments and we will try and get it out early so that nothing may be lost by the failure of a general notice at this time.

In the last two VISITORS there was an article upon the legal rights and liabilities of farmers that is worth the subscription price of the paper for a year. In this fast age few of us find time to look over old files of papers—have no time to look back, but are only too eager to look forward and get into next week as soon as possible. While this is too true, we ought as a matter of real interest, to resist this tendency enough to save from the general destruction which overtakes the papers that come into most families such valuable articles as the one referred to. We have advised keeping a file of the VISITOR, and we are not disposed at this time to advise differently, but when a file is not kept, and you are determined to never be able to find one about the house ten days old, we ask you to cut out the article on "The legal rights and liabilities of farmers" and paste it in your scrap book, where you can find it next winter, for by that time you ought to read it again. If you have no scrap book, forthwith resolve that you will have one, and don't put off getting a suitable book for that purpose longer than till "after harvest."

A GENTLEMAN who served the last Legislature asked me the other day "if it isn't about time to stop criticizing the Legislature, now that its work was done, and the members have gone home?" To which we answer, that some of the work was so shabby that we think it very desirable to show the people who are the responsible parties. It may have the effect now that these gentlemen are at home to compel them to stay there. We shall therefore from time to time call up some measure that came before the Legislature and make up the record of members.

This issue will visit Michigan farmers when they are in the hurry of harvest and securing the staple crops, and many will hardly see the paper at all. We have some good promises on file from Brethren who will send us valuable communications after harvest. We do not intend to let the paper be less interesting than it has been. We hope our friends who favor us from time to time with correspondence will remember that we must depend on them largely to make the VISITOR interesting to the Patrons of the State.

BRO. J. C. ENGLISH, of Lowell, has suggested that the Patrons of Michigan have a grand picnic some time in August, when Bro. Whitehead is in the State and can be had, at Grandville, near the plaster mill of Day & Taylor. Very few of our people know much about how plaster is mined and prepared for market, and the works of Day & Taylor have a greater interest to our Michigan Patrons than any others' can have. Over roads where regular trains could be used to go and come, cars can probably be hired at such rates as would make the expense light.

We should be glad to hear from our friends in different parts of the State. This project involves some work, but if it is well supported it can be made a grand success. Shall we have a big picnic at Grandville in August next?

We have the proceedings of the National Grange, and of the State Grange of Michigan for 1878, which we should be glad to mail to about 100 Masters of Granges in Michigan, and to which they would be entitled if we had received a report of the election of Masters and Secretaries for 1878 from the Secretary of the Grange.

