

# THE GRANGE VISITOR

ISSUED SEMI-

MONTHLY

BY THE EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE OF THE

Michigan State

Grange, P. of H.

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## THE GRANGE VISITOR,

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J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager.

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

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### To Contributors.

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CORRESPONDENTS will please remember that we depend on them for matters of interest to the readers of the VISITOR, and that so far we have relied on volunteers. Do not overlook this.

### Address of Welcome.

The following original address was read by S. T. Walton before an open Grange, held under the auspices of Pennypack Grange, No. 8, P. of H., Pa., at the house of Worthy Past Master A. L. Phillips, on Thursday evening, Oct. 23, 1879:

Kind Patrons and neighbors who've listed our call,  
With greeting fraternal we welcome you all;  
And we trust that your coming to meet with us here  
Will be fraught with those pleasures which brighten and cheer.  
We meet here to-night for the work of the Grange,  
Which gives to farm labor a respite and change,  
For when we return to again till the soil,  
We are made to forget half the worry of toil.  
Now, we know the opinions you've some of you had,  
That the Grange is a humbug, and that Grangers are bad;  
But we hope to dispel all illusions like this,  
And to show what outsiders in consequence miss.

No mind can imagine, no tongue can express,  
The power the Grange has the farmer to bless,  
If all would unite, and enlist in the plan,  
Devised by its framers to benefit man.  
But many of those for whose good it was reared,  
Were first to cry out "'tis a thing to be feared,"  
And they reasoned with those whom they blindly could sway,  
That "the Grange was all wrong, and would soon pass away."  
But thanks to the kindness of Fortune and Fate,  
The Grange is still living, tho' numskulls still prate!

And while it continues to recompense give,  
With greatness increasing 'tis likely to live.  
The Grange is designed as a school for our clan;  
And as scholars we come and we learn all we can;  
And, firm for the right, we march forth as a band  
To grapple with wrong that we find on each hand—  
Monopolies, middlemen, credit, and all  
Of the evils that long have held farmers in thrall!

It is these we desire to combat and abate  
Before in our ears shall be sounded "too late."  
We earnestly strive for the good and the true,  
And jointly we labor in all that we do;  
Our motto inspires and encourages all;  
'Tis "United we stand, and divided we fall."  
With "Faith," "Hope," and "Charity" leading along

We socially mingle and thus we grow strong;  
"Fidelity" next to our creed we must add,  
And now we would ask, "Do you think us so bad?"  
Again, in the name of our Pennypack Grange,  
I welcome you here, and may nothing estrange,  
But sentiment, speech, and discussion, and song  
Fill the hours with gladness while passing along.  
—Farmer's Friend.

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### An Expensive Trial.

A dispatch from Syracuse says of the case of Nathan Orlando Greenfield, three times tried and twice sentenced to be hanged, that an effort is being made to secure a fourth trial. Over \$40,000 have been expended in the three trials, and the County of Oswego which has been compelled to pay an enormous expense, is on the verge of bankruptcy in consequence. The prosecuting officer relates the story, making startling charges against the counsel and friends of Greenfield and says: "I look upon the whole matter, so far as it relates to Kellogg, to Taplin or to Haines, as an act of desperation on the part of Greenfield and his friends to save the guilty man from deserved punishment."

Lawyers seem to be alike the world over; no matter what it costs the people, they are always ready to do all in their power to aid in turning a scoundrel loose upon the community.—Ed.

### The Patrons of Husbandry as Viewed by an Outsider.

BY E. G. D. HOLDEN, EX-SEC. OF STATE OF MICHIGAN.

Any person who has attentively observed passing events, and carefully noted such as have advanced and bettered the condition of the people, cannot fail to be favorably impressed with the aims and objects of the Patrons of Husbandry, as evidenced by its history and good works. Scarce yet a dozen years have passed since the advent of this Order, yet it has become a mighty power in the land.

It has made a noble record. Its kindly influences, like those of kindred institutions, are not confined to itself alone. If it were a purely selfish institution, it could not do that; for when the Patrons have benefitted themselves they have also benefitted the State, and all with whom they come in contact. It is the good light that cannot be hid, and has become the beacon of many souls, that for years groped about in doubt and darkness, seeking the proper channel for their own betterment.

To the agriculturist, and those interested in their success, the Grange seems to be the channel sought; in that it has discovered a new world to its votaries.

In reference to it, to an outsider, several things are self-evident. They do not need to be proven; and prominent among these is the widely known fact: the improved condition of the class to which we have referred—the farmer, and those connected with him. And not alone does he seem to be benefitted in the mere matter of dollars and dimes; but in all things else as well, that go to make up the sum of a happy intelligent life. The Grange has largely assisted in the development of his sociabilities, and those of his wife and family. It has lifted them from the position of daily and almost thankless drudgery; whose experiences in life we well remember; and has put them, in common with the manufacturing, mercantile, and other leading interests, into a position to command that respectful recognition which was always their due. It has taught them the fact that the producer is the power that moves the world. It has, to a large extent, emancipated them from the over-reaching ability of men well trained in business pursuits, many of whom, conscienceless and full of guile, have always regarded the honest tiller of the soil as their legitimate plunder. In time that emancipation, under the influence and instruction of the Grange, will be complete; and it cannot come a moment too soon for the good and welfare of the people.

Associations of mutual interest, and community for mutual relief, operating through friendly channels of fraternal regard, necessarily improves the condition of every member. A better knowledge of the world is reached. Selfishness to a large extent, is rubbed out. The heart is enlarged. Men come to know each other better. Each member feels that he no longer stands alone. He feels that others are interested in him, and he in turn is interested in them. And this interest, among the Patrons, if we have read them rightly, is not by any means confined to the price of a bushel of wheat, a reaper, or a ton of plaster; nor yet to the health of his neighbor's family. These things are included among the good it does, but its true greatness after all is not measured in dollars saved, or dollars earned.

It rises so far above that, that all right-minded men have come to regard the Grange as a national help. It is the backbone of the country, and has be-

come a most important factor in the advancement of States. It is all this; because it has educated many minds that waited only for opportunities. The eagerness with which it was embraced, but too plainly proved that it has been, "long looked for, come at last."

Our observation has proven that this institution has not only been of great benefit to its members, but also to the State and Nation. The one proposition proves the other. Anything that benefits the people benefits the State. They are one, and can never be divorced. The one is the other, and nothing can ever be taken away from itself.

If, therefore, the Grange has taught its members better modes of business habits, better modes of buying and selling, taught them lessons in domestic and political economy, and opened up new avenues of thought and progress to those within its gates, it has also made the State wealthier and happier; in that it has thereby improved the condition of the people. As we view it, the Grange has accomplished all this; but even this, grand as the result may be, is not all. The Grange hall, and the session, becomes not only a place where social greetings are extended, where those formerly far apart, have been drawn closely together, but it has also been made the school for literary and scientific research, all the time educating, and all the time bettering everyone permitted to sit within the shadow of its mystic fold. The old man is there with his wisdom. The matron with her kindly counsel. They can tell with all the eloquence of truth how hard it was to get along in the old times, "when they were young."

The young man is there, and the maiden, who are soon to take the places of the pioneers in life's duties. In the light of the experience of others, they are taking lessons for the future; while all the benefits of the present, and the co-operation of the whole for the benefit of the class they represent; relieving each from many cares, gives time for socialities and culture that makes manlier men and women more womanly. Acting thus upon its members, each one to the outside world presents a newer, brighter surface. The good that is in them radiates. Each walks the earth with a steadier tread; going about his or her work, buoyed up by the thought, always true, but never thoroughly wrought out until now: That the agriculturist is the most important factor in the progress and welfare of the States, and that at last a way has been found that compels a recognition of the fact.

We take it, that with the sources of social and intellectual culture; which the Grange affords; with the chance it gives, relying upon the members of its own brotherhood, where each may profit by the experience of others; and there will be fewer dissatisfied sons on the old farm homestead than formerly, and fewer wanderings of inexperienced boys to the great city centers, where in times past they hoped for all things and had little or no ability to accomplish anything. We were once one of that sort. We know how it is. We have been there. Things have changed since we forsok the old homestead, and the very ambition that drove us out alone, and inexperienced, to battle with the world should now keep the boy from wandering away in search of those privileges, which the Grange has, with liberal hand brought to his very door.

More than this, the Grange has given a new dignity to the profession of the farmer. It has taught him that he is no longer the one always to work, but to be served. He commands the situation. It has given him new ideas of his independence, and has the more im-

pressed upon his soul the truism, that the soil is the source of all wealth, that in the prosecution of business affairs, others must depend more upon him than he upon them.

The very causes, which brought the Grange into existence, and its rapid growth during the few years of its life, are a stronger proof than anything else can be, of the necessity for its organization. It has taken a firm hold upon the affections of the people. It benefits them, and thus benefits all. And narrow, indeed, and uneducated must be the mind and heart, that does not extend to it a hearty hand and wish it God speed, and good prosperity in its glorious mission, its first inception was at Washington, and of men who were not farmers, men who had noticed with alarm the depression of agricultural interests, cast about for means to remove the cause; and on the 5th day of August, 1869—at the time nameless,—but full of the germs of a noble life,—the first Grange was organized. It took three years for the institution to number thirty-eight Subordinate Granges; which in five years more, numbered thirty thousand, with a membership of two millions and a half! This grand showing was not the result of accident. The institution grew because it must. Because it recognized from the start the good influences of true womanhood. Because its aims were just; its means manly and right; and when it had thus quickly attained a giant strength, it used it only for the good of the State and Nation. It has never been strong for anything but good. It has wronged none; while the millions it has instructed both inside and outside its mystic gate, arise and call it blessed. It has always been popular, but never more so for its worthy work than to-day, at the close of its first ten years of its life. We do not believe that it will take any step backward. We do believe that it will hold to its steady, dignified way, and become more a power for good in all our broad land. All, therefore, who love the State whose material interests the Grange in every way advances—though not permitted to become members—should extend to the Patrons their warmest sympathy. All who love the Nation should aid all those influences that make a nation great. The Grange, as we view it, is one of the mightiest of these, and thus it will continue, so long as it remains; what we as an outsider, believe it now to be; an institution whose aims are all for good, for God, our Country, and Truth.—*Agricultural World, Grand Rapids, Mich.*

#### More Adulteration.

A great deal has been said of late, in the newspapers, concerning the trick of English cotton manufacturers in filling their goods with sizing to make weight and add to the appearance of the same. The sizing comes out when the cloth is washed, leaving a "strainer" cloth instead of thick shirtings and sheetings.

This poor subterfuge is not confined to England, it is practiced in our Rhode Island cotton mills. On a recent visit to a mill we were shown cloths filled in with white clay, such as is often used by the paper manufacturers. Other cloths were shown that were filled with sizing. Both presented a fine and durable appearance.

Dealers in and judges of silk goods know that a similar trick is performed by the silk manufacturers. The silk is repeatedly bathed in iron—that is, the nitrate of iron—until it acquires the desired weight. Then it gets a blue tint from prussiate of potash, and then baths in gambier and acetate of iron. Then to give lustre it is served with logwood and soap.

The "honest black" silk manufactured by Messrs. Cheney, at Manchester, Conn., was recently tested, and found to contain 17 per cent of these materials, and they were comparatively light of them when compared with a lot of foreign silks.

So you see, as we Americans are fond of saying, "There are tricks in all trades but ours."—*Woonsocket (R. I.) Patriot.*

A NEVADA tramp applied to a doctor for some work, and the doctor asked him what he could do. "Well," said he, "I could dig graves."

If there is a place for everything, where is the place for a boil?—On somebody else.

#### THE GRANGERS.

Dedication of the New Macon Grange Hall. Distinguished Visitors Present—A Large Gathering—Detailed Report of the meeting by James Cook.

Last Thursday, Oct. 30th, occurred one of the pleasant and profitable meetings which Lenawee County Farmers are making so popular, at the old church in Macon, where for some time past Macon Grange has held its meetings, and where they now meet for the last time. It was a joyful farewell meeting, at the old church, for this time it was "out of the old house into the new" with them, and they had invited in their almost numberless friends to assist them in the transfer.

Our Macon farmers never do anything by halves. The dedication of the new Grange Hall was advertised to take place on Thursday last and accordingly the Macon Grangers prepared for a grand jubilee. Our business engagements rendered it impossible for us to be present on Thursday, but we had the pleasure of attending the exercises on Friday forenoon, and did our share in stowing away a square meal, at the close of the morning's program.

First, it may be proper to give a description of the new hall. It is located on the corner, a few rods East of the Reformed Church, and opposite Cyrus Mead's farm, in Macon. The building is 26x50 feet in size, and is two stories high. The lower floor is divided into a vestibule, store room and cook room, (these taking 12 feet on the North end of the building), and a large dining room 26x38 feet.—The upper floor is divided in a similar manner, the 12 feet at the North end being used for the stair-way and two ante-rooms, with a fine hall beyond, 26x38 feet in size.

The upper hall is certainly the most commodious and tasty room of its size we know of in the county. The building is provided with inside blinds, and the hall is seated with 200 chairs and warmed by a furnace. The Grange owns a fine cabinet organ, which is placed in the upper hall. The building cost \$800 and was erected by Alex. Easlick on contract, and the Grange is well pleased with the excellent manner in which the work has been done.

The attendance throughout the meeting was large. Among the noted visitors present were Master J. J. Woodman, of Paw Paw, Hon. J. W. Childs, Chas. Mickleby and T. F. Moore. The different Granges in the County sent delegates, and nearly every town in the county was represented. Dinner and supper were served Thursday to about three hundred people and nearly two hundred people took dinner there on Friday. Where all the provisions came from is a mystery, for the store-room was pretty well filled with reserves after the Friday's dinner had been disposed of. The officers of the County Grange assert that the meeting from first to last, was a perfect success, and was the best celebration of the kind ever held in the county.

The County Grange having been invited to hold their meeting this time with the Macon Patrons, first "opened the ball" with a short session in the fifth degree, after which all adjourned to the lower story of the new hall, where such a feast was spread as a man scarcely sees more than once in a life time, and never unless he is a Patron of Husbandry. Two long and beautifully arranged tables, reaching the length of the room, and filled to overflowing with the handiwork of Matron, Gleaner, Shepherdess and Maid, stretched out before the eyes of the two hundred visitors, fairly groaning beneath the weight of their eatable burdens. A short and feeling prayer was made for a blessing upon the bountiful repast by the veteran Chaplain, J. L. Remington, then all proceeded to "refresh the inner man" with the good things there set before them.

Right in this connection let us give a word of well merited praise to the committees in charge of these tables. No tiresome waiting, no delay and withal no confusion; every one seemed to have become perfect in the part assigned to him or her, and the large number present were all served, and all served quickly and well.

All things, pleasant or otherwise, must have an end, and so with this dinner. At its close the new building was again vacated, and the old church, once more resorted to, whereupon being called to order by the Worthy Master of Macon Grange, Bro. George

Howell, the object of the meeting was stated by him, which statement was to the effect that "having erected a Hall for the use and occupancy of the Grange, they now desire to have the same formally dedicated to the service of the Patrons of Husbandry in accordance with the forms and usages of the Order."

To which Hon. J. J. Woodman, Master of the State Grange, responded that he "had been informed of their enterprise and was there to inspect, and if found suitable and satisfactory, with the help of the Grange to dedicate their Hall, which he was then ready to do."

The Master of ceremonies, J. W. Baker, then proceeded to form the Patrons there assembled into line, according to order laid down in the ritual; this being done they moved toward the new hall, or rather to be strictly truthful, the procession reached from one building to the other, and at the word from Bro. Baker the two ranks opened and facing inward waited for the lady members and the installing officer, Master Woodman, to pass up the center of the avenue thus formed, and enter the Hall, they being quickly followed by the whole company, two by two.

Then followed the formal dedication ceremonies, which are beautiful and impressive, and would be given here did space permit, and yet they must be seen and listened to in order to be at all appreciated,—suffice to say it was conducted in a thorough and dignified manner, and no person present will soon forget the impression made. At the close of dedication an address was delivered by Master Howell, of Macon, the same being responded to by Master Horton, of Lenawee County Grange. Though short, these speeches were excellent.

We tardily mention here that Macon Grange is blessed with a good choir, and at intervals during the ceremonies, and in fact during the whole meeting they made their presence known by singing in a pleasing manner a number of Patrons' songs, with accompaniments by their accomplished organist.

About 3 P. M., Hon. Bro. Chas. E. Mickleby, of Weston Grange, was introduced and made a noble speech of about 30 minutes, which every farmer in Lenawee should have heard. He was in his happiest vein and good common sense was the burden of his communication, for it is common sense at all times to give the Giver of all good our homage, and to realize at all times how closely the agriculturalist especially is connected with Him in his every day occupations, and this was the principal theme of the speaker.

He was followed by Master Woodman upon the objects and aims of the Order. The expense of running the same, etc. All more interesting to Patrons than to others. At the close of this speech the choir sang. "The hand that holds the bread."

In the evening the fifth degree, or degree of Pomona was conferred upon 23 candidates, and at 8 P. M. the doors being thrown open to the public, Hon. Bro. J. W. Childs, of Washtenaw, was introduced and spoke one hour to an appreciative audience, in his usual eloquent manner; all were sorry to see him sit down. He was followed by Hon. Bro. T. F. Moore, of Adrian Grange in a pithy half hour speech, and he by Master Woodman, who was called for so urgently that he came forward for a half hour, and closed up the meeting for the night with some of his solid reasoning that he is noted for.

At the close of the evening session, Master Horton announced that the County Grange would hold its regular business meeting the next morning at 9 o'clock, which would be held in the 4th degree. A goodly number were present, most of the brothers and sisters having accepted the hospitality of Macon Patrons and staid over. At this meeting resolutions of respect and condolence were drafted and adopted for our departed sister, Joanna Vedder, of Adrian, who lost her life by the accident at the fair. The customary "Reports from Subordinate Granges" of the county was listened to with interest, and also from several Granges outside the county, which were represented there. The members were also highly gratified by listening to a history of the patent-gate-swindle fight in this State from the lips of the man and Patron who conducted the same to a successful issue, Bro. Platt of Ypsilanti Grange. It being necessary to elect two delegates to the State Grange,

an informal ballot was taken for the same, and the Secretary of the County Grange with his wife, were unanimously elected, and a resolution passed to defray their expenses while acting as such delegates. This was a put-up-job on the Secretary, planned deliberately and with malice aforethought, as a surprise for him, and the surprise was a complete one.

The meeting closed at noon, and after another hearty dinner, prepared as before by these inimitable 'Maconers' all started for home.

#### Cleaning of Wool.

An interesting contribution to our knowledge of wools is afforded by an article by Mrs. Helen H. S. Richards of Jamaica Plain, incident to an investigation of oils (the natural oil or grease of sheep's wool) for the purpose of abating fire by spontaneous combustion. This study is in reference to the cleaning wool by means of naphtha, or what is known as gasoline, of about 86°. Naphtha of this quality boils at 90° to 100° F., and air of 50° to 60° F. completely removes it. The process of cleaning the wool by naphtha was simply to pack it in a closed vessel, allowing it to remain in contact with it for about twenty minutes without any application of heat. The liquid was then run off and fresh naphtha applied; this process being repeated two or three times according to the amount of grease in the wool.

After this process the wool is dried, then beaten of its dust, and washed in warm water, without the aid of any other substance than the soap of potash which is left on the fibre, and which the naphtha does not remove. The wool after being thus cleaned, is very white and soft, and has a "crinkly" appearance. Formerly this process of cleaning was objected to, because it was thought to remove the natural oil too completely, a part being needed to work the fibre. It was thought to extract the grease from the inner tube of the fibre, and the caustic potash was believed to injure the wool. But Mrs. Richards shows that these objections are not tenable, but that the naphtha has these positive advantages—1st, the cleansing of the wool is done more perfectly than by any other method; 2nd, the fibre is in better condition for taking dyes; 3d, the waste products of the wool are readily recovered, thus preventing a further pollution of streams from wool-washing establishments. The oil removed from the wool by the naphtha is "equal to the best" for currying leather, and is not liable to spontaneous combustion.

No GRANGE will ever complain of dullness or a want of interest where the officers are in their places and the the Lecturer has marked out work to be done. Just here is the secret of success or failure. A live presiding officer and a live Lecturer can make a live Grange. Mark out in advance what is to be done. He who every evening plans the transactions of the succeeding day, and carries out that plan, will assuredly attain success as he shall make the effort. The Grange is no exception. Try it, worthy officers! Don't let the work flag from your indolence or inefficiency.

The Grange contemplates three things concerning the farmer—the making of money, the acquisition of knowledge, and the building up of character; or which may be expressed in three words—labor, culture, fidelity. The true Grange keeps these constantly in view, and works to promote them. Differences of opinion may exist as to the best mode of attaining the ends aimed at, but to insure success it will not do to ignore any of them. Each must have its attention, because each has its bearings upon the farmer's life, and he only can be called a successful man who has given due attention to all. The Grange is a blessing only in the good which it dispenses.—*Grange Bulletin.*

It seems the people of this country are beginning to think that the dog has had his day, and it is about time to give sheep a reasonable chance for their lives.—*Tyler Co., W. V., Independent.*

PROF. SWING says that while no machine has yet been invented for picking a goose or shearing a sheep, the arrangements for plucking a poor man are tolerably complete.

Communications.

Granges vs. Farmers' Clubs.

J. T. Cobb:

The "Mercantile View of the Grange" of N. A. Dunning ought to do the Grange good, by drawing out thoughts and discussion.

He says, "Who ever rode over a railroad built by farmers," &c. We can as pertinently ask the same questions in regard to the farmers' clubs, and we will add a few more: Who ever knew a farmers' club to contest a patent gate swindle, or any other swindle, by which thousands of farmers were being robbed, and win the suits, thereby saving hundreds of thousands of dollars? Who ever knew of a farmers' club or clubs grappling with a huge monopoly, like the plaster ring in this State, who were charging the consumer double the cost of mining and manufacturing an article almost wholly consumed by the farmers? Who ever knew a farmers' club effecting business arrangements whereby the farmers were able to purchase farm implements and other goods direct from the manufacturer, saving to themselves from 25 to 50 per cent, without causing the manufacturer to receive any less for his goods? Who ever knew of a farmers' club whose membership was composed largely of women, who perform more than half the hours of labor connected with the farm, and their taking the part in the exercises they do in the Grange? Who has ever known of a dozen commodious halls being built by as many farmers' clubs, where they can hold their meetings and invite lecturers to address them, inviting the whole neighborhood to attend, without any fear of being short of room? Who has known of a Grange that has found it necessary to call upon a merchant to write its essays? Who has known of merchants or business men asking farmers to do the same for them? Who has ever known a farmers' club to inaugurate a high or graded school in one of their halls, where their children can advance as far in education as they can by attending the graded school in town—unless it be that education that tends to corrupt good morals?

As to the Grange diverting trade out of the old channels, we will ask Mr. Dunning if he always buys his goods at the same place, of the same firm, or does he look about and purchase where he can get the best and most goods for the least money. If he does the latter, he is doing business on Grange principles, and he should accord us the same right.

Where has Mr. Dunning lived these last three years that he has to inquire where the Grange plaster mill is? I am sorry he did not let us know of his ignorance of such a manufactory before last August. If he had posted us before the picnic at Grandville, we would have given him a special invitation to attend, and had he complied, it would have saved him exposing his ignorance in this direction.

Mr. Dunning says we seek to drive out the buyer, or the middle-man, so called. We do ask to do away with unnecessary or surplus middle-men, and no farther; and if Mr. Dunning is successful in business, we have no doubt he is doing the same, by purchasing his goods as near direct from the manufacturer as possible.

Is not Mr. Dunning unreasonable to berate the Grange because it has not done that which it took the world centuries to do, while the Grange is only about a dozen years old?

We have dwelt on these minor points longer than we wished, but they were in the way and must be passed over, and we will say to Mr. Dunning that one of the first principles of the Order is to develop a higher and better manhood and womanhood, and one of the means to this end is to secure for our children a higher and better education than the mass of farmers and farmers' children have been able to receive heretofore; and it is for this purpose that schools are being and have been inaugurated in our halls that will furnish the same, or better, facilities for educating our sons and daughters than the towns have been supposed to furnish us heretofore.

Bringing these schools within reach of the masses, where the poor man's children can enjoy these benefits, as well as those who are well-to-do in the world, is a step well calculated to accomplish the above object.

The Grange seeks to educate its mem-

bers in a broader sense of the term than the club in its meetings. Bringing before them, as it does, all the subjects which pertain to the farmer's calling in a business way, as well as that which pertains to the raising of crops, etc. It seeks to call into action the younger as well as the older members.

It seeks the refining and ennobling influences which only woman can give, and which will inspire us to a higher and nobler manhood.

I would not under-rate the farmer's club. I believe they have done much good, and they may answer now in some localities. We consider the Grange compares with the club just as we consider the mowing machine compares with the scythe. The scythe was very good till we got something better, and we keep one yet, to mow fence corners, and find it useful. But when we reach that higher civilization where we shall do away with fences, we expect the scythe will become of little use.

Believing we shall be appreciated according to our works, and when our principles are better known, I remain, Fraternalty yours,

J. C. ENGLISH.

The True Patron.

Bro. Cobb:

A copy of your very excellent, clean, smooth, tidy, well-printed paper, reached me yesterday, and I want to thank your Worthy State Lecturer, Bro. C. L. Whitney, for it. The VISITOR should be a welcome guest at the fire-side of every happy home in your noble State. Well pleased indeed was I with its general appearance, and thrice welcome may its worthy contributors ever be received and honored in the old Sucker State, at our Grange halls and pleasant homes.

Brothers and sisters of our noble Order, let us waive the rules of etiquette and have a social chat. To meet together, chat together, co-operate together, and enjoy the sweets of life, liberty and happiness together, is our choicest privilege.

Extend our acquaintance, improve our morals, educate our minds, and elevate our class, by practicing a broader and nobler charity, and it will make us better men and women, and that is the aim of our Order.

There is much more good in the world than many think,—to prove this it is only necessary to become better acquainted with the people.

Is it not a fact that the better we get acquainted, the more highly we appreciate each other, as a rule.

I want to tell you, if what I know was written in one book, and what I don't know in another, you can very easily imagine which would be the big book. Yet I must say that I have learned a great many useful lessons in the Grange. Before it was organized I was not acquainted with one-fiftieth of the persons in my own County,—not even with many I now consider my neighbors. We are now acquainted more or less in every one of the 102 Counties in the State. In our humble opinion, we have, one and all, received benefits, in proposition, as we have attended school, and labored. You will infer from this that we consider the Grange a school. Yes, my dear friends, a school of the very greatest importance to the farmer. The Grange is to the tiller of the soil what the common free school is to the youths of our land. A child, to obtain an education and be profited thereby, must study diligently and regularly, and labor hard for years; so must a Granger. The child that attends school most regularly, studies hardest, grumbles least, loves the school most, derives the greatest benefit. So, also, is it with the Grange.

The Grange is just what we make it; so is the farm, our homes, our selves. A good Grange, like a good farm, will produce a good crop if well cultivated.

Over here in Illinois we have a great many good Grangers, good farmers, and happy homes; and we would like to hold an inter-State picnic, compare notes, swap ideas, and become better acquainted with the worthy members of our excellent Order in the adjoining States of Michigan, Missouri, Kentucky, and Indiana. Something like an old-fashioned camp-meeting.

As it is our lot to dig for all, feed all, clothe all, pay for all, why not live up to the highest privileges of all.

Our natural enemies (middle-men) have come to the conclusion that the Grange is a fixture, that it has come to stay. Well, it has taken them a good

while to find it out, but better late than never.

The Order is now solidifying, and its influence will be greater and more apparent as we move to a higher plane and stand closer together. Let our motto ever be, "Equal and exact justice to all, and farmers' rights forever."

S. T. DAVIS,  
Lect. Ill. State Grange.  
Perry Co., Ill., Nov. 5th, 1879.

Farmers' Clubs and the Grange—No. 2.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I have been connected with an Agricultural Society for 30 years, taking an active part in nearly all of its business meetings and its annual fairs.

This society embraces a large and populous County, and its farmers will surely compare well in intelligence and thrift with those of any other County in the State.

At two or three different times during these thirty years we have tried to establish in connection with this society a club for the discussion of farm topics; but each attempt has proven a failure. From the whole County we could not get together more than three or four farmers who would take part in these discussions, hence it was impossible to get up sufficient interest to make a success. The proper method of reaching and enlisting the farmers seems to be wanting, so it was given up, and for several years previous to the advent of the Grange movement no effort of the kind had been made in the County.

My observation and acquaintance has extended over several other counties, where like efforts have been made, and with like results. The Lenawee County and the Volina Farmers' Clubs are the only ones I can now call to mind which have existed for any length of time, and whose published proceedings have become a part of the farm literature of the State.

These localities have simply been fortunate in having men who could and would take hold of such an organization and make it a success.

Most of the men throughout the State who had realized the necessity of something of the kind, and who had worked to establish Farmer's Clubs, readily entered the Grange movement, seeing at once the advantage of having the great central power in the State Grange—which the best club system must always lack, and so far as my acquaintance goes there is now no antagonism existing between the clubs and the Granges,—nor should there be, for they both seek to accomplish the same thing, and what matter if they do differ in their methods of doing it.

I do not at present know of a farmer, or merchant, or business man of any kind in Michigan but will readily admit that the Grange, in defeating the plans of the plaster ring, a few years ago, accomplished something which the farmers' clubs, with their imperfect organization, would never have presumed to undertake.

In the defeat of the slide-gate swindle, too, no simple organization could have done what the Grange has.

In speaking of our efforts to form a Farmer's Club in our County, I said we could find but three or four farmers in the County who would take an active part in the discussions. We now have a County Grange, with a dozen or more subordinate Granges, and when we meet as a County Grange we can count our members (both men and women) by the score who are able and willing to take part in the discussion of any subject pertaining to the farm or the household; and right well can they acquit themselves in these discussions.

From my stand-point, I regard this as a great achievement for the farmers and farmers' wives of the County, and one which will benefit the agricultural interests of the whole County, and I think that this achievement has been gained by the educational character of the Grange.

Programmes for Capital Grange, Lansing, Mich., 1879.

Nov. 8TH, 1:30 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Initiations during this and the succeeding Saturdays. "Will it justify a farmer to make improvements on borrowed capital?" Warren Smith, Wm. Holloway, C. D. Buck. Essay, Miss Melissa Creyts. Reading, Miss Florence Lansing.

Nov. 15TH, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"An antidote for poverty," Mrs. J. Cortrite. "Fattening cattle most profitably, prop-

erage, food and breed," Wm. A. Lee, Frank Gulley, A. Wheeler.

Nov. 22ND, 1:30 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"When and how to do outside painting," Geo. Limebeck. Reading, Harry Gladden. Essay, Mrs. Emily Longbon. Essay, Clayton Clarke.

Nov. 29TH, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"The best way to market wheat and wool," John Creyts, George Williams. "Economy," Mrs. E. Nichols. Essay, Mrs. E. H. Gladden.

Dec. 6TH, 1:30 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"Fire Insurance," Wm. Gladden, A. G. Gunnison. Reading, Miss Alma M. Slocum. "Selection and discussion of our agricultural papers," Wm. E. West, L. T. Sutliff, Mrs. Geo. Williams, Mrs. Celia Gunnison.

Dec. 13TH, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"Management of manure in winter," Henry Robbins, Thomas Reeve. Essay, Miss Marion Creyts, Mrs. S. M. West, Miss Jennie Buck.

Dec. 20TH, 1:30 O'CLOCK P. M.—Election of new officers and reports of the old.

Dec. 27TH, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.—"Plans and resolutions for the new year," by the officers elect. Essay or Reading, Munson Lamb, Frank Lee, Wm. McRoberts, Wm. Reeve, Wm. Sharp, Evatta Gladden, Mary Goodnoe, Elizabeth Lee.

JAN. 3RD, 1880, 1:30 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Show of wheat, oats, and Indian Corn; results of experiments, Managing committee; for wheat, James Cortrite, H. C. Everett; for oats, E. S. Thompson, H. D. Felton; for Indian Corn, E. B. Nichols, Charles Taylor.

JAN. 10TH, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Installation of officers.

Programmes of Birmingham Grange.

The following are the programmes of Birmingham Grange for the balance of this year:

Nov. 8TH, 7 O'CLOCK P. M.

"Care and Management of Horses," Jas. H. Peabody. Discussion. Song.

Intermission. "Culture of House Plants," Mrs. Satterlee. Select reading, Hugh Kenny.

Nov. 15TH, 7 O'CLOCK P. M. "Care and Management of Sheep," Wm. Satterlee; followed by a discussion.

Intermission. Comic song, J. H. Peabody. Essay, Mrs. Crosby. "Bread-making," Miss VonDaniels.

Nov. 22ND, 7 O'CLOCK P. M. "Economy in Household Labor," Mrs. Gibbs and Mrs. Jackson.

Intermission. "Grange Monitor," Miss Flora Adams. Song.

"Book-keeping for Farmers." Nov. 29TH, 7 O'CLOCK P. M. "How to Make Homes Attractive," Mrs. Benjamin; followed by discussion.

Intermission. "Plans Ahead on the Farm," G. C. Gibbs; followed by discussion.

Dec. 6TH, 7 O'CLOCK P. M. "The Model Farmer," Jas. M. Hunt; followed by discussion.

Intermission. "The Model Granger," Mrs. Frank Jenks. Select Reading, Miss Maggie Brown.

Dec. 13TH, 7 O'CLOCK P. M. Discussion—Resolved, "That Country Life is Preferable to City Life." Affirmative, Joseph Jackson; negative, Hugh Kenny.

Intermission. "The Model Neighborhood," Miss Susie Trowbridge.

Dec. 20TH, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M. Election of officers for next year. Feast.

"EDWARD, you have disobeyed your grandmother, who told you just now not to jump down these steps."—"Grandma didn't tell us not to, papa; she only came to the door and only said, 'I wouldn't jump down those steps, boys, and I shouldn't think she would, an old lady like her!'"

SUNDAY-SCHOOL teacher: "You must remember that all that I am telling you happened one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine years ago." Pupil: "Lor, Miss, how time do slip away?"

## THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, NOV. 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.

## STATE GRANGE SESSION—HOTEL RATES.

Favorable hotel accommodations have been made by the committee for our numerous friends who will attend the December session of the State Grange in Lansing.

The Lansing House will charge \$1.50 per day. The Hudson same as last year, 1.25. The Chapman Everett and several other houses \$1.00 per day. There are several places where good board can be obtained at a dollar a day or less. We gave them such a good run last year that we have reason to believe they will expect to see a host of Michigan Patrons and be prepared for them.

## THE GOVERNOR OF MICHIGAN

Not his excellency C. M. Crosswell, the present popular Governor of Michigan, for no boom has been started for him, but the Governor of 1881 and '82.

By this time, perhaps, some good, conscientious Patron has mentally raised the question, perhaps accompanied with a protest: Is the Grange going into politics? Well, we are not going so far but what any of our timid brothers may get back where they started from very soon, if they don't like what we say.

We have noticed that several newspaper men, or their correspondents, have become interested in this matter of who shall be the next Governor of Michigan, and although this is an agricultural State, and its farmers constitute more than one-half of its population, and really represent its most important interest, that these newspapers, and these correspondents, in each instance have selected gentlemen from some profession or calling other than farming.

And as these other professions and callings have been represented for several years, and well represented too, in the gubernatorial office, we Grangers—not specially as Grangers, but as farmers—think it time to raise the question, why not select a farmer for Governor?

At one time we would have finished that sentence by adding, providing we can find a competent farmer.

But we have outgrown that condition of hesitation and doubt, and say most unequivocally that among the farmers of Michigan we have as many men every way qualified as can be found in any other, or all the other classes together.

Now, the VISITOR is going into politics that far at least, and it invites the members of the Order everywhere to come right along with us so far, and talk about this matter, write about it, and make other farmers outside the gate talk about it, think about it, and look this thing in the face.

It is the professed mission of the Grange to educate farmers to a higher plane, not only in the line of their profession, but in every other direction, where their interests are involved.

It is conceded by all these good citizens who are so willing to serve their country and their adherents, that farmers have no representation in Congress, or in any of the important

departments of government, because they, as a class, do not come to the front and demand anything.

The farmers have been so intent on raising corn and cabbage in this country for a hundred years that they have not stopped and consulted together and then gone to work in a systematic way, like bankers, manufacturers, and other classes to take care of their own interests.

You mention this matter to the next man you meet, be he farmer or not, and he will probably tell you that he don't believe in class legislation—that we send men to Congress to legislate for the people of the United States, and not for bankers, merchants, farmers, or any class in particular.

That sounds well, and it is a pity our representatives don't seem to understand that such is their duty.

But when we find the agricultural interests of the country, so far as governmental direction and support is concerned, committed to a Commissioner of Agriculture, and he restricted to the expenditure for promoting the vast agricultural interests of this immense country, to a few thousand dollars per annum, by legislative bodies that at every session appropriate millions of dollars for all sorts of purposes and projects,—when, I say, such niggardly support is rendered that the Commissioner cannot provide such machinery for prosecuting experiments in the manufacture of sugar as any enterprising citizen of ordinary means would have used in the prosecution of the same work on private account—is it not time for farmers, as such, to look around to see what class of men they have committed their interests, in the legislative and executive departments of the country.

This country sends millions of dollars every year beyond its borders for sugar, and continues to do so after it has been demonstrated that we have all the requirements, except experience in the manufacture, to supply the wants of this whole country, and furnish employment to a host of farm laborers, in the production of beets, sorghum, and other sugar producing staples of the country.

But the field for criticism, like the field of improvement, is large, so large that we can but cross the border, and then return to the first and main question, Shall the farmers of Michigan take any interest in the chief magistracy of the State and demand that her next Governor shall be a farmer; or shall they follow the lead of the politicians, and disregard alike their rights and their interests.

Let us hear from the farmers of the State,—write to the VISITOR, write to all the agricultural papers of the State, write to the County papers of all political parties, write to the large city dailies, and say that the farmers of Michigan want as a matter of right a farmer for Governor. Express your several preferences for this man or that, but stand by the main proposition with a determination worthy of success.

The following Granges are delinquent in reports and payments of dues to the State Grange for some one or all of the quarters of 1878 and the first three of 1879.

Some of them are undoubtedly dead or dormant beyond hope of resurrection while a considerable number of them are delinquent on account of the remissness of their Secretaries.

3, 10, 16, 21, 22, 32, 41, 47, 51, 52, 61, 63, 69, 81, 82, 86, 94, 126, 128, 144, 147, 157, 163, 168, 172, 200, 214, 229, 236, 239, 241, 245, 256, 261, 263, 264, 268, 274, 289, 310, 317, 321, 328, 329, 334, 342, 345, 358, 364, 381, 383, 385, 391, 494, 402, 409, 417, 422, 425, 426, 427, 436, 452, 456, 457, 460,

464, 465, 470, 482, 485, 487, 490, 514, 518, 521, 523, 528, 539, 553, 554, 556, 562, 582, 589, 590, 592, 606, 614, 616, 632.

## GRANGE LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS.

Before we were hardly aware of it, the summer of 1879 was past and the shortened days of Autumn had come. These, with the lengthened evenings and a storm of snow, and the brief proclamation of the Master of the National Grange waked us up to the fact that just before us lay the annual session of the National Grange, and following it closely would come the State Grange session of this year.

Many enquiries have been made during the season as to the probability of getting an excursion from Michigan, or reduced rates for those who may wish to attend the National Grange session at Canandaigua.

Accordingly we endeavored to make some arrangements with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern R. R. and its branches for reduced rates to Buffalo, but did not succeed. Our former experience with the M. C. R. R. had been so unsatisfactory that we made no attempt in that direction.

But J. F. McClure, Ass't General Ticket Agent, at Detroit, of the Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee R'y Co., is a live railroad man, and thro' his assistance special rates have been secured over the line of that and the Canada roads to Buffalo or Suspension Bridge.

Ticket agents on the line of the railroad at the points named below will sell round trip tickets on presentation of a certificate signed by me. This is a requirement of the Company.

I have sent to Secretaries and prominent Patrons along the line of this road a good many certificates, and shall be glad to supply all Patrons with certificates who may apply by letter or telegraph.

This Company having kindly consented to sell tickets for this trip at their ticket office in Detroit, good on either of the Canada roads. The time of using is limited to Dec. 3d, and the purchase of tickets to the 19th inst. This will accommodate some who will find it convenient to get to Detroit over the other roads.

We give herewith round trip ticket rates from stations on the D., G. H. & M. R. R. to Buffalo or Suspension Bridge:

Detroit, -----	\$ 9.60	Ovid, -----	\$12.90
Det. June, ---	9.60	St. Johns, ---	13.30
Pontiac, ----	10.40	Pewamo, ---	13.85
Holly, -----	11.25	Muir, -----	14.10
Fenton, -----	11.40	Ionia, -----	14.35
Gaines, -----	11.85	Saranac, ---	14.65
Durand, -----	12.05	Lowell, ----	14.95
Vernon, -----	12.15	Gr. Rapids, -	15.50
Corunna, ---	12.35	Nunica, ----	16.55
Owosso, -----	12.50	Gr. Haven, -	16.90
Ow'so Junc., -	12.50	Muskegon, --	17.30

A single fare from Buffalo or Suspension Bridge to Canandaigua is \$1.95.

The Western Grand Trunk, formerly Peninsula, has agreed to have round trip tickets for sale at its offices along the line from Valparaiso Ind., to Port Huron, Mich.

Those taking this route will, of course go *via* the Grand Trunk thro' Canada. We have no table of rates, but two cents a mile each way for round trip tickets will be charged.

No certificates required on this road, and tickets good for thirty days from Nov. 14th.

As before stated, many inquiries have been made of Brothers Woodman and Whitney, as well as at this office, in relation to this matter of reduced rates to the Nat. Grange, and we are sorry that this arrangement was not perfected so that notice could have appeared in the VISITOR of Nov. 1st.

We are aware that many of those who talk about going on such a trip are quite likely to give up, but it has seemed to us that perhaps as many would be likely to go as could be well accommodated. But we hope no one will hesitate about starting, as the lateness of this notice will be a bar to some who would have gone if they could have been making their arrangements for a month past.

We have attended three annual sessions of the National Grange, remaining three days each time, and never for a moment regretted the trip.

Times have improved. This has been a good year for farmers in nearly all parts of the State, and those who can spare the means to visit the Nat. Grange, and in many cases include a visit to eastern friends in the trip, should by all means do so. It will not be money thrown away, but we think a good investment. If the annual session of the Michigan State Grange did not follow so soon after the National, I should try to get away somehow and spend a little time at Canandaigua. But before we are aware of it the 9th of December will demand that the Master's gavel shall call to order the

## STATE GRANGE OF MICHIGAN

in the hall of the House of Representatives, which, one year before, the Patrons of Michigan dedicated to the temporary use of the Order. That was a proud, historic week to the Patrons of Michigan who saw not less than 800 of our members feeling quite at home in the new State Capitol, to which they had been invited by the authority representing the State.

The ready and hearty response of all the State officers to meet every want, and the cordial good will and friendly feeling manifested by each, from the Governor down to the employes about the building, made us feel that we were indeed welcome to the first occupancy of the State House as a legislative body.

The success of the sixth session makes us feel that large numbers of the earnest Patrons of Michigan will meet with its voting members in the new Capitol in Dec. next, and participate, so far as they may, in the work of the session.

With the reduced railroad and hotel rates which were obtained last winter, and which we may confidently expect this year, the expense of attending the session will not be a serious or weighty objection to attending the seventh session of the State Grange in Dec. next.

All those present last year were more than compensated, and we are quite sure that many of them will be present at the next session.

We shall be glad to see them and renew those cordial greetings which are among the evidences of the great value of the Order, and hope they will not fail to bring many of their Patron friends with them.

There is ample room, and with greater hotel accommodations in the city, we can promise that all who come will be richly rewarded.

These annual meetings are not only a fruitful source of enjoyment to those who attend during the session, but the influence that goes out from and permeates the great body of the Order, increasing and strengthening the faith of some, and the hopes of all, becomes a potent agency for good to the Order. We therefore advise all who can to attend these legislative sessions of the Order, National or State, fully believing that, to all who can afford it, the investment of time and money is a good one.

Go to the State Grange.

## PLASTER—GRANGE PLASTER.

The season has arrived when the Patrons of Michigan should begin to think not only about the next session of the State Grange in the new CAPITOL at Lansing in December, but also of that other matter of primary interest to them,—their supply of plaster for the season of 1880.

The Executive Committee of the State Grange have, you all know, been watchful of the interests of the Order in this matter of plaster, and you will remember how they proved their faith and fidelity by their works when they became individually responsible for thousands of dollars, and that committee are determined that this arrangement for keeping the price of plaster down to a reasonable figure shall never die on their hands so long as they have the co-operation of Day & Taylor, of Grandville, in this work.

The Committee at their meeting in October renewed their contract with Day & Taylor at a rate equivalent to a dollar less per ton at the mill than before. And we confidently expect that every farmer worthy of the name of Patron will arrange to order with his neighbor of Day & Taylor what plaster he will want to use next season. These gentlemen have, with unexampled energy and push developed a new mine since "Weston Lake" was created and have already got out nearly 2,000 tons of rock, and are bringing more to the surface every day.

They had a large amount piled up under sheds when the water overcame them in their old quarry. This dry rock they are now grinding, and it is in perfect condition of A No. 1 quality. It cannot be excelled.

We call up this matter thus early to advise all those localities that have good warehouses to order their plaster early in the season before cars become scarce. Plaster won't evaporate if you get it right off, and it is not liable to loss from any cause. It is so cheap and heavy no one will want to steal it, and if you get it early you will be sure to have it when you want it.

Messrs Day & Taylor propose to furnish it in bags at only ten cents per ton more than in bulk and allow Patrons to return the bags or pay the wholesale price for them. This is a very liberal offer and it seems to us that it will require a large number of bags to supply the demand.

This will enable farmers to take their supply of plaster right from the cars already weighed, and unload a car in a very short time. Now, Brothers remember that to the Grange you are indebted for this opportunity to buy plaster at a very low price; and remember another thing, that if you sustain Day & Taylor, the days of cheap plaster will not depart from you. Attend to this matter and attend to it early and well, for in this way you take security on the future. Stand by your friends who have so faithfully stood by you, and order your plaster early of Day & Taylor, of Grandville.

## Grange Meetings.

VanBuren County Pomona Grange, No. 13, will hold its annual meeting in the village of Lawrence, Nov. 27th, '79, for the election of officers and such other business as may properly come before it.  
F. Goss, Sec'y.

THE time will come, says the Danbury News man, when all civilized nations will speak one language and drink one beer.

IF A man is to be considered as absent when his senses leave, there are many men who could hardly ever be found at home.

## Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

## Among The Laborers.

October 27th.

At 8 A. M. we bade good bye to home and family and were soon en route by rail in company with Brother Whitehead, for South Boston where we were expected to labor.

At Lowell Bro. Stannard met us and took us to the hall. As we came near we saw plenty of Grange signs, by which we knew we were expected, and that by a large number. Dinner was served in the dining-room, as before, when there in June. At the hour of labor the hall was filled to overflowing, and for two and one half hours good earnest attention to the words of the Lecturer was given.

In the evening, Bro. Whitehead gave an excellent good-of-the-Order talk, and then spent the night at the home of Bro. and Sister Stannard.

Thursday, Oct. 28th.

Found us at the home of Bro. Barnard, the Worthy Master of Berlin Grange, No. 272, whose new hall was to be dedicated to the use of the noble Order. Breakfast over, we took some exercise in looking over the farm and buildings of our host.

Ten o'clock came and found us at the door of the hall, where, with the Worthy Lecturer of the National Grange, we were warmly welcomed, not only by Berlin Centre Grange, but by hundreds of visiting brothers and sisters, coming many miles to assist in the labors of the day.

At the appointed hour of 10:30, the Patrons, clothed in regalia, assembled at the old hall and formed in procession, in the usual order, and proceeded to the new hall, which was duly inspected and filled to its utmost capacity. The exercises of dedication followed as soon as the company were seated, in which we were assisted by excellent singing from the choir.

All the officers did well their parts, and we would particularly mention the Chaplain and lady officials, who clearly and impressively gave their charges. The dedication proper was followed by a short address,—when, the hour of dinner having arrived, we were called from labor to refreshment.

This gives us a place to say a word about this new hall. It is two stories in height, finished below into a large room, lecture room, or any purpose to which the Grange may wish to use it, or allow it to be used. In front is the stairway leading to the upper rooms. Through suitable ante-rooms we pass to the Grange hall, which is large, well-finished and furnished for the use of the Grange. It was beautifully decorated with evergreen, grain, fruit and flowers, mottoes and pictures. A platform eight inches high passes entirely around the outside of the hall, and adds greatly to the convenience and capacity of the hall.

The dinner tables were also well decorated by tasteful hands and supplied by bountiful larders with everything appetite could desire or taste suggest.

After dinner Worthy Master Woodman appeared, to the delight of all, as shown by the hearty welcome he received.

The exercises of the afternoon began by packing every space in the hall. After singing, Bro. Whitehead was introduced and spoke in his usual happy manner for an hour or more—when Bro. Woodman took the stand, and in his usual pleasant and impressive manner addressed the assembled Patrons for an hour or more, edifying and instructing all.

Supper was now served to those who were to remain to the private session.

An hour or more of social chat and visiting, and the Grange was opened in due form and instructed by Bros. Woodman and Whitehead in the higher work and lessons of the Order, until a late hour, when all said good-bye and went home and to rest.

The three W.'s were guests of Bro. Barnard, the Worthy Master of the Grange, who was to give us an early breakfast and a ride to Ionia, to take the early trains—Bro. Woodman to Lansing and Bro. Whitehead and ourselves to St. Johns.

October 29th.

A short ride on the well-managed D. G. H. & M. R. R. brought us to St. Johns, Clinton County, Bro. Hale

met us at the depot and directed us to a pleasant place of waiting, and for writing. After dinner we met a goodly number of farmers in the Court House, and briefly addressed them, being followed at length by the Worthy National Lecturer.

We thankfully accepted an invitation to tea with Mrs. A. Stout, where we were pleasantly entertained, an hour was passed all too fast. Our hostess was well supplemented by her daughters and mother, the latter almost, if not quite, proved to be a relation of Brother Whitehead's.

On reaching the hall of St. Johns Grange, No. 140, we found even more Patrons present than at the afternoon meeting. The Grange was opened in due form, the Worthy Master, Frank Conn, presiding.

We addressed the Patrons briefly upon the needs of the Order and the necessity of thorough organization,—and during the recess that followed took many names for the VISITOR, and an application for a Pomona Grange, signed by 80 persons.

Bro. Whitehead followed the recess, teaching the lessons of our temple work, until the hour for departure upon the west bound train.

October 30th.

Six hours rest at Sweet's hotel, Grand Rapids, reached at midnight, and we were called to breakfast, after which your two Lecturers took a large amount of exercise and did the town thoroughly. Missing the train on one road, we took one upon another to Coopersville, where by carriage we rode to Trent, Muskegon County, and found a large crowd waiting for us to begin our labor, the dedication of the new hall. Looks of disappointment passed into smiles when we drew up and all became happy.

Dinner eaten, the order of duty was begun. Patrons in regalia formed in procession at the old school, where the Grange has so long met, and proceeded in order to the new hall and inspected it, and the exercises of the hour began. The best made and handsomest altar has been our pleasure to see in a Grange hall was put in position, and decorated by fair hands with flowers, fruits and grain, beautiful emblems of the faith, hope and charity so appropriately taught by our Order.

Bro. Mortimer Whitehead gave one of his characteristic addresses in the interest of the farmer and the advancement of Agriculture, to which all gave attentive ear, gathering food for thought in the coming days, and which shall yield sooner or later an abundant harvest of fine fruit.

During the recess hour given for supper and rest we noted the size and plan of the hall, 30x60 feet, two stories in height. The lower rooms well arranged for a dining room and kitchen purposes, while the Grange Hall, one of the largest in the State, occupies the upper floor. The anterooms, staircases, passages, etc., are abundant and ample in size. The facilities for lighting are the best we have seen in any Grange, and we congratulate Trent Grange, No. 372, that it has so thoughtfully provided so beautiful a home.

The evening feast over, for we had two feasts this day, Worthy Master Woodward, of Trent Grange, read an address of welcome to the Weston, Pomona Grange, No. 19, and gave the hall into the possession of Bro. Nathan Whiting, Master of the Pomona Grange, who at once opened the Grange in form in the Fourth Degree. Worthy Bro. Whitehead then gave instructions on the lessons of the degrees. Recess followed. When work was resumed, it was in the Fifth Degree. Thirty-six applications and nine dimitts were received, adding forty-five members to the lists of Pomona Grange, No. 19, Ottawa, and Muskegon.

At a late hour the large meeting departed for the night to gather strength for the coming day. The meeting at Trent may be called a "successful meeting." Patrons being present from four counties and fifteen Granges. Several members from Kent and Newago Pomona Granges were present. The officers and members of Weston Grange took part in the dedication, making a fine appearance in the procession.

October 31st.

A long ride across the country from Fruit to Coopersville and we made a warm room and bed at 3 o'clock A. M., with three hours to sleep and rest. At 6 o'clock we took breakfast and then the train for Flint, by the way of Holly, reaching our destination at 12:15 P. M. We ate dinner and then were conduct-

ed to the court house, where we found a goodly number of the faithful awaiting us, and who for two hours listened to words of the lecturers—State and National. In the evening we met the Patrons at the same place, and again words of cheer and encouragement, also, of instruction and advice.

The Order in this county has made some mistakes and has suffered largely by the same, but we found the true spirit of the Patron there and think and hope that they too will advance with the rest of the line, and gain strength as we know they will by each and every effort. Let them, and all others remember, that by continued persevering effort, and repeated blows, the great obstacles will be overcome and our object, if just, will finally be attained.

With the earnest brothers and sisters we met at Flint at the helm of the County and Pomona Grange, we see no reason why they cannot recover all lost ground and steadily move forward to ultimate success. *Unite, then, and forward to victory.*

November 1st.

Having no appointment, we take a good rest, and then answering our correspondents bade Brother Whitehead good bye and parted, he to go to his home and dear ones and we to our humble home and loved ones.

November 5th.

After a few days in looking to home interests and getting ready for the new winter, we again take the train and bring up in Bro. and Secretary Cobb's care, with whom we arrange for circulating the notices of the rates to the National Grange and return, obtained through the courtesy of Mr. J. F. McClure, of Detroit. We hope that many Patrons can find it convenient to attend the meeting at Canandaigua, and derive great benefit therefrom. For particulars, see elsewhere in this number, and then write to Bro. Cobb or me for certificates of membership.

## Items.

Clinton County Patrons have sent in an application for a Pomona Grange in their County with over 80 names attached. The State Lect. has appointed Thursday, the 13th inst., for the institution of such Pomona Grange.

Barry County Patrons met on the 14th inst., at Hastings for a lecture from the State Lecturer and to organize a County or Pomona Grange. This is the beginning of success in this County.

The field work of the State Lecturer is increasing. Calls come in plentifully, showing that the Order is putting forth new energy and zeal. Many applications have been made for the reorganization of dormant Granges.

AN OHIO man has obtained a judgment against a school board for depriving his daughter of the advantages of the public school. The board had decided that the pupils should study drawing, but the fond parent in question declared that she should not, and she was expelled in consequence. It is mournfully added by a correspondent at the seat of war that if this verdict stands the studies arranged by boards of education will not be compulsory on scholars. That would be a pity, indeed. If the tax-eating managers of public schools everywhere could be prohibited from prescribing drawing, embroidery, Deutsch, French and other ornamental studies for the benefit of the few, there would be a prospect that the more essential accomplishments of reading, writing and ciphering would be easier of attainment to the many. A judgment like the one in Ohio above mentioned will not, of course, suffice, even if it is sustained, as in that case studies would be optional with parent or child, and system would be out of the question. More common schools are needed, not with university appliances, but with room and teachers enough for all who may wish to secure elementary instruction. The only way to secure them without largely increasing the burdens of property-owners is to forbid by law the expenditure of the people's money for that which *individuals should pay for*. It is possible that the Ohio difficulty may lead to a reformation of this kind.—*Times*.

INDIAN summer this. And speaking of Indian summer, that's about all that is left that the Indian can call all his own.

[From the *Dirigo Rural*.]

### A TRIBUTE TO BASKENHEGAN GRANGE.

BY A VISITOR.

A little band was gathered there,  
Their cares as well as joys to share  
Bound by sweet ties of brotherhood,  
Each working for the other's good.

No lodge or order in the land  
Contains a more peaceful, happy band,  
Where hearts beat more in unison,  
To fast increase the good begun.

The sisters spread the festal board,  
With tempting food their homes afford;  
Thanks are returned as gathered round,  
To him who all their labors crowned.

While social converse cheers the hour,  
Each Patron feels the hallowed power  
Of the fraternal ties, that bind  
Each devotee in heart and mind.

New friendships formed, old ones renewed,  
And from their social band eschewed  
All thoughts of strife or selfish gain,  
They're bound by sweetest friendship's chain.

These honest tillers of the soil,  
Enjoy the fruits of patient toil;  
With ready hands their lands are tilled  
Till barns and granaries are filled.

May richer fruits and blessings come  
To cheer the farmer's humble home!  
May God their earnest efforts bless,  
And crown each effort with success.

And when they all have done with care,  
May they, united, gather there;  
And not one link be missed above,  
To bind the chain of perfect love.  
June, 1876.

### Ladies' Department.

#### More About Letters.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." This proverb was brought to my mind while reading Bro. Cobb's editorial in the *Visitor* of Oct. 1st, and I was so glad that he jotted down the ideas on paper and sent them out to benefit its numerous readers.

Every now and then, while reading the article, I felt like tossing up my hat and giving three cheers for Bro. Cobb; but, then, that would be so unlady-like, that I contented myself by saying that I enjoyed it ever so much, from beginning to end,—as I am somewhat fastidious on this subject.

Several times during the past year, when I have been thinking of something to send to the columns of the *Visitor*, this subject would present itself to my mind, and I would as often set it one side, thinking, perhaps, that somebody would call me an egotist, setting myself up for a teacher over older and wiser persons, instead of taking my place as a scholar.

But as the subject has been brought out, I will say a little something upon it, not expecting to add to its interest—only corroborating its statement, and showing my appreciation of the article.

The readers of the *Visitor* have learned by this time that Myra has a great deal to say about personal experience. Well, we all have hobbies, and some of us ride them unmercifully. Perhaps this is one of mine. I want to tell you how, and why, I became so fastidious. The last of my school days were spent at Albion College. Our preceptress was a beautiful English lady—when I say beautiful, I mean more than that she had a pretty face, delicate hands, and a fine form. She was beautiful in her loveliness of character, sweetness of temper, and earnestness for the future welfare of the young ladies under her supervision. I presume she saw very many defects in our every day deportment that needed correction; and instead of seeking her own pleasure, and resting after a week's teaching, she set apart the hour from nine to ten on Saturday morning to call our attention to the little niceties of life, to tell us where we might improve our notions, habits and practices; and, among other things, the subject of letter-writing was thoroughly discussed. The inside of the letter received as particular attention as the outside, telling us how to date, whereabouts to commence writing, how to address persons on business, or comparative strangers, or dear friends. The directions for the outside correspond exactly with Bro. Cobb's views. We were told to place the postage stamp on the left-hand corner,

crossways, so that when it was stamped at the post-office it might not interfere with the superscription. I do so mostly, but I never receive one where the stamp is placed in that manner, and it, perhaps, is not the rule to go by now-a-days. The experience of that hour on Saturday morning is worth more to me than dollars and cents; and though I have been very remiss in following these teachings, I fancy I have not wandered so wide from the mark as though I had never had them. But who of us do follow *exactly* our earlier teachings?

Some persons may say that it is more nice than wise to stickle for these fine points, if the letter is only well written, or well worded, no matter if the outside has an unsightly appearance, or the superscription is ready to topple off, or as crooked as a rail fence.

But, my friends, you are mistaken. Good taste, correctness in notions, habits, and practices, is the lubricating oil that prevents friction in the machinery of every day life. All may not have had the privilege of such teachings, or of reading a treatise on these little things. But all may keep their eyes open, and be observing and willing to learn the better way.

I know a young man that had almost as soon go without a letter from some of his friends than be so mortified as to claim such unsightly letters at the office.

And now a word to the brothers: When your wife wishes you to take a letter to the office for her, don't put it in your pocket along side your cigar or tobacco, old strings, etc., and carry it two or three days, forgetting to put it in the office, and after a time, when it looks more like a dog-eared spelling-book than the neat little missive it set out to be.

The last point made in Bro. Cobb's article about the little things that make no show on commencement day will bear considerable ventilation. Let us hear about it. MYRA.

#### Once More.

The other day I met a little girl of "ten summers," and I presume as many winters, although those are usually expected to be supplied by the reader. I met this little girl, on a bright, lovely day, coming home from school, pale, hollow-eyed, faint, spiritless, with the inevitable load of school-books, to be studied when she should reach home. She had the "headache," she said, as well she might have; and under her dress she already wore "braces" to correct a painful defect in her shoulders.

School from nine till two; then lessons out of school—braces and headaches! The latter following just as surely as that night succeeds day. Oh! how I longed to go home with that child and say to those parents: throw those books aside. Take that child out of school entirely. Take off those braces, and buy her instead a hoop and stick and turn her out to play, till those shoulders *straighten themselves*, as her health shall improve. Of course, it would have been considered a great impertinence, for me, personally, to have interfered in such a matter. But as I looked into that intelligent, beautiful little face, and saw the settled expression of pain and weariness, I had a great mind to risk it. "Perhaps," said I, "dear it would be as well for you to leave off going to school until you are stronger." "Oh! dear, no!" exclaimed the child. "Then Mamma says I should be behind the other girls." "That is it! Behind the other girls." And for this her little body has to be filled with pains and aches; her nights are to be wakeful and wearisome; and if she lives to be married, as probably she will not, she is to leave her first baby motherless. What of all that if she were not "behind the other girls"?

I say again, as I have said a thousand times, that every mother who permits this, is a cold-blooded murderess; and every teacher who permits it is just as criminal. The world is filled to-day with nervous, dyspeptic women from just this cause. The moment one of these girls is married and her cares begin, the doctor's chaise becomes a fixed fact before the door, till the bears replace it. My very soul sickens within me when I meet these girls day by day, as school is dismissed. It is the most egregious, astounding folly on the part of parents and teachers that was ever perpetrated by human beings claiming to be intelligent. Nowadays it is a very rare thing to find a young

girl with a straight back or shoulder-blades that match one another. This is monstrous, it is impious. It should be noticed under the head of "Cruelty to Animals" by our legislators, and punished accordingly.

The poor lambs that are jolted over the pavements to the slaughter-houses, in carts, tied by the legs, with their tongues protruding, and their eyes starting from their sockets, as their heads hang helplessly over the edge of the cart, to be grazed by the revolutions of the wheels, are not half as much to be pitied as these young girls. For the lambs will shortly have their throats cut, and there will be an end of it; while the girls are to drag on year after year of a miserable, spiritless existence, defrauded of the freshness, and spring and joy of their youth, and then bedecked and handed over to some thoughtless husband to be nursed.

This is not an overdrawn picture. Would that it were. I have such seen young wives sitting in their nurseries, appalled at their accumulating cares, and their total and increasing inability day by day to meet them. Men, even the best, have little patience with an invalid wife, and she has this misery to bear with the rest. Why *won't* mothers think of this in time? Why *won't* they say *decidedly*: My daughter shall study no lessons out of school; but, instead shall have out-door relaxation? Perhaps some mother who reads this *may* say so. When they all do it, then our school system will be changed, and not till then, for teachers but echo the wish of their patrons.—*Fanny Fern.*

#### A Smart Wife.

The other morning a citizen called at a hardware store on Woodward avenue and said he wanted a key to a door in his house, and he took up and carried away almost the first key handed out to him. On his way down town after dinner he stopped and exchanged the key for another, explaining that the first wouldn't fit. These changes took place twice a day for the next four days, the citizen being unable to get a key to fit. On the sixth day he drove up to the store with the door on a dray, and calling the proprietor, he said:

"Bring your box of keys out here and we'll get a key to fit that lock. Here I have been running back and forth about a week, and I might not have got a fit for a whole month if my wife had not suggested that I bring the door down here. Some of these women are mighty smart."

"But why didn't you take the lock off and bring it down in your pocket?" asked the dealer.

The buyer looked at him in a vacant way, stared at the door, and sat down on the curbstone with the remark:

"It's a wonder that the whole family wasn't sent to the fool-house ten years ago!"

#### Josh Billings on Marriage.

Sum people marry because they think winnia will be scarce next year, and live to wonder how the stock holds out.

Sum marry to get rid of themselves, and discover that the game was one that two could play at, and neither win.

Sum marry for love without a cent in their pocket, nor a friend in the world, not a drop of pedigree. This looks desperate, but is the strength of game.

Sum marry in haste, and then sit down and think it carefully over.

Sum think it carefully over first, and then set down and marry.

No man kan tell jist exactly where he will fetch up when he touches calico.

No man kan tell jist what calico has made up her mind tew do. Calico don't know herself. Dry goods of all kinds is the child of circumstance.

CHILDREN who drink tea and coffee, says Dr. Ferguson, of England, as a rule, grow only four pounds per annum between the ages of thirteen and sixteen; while those who drink milk night and morning grow fifteen pounds each year. When diseases are prevalent in the neighborhood, children who use these drinks have less power to resist sickness than others.

PROFESSOR.—"Can you multiply concrete numbers together?" The class are uncertain. Professor—"What will be the product of five apples multiplied by six potatoes?" Pupil (triumphantly)—"Hash."

#### Important Accession.

The following rules have been adopted in the *Chicago Tribune*. We hope to see all of the eleven amendments recommended by the American Philological Association added to the *Tribune's* list:

Omit *ue* in demagog, catalog, pedagog, dialog, decalog, and other words ending in logue and gouge.

Omit the superfluous *me* in program. Omit the second *m* in dilemma (dilema).

Omit the superfluous *te* in cigaret, etiquet, parquet, coquet, and other words, when applied as the name of a newspaper.

Spell definite in all its forms without the final *e*; thus definit—ly—ness, indefinite—ly—ness.

Spell infinite without the final *e*; also infinit—ly—ness.

Omit final *e* in hypocrit, favorit; also opposit—ly—ness and apposit—ly—ness.

In words ending in lessness, drop one *s* from less, viz: carelessless, thankless, etc.

Omit the fourth *s* in assassin (assasin) and other forms of the word.

Spell somerset, not somersault. Spell canon with a Spanish *n*, or spell it canyon.

Change *ph* to *f* in fantom, fantasm, and all forms of the word; also, in fonie, fonetic—s—al, fonografy, orthografy, alfabet, diagraf, difthong.

Sensible. The *Visitor* will follow suit hereafter.

#### The Oleander.

This beautiful plant, when under proper culture, is truly a gem among flowers. This is a good time for making cuttings of it. The best way to root them is in a bottle of rain water set in the window. The cuttings should be no deeper in the water than half way up to the second joint, and when the rootlets get to be half an inch long, carefully pot in rich, sandy loam. After the plant blooms, cut back to within 15 inches or a foot of the ground, when three branches will come out; let them grow until it again blooms, after which cut them all back about six inches from the main stalk, and every time it blooms repeat cutting back, and in a few years a very beautiful plant will be the result; in fact, with proper care, it will grow more beautiful with age.—*Scientific American.*

#### Schoolboy Blunders.

The Lyon County (Nev.) *Times*, writing of the ludicrous mistakes at a recent school examination there, says: Although the replies indicated a reasonably high degree of proficiency among the scholars, some ludicrous mistakes were made:

A boy was told to correct the following sentence: Milo began to lift the ox when he was a calf." The reply was: "Milo, when he was an ox, began to lift the calf."

A little boy was asked: "What are the principle minerals in Nevada?" He replied without the least hesitation: "Gold, silver, and trout."

"To the question, 'How would you go from New York to San Francisco by water?' a boy in the same department replied promptly, and with the utmost assurance: 'By boat!'"

Another scholar in the same class being asked, "Why do you celebrate the Fourth of July?" answered unhesitatingly: "Because three Presidents died on that day."

A boy in the high school having been required to give the plural of two, answered "Three!" and resumed his seat with a self-satisfied air.

A VERY genteel way to be a knave in these latter days is to put your property all in your wife's name and constitute yourself her agent for the transaction of the business. In this way you can lie, cheat, steal, all in your wife's name. You can drive fast horses and ride in fine carriages, no matter whether you can pay your honest debts or not. You can amass wealth in spite of your creditors. In short, you can be the meanest man on the face of the earth and yet pass for a gentleman. If you are an honest man, or have a conscience, it may not be so easy for you to act in the capacity of your wife's agent, but if you are not an honest man, and not troubled with very much of a conscience, it will just be splendid.—*G. R. Lever.*

Correspondence.

Report from Berrien County.

BERRIEN SPRINGS, Nov. 3d, '79.

Worthy Bro. J. T. Cobb :

I am exceedingly glad to inform you of a visit Bro. Cowins and myself, with our wives, made to the Cass Co. Pomona Grange, held at Cassopolis on the 29th of October.

We did not find a very large gathering, but those that were there seemed to be wide awake Patrons. Some said that they read three different Grange papers. I would advise all Patrons to read more Grange news, even if they neglect the political papers.

I have no doubt that in a few years the number of members in Cass Co. will be greatly increased.

At the Berrien Co. quarterly meeting of our Pomona Grange, held the second Tuesday in October, we had an attendance of 500 members, and an interesting meeting.

I think it would be a good plan for the Secretaries of the Pomona Granges to make out and send to your paper a notice of the meeting of their Grange, so that members from other Counties could visit them,—as we always are glad to see any from other places at our meetings, and enjoy visiting other Counties, and learn their methods of working.

We, in this County, do well in shipping our produce to Bro. T. Mason, in Chicago, and he sells it for us and makes us good, fair and honest returns, which we did not always get before a man of our own Order entered the commission business,—and we think we can safely recommend him to all farmers, or anyone that has produce to sell, as he lived among us twelve years, and we think we know him well. He is a quick, sharp, faithful worker, as all know that are acquainted with him.

Fraternally yours,  
JOHN H. FEATHER.

LANSING, Nov. 7th.

Bro. J. T. Cobb :

Permit me, through the VISITOR, to call the attention of the Patrons to a few points that will come before the annual meeting of our State Grange, soon to be held at Lansing.

There is quite a general complaint that we did not get such legislation as the farming interests needed; and there was a strong feeling of opposition to nearly all the measures that were recommended by the State Grange at its last meeting, and much of this was merely to condemn the Grange for daring to suggest needed reforms.

One of our mottoes says, "In union there is strength," and why should we not show our strength, by such political action as will secure members favorable to our views.

One of the first and most important subjects, and one that all Grangers are agreed upon, is a better support of the Agricultural College, and from what we have learned since the failure of the last Legislature to make proper appropriations, we can not be too emphatic in our recommendations, and there is but one way to secure the results we wish, and that is by the ballot.

Every one who will take the trouble and time, and look over the organization and history of this College, will see that there has been a strong and determined effort to secure the funds of this College for the University, and to place a Professor of Agriculture in that institution, which would comply with the land grant to the letter of the laws, but would leave your experimental farm and practical agriculture as not in the list of State institutions.

At the last session of the State Grange we were too general in our suggestions. We made a strike at general results, and failed to concentrate. We hope that this time there will be more definite points made.

If we cannot get all we think we are entitled to as the leading industry of the State, let us gain a little. Why not insist that there shall be a veterinary department in the Agricultural College? But let us be sure that, by some means, we can reach the Board of Agriculture, and induce them to keep a few of those men who have made so fair a reputation that other States are securing their services, by more liberal salaries than our State has been willing to pay.

We made a small gain in the interest law of the last Legislature, but we failed in the fees for foreclosing mortgages.

You are now paying \$25,000 into the military fund, to reimburse those who served in the campaign of 1877, and kept down those terrible riots; who ever heard of those terrible riots until that bill was on its way through the last Legislature? What do we want of a military department?

These are some of the questions that will be talked about in the State Grange. But why talk about these things—resolve that things should be thus and so, and then go home and, in the heat of the political campaign, go straight to the polls and cast a party vote; go for your party, and bind yourselves for another two years to the party rings,—and then regret that you have failed!

L. G. HUNT.

ROME CENTRE, Nov. 6th, '79.

Bro. J. T. Cobb :

I am always interested in reading the communications in the VISITOR from different Granges in the State. These letters indicate the successful workings of many of the subordinate Granges, and show that the writers are awake to the means that are calculated to enhance the objects of the Organization, viz: "To make the daily lives of men and women better, truer, holier and happier; to encourage education, social culture, and a better development of the nobler faculties of our nature; to make the wilderness bud and blossom like the rose."

While we have been thus interested in the account of the doings of others, it is, at least presumable that they may be pleased to hear an occasional word from us.

Our Grange numbers about 50 members,—of these 15 or 20 are the real workers, while the others come in only occasionally, when they expect to be entertained, and if their expectations are not realized, they find more pleasure or profit elsewhere.

I presume we are no exceptions in this respect to many other Granges. This needs reform.

At our last meeting we were favored with a visit from some friends of a neighboring Grange. Visitors have a right to expect to be entertained. But in this case we were as illy prepared for company as the busy housewife while passing through the metamorphosis of house-cleaning. We had only a little business of local interest to transact,—no candidates to initiate, no programme for the evening, but few of our working members present, and the meeting promised to be a dull one indeed. Nevertheless, the workers began to bestir themselves; some made remarks, and some read selections, out of which a lively discussion arose, and our visitors as well as our own members became interested and animated.

The *annui* that was anticipated now disappeared, and the meeting was a revival, and we hope it was indicative of good things to come.

Let us pause a moment to consider the great amount of good that may be accomplished by a little friendly intercourse between neighboring Granges. I believe that social and mental culture might be very much promoted. Let us hope that this will receive more attention in the future than it has in the past.

Fraternally yours,  
P. H. DOWLING,  
Sec'y.

FENWICK, Montcalm Co., Mich., }  
Nov. 6th, 1879. }

Worthy Sec. Cobb :

Not having reported any doings from this Grange since Bro. Whitehead visited us, the 19th of August, I would say that Bushnell Grange, No. 437, still exists and is in a healthy condition, although many that joined us at our organization, and since, have fell by the roadside. Yet we are strong in numbers, and our Grange is composed of those who have come to stay, they realize the object of our organization. It is composed of those that joined, not through curiosity, or the hope of saving a few dimes in making their purchases, but of men and women who realize the object sought for, socially, morally, and intellectually.

We continue our meetings weekly. At our last meeting there was fourteen new members balloted for, and all admitted, and they will take the first degree at our next meeting.

Fraternally,  
R. W. HOY, Sec'y.

CANNON GRANGE,  
Nov. 6th, 1879. }

Bro. J. T. Cobb :

Our Grange is in a very prosperous condition at present. We have sixty-five members, and they still continue to increase. Three committees are appointed to make reports on different subjects, and they are required to make their report whenever the Worthy Lecturer calls on them.

We also have a paper read once in four weeks, called the Cannon Grange Journal. To this each member ought to contribute, though all do not. Every item of news that can be picked up during the month, and articles from members; so that it is really interesting and useful.

GEO. M. HARTWELL,  
Sec'y.

Protecting Trees from Mice.

Whenever snow falls to any considerable extent in winter there is always more or less danger of mice gnawing the bark from the stems of fruit and other trees. During cold weather, apple orchards in particular are frequently seriously injured in this manner, and it is very difficult to remedy this evil; although its prevention is easy enough, as the mice work mainly under the snow and near the foot of the stem; it is plain that if this part of the tree is protected there will be little danger of further injury. The best way to protect trees in an orchard is to wrap the lower part of the stems, from the ground upward, a foot or two with some material which mice either cannot or will not eat or gnaw; perhaps one of the cheapest materials for the purpose is tar paper, such as is used for tinning buildings, and which may be found in almost any country village as well as in cities; it can be cut up into strips of the size required to go around the trees, and then tied in place with strong twine. Where this material cannot be conveniently obtained, strong broom straw or manilla paper may be used, by first coating one side with coal tar and then applying it as in the first instance, keeping the tar on the outside. Bark peeled from other kinds of trees, old pieces of tin and sheet iron can also be employed for this purpose, but tar paper is the most readily applied and removed. A few hours work this fall in protecting the trees against mice, may be the means of saving orchards which have taken years of waiting, and much money and labor to produce.—*Ex.*

The Rochdale system rescues from the all engulfing maelstrom of commercial competition, millions on millions for the producer, which have heretofore been not only absorbed, but wrecked and utterly lost in the whirlpool of unscientific, unorganized commerce. Such commerce is wasteful and blundering in its blind operations, skillful in oppressing both consumer and producer, and eminently successful in bringing about financial wrecks and storms which periodically embarrass and distress the laboring millions, and leave all over the land bankrupts and paupers, idle manufactories and populous alms-houses in contrast with the mansions of enormous and often accidental wealth, easily acquired, and often wastefully or profligately spent.

To introduce order, harmony, beneficence, and the sunshine of unvarying prosperity into such a scene is an exploit worthy of a god; but it seems to have been the achievement of the humble Rochdale weavers, and there is no nobler mission recorded on the historic page than that of introducing the Rochdale system, crowned with success, to the intelligent freemen of America. But shall we of America be merely the passive recipients of the fruits of their wisdom, and merely reproduce the organization and prosperity which we have seen in England?—*Inaugural Address of Dr. J. E. Buchanan, as president of the American Co-operative Union, November 5, 1875.*

"I rise for information," said a member of a legislative body. "I am glad to hear it," said a by-stander, "no one needs it more."

It has been said that every man has his price. We go still further and say that there isn't a man living that hasn't been sold at some time or other.

THE question of a dog tax was submitted to the voters of Monroe Co., Ohio. The majority for dog tax was 853 in the County.

Patrons vs. Railroads.

That corporations have money, so they use it in the interest of the people, is meritorious rather than otherwise.

The Grange has further demonstrated that transportation companies have been more ready to shake hands with the farmer and do his carrying trade, whenever the farmer was in any condition to know what he wanted, than they have had credit for.

Before the organization of the Grange there was no co-operation of farmers, and consequently no combination of their accumulated products. Each one acted for himself, and the individual farmer could only ask the railroad company, "What will you carry my bushel of wheat or my basket of peaches to New York City for?" The amount of his business was not worth competing for, and hardly worth the trouble of handling. But since the organization of the Grange and the co-operation consequent thereunto, a Patron can approach a railroad company and contract for so many cars per day, for so long, for the shipping of wheat or fruit, or anything he may desire to ship.

The Patron knows what he wants done, and the large amount of freight he ships makes it worth competing for: and to-day, where such co-operation exists, the farmer can secure as good rates as any other business man, and through this intelligent action of the Grange the farmers and railroad men have a common interest and an increasing friendship.—*Agricultural World.*

Practical Communism.

It is related of Mr. John Jacob Astor that in his palmist days a man called upon him, armed with a revolver. "I am a French Communist," said he, "I believe in a distribution of property, and I want some of your money, or your life. I believe money should be equally divided."

"So do I," said Astor. "You are said to be worth ten millions," said the man.

"Well, I suppose that is about the sum," said Mr. Astor. "Now how many people are there in the United States?"

"About ten millions, I believe," said the Communist.

"Now, how much would that be each? About one dollar?" asked Mr. Astor.

"Yes, about," said the Communist. "There's your dollar," said Astor, laying down a bill.

How to Return a Favor.

An old Scotchman was taking his grist to the mill in sacks thrown across the back of his horse, when the horse stumbled and the grain fell to the ground. He had not strength to raise it, being an aged man, but he saw a man riding along, and he thought he would ask him for help. The horseman proved to be a nobleman, who lived in a castle hard by, and the farmer could not muster courage to ask a favor of him. But the nobleman was a gentleman also, and not waiting to be asked, he dismounted, and between them they lifted the grain to the horse's back. John—for he was a gentleman, too—lifted his cap and said:

"My lord, how shall I ever thank you for your kindness?"

"Very easily, John," replied the nobleman, "whenever you see another man in the same plight as you were in just now, help him, and that will be thanking me."

THERE are five great natural grazing regions in the world. The oldest is the interior of Asia, which has furnished rich pasturage, summer and winter, since the time of Abel, who was a keeper of sheep. The second is the large pasture ground of South Africa, extending from 10° south latitude to Cape Colony in 35° south latitude, which feeds immense herds of cattle the year round, and has done so for years. The interior of South America is the third great pastoral region; the fourth great pastoral region is the interior of Australia, and the fifth is the vast trans-Missouri and Mississippi region of our own country, which surpasses, in every natural advantage, any part of the world as a great grazing section, the capabilities of which are only yet but partially developed.—*Am. Agriculturist.*

**THE REAPER, DEATH.**

MIDDLEVILLE GRANGE HALL, }  
 October 8th, 1879.  
 WHEREAS, Death has removed from among us our Brother HENRY W. COLVIN, who died September 24th, 1879; therefore,  
 Resolved, That in the life of our deceased Brother, he left us the example of a true Patriot, with honest purpose advanced by good works, and as a Brother was ever ready to help needy, therefore,  
 Resolved, That we tender our sympathy to the bereaved wife and family in their affliction.  
 Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning, and these resolutions be inserted in the records of this Grange, and a copy sent to the family of the deceased, and also to the office of the GRANGE VISITOR and the *Republican* for publication.  
 C. McQUEEN,  
 F. PARKER,  
 J. A. ROBERTSON,  
 Committee.

CRAIG—Died October 21, 1879, in the 28th year of his age at Bedford, Calhoun Co. THOMAS CRAIG, a worthy and useful member of Bedford Grange, No. 65.  
 The usual resolutions of respect and condolence were adopted by the Grange.  
 O. J. ANTHONY, Sec'y.

VEDDER.—WHEREAS, Our days are numbered, and,  
 WHEREAS, "No man knoweth when the hour cometh," and,  
 WHEREAS, In the midst of life and breath a terrible calamity overtook our dearly beloved sister, JOANNA VEDDER, and called her beyond the border land, and  
 WHEREAS, In the death of our Sister, we the undersigned, of Lenawee Co. Grange realize that we have lost a true and faithful Sister, and friend, therefore be it  
 Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family and friends of our departed Sister, and mingle our tears with theirs, ever believing that our Heavenly Father doth all things well.  
 Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread at large upon the journal of this Grange and published in the *GRANGE VISITOR*, and that a copy be furnished to the parents of the deceased.  
 Sister VEDDER lost her life by the falling of the Adriatic Grand Stand, October 2nd. She died October 7th, was a most active member of Adrian and Lenawee Co. Granges.  
 J. COOK, Sec'y.

*T. J. Strong*

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