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THE SILVER LINING.

There's never a day so sunny
But a little cloud appears;
There's never a life so happy
But has had its time of tears;
Yet the sun shines out the brighter
When the stormy tempest clears.

There's never a garden growing
With roses in every plot;
There's never a heart so hardened
But has one tender spot;
We have only to prune the border
To find the forget-me-not.

There's never a cup so pleasant
But has bitter with the sweet;
There's never a path so rugged
That bears not the print of feet;
And we have a helper promised
For the trials we may meet.

There's never a sun that rises
But we know 'twill set at night;
The tints that gleam in the morning,
At evening are just as bright;
And the hour that is the sweetest
Is between the dark and light.

There's never a dream that's happy
But the waking makes us sad;
There's never a dream of sorrow
But the waking makes us glad;
We shall look some day with wonder
At the troubles we have had.

There's never a way so narrow
But the entrance is made straight,
There's always a guide to point us
To the "little wicket gate;"
And the angels will be nearer
To a soul that is desolate.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, PAW PAW

The Transportation Question.

It is well known to every Patron of Husbandry in the land, that the National Grange at its last session memorialized Congress "to enact such laws as will alleviate the oppression imposed upon the people by the railroad corporations and transportation monopolies that now control the inter-State commerce of the country." Among the acts complained of were, "certain fluctuating and excessive rates for transporting freight over their lines of road, thereby wrenching the products of our farms from us to enrich these giant monopolies." Measures were also inaugurated to enlighten the people upon this question, and enable them to realize the fact that this is the only civilized government in the world that allows its railroad corporations to rob and oppress the people by consolidating their lines, pooling their earnings, discriminating against non-competing points, and shippers of their own produce, and in extorting freight rates which are ruinous to the producer and oppressive to the consumer.

This growing avariciousness of these corporations must be arrested by the strong arm of a National law, or the rights of the producing classes will soon be crushed out, and the whole business interests of the country brought under the control of a few railroad magnates, who are fast absorbing the trunk lines of roads and consolidating them into one giant monopoly, against which no other lines can compete, and without the gracious condescensions of which, no other business can prosper.

There is no other National organization that ever has or ever would have attacked this powerful and growing monopoly except the Grange, and no other organization in existence has such power to reach the whole people, mould public sentiment, and bring an influence to bear upon Congress which must eventually result in the enactment of such laws as are necessary to protect the producers and consumers from the great wrong, and the nation from the impending danger, as the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

No sooner was the memorial presented to Congress than opposition to the movement began to manifest itself among railroad officials and attorneys, who flocked to Washington to look after the interests of their roads and their clients. Merchants, and other business men whose success depends upon the prosperity of agriculture, are beginning to look this question square in the face, and with few exceptions strike hands with the "Grangers," and are enrolling themselves with the thousands that are now petitioning Congress for National intervention and control of inter-State commerce. There are some of the leading political papers of all the different political parties now ably advocating the measure, and Boards of Trade are not idle lookers-on in this most important movement ever inaugurated in the interest of the producers and consumers in this country: but the business men as they are, they are looking to their own interests, and not specially to the interests of farmers or other business men whose interests are inseparably connected with agriculture.

The New York Board of Trade and Transportation have appointed a committee to investigate this Grange movement and examine the Grange petitions and bills now pending before Congress, and recommend such legislation as the "Board" may deem to be for the best interests of the country, as the following letter from the secretary of the board will show:

NEW YORK BOARD OF TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION.
NEW YORK, Jan. 23rd, 1880.

Dear Sir:—I have been favored with your address by the Secretary of the Central Grange of your State, who informs me that you sympathize with the movement looking to the regulation of railroad corporations in the interest of the public.

I am also informed that many petitions have been sent to Congress in favor of legislation on this question, but they are without point, because not directed in the interest of any particular bill. The Reagan bill for the control of inter-State commerce, a copy of which I enclose, and of which the accompanying report treats, has been before the public longer than any other, and is better understood by them, embodies all the essential principles that are now under consideration by the House Committee on Commerce, at Washington.

My object in this communication is to urge upon you the importance of demanding of your Representatives and Senators in Congress the passage of the Reagan bill. It cannot be done in any more effective manner than by personal application or by letter. I would therefore urge that you write letters at once and get your influential friends to write also. Railroad officials and their attorneys have crowded Washington ever since the re-assembling of Congress, for the purpose of killing this bill, and unless earnest work is done as indicated above, it will be defeated.

Very Respectfully,
DARWIN R. JAMES, Sec'y

The writer seems to think that the Grange petitions are "without point," because not directed in the interest of any particular bill." It is true that the Grange petitions do not "point" to any particular bill, but they do pointedly state the wrongs and ask for a law to correct them.

The Reagan bill referred to is all right as far as it goes, and its passage will be a step in the right direction. But what the farmers of the country most demand, and the country needs, is not found in the bill at all, viz., protection from unjust extortions in freight rates by railroads engaged in inter-State commerce.

This is just what the New York

Board of Trade does not think "practicable or advisable," but thinks the Reagan bill "more wise, as it leaves the railroads free to fix any rates they please," as the following extract from the report of their committee will show:

"We do not think it practicable or advisable, with the knowledge at the disposal of the public at this time, to attempt to fix rates on inter-State traffic, although there can be no doubt of the power of Congress to do so. It is attempting too much with our present knowledge. In this respect, the Reagan bill, now pending in Congress is much more wise, as it leaves the railroads free to fix any rates they please, only stipulating that they shall be public, and alike to all, and that no more shall be charged for a short than for a long distance."

Although the farmers of the country, who are now being "robbed of their well-earned profits," by the transportation companies, will not be easily convinced that there should be no limit to the amount which the companies may have a right to charge for transporting their surplus products to market, yet they will rejoice to know that such influential business men as compose the "New York Board of Trade and Transportation," are using their influence to protect the business interests of the country, in some degree, from the impending danger with which they are threatened by the usurping power of the railroad combinations, of which the National Grange has warned the people. The petitions which they have prepared and sent out to our members to be signed, and transmitted to Congress, are couched in such truthful and unmistakable language that no one can doubt their sincerity and good faith. The following is the petition:

To the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress assembled:—
The undersigned, citizens of the United States, most respectfully beg to direct the attention of your honorable bodies to the feeling of distrust and alarm which prevails throughout our country at the rapidly growing power of railroad corporations, which is greatly intensified by their policy of consolidating under the control of a few individuals, all of the principal competing roads from the Atlantic to the Pacific seaboard, thus forming gigantic and powerful organizations, possessing the ability to control absolutely the industrial and commercial interests of our country, and the value of its products.

They exercise and abuse their power by discriminating unjustly between individuals and localities, building up or destroying at will, and to use the words of a United States Senate Committee, "recognize no responsibility but to their stockholders, and no principle of action but personal and corporate aggrandizement."
Realizing the urgent need of action by your honorable bodies, in whom the Supreme Court of the United States has decided all needed power is constitutionally vested, your petitioners most respectfully and earnestly ask for the early passage of the bill, commonly known as the Reagan bill, for the regulation of inter-State commerce, and to prohibit unjust discriminations by common carriers: also, that such further and supplemental legislation be enacted as will protect the constitutional rights of American citizens.

The above will be endorsed by every Patron and farmer, and they only ask in addition that that provision of the bill introduced by Mr. Sapp, of Iowa, which provides "for fixing rates and supervising the operations of inter-State commerce," be incorporated into the Reagan bill, and it will then be acceptable to the agricultural interests.

The members of our Order will most cheerfully unite with the New York Board of Trade, and with business men everywhere in petitioning Congress for this most important measure.

PAW PAW, Feb. 12th, 1880.

Farmers' Institute—Eaton County.

VERMONTVILLE, Feb. 8, 1880.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

I send you these items from Eaton County for our VISITOR:
The adjourned meeting of the Eaton County Quarterly Convention, P. of H., met at Ketchum's Hall, Charlotte, Jan. 14. Members were present from nearly every Grange in the County, although the traveling was very bad. The principal topic of discussion was the formation of a Pomona Grange in this County. After a full interchange of views, it was voted, nearly unanimously to have one organized. A petition was then circulated, and sent to Worthy Master Woodman, who has appointed Feb. 18, at 1 o'clock, P. M. as the time, and we have Ketchum's Hall, Charlotte, as the place of organization. We now hope and trust that Eaton County will wheel into line with her sisters in the work of advancing this good and glorious cause—the union and elevation of farmers.

On the evening of Jan. 14, and on the following day and evening, a Farmers' Institute was held, under the auspices of the County Agricultural Society, several interesting papers were read, and no aid was received from outside the County. Bro. Ezek. Pray, of Windsor Grange, No. 619, presided and Bro. Seth Ketchum, of Charlotte Grange, No. 67 (Secretary Agricultural Society), acted as Secretary. Among the papers read, we noticed the following: "Profits of Draining, by C. E. Ellis, of Charlotte Grange, No. 67; Stock Raising and its Relations to Farming, by Geo. D. Pray, of Windsor Grange, No. 619; The Agriculturalist—His Position in Society—What it is, and What it Ought to be, by Duane Hawkins, Past Master of Vermontville Grange, No. 625. The latter paper evidently set forth some unwholesome truths, as it has elicited some discussion between papers of the County. In the afternoon of Jan. 15, the Agricultural Society rendered its report and elected its officers for the ensuing term. The society has fallen behind a little during the past year, and its members made a clean sweep of its old officers, and elected the following ticket by more than a two-thirds majority: President, Duane Hawkins, Vermontville; Secretary, Ezek. Pray, Charlotte; Treasurer, C. E. Ellis, Charlotte; Directors for three years, Geo. D. Pray, Windsor, and Anson Scott, Chester. All are Patrons. What does this mean? To my mind, it means that farmers are beginning to think that if they want their business attended to, they must put it into farmers' hands to be looked after, and that the fact of farmers meeting, talking, thinking, and working together in the Grange is beginning to have that favorable influence so much desired. Nevertheless, we are losing some of our membership here, as well as elsewhere, and to try and regain it and induce others to join with us, we have invited Worthy Master Woodman to meet with us at Vermontville on Feb. 19, to give us one of his good talks. We also expect to call on other good lecturers of the Order to come and entertain us in the course of the season. I believe our Order has needed more instruction and more direction to its vital forces from the start.

Yours fraternally,
R. E. BENEDICT.

THE BACHELOR'S LAST HOURS.

Not a laugh was heard nor a joyous note,
As our friend to the altar we hurried;
Not a wit discharged his farewell joke,
As the bachelor went to be married.

We married him quickly to save his fright,
Our heads from the sad sight turning.
And we sighed as we stood by the lamps dim
light,

To think him not more discerning,
To think that a bachelor, free and bright,
And shy of the sex as we found him,
Should there at the altar, at dead of night,
Be caught in the snares that bound him.

Few and short were the words he said,
Though of cake and wine partaking;
We escorted him home from the scene of dread,
While his knees were awfully shaking.

Slowly and sadly we marched him down
From the top of the lowestmost story;
And we have never heard from nor seen the
poor man
Whom we left alone in his glory.

—Home Journal.

Communications.

Care and Feeding of Stock.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

In reply to your invitation to farmers in your number of January 15th of the VISITOR, to furnish articles upon farm topics, I send you this in relation to the care and feeding of stock. I will present some ideas, and trust to your better judgment whether they appear in your valuable paper or not.

I will write more particularly at this time about sheep destined for market, and leave the sheep raising and wool-growing qualities for abler hands. The first thing to be considered in looking up a flock for feeding, if you have them to buy (and the same rule will apply if you sort from your own flock) is evenness of size, quality of wool, and build of sheep. I can perhaps make myself better understood by stating how I treat that subject myself, and any difference of opinion may draw out discussion, and all be mutually benefited.

On our grain-raising farms, where land is worth from \$50 to \$75 per acre, one might say we can't compete with cheaper lands that are equally as good for pasture, with less interest and taxes. Well now let us see. If we continue to raise grain successfully, we must return something to enrich the soil. Now the question is, how can this be done at the least expense with the possible results. Whenever we raise a grain crop, either corn, oats, or barley, we must necessarily grow a certain amount of coarse fodder, which if properly treated, is valuable both for feed and manure, and the animal that will eat straw and stalks the best, and take on the most meat is the one we want.

I fully agree with a brother farmer who said to me a few days ago, that in the future he would "let his plow run more to sheep. I would have a gang plow, and run it something like this: The plow ahead I would have for corn, the next for clover, next for corn-stalks, next for barley or oat straw, and another for wheat straw, and when my field was all plowed, and crops gathered, I would condense them all into one, and call that a fat sheep. I usually commence getting my flock together for feeding immediately after shearing, when farmers who don't make a business of feeding, usually have a few weathers that they intend turning off, and by diligence on my part, and some money, I manage to pick up enough sheep to eat all I raise on the farm, except wheat and potatoes.

Now what kind of sheep, some one asks. I answer a grade sheep, not too coarse or too fine, from three to six years old, good looking, broad back, short legs, long body, and the more he weighs the better. Don't infer that all mine are such, but that is my model, and I get as near to it as I can. When I have my flock together, the only attention they require is to know they have good pasture, shade, and water if convenient (but it is not essential), give salt at regular intervals, say once a week. And now a word about salting sheep. I never drop it in little piles on the ground, but sow it broadcast when

the dew is on the grass, and the sheep get enough without any fear of too much. In the fall, when the pasture gets short, I cut up corn, cob and all, say from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and scatter on the hard, dry ground, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound per head once a day. I like corn fed in this way to commence with, better than shelled, because it takes them longer to eat it, they digest it better, and the shy ones get nearer their share. My sheep remain out of doors night and day as long as the weather and feed will permit, but when they go to the barn, they go to stay. I mean by that I don't shut them up to-day, and let them out to-morrow because it is pleasant weather. My sheep remain where they are put until they go to the market. My barn is arranged in pens of about fifteen feet, the racks making the partitions. I use a straight rack, tight bottoms, opening on the sides of eight inches, with four inch slats. I fodder in my racks, and clean out thoroughly and feed the grain on the tight bottom. Some prefer the sloping racks, with troughs on each side for the grain, but my objection to them is there is nothing to prevent the stronger sheep from crowding out the weaker ones, and getting more than their allowance of corn, whereas in my rack each sheep has a place for his head, and when every place is full, all get nearly alike.

Before putting my sheep in their winter quarters, I get them together, look them over carefully, tag them a little if necessary, trim their toe-nails, saw off horns if any are too long; sort with reference to size and grade of wool, and put each kind by themselves as near as possible, in flocks of thirty in a pen. I commence feeding for the first few days clover hay and straw, with $\frac{1}{2}$ lb shelled corn to the head per day, fed morning and night, after which I supply the place of hay with corn-stalks, and hold them to it, alternately straw in the morning, and stalks at night, bringing the straw every other day, if the weather is not too cold. In severe cold weather, I omit the brine, and scatter salt dry. I aim to have sheep enough to consume my coarse feed by about the middle of January, when I commence on hay.

After the first month's feeding, I increase the grain to one pound per day per head, and then increase gradually as the weather, condition of the sheep, amount of feed on hand, and the market will admit.

If you are feeding for an early market, increase on grain faster, and commence on hay sooner, but I prefer the later market, for the reasons above mentioned, that of converting coarse feed into manure, and condensing the products of the farm largely into mutton, that can be drawn to market with far greater ease and bring a much better price than in any other way. I feed my poorest fodder in the coldest weather, reserving our hay until the last, increasing grain to all they will eat up clean, mixing some oats with the corn the two weeks before I expect to ship. I keep boxes filled with a preparation of $\frac{1}{2}$ salt and $\frac{1}{2}$ ashes, thoroughly mixed, where the sheep can have free access to it at all times. Five hundred sheep will eat a barrel of this preparation every week. I water twice a day in shallow tubs with water pumped fresh from the ground, not allowing the water to get too cold, but after sufficient time is given for all to drink, the tubs are all tipped over, thereby always giving them clean, fresh water, not too cold.

There is an objection to the water from a wind mill. The tanks are stationary, and not easily cleaned out, and the water not so fresh. And another thing, it is a good deal colder, which would require more or less grain to warm that icy cold water. It is desirable to have the sheep fed regularly, and if possible, by the same person; and to make a success of the enterprise, he must like the sheep, and the sheep their keeper, always remembering "that his first as well as his last great care is to see that they are all O. K."

SHEEPSKIN.

The Model Granger.

Read before Schoolcraft Grange, No. 8, and Published by Vote of the Grange.

Worthy Master, Bros. and Sisters:

In contemplating the subject assigned to me, my mind went back a few years to the time when no such organization as the Grange was in existence. Now the ties of brotherhood in the Order extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the evergreen glades of Florida to and beyond the inland seas of the North. Hundreds, yea thousands of brothers and sisters have subscribed to its principles, and are reaping the benefits thereof.

From so vast a multitude, it would seem an easy task to select our Model Granger. But first let us consider what constitutes a genuine Granger. Is it the taking upon one's self the obligations of secrecy and fidelity, the occasional attendance at the meetings, for the purpose of securing the financial benefits promised by many of those who commend the Grange? The sitting with folded arms, apparently indifferent to the course pursued by others, shirking responsibility, unwilling to labor, and assist in the advancement of the good cause, yet active in criticizing and condemning the acts of others, speaking to those outside the gate of the inefficiency of the laborers, of our sad disappointment in gleanings so little, of fears as to its success, and of apprehension of its final dissolution? Or is it one that is desirous of improvement, that is thirsting for social and mental culture, that is seeking information in regard to the best method and time of cultivating the soil, of securing and disposing of crops, one that is willing to exchange thoughts and experience, and thereby encouraging and assisting each other in overcoming difficulties, fulfilling the law of Christ by bearing each other's burdens.

My Model Granger is an admirer of Nature. He delights in the cultivation of the soil, and in the product, thereof; he careth well for his flocks and herds, and places upon them no unnecessary burdens, nor calleth the wrath of God upon them; his fields, fences, and barns give evidence of system, order, and convenience; nor is he forgetful of his home—to him the dearest spot on earth, where dwelleth his jewels.

As far as his means will allow, he spares no pains in arranging his house so as to lighten the burdens of his wife. He comes not from his field of toil, tired and vexed with the annoyances of the day, to rehearse them to her, but considers that she too has trials, and though weary, must toil on till the last household duty is performed, though perchance at a late hour. He converses freely with her of his plans and purposes, together they discuss and decide the best course to pursue, to advance, not his alone, but their mutual interests, thereby giving her an idea of the value of property, and how to take care of it, fitting her for independence of action and self-reliance, should death remove him, and she should be left alone to battle with the ills of life.

He grudges not a leisure hour in assisting his wife or daughter in preparing the garden or yard for the cultivation of flowers or shrubbery. Nor does he chide them for wasting time in decorating the walls of their house with their skillful handiwork; but he rather rejoices in the refining influence of the results of their labor, and unites with them in doing all he can to make home attractive, that his children may be contented and happy in their society, rather than seeking amusement elsewhere. He does not live isolated and alone, but he enters the Grange and takes his children with him, recognizing it as a school where they can acquire an education that will be valuable to them; there they can early learn to express their ideas, thereby overcoming that diffidence that is such hindrance to those who commence later in life, taking part in discussions which oftentimes are of such vital importance. He allows no trivial excuse

to keep him from the Grange, but when possible, is present at the meetings, and when work is assigned him, he remembers his obligations as a laborer; and though he may be fully aware that the Great Master above has not entrusted him with "ten talents," he recognizes the duty that is resting upon him to improve God's gifts according to his ability.

He does not consider his work confined to the home and the Grange, but he has a duty to perform in the community in which he lives. He is interested in the moral questions of the day, and his influence is ever felt on the side of right and justice.

He is industrious, honest, and temperate, never permitting his mouth to be soiled by the filthy weed, or his reason dethroned by alcoholic poison, but he lives uprightly before God and the world, striving to carry out in his life the Divine injunction, "Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you."

H. F. C.

A Grange Boom.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

In the position which you occupy, standing, as it were, on a pedestal, from which you can observe the condition of the Grange throughout the State, does it not appear for you that among the many booms now pervading the land—political booms, temperance booms, business booms, the boom of gold into the country and the boom of grain out of the country, and not forgetting the boom the railroads have given to the freight tariff, that there are stray symptoms of a Grange boom? The labors of the State Lecturers, the enlargement of the VISITOR, the frequent requests for re-instatement by members who have lost their standing, the evident wish to investigate the Grange, shown by outsiders subscribing for the VISITOR, the increasing applications for membership, and many other signs point strongly to that conclusion. But the boom to be of much benefit must not be allowed to languish, it must be kept booming, and to this end each individual member should contribute according to his or her ability. If each one stands back, waiting for some else to make a move, nothing will be done, but if each one makes it a personal matter to work for the good of the Grange, to make its meetings so interesting, and its connections with it so attractive that all who are inside the gate will be careful to keep their standing good, and many who are outside the gate will work to get in, we should then have such an awakening, such a revival, such a boom in the Grange as will make us irresistible in all our laudable purposes.

In this connection, a few words in regard to Burr Oak Grange, No. 303, may not be out of place. For some time the condition of our Grange was hardly satisfactory to those who had its best interests in view. There was a lack of interest in our meetings (except on feast occasions, when the attendance was quite full), suspension of delinquents were frequent, applications for membership were few, and except with a faithful few, a general apathy prevailed which threatened serious consequences.

After several abortive attempts to remedy this state of affairs, a library was started, with about twenty volumes—this helped a little. Then the County Grange was invited to meet in our hall. This roused us a little. Then the State Lecturer came and talked to us like a father—he didn't spare us, yet while he rebuked our faults and showed us our errors, he commended us for what we had done well, and with lots of good advice, left us thoroughly stirred up, and awakened to the serious duties of our position.

On the night before Christmas our meeting at the Christmas tree was a very pleasant affair. The hall was crowded with a happy throng of children and older ones. The tree and presents were beautiful, and the exercises were well rendered and appropriate.

Old Santa Claus superintended the distribution of the presents himself, and all seemed well pleased with the evening's entertainment. The Lady Organist and the Purchasing Agent each received a useful present, as a token of esteem from the members of the Grange—our ladies having on several occasions presented deserving officers with testimonials of their regard. Among others were several Secretaries who were presented with the mighty weapon of their office in the shape of a handsome gold pen. The Grange itself, I must not forget to say, was the recipient of a chromo, showing as natural as life, though not so large, the much talked of Grange goat in charge of the Asst. Stewards, and the daring individual who will ride it.

A Grange Lyceum, to which outsiders may be admitted, with the object of drawing young people to the Grange, has been organized, and promises success. Our library now numbers about a hundred volumes, purchased with the proceeds of socials, and with renewed interest in the Grange and all connected with it, we enter upon the new year, hoping for greater good and greater advancement than we have ever yet attained.

Fraternally yours,

H. HAWLEY, Sec.

A Christmas Carol.

J. T. Cobb:

The following is an address delivered at the Christmas tree at Grange hall, Burr Oak, Mich., Dec. 24th, 1879, by C. C. Needham, Lecturer: Friends and Children:

In accordance with a time-honored custom, we are assembled here upon this Christmas Eve, to distribute the presents arranged upon this beautiful evergreen.

Christmas Eve, is always a great holiday with the children, and there is no more proper way of observing it than by coming together as we have to-night, as friends and neighbors, leaving behind us the cares and anxieties of life, and joining together, more especially for our children's benefit. It is to show also to the outside world that we, as Patrons, practice what we preach; that, in arranging this tree for our children, we are but fulfilling one of the principles of our noble Order—to establish in the minds of our children that farming does not always require that we stay at home, forever shutting ourselves out from the outside world. But in spending a few hours here on this occasion, an hour in some other like recreation, a half day occasionally in the Grange room for social intercourse and instruction, thereby relieving the monotony of farm work and household cares, making us better men and women, better fathers and mothers, and last, but not least, better Patrons.

Now, dear children, although there may be presents upon this tree for older ones, yet it is your tree; it was made for you; it was filled for you by willing hands and loving hearts, hands that never tire when working for your welfare, and hearts that are light as long as they retain your love.

Let me also impress upon your minds that the Grange does this for you, that although you may now be debarred from entering through its mystic gates, yet the time is not far distant when you too will take upon yourselves the cares and trials of life, and we hope and trust that you will not allow the Grange ship of state to lag behind, or its flag trail in the dust. To you who have not seen the inside workings of our Order, we say, Come and be with us. He who is not for us is against us; and you will never regret the time when you crossed over the sacred precincts of the Grange.

On behalf of Burr Oak Grange, No. 303, I extend to you all a heartfelt welcome, believing that an hour spent with us on this occasion will be a pleasure to all, and will, in the end, bring forth good fruit.

Sustaining Agricultural Fairs.

BY C. CLOSE.

To the Friends and Members of Grattan Grange, and the Excelsior Agricultural Society:

An old friend and member of your organization has honored me with an invitation to your social gathering to-night. Knowing that I could not be with you in person, he wished me to be so on paper.

If I remember rightly it will be fourteen years next spring, since the Excelsior Agricultural Society was organized.

I was present, and for five years did what little I could to help. Your annual fairs have been as well attended, and as successful as could be expected. As is usually the case, a few have done a large portion of the work for a very little pay, and it is to be regretted that so large a portion of those who attend our fairs, and are equally interested with others in their success, do not think it their duty to do a little something more than merely to be present, and perhaps grudgingly pay their entrance fee. Our agricultural societies are not individual or joint stock companies that travel over the country seeking to make money. They are for public and mutual improvement, and social enjoyment. Many persons who attend our fairs regularly never contribute an article for exhibition, and it is too apt to be the case that they are the ones who are finding fault with the arrangements, or with the poor and mesager character of the exhibition, when a little honest thought would teach them that if *all* should take the same course there would be nothing to be seen except a collection of people looking at each other with critical and jealous eyes. I understand that the proceeds of the meeting to-night are to be applied for the purpose of the Excelsior Agricultural Society. The object is a laudable one, and social gatherings of this kind may, and should be, both interesting and profitable to those who participate.

The question of *how* shall funds be raised to sustain our agricultural societies, is one of grave importance, and one that has puzzled the heads of many of our best men who have the best interest of those societies at heart. There has been, and is a wide and honest difference of opinion in regard to this matter. Many devices have been resorted to and many ways tried. Periodically there has broken out a kind of mania that has given preference for first one device and then another, until in many cases the real object and interest of an agricultural society has been lost sight of. Horse racing, gambling devices of various kinds, petty shows, dance houses, etc., have been licensed, to draw crowds and obtain money; people who depreciate such things in general have given them their presence and support until it has seemed as if our fairs have in a great measure been controlled by a spirit entirely foreign to their original design and intention.

It is argued, and with much force, that if such things are not permitted on the grounds, they will be on the outside, and perhaps they will draw a large crowd, the attendance on the fair will be much smaller, and the society will lose much money that it might obtain by license and entrance fees; therefore, it is better to tolerate and indirectly sanction many things that are foreign to the real intent and interest of the society, as well as temperance and morality. For this state of things the general tone and temper of our people at large are in a great measure to blame.

The influence of the Grange is undoubtedly wide-spread and powerful. The intent and interests of that organization is, or should be in harmony with the success and prosperity of our agricultural societies. Although all who are interested in the fairs are not Grangers, all Grangers should be interested in the success of our fairs. Our fairs represent a wider range of industrial pursuits than the Grange. They

take in not only agricultural art, but all branches of mechanical, scientific, and art products. They should call together in union all of our working people, in one grand, social, harmonious assembly, whose object should be to learn of each other all they can, that will make us wiser and better citizens.

January 30, 1880.

A Granger's Opinion of U. S. Patent Laws.

Editor Grange Visitor:

I am sorry to see the stand the Grange has taken in the matter of patents, for it is acknowledged by all thinking men that we have the best and most perfect patent laws in the world. The liberality of these laws, inducing inventors to perfect and improve our machinery to such an extent, that at the present time the United States are leading the whole world in industries.

There is no doubt that the patent laws are very often taken advantage of. That is wrong. No doubt Congress very often extends patents when they should not do so, and do great injury by so doing. I think we had better amend Congress, and let the patent laws alone. Ask Congress to let these patents die that have run as long as they ought. You speak of Birdsall's clover huller patent—they should not be extended again, and Congress should be asked to not extend them again, for any reason whatever.

It does look rather hard to see a man forced to pay \$100, or a little less, for the privilege of using a machine that he has bought; but all the men that I know who bought machines that infringed on Birdsall's patents, did so knowing that it was an infringement, and, therefore are not to be pitied, for they were trying to cheat the patentee out of his rights.

If such an amendment as you propose is passed, the farmers are not the ones that will be benefited the most, it will be the large monopolies, that are too strong now, and we should not do anything to make them stronger. Such an amendment will give the railroads full sweep, and they will rob every poor patentee of his inventions with impunity; and they rob enough now. Such an amendment will not cheapen a single article that we use on the farm, and as for these swindlers that are rambling over the country, we want to amend our courts of justice, so that money will not procure a verdict in any case against right. The courts can settle this task very soon, if they will.

A Good Candidate.

Editor Grange Visitor:

Brother Granger admits that the name of J. J. Woodman is the most prominent for Governor, but advocates the nomination of Mr. Rich, for the reason that we want Woodman to preside over the State and National Granges. If Bro. Woodman will accept the nomination, I am decidedly in favor of making him the candidate. We have a number of able Patrons who would make good Masters of the State Grange when Bro. Woodman's term expires, and his duties as Governor will not interfere with his duties to the National Grange, as the duties of Governor are not arduous except when the Legislature is in session. We favor Mr. Woodman, not because he is a Patron and farmer, but on account of his eminent fitness in every respect, believing that he would meet out equal and exact justice to all parties and classes of men, in every section of our noble State. Nearly all our Governors have come from the eastern section; let us try a western man. No doubt Mr. Rich would make a good Governor, but he is a young man, and can wait a few years. Mr. Woodman is more advanced in life, and if the State ever receives the benefit of his superior executive ability, now is the time to secure it.

H. H. TAYLOR.

DOWAGIAC, Feb. 7th, 1880.

The Governor Question.

Bro. Cobb:

I was not well pleased with an article in the last VISITOR, written by "Granger," in regard to the next candidate for Governor of Michigan.

What he has to say is all right, until he names his man for that office, and we do not find any particular fault with that,—but we do find fault with "Granger" when he undertakes to name those who cannot—for reasons he tries to make appear—accept the nomination for Governor.

"Granger" says: "How can we spare Bro. Woodman from the National Grange and from the State Grange?"

I reply that we cannot spare him, neither will we have to spare him. Two years ago we had the Governor at the State Grange; and how much better, think you, it will be to meet a Governor who is *one of us*, instead of meeting one who only sympathizes with us?

Again "Granger" says: "Is it not a fact that the duties of Governor require all his time and energies?"

Brothers, I hope it is not a fact that the people of Michigan require three hundred and sixty-five days labor of their Governor for the paltry salary they give him. I did not suppose it required one-third of his time,—but whatever amount of time it does take, the brothers will cheerfully give him without a murmur.

We are asked to speak our minds, or ever after hold our peace, therefore I say, Jonathan J. Woodman for the next Governor of Michigan. L. B. B.

Comparative Nutritious Matter in Food.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

An eminent German professor gives the following table of the comparative nutriment of various kinds of nutritious matter in each 100 pounds of food:

Corn	95
Wheat	95
Rye	90
Barley	82
Peas	93
Oats	79
Buckwheat	78
Wheat Bran	48
Rye Bran	46
Clover Hay	55
Wheat straw	14
Corn stalks	20
Barley straw	27
Oat straw	25
Potatoes	25
Yellow turnips	25
White turnips	12 1/2
Beets	16 1/2
Timothy hay	50
Good meadow hay	50

If farmers will preserve this table they can learn what is the cheapest feed. No experience is that good yellow corn meal is the cheapest and best food for fattening any animal. Would mix 100 pounds of bran with 400 of meal for fattening; for cows and store cattle, 100 pounds of bran to 200 of meal with a mess of bagas once a week with plenty of straw and coarse fodder—stock will winter well without hay. For fattening, feed 8 to 12 quarts per day; milch cows, 4 to 8 quarts. The best steers I ever fed were kept tied up all the time, watered and fed 12 quarts of meal per day with a little clover hay.

H. H. TAYLOR.

The Hand that Rules the World.

Brother J. T. Cobb:

On hearing Bro. Mickley recite the poem, "The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world," I was very much taken up with it, and thought it was as it should be, but *not* as it is. In my opinion it should be something as follows.

The men who rule the stars,
Are the men who wear the stars,
And the men who rule the nation
Are the men who run the cars;
But the hands that rule the world
Are the hands that hold the purse,
And the men who own those hands
Are the men the Grangers curse.

Fraternally,

A. M. KOCHER.

Spring Lake, Feb. 3d, 1880.
P. S.—I do not wish to be understood as saying that the Grangers curse those men, but they are a curse to the Grangers.

A. M. K.

Final Report to the Farmers' Mutual Defense Association.

Worthy Secretary Cobb:

YPSILANTI, Jan. 19, 1880.

Please give room in the VISITOR for the enclosed Executive Committee's final report to the Michigan Farmers' Mutual Defense Association.

And I wish here to express my heartfelt thanks to the officers and members of the Michigan State Grange for the present made me at the seventh annual session. That and hundreds of hearty hand-shakes I received, convinced me that the position taken by me and my associates in the sliding gate controversy is appreciated by the Patrons of Michigan.

Hoping our success in this contest, with others of like nature in Michigan, will stimulate the brothers and sisters of the Order to press forward in the great work before them.

I remain yours fraternally,
H. D. PLATT.

At a meeting of the Michigan Farmers' Mutual Defense Association, held in Ypsilanti, January 10, 1880, the Executive Committee submitted the following report:

RECEIPTS.	
Membership fees, Ypsilanti and vicinity	\$542 00
Membership fees, Saline and Lodi	84 67
" " Northville	33 00
" " Scio	49 00
" " Dexter	24 50
Amount still in hands of Treasurer's of Saline and Lodi	23 33
	\$756 50

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Attorney's fees	\$490 00
U. S. Commissioner's bill	42 40
E. P. Allen's expenses to Chicago	10 00
H. D. Platt's cash expenses	71 00
Gate Model	1 25
Executive Committee per diem and expenses	40 18
Stationery, postage, advertising, witness fees, and expenses	\$4 58-\$739 41

The Treasurer was directed to pay into the hands of the President any moneys that might remain in the treasury, or thereafter be paid in.

The Association also unanimously voted to continue the organization intact under the present officers, and adjourned subject to the call of the President and Secretary.

H. D. PLATT, Pres.

J. EVARTS SMITH, Sec'y.

Collecting Statistics of Farm Productions.

I should be glad to learn through the medium of the VISITOR the real purpose and intent of the law requiring Supervisors to collect statistics from farmers, showing the number of bushels per acre raised of the different productions, also the number of acres in crops. These statistics, I am told, are forwarded to the Secretary of State, where the general public do not have access to them. But individuals or bodies—for instance, the Board of Trade of Detroit—can, with little trouble and expense, obtain these statistics long enough before the producers do to concoct plans whereby the farmer is to suffer pecuniarily. To me this law seems a specious one, and well calculated to mislead and deceive the unwary.

I do not wish to be misunderstood as being opposed to the collection of any facts or statistics of this nature, if it can be done without giving speculators an undue advantage over the producer.

An explanation by some brother who is posted in the matter would oblige me, and perhaps instruct and interest others as well.

ROCKFORD, Ill., Jan. 24, 1880.

Worthy Bro. Cobb:

I have endured the semi-monthly calls of the VISITOR for the past year, and am willing to bear the infliction for another year. Please let her come, and that other fellow-friend, Horace Welles at Verdon, Ill., I think is willing to scrape an acquaintance. Please find \$1.00 enclosed, and address as follows.

G. C. CLEVELAND,
Rockford, Ill.

THE Lansing Republican of January 13th, gives the following as one of a batch of official rulings and decisions relative to school affairs: "Any woman of or above the age of 21 years who has resided in this State three months, and in the township ten days next preceding an election, is eligible to the office of school inspector, or township superintendent of schools."

A Wise Father.

In one of the leading towns in central Iowa, a wealthy banker's eldest daughter became engaged to be married. As would be expected from the position of her family, this young lady had the benefit of the best social and intellectual advantages at home, besides having been a student at Vassar for some time, and traveled considerably, from all of which she had attained quite a degree of culture for a lady of only twenty years.

To an ordinary observer it would seem that her training had been all that could be desired; but her father thought otherwise. When he found that she had concluded to take upon herself the duties of wifehood, he, knowing how greatly the happiness of families is affected by the housewifery qualities of the woman at the head, declared that the marriage should be delayed until she made herself thoroughly familiar with the duties of a housekeeper. To be thorough he knew required more than a theoretic knowledge, so with wise forethought he carefully provided the means whereby the practical worth of the instructions received could be fully tested; and for this purpose the mother was requested to retire in the background, for a season, while the daughter should assume the responsibilities of housekeeper. The mother consented, and the young lady undertook the duties of her novel position with a will to do her very best. The family was very large, and being exceedingly hospitable, the house was seldom without the presence of guests from abroad; but inspired by the ambition to acquire herself creditably in the present, as well as by the sweet hope that in the future she should have a home of her own to preside over, her zeal and enthusiasm increased from day to day as experience added to her proficiency.

In order that her work might be systematic, she was allowed a certain sum of money a month with which to supply the table, and as a special inducement to the exercise of economy, all that could be saved therefrom was to be placed to her private account for individual use. This monthly allowance being by no means large, she was obliged to exercise care in its expenditure, therefore the minutest details were studied, and not a dish made its appearance upon the table without the cost having been fully estimated previous to its ordering. In this manner she learned many things that might be of great value to her in the future.

She was once heard to remark that it was really astonishing to discover the many ways of economizing possible to women; and as an instance of her own experience, said she frequently found that for some expensive dish desired, that something else equally as wholesome and fully as palatable, could be furnished at one-half the cost.

The father often accompanied her to market and instructed her in the selection of vegetables, the cuttings of meats, etc., showing such as are suitable for different purposes, and how to avoid wasteful and unwholesome purchases.

Does not this sketch contain a valuable suggestion for the benefit of other parents? This young lady gained in less than one year, at an expense of probably one-third the vital energy expended in a school room, knowledge that will contribute a thousand-fold more to the happiness of those depending upon her than any amount of school training could possibly do; yet how few think to give a daughter similar preparation for home cares and home duties, so sure to form a part of every woman's life. Were parents more thoughtful in this respect, the burdens of young wives would be greatly lessened, while the amount of money which would be saved to young husbands would often times be sufficient to lay the foundation of great wealth. The thought is worthy of consideration on the part of all those who may hold the shaping of a young girl's future.

Guinea Hens.

If a man can fill his ears with cotton or move out on the prairie where he has no neighbors, it will pay to keep a few Guinea hens. They lay more eggs than the common fowls. It is also claimed that one of them will keep half an acre of potatoes clear of beetles, etc., and at the same time answer the purpose of a barometer, in predicting the changes of the weather. If their merits balance their music, get some eggs and hatch some; they are good eating and very pretty.—Exchange.

The following table shows the chances professional men have of catching fish when they go fishing: Doctors, 7 in 56; lawyers, 3 in 50; editors, 10 in 50; artists, 2 in 50; architects, 12 in 50; book-keepers, 8 in 50; merchants, 13 in 50; professors, 1 in 50; unknown small boys with straw hats and broken suspenders, 49 in 50.

HOME LIFE.—Of all sweet humanities, the home life is the tap root. Nor will anything fit us so well for the same performance of social and public duties as a sympathetic share in young lives and growing hopes. One of the busiest of busy men in a great city says, "I can go through anything if I can only get an hour a day with my children."

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, FEB. 15, 1880.

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.

BATTLE CREEK CO-OPERATIVE STORE, AND CLIMAX INSTITUTE.

We made an excursion from Kalamazoo to Climax on the 4th inst., by way of Battle Creek, and having a little spare time, we dropped into the Battle Creek Co-operative store, which for some two years has been under the management of Bro. H. A. Hoagland. This is one of the few efforts to establish co-operative enterprises, stimulated into existence by the Grange movement, that has succeeded.

We gathered up a few of the facts that go to establish its claims to success. The total sales for the year ending Oct. 22d, 1879, were \$54,876.56. Of the bulky goods sold we may mention 32 cars plaster, 867 barrels of salt, and 13 tons of salt in bulk. The main trade is in groceries, and a few agricultural implements. Of sugar, 487 barrels were sold, 6,617 pounds of coffee, and 3,450 pounds of tea, 122 barrels of kerosene oil, and of that very essential article that some member of almost every family must have—tobacco, the sales amounted to 4,180 pounds, the average price of which was 60 cents per pound, amounting to the snug little sum of \$2,508.00.

On this last item we have not time to write an essay, but will leave it for some of our friends who don't like the weed. Only adding that we suppose the admonition to "be temperate in eating, drinking, and language" is not understood by the Patrons of the Battle Creek Co-operative Association to apply to chewing and smoking. Sixty-five thousand pounds of butter were bought, and mostly shipped to an Eastern market. In reply to my inquiry if the quality of butter had been improved since the store had been established, the Manager said it had. That after a few months experience he had seen the necessity of more system in every department of this butter business, and that he had procured printed directions as to the making and handling of butter, and that by furnishing the most approved kind of package to his customers, and giving to each one a copy of these directions every time a package was taken, that a very decided improvement in quality and condition had been secured. This we look upon as a valuable fact, for there is no one thing that is a greater reproach to the great farming interests of the country than the fact that so small a percentage of the cream products of the country is converted into good, first-class butter, and that so large a percentage is only just tolerable. There is a great noise made about our wheat product, and we are exporting it by ship loads every week, and yet there are few families that do not eat more

dollars worth of butter in a year than of flour.

There is much said every year about butter-making in agricultural papers, but not enough to educate the butter-makers very rapidly, and there are so many conditions that enter into this butter-making business, that concern the farmer, as well as his wife, who is supposed to make the butter, that it will be a long time before the butter product of the country will be at par.

From Battle Creek we went to Climax, to the Farmers' Institute. Did not get there in time to listen to proceedings of the afternoon session. In the evening the church was filled to hear Bro. Woodman talk upon European Agriculture, and we are quite sure that all who heard him were satisfied that it was time well spent. He devoted the last twenty minutes to commending the Grange to the farmers present, and showed most conclusively that through its organized efforts lay the only hope of arresting the rapid absorption by the giant railroad corporations of the country, the separate, but really more important interests of the agricultural class. Bro. Woodman spoke for nearly two hours.

The following day several very important papers were read. A permanent organization was effected, so that Kalamazoo County is to have a Farmers' Institute annually. The world moves, and Michigan farmers are moving as well.

KALAMAZOO POMONA GRANGE, NO. 27.

Kalamazoo Pomona Grange, No. 27, as the Organizing Deputy, Bro. Whitney, states in his "Pickings by the Way," was organized, Jan. 15th, at Vicksburg, and the large number present that participated in the organization, seems to entitle the occasion to further notice. As we understood Bro. Whitney, a greater number joined than had ever before at any of the 26 previously organized, and yet but about one half of the Granges of the County were represented, on account of the bad condition of the roads.

The amount of work necessary to complete the organization required so much time that only instruction in the work of the fifth degree could be given, and it was decided to hold another meeting in four weeks.

The liberality of the Patrons of Brady Grange in the way of table supplies we can hardly say was *unbounded*, though after all had been *bound* in the most approved Granger style, there were several baskets, we don't know how many, taken up, though dinner and supper had been served to near 150.

On the 12th inst. the second meeting of this Pomona Grange was held in Schoolcraft Grange Hall. To the 99 members who had joined at the time of organization, 23 more were added, the Fifth Degree being conferred in due form and in a very satisfactory manner.

The day was fine, but the roads were so far below the surface that a large number that were expected failed to attend. But 150 Grangers can have a good time if the ex-

pected 50 don't come; and this second meeting like the first was entirely satisfactory.

The Worthy Lecturer, Bro. S. F. Brown presented in an earnest speech the subject of transportation and the necessity of calling attention of members of Congress to the great want of Congressional action to protect the agricultural interests of the country from the unjust and burdensome discriminations practiced by railroad corporations.

A resolution was unanimously adopted directing the Worthy Lecturer in behalf of this County Grange to write to the member of Congress from the Fourth District and represent to him the necessity of prompt and intelligent action on his part to correct the evils complained of. We have not the resolution before us or we would give it *verbatim*.

The supplies were ample, everybody was apparently happy, and after accepting an invitation to meet at the Hall of Galesburg Grange on the 20th day of March, the labors of the day were closed in due form.

"COPY."

That is what the compositor or type-setter calls for when he wants more work. When he has "copy," he is not out of a job. "More copy," is the call with its repetition like an echo in a large printing office. But we did not commence this brief article to describe a printing office or its work, but only to call attention to one fact for educational purposes.

We get orders for "copies," one or more of the VISITOR every day, and not unfrequently for several "copies" of the paper from our friends, and we will take occasion to say what we have said several times before, that we are glad to get these orders for the VISITOR. But in view of the fact that the Grange is an educational institution, and we are having quite a good deal to do with it, we are free to say that we shall be better pleased if the hint we have here given shall give us more straight copies of the VISITOR than ever before. In all our correspondence, no word is wrong so often as "copy" and its plural. A word to the Granger is sufficient.

BOUND FOR CALIFORNIA.

As stated in the VISITOR a month since, we intend to go to California about the first of April to be absent some eight weeks. The editorial management of the VISITOR will be in the hands of Bro. Woodman during our absence, which is a guarantee that it will in no respect deteriorate.

All business matters relating to the VISITOR or the State Grange will be attended to as heretofore. We shall keep our department supplied, but, perhaps, with matter somewhat different from that usually found in it. If any of our friends desire to join our party we should have notice at once. A discount of \$36 on round trip tickets can be obtained by parties of ten. And we hope soon to do very much better than this.

Who will go?

THE VISITOR for 50 cents a year.

STATE GRANGE PROCEEDINGS OF SEVENTH SESSION.

The Proceedings of the last, the Seventh Session of the State Grange, are now ready for distribution to those entitled to receive them. We shall mail copies to Masters of Subordinate Granges at once. The Master and Secretary of quite a number of Granges that we believe are in working order have not been reported to this office. Of course the Masters of those Granges will not get these Proceedings until such reports are made.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

Pickings by the Way—No. 3.

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY.

By referring to the last number of the VISITOR, the reader will notice that January 14, found us in St. Joseph County. From Mendon to Vicksburg, and thence to Scotts, was our route to meet an appointment with Montour Grange, No. 49. A public installation of officers and lecture. The hall was well filled by an attentive audience, among whom were Brother and Sister Adams, and others, from Galesburg.

In the evening, the Grange conferred the First Degree upon three candidates. This Grange is growing, and needs a new hall, one that it can call *home*. The matter is being talked up, and will, we trust, soon take shape in a substantial Grange Home—a pride to all interested.

KALAMAZOO COUNTY.

The labors of the day completed, we spent the night in the new home of Bro. A. Haas, and with him went to Vicksburg, on the next day, the 15th, to the organization of Kalamazoo Co. Pomona Grange. This meeting was in the hall of Brady Grange No. 61, a very tasteful hall, and well decorated by pictures, emblems and *Fruits Flowers*, and plants, contributed by sisters living near. The Masonic fraternity also use this hall, renting it of the Grange. Below is a large room used for a dining room, with all of the needed appurtenances. In this room was a most sumptuous dinner and supper served to the many who were there. One sister said she counted 16 chicken pies, but did not mention the roast turkeys, etc., equally numerous.

The work of the day proceeded in spite of heavy dinners, and Pomona Grange No. 27, was duly instituted, with 99 members, the other one having escaped in some way. Had the going been good, 30 more would have been added to this number, but prairie roads are not good in wet and muddy times. The officers of Kalamazoo County Pomona Grange are: Master—E. A. Strong; O.—H. Dale Adams; Lec.—S. F. Brown; S.—Adam Haas; Ass't S.—L. F. Cox; Chap.—Sister J. T. Cobb; Treas.—H. S. Booth; Sec.—G. C. Durkee; G. K.—J. Q. Adams; Pomona—Sister M. E. Frazer; Ceres—Sister H. Dale Adams; Flora—Sister R. E. James; Lady Ass't S.—Sister L. F. Cox.

The Executive Committee, in addition to Master and Secretary, are Malachi Cox, J. M. Neasmith and John Scramlin.

After supper the members, with a number of outsiders, met in a public hall near by for a public lecture. We, tired with the day's labor, found rest at the commodious and attractive house of Bro. E. A. Strong, where Bro. Langley and wife, from St. Joseph County, were also guests.

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY.

At an early hour on the 16th, we

were taken to the station by Bro. Strong, where cars took us to Mendon, enroute to Leonidas. Bro. Purdee met us at the depot, and a ride of several miles through a pleasant farming country, with the St. Joseph River in sight most of the way, brought us to Bro. Purdee's very pleasant home, where, in company of Bro. Langley and wife, we take dinner. After dinner the big wagon is brought out to take us all to the church where the public meeting is to take place.

The church was well filled, and Bro. H. N. Addison, presided. After prayer by the clergyman of the church, and some excellent music by the choir, the audience gave attentive ear for nearly two hours to an address.

After tea, taken with Bro. Addison, we met with the Grange at their hall, and gave them counsel and instruction upon the work of the Order.

This Grange has a good location and should have a *hall* of their own, which we urged upon them. We met here to-day the Worthy Master and many other members of Burr Oak Grange.

VAN BUREN COUNTY.

On the 17th inst., we returned to Mendon and Kalamazoo, enroute for Paw Paw, for committee work assigned by the State Grange. We found W. Master Woodman and wife well as usual, and busy as ever, and learned that a feast and public installation had been ordered that evening by Paw Paw Grange No. 10. Of course we had to go, and do a share of the oyster eating, as well as take a part in the installation service.

Bad roads and darkness prevented a full attendance, but there was a good turn out of the faithful. We were glad to notice that this Grange, in common with many others, were getting petitions to Congress largely signed.

All day Monday, the 19th, was given to labor in Bro. Woodman's library—the result of which will appear to the aid and better work of our Order.

KENT COUNTY.

We spent the night at Kalamazoo, enroute for Grand Rapids, which we reached in company with Bro. H. Dale Adams, to attend the annual meeting of the Board of Directors and members of the Western Michigan Agricultural and Industrial Society. The report of the fair last fall, and the last year's work shows a balance in the treasury of \$2,990, and all debts paid. The annual election of Directors re-elected Bros. Withey, Ladner, Stout, Divine, and Ramsdell, and Bro. David Woodman in place of Mr. Clapp, resigned. The premium list has been revised and amended, and will soon be published. Some new features have been introduced.

OTTAWA COUNTY.

On Thursday, the 22d, we went to Berlin to spend a very profitable time at the annual meeting of the Western Pomona Grange, No. 19—Muskegon and Ottawa Counties. The Master, Bro. Nathan Whitney, gave us an able and instructive address, a copy of which should be sent to the VISITOR for publication. Bro. C. E. Mickley was with us and gave us invaluable aid in both our private and public meetings. The fifth degree was conferred upon six candidates. The election of officers passed off in harmony, re-electing Bro. Nathan Whitney, Master; Bro. L. T. Burnley, was chosen Overseer; C. L. Whitney, Lecturer; Bro. L. Armstrong was chosen Steward; Bro. S. Stauffer was re-elected Asst. S.; Bro. R. Johnson was chosen Chaplain; A. M. Kocher, Treasurer; Bro. C. W. Wilde, re-elected Secretary; and J. L. Sichel, G. K.; Sister A. V. Weatherwax is Pomona; Mary Rand, Ceres; Sister Ch. Brown, Flora; and Sister

Dell Hudson, L. A. S.; and H. D. Weatherwax was added to the Executive Committee. Bro. C. E. Mickleby gave an instructive address at the public meeting on Friday. Bro. M. "hears to the line, and lets the chips fall where they may." So ought all who advocate the principles or are true Patrons. This Pomona Grange not only plans, but works, and tries to get all to work. Great credit is due to Ottawa Grange, No. 30, for this pleasant and profitable meeting. May it prosper, and many times have the meetings of No. 19, with them!

NEWAYGO COUNTY.

On the 26th ult. we took the train for an appointment in the County of Newaygo; spent the night with an old acquaintance, Henry Root, of White Cloud, where a change of train and railroad was to be made.

On the morning of 27th an early breakfast and the train was ready for us at Grant Station, which was soon reached. This railroad, the G. R. & N., crosses the Muskegon River at Newaygo, and here the deep channel and high banks of the river, with the rolling surface of the country, on either side reminds one of the hill country of the older States. From Grant station we walked two miles to Ashland Center, the place of the meeting of the Pomona Grange. A rest, with dinner and a visit at Mr. Armstrong's, passed the time until the brothers and sisters from the various Granges began to arrive. The public installation of the officers of the Newaygo Pomona Grange, with a lecture upon the Order was the business of the afternoon. The hall was well filled and very good attention was paid by all present to both the service of installation and the lecture. Every Grange but one in the County was represented. Bro. S. V. Walker, of Hesperia Grange was installed Master, and Bro. Avery, of Ashland Grange, Secretary. The other officers we can give only from memory. Supper was served in the hall to all present, it was abundant and enjoyed by all, as was also the social intercourse that accompanied it. The evening was given to the work of the fifth degree, which was conferred upon six candidates, and to instruction in the unwritten work of the Order. At a late hour the Pomona Grange closed in form, and the visiting brothers and sisters were apportioned for the night, preparatory for the following day's labor to begin at 9 A. M. We were invited to the home of Brother and Sister Danforth, which brother took us to the station the following morning, when at 9:30 A. M. we took the cars for home.

A LUMBER CAMP.

At White Cloud we were just in time for dinner at Friend Root's, and having to wait until the 5:45 train home, we gladly accepted an invitation to visit the mill and lumber camps under the direction and supervision of our friend, Henry Root. First to the stables and barns of the Company, to see a fine pair of well-bred Bashaw colts, and the conveniences of the Company for the storage of potatoes, grain, feed, etc., for the use of the Camps. Next to the mill, in full operation, where we were highly pleased with the fine machinery and new labor-saving inventions and facilities for cutting and handling lumber. Trucks were constantly arriving loaded with logs from the nearest camp to which a snow and ice road was being constructed and sprinkled for use during the night following to haul logs upon the sleighs.

The team was now ready to take us to the Camps. Seated upon the seat of the buckboard beside Friend Root, who does enjoy riding after his fine

team, tried and true. We were rapidly annihilating the space to the nearer and smaller camp. A pause of a moment to direct the foreman of the road builders, another to order the shoeing of a team from the camp, another to inspect the sleigh road along side the wagon road, for no wagon or truck is allowed to travel upon the artificial snow roads, and soon we reach the first Camp. Here we delay a few moments but soon are whirled away through the forest to the larger camp, which was a study to us, and here we gleaned many facts of interest, and stored much valuable information, a few items of which we will pen for the readers of the Visitor who may be interested therein. Last summer this Lumber Company came into possession of this tract of pine upon White River, one mile long by three-fourths of a mile wide, from which it is expected to cut eight million feet of pine this winter, and put into White River for the mill at White Cloud. The Camp was located with car near the center of track, with streets at right angles to each other, and with the world. The main and branch roads to the river were laid, into which lead roads from the many skidways upon which logs are being placed for loading.

The buildings of the camp are large and commodious, and on one of the four corners is the sleeping room of the men, large enough to accommodate 125 men, who sleep in births arranged like the cabin of a steamship, three bunks high. This building, tight and warm, is heated by three large heaters, and quiet reigns both night and day, that those who seek rest and sleep may obtain them undisturbed.

On another corner is the dining hall, set with three long tables, well lighted and warmed, with room enough for 125 men to eat at once. In the rear of the dining room is the cook room, pantry, and store rooms, beneath which is the cellar. Two large hotel ranges are in almost constant blast in the kitchen under the control of a cook and three assistants.

The men when we were there were divided into two classes, one of the chopping and skidding gangs, ten in number—the "snow-birds," who make and mend the snow roads, and others, who form the class that labor in the day time—the other of the teamsters and loaders, who labor during the night—which latter class were in bed when we were there.

Four regular meals are daily served, one being at midnight for the night laborers. At the table each and every man knows and keeps his own place, and when in the dining-room, or at the table, no conversation is allowed among the men, and nothing is heard but the click of knives and forks upon the plates, and perfect order everywhere prevails.

To feed such a body of men, a large supply of meat, flour and vegetables is daily consumed. Two barrels of the most excellent bread was all that remained of the previous day's baking. We saw a bushel of potatoes in preparation for supper. A ton of fresh meat will last about two weeks, equal to two hogs, or beeves, a week. Thirteen large hogs were driven in a month since, and only four remain of them.

The tables, covered with brown oil-cloth, were set with good iron-stone ware, plates, cups and saucers, and knives and forks, a castor, flask of molasses, tea pot, &c., to each set of ten men, within the reach of each man; and the food of each kind was so placed that each man could wait upon himself.

The food was of the best in kind and variety, and abundant—two kinds of

meat, good bread, potatoes, beans and turnips, two kinds of cake and pie; cake and good syrup are served each meal; also tea of the best quality.

We took our supper there, and would like to do so often, if convenient.

Opposite the dining hall is the tool and blacksmith shop. Here the axes and saws are kept in order and ready for use, and here are shod the horses and mules of the camp. Two men were at work here.

Beyond this shop is a small house, where lives the only woman in the camp, with her husband, one of the men. This woman washes for the men at ten cents a piece, and makes good wages, better than some men.

On the other corner are the stables, two for horses and one for oxen, all of which are warm, and clean, and healthful.

Leading to the stables, we pass through the apartments of the man in charge, who also has charge of the harness supply and repairs. This man feeds all the teams in camp, each team being groomed by its driver. In the room of this man we saw a boiler of water heating, for the preparation of food for the horses, which consists of cut hay, wet with warm water, and mixed with ground feed. The cut feed is put into a large vat on wheels, rolled to the door, near the water, opposite which is the granary and the ground feed, all handy for use. The feed being mixed, the vat is pushed along by each stall, and each animal fed.

After the feeding is done, after work, no one is allowed to disturb the teams, until the feeding preparatory to work again—thus giving the animals their needed rest. No noise is allowed at any time in the stables, nor is any ill-treatment of teams permitted.

The result of this care and management is, fine, hearty and healthy horses and oxen, and all in good condition, and capable of much hard labor, and they will come out in the spring in better condition than they entered in the fall.

No litter is allowed about the camp, and all the manure of the stables is wheeled several rods distant to the compost heaps for the hogs, to mix for use.

We spent an hour in visiting each gang of loggers, of which there were ten, all in a circle surrounding the camp. Each gang had two choppers, who simply fell the trees; two sawyers, who saw into the logs, and two men, with a yoke of cattle, skidding the logs. All were busy, each seeming to know and fill his place.

We noticed that the oxen were all very large and fat; many were very large, and all were carefully and skillfully handled by the drivers.

System, system was everywhere apparent, and resulted in a large amount of work being done at little loss of time or expense of material.

Thirty five minutes to train time warned us to be on our way to town, and we made the distance of five miles, and had a few moments to spare. On our way we saw many loaded sleighs ready to hitch teams to for the night work of hauling logs. Again and again we have and can thank the manager of this vast enterprise for the pleasure and instruction we received in the visit to the camps under his control, and many lessons may be drawn therefrom by your kind readers.

LAPEER COUNTY.

A day at home after our camp experience, and we again said good by, and set our face to the eastward. The 31st ult. found us upon the N. W. Grand Trunk Ry., and Lapeer was soon reached. The weather bad, the roads very rough, the notice of com-

ing very short, yet we had the pleasure of meeting a goodly number of farmers at the Court house at Lapeer, and in the evening had the pleasure of reviving Lapeer Grange, No. 246, and installing the officers elect with Bro. J. Manwarring, Master, and Bro. John Thomas, Secretary. We passed a pleasant Sunday with Bro. and Sister Manwarring and family, for which, and many other past favors, we cordially thank them. They are true Patrons. May their influence be great!

While here, we learned of the sale of a small quantity of clover seed through the Grange agency in Detroit, whereby the party realized over \$15 00 net more than he would, had he sold in Lapeer.

On Monday, the 2d inst., we made Imlay City at an early hour, when we met Bro. Muir, and with him arranged for a meeting at Attica, near by, on the 11th inst. Brother Wilson, of the Montgomery Grange, No. 549, Lapeer County, was here ready to take us to the north side of the County, near Marlette. This Grange is 20 miles from Imlay by the map, but by in the road a lumber wagon, in real practice, it may be roughly put at much more. In some of our lists of Granges this Grange has been put down as in Sanilac County. Such is not the case, being in Lapeer County. We reached the home of the Master, Bro. Montgomery, in good time, found he had just come in from an all day's ride among the farmers in the vicinity, inviting them to the evening lecture at the school house, in which extra seats had been placed to accommodate the attendance of the evening. A public meeting for installation and lecture were held, and the house was well filled by attentive listeners. This is a small but stalwart Grange, and deserves praise for its persevering, thorough work in an isolated position.

On the morning of the 3d, Bro. Montgomery, the Master, brought out his new wagon just received at a saving through Grange channels, of which he is justly proud, and took us to Bro. H. Bradshaw's, of North Branch Grange, in an adjoining town, which place we hope to visit while here. At Five Lakes, after a ride of 18 miles, we took train for Lapeer, and thence to Caro, which was reached in safety.

CASS CITY

was our next objective point, and this was reached in due time on the 4th inst. Supper was enjoyed at the home of Bro. J. Schenck, in whose house is the snug hall of this Grange, No. 526. In the evening there was a large attendance at the school house, to witness the public installation and lecture and to both were given good attention. Bro. Geo. Farrar was installed Master for another term of office. After the public meeting, the Grange met in the hall for private instruction. Bro. Perry, Master elect of Ellington Grange, was also present duly installed. The Cass City Grange has elements of strength and will, we think, gather more in the young and vigorous material soon to be used.

LECTURER'S APPOINTMENTS.

From the 10th to the 14th inst., and longer, our labors will be in Lapeer County, where the interest in the Order is reviving, and all are anxious for work.

On the 18th inst. Eaton Pomona Grange is to be organized at Charlotte at one o'clock, P. M. Every Patron interested should be on hand at that time, and all ready for work—at one o'clock; otherwise we shall not be able to complete our work well. Let every Grange be represented with credentials, etc. Come in force, and let the last be best.

Macon Grange and Its Work.

February 10, 1880.

Editor Grange Visitor:

Having been elected reporter of our Grange at its last meeting, you will bear with me in my first attempt to furnish an article for the Visitor. Our reporter of last year claimed to have forwarded a communication to you, and seeing nothing from it, became discouraged and quit the business. You will find I am not so easily set aside. Our Grange is located in a strictly agricultural township, surrounded by thrifty and well-to-do farmers, and numbers about 75 members. We have a splendid new hall, built last spring, 26x50 feet, two stories high. The lower story is 10 feet high, divided into vestibule, stairway, dining room, kitchen, and store-room; the upper story is 13 feet high, divided into ante-room, preparation room, and Grange hall. The whole warmed by a furnace, and seated with 200 chairs. It being the only building in the township, centrally located, suited to large public gatherings, it is becoming a favorite resort for both old and young. The lower story is being occupied this winter by a select school, singing school, and Red Ribbon club, which in connection with the varied socials, promenades, concerts, exhibitions, etc., keep it hot. The history of our Grange is very similar to that of all successful Granges. We have an efficient corps of officers and committee, a good choir, assisted by a cabinet organ, a fair proportion of earnest working members, and nearly every family takes the GRANGE VISITOR. The following is the program for the next three months:

Feb. 20th, 7 o'clock, P. M.—Regular order of business; song by the choir; The Most Profitable Kind of Clover for Farmers to Raise, L. Osgood, followed by discussion; Cultivation of Flowers, Mrs. Thomas Osborn. Recess. Opening song, Miss S. L. Scudder; select reading, Mrs. E. Rogers; essay, Mrs. H. Stewart; discussion, How to Make our Meetings Most Interesting, by the officers of the Grange.

March 5th, 1:30 o'clock, P. M.—Regular order of business; song by the choir; Sheep Husbandry, C. F. Morley, followed by discussion; essay, Mrs. J. W. Osborn. Recess. Opening song, Miss Julia Eslick; select reading, D. R. Wiggins; essay, Benefit Derived by Members Attending Regularly, Mrs. J. L. Remington; discussion, Making Improvements on Borrowed Capital, H. L. Stewart, C. Mead, W. H. Osborn, N. C. Miller.

[In "making up" this No. a part of the program had to be omitted. It will appear in our next.]—Ed.

Notice of Meetings.

The next meeting of the Clinton Co. Pomona Grange will be held at Bengal Grange hall, Wednesday, Feb. 25th, at 1 o'clock P. M. All fourth degree members are cordially invited to attend.

FRANK CONN, Sec'y.

The Detroit and Bay City District Council of P. of H. will meet in Rochester Grange hall, in Rochester, Oakland County, on Tuesday, March 2d, 1870, at 10 o'clock A. M. All fourth degree members of P. of H. are invited to attend and participate in the exercises. Come one, come all.

HIRAM ANDREWS, Sec'y.

There will be a meeting of Kent Co. Grange at Ellena Grange hall, located at Fisher Station on the G. R. & I. R. E., on the 25th day of February, at ten o'clock A. M. All fourth degree members are invited to attend.

GEO. W. EWING, Sec'y.

Our Detroit Agency.

CHESANING, Mich. Feb. 9, 1880.

Worthy Secretary:

We last week received a bill of goods amounting to about \$35.00, all of which give entire satisfaction. No Grange need hesitate for a moment to entrust anything in the way of consignments of produce or purchase of goods to Geo. W. Hill & Co., of Detroit. It is the duty of every Grange in the State to patronize them, that the Agency may be a success.

O. W. DAMON, Sec. Grange No. 464.

Ladies' Department.

RHYMES BY (AUNTIE) ANTI-TOBACCO.

Why shuns the boy his mother's kiss?
His breath is tainted. What is this
That's caused the boy to go amiss? Tobacco

What does he carry in a box?
And thinks he there the secret locks?
And takes therefrom "sly as a fox?" Tobacco.

What stains his tongue, and teeth, and lips,
And down upon his shirt-front drip,
And poisons every cup he sips? Tobacco.

What spits he in that foul spittoon?
That sends a stench through all the room—
A noisome, pestilent perfume? Tobacco.

What poisons all the heavenly air,
And desecrates the house of prayer,
And nauseates all who worship there? Tobacco.

What finds the sexton in the aisles?
What after sacrament defiles
The tongue that moved in prayer the while? Tobacco.

What paralyzes every nerve,
And makes man from high purpose swerve,
And in some menial service serve? Tobacco.

What lays man low ere yet life's sun
Upon the dial points to noon—
His life work ended all too soon? Tobacco.

What fills the heart with throbbing pain?
What robs of power the heart and brain?
What brings of woes an endless train? Tobacco.

We'll teach our boys this fiend to shun;
Teach them that if the goal is won
They must forever let alone—Tobacco.

And, daughters, if you husbands choose,
You need to heed your "Auntie's" views,
And never take a man who'll use—Tobacco.

And, fathers, what I say is true,
The sons go wrong because that you
Have taught them both to smoke and chew—
Tobacco.

KRELER, Mich. AUNTIE.

Care of the Hands.

As there seems to be a general desire among the ladies to make the most of themselves, I will give a few hints on the care of the hands. I know of some housekeepers that think it adds to their credit to have hard, brown, unsightly hands, for they have said, "Now you see who does the work at our house—just look at my hands." Well, I did not know it, judging from the appearance of their hands, for it does not go to prove that those that look the worst do the most work; but they do prove that they have treated their hands carelessly, and I might say, cruelly. For instance, when a woman plunges her hands into hot water till they look like boiled lobsters, or taking hold the handles of hot kettles, or flat-irons, causing them to become like some people's conscience, "seared as with a hot iron." How it looks to see a well-dressed lady, with hands all scratches, burns, or scars! I have wondered if they did not almost wish they could take them off, and leave them at home whenever they went in company.

Have plenty of soft, thick holders near the stove to take hold of the handles of kettles or pans. Keep a pair of gloves near your sun-bonnet to bring in wood, work in the garden, or to put on when you sweep, that your hands may not become callous. If they are liable to chaf, use plenty of glycerine, or wash them in vinegar, and when you sit down to your sewing, and your hands feel like a nutmeg grater, rub them with camphor, and it will make them feel so soft and pliable that you will be enabled to handle the finest of fabric without its adhering to your fingers. If you are troubled with salt rheum, use juniper tar soap, which is an almost infallible remedy. Keep a bottle, with a few cents worth of oxalic acid dissolved in it, and marked poison, somewhere handy, and when there are fruit stains, or you have been coloring carpet rugs or old garments, use a few drops on the stained parts and they will soon disappear. If you are in the habit of scraping the pans or kettles with your finger nails, don't do it—never again; but keep an old knife for that purpose.

Sisters, take good care of your hands for your husband's sake, for your own sake, for your comfort and your con-

venience, and that you may preserve your dignity as a lady. Let your hands be always ready to remove burdens from weary shoulders.

Extend the warm grasp of sympathy to the erring and wayward, and "whatsoever thy hands find to do, do it with thy might," and when they are folded over a pulseless heart, some one will arise and call you blessed.

MYRA.

The Grange but a Step in Woman Advancement.

MAPLE RAPIDS, Jan. 27, 1880.

Worthy Secretary:

I come this time to ask you or any one else who knows, if there is any limit fixed to the time in which women must be twitted of being allowed to come into the Grange side by side with their husbands and brothers, as though it was any particular honor to her to stand by their side, more than it is to them to have her stand there. The Grange is a glorious means of education, not less for men than for women. As for women being allowed in it, it is more than possible that a woman first formed the plan, and allowed the men to come in. But if, as is always implied, the Grange is the result of masculine thought, it is not more than probable that as the thought advanced to the fourth degree, a difficulty arose as to how that feast was to be accomplished, a happy after thought came: "We will allow our wives and daughters to join with us!" and presto! the difficulty is overcome.

In this day of abounding fullness in literature, it is hardly supposable that a woman of ordinary intellectual ability, spends most of her time in any kitchen. We have machines that save time and hard labor. Then if we read our papers to good purpose, we know that the cookery that takes most time and worrying care is unwholesome and worse than useless. This we also know by our own reason and observation. Then we may refuse to be slaves to fashion and dress, and yet have our clothing neat and becoming, and in all these ways save hours daily for reading, music, and social pleasure.

A better day dawned for woman before the Grange was instituted; that was only a step in her progress upward—a long and important step, still only a step in her advance toward independence. Independence of thought and action, as well as freedom from the charge that man supplies her temporal needs. Who more emphatically earns their own living than the wives and daughters of farmers? It is acknowledged to be unprofitable for a farmer to spend much of his energies in hard manual toil; cheaper in the end for him to plan, and hire his work done. It is equally true of the farmer's wife. No wife and mother can afford to have her strength taxed to its utmost, habitually. If she is thus taxed, and as a sure consequence is nervous and cross and dejected, where is the "sweet influence of home" that is to keep the family together in peace and harmony?

Finally, by all which egotists hold honorable, don't let us always be compared with heathen women. Would not the men compare with the men here just as favorably. Probably their relative position in the world would not vary much.

Music.

I hope my brothers and sisters will bear the few words I have written with a great deal of charity. Very many people say that music does no good in the world; that people who have no musical education get along just as well as those who have. I admit, that, in some respects, they may. Perhaps they may make just as much money, and be just as successful in business, as though they knew ever so much about music. But I think music a great addition to the enjoyment of any household. It helps to entertain and refine, and very many long winter evenings are passed pleasantly and quickly by the aid of music. When

the days work is done, to gather in the pleasant sitting room, and pass the evening with music, books, and papers, is a pleasure and recreation, and we are the better prepared for to-morrow's labor. Our children, if they have any natural ability for music, should be encouraged and instructed, even if they should never become very proficient. The hours of pleasure derived in after life will more than repay all the trouble and expense. I once knew a man who was over thirty years old, and had never tried to sing, where any one could hear him, in his life. He could whistle the most difficult melody, and had a fine voice for singing. The reason he did not sing bass was, that he never tried, and he had no confidence to try. There are many with not half the natural ability who are considered fair singers. The better music we have in our Grange, the more prosperous it will be. Let us each do all we can (and we don't know how much that is unless we try) to help about the singing. If each member of our Order would think of our hall as a home, where we meet for mutual improvement and benefit, we should soon feel an interest there, second only to that we feel for our own homes. Let us each do all in our power to contribute to the social enjoyment of our meetings, and help our Grange to become a power second to none in the land.

A Retiring Address.

The following is the address delivered by Henry D. Platt, on resigning the Master's Chair of Ypsilanti Grange, and welcoming his successor, Peter D. Martin:

Bro. Martin, I welcome you to this chair, to the position with which the members of this Grange have honored you, for, sir, it is an honor conferred upon any man to be elected to preside over the deliberations of this body. But, sir, in resigning the position I have so long held by the suffrages of this Grange, I cannot refrain from bidding you and those present to a brief history of the past.

I first point you to yonder dispensation. There framed, sir, are the names of the founders of this Grange—the names of those that first caught up the word, "Organize these tillers of the soil, that you may be prepared to cope with the other vocations of life in their onward march." Grasping, as they did, the idea of organizing the agriculturists of this country, and fixing their names to yonder article, they can justly claim that they are the founders of this Grange, and through them, we obtained yonder charter.

The first to grace this chair was one whose early training well fitted him for the position. With a strong mind, and a Scotchman's grit, he, with his associate officers, carried this Grange, as it were, upon their shoulders, until they, in due time, set it down a sure, sound, and unsullied organization.

We will remember the solemn obligation we repeated after him in yonder hall. How many of us can now stand there in position, with our hand over our heart, and say, we have lived to that obligation as near as erring humanity will admit. Weeks and months passed. During his administration, names were added to our family roll, till it reached 130 in number. Where are they to-day? Some have gone from us because they are not of us; others have gone to their eternal rest.

All through these long months, there was a growing feeling among our active, working members that we should have a hall, a home, of our own. Among all its advocates, there were none more zealous than he. How often have we heard him say, when speaking to the question, "This Grange should play second fiddle to no organization," (and I will add) not even to that organization which professes to be heavenward bound.

Campbell thought he saw in the far-off future a brighter day dawning for this Grange. That feeble spark, though resting in his imagination, was gently

nursed and fanned by him, until it burst into a flame.

That, with all the vital interests of this Grange, was then passed into the hands of King. He seized them, as it were, with all his heart and soul. The interests of this great organization were closely watched by him, and not the interests of individuals. No trouble or discontent was allowed to pass the gate to mar or disturb the deliberations of the Grange. The same feeling to be free, the same fire lay smouldering beneath the surface waiting only for an opportunity to burst forth. The Worthy Brother's administration was a success.

And now the wheel of fortune turns, and again the gavel falls into the hands of Campbell. This year of his administration was marked by the same interest in the work for the good of the Order as was his former. Still he was desirous that the Grange should burst the bands that held them and be free. And to that end he worked. A faint hope presented itself; the flame burst forth, but only to pass away as the sun passes behind the western horizon, to reappear in all its splendor.

Again the wheel turned, and Platt took the helm. Born as he was to grapple with the hard knocks of life, he found himself illy prepared to fill the position to which he was called, but bound to make the best of his opportunities, he struggled through the first year of his honors, with what success I leave you, sir, to judge.

Elected to fill the Master's chair for the second term, he was destined to carry off the laurels for which his predecessors struggled.

A business enterprise was projected by a few young men in this city, which was soon to be carried into effect. It was to remove the old rickety hotel that had so long been a disgrace to our town, and erect in its stead this beautiful block—an ornament to our city, and a lasting monument to the memory of its projectors.

In this great work a few of our members thought they saw our opportunity. They watched it step by step as the work progressed towards completion. It was watched by the quiet and thoughtful Rice, by the thoughtful and determined Campbell, watched by the true Carpenter, and the ever faithful Gardner, watched by the sharp Thorne, and by that Smith, who calculates to strike when the iron is hot, watched by the hard-working Fletcher, and the talking Peck, watched, sir, by that King upon yonder throne—the only throne known upon this continent—the American farm house; watched from the laying of the foundation stone to its completion by all the members of this Grange who had its true interests at heart. In watching, they saw enclosed four commodious halls for the accommodation of organizations like our own, and you well remember how our hearts bled within us as one after another was taken.

Sir, you would have little thought, had you been traveling yonder highway, and seen a few members of this Grange gathering at the quiet home of the Worthy Lecturer, that they were there for the purpose of laying the foundation and fixing the wires to draw this Grange out of that old building yonder into this beautiful block. Woodman came—Woodman the peer of any man in this great Commonwealth—by his pleasing and instructive address, his sound logic, and cheering words, he prepared the members of this Grange for a forward movement. It was made, and you well remember how nobly the brothers and sisters responded to the call. What, sir, was the result? Look around you and behold this beautiful hall; mark the contrast. Do you see there the grim and crumbling walls? Do you see here the skirts of our wives and daughters trailing in the dust and dirt that has been accumulating for weeks? Do you see yonder that cheerless fire, or our members suffering from the cold blasts of a winter's night, or sweltering from the effects of the

scorching rays of a summer's sun? Sir, mark the contrast. Can you see there among all those bright and smiling faces one you think would willingly make the exchange back? Do you imagine you can find buried among all those throbbing bosoms one small that it begrudges the effort put forth. If you can, God pity them; I cannot.

Sir, in this brief history of the past, you can see your opportunity. You can readily see the advantages you have over King, Campbell, and Platt. Seize those advantages and opportunities and press the Grange to a glorious future. It can be done; do it, and heaven will bless you all.

Bro. Martin, I again welcome you to the chair; take it. I welcome you, sir, to the responsibilities this Grange has placed upon you. Watch well its interests, watch well the interests of this great organization, and not the interests of individuals. Do that, and I here pledge you upon my honor that I will as heartily and truly support you during your administration, as you have me during mine.

"The Man."

Mrs. Duniway, of the *New Northwest*, at a reunion at Salem, Oregon, "toasted" the gentlemen as follows: "God bless them! They halve our joys, they double our sorrows, they treble our expenses, they quadruple our cares, they excite our magnanimity, they increase our self-respect, they awake our enthusiasms, they arouse our affections, they control our property, and out-manoeuvre us in everything. This would be a very dreary world without 'em. In fact, I may say, without prospect of successful contradiction, that without 'em it would not be much of a world anyhow. We love 'em and the dear beings can't help it; we control 'em and the precious fellows don't know it.

"As husbands they are always convenient, though not always on hand; as beaux, they are by no means matchless. They are most agreeable visitors; they are handy at State fairs, and indispensable at oyster saloons. They are splendid as escorts for some other fellow's wife or sister; and as friends they are better than women. As our fathers they are inexpressibly grand. A man may be a failure in business, a wreck in constitution, not enough to boast of as a beauty, nothing as a wit, less than nothing as a legislator for woman's rights, and even not very brilliant as a member of the press; but if he is our own father we overlook his shortcomings and cover his peccadilloes with the divine mantle of charity. Then, as our husbands, how we love to parade them as paragons! In the sublime language of the inspired poet:

"We'll lie for them,
We'll cry for them,
And if we could, we'd fly for them,
We'd anything but die for them."

Sweet Corn Fodder.

A trial of several varieties of sweet corn for fodder for milk cows the past season has resulted very successfully. Many good farmers have for years past considered sweet corn fodder to be worth more than that from field corn. The large quantity of sugar contained in sweet corn makes it a nutritious food, sugar being such a nutriment as starch—indeed it is strongly believed by some physiologists that the starch of food is changed, in a great part, to sugar during digestion and before assimilation. But it will be found in practice that the most valuable fodder is that which is grown so widely apart that the juices of the stalks are matured before the crop is cut. Small, curly varieties, planted in May and afterward, may be gathered in July and August; and the nupium varieties such as the Triumph, will come in August and September, while the late Evergreen will last until frost stops its growth.—*Agriculturist*.

AN EXPERIMENT.—And old Turkey raiser gives the following experiment: Four turkeys were fed on meat, boiled potatoes, and oats. Four others of the same brood were also at the same time confined in another pen and fed daily on the same article, but with one pint of very finely pulverized charcoal mixed with their food—mixed meal and boiled potatoes. They also had a plentiful supply of charcoal in their pen. The eight were killed the same day, and there was a difference of one and one-half pounds each in favor of the fowls which had been supplied with charcoal, they being much the fattest, and the meat being greatly superior in point of tenderness and flavor.

ON THE TRAIN.

From the car window he looked to see
The landscape rushing by;
It came along, he picked it up,
He caught it with his eye,
Wistfully jerking in his head,
To dig for the stinging cinder—
We dare not print the words he said,
When his hat flew out the window.

THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE.

BY FARMER'S MIX.

To think that forty years ago
I trod that peaceful vale,
Through summer's sun and winter's snow,
With books and dinner pail!
My childish feet in happy play,
Knew nothing of the thorns
That sting us in our later day—
I'm speaking now of corns!

They've torn the school house down, I see,
And leveled—what a shame!
The old familiar maple tree
That bore the teacher's name.
He used my knife to carve it with,
And labored half a day;
It looked like this: "Lucy's GUs sMstH,"
(No criticisms, pray.)

Alas! beneath the daisies' bloom
The poor old master sleeps,
And o'er his lone, neglected tomb
No kinsman ever weeps;
The scholars loved him, every one,
And chatted with him noons—
He warmed our jackets, though, like fun,
Likewise our paloons.

Where are the boys who used to play
With me along the creek?
Ah! some of them have passed away,
While others vainly seek
Their fortunes in a foreign land.
Poor Barker wandered thence—
I'd like to take him by the hand
And—get that fifty cents!

Heigho! while gazing on the place
Where the school house used to stand,
A tear drop trickles o'er my face
And drops upon my hand.
Oh, memories of days of yore!
Oh, blissful childhood's morn!
I wish that I was six once more
And—Betsy wasn't born!

Oh, cherished spot! I'll ne'er forget
The scenes that hallow thee:
And though I cannot finger, yet
I leave reluctantly;
For sitting on these mouldering logs
I feel such perfect peace—
Why, hang it! there's a million hogs
Inspecting my valise!

—Free Press.

Correspondence.

Grange Doings in Grand Traverse.

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich.,
February 3d, 1880.

Dear Sir:
One would naturally think, from looking over the VISITOR, there was no interest taken in Grange matters in Northern Michigan. We have six live working Granges in the vicinity of Traverse City, and one District Grange. There are also a number of Granges scattered through the adjoining Counties south that properly belong to the Grand Traverse region.
We have just closed a very interesting and profitable two-days session of the District Grange. This Grange was organized in 1877, was lively for a time, but gradually went down, till it nearly ceased to breathe. In November Bro. Whitney was sent for, and a grand time mapped out; but the elements were against us, and but a small attendance was secured. We re-organized, however, with fifteen of the original members and twenty-eight new ones joined us. Bro. Whitney gave us a very interesting lecture—infusing new life into us, and put us on the road to prosperity.
At the session just closed we initiated eight new members, and three old ones paid up dues and were reinstated. We hold our meetings quarterly, at the different Grange halls in the District.
The reports from subordinate Granges were very encouraging. Good substantial members are being added, and the old ones seem to be waking up to the importance of more real, earnest solid work.

The VISITOR is receiving more subscribers than ever before; with many of us it is a household necessity, and is always the first read.
We have now living in our midst Bro. Steel (the Worthy Chaplain of the State Grange) and his wife. We deem this quite an addition to our force.
The officers of Silver Grange, No. 624, were publicly installed by the worthy brother, followed by a very able and interesting lecture by Sister Steel, which, we hope, had the effect to remove some of the prejudice that has existed here against our Order.
Our petitions to Congress are being freely circulated among the people, but many that do not belong to the Order shake their heads and "guess they won't," when asked to sign them. They seem to think, because it comes through the Grange, there is a "nigger in the

wood-pile" somewhere. It seems that nothing but a miracle, or the re-appearance of the Son of Man, can open the eyes of some men, and awaken them to what is for their best interest. But, through the information we, as Grangers, can give, and through the light shed by such out-spoken and fearless papers as our VISITOR, the people are slowly, but surely, learning more and more to think, act and speak for themselves. It is only by organization and thorough work that anything can be accomplished. The Grange has come to us in our hour of need, to save the people from being utterly crushed to death by the giant monopolies and frauds that roam at will over our land, seeking whom they may devour. I am well aware it will take a long and strong pull to accomplish our objects, but I believe the sturdy farmers are equal to the task.

—SILE.

WOODBRIDGE Grange, No. 183,
January 26, 1880.

Our Grange is in good working order, but, as has been the case with nearly all Granges in the State, some of the branches have been lopped off, but those left are good workers and will keep the ship floating. And with Bro. Bryan for Master, we expect to launch out into deep water, and make a success for the year 1880.

By a unanimous vote of the Grange, Brother Joel B. Norris, of Cambria Grange, met with us and installed the officers, which work he performed with credit to himself and honor to those he represented so nobly. He spoke briefly of the death of Sister Lucy Valentine and of Bro. Austin Hart, since he met with us last. He paid a tribute of respect to Sister Valentine (we were always proud to call her Sister) for her many acts of kindness in her always carrying a smile of gladness, and having a kind and cheering word for those who seemed to be cast down with the heavy cares and burdens of this life. And Bro. Hart we learned to love long ago for his quiet and peaceable acts in life. He always held a responsible position in the Grange, for we knew his experience and judgment could be relied upon.

After the installation, we had a splendid supper prepared by the sisters, which was enjoyed by about 50 persons, who seemed to relish it well. Then the Woodbridge Cornet Band came forward to give us a serenade. After playing several pieces, they were invited in, and the way oysters and chickens disappeared, showed they could eat with as much enthusiasm as they could play. The good feeling prevailed until the next day, when we adjourned with many a hearty good wish that the Grange might succeed.

Enclosed I send one dollar for the VISITOR. Send as directed. I cannot think of doing without it the coming campaign. I endorse the position of the VISITOR, let us have a farmer for Governor, and if we could work more farmers into our legislative halls the result would be, more business and less resolves.

PETER HEWITT, Sec'y.

J. T. Cobb:

It has been some time since I told you what we were doing here in Coldwater Grange, No. 137, but nevertheless we have not been idle. The meetings of the Grange have been well attended, and the discipline entered into with spirit and understanding. We find the farm and home visiting committee a very useful feature, both for instruction and entertainment, and promoting sociality among the members. We have just purchased a nice organ, so hereafter music will be another attractive feature of our meetings. Up to the end of this, our sixth year of organization, we have not had a single case of grievance to act upon. Our Worthy Master was one of the delegates to the State Grange, and brought us a very comprehensive report of the doings of that body, the next best thing to attending that meeting. The Patrons in this locality are very proud over the

election of Worthy Master Woodman to the Master's chair in the National Grange. Our Grange is delighted with the action of the State Grange with regard to the VISITOR, and we shall try to show that we appreciate the efforts made in behalf of its readers by sending you a good long list of subscribers.

Yours fraternally,
EMILY A. HORTON, Sec'y.

A Public Installation.

TROWBRIDGE, Allegan Co.,
February 2nd, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Trowbridge Grange, No. 296, held a public installation of officers at the M. E. Church on January 27th, with our Worthy Bro. J. J. Woodman as installing officer, assisted by Bro. E. G. Minckler. After the installation Bro. Woodman gave us a very able address, which was received with the most respectful attention, and from what I can learn made a good impression, and was highly appreciated by all who heard him.

Our choir was assisted by Otsego Grange choir, and Sister Sherwood, of Plainwell, furnished instrumental music for the occasion.

The church was beautifully decorated by a committee appointed for that purpose.

I think there were nearly four hundred and fifty present, or in other words, the house was crowded, and I am sorry to learn that many had to go away because they could not get into church.

The meeting was a success, and will long be remembered by the Patrons of No. 296.
Yours fraternally,
G. O. MERRIAM.

Tyrone Grange, No 316.

Brother Cobb:

I feel like talking to our brothers and sisters through the State, through the medium of the VISITOR, and with your permission, will do so. Tyrone Grange, No. 316, P. of H. was organized March 6th, 1874, with 23 charter members. Our numbers rapidly increased until we had 70. Applications ceased, interest declined, and a general relapse took place. Some withdrew, some dimitted, some were suspended, and two died. The paying membership was reduced to barely a quorum. A proposition from some sister Granges to come out some pleasant day and bury Tyrone Grange, reached our ears, and aroused us from our lethargy. We weren't dead, and didn't want to be buried. From that time, we have steadily prospered. To-day we number 51 earnest, paying members, and have bought and paid for an organ. During the past year we have received 15 new members, and expect more this year. Our last regular meeting, January 24, was attended by 28 members, some coming 4 miles, though the roads were so muddy as to be almost impassible, and it was one of the best meetings ever held in our hall. And lest some should infer we own a hall, we hasten to say that we do not, but rent one owned by our Worthy Lecturer, E. Hayward.

Fraternally, G.

Grange, No. 360.

EATON RAPIDS, Feb. 5, 1880.

Bro. Jerome T. Cobb:

Although quite few in numbers, our Grange meets twice a month, and we are all glad to see one another, as Patrons should be. Since our organization, we have lost quite a number of our members by death, and some from non-payment of dues. I think nearly all our members take the VISITOR—if they don't, they ought to. I would like to see every farmer take it, now that it is enlarged. If they would, there would be more Patrons than there are.

We are so few in numbers that it is sometimes discouraging, but we hold fast to our principles, and hope to conquer in the end.

Fraternally yours,
MRS. JENNIE BENTLY.

Meeting of Barry County Pomona Grange.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

The Barry County Pomona Grange, No. 26th, met at Middleville, Jan 28th, as appointed, and had a full attendance and admitted 17 more applicants, making now a membership of 88.

The afternoon and evening were spent pleasantly, and I trust profitably to all. As it was the first meeting of this Grange, organization was the chief business, as the committees had to be appointed, and other arrangements made, before we were in proper working order.

It is the intention of the Order to visit all the Granges in the County as soon as it can be accomplished, and ascertain their condition and requirements.

The first quarterly meeting is appointed for the 26th of February, at the hall of Johnstown Grange, No. 127, in the afternoon, and as it is to be an open meeting, those outside the gates are also invited.

There are also four intermediate meetings appointed for the month of February: at Woodland, No. 103, Feb. 12th; Carlton, 264, the 13th; Irving, No. 55, the 14th; and Yanke Springs, No. 243, the 19th. It is particularly requested that all who feel an interest in the welfare of the Order will give their attendance to these meetings, as they are intended for the good of all.

J. A. ROBERTSON, Sec'y.

Grange, No. 364.

OTSEGO, Jan. 27th, 1880.

Brother Cobb:

I like very much to read articles from different Granges, and to know of their prosperity, but do not remember seeing anything from 364. I think this Grange is not dead yet from the goodly number that were out to see the officers installed, or perhaps more particularly to hear Bro. Woodman, who after the installation, gave us a good, honest talk, full of encouragement to all good Grangers, and may be a help to some of the lazy ones that seldom exert themselves to attend the meetings.

Interest in Grange matters seem to be reviving. Yet there are plenty who are willing that a few should do all the work, if they can get the benefits. I don't know but they would be willing to assist, if they could see money at the close of every evening's work.

Perhaps it would be better for me to keep still; it is possible I stand with the lazy ones.

NOBLE.

WHITEFORD, Feb. 2, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Our Grange, No. 509, has a better outlook just now than for some time past. We installed our officers at our last regular meeting. Though few in numbers, we have some go-ahead Grangers. Have lost some on account of bad health, and some have fallen off because there was too little "sand" in them to make good Grangers; but some talk of coming back. The interest and value of a Grange depends very much on the officers, and punctuality on their part is an important quality. Our Lecturer usually makes a short speech, or reads some article of interest to the Grange, and we often go home well satisfied with the results. We can see that the Grange work is improving the farmers of the County. I think I have used enough of your space for this time. Long live the Grange!

C. N. C.

COLDWATER, Feb. 7th, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

The regular annual meeting of the Branch County Pomona Grange will occur on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 1880, at Coldwater Grange Hall, at which time the election of officers will take place, and other business of importance will be transacted. All members are requested to be present. The Grange will be opened at 10 o'clock, A. M.

WALLACE E. WRIGHT, Sec.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Patrons' Aid Society of New York.

The fifth annual meeting of the Patrons' Aid Society which took place in Elmira, N. Y., was well attended and was marked by a degree of harmony and enthusiasm which augurs well for the future of the society. Representatives were present from the near-by Counties of New York and Pennsylvania.

The report of the Secretary shows the gratifying fact that there has been a perceptible gain in membership during the year, there being 1,003 members in good standing, as against 989 a year ago. Many of those present reported a revival of interest in respect to the Society of their Granges, and promised many new members during the next few months. One enthusiastic director who works as well as talks, and who furnished eight applications for membership at the last meeting of the Board of Directors, assured the meeting that he should send in at least twenty-five more applications before the 1st of February. Important changes in the by-laws of the Society were proposed, to be acted upon at an adjourned meeting, to be held at Farmers' Club Hall, Elmira, Thursday, Feb. 8th, 1880. It is proposed hereafter to make each benefit one thousand dollars—at least until there is larger increase in membership. Another proposition which met with general favor, contemplates a material increase in membership fees for all over forty-five years of age.

From the statistical report for the year we glean the following:

Number of deaths	8
Average age of deceased members	53 1/2 yrs.
Average age of new members received during the year	43 1/2 "
Average amount paid by deceased members	\$ 37 25
Average amount paid to beneficiaries	841 33
Average cost per member for salaries and expenses	76 1/2 cts.
New members received	77

The statistical report covering the experience of the Society for the past five years, gives the following items of interest:

Average membership for 5 years	868
Average number of deaths per year	8
Annual death rate per thousand members	9 1/2
Average age of deceased persons	53 9-10 yrs.
Average age of all members received	43 yrs.
Total paid in thirty-eight benefits	36 105 00
Average amount paid beneficiaries	952 00
Average cost of insurance per year	8 00
Average annual cost of insurance per \$1,000	8 40

Treasurer Hoffman's report shows that the Treasury of the Society is in good condition. It having assets amounting to \$1,677.95, with no liabilities.

President McCann's report made appropriate reference to the prosperous condition of the Society, briefly treated the reports of the other officers, and advised deliberate care in dealing with such changes in the by-laws of the Society as seem to be required.

The election of officers resulted in the re-election of President Geo. S. McCann and the selection of Geo. Maby for Vice President.—Husbandman.

How to Tie a Horse.

Incredible as it seems, not half the tavern-keepers, hostlers, or teamsters, know how to tie a horse, either making some clumsy knot that is troublesome to undo, or making a hitch that is insecure. The proper way after passing the tether around the thing to be attached to, is to make a half-hitch, passing the strap through the loop. If the horse nibbling pulls it, he merely ties the knot tighter. And to unhitch, it is only necessary to remove the end from the bow, and it is instantly loosened. Not one-fourth of the butchers or farmers know how to tie the legs of a calf or a sheep for transportation. The majority of people when they want to make the animal secure, wind the cord tightly around the legs, causing painful congestion. The proper way is to make a half knot only on each hind and fore leg alternately, fastening with a bow, which is easily untied. I find usually a pocket handkerchief the handiest thing it being about the right size. Tied in this way, they are absolutely secure and without pain.

Experiment in Fattening Hogs.

A farmer tells us that lately he tested the value of his corn put into hogs with the following result: He commenced with a lot of hogs weighing 175 pounds each on the 20th of September. He fed them two weeks and when weighed, he found that at the price of pork then ruling, \$3.50 per hundred, his corn brought him sixty cents per bushel. The two weeks were mild weather. He weighed and fed them again two of the coldest weeks in November, and on weighing, found that the corn fed, at the same price for pork, had brought him only fifty cents per bushel. He says this teaches him that hogs ought to be fattened early and in the warm fall weather to get the greatest value for the corn fed.—Indiana Farmer.

Program of Newaygo County Grange.

Bro. J. T. Cobb: In accordance with arrangements previously made, the next meeting of the Newaygo County Grange, No. 12, will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, the 24th and 25th of February next, commencing on Tuesday at 2 o'clock, p. m., sharp. The afternoon and evening meetings of the first day will be held in open Grange, and our farmer friends, and the public generally, are invited to be present.

The following "general order" of business will be called, and we trust our brothers and sisters will be prepared and ready to respond:

- "The Education which the Grange Wishes to Teach the Farmer," Bro. T. S. Frey, Ensley Centre Grange.
"Co-operation in the Sale of Wool and Other Farm Products," Bro. W. W. Carter, Ashland Grange.
"Domestic Education," essay by Sister Lavina Hillman, Ensley Grange.
"Care and Management of Farm Stock," Bro. T. H. Stuart, Fremont Grange.
"THE GRANGE VISITOR," essay by Sister S. V. Wallace, Hesperia Grange.
"Bee Culture," Bro. A. Terwilliger, Ensley Grange, and E. A. Misner, Fremont Grange.
"Woman—Her Mission, In and Out of the Grange," essay by Sister L. E. Wright, Croton Grange.
"Farm Department, its General Management," Bro. L. Reinoldt, Ashland Grange.
"The Grange—Its Relation to Our Schools," Bro. L. E. Wright, Ensley Grange, and J. O. Wilsie, Ashland Grange.
"Stock and their Products," Bro. H. Avery, Ashland Grange.
"The Teacher—His Mission," essay Sadie Collins, Croton Grange.
"Cattle and their Products," Bro. S. Cox, Ashland Grange.
"Railroads and Transportation Monopolies," Bro. Neil McCollum, Hesperia Grange.
"Is there any Necessity for a Change in our Tax Laws?" Bro. C. W. Stone, Fremont Grange.
"The Farmer's System of Book-keeping," Bro. A. O. White, Fremont Grange.
"Unity of Action—Agreements and Disagreements in the Grange," Bro. W. C. Dowser, Croton Grange.
"Retrospective," by the Lecturer.

The opening responses—by essay or otherwise—will be followed by a general discussion of the foregoing topics.

The H. L. C. Leather Dressing.

MIDDLEBUSH, N. J., May 23d, '79. The can of L. D. came safely to hand, and we have given it a thorough test here on my farm. It is certainly all that you claim for it. I remain, yours fraternally, MORTIMER WHITEHEAD. PLAINVIEW, Wash Co., Minn., July 16th, 1879.

A. D. STRONG, Esq. Dear Sir—The H. L. C. Dressing obtained from you was thoroughly applied to my single and double harness, over six months ago, and I have used it on boots and shoes, and I wish to say I am delighted with it. It makes stiff leather soft and pliable. Nothing fries out and gums the surface, as with oils and grease, when used in the hot sun. On the contrary, the leather is very pliable and has a smooth, bright surface. I believe it the best article any can use on harness, boots and shoes, for hot or cold, wet or dry, weather. I never used anything I liked so well, and from personal acquaintance and business with you, I believe all who give you their confidence will be honorably treated and always satisfied.

Yours truly, T. A. THOMPSON. Write to G. W. Hill & Co., or any other Grange Agent for general Circular, and price to Granges.

Fifty Dollars Reward.

Stolen, on Friday night, Jan. 30th, a sorrel mare, star in forehead, about 10 years old, weight about 1,100, about 15 1/2 hands high. After driving, is a little stiff when first taken out. Also platform spring wagon, made at Troy, O., front spring broken and wound with wool twine, painted black; also silver-plated harness, nearly new, flat lines, looped into bit; two robes, one large, unlined, marked C. C. Randall; the other a small, dark robe, lined with red flannel, also two horse blankets. Thief gave name of Fred Brown, is an Englishman, about 20 years old, smooth face, black slouch hat, black dress coat, with brown wampus underneath, sheep-skin boots with wool inside, front upper teeth are very black and irregular, light complexion. I will give \$25 dollars for the recovery of the property. LEVI C. RUNDELL. I will give \$25 for the arrest and conviction of thief, or thieves. L. W. STANTON, Sheriff, Pontiac, Oakland Co., Mich.

THE installation of the officers of Arcadia Grange occurred at their hall, February, 5th, 1880, according to program, and was witnessed by a large audience. The installation ceremonies were performed by Col. Curtenius, assisted by Hon. S. F. Brown, of Schoolcraft. Short addresses were delivered by each of the installing officers. Mrs. Olie Childs furnished some fine music for the occasion. The whole concluded with a pleasant social dance. R. E. JAMES, Master. M. FOSDICK, Secretary.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

WOODWARD. - WHEREAS, The reaper, Death, has entered the house of the Hon. Lylander Woodward, and taken his spirit to that bourne from which no traveller returns, leaving the household to mourn the loss of a kind husband and loving father, and this Grange a worthy and consistent counsellor and friend; therefore, Resolved, In his death we mourn the loss of a brother who had won the respect and confidence of all who knew him, by his noble and generous principles, by his marked consistency in word and deed, and the fidelity with which he discharged all his duties to our Order, as well as the obligations growing out of all the relations in life, an example we shall do well to imitate. Resolved, That we tender the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy in this hour of their affliction, for we can sincerely follow the Divine injunction to "mourn with those who mourn, and weep with those who weep," over this afflictive dispensation of Providence. Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication, with a request that a number be sent to the family of the deceased. M. P. NEWBERRY, Chairman Committee. Rochester, Mich., Jan. 29, 1880.

FARMERS' PURCHASING AGENCY

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