

# THE GRANGE VISITOR

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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### DECREED.

Into all lives some rain must fall,  
Into all eyes some tear drops start,  
Whether they fall as a gentle shower,  
Or fall like fire from an aching heart,  
Into all hearts some sorrow must creep,  
Into all souls some doubting come,  
Lashing the waves of life's great deep  
From dimpling waters to settling foam.  
Over all paths some clouds must lower,  
Under all arms some burdens spring,  
Tearing the flesh to bitter wounds,  
Or entering the heart with their bitter sting.  
Upon all brows rough winds must blow,  
Over all shoulders a cross be laid,  
Bowing the form in its lofty height  
Down to the dust in bitter pain.  
Into all hands some duty thrust,  
Unto all arms some burdens given,  
Crushing the heart with its dreary weight,  
Or lifting the soul from earth to heaven.  
Into all hearts and homes and lives  
God's dear sunlight comes streaming down,  
Gilding the ruins of life's great plain—  
Weaving for all a golden crown.  
—The Presbyterian.

### Politics OUT of the Grange—Political Catechism.

QUESTION—What constitutes the primary school fund of Michigan?

ANSWER—The proceeds of sales of land granted by the United States to the people of this State for educational purposes.

Q.—Which land was so granted?

A.—The sixteenth section of every township in the State is reserved.

Q.—How is this land disposed of?

A.—Either for cash in full, or one-quarter cash and the remainder on time at seven per cent interest annually.

Q.—Is there any distinction in the primary school lands?

A.—Yes. The lands which contain valuable pine timber are held at a higher price than the lands valuable only for agricultural purposes.

Q.—How is the quality of land determined?

A.—Applicants who wish to buy primary school lands at the lowest price must make affidavit that they contain no pine timber, and are valuable for agricultural purposes only.

Q.—What is meant by a passage at the top of page seven of the last annual report of the Commissioner of the State Land Office for the year ending Sept. 30, 1879, in which there is said to have been collected \$4,184.92 principal, and \$206.78 expenses, for the conveyance of certain tracts of primary school lands, part paid, stripped; and certain other tracts part paid, stripped, and forfeited, at \$4 per acre?

A.—This means that some person bought the land from the State as primary school land, paying \$1 per acre down, then cut off the valuable pine timber, omitted to pay the remaining \$3 due, or the interest and taxes thereon, and in case of certain tracts, allowed the land to be forfeited to the State?

Q.—How did this effect the primary school funds?

A.—It was robbed on every acre of land, principal, and interest; and the valuable timber was cut off, so that the land could probably never be sold for any price; while if its true value had not been misrepresented by perjury, the school fund would have received a much larger sum.

Q.—To whom was the original certificate of primary school lands issued for these tracts?

A.—To the late Charles Merrill, of Detroit, several years ago.

Q.—Who repurchased the lands, and paid the large sum of \$4,391.70 for the conveyance of them and expenses?

A.—Thomas W. Palmer, of Detroit, son-in-law of Charles Merrill.

Q.—What could have induced Mr. Palmer to make so large an investment in lands stripped and forfeited?

A.—The Commissioner's report does not show, but from its being classed among the collections for trespass, there is good reason to believe that the State Trespass Agent, under the law, seized certain pine logs cut by Mr. Palmer's authority and that the matter was settled by the above large payment, rather than allow it to go into the courts.

Q.—Was there any further transaction of the same kind?

A.—The next annual report of the Land Commissioner will show.

### LAND-LOOKER.

### Letters from the Master.

We clip from the *Iowa Visitor* some correspondence which indicates the good work being done by Bro. Woodman, as Master of the National Grange.

It is a noticeable fact proved by the tone of correspondence found in all our Grange papers that the condition of the Order is improving in all the States.

And we look forward with confidence to the re-establishment of the Order on a firm basis in those States, where, from too much zeal and a disregard of the sound business principles of the Order, it became involved in financial difficulties, and if not wholly wrecked, has been in a feeble and crippled condition.

The Grange in many places has passed through an ordeal that has demonstrated the soundness of its principles; and where it has survived, its adherents are becoming more and more confident of the permanency of the organization.

April 23d, 1880  
Wm. L. Carpenter, Sec. Iowa State Grange.

WORTHY BROTHER:—I have this day received a letter from our Worthy Master of the National Grange, P. of H., J. J. Woodman, Paw Paw, Mich., which explains itself.

D. W. JONES,  
Master Iowa State Grange, P. of H.

WORTHY BROTHER:—Yours of April 5 was duly received, and my proposition to you for the re-instatement of your State Grange with the National Grange, and your acceptance of the same were communicated to each member of the Executive Committee of the National Grange, and their several answers are just received. I am gratified to be able to state that every member of the Committee most heartily and fully endorses my action and the whole arrangement made to re-instate Iowa with the National Grange.

Yours most fraternally,  
J. J. WOODMAN,  
Master National Grange, P. of H.

Glory enough for one month! We can plainly see that our Order is moving in the right way, slow but sure—and why not, as long as we have such a man as our Worthy Master, J. J. Woodman, at the head of it? It will move, it must, go, "can't" about it, his great heart and soul is in the work of the good principles of our Order and all mankind, he is willing to live and let live, and we must support him in his great work, we must re-instate our dormant Granges, pay in our small dues, and help the State Grange to pay its debts and get into shape again. If the State Grange of Iowa has been unwise in the management of its affairs, it is no sign that we should continue to be unwise; their misfortune should be our gain. Now and henceforth let all—every officer and every member of the State, District and Subordinate Granges—take an interest in and do his or her part for the good of the Order, without equivocation or cowardice in any shape, yet keeping within the bounds of our principles; do not ask of others what you would not grant

to them under the same circumstances. There are now some seventy deputies appointed in the State, and we have good news from many of them. Send in the names of those you wish to have appointed, and—my word for it—we shall see more prosperity than we can reasonably look for. \* \* \* Our State Grange is practically re-instated with the National Grange, and thanks to our Worthy Master of the National Grange for his effort and kindness.

Yours fraternally,  
D. W. JONES,  
Master Iowa State Grange.

### The Farmer-for-Governor Boom.

BERRIEN CENTRE, June 23d, '80.  
Bro. Cobb:

I see numerous communications in the VISITOR in regard to the office of Governor. I believe, if we do what we ought to, we will nominate and elect a farmer this fall for that office.

We ought, of right, to secure a majority of all the offices of the State, in order to be fairly represented, but perhaps that is assuming too much at once. But first let us have the Governor, and let us do it by the same warfare as used by the professional fraternity.

Go to your neighbors and say, "We are bound to nominate a farmer for Governor, and we want your help."

Attend the primary meetings, and select staunch intelligent men who are willing to stand up for their rights, and will do so, although there is a multitude of lawyers howling at the top of their voice.

At the County Conventions nominate your Chairman from the farmers, and nominate your delegates to the State Convention. Don't trust the professionals this time; this is our year, and they must stand back, and if they behave genteel, we will deal out a hand to them, as soon as they are deserving and entitled to the positions.

Now, I think the most available man for us at this time is Mr. Rich. I have talked with a large number of the farmers, in different parts of the country, and they invariably say, Rich.

Now you will see that I am a Republican. Our convention will be called first. Should we fail in getting a man of our calling, I have a word of advice to the Democrats—by all means nominate a farmer for Governor. Should the Democrats fail, Greenbackers, do a wise thing, and nominate a farmer. I am of the opinion that Mr. Rich will have a full delegation from this County.

In conclusion, farmers, do your duty, and send delegations to the State Conventions from every County in the State, pledged to work for our interests.  
BERRIEN CENTRE.

This, and May numbers, have been sent recently to those not subscribers, in the hope that they might be interested in the farmers' common cause, and be led to aid in promoting the same, by not only subscribing themselves, but in getting others to take this paper—the GRANGE VISITOR.

If you want the VISITOR from June 15th, 1880 to January 15th, '80 (seven months), for the small sum of twenty-five cents, send at once, or the June numbers will be all gone. A day's delay may be fatal.

OTHER papers can have free use of the contents of the VISITOR by simply giving credit. This is often overlooked.

### Another Step Forward.

Once again we can report an advance of our lines. Farmers are being recognized in their demands. At the late session of the National Grange and the various State Granges, special action was taken to help bring about a better support by Government of the Department of Agriculture, asking that appropriations be made for experimenting in sugar making, &c. As will be seen by the following dispatch from Washington, the Senate had the Agricultural Bill under consideration, and thanks to the friends of the farmers, Senators Windom, of Minnesota, and Wade Hampton (a Patron), of South Carolina, \$28,000 in appropriations was added to the Bill as it came from the House. Thus more and more our Order is having its influence. "Let us hold fast to the profession of our faith without wavering" and more and bettersuccess will surely come.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—The Senate spent the day in the routine consideration of the Agricultural Appropriation Bill, and passed it. The salary of Commissioner LeDuc was increased to \$4,000.

Mr. Windom advocated the amendment proposed by the Senate Appropriation Committee, the principal of which is to add an appropriation of \$15,000 for the purchase of machinery and apparatus and for experiments in manufacturing sugar from sorghum and corn stalk and other sugar-producing plants.

The Committee proposed an amendment appropriating \$7,000 instead of \$5,000 for experiments in connection with the culture and manufacture of tea, and \$8,000 instead of \$5,000 for experiments for the improvement of the varieties and culture of cotton.

Mr. Hampton moved that the first amendment read \$8,000 and the second \$2,000. Experiments in South Carolina and other Southern States had shown that tea could be cultivated in this country. We are importing \$20,000,000 or \$25,000,000 worth of tea annually, and should encourage everything tending to domesticate this plant and make its importation unnecessary. He explained the second part of his amendment by stating it was too late in the season to make such experiments in cotton this year. There was no occasion to import cotton seed, because the finest grades of cotton in the world are American, and \$2,000 was an ample amount for this experiment.

Mr. Hampton's amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Allison moved to amend the Committee amendment so that experiments in manufacturing sugar from sorghum, corn stalks, etc., shall be carried on, and machinery erected, in one of the chief corn-growing States.

In opposition, it was urged that Washington was the place to erect machinery, where experiments could be carried on under the direct supervision of experts.

Mr. Allison's amendment was rejected—yeas, 16; nays, 35; and the Committee amendment was agreed to.

Other Committee amendments and some other unimportant amendments were agreed to, and the bill passed. It adds about \$28,000 to the bill as it came from the House.

We call the attention of all who have read the "Political Catechism," under the head of "Politics out of the Grange," to "Politics in the Grange," found on our fourth page.

THE cut of the interior of W. F. Parson's Business College, on our last page, presents a wide-awake enterprising business institution, that we believe is deserving of patronage.

PERSONS who receive copies of this paper, who do not care to preserve the same for fact, and reference, and use, will sow seeds of usefulness by handing the numbers, as they are through with them, to those who have it not.

TAKE and read the VISITOR as a campaign paper. It advocates our side, defends our interests, and promulgates our principles. It is a paper to farmers, by farmers, for farmers, and in the name and the interests of farmers.

Communications.

The Political Duty of Farmers

The following essay, read before Home Grange, states many truths that, if better understood by the voters of the country, would immensely improve the make-up of its legislative bodies:

There is no other country in the world where political questions assume the importance which they do in the United States. We have more politics to the square mile than any other nation on the globe; perhaps too much for our own good. Our caucuses, primary meetings, and nominating conventions might almost sit in perpetual session. No year, hardly any month, passes without an election in some part of the land. The people are continually called upon to decide between parties and policies, and often upon questions of great public importance. Partizan papers multiply, and political orators flourish. The country hardly emerges from one great presidential campaign, before the politicians begin setting their stakes for another.

The great question is not, How will particular legislation affect the public welfare? but, How will it affect the party? Our legislators have ceased to be statesmen, and have become politicians. Very few of them dare to stand up for what they believe to be the right unless they can first be assured that it is going to be popular. They truckle to popular passions, rather than run the risk of becoming unpopular by attempting to direct them towards the right.

They gain their places by skillful manipulation of caucuses and conventions and keep them by the same unholy means. Too often they are misrepresentatives of the people. They succeed because they can control the party machinery. They are surrounded by flattering parasites, who do their dirty work and are rewarded by fat offices, while the people pay the bills.

As are the leaders, so are the parties. Neither dare take the straight-forward honest course on any question, for fear it may lose a few votes.

The platforms have become mere bundles of sophisms and platitudes using many words to cover up their scarcity of ideas. The aim seems to be to adopt high-sounding resolutions which will appear plausible to every voter, no matter what his sentiment. The platform takes up every question before the country, and says nothing upon any of them. It is a great political sieve, intended to hold nothing but votes.

We stand to-day upon the threshold of another great contest, probably the greatest the country has ever seen. The two great parties are nearly equal in point of numbers, and there is a feeling among the politicians that the struggle of 1880 must be one of life or death—that the party which succeeds this year will hold the reins of government indefinitely, perhaps for years to come. Under these circumstances, the question of our political duties becomes one of vital importance. We cannot afford to make a mistake.

I speak of the political duties of farmers, not claiming that they are essentially different from those of other good citizens, first, because I am speaking to farmers, and second, because the farmers so largely outnumber any other class of citizens that they hold not only the balance of power, but the power itself if they only realize it. In 1870, of the 10,600,000 persons of the male sex over ten years of age, engaged in all occupations, 5,900,000 were engaged in agricultural, and 2,900,000 of these were classed as farmers and planters. Of the remainder, classed as farm laborers, probably the greater portion are farmers and land-owners to-day, for ten years are not needed in this country to transform a laborer into a proprietor. More than one half, then, of all who labor, either with hand or brain, are employed upon the farms of this country. Does not this fact alone prove that the farmers of the country have a vast responsibility resting upon them? But questions of government are not dependent upon numbers alone. We feel the effects of good or bad government sooner in our pockets than in our personal relations. A corrupt or inefficient government may plunder the citizen under the guise of taxation, but it does not interfere with his personal liberty.

Let us see what interest the farmers

have in politics, viewed from this standpoint. Of the \$30,000,000,000 which represented the true value of all real and personal property in 1870, the farmers held \$9,600,000,000. Very nearly one-third of the taxable property in the country, not including \$326,000,000 worth of farming implements, was invested in farms and farm improvements. Farm productions for that year were worth \$2,500,000,000, or \$400,000,000 more than the total capital invested in manufacturing of all kinds.

In 1875 the capitalized value of railroads was only \$4,600,000,000, less than one half the value of farms five years before.

Agricultural products formed 70 per cent of our total exports in 1868, and 82 per cent in 1878.

The prosperous condition of to-day must be ascribed almost entirely to the successful labors of the husbandman, encouraged by the strong foreign demand for all our products. Nothing else could have drawn us out of the slough of debt and despondency in which we were plunged. Nothing else could have turned the balance of trade so magnificently in our favor. It is to pay for our wheat and our corn that Europe has poured out her millions of gold within the past few months. To-day we feed the world, and our resources are yet only half developed. We have been for years, are now more than ever, and must continue to be for generations to come, essentially an agricultural country. The interests of the farmer are the interests of the nation. One-half its population, one third of its wealth, are the figures which represent his importance in the country.

Do these figures represent his share in the government? Nobody needs to be told that they do not. Between forty and fifty thousand lawyers have double the representation in every legislative body that five million farmers have. Why is this? Why is it that we who pay the taxes and furnish the voters have so little share in the business of government? The question is a pertinent one, and the correct answer is this: We have persistently misunderstood and neglected our political duties. We have confined ourselves too closely to the management of our farms and strictly local politics, while the large political interests of the State and Nation, seeming more remote, have been allowed to fall into the hands of professional politicians, who have used them for their own advancement, rather than for the public welfare. The question now is, How shall we regain that influence in politics to which our wealth and numbers entitle us? Our first duty is, I believe, to take an active interest in politics. This is the duty of every citizen of the republic; it is peculiarly the duty of farmers, because they represent so large a share of the wealth and voters of the Nation, and so quickly feel the effects of bad government. I do not mean that we should become office-seekers, nor politicians, in the bad sense of the word. That is not necessary. But we should make it a strong point to attend the primary meetings of our party, to see to it that only good men are nominated for office; that the delegates to our State and County conventions are men whom we are not afraid to trust with our interests; and that the machinery of the party is not used to further the interests of bad men.

This much we owe to ourselves, and are recreant to our duty if we neglect it. Then again we must qualify ourselves to act intelligently upon all questions of national politics. The tariff, taxation, finance, civil service, and the transportation problem are all living issues, and offer us capital fields for study.

Both parties recognize their importance, but both parties refer to them in their platforms in a few meaningless platitudes, or else treat them so ambiguously that they may be read both ways with equal facility. The politicians smile slyly in their sleeves at the spasmodic interest which these questions excite, and make lavish promises of reform—promises which they do not mean to keep and never do. We want to cultivate a steady, wide-spread public sentiment on these questions, which shall force the parties to take some decided stand and then stick to it after election. We are too apt to think that our duty ends when we have cast our votes. We seldom think of holding

our public men to any accountability, unless they commit some flagrant violation of trust, like the "salary grab," for instance, and even then a few years find them back in their old positions, with the offense forgotten. You may think I am stating the matter too strongly when I state that our National campaigns are not conducted as if we were an intelligent people, but consider a moment. Which was most prominent in our last campaign, intelligent discussion of important questions, or vituperation, slander and mud-slinging? Did not the columns of every paper in the land reek with shameful personal abuse, with disgraceful attacks on private characters and with every possible appeal to ignorance and partisanship? Did not every stump orator belch forth at second-hand the same disgraceful diatribes? To an intelligent foreigner, taking an impartial view of the situation, we must have appeared like a nation of lunatics, fit only for the mad-house. Each side was trying its best to elevate to the highest office in the nation a candidate who was described by the other side as being everything that was vile and disreputable, wholly destitute of moral sentiment, and fitter for the penitentiary than for the Presidency. Things have reached such a pass that a man must possess the stoicism of a philosopher or the brazen forehead of a confessed criminal, to consent to run for office. He must expect that every circumstance of his past life, every little peccadello of his ancestors, will be sought out and held up to public view, magnified and distorted with all the fiendish malignity which an unscrupulous partisan press and platform can bring to bear on it. We are rapidly making it impossible to get decent candidates for any public office. The farmers of the country must change this. We must put more intelligence into our politics. We must demand of our political parties to put trickery, chicanery and slander to one side, and meet important questions fairly and squarely, with no evasion nor ambiguity. These savage assaults upon candidates are made only to draw the attention of the people from the main issues. The party leaders know their weakness on these points. With a few trifling alterations, the platform of one party would do equally well for the other. Hence it becomes a question of men, and the party that can kick up the greatest dust and throw the most mud and dirt expects to succeed. Intelligence alone will draw our politicians out of this mire into which ignorance and partisanship have plunged them. This intelligence it is useless to expect in our great cities; it must be found in the rural districts or not at all. Our cities are already presenting to us the gravest political problem of the country, in the shape of masses of ignorant voters, openly and shamelessly for sale to the highest bidder. The next political duty of farmers, fully important as the other, is independence, political independence. I assume that we all seek the same end, viz: an honest, just and economical administration of the Government. To effect this, we have ranged ourselves under the banners of two separate and distinct opposing parties. In our zeal we have both given and received hard blows. There have been many times in the past, doubtless, when we honestly believed that the policy of the opposite party was ruinous, and could bring nothing but disaster, and we have opposed it with all the strength and influence we had. Now, I would not change this if I could. There never has been a better instrument than a party proposed for the carrying on of a government, and there never will be, so long as two men refuse to think exactly alike. But have we not sometimes gone a little too far? Have we not placed party before country, and grasped only the shadow when we aimed at the substance? Party is a good servant, a most necessary one, but it can also be the worst of masters. In the hands of good men it is a valuable aid to good government: in bad men's hands it becomes an intolerable evil. The party whip has lashed many a measure through Congress whose merits would never have gained it a second reading. It has forced many a man into the support of men and measures which his conscience has condemned. In all the calculations of our politicians, party is ever paramount. The party is willing to espouse anything that will bring it

votes, no matter how absurd or unjust. Party leaders, infected by the craze for office, do everything in their power to rivet more firmly the chains of partisanship which they have thrown about their followers. Independent speech or action is treated as a political crime, and to forsake the party, even though the party is in the wrong, is to be denounced as a renegade and turncoat. The whole tendency of this is to exalt party at the expense of country. This is entirely wrong. In political parties the people have the means of good government in their hands, but they must use these tools as they would any others, with intelligence and discrimination, and be prepared to cast them aside when they fail to accomplish the purpose for which they were created.

There is but one way to reach men who manipulate caucuses and conventions, and that is at the ballot-box. They must be taught plainly that the people will not support bad nominations, and they will soon cease to make them. Defeat before the people now and then has a wholesome influence on party leaders. It teaches them that they cannot rely upon the party, right or wrong, but that they must show a decent regard for the wishes of the people.

To make the parties most effective, there must be an active, interested, intelligent and, above all, an independent public sentiment in the country. When this class becomes large enough to hold the balance of power, we may reasonably look for purity, justice and efficiency of government at the hands of a political party, but not before. To maintain and increase this class of voters should be the great political duty of all farmers, and of other good citizens as well.

The Agricultural College.

An objection frequently urged against the Agricultural College is that it is unnecessary. This objection is urged by those who believe that the proper place to learn farming is on the farm. They belong to that class, happily continually growing less, who have no conception of agriculture as a science, and therefore make no distinction between the mere practical details of farming as an art and agriculture as a grand and comprehensive science, and therefore have but a very imperfect idea of the object of the College, which is not to teach her students how to chop and plow, and mow, and hoe, and do the many other things pertaining to practical farming, and which can be learned on the farm at home as well as in any institution of learning,—but to so cultivate and educate their minds and intellects that they can engage in the practical details of farming in an intelligent and systematic manner, instead of the loose and haphazard way that farming is usually carried on.

This same objection could, with equal plausibility, be urged against all professional and technical schools. Medical colleges are not expected to graduate practical doctors, nor law schools practical lawyers, nor the theological schools practical preachers, nor scientific schools practical engineers,—but all they are expected to do, and all they can do, is to teach in a thorough manner the sciences especially pertaining to their several departments, and their students, after this preliminary education, are merely prepared to learn in an intelligent manner the practical details of their several professions, the doctor at the bedside of the sick, the lawyer in the office and court-room, the preacher in his desk and in his parish, and the engineer in the field. But because this is so, no one could argue, with any sort of plausibility, that a thorough knowledge of the science of medicine is not necessary to make a thorough doctor, or a knowledge of the principles of law to make a good lawyer. So with agriculture, it is just as necessary for any one who would be a thoroughly intelligent farmer, to be versed in the sciences connected with his profession, as it is for a doctor, or lawyer, or preacher, or engineer to be educated in those connected with his profession.

The object of the Agricultural Col-

lege, so far as it is an educational institution, is to teach the sciences, especially in their application to agriculture, and at the same time impart the elements of a liberal general education to her students, so that they may be not only intelligent in their own profession, but may be prepared to meet the members of other professions on an equal footing.

But some one says, "All this is well enough, but some of the graduates never amount to anything as farmers." Granted. But is it not a notorious fact that many graduates of medical schools ignominiously fail to make good doctors? And do not the graduates of law and theological schools often fail in their callings? This is not because the schools which graduated them are at fault, but because, from natural defect or from some mental peculiarity, they are not fitted for the business they have been educated for. You cannot make a good farmer, any more than you can make a good doctor, or lawyer, or preacher, out of a "bull-head," even if he have graduated from fifty colleges, because the brain is lacking to make either. Nor can you make a good farmer out of a boy whose mind is not adapted to the business, and who is naturally peculiarly fitted for some other pursuit. But this would not argue that an agricultural education would not be a great advantage to one who is naturally fitted for farming.

It is for the purpose of giving farmers' sons and others an opportunity to obtain a good general education at the same time that they are learning the principles of the science of agriculture, rather than to teach them the art of farming, that the Agricultural College is established. But at the same time the authorities of the institution have wisely provided that each student shall do a certain amount of farm labor—not because it is the primary object of the College to teach them to do farm work, but for the purpose of fostering habits of industry and to invigorate the system, which would be likely to become diseased and weakened by exclusive mental labor, especially as most of her students have been accustomed to labor or to much out-door exercise. Thus is she likely to send out in her graduates, good, strong, self-reliable men, vigorous not only in mind but also in body, and thus eminently prepared to battle bravely with the varied duties of life—whether their lot be cast upon the farm or in some other pursuit. Another not unimportant object gained by this opportunity to labor is that it enables students to pay a part of their expenses in this way—a great boon to many poor but ambitious young men. They are not only applying to actual practice the science they are learning, thus educating themselves in the best sense of the word, but at the same time using the very means which is thus educating them, to pay their expenses.

It may not be inopportune, perhaps, although at the expense of the unity of this article, to ask if it is not because there is diffused among farmers less than there should be of such education as the Agricultural College is intended to impart, that they, as a class, have been so apathetic to their own interests that they have been satisfied these many years to have their Governors, and Senators, and Representatives chosen from any other class but their own, although they are in every way the most important factor in the body politic, and thus practically to be politically ignored, except to go to the polls and vote submissively for such men, selected from other professions, as political tricksters may have nominated for them. The same kind of apathy has led them to pay annually thousands of dollars without murmuring to build up and support great institutions to educate doctors and lawyers, while they have suffered their own to languish with comparatively meager support and with but little sympathy from the very class it was intended to benefit. GEORGE PRAY.

Woodard Lake, 190.

Communications.

Farm Life.

Agriculture is the greatest among the arts, for it is first in supplying our necessities; it favors and strengthens population; it creates and also maintains manufactures; gives employment to navigation, and material to commerce. It opens to nations the surest channels of opulence. Of all occupations, that of agriculture is best calculated to induce love of country, and rivet it firmly on the heart. No profession is more honorable, none more conducive to health, peace, tranquility, and happiness; no calling more independent. When we walk abroad in nature, we go not as artists to study her sciences, but as children to rejoice in her beauty. The breath of the pure air, the blue of the unclouded sky, the shining sun, and the green softness of the turf beneath our feet, are all that we require to make us feel that the farm presents more attractions than city life, with its crowded, bustling streets, its mockery of comfort, its crimes and follies. We deplore the disposition of young men to get away from farm homes to our large cities, where they are subject to so many temptations, which they too often fail to resist. Depend upon it if you would hold your sons and brothers from roaming away into the perilous centers, you must steadfastly labor to abate the task-work of farming, to surround your work with the proofs of intellectual progress. We have long observed with regret the growing tendency of young men and lads to abandon the farm for the dangerous excitements of city life and trades. And very often, young men favored with every comfort of life fancy that they can do far better than to guide the ox to turn the stubborn soil, and with the merest trifle of consideration, they turn to the office or work shops of the city, which proves vastly less agreeable and profitable than they had anticipated. Where one is enabled to withstand the sweeping tide of temptation, five are submerged in its angry waves, and hurried on to ruin. Every year finds hundreds, yes thousands, of such victims. It has been well said that for a young man of unstable habits and without religious principles, there is no place where he will be so soon ruined as in a large city. Parents throughout the country have not failed to realize the startling truth, and to sorely mourn the strange inclination of their sons.

Parents, remember this, if you would not have your sons lost to you in after-life; if you would have them lend a hand to keep you in you in the rose-covered cottage, instead of letting you go to the naked walls of workhouse, make home pleasant and happy to them while they are young. Send them into the world in the full belief that "there is no place like home, be it ever so humble." And even should the old home, in the course of time, be pulled down or lost to your children, it will still live in their memories; the kind looks, and kind words, and thoughtful love of those who once inhabited it will not pass away. Farmers' homes are capable of being made the most beautiful and attractive homes in the world. But they are not so made in a great many, and perhaps a majority of cases, and this is why the boy will leave. Now education, and the refinement which naturally accompanies it, will go very far towards a reform in this particular. But a great many farmers, and others, think it does not pay to educate a young man who intends to give his life to the pursuits of agriculture. If it does not pay in dollars and cents, it will pay in true manhood and womanhood. Every person should acquire an education of some kind. Let the country lad be as well educated for the farm as his city cousin is for the bar or counting room. And by all proper means let the farmer appreciate

his high and honorable position in the community. "Ever remember," writes Goldthwait, "that for health, substantial wealth, for rare opportunities for self-improvement, for long life, and real independence, farming is the best business in the world."

Another good reason why farmers should be educated is this: With a delegation of nine in the National House of Representatives, backed by a constituency more than fifty per cent of which are farmers, Michigan has not one representative who is a farmer, and has the interest of this class at heart. And our State Legislatures are but little better. Now why is this? Simply because our lawyers, and professors, and others, think that farmers pay so little attention to State and National affairs, and are so poorly educated that they are not fit to occupy these places. So the farmer will stand back and trust their welfare in the hands of those who make it their business to hunt and gain these places, those who have but little interest in the farmers' welfare.

Of course, no one should vote for a man simply because he is a farmer, when they would be glad to do so could they feel assured that he had thought of something else than his farm, to that extent that he was qualified to cope with those whom he might meet, and not let their interests suffer.

Farmers complain because they are not heard in the Legislature. Now if you would remedy this, educate your sons to occupy these places. Send men there who have the interest of the farmer at heart. This is the best and only way in which you can ever occupy your rightful places.

History tells of one who was called from the plow to the palace, and when he had silenced the angry tumult of the State resumed again the duties of a husbandman. It was Burns, the plowboy, afterwards the National bard of Scotland. And Burns himself has left evidence that he composed some of the rarest gems of his poetry while engaged in rural pursuits. It would require volumes to enumerate the noble men who have recorded their exalted appreciation of rural life and enterprise. Washington was ever more enamored for the sickle than the sword, and unhesitatingly pronounced agriculture the most healthy, the most useful, the most noble employment of man. A. D. O.

**The Grange as a School.**

Webster defines school as, "A place for learned intercourse and instruction, an institution for learning, an educational establishment, a place for acquiring knowledge and mental training." Then the Grange must be considered a school, for it assists us to become better men and women by practicing charity to others and earnestly striving to make ourselves purer and wiser, to become better farmers, by receiving information from other members and giving to them information in return, by experiments by different members with different crops, keeping a careful record of everything connected with the experiment and reporting the results to the Grange, that we may in the end make what are now chances, certainties; to make our farms and homes more attractive and pleasant. This is very important if farming is to be the business of our lives and if we expect to own our farms for years to come, we should try to secure the best results, and all should be willing to communicate their knowledge to the Grange through discussions, essays, or in some other manner. Co-operation—this needs careful study and information, which we can hardly receive except through the Grange; the prosperity of the Grange and a great part of our success as farmers depends upon co-operation. To become good, law abiding citizens we must study and understand our laws. Patrons should study and understand them, for as 52 per cent. of the population of this State are farm-

ers they must possess the power to control legislation if they choose to exercise it, and they should exercise this right for the repeal of bad laws, and that good laws may be made so plain that all may understand them. If such changes are ever brought about it must be through the demands of farmers, properly enforced by sending men to the Legislature and Congress who will enforce and respect our wishes.

The farmer needs to learn to do without certain things rather than to run in debt for them.

The Grange is the school in which we should carefully study the Preamble and Constitution of the Order, the By-Laws of our Grange, the Declaration of Purposes, the Obligation, the Digest and Parliamentary Guide. These all need careful and thorough study; the Constitution and By-Laws that we may understand what we have solemnly obligated ourselves to obey; the Declaration of Purposes, that we may realize their justice and necessity, and give them our hearty support; the Parliamentary Guide, that we may understand the rules which govern legislative bodies, that we may know what motions are in order, how to make the motion and how to dispose of it, so that we may be able to assist in the transaction of business in the Grange or in any other body in which we may be called to act. If we understand parliamentary rules so that we have no trouble with them in the Grange we shall not disgrace ourselves and those we may represent by our ignorance in any place where they are practiced.

In conclusion, let me say our Grange school will be a success if we choose to do our part by writing for the VISITOR essays, discussions, select reading, declamations, songs, something to instruct or amuse, no matter if it does take a little time and trouble. There is scarcely any time of the year but there is some stormy weather in two or three weeks. Use that time to write your piece or learn your song, and you will feel all the better for it, and when you go to the Grange you will feel as though you had done your part and had a right to enjoy yourselves. L. D. B.

**A Farmer's Party.**

Agriculture is the basis of life. Why not, then, take a hand in the structure of its conditions first among which are society and government?

How else do we practically recognize and confirm the dignity of labor? Is there no harvest field of results, for this class, to reward the labor of a life time? Where are life's elastic joys to him who knows no freedom from partisan servitude and the grievous burden laid upon productive labor by the task-masters? Where to him is the innocent satisfaction that is to be derived only from the relations of equality that ought to be spontaneous. Must farmers have no opinions, aims, interests or sympathies peculiar to themselves, that they may proclaim no principles; but renunciation and sacrifice of personal to partisan zeal? Such thralldom and the weariness it brings is the curse that brutifies humanity.

It is a principle of the Patrons of Husbandry to build a higher manhood and womanhood among farmers, and one of the earnest demands of the National Grange is, "That governments be administered in a cheaper and simpler manner, consonant with the conditions of the people." These are matters upon which there can be no division and consequently no issue among farmers, as with religious or political questions that have two sides. Whenever the Patrons of Husbandry decide to present a candidate for any public position outside of politics on a farmers' platform, they will be acting in accordance with the declared purposes of the Order. The producing classes hold the remedy for the ills of which they complain, in their own hand, and when farmers start, all other laboring classes will gladly join them, and a reform will be effected that will result in pecuniary benefits that are a condition of enlightenment, enlightenment a condition of progress, and progress a condition of the highest manhood we seek. Let the farmers banner be hung to the breeze and every son of soil and toil take his stand.—Dirigo Rural.

Boys, because your father has been a Democrat or a Republican do you think you must be one like him? It is easy to inherit theology and politics from your father, but is it any evidence that you have used your brains?

THE STRANGER ON THE SILL.

Between the broad fields of wheat and corn  
Is the lovely home where I was born;  
The peach tree leans against the wall,  
And the woodbine wanders over all.  
There is the shaded doorway still,  
But a stranger's foot has crossed the sill.

There is the barn—and, as of yore,  
I can smell the hay from the open door,  
And see the busy swallows throng,  
And hear the pewee's mournful song,  
But the stranger comes, Oh! painful proof—  
His sheaves are piled to the heated roof.

There is the orchard—the very trees  
That knew my childhood so well to please,  
Where I watched the shadowy moments run,  
Till my life ebbed more of shade than sun;  
The swing from the bough still sweeps the air,  
But the stranger's children are swinging there.

It bubbles, the shady brook below,  
With the bulrush brook where the hazel grow,  
'Twas here I found the calamus root,  
And watched the minnows poised and shoot,  
And heard the robin lave his wing—  
But the stranger's bucket is at the spring.

Oh, ye who daily cross the sill,  
Step lightly, for I love it still;  
And when you crown the old barn eaves,  
Then think that countless harvest sheaves  
Have passed within that scented door,  
To gladden eyes that are no more.

The Humble Peanut.

An interesting item recently went the rounds of the papers giving a statement of the enormous trade in peanuts—those cheap little things so toothsome to the grinding. A great many people in the North fancy that peanuts grow on vines, and that they are all alike, although they cannot understand why it is that street vendors can sell what they consider the same article for less money than they can be bought for in stores. Peanuts do grow on vines, but like the Irishman's vineyard, the fruit is under the ground. They are not all alike, and the nuts that are peddled around variety shows and third-class theaters at a low price, are not the proper article to be ground to powder by the ivories of the truly good. The peanut section of Virginia, where the best and most delicious nuts are raised, is comprised in the following counties: Southampton, Surrey, Prince George, Nansemond, Sussex, and Isle of Wight, with the crop extending of late years along the historic peninsula. The farmers of Princess Anne and Norfolk Counties are at present paying particular attention to that crop, while over the border in North Carolina, the County of Currituck, celebrated for its canvas-back ducks, wild geese, snipe, and swans, with its fish and fishing, is also celebrated for its peanuts. But Nansemond and Isle of Wight, in old Virginia, bear off the palm for raising the finest peanuts in the Union, their flavor, size, and quality being far superior to all others.

The crop year begins about October 1, and ends in the following September. It is estimated by competent judges that the crop of last year reached 900,000 bushels, of which amount Norfolk handled 600,000 bushels. The prices averaged \$1 per bushel, which makes a big item for such an insignificant thing as a peanut. The State of Virginia alone will raise over 1,000,000 bushels this year, and Currituck, N. C., will send her usual quota, thus filling up the storehouses and factories of this city to their utmost capacity. It is stated on good authority that one acre of ground will yield from sixty to one hundred bushels of peanuts, which pays the farmer as much if not more than he can realize from any other crop.

"cocks." Having gone over them twice, we now come to a third grade, which are called and branded as "eagles." These are picked out of the cullings of the "cocks" and "ships," but now and then you will find a respectable looking nut among them, though the eyes of the colored damsels are as keen as a hawk, and a bad nut is rarely allowed to pass their hands. The cullings that are left from "eagles" are bagged, sent through the elevator to the top story, and what little meat is in them is shaken out by a patent sheller, which is not only novel, but as perfect a piece of machinery as was ever invented. The nuts being shelled by this process, the meat drops in bags below, free from dust or dirt of any kind, and are then shipped in two hundred pound sacks to the North, where they are bought up by the confectioners for the purpose of making taffy or peanut candy. It may be here stated that a peculiar kind of oil is extracted from the meat of the nut, and in this specialty a large trade is done among the wholesale druggists. There is nothing wasted, for even the shells are made useful. They are packed in sacks and sold to stable keepers for horse bedding, and a very healthy bed they make. A day's work is about 3,000 bushels, which includes the labor of cleaning, picking, and packing for shipment. From all this it can be readily seen why the prices of peanuts vary so much, and why it is that the huckster, going round with his wagon, can sell cheaper than the stores; for he sells the "eagles," while the shop-keepers sell those of a higher grade.—Norfolk (Va.) Cor. Philadelphia Times.

The Patent Laws.

The legislation asked for in so many petitions from agriculturists and others, exempting from prosecution for infringement innocent purchasers and users of patented articles, and directing suit to be brought in all cases, of infringement, against the maker or vendor of the article, has been incorporated by the House Committee on Patents in a bill now pending in their Committee, amending the Patent Laws in various particulars. Besides the above provision, it contains others restricting applications for re-issues to within eight years from the original grant, fixing an equitable measure of damages in case of suit for infringement, and reducing somewhat various Patent Office fees. It is thought that the bill will be passed, although the patent lawyers are greatly opposed to it.—Exchange.

**PAYING IN CHICKENS.**—There is an article going the rounds of the papers relating how a man went to Moore, editor of the *Rural New Yorker*, and said that he was too poor to take a paper. The following is the gist of the story:

Mr. Moore said, "You raise chickens, I believe?"

"Yes, a few; but they don't bring anything hardly."

"Don't they?" Neither does my paper cost anything hardly. Now I have a proposition to make to you. I will continue your paper, and when you go home you may select one chicken and call her mine. Take good care of her, and bring me the proceeds, whether in eggs or chickens, and we will call it square."

"All right, Brother Moore," and the fellow chuckled at what he thought a capital bargain. He kept the contract strictly and at the end of the year found that he had paid about four prices for his paper.

**AMBASSADORS' SALARIES.**—An ambassador at St. Petersburg, Lord Dufferin, has £3,000 a year besides a residence, free furniture, table allowance, etc. The French Ambassador, £7,000; the Chinese and Austrian Ambassadors, each £5,000; the American Minister, £4,000; the Italian Ambassadors, £3,500; and the Ministers of Turkey, Persia, Brazil, Holland, Spain and Italy, from £2,500 to £3,000 a year. The finest official residence is that of the English Ambassador, and next to it comes the German, located in a place belonging to the late Prince Lvoff, and recently purchased by the German government for £25,000.

**LAWYER (to witness):** "Did you say that an incompetent man could keep a hotel just as well as anybody?" Witness: "No. I said an inn-experienced could."

**At the cattle show.**—Gentleman (with solemnity): "Miss Florence, do you love beasts?" Lady (with vivacity): "Am I to consider that as a proposal?"

**NEVER deceive a lawyer:** never lie to him about your case when he takes it in hand. He can attend to that branch of the business himself.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

**CHRISTIANS** should remember the poor, and never allow ritualism to wholly supplant actualism.

The bean for the girls—be the bow of promise. Culture that we dislike—haughty-culture. A relic of barbarism—the cash on your chin.

WHAT is the difference between a Jew and a lawyer? Why, the one gets his law from the prophets; the other gets his profits from the law.

## THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, JULY 1, 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.

POSTAGE STAMPS of higher value than three cents will be returned to the sender.

## POLITICS IN THE GRANGE

"Politics in the Grange" affirms, teaches and means to enforce in a practical way the sentiments embodied in the "Declaration of Purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry," which recites that "the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and, if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country, for we seek the greatest good to the greatest number. It is the right of every member to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption and trickery, to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust."

With this sensible and honest statement of our rights and duties as Patrons, this seems an opportune time to look over the field and make a note of some facts that should serve to direct us, as farmers, in the exercise of the political rights we hold.

Briefly, then, it is a fact that the most important, the paramount industry of this country is agriculture—the business of providing food not only for all the people of this country, but for millions of people in other lands. It is a fact that more than one-half of the people of the United States are engaged in agriculture; it is a fact that the total of our agricultural exports far exceeds in value the gross amount of all the exported products of all other crafts combined; it is a fact that the return of prosperity to this country is due largely to the successful prosecution of the labors of the farmer; it is a fact that 76 per cent.—more than three-fourths—of the members of the Congress of the United States are lawyers; it is a fact that less than three per cent. are farmers; it is a fact that there is no interest which concerns any considerable number of people but receives more legislative attention and larger appropriations for maintenance and support than agriculture, from this body of legislating lawyers known as the Congress of the United States. It is a conceded fact that, of the nations of the earth, ours takes rank among the first in territorial extent, population, wealth and importance; and it is just as true that no other first-class nation treats its agricultural interests with such continued neglect and, in all appropriations for its support, in such a niggardly manner as does the United States.

It is a fact that the Agricultural Department at Washington has in the past been held and treated as

of no consequence, except in so far as it could be used for political purposes. It is a fact that the present Commissioner of Agriculture is the first occupant of the place for many years who has made an honest, earnest effort to make the Department of any sort of value to the agriculture of the country. It is also a fact that he has not only *not had* the co-operation of Congress, but he has not received respectful treatment from that body. It is a fact that millions are annually expended for all sorts of political purposes, and means to conduct experiments that promise to enrich the country by saving millions, are denied the Department of Agriculture.

It is a fact that the farmers are becoming more enlightened, better educated and posted by Farmers' Clubs, by Grange meetings and discussions, and to some extent by agricultural papers, though in this direction there is a lamentable want of outspoken independence in the papers that claim to be devoted wholly to the farmers' interests. It is a fact that each year there is less subserviency to party leadership, more independent voting, more scratching—all healthy indications of real progress. It is a fact that legal practice and the usage of courts tend to disqualify a man for a good legislator, for the essence of legal practice is *delay and procrastination*, and economy of time and expense seldom enter into the calculations of an attorney, whether in the court room or in the legislative hall.

To expect more or better work from a body of lawyers than from a body composed of men from any other class is absurd. The hard facts of experience sustain no such claim. Look at the work of lawyers at the last session of the Legislature of this State. Some of our readers will remember the Senate Judiciary Committee, composed of five representative lawyers of the State, who made for themselves a little temporary notoriety by reporting Senate Bill No. 168.

A brief history of this and some other facts, we think will sustain our assertion.

On the reasonable assumption that the tax laws of the State were not just what they should be, a bill had been prepared, submitted, and referred in the ordinary way to the Judiciary Committee.

Not being acceptable to those gentlemen, as it probably had some fair and equitable provisions, and afforded no special opportunities for the legal fraternity, this Senate Bill, No. 168, "A Bill to provide for a commission to revise the statutes for levying and collecting taxes," was reported as a substitute. This little substitute Bill of four sections provided that the Governor should appoint a commission consisting of "three competent lawyers and two experienced non-professional men," who should, before the meeting of the next Legislature, prepare a Bill covering this subject, and report the same to that body.

The beauty of this Bill lies in the fourth, and last section, which we quote:

SEC. 4. The professional members of said commission shall each receive \$5,-

000 and all expenses actually paid or incurred in performing the duties herein required, and the non-professional members of said commission shall receive \$1,000 and all expenses actually paid or incurred, to be paid out of the State Treasury to each commissioner, on the certificate of the Governor, that said commissioner has performed the duties required of him by this act, with an affidavit of actual expenses paid or incurred annexed thereto, containing an itemized statement of the expenses paid or incurred and made by said commissioner.

There was not an intimation in the Bill that the "three competent lawyers" should do any more work individually than the "two experienced non-professional men," and yet Messrs. Huston, of Tuscola; Patterson, of Calhoun; Bell, of Cheboygan; Ambler, of Oceana, and Weir, of Wayne County, had the cheek to assume that a lawyer should receive five times as much for the same labor as an "experienced non-professional man."

And this same Committee of lawyers smothered a Bill prepared by Senator Childs restricting to a reasonable sum the fee named in mortgages for their foreclosure, and reported instead a Bill graduating attorney fees for the foreclosure of mortgages from \$25 (the lowest sum) to \$100, and "Provided, no attorney or solicitor's fee shall be collected, received or taxed, unless an attorney or solicitor in chancery forecloses the mortgage."

These distinguished legislators were all the time making progress. They were willing at one time to allow "experienced non-professional men" one-fifth as much as a lawyer for the same service, but later in the session they propose to fix by law an exorbitant price for specified work, and then monopolize the work by making it illegal for an "experienced non-professional man" to make any charge whatever for doing this kind of work.

These samples of Michigan lawyer legislation are perhaps sufficient, but we cannot forbear referring to the composition of the Committee on Agriculture of the National House of Representatives.

The make-up of that Committee is an insult to the farmers of the United States, who own a very respectable portion of the property of the country, pay far more than an equitable proportion of its taxes, and represent and direct the most important industry of the world. This Agricultural Committee of fifteen, to whom, so far as government aid or encouragement is concerned, is entrusted the vast agricultural interests of this country, has a New York lawyer for Chairman, who, with his seven legal associates, comprise a majority of the Committee, and seem only anxious "how not to do it."

The statements made by Commissioner LeDuc, before the Elmira Farmers' Club, in a lecture upon the subject of "Sugar-Making," proves that the most parsimonious and niggardly treatment of the agricultural interests of the country has been the uniform rule, and that one Congress has not been materially better or worse than another. This party, or that, having control of the Government, the result is substantially the same.

The Department, and every interest connected with it, in the general distribution of the funds

gathered into the National Treasury, has heretofore received but a bear recognition.

And yet some good work has been done within the last few months that gives encouragement.

We can see that the dozen farmers now in Congress have not been idle. On our first page is seen a little evidence, good as far as it goes, that the farmer has been heard from.

The facts that we have stated show most conclusively that farmers should be heard from again and again, at the primary meeting of the parties to which they severally belong, and at the County and State Conventions.

The shameless disregard, not to say invasion of their rights by legislating lawyers, demands that a concerted and persistent effort be made to secure our proportion of representation in law-making bodies, State and National, of the country.

It cannot reasonably be expected that the 275 lawyers now in Congress will give these 14 farmer colleagues a fair show in the consideration of all practical questions that foster and encourage agriculture, and develop the material resources of the country. To say that it can, is to ignore all history, and human nature itself.

We are free to admit that it looks a little presumptuous to arraign as we do from time to time this professional class that has managed to fasten itself upon the country, absorbing the most lucrative offices, shaping its policy and controlling its legislation with the least possible regard to the reasonable demands of the great agricultural class.

But the last few years has witnessed a vigorous effort through the organization of Farmers' Clubs, of County and State Agricultural Societies, of Institutes and Agricultural Colleges, of Farmers' Alliances, and last, but not least, of the Grange, which has more than a million names on its roll books, to educate and elevate to a higher plane the farmers of the country, and though the Grange is not a political organization, yet "we should bear in mind that no one, by becoming a Patron of Husbandry gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take an interest in the politics of his country," and the facts to which we have referred clearly indicate the duty of the farmer, be he Granger or not, to insist on more and better representation.

We would not be understood as condemning all lawyers as unfit for legislators. By no means. Occasionally we find a lawyer whose good common sense, large observation, and contact with men and things has qualified to look over the whole field, recognize the relative importance of the farmer's occupation, speak a good word for, and vote intelligently and honestly to promote and encourage agriculture.

But where one such comes to the surface in political life, there are scores of the other sort, who, if ever so honest, have never given the subject a serious thought, and

are really no better qualified to legislate for the farmers of the country than they are to preach.

This great agricultural State of Michigan is represented year after year by lawyers, and the question is pertinent, shall this state of things continue? Shall agricultural districts in agricultural States be always represented by lawyers or bankers? Shall a few thousand lawyers have twenty-five times as many representatives in the Congress of the United States as five million American farmers have. For this condition of things the farmers themselves are to blame, and the remedy is in their own hands. The time is coming when they will not so blindly disregard their own interests. It cannot come too soon.

## MICHIGAN'S NEXT GOVERNOR.

In another article, we have expressed our opinion quite fully on the unsuitableness of the average lawyer to represent an agricultural people in a legislative body. And we have said many times within the last year, and again repeat, that the farmers of Michigan are now entitled to the office of Governor for one of their class. The subject has been so fully canvassed among farmers that we believe that the party that unwisely nominates other than a farmer will stupidly weaken its ticket several thousand votes.

This is not all talk, as we believe the counting of votes will prove, if this reasonable demand of the farmers of Michigan is not heeded.

We have heard it intimated that the record of one of the Republican candidates for Governor of Michigan, when examined, would exhibit a degree of crookedness that few men would care to hazard the inspection of, by becoming candidates for an important office.

Our correspondent, "Land-looker's" "Political Catechism," casts shadows across the path of our Detroit lawyer's political aspirations, which we hope he may be able to remove before the meeting of the Republican State Convention. We suspect it will be a big job to undertake, this hot weather. But it is his matter, and if it proves his political funeral, we can't help it.

These aspiring fellows of the legal profession want all the turkey, and are so used to getting it, that they take great chances, and our Detroit friend seems to be no exception. We want him, and all like him, beaten in the State Conventions of every political party in this State, and if the farmers of the State attend to their own political business as they ought to, they will be.

We know that the cities are practically given over to the ruff of society, and the only hope of good government lies in the country.

Farmers of Michigan, will you be good to yourselves, to your fellow farmers, and the whole country, by such honest, independent action as will secure a competent farmer to administer the executive department of the State government for two years from

the first of January next; and will you also take good care that the agricultural interests of this great State are not wholly abandoned to the tender mercies of those who, having no interest in common with ours, have in the past given so little evidence of capacity or willingness to recognize the importance of agriculture in this country.

**BAD FINANCIERING.**

We frequently receive by mail a silver half dollar for subscription, or supplies of some sort, requiring double letter postage, or six cents in stamps; and by the same mail perhaps get a money order for fifty cents, that has cost a fee of ten cents.

Another cautious brother will register a letter containing a few shillings; while still another will send \$10, or more, under a three-cent stamp.

Now somebody is wrong in this matter, and we are of the opinion that in this class of cases, all are. No one can afford to pay at the rate of twenty per cent for the transmission of money a hundred miles more or less. After fractional currency became so scarce, we took postage stamps without objection of any denomination, until we had an over supply of large denominations that we could not use. For a few months we have kept a notice standing in the VISITOR that we should return stamps to the sender of a larger denomination than three cents. Three cent stamps we are willing to take in sums of less than one dollar on any account of this office; and the safety of mails is such that we do not hesitate advising remitters to send under a three-cent stamp any sum under \$1.50 without either registration or money order.

**ANNUAL STATE PIC-NIC.**

By resolution, the Executive Committee of the State Grange have fixed upon August 12th, as the time, and Lansing as the place for holding a State pic-nic.

The Granges of Ingham County and vicinity will make all necessary preparations for the pic-nic. The Ingham County Fair Grounds have been secured for the occasion; and with the attractions of the new State Capitol and the Agricultural College and farm, we expect 10,000 Patrons and farmers will join in this second State Picnic of the Grangers of Michigan. We shall have eminent speakers, and a general good time may be expected. We shall try and give notice of railroad arrangements in our next issue.

**THE "VISITOR."**

It will gratify the friends of the VISITOR to know that several hundred names have been added to our list by our offer of June 1st, to send the paper for the remaining seven months of the year for twenty-five cents. We have not been able to send the number for June 1st to all new subscribers; those who did not get it will, however, get in its stead the number for Jan. 1, 1881. We can still supply the one for June 15 to subscribers, and the offer of seven months for twenty-five cents holds good while that edition lasts.

On our next issue we shall use a mailing machine. In the change from the old to new way, some mistakes may occur. We hope any subscriber failing to receive his paper on time will give us notice at once, and we will do our best to set the matter right.

This number has so many good things in it that we have had an extra thousand printed for distribution. We hope that our readers will not overlook the "Political Catechism" on the first page. It is suggestive reading.

**Lecturer's Department.**

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKOGON.

**Everything in its Place.**

"A place for everything, and everything in its place," is essential to the success of the organization, as well as of the individual, and even more so, because of the great necessity. Nowhere does a man feel the need of a place for everything, than in reference to his books and papers and correspondence, that he may know where each particular article or item is, and that he may direct its getting without delay. The more a man's business increases, and the more directions into which it extends, the greater the need of a place for each and everything.

An organization like the Grange aggregates interests and diversifies items of business, especially as refers to the Secretary's office in which is to be kept, in readiness for use, each item of record, of correspondence, as well as of law and usage. The Secretary is the Librarian of the official record library—a library of reference only by him to be read on call for the information of officers, members of the body.

The Grange has been in existence nearly eight years in this State, and must, by this time, have much of records, decisions, laws, precedents, pertaining to the Order, and essential to the organization. Where are these kept? Many Granges are wanting in records as a school district we once visited officially as County Superintendent, and asked the Director to see the records of the district. He fumbled over his hat and pockets for a time, and finally found them in his left vest pocket, in a sad state of mutilation,—not a word could be read. It is by far too prevalent a practice to carry the pertains of a Secretary's office in the hands or pockets of that officer, and often liable to be at home when that officer is there, however much they may be needed by the assembled Grange in his absence.

What should be in the office of the Secretary, and present for reference and use at each meeting of a Grange: 1st, The official records of the Grange meetings, from and including its organization, and every meeting since; 2d, the official record of members, and their financial standing with the Grange; 3d, a file of all reports of committees, and correspondence since organization; 4th, a full set of the proceedings each year of the National Grange, and of the State Grange, from the time of the organization of the Subordinate Grange; 5th, a number of copies of past and present State Grange By-Laws, and at least one copy of the Digest; 6th, copies of the Ritual and song book, that the Grange may be sure to have enough present to work with; 7th, abundance of stationery for the use of members and officers at each meeting.

"But," says some one, "Can all this be carried about with the officers, or to and from his home, or to and from the meetings." By no means. Each Grange should have a Secretary's desk at its place of meeting. Such desk or Secretary should be large and convenient, with drawers, pigeon holes, etc., to allow a place for everything, and then the Grange should insist that everything be kept in its place, and that keys be kept so near that the desk can be used if the Secretary is absent.

One object, "We have no hall." All the more need of such a desk. Its cost will be small, and can be used when you get a hall as well as now. "It costs something!" So

does everything worth having, either of effort, time, or money; and it you wish to preserve for the future the work of to-day, then make a little effort, and get a desk suitable for the needs of such an office.

**Pickings by the Way, No. 11.**

We had been picking our way for some days among the growing shrubs and shrubbery at home, when on the 8th of June we were called to take an afternoon train to Berlin, there to meet Bro. H. A. Greenley, Worthy Overseer of Alpine Grange, at whose home we spent the night, and were ready to enjoy a field day on the 9th with No. 348.

A rainy morning and forenoon were good for writing and reading at home, but they do not invite people, little interested, to Grange meeting. At 10 A. M., in company with Bro. Haines, we visited the hall to see that all was ready, and soon noticed the comfortable school room of this Grange hall converted into a spacious dining room, with tables sufficient to accommodate a large number of Patrons and friends. Although the meeting was not to be until afternoon, yet several Brothers and Sisters from Ravenna and Lisbon Granges reached there before noon. At 2 P. M. the hall was well filled with Patrons and friends, notwithstanding the rain and the busy sheep shearing time. The exercises were introduced by singing, led by Bro. Manly. Then Bro. Mickley was introduced and in his usual convincing manner spoke for nearly two hours, when, after another piece of music, we were introduced and spoke briefly. The hour for supper having arrived, recess was taken to the dining room, where the tables were relieved of their abundance. A private evening session was held, which was given to instruction in the direct work of the Grange and the manner of doing it. At a late hour we rode home with Bro. John Preston and wife for rest and refreshment.

**JUNE 10.**

At an early hour Bro. Brown, the Worthy Master of Alpine Grange, took Bros. Mickley, Preston and ourself to the train, which was to take us to Grand Rapids. On the train we found Bros. Nathan Whitney, Stauffer and Miles, of Western Pomona Grange, No. 19, on their way to the meeting at Georgetown, our destination. At the Rapids, we had time to do a little business, say "Good day" to Bro. Carroll, of the Agricultural World, and reach the train to Jennisonville.

Stepping from the cars at our destination, the genial smile of Bro. H. D. Weatherwax, Master of Georgetown Grange, No. 458, bade us welcome long before he spoke it in words. At the postoffice we met Bro. Day, of the firm of Day & Taylor, and Sisters Harris and Pelton, from Talmadge Grange, No. 639. Teams to take us all to the place of meeting were in readiness, waiting our pleasure. We were soon on our way, and a short ride brought us to Bro. Weatherwax's residence, the place of meeting. We found a large number already convened from Ottawa Grange, No. 30, Alandale and Hudsonville Granges, and some from Ravenna and Lisbon Granges, quite distant. Everybody seemed happy, glad to see us, and a royal welcome we had. Georgetown Grange has as yet no hall, but meets in the school house in its jurisdiction. For this meeting of the Pomona Grange, the Worthy Master of the Georgetown Grange had tendered his home and its belongings. In a newly finished chamber, over the range of sheds, was the hall—a very neat, spacious and convenient one, too, it was. It had been trimmed and decorated by artistic hands, and made very pleasant and attractive with furniture, greens, flowers, etc. The main floor of the barn had been provided with long tables and set to feed a crowd of hungry people, while stables and sheds everywhere had been made inviting to weary teams that brought the distant Patrons. Supervising all was Bro. Weatherwax, assisted by Bros. Harrington, Loring, Sponable and others. The interior arrangements were ably managed by Sister Weatherwax and her niece, assisted by a goodly number of the Sisters of the Grange. All was happy and merry as a marriage bell—the hungry were fed and the weary rested, and all felt that it was good to be there. Flowers were used in abundance, and one almost

felt that he had come to the festival of Flora.

Dinner was duly served, and the people gathered into the hall, and the public meeting was duly called to order. Singing introduced the exercises, when the Lecturer of the Pomona Grange briefly spoke upon the progress of the Order—a preface to the well timed address of Bro. C. E. Mickley, who spoke with good effect for two hours. Then came supper, and all were ready for the 5th degree meeting of the evening, at which the beautiful and impressive lessons of Pomona's Court was conferred upon thirteen candidates, at the close of which Worthy Pomona Sister Weatherwax lead her entire court to the beautifully spread banquet of fruit in the dining hall. A most enjoyable occasion it was, and long will it be remembered by all present.

The night was spent by us at the home where the Grange met, and the morning found us quite refreshed, and ready for another day's duty. One fact we note by the way, that Sisters Harris and Weatherwax are both superintendents of school for their respective towns, Talmadge and Georgetown, and efficient officers they make.

The forenoon of the 11th was devoted to the work of the Order. The Worthy Lecturer reported a plan for a series of public meetings in towns where there were no Granges, that the farmers of the entire County might all be awakened to their interest, and co-operate through the Order in advancing and protecting their interests. The plan was approved, and instructions given for carrying it out. This Pomona Grange believes in disseminating intelligence among all the farmers, and of strengthening the Order in all her borders, and to further this, will use all means at her command, whether of money or talent. Various questions relating to roads and their overseers were discussed, and referred to a Committee upon Needed Legislation. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Georgetown Grange for their efforts to make the meeting as successful as it was, and to Bro. C. E. Mickley for his able efforts. Dinner was served, closing one of the most pleasant and successful meetings ever held by this Pomona Grange.

The Order is steadily and surely advancing in every part of the jurisdiction of this Pomona Grange. Three dormant Granges have been revived, and one new Grange formed by its influence. All the Granges have increased in numbers and influence. Two new halls have been built, and more are being talked of. Three public meetings have been held thus far this year, and more will be held before its close. All this goes to prove the efficacy and usefulness of the Pomona Grange—no County can do without one.

**Appointments.**

From August 10th until the end of the first week in September, the Lecturer has appointments for the whole time, except perhaps a day or two. Arrangement may be made for work the last of July, and first week in August, also after first week in September. There are fifty dormant Granges in the State that need awakening to labor and effort, and as many more that need aid. Would be pleased to co-operate with County Granges where they exist, and help them to re-awaken, and work up the interests of the Order. Where no Pomona Granges exist, let dormant and weak Granges correspond with the Lecturer at once, and arrange for future work. Those of Monroe, Lenawee, Sanilac, Macomb, Tuscola, Lapeer, Huron, Gratiot, and Isabella Counties should respond at once to this invitation, and set on foot efforts for future good work. Don't wait for some one else, but set at work yourself at once, and give the names of those you think will co-operate. Two things ought to be done before December first: 1st, Every dormant Grange should be set at work; and every weak Grange strengthened; and every unoccupied field duly appropriated by the Order: 2d, the list of subscribers to the GRANGE VISITOR increased to 10,000. "Can't do it?" Try and see. Who will try? Let work not words tell.

**From Chippewa.**

EVART, June 24th, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I write a few lines to let our brothers and sisters know that Chippewa Grange, No. 517, is still alive, and, as we are building a hall, it looks as if we intended to live. I believe we are getting more interested with every meeting, and we hope, after harvest, to give the Grange Agent at Detroit a little business to do for our Grange.

Crops, in this section, are middling good; some wheat was hurt by the open winter, and some meadows are injured by the continued wet weather of this spring. There are some potatoes to be planted yet, but not very many. Some will begin haying as soon as next week, and wheat will soon be ready for the cradle. Two weeks of dry weather has made it dryer than it seemed possible for it ever to be again; but to-day it looks like rain, which I hope we may get.

**A LIVE PATRON.**

Dispense truth and intelligence by getting all your neighbor farmers, who do not, to take the GRANGE VISITOR. Send ten subscriptions and get your own free.

OUR 5,000 subscribers have a welcome VISITOR twice a month, and wish it to come oftener.

Please extend notice through the VISITOR to the members of the Manistee District Grange that the next meeting will be held in Pleasanton, July 6 and 7th, commencing at 2 o'clock, P. M. Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs. J. A. POPE, Sec.  
Manistee D. P. G., No. 21.

OFFICE OF  
PATRONS PAINT WORKS,  
162 SOUTH ST., NEW YORK,  
June, 1880.

Dear Sir and Bro.:

We are pleased to inform our patrons that we now reduce the price of our paints from 35 to 40 per cent discount, on account of the cost of materials being somewhat less in price. We propose to give our friends the benefit of the decline.

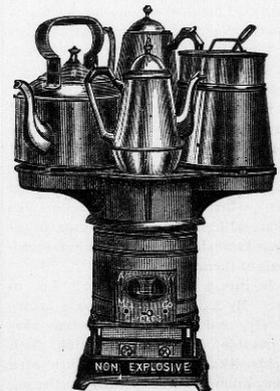
We trust that our efforts to sell a first class paint at as low a price as possible, will be appreciated by you in the future as it has been in the past.

We would call your attention to our Red Enamel Wagon Paint. This is especially adapted for painting Farm Wagons and all kinds of Farming Implements and Machinery. Price same as Black Buggy paint. Please send your orders.

Yours fraternally,  
A. M. INGERSOLL.

**THE REAPER, DEATH.**

MEAD—REMINGTON—ROGERS—From the Secretary of Macon Grange' No. 167, we have a notice of the death of members of the families of Brothers LEROY MEAD, JAMES I. REMINGTON and Sister ELIZABETH A. ROGERS, with resolutions of sympathy and condolence.



The ADAMS & WESTLAKE Improved Wire Gauze, Non-Explosive OIL STOVE

Is the only Oil Stove made with wire gauze inside the reservoir, on the principle of the Sir Humphrey Davy Safety Lamp, making it absolutely non-explosive. It was awarded the highest premium medal at the Paris Exposition in 1878, for Safety, Capacity and Durability. With Armour's Heater Attachment, they are invaluable for heating bedrooms, conservatories, etc. Fully endorsed by the Insurance and Fire Departments of Chicago. The best Stove made for camping purposes.

They are made in four sizes, 1, 2, 3, and 4 Burner. Ask your dealer for them, or send for a Circular.  
The ADAMS & WESTLAKE Mfg Co.,  
Stove Office, 95 Lake St., CHICAGO, ILL.

## Ladies' Department.

## TRIFLES.

BY COUSIN DORA.

Only a white feather, downy and fair,  
Drifting along on the pure, balmy air;  
But a little bird sees it while winging her way  
Down to the orchard with May bloom so gay.  
She catches it up with her tiny brown bill,  
And, chattering soft to herself all the while,  
Says she, "Ah, this comes just in time  
To help make a home for those birds of mine."

Only a blossom, so fairy and sweet,  
Peeping from brown leaves under one's feet  
That with tint of the sea-shell and glossy green  
Heralds the coming of our welcome spring.  
But the invalid, on her couch of pain,  
Sighing because health comes not again,  
Smiles as she kisses the blossom so fair,  
And a brighter look her pale face will wear.

Only a violet, heavenly blue,  
Lifting its modest, sweet face to you;  
Only a violet—yet if you go  
Down to the place where those you loved so  
Are laid with blue eyes lifted up,  
Holding a tear in each tiny cup,  
Somehow they ease your heart of its pain,  
And leave there a ray of sunshine again.

Only a slender, worn circlet so old,  
But brilliants rare and nuggets of gold  
Could never try the use simple thing,  
'Twas placed on your hand in life's happy spring  
By one who, almost before manhood's prime,  
With tears in his voice, said good-by for all time.  
Only a turf, but it hides from our view  
The fond and loving, the brave heart and true.

Only an angry word hastily spoken,  
But oft, so often, a heart it has broken.  
Only a tear-drop shed by a friend,  
But the memory of it never will end.  
Trifles make up the sum of our life,  
Wee bits of pleasure, pain and of strife;  
Glimpses of happiness seen through a cloud,  
Rifts in the darkness enfolding us round.  
MADISON, Ct.

## Let Us Not Forget Our Boys.

BALTIMORE, June 9th, '80.

Dear Sisters of the Visitor:

Thoroughly enjoying, as I do, the Ladies' Department of our splendid little paper, the thought will obtrude itself, Who are the sisters who fill its columns? Do they have more leisure, fewer cares, that they find time to write out their experience for the benefit of others, or are they more public spirited, and realizing that if none contributed that Department would be a blank, and the most attractive feature of the VISITOR be lost, make an extra effort "for the good of the Order," and the benefit of those who read and appreciate, but never write.

We appreciate the efforts of the old contributors, and Myra, Aunt Kate, and others, have many admirers, but there are scores of others who might add their mite of useful information, if they could only overcome that diffidence so characteristic of the farmer's wife, who, not having written anything since her school days, thinks she can not, and thus the sympathizing word is left unsaid, or the experience that might be of real benefit to some other woman is left untold.

I was pleased to read Mrs. Mayo's essay, "What Shall We Do with Our Girls," I had looked long for her name in the VISITOR, and her earnestness in advocating their rights met with a hearty response in many a mother's heart.

But while we look sharp to the interest of our girls, let us not forget our boys. They are surrounded by licensed temptation on every side, and mothers may well tremble for the future of their sons, when for a few paltry dollars the State will grant a license to men to engage in the business of making criminals of them.

Is this a broad assertion? Let us see. By fixing up their saloons attractively, and making themselves very agreeable (thereby exhibiting their spider-like disposition, to allure what they intend to destroy), they entice our boys into their dens, and when there, deliberately set about making drunkards of them.

It is not done in a day, nor a week, it takes time to transform an innocent boy into the creature we often see reeling from their doors. But, step by step, from cider to whisky, he is led on, until the stimulant is a necessity, and they turn him out a drunkard, a burden to society, a disgrace to his friends, and a living sorrow to the mother, who, seeing his danger, finds herself powerless to avert his fate.

Does the law shield and protect the

boy it has helped to transform into a demon? No! While it takes into consideration and views with lenity the vagaries of a lunatic, it punishes to the utmost the unfortunate victim of the license law, who, crazy with drink, commits the most heinous crimes.

Sisters, the right to vote upon this question is denied us, we must therefore be more earnest and faithful, in our silent work. Let us see that what little influence we have is cast in favor of temperance always—never treating it with indifference or scorn, keeping in mind that if our loved ones are comparatively safe from the wiles attending this unjust law, there are scores of other hearts being daily wrung with anguish for the fate of those dearer than life.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain,  
Fraternally,  
MRS. R. K. STANTON.

## A Talk with the Sisters.

I have been a long time away from you, but I assure you that you haven't been forgotten,—neither has any article which any of you have written escaped careful reading.

It has at times seemed almost impossible for me to put two ideas on paper, or write anything satisfactory to others as well as myself. Sometimes I have leisure to use my pen, but the tumult incident to remodeling our house, the noise of hammer, saw and plane, was enough to scatter the thoughts of a more level head than mine.

Other times I have had a disposition to write, but a multiplicity of "spring duties," and aches and pains,—not heartaches, dear sisters, for I am comparatively a stranger to those—for poor health brings bodily suffering. I have had thoughts, at several times, scribbled down in the outline, but never till to-day could I persuade myself to copy them for the VISITOR.

In my Sabbath reading I found this idea, which to me was beautiful and full of encouragement, "Who ever causes a happy hour to another bestows a priceless gift." This idea has revolved in my thoughts day after day, until I find myself asking the question, How can I contribute to the happiness of those I come in contact with? The lending of a book, a magazine full of bright thoughts and cheering words from gifted minds; the culling of fragrant flowers as a gift to some one who is suffering in a sick-room; to send out a few strengthening, cheering words to the columns of the VISITOR; to help some of the sisters who are weary and careworn, to stop for a few moments to read to them and thus cause them to forget their cares for the time being.

A member of the Lansing Grange says to me, as she presses my hand, "Myra, if you only knew how much good your talks with the sisters do me, you would appear oftener in the columns of the VISITOR." Another one says: "I have looked in vain for something from your pen, and as often turn away, so disappointed." Can I turn away from such words as these, and still hear that idea ringing in my mind? "Who ever bestows a happy hour to another, bestows a priceless gift." This is the motive for my resuming my pen to-day, but I cannot do it without a twinge of conscience—right in sight is the work box full of garments waiting to be mended, and a remembrance of missing buttons looms up before me,—but I'll look the other way for a little while and send something to the columns of the VISITOR, hoping you will all exercise charity, as I fear I have been out of practice so long that I may say what I do not mean, or mean what I do not say, and also hoping Bro. Cobb did not lose one bit of his editorial patience in the beautiful land of California.

What a beautiful season we are passing through. Very many of you know of these delicate blossoms called "spring beauties." When the genial rays of the sun, in the earliest spring, melts snow

and ice, and the winds loosen and scatter the brown autumn leaves that have formed their little beds through snow and frosts of drear winter, and they peep forth their bright little heads, seemingly in joy and gladness that spring has come again; and when the men-folks go over to the wood-lot, or the distant fields, to mend the fence, or cut brush, and as they come home to dinner or tea, they bring a handful of the beauties to place before you on the table, as a surprise, how one's heart bounds to think spring is at hand, with its sunny days, singing birds, green fields and fruit blossoms!

How beautiful everything has seemed to me this spring. Every fruit tree-load, with pink and white blossoms, every shrub or tree, seemed to vie with each other, to send forth its foliage first. As I have feasted my eyes from time to time, and drinking in so much beauty and grandeur, and have felt that I could not enjoy it half enough, that it was swiftly passing, "like sunshine on the sea;" and have longed, if such a thing were possible, to lay by some of this beauty and gorgeousness till the scorching days of summer come, when everything is covered with dust from the roadside, and the grass has become yellow by the intensity of the sun. When so much time and strength must be spent cooking food that will be relished by the husbandman, and when so much care must be exercised to keep things from molding and spoiling, and the days of canning fruit (for that work always comes when it is the hottest, and there is the most of something else to do.

Speaking of remodeling our house, the motive for doing so was to get more sunlight, better ventilation, and to make our home more attractive. We have succeeded beyond our expectations in the outset. Now, I find myself asking the question each morning, Will there be sunshine within the home? will each member of our household band try to make the others happy? Will kind words, deeds of self-sacrifice, charitable criticism and leniency on the part of all predominate? We hope so, but it needs a constant watchfulness and Divine assistance, if we succeed. Money will not buy these things, they must be the out-gushings of loving hearts.

Dear sisters, how many times in the quiet of my home, when I am reading such beautiful ideas as come from some of the pages written by Louisa M. Alcott, Pansy, Mrs. Whitney, and others, I find myself wishing you could enjoy them with me. I wish that I could send you the book that you might get these ideas too.

I have often wished I had plenty of the "filthy lucre," to buy books and magazines and papers to send to friends, but as I have not, I must content myself to only send specimen copies.

I have more to say, as we have not had a talk in so long a time, but must not trespass on your time and patience, or waste the editor's time looking this over to see whether I will do to print.

MYRA.

Baltimore to the Front.

BALTIMORE, June 14th, '80.

Worthy Sec. J. T. Cobb:

Not having seen anything from Baltimore Grange, No. 427, in a long time, and fearing the idea might gain ground that we were dead, I would say to our friends through the VISITOR that we are still alive. Every society has its seasons of depression, and we have passed through ours, and come out victorious. We number less than we did three years ago, but those left are thorough Patrons, and alive to the interests of the Order.

The job is let to build a two story hall, 20x48 in dimensions; and with a home of our own we expect Baltimore Grange will be a permanent organization.

STEWARDESS,

Baltimore Grange, No. 427.

AN ounce of keep-your-mouth-shut is better than a pound of explanations after you have said it.

## Our Common Schools.

An essay read before the Calhoun County Grange by Mrs. Perry Mayo.

The question has been pertinently asked, "What is education?" and the first answer that comes to our lips and one that has general acceptance is "book lore." But is this true? In this busy everyday life of ours, and especially the life of a farmer, there is much of the hard prosaic fact in it. The idealistic, theoretical part of our life is that part of it that those who do not toil, strive and win, know most about. To us who are obliged to meet the every day affairs of life there is a great deal of fact, practicality to it. I am reminded of a poem by that rough, quaint writer, Hosea Bigelow, on Theory and Practice, comparing the two. He showed how very easy life and its accomplishments were theoretically, "but," said he,

"Fact, is the slow coach that sloughed in the ruts,  
That can't get along with your durned ifs and buts."

I believe that education consists in so training our whole being, head, heart and hands that we may be able to meet, and successfully meet the every day requirements of our lives. How can this best be done? This is a question that should claim and attract the attention of us all, and especially those of us who have children under our care, children who one day must take our places, bear our burdens and heat of the day, meet the cares and responsibilities of life.

I believe this to be the one great object of the Grange, to fit ourselves to stand as God's noblemen and women before the world. But there needs to be much preparation, and this preparation is education. One of the first stepping-stones in this preparation is our common schools. How proud we are of them, and justly so. Take away the system of our common-schools, and where are we? There is not a claim that we have as citizens to meet that is so freely and adequately met, as those concerning our common schools. Our tax rolls will show you how liberally, yes lavishly, they are supported.

What advancements have we made? From the log school house, with its puncheon floors, and its seats of slab, with its almost absolute necessity of ferrule and blue birch, we have now the model school house with its shuttered windows, improved seats, and patent sparker. The speller and English readers, as readers, are supplanted by a series of readers suited to all ages, history, both ancient and modern, arithmetic from the book of simple numbers to Geometry, simple science, botany, book-keeping, and physiology, grammar, and analysis. These are some of the books that now crowd our children's desks. But has the advancement in knowledge been equal to the advancement in helps? Are our children being better fitted for their work in life than their forefathers were? Teachers and books are but helps, the hard brain work must be by the pupils, and, if as they frequently say, they have "gone through" with these, if they are not able to apply themselves to the work of life, they have in fact achieved nothing.

In one of the best country schools in this County, there was a class of advanced scholars that said they had "finished arithmetic." A teacher, one or your practical ones, gave them this problem to solve: To find the number of acres in a piece of land, so many rods long, and so many rods wide, the ends not being proportionate. Not one in the class could give a correct solution to it, though it was such an example that they ought to have given a quick solution to, and one that, as farmers' sons and daughters, they would have to meet. The trouble was just here—they could not apply what they had learned.

This is but one illustration. How many times is our ignorance taken advantage of? You know, Worthy Master that it is done as well as I? Are our common schools doing all they ought to do for our children to-day?

Do you know, Patrons? If so, how do you know? Do you visit your schools to find out? Do you give your children practical lessons to solve, to find out if they are advancing in the right direction, or not; or do you take it for granted that when you procure your children the necessary books, and insist on their necessary attendance that you have done your whole duty in this line. I venture the assertion that there is not one farmer in five here to-day, who, should he put a flock of lambs a half mile away from his house, but that he would go as often as once a week to see how they were doing, and know how they were thriving; and yet this same person would not go inside his school house to know as to how his children were being taught.

You say you know you ought to go, but there is the old plea—want of time. You certainly have all the time there is. Take it. You might much better let the lambs and pigs look out for themselves, and look to the welfare of your children. You do not know, you cannot realize how much good you will accomplish. You will encourage the teacher, and encourage your children, and make them understand as they have never understood before, that you have an interest in their welfare. It will greatly benefit yourself; you will grow young again in thinking over the lessons you had once conned, and now so nearly forgotten. Visit your schools.

## The Successful Farmer.

From the Detroit Free Press.

I had occasion to visit him the other day, or at least to visit a man who is said to be a very successful farmer. I had always heard him spoken of as such, and had often heard that he had commenced his life in Michigan with nothing, and had accumulated and got at interest a full \$100,000. Of course, under these circumstances, his success could not be questioned.

At the time of my visit he was prostrated by sickness. On attempting to enter at the front door, I found it impossible from the lack of steps to help over an abrupt rise of about four feet, but I followed a path to the wood-shed door and thence to the living room of the house. The yard by the house was open and accessible to the cattle of the farm-yard, and was apparently frequented by them. Inside the house I did not observe any newspaper for the family reading. Three books lay near at hand, one of which had the outside appearance of being much in use. In the course of my conversation, I had the curiosity to pick up this book and open it; it proved to be an interest computing book. I found, in talking with the man, that his mind had become entirely engrossed with money-making, at the expense of all other considerations. I must say that when I left the house the question was uppermost in my mind: Is this a successful farmer?

A very few days after this, being in a neighboring village, and having some time to wait for a train, I was invited by a farmer acquaintance to go home to tea with him and his wife. I had often met the gentleman and his wife, but had never been at their home, neither had I ever heard him mentioned as a particularly successful farmer. But, when we arrived at their home, I found it a remarkably pleasant location, and inside the house everything pleasant and agreeable. A fine library and several newspapers and periodicals were at all times accessible to the family. The children, in their looks and conversation, gave unmistakable evidence that the books and papers had been used to a purpose. The gentleman had not, I learned, been putting money at interest, but had appropriated the profits of his farm to home improvements and adornments, and to the education of his children. His greatest ambition seemed to be to make his home surroundings pleasant and refining. In this I thought he had succeeded most admirably, and on bidding the family a good evening, on leaving, I came to the conclusion that the world had made a great mistake in selecting "a successful farmer," and that this last gentleman was really the man.

AN OAKLAND COUNTY FARMER.

The Husbandman published the following incident related by a gentleman of Orange County, N. Y. "I visited Orange County not long ago, my son with me, and we called at a farm house where an old acquaintance lives—a forehanded farmer—who took no paper. My son wanted a book to read after he found there was no public journal in the house, and he could not get it. There were several children in that family and no paper. The boys leave home when they are old enough to get away. There is nothing to interest them there—no means of instruction—so they get out into the world to seek the knowledge denied them at home."

**JOHNNY'S OPINION OF GRANDMOTHERS.**

Grandmothers are very nice folks;  
They beat all the aunts in creation,  
They let a chap do as he likes,  
And don't worry about education.

I'm sure I can't see it all,  
What a poor fellow ever could do  
For apples, and pennies, and cakes,  
Without a grandmother or two.

Grandmothers speak softly to "ma's"  
To let a boy have a good time;  
Sometimes they whisper, 'tis true,  
'Tother way when a boy wants to climb.

Grandmothers have muffins for tea,  
And pies, a whole row in the cellar,  
And they're apt, (if they know it in time.)  
To make chicken pie for a "feller."

And if he is bad now and then,  
And makes a great racketing noise,  
They only look over their specs  
And say, "Ah, these boys will be boys."

"Life is only so short at the best;  
Let the children be happy to-day."  
Then they look for while at the sky,  
And the hills that are far, far away.

Quite often, as twilight comes on,  
Grandmothers sing hymns, very low,  
To themselves as they rock by the fire,  
About heaven, and when they shall go.

And then, a boy stopping to think,  
Will find a hot tear in his eye,  
To know that will come at the last;  
For grandmothers all have to die.

I wish they could stay here and pray,  
For a boy needs their prayers every night.  
Some boys need more than others, I suppose—  
Such as I need a wonderful sign.

—Ethel Lynn.

**Correspondence.**

**Interesting Letter from Capitol Grange.**

NORTH LANSING, June 12th, }  
Capitol Grange, No. 540, }

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

With your permission, I will report the number of subscriptions sent you for your little paper that is so fast gaining popularity. Since December 26th have sent you thirty subscribers, and to-day send you fifteen more. Twelve of the number stand just outside the gate, giving their support, and becoming more firmly bound by the tie of agriculture, and better convinced that their profession as farmers is fully equal to any other. Patrons, the latch-string is out.

Ever since the birth of our little paper, I have been a reader of its columns, and now, when I look at its improved appearance, I cannot help expressing my delight, and wonder who can regret the trifle it costs for such a store house of knowledge. Certainly not anyone, when they take into consideration the value received in reading the hints and suggestions, and original topics on agriculture from the pens of so many of our most wide-awake, practical tillers of the soil. To appreciate the worth of the paper, all that is necessary is to take and read it the remainder of the year; then if they are not thoroughly imbued with the noble principles of the Order, then there is no use talking. May success attend them.

Now a few words about the Grange, and then I will leave the rest for more competent ones. Capitol Grange, No. 540, is in a flourishing condition, alive and alert, with a membership of two hundred or more. Our meetings are usually well attended, and with a great degree of interest, hold our meetings once a week, rain or shine. If the weather and roads are too bad to take out a team, we have sisters who will come three and four miles on foot, which goes to show no lack of interest on their part. We have a program for every meeting. Some Granges complain of so many drones. I would like to have them hear our Lecturer, or one equally as good. Ability, age, or size is no excuse; he plans for all. He has the members at work on altogether a different plan from what they did last year, and goodness only knows what he will have us do next year, should we be so fortunate as to get him elected again.

Oh! I agreed to say but a little, but won't the co-operative store underneath the hall be a little jealous if I do not mention it, to let your readers know that it still lives and prospers? Some, perhaps, may think that I am telling tales, but I will venture a few words. The last annual report showed that

with a capital of \$1,500, their sales were over \$17,000. This spring trade has been quite brisk. Daily sales since April 1st averaging over \$70. This may seem quite small in comparison with many other co-operative stores. Although small it pays, and might pay still better profits did all Patrons try as they might to help carry out the objects of the Order. I fear I have already said too much, so I will close for this time.

Fraternally yours,

B. C. G.

**Grange Matters at 222.**

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

It has been a long time since there has been any report from our Grange, No. 222, in the VISITOR, I will write a few lines, although it is entirely out of my province to write for a paper, but women are filling many positions now that a few years ago would have seemed utterly impossible. The Grange has already done a great work for women. I am glad so many women have written for the Ladies' Department. Hope they will not let their pens lie idle long. There are but few who take an active part in our Grange meetings of either sex, but we are gaining a little every year, and our meetings are generally quite interesting. Have had five new members this summer, built a hall last year 22x50, and are nearly out of debt. We now have seventy members, of which a goodly number are young people. These, we expect will fill our places in the future, with the experience they are now getting in the Grange, with much more ability than we have shown.

M. P. H.

June 20, 1880.

**Ingham County Pomona Grange.**

On the afternoon of the 18th, an open session was held with Leslie Grange, No. 189. The attendance was good. The exercises consisted of various essays and discussions, interspersed with fine music. Leslie Grange now holds its meetings at North Leslie. Several of the very best families in the township have lately joined. The floral display, and the neat tables with a bountiful supply, showed excellent taste. We could see at a glance that Leslie Grange was in good hands. Ten Granges of the County were represented. In the evening the 5th degree was conferred on twelve members. There is considerable strife, apparently, with some of the Subordinate Granges to see which shall furnish the best table at meetings of the County Granges. Sisters S. B. Wiley, J. G. Rider, and Mary Stillman offered a resolution which was unanimously adopted:

In view of the exceeding labor and expense in the present luxurious manner of providing the feasts: *Resolved*, that this Pomona Grange recommend the limitation of a bill of fare to the following articles, viz.: tea, cold meat, busemit and butter, pie or cake, pickles, and if necessary, they recommend the purchasing of crackers and cheese from the treasury of the Pomona Grange.

There is no probability that there will ever be any occasion for carrying the last clause into effect. w. j. b.

**Another Hall.**

HUDSON, Mich., June 20th, }  
Madison Grange, No. 384. }

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Never having seen anything in the VISITOR from our Grange, I write to say that there is such a Grange as 384. We have been on the sick list, but I think we shall live and flourish. Since our annual election, we have taken in fourteen new members. Have granted dimits to Bro. Allen Warren and wife, whom we were very sorry to lose. Masons are now laying the walls for our new hall. Crops are good in this part of the country, though we have had an excess of rain this spring. If this is accepted, will, come again some time, and tell you more about our Grange and new hall.

Yours, as ever,

FRANC.

**Successful Work.**

MASON, 21, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I obtained these half dozen subscribers to the VISITOR at the Ingham County Grange meeting, held at North Leslie on the 18th inst. We had a very enjoyable time at this meeting, over which Bro. Beal presided. He is a most efficient worker, and a good officer, not only making the County Grange a grand success, but he is the hardest worker they have at the College. You shall hear from us again after our next County Grange meeting.

Fraternally yours,

J. M. WILEY.

**The Wire Age.**

Whenever, in riding or walking through the streets of our great cities and towns, the eye is directed upward, a perfect network of wire is seen stretching from building to building and from chimney to gable. The appearance is as if some huge spider had been at work and covered in the compact city, holding it a prisoner in the meshes of its net. The view is bewildering, and it seems impossible that any practical or important use can be made of these iron wires, so numerous as almost to shut out the sunlight. It is but little more than thirty years since only a single one could be seen connecting some important building with another in a distant city, by which telegraphic communication was maintained; and forty years ago the only wire was visible anywhere. We live in the "iron age" of the world's history, and a most interesting and wonderful epoch it is. We know that the iron filaments subserve the purpose of nerves of thought and sensation, and over them, or through them, the world's commerce is carried on. In the human organization we know that if any accident or event happens to the extremities, the fleshy nerves transmit instantly the news to the seat of sensation, the brain; and so it is with the iron nerves in the external world, which science has arranged: not an event of importance can transpire in any part of the globe which is not instantly "wired" to the great centers, and the news spreads everywhere with the rapidity of thought.

Until within the past four years, the wires were capable of transmitting only signals, of a complex nature, but easily understood and interpreted by experts; now human beings talk with each other over the iron, and it seems to make, as it were, a unit of the great family of man. Words, actual words, produced by the organs of speech, are ever winging their way, with the speed of lightning, over cities, across rivers and mountains and woods, and voices are recognized scores of miles away. The wires needed in cities for transmitting fire and burglar alarms, for police calls, time signals, and other municipal purposes are many in number; and when to these are added the wires for telegraphic and telephonic purposes, the question of space or room for them becomes an important one. These wires must all be independent of each other; there must be no contact anywhere, else serious errors and complications occur. In this city the fire-alarm system has so often been interfered with that the chief engineer has called the attention of the city government to the matter. The time is not far distant when additional wires will become necessary for the purposes of electric lighting, and, perhaps, warming. In the years to come, the whole country will be covered with them, unless some plan is devised by which electrical currents can be conveyed in the earth by wires protected in tubes of clay or metal. It is certain that some method of this nature must be adopted, and that quite speedily. —Boston Journal of Chemistry.

SOME women make a great fuss and labor hard in trying to persuade a hen not to set. The same amount of work and ingenuity directed in another channel, might revolutionize society in some particular, but she never thinks of that. To prevent a fifty-cent hen from setting, a woman will devote five dollars' worth of time and labor. But a certain New Jersey woman is an exception. She placed a red-hot egg in the nest, and the hen soon lost all appetite for setting. The fact that the barn was burned down and the hen perished in the flames, may deter some women from trying the same experiment, but it can be recommended as giving right to the spot. —Norristown Herald.

I WISH to tell the members of the Club how to keep their hen-houses clear from lice: Take the nest boxes out and scald them, and whitewash the perch and house with quicklime. Then replace the boxes and fill them half full of equal parts of spent tan bark and slaked lime. I fixed mine in this way two years ago, and I have not been troubled since. JOHN ALLEN, Ferguson's Corners, N. Y., June 13.

THE pianoforte was invented by a German named Americus Backers, and was first used in public at Covent Garden Theatre, in the year 1767.

**Freedom from Party.**

As an evidence of the growing sentiment that party chains have been too tightly fastened, the party lash too freely used, the free thought and free votes of the masses of the people too much trampled, and that, as intelligence increases, thinking men of all parties are asserting their freedom, we notice that organizations are springing up within the parties to help purify them, and on Grange principles, that every Patron should "do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption and trickery, to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men are nominated for all positions of trust." Among these organizations are the "Young Republicans" and "Scratcher Club" of New York. Charles Francis Adams, Jr., delivered a lecture before these clubs in New York city, a short time since, on "Individuality in politics," from which we make a few extracts:

"That the demand for independent, fearless political thought and action exists in this country, no one, I think, will deny.

"The demand for the individual in politics exists, for the thing is to be come. It will make a career for itself. Within the last few years I think I see plainly enough the growth in this direction.

"In the State of New York, as nearly as can be estimated, forty-five men out of every hundred who vote can be counted upon to vote the Republican ticket, and forty-five more to vote the Democratic ticket. The other ten men constitute an unknown element. These ten men we believe we can make fourteen. If we can, we are masters of the situation. They have got to give us what we believe the highest interests of the country demand, in place of the interests of the thing, or we will not vote for their candidates. Every child knows that the boy on the center of the tilting board can make either end, if the ends are equally weighted, go up or down at pleasure. We are not children, yet these wise leaders and editors gravely argue to us that, by standing on the balancing point of this political tilting board, we are throwing away our influence over its two ends. And they really seem to think that we will believe them. If, however, they try their 'magnetic leader,' 'strong man' and 'self-inspiring candidate' theories in the coming canvass, unless utter madness rules the other side, they may chance in New York to get a lesson in logic at any rate. They may learn the significance of what is known as undistributed middle.

"No! They will not be able to persuade us that in politics the unknown quantity is without influence. They have, however, a more tempting bait than that. They control the offices; they can open the doors to political preferment. Most men, especially young men, desire that. For him who does, and wisely understands himself, there is but one course to pursue. He must identify himself with one of the regular parties—just now it would not matter which—and make up his mind to get a lesson in logic at any rate. I can see nothing discreditable, nothing humiliating. There is plenty of room to work, and an abounding need of good influences in all political parties; and, when overruled, the intelligent party man must learn to bide his time. Even in politics we cannot always have things as we want them. Through party discipline lies the road to office. If, however, a man does not want office, and does not want to make his single vote and his individual influence tell; if he has no wish for political preferment, but would always give his voice for the better man; if he is nothing unless critical, and while devoting himself to business of his special calling, he would fain still do his share in politics as behooves the good citizen of a Republic; if, in fine, he wishes to be always a thinking man and never a partisan—then, in that case, he belongs to us. Let him come up here at once to the center of the tilting-board. He must join that maligned body of Independents and Scratchers, of which I am glad of every occasion to profess myself a consistent and persistent member." —Ez.

UNBENDING.—Says the Boston Post: Secretary Everts unbends himself from the weighty cares of State by occasional visits to his fine farm in Vermont. And when he retires to his exon, "It is my unalterable conviction that it will give my lyure to the benefit of the agricultural interests of the State of Vermont, in so far as the property owned by me and devoted to the raising of crops is concerned, if you will proceed to ho-hush-gee haw," he thinks he's persuading the people who hear him that at least one Cabinet officer is a practical farmer.

HORATIO SEYMOUR retires permanently from the field, and the merry old starter of the periodic Seymour boom clasps his hands and murmurs, with the Italian toy-balloon vendor whose bunch of balloons slipped from his grasp and floated into space, "Py dam, dere goes my pizness."

**California Experience — A Frenchman Reduces the Average.**

An excitable little Frenchman was last evening complaining about his bad luck as a stock speculator. "I cannot at all get zee remotest insight into zee business. Long time ago one friend says to me zat Lady Bryan is a good speculation, 'buy feefy shares of zee Lady for one dollar zer share. She go down to feefy cent. I say to my friend, 'Now, what shall I do? You see zee Lady have advanced backward—like zee what you call crawfish.' 'My friend say to me, 'You must reduce your average.' 'How is zat sing about reduce zee average,' says I to him, for I no understand what he mean by 'reduce zee average.' 'He say, 'You see, to reduce your average you must go buy feefy shares more at feefy cent, then your stock not stand in you so much money.' 'I go buy feefy shares more—I reduce zee average, you see.' 'My friend he say to me, 'Now you all right to take advantage of zee market; you have your average reduce.' 'Well, pretty soon, what you sink? Zee — Lady, she crawfish to twenty-five cent. I go to my friend, and I say to him, 'You see how it is wiz zee Lady, she have tumble.' 'I see,' said my friend, 'it iz bad, but zee only way to get even is to again reduce zee average. Then you will be in one fine position to take advantage of zee market.' 'Diable!' says he, 'but you see, my friend, zee — market all time take advantage of me.' But I go get 200 shares more of zee lady at twenty-five cent.

"Pretty soon bang she go down to zee ten cent zee share. I go to my friend, 'What shall I now do?' say I.

"Zee only sing to get you even zat is possible to do is to again to reduce zee average.' '—zee average! I remark, for you see I am begin to become inflame against zee average. But my friend persuade me it is zee only way to get into zee position to take advantage of zee market wiz zee Lady. So I buy me 400 more share at ten per cent, and say now I am ready for zee rise of zee market.

"Just now, what you sink? One assessment of fifty cent is level. I rush away to my friend and say, 'What now mus' I do?' 'It is bad,' he say, 'I am afraid we have pay too much attention to zee plan of reducing zee average—we have leave zee assessment out of zee account.

"I cannot pay him, so I let him go—lose all zee Lady what I have produce to reduce zee average. Pretty soon zee mine is salt, and zee Lady boom to four dollaire. Zen I say 'Why have I not pay zee assessment? Zee diable take reduce zee average, and zee assessment zee is one conflict zat no man can have zee foresight to reconcile. Is it not so?"

**The Power of the Farmer.**

With the grandest of callings and the most important position in all the world's economy, the farming class exceeds all others in number. True, in republican America, where the majority rules, upon the farmer's shoulders must rest the responsibility of our own and our nation's welfare; and the future prosperity of her industries and the virtue and happiness of future citizens are to-day being wrought principally in the humble homes of her farmers.

Dare you sleep, fellow tillers of the soil, when so much depends on your vocation; when a world must be fed; when manufacturers must be supplied with raw material to clothe the people; when commerce awaits your industry, and virtuous women—and your class must supply the world. What is any class, however great in numbers, without intelligence? Lacking that higher mental power and cultivation, farmers have long been a weak class. Wanting in social and political influence, the agriculturists, largest in number, have ever been subject to the power of other vocations. Let us awaken, then, to use our own gifts, cultivate our minds, enlarge our capabilities, assert our rights, and go and labor diligently, not only in the physical, but in God's great intellectual, social and moral vineyard. To do this, we must mass our forces, unite our efforts—in short, use organization.—Dirigo Journal.

FALSHOOD'S never so successful, as when she baits her hook with truth. No opinions so fatally mislead us as those that are not wholly wrong. No watches so effectually deceive the wearer as those that are sometimes right.—Cotton.

A MAN should never be ashamed to own that he has been in the wrong, which is but saying in other words that he is wiser to-day than he was yesterday.

LAWYER C—(entering the office of his friend, Dr. M.—and speaking in a hoarse whisper: "Fred, I've got such a cold this morning that I can't speak the truth." Dr. M.—: "Well, I'm glad that it's nothing that will interfere with your business."

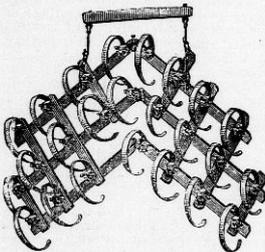
Chicago Markets.

(Reported by THOMAS MASON, General Commission Merchant, Business Agent of the P. of H., No. 139 South Water Street)

**GRAIN.**  
Spring wheat—No. 2, red, 87½.  
Winter wheat—No. 2, 90 to 91.  
Corn—33 to 34c.  
Oats—23½ to 23¼c.

**PRODUCE.**  
Poultry—Chickens 7½ to 8c per lb. for all fine and fat hens: 7½ to 8½ for mixed coups. Springs would sell at \$3½ to \$4 per doz. when fat and large \$1½ to \$2 per doz. when quite small and poor; does not pay to ship ducks and geese.  
Cheese—good to fine cheddar creams 6½ to 7c; flat shapes 5 to 6c per lb for choice, to 2 to 3c for poor.  
Eggs—11½ to 12c.  
Butter—choice to fancy creameries, 19½ to 20c; fair to good, 18½ to 19; fine to fancy dairies, 16 to 17c; good to choice, 15 to 15½; good to choice ladie packed, 13 to 14c; fair to good grades, 10 to 11½c.  
Dried fruits—apples, prime to fine Eastern quarters, 5½ to 6c; good to fine, 5½ to 5¾c; sliced, 6 to 6½c. Peaches, good old halves, 4 to 5c; choice new halves, 6 to 7c.  
New Potatoes—good to fine solid stock at \$2.50 to 3.00 per barrel.  
Maple sugar—10 to 15c per lb for good to best lots in cakes.  
Honey—good to choice comb, 18 to 20c; common to fair, 14 to 16c.  
Broom corn—choice hurl 8½ to 9c; fine green, self-working, 7½ to 8c; red-tipped, self working, 6½ to 7c; common, 6 to 6½; crooked, 3 to 5c.  
Green apples, \$1.50 to \$2.00 per bar.  
**SEEDS.**  
Clover—\$4 to \$5.00 for good to choice medium. Timothy \$2.30 to \$2.40, for poor to prime. Flax, \$1.25 for good on a basis of pure.

**THE BUR OAK ADJUSTABLE**



**Cultivator Harrow**

Has more spring in the teeth than in any other; is more durable; it has no slots in the wood to wear out; the teeth cannot move side ways; it has the BEST ADJUSTABLE TOOTH ATTACHMENT; does not trail. Will work harder ground than any other. The teeth are all warranted. Send for Price List to the manufacturer.

HIRAM COBB,  
KALAMAZOO, MICH.

**A. VAN DENBERG,**  
MANUFACTURER,  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN  
Harness, Whips, Blankets, Trunks, &c.,  
92 Monroe Street,  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

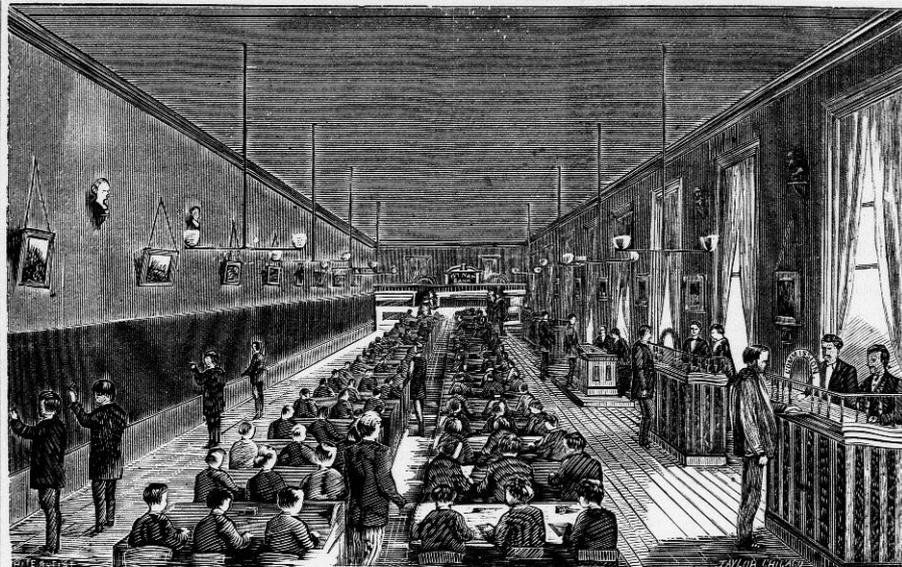
I take pleasure in presenting to your favorable consideration my CASH Price List of Harness Work—HAND MADE. ALL of my own manufacture—and also to return thanks for the liberal patronage I have received from the different Granges throughout Michigan. I shall do in the future as in the past, furnish the best goods for the least money.  
Farm Harness, White Trimmed, Breaching; Round Lines, Snaps, Rum Straps, and spread rings, complete, \$29 00  
The same without breaching, 26 00  
" " with Flat Lines, 28 00  
" " " " without breaching, 25 00  
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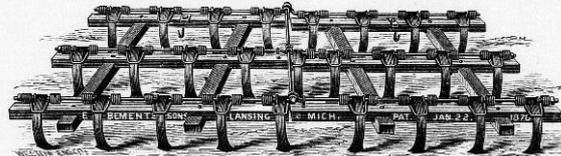
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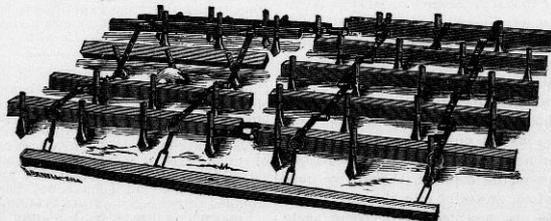
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