

THE GRANGE VISITOR

ISSUED SEMI-MONTHLY,

BY ORDER OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.

(Kalamazoo Publishing Co.'s Print.)

VOL. 6, —No. 21. }
WHOLE No. 101 }

SCHOOLCRAFT, NOVEMBER 1st, 1880.

{ YOUR SUBSCRIPTION
{ will Expire with No.

Entered at the Post Office at Schoolcraft as Second Class matter.

THE GRANGE VISITOR,

Is Published on the First and Fifteenth of every Month

AT FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM,
Invariably in Advance.

J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager.

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

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.
Published Semi-Monthly by the authority of the Michigan State Grange, with a Circulation of nearly 6,000.

ADVERTISING RATES:

1 sq. in. for 1 mo.	1.00
1 sq. in. for 3 mos.	2.50
1 sq. in. for 6 mos.	4.00
1 sq. in. for 1 yr.	6.00
1 sq. in. for 2 yrs.	10.00
1 sq. in. for 3 yrs.	14.00
1 sq. in. for 4 yrs.	18.00
1 sq. in. for 5 yrs.	22.00
1 sq. in. for 6 yrs.	26.00
1 sq. in. for 7 yrs.	30.00
1 sq. in. for 8 yrs.	34.00
1 sq. in. for 9 yrs.	38.00
1 sq. in. for 10 yrs.	42.00
1 sq. in. for 11 yrs.	46.00
1 sq. in. for 12 yrs.	50.00

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Patrons of Michigan.

It is not necessary to recite, particularly to you, the history of the contest covering a period of over five years, between the Patrons of Michigan on the one hand, and the manufacturer of plaster, on the other.

It is sufficient to say that the contest grew out of a violation of contract on the part of the Grand River Valley Plaster Co., and the subsequent treatment of those Patrons who ordered plaster of the Plaster Association.

This Association held plaster at \$4.00 per ton until such time as the arrangements of your Executive Committee enabled the Patrons of the State to obtain it at a less price, since which time the manufacturing concerns comprising that Association have done what they could to undermine and break down the proprietors of the Grange plaster mill, Messrs. Day & Taylor, of Grandville.

This effort involved half the manufacturers who were the first parties to the combination in bankruptcy, and those who have held out have done business at an annual loss of thousands of dollars.

Day & Taylor, with commendable pluck, have kept right along, constantly making valuable improvements of a permanent character, until they now have the best mill, and the best facilities for making plaster at the least cost of any manufacturers in the State.

They have, except in a few instances when they were compelled to use green rock, furnished a superior quality of plaster, free from flint shale, and other foreign and worthless matter, that the manufacturers of stucco allow to go into their land plaster stock.

The Patrons of the State have manfully stood by the arrangements of your Committee with Day & Taylor, and in so doing have shown that they understood the situation. They have, in this given evidence of their honesty, and proved that they understand, that to abandon Day & Taylor, and allow them to be forced to the wall, is to allow plaster to go again to \$4.00 per ton on track at Grand Rapids. Day & Taylor, like the others, have been doing a losing business, and we cannot ask these men, through whose assistance we have been able to save to the Patrons of Michigan annually more than \$50,000, to continue to sink money in behalf of the Order. We have a contract with them for all the plaster the Patrons of the State may want, at not to exceed \$2.50 per ton at Grand Rapids. And while the price may not go to that point this year, yet there must be an advance on last year's prices. We do not think the Patrons of Michigan want Day & Taylor to continue to sink money, and lose their own time besides.

We have so often been told by our brother Patrons, that they did not want Day & Taylor to furnish them plaster at less than cost, and the situation is so generally and well understood that we are confident the Patrons of the State will readily consent to pay such a price as will pro-

tect Day & Taylor from positive loss.

They have stood by us under a pressure, and resisted temptations to surrender, that few men similarly situated, would have withstood.

On the other hand, the Patrons of the State have bravely stood by them, spurning all the devices of those manufacturers whose pet idea is to perpetuate the old system of agencies. They are slow to learn that farmers who are ready to pay for a carload of plaster on delivery, want it at the wholesale price of a car-load, and more, these farmers mean to have it, and while this difference of opinion remains, and the old manufacturers persist in their efforts to break down Day & Taylor, the Michigan plaster war will continue, and so long as this committee have in charge the Grange interests of the State, so long shall we sustain this branch of its business with every available means at our command.

Recognizing the right of every man to receive a reasonable return, not only for the time and talent employed in his business, but also on his invested capital, we are not only willing, but anxious, that this plaster business should settle down to a sound business basis. But we cannot, and will not surrender the principle involved in this contest, and we look with confidence to the Patrons of Michigan to sustain us in our position and Day & Taylor in their business, to which they are giving their time, means, and their best energies.

J. WEBSTER CHILDS,
F. M. HOLLOWAY,
C. G. LUCE,
WESTBROOK DIVINE,
THOMAS MARS,
W. S. SATTERLEE,
J. Q. A. BURRINGTON,
J. J. WOODMAN,
J. T. COBB,
Executive Committee Mich. State Grange.

Wayne Co. Pomona Grange, No. 8, Fourth Quarterly Session, 1880.

I have been asked to report the Oct. meeting of Wayne Co. Pomona Grange, held in Redford Grange hall, Oct. 15th.

Being a member of Redford Grange makes the task a delicate one; being also a member of this Pomona Grange, and having attended all its meetings for the year, and having the welfare of that and every Subordinate Grange at heart, will I hope, enable me to make an impartial report.

Wayne Co. feels that with being so far from the State Grange and its support, on one hand (no officers of the State Grange or members of the Executive Committee, having ever been chosen from her membership); and on the other, having the great monied center of the State within its limits, crushing, in its might, her vitality, that she has greater obstacles to overcome than Granges more favorably situated.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, her quarterly meetings for the year have been kept up with increasing interest. The one in January, held at Denton, when the "January thaw," with rains, had soaked the bottom from the roads, was not a failure, and over two-thirds of the officers were installed.

The April meeting at Plymouth, again with mud, was a good meeting. The third quarterly meeting, held at

Willow Grange, in the clay region, notwithstanding a 24-hours rain, and a drizzly morning, and the great distance most of the guests had to go, was one of which any Grange might be proud.

The one just held at Redford was an especial effort on the part of that Grange to give the Pomona Grange a welcome; and her labors for an industrial exhibit were crowned with success. The display consisted of fine vegetables and fruits, choice cereals, an array of house-plants, articles of manufacture, needle and fancy work, canned fruits and jellies, minerals and shells, honey and honey-bees working in the hive, a beautiful portfolio of pasted pictures by E. C. Nordin, mottoes and pictures, all tastefully arranged, and above all, next the ceiling, extending all around the hall, were entwined arbor-vitae and autumn foliage, which, combined with the whole exhibit, gave the hall a sylvan character that was truly attractive. Added to this, on either side of the lower end of the hall were spread tables with capacity to seat between eighty and ninety persons, loaded with Grange fare, which means the best butter, milk, fruit, fowls and honey that can be produced, served in all forms of cooking which skill and plenty can combine, both for dinner and supper, with more to carry away than there would have been if our neighbors from Oakland Co. had tumbled out, as the fine day and pleasant receptions from them, had given us reasons to anticipate; or had our own distant Granges taken advantage of the beauty of the season, when riding is almost unalloyed pleasure, and come in large numbers.

Among the Pomona guests were Bro. and Sister Green, of the State Grange, who are so faithful in attendance at Grange meetings, whom it is always a pleasure to meet, which pleasure was this time a little dampened by Sister Green's look of ill-health.

At 12:30 the organist struck up a march, when Worthy Master N. T. Bradner and Ceres, Mrs. Wight, of Redford Grange, invited their guests to follow them to the tables, where they were waited on by our "young folks," in whom we take great pride.

After ample time for dinner, the session of the Pomona Grange was opened with a welcome by G. P. Lawrence, P. M. of Redford Grange, responded to by O. R. Patengill, W. M. of Wayne Co. Pomona Grange; song of welcome, by the Redford Grange choir. We briefly refer to work of the afternoon: First reports of Subordinate Granges; after which we had essay by Robt. Brighton, of Willow Grange, followed by discussion, in which L. N. Hedden, of Plymouth, Gen. Duffield, of Union, and N. T. Bradner, of Redford, took part; after which A. B. Pierce, in behalf of Redford Grange, presented for instruction, in a beautiful speech, our "nine sisters," a new class of nine young ladies; after which they sang "Patron Sisters," or our "Three Times Three is Nine,"—written for the occasion.

After a recess of fifteen minutes, the Grange was called to order, and Ada Gordon recited the "Patron's Prayer," by E. C. Nordin, written for the occasion.

"Flowers," an essay by Sister Ritchie, of Plymouth Grange.

"Good of the Order," Worthy Lecturer, and discussion, "What shall we do for weak Granges?" Music; after which recess and supper.

EVENING SESSION.
Music, then discussion (continued) on "Good of the Order; discussion on "Flowers," and "Why do Surface Phosphates Fail?" with black-board illustrations, by E. C. Nordin.

Bro. McDonald, of Willow Grange, took an active part in the discussions, as did many others, imparting a lively as well as practical air to the proceedings.

The election of delegate to the State Grange resulted in electing Bro. Jabez Dudley, of Denton.

The music and all the exercises, essays and discussions, were excellent; every minute was full, and but for fatigue, as much more time could have been profitably occupied.

The session closed with the general feeling by all, that it was good to have been there. With a closing long "good-bye," we adjourned to meet in Wayne, the third Friday in Dec., to elect and install officers for the ensuing year.
Mrs. E. P. F. BRADNER.

Master's Department.

J. J. WOODMAN, PAW PAW

National Grange.

The fourteenth annual meeting of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry will be held in the City of Washington, D. C., commencing at 11 o'clock A. M., on Wednesday, the 17th day of November next. Accommodations have been secured at the National hotel for all members and visiting Patrons at \$2.00 per day. All members of the Order in good standing are admitted to all its business sessions, and it is expected that many of our members will avail themselves of this opportunity to visit our Nation's Capital, and attend a session of the National Grange. The Secretary's office is located in the city, and there most of the founders of the Order reside, and we shall expect to see their genial countenances, and listen to their words of cheer, and profit by their counsel. The first meeting of the National Grange composed of Masters of State Granges, met in that city in January, 1873, and a permanent organization of the National Grange was then perfected. Of the Masters of State Granges who will be voting members in the session soon to convene, not one was present and took part in that meeting in 1873; but one who was at the St. Louis meeting in 1874; there will be three who were at Charleston in January, 1875; four who were at Louisville in November, 1875; six who were at Chicago in 1876; nine who were at Cincinnati in 1877; and eleven who were at Richmond in 1878.

Quite a number of changes have been made in the Masters of State Granges the present year, and a full list has not yet been made up; but it will be seen from the above that changes are taking place, and new men and women brought to the front. This is natural and right, and will answer the question propounded by a worthy member, who does not seem to be posted—"If the members of the National Grange are not *life members*, entrenched behind immutable laws?"

State Grange.

The eighth annual meeting of the Michigan State Grange will be held in Representative Hall in the new State House, in the City of Lansing, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. of Tuesday the 14th day of December next. As the session will be held but four days, with a large amount of business to transact, and officers to be elected, it will be necessary for members to be promptly on hand at the opening. Voting members have been elected by the Subordinate Granges, and a full representation will be present. County and District Granges are entitled to representation under the provisions of Section 12, of Article 13, of the By-Laws of the State Grange, and it is expected that they will be fully represented. As usual, we also expect visiting members from every portion of the State. Our Order is gaining in numbers, and strength, and influence, in the State, and the session is to be an important one. Come to the State Grange, Patrons, and cheer your brothers and sisters by your presence. "There is work for all."

TWENTY-EIGHT numbers of the GRANGE VISITOR for 50 cents.

MUSINGS.

BY S. P. BALLARD.

The whispering breezes of summer
Have passed, and the autumn has come,
And the leaves, they are falling around us;
The task nature gave them is done.

And they lie at our feet, the exponents
Of Nature's fair dress when the May
Was unfolding those beautiful blossoms
That have withered and gone to decay.

On the rose bush and sweet brier laden
With the richest and sweetest perfume,
Distilled like the dew drops of evening
E'er the whippoorwill sang in the gloom.

Of the twilight that rose as the day god
Ascended his throne in the east,
Inviting all animate nature
To bring of their store to the feast,

That is set at the gates of the morning,
When traversed by sweet birds of song,
Whose welcoming carols the Goddess
Of Beauty takes up and prolongs,

Till the dewdrop is touched by a presence
That reaches its trembling heart,
That is throbbing with such benediction
The dewdrop was sent to impart.

By the Author of nature who affixeth
His seal to the leaf e're it falls;
May we like the leaflets be ready
To list to his voice when he calls.

Lecturer's Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, - - - MUSKEGON.

Pickings by the Way, No. 17.

Inland we left our readers. Had not yet thanked our good host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. R. Reynolds, with whom we enjoyed a very pleasant visit. Several sugar orchards or bushes took our attention, and we were shown several samples of very nice white maple sugar, one brick of which found its way into our trunk, thanks to the donor.

As we go hence we earnestly hope the types will not make us say "anything" for "one thing," by the Irish woman or any one else. Then "Heart Shoal" in our last was written "East Shore"; and so please correct the rest of our blunders, whether made by the printer or ourselves.

OUTWARD, SEPT. 8.

Bro. Reynolds could leave his promising 10-pound to take us to the home of the W. M. of Inland Grange, V. T. Gardner. A few minutes with a fine melon before us, and then Bro. Gardner and wife took us on our way toward home. A ride of 6 to 8 miles, and Bro. S. A. Gardner, of Monroe Center, met us, and we changed to his buggy, and in company with him and wife, rode to Wexford Corners just in time for dinner. Mrs. J. Faust gave us a good dinner, to which, after our long ride we did ample justice to our own satisfaction, and the credit of the house-keeper. In an unfinished church we spoke to the few who left threshing and other busy home work, also again in the evening, and laid the foundation of a Grange here. At the house of our host we had the pleasure of seeing an organette, and also of hearing it played as it turned out music by the yard. One very good quality of this instrument is that any one can play it as it needs no teaching. On the morning we took soundings of our whereabouts and surroundings, and found ourselves to be on the

COUNTY LINE

between Grand Traverse and Wexford Counties. Every way from the corners are fine farms, owned and tilled by thrifty farmers, whose homes give evidence of the diligent wife. Especially west of this place are some most excellent lands, and as good farms as one could desire. From Wexford Corners we, under the care of Bro. and Sister Gardner, rode north to Monroe Center, near which Silver Lake Grange has its center and hall. On the route we passed as fine farms and as many as could be found in the same distance in any of the older Counties. We here saw fields of corn as good as those seen in our visit to old Lenawee County. The buildings, fences, orchards, and well cleared and stumpless fields, all

speak of the thrift and industry of the people. We stopped for dinner at Bro. Charles Monroe's, whose wife gave us an ample dinner, and prepared us for the labors of the afternoon at the Grange hall. A Grange session was held. We had a good social interview before we were called to labor. Met many old friends in the brothers and sisters present. Two brothers were present from Paradise Grange. The Grange opened in form, with hardly an error in their work. The singing and the promptness of every member pleased us. There are but few, if any, Granges in the State in better working order than Silver Lake Grange No. 624. We spoke for two hours upon the good of the Order and the unwritten work. We find this Grange has been and still is doing much in the way of co-operation. They keep on hand a small stock of goods at the hall, and buy as they are needed. We took tea at the home of the Worthy Lecturer and Past Master of this Grange near by the hall, and went to the school-house, where was to be the public meeting in the evening. At the large County school-house we found a good audience, who for two hours listened with unusual interest to the work of the Order as presented to them. We shall be much mistaken if additions are not made to this Grange, and soon too. The meeting over, we rode with Bro. Blair, of Paradise Grange, to the home of Bro. Chas. Miner, this being two miles on the way to the work of the next day. Bro. Miner's farm and buildings show earnest work and a good farmer who makes the most of his opportunities. Thanks to this thrift, and the Grange, we enjoyed this hospitality so kindly dispensed by our host and his wife.

PARADISE

was to be our next objective point, and upon the morning of Sept. 10th, Bro. Blair took us towards our destination. A great variety of forest and farm, as well as of soil and stages of cultivation were passed by us. Many fine farms and homes have been begun along this route. Some homesteads have been secured and then left. One might be reclaimed if some young woman would use her leap-year prerogative upon the bachelor owner. At one place we saw a good home made since the owner was sixty years of age. How is that, young man? We stopped and examined Bro. Wall's brick house, and his thrifty, productive young orchard. Nor must we forget one of the finest sections of timber owned by the railroad, through which we rode a mile or more in a diagonal of the section. It was a feast to the eye, and a comfort to know that we yet had such timber in our State, and so much of it, all of which will soon be needed in the manufacture of furniture or other purposes.

At Kingsley's, of Paradise, we found Bro. and Sister Gardner, from Silver Lake Grange, also Bro. and Sister Wm. Rose, late of Allendale Grange, Ottawa Co., also a member of Western Pomona Grange, No. 19. In the forenoon we met a very good audience in the Paradise Grange, No. 638, and spoke to them upon the objects and aims of the Order; what had been done and would be done if the farmers would take hold of the work as they should. After dinner we met the Grange, and gave them a good-of-the-Order talk, with instruction in the unwritten work, and the means of operating a Grange successfully. Our labors completed for the day, we rode to Summit City with Bro. and Sister Kingsley, who have a very pleasant farm and home near the station. Bro. and Sister Rose went with us on our way home, driving home that night. We had hoped to see more of them, but they could not stay, and we could not go with them to their new home upon the banks of the upper Manistee river. Persons wishing to make inquiries about lands and places for settlement in this vicinity, would do well to address or visit Bro. Wm. Rose, Summit City, Grand Traverse County,

Michigan. After spending a pleasant night at Bro. Kingsley's, we took the morning train homeward, reaching home after a five-weeks' absence in Grange work, speaking 18 times in 14 places in the Traverse district, besides the work in Lenawee County, and with Bro. Armstrong since leaving home. Of course we were glad to see our family; one child we had not seen in nine weeks. Of the week that followed in which we were at Grand Rapids most of the time, preparing for the fair, we shall say but little. While at home we had the pleasure of visiting our guests, Bro. and Worthy Chaplain Steele and wife, and Sister Cobb, attending the M. E. Conference at Muskegon.

WESTERN MICHIGAN FAIR

Then came the busy successful fair at Grand Rapids, with its very excellent and creditable show of all parts of farm industry, in which our Order is so much interested. We would like to speak of the exhibits by brothers and sisters there, but it would take too much time and space to do each individual member justice. We must, however, refer to one or two new features of this fair. The Grange exhibit by Paris Grange was very creditable. Over 150 varieties of the farm, orchard, garden, and household products, and shown upon a decorated wagon, which was admired by all, and made a conspicuous feature of the grand cavalcade. This exhibit received the first premium, the societies' diploma, and \$40.00 cash. On Thursday, the great day of the fair, in the presence of 20,000 people. Sister Nettie Meech, 16 years old, one of the youngest members of Paris Grange, set her table for 20 persons, and the board of directors did ample justice to the excellent feast spread before them. The variety and good taste all did the sister great credit, and the board appreciated her efforts and awarded her the first premium, and we had the pleasure of pinning upon her shoulder the society's diploma blue ribbon. Young sisters, more of you try next year.

We must not forget to mention an attraction of the fair to be seen in art hall, in the portraits of Worthy Master Woodman and his Deputy, by Miss Lydia Hunt, of Paw Paw. Better work and more accurate likenesses we have never seen. One of these will go to adorn the head of one of the best Grange halls in Kent County. If Patrons want portraits at Grange prices, call upon this artist.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN FAIR.

On the 30th day of September, as per diary, we found ourselves en route for Lansing and elsewhere, as these minutes record. After the usual changes and delays, we reached the Capital city, and were taken in by Bro. Jennison, of Eagle, who took us to the fair grounds.

Here we met with Bro. and Sister Tooker, both exhibitors,—she of her flowers, and he of fruits and vegetables, and associated with Bro. Beal in making the very fine exhibit from Capitol Grange, No. 540. The details of this fine show were given our readers in the last number of the VISITOR.

In the new Pomological Hall, we found Bro. N. Chilson, of Battle Creek, hard at work as usual.

Of the show, in every department, we pronounce it a decided success—excelling the State Fair in many respects. One fault we find, the beautiful grounds were too much filled up with catch-penny shows, making them inconvenient, and often unpleasant; to say nothing of the general appearance of them.

From the crowd present, and the general expression of all, we judge this fair, like others, was a financial success. It has been a good year for fairs, and there has been a good crop of them harvested.

CHESANING.

Not even the fair, with the added attractions of Forepaugh's circus, could hold us another day in the imperial city, and bidding adieu to our Patron-friends, we boarded the northern bound

train, and soon stepped off at Chesaning, our next point.

At the depot, Bro. R. A. Wilson, the Master, formerly of Montgomery Grange, in Lapeer Co., met us; but our friend and relative, Oscar Buell, met us too, and bade us go with him to dinner, near-by the depot. We cheerfully obeyed, and talked over old times and people, and places belonging to them, while partaking of the good cheer of the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Buell.

At 2 P. M., we were met at the hall by Patrons and the public, to whom we spoke for the usual time, and judging from the interest manifested, this Grange may have some questions to answer and some work to do in the near future.

For tea, we accompanied Bro. Wilson, the Master, and met Sister Wilson, who did the part of hostess with true Patronly dignity.

After tea, we again went to the hall, and met the Grange in a private session, instructing in the higher aims and objects of our Order, and the unwritten work.

At a late hour we reached the home of Bro. and Sister Peet, two miles into country, took our night lunch, and went to bed feeling that we had indeed had a good day, and the future will prove our work.

On the morrow we looked over the premises of Bro. Peet, which are very comfortable, and creditable to the true Patrons to whom they belong. After breakfast, the good brother took up his colt, and with the new light buggy, we were soon at the depot, ready to go. Another old acquaintance met us whom we knew in New Jersey 20 years ago. Aboard the train and away: change at Owosso; board the D. G. H. & M. train east; and soon we make Pontiac, and, finding Bro. Edwin Phelps, accept an invitation to visit his happy home, before well known to us. All were well, and pleased to see us.

Dinner over, and the inner man supplied, we were told that the Town Board were to meet upon the taking up of an old road. Bro. Phelps must attend as one of the town officials, and as we might learn something of men and things, we accepted an invitation to go. We wisely looked the whole matter over, heard neighbors abuse each other, and made up our mind upon the case—but as no fee had been agreed upon for our services, we reserved our judgement until the next meeting of the board, and our time is put in and our services paid. Of course we could have settled the whole matter in a few moments by our wise judgement, but "no pay, no cure" is our motto on nice points.

At Phelps' place to tea, and for the rainy and windy night. Yes, we discussed the "situation," and our decision will be known after election. This we can say, that we agreed that we would ignore our party when it ignores the farmer and his interests, and, by a little healthy scorching, get up a vigorous reaction.

With a vigorous rain passed the night, but a pleasant morning followed. Of course we had to look over the manor and see the Herefords and Holsteins. Of the latter, our host has the best bull in the State, two years of age, two fine heifers of the same age, with their calves—all good enough for any farmer to keep. Of the Herefords we might say much, of this fine herd of "pale-faces." The prizes won at Detroit, Grand Rapids, and Pontiac are a verdict.

Bro. Phelps' fine imported Hereford bull, the best in the State, is at the head of this fine herd, then the cows, heifers and calves go to make something any breeder might be proud to own and show anywhere.

Bro. Phelps expects to ship a car-load of these young cattle to Colorado soon, and he has ready sale for all he can grow.

The morning passed, and Bro. and Sister Phelps took us to our old home in Macomb Co., to the scenes of our childhood. Our aged mother welcomed us as of yore, and the time passed but too rap-

idly, till on the morning of Oct. 5th, we must leave for our appointments in TUSCOLA COUNTY.

It was a short ride to Vassar, and then change. Here we met with Bro. Richardson, of Whitney Grange, No. 513, and Bro. Enos Goodrich, of Mat-tawan.

The train to Caro soon made up, and we were en route to its terminus, where a half score of brothers of the County met us. It was the day of the County Grange Convention to select voting members for the State Grange. We found, upon the re-assembling of the Convention, that there were no sisters as delegates, at least none appeared—it was a sort of a *gander* meeting, with Bro. White, of Columbia, Chairman, and Bro. Mason, of Elmwood, Secretary. Well, the work was done, but as I have not heard from the sisters yet, I can't say as it was well done. We hope the next time the sisters will send only themselves as delegates to this County's Convention.

Bro. Campbell took us in charge, and took us home with him, so as to be near the place of the meeting of to-morrow.

In the evening we went to Gagetown and met several members of the Order there, and arranged for a better meeting the next evening. Bros. Hatch, Perry, Mason and Campbell were with us.

OCT. 6, ELLINGTON PICNIC.

The day was cool, yet a very goodly number of Patrons convened in the woods near Bro. Campbell's. The Cass City Grange came in force, with a brass band; Columbia Grange was also well represented, while we met a few from Unionville and elsewhere.

Dinner was duly taken, to the gratification of the inner man, woman and child. We think there were some chickens used, but can only refer the matter to Bro. Palmer.

We were all greatly disappointed by the messenger sent to the depot not being able to find Bro. Mickley, and we have not seen or heard from him since.

With a piece of music by the band and prayer by our Rev. Bro. Palmer, the exercises were well begun. As Bro. Mickley did not come, we had to do his part, both in eating and talking, and not knowing his speech for this occasion, we dare say we did it poorly enough. Familiar with his habits of eating, we can say we only lacked in capacity.

While the band were playing their last piece, we took fifteen or more subscriptions to the VISITOR. The picnic over, we went home with Bro. A. N. Hatch, who took us to our evening meeting, Bros. Perry and Mason going with us.

RASPBERRY GRANGE.

We had a large number of the old members of this Grange met at the school house near Bro. Bingham's, and after an hour's talk proceeded to re-organize this Grange, No. 593, with 21 members present. Bro. Byron Bingham being elected as Master, and Bro. Wm. Gage as Secretary. The officers being duly elected and installed the instructions were given and the charter restored. We lacked Bro. Mickley's help here too, and would here have made him useful. At a late hour we reached Bro. Hatch's, took a lunch and retired. Morning came all too soon, and with it, the duties of another day.

After dinner we started for

UNIONVILLE

in company with our host. We went by the way of Bro. Watson's and thence to Columbia. Bro. White entertained us to tea; showed us the new hall this Grange, No. 582, had erected, which is 24x40, two stories in height, all well done so far, and paid for—is nearly ready for plastering. We commend the energy of this Grange to those of larger numbers and greater wealth. In the evening Bro. White went with us to the village of Unionville, where we met Bros. Davis and Coney and many other Patrons; spoke to them an hour and then returned to Bro. P. P. Kline's for the night and needed rest. An early

breakfast and good-by to host and hostess, an hour and one-half's ride and Bro. Hatch delivered us at the depot in good time and order. At nine o'clock, A. M. we were at Hunter's Creek, and were met by Bro. H. Parmalee, who took us home and fed us well; led us out to his orchard; showed us some fine woolled sheep, lately bought at the sale of Mr. Ingalls, of Almont, also his well-bred Duke of Genesee, a three-year-old short-horn that has taken many prizes. After tea, in company with host and hostess we made a pleasant call upon David Clark, who is a large breeder of Hereford cattle, and took many prizes at Detroit and Grand Rapids. We regret that we did not have day-light and time to see his herd and enjoy more of this comfortable home and the society of its companionable people.

The meeting in the evening was fairly attended and we trust that good will result from it. At a late hour Bro. E. Michael placed us in Lapeer, where we were soon ready to be called for to take the 8:20 A. M. train to Bay City en route to our next appointment.

AUBURN, BAY COUNTY.

We made Bay City just in time for breakfast at the Campbell House; then to call upon old pupils and friends, Mrs. Crum, and Mrs. C. Pond—dining with the latter—renewing an acquaintance begun 24 years since. At 2 P. M. we left for Auburn in the care of Bro. J. Felkes, Master of Auburn Grange, No. 635. Very bad roads from recent rains hindered us much. At last we were there, and had our tea and some rest, then to the hall—a new one just erected by this small, weak Grange. The plastering has not yet been done, and may not be until spring. This was the first public meeting this Grange ever had, and we are sure it will result in good to the Grange, and to those without who will soon come in. A short private lecture followed the public meeting, and we found rest at Bro. Felkes. The land in this vicinity is low, well adapted to grazing, but not to grain growing; yet good crops of wheat are often taken here. The following day we were obliged to go back to Bay City to be ready for an early homeward bound train on the morning of October 11th, at 6:30 A. M. A rest, and dinner at Owosso, and home was reached at 7:20 P. M.

Glad were we to be home again, if for only a day. But how much calls our attention to work needed to be done, but little time to do it. The falling leaves and the fruit work tell of winter to be prepared for—yet but a day at home.

What is a Vote?

At a this time in particular, but always should the American citizen understand the value and use of a vote, to use it intelligently, and to neither make it his enemy, or to "throw his vote away."

A vote—a ballot, are terms often used interchangeably by the citizens of our country in designating the means of exercising their right of suffrage as members of the great organizations of town, County, and State.

Ballot, from the little balls of various colors, often used, is the term employed to represent the means employed by the public to express their views upon the men and measures presented at elections. A vote or ballot, in a few words, is the material representation of a person's views, principles, or interests, and in the collective capacity of people to ascertain the principles, views and interests of the majority, that the greatest good to the greatest number may be secured.

Every true vote, then, will represent the principles or interests, or both, of the voter. In voting moneys, or amendments to organic law, the vote, if intelligent (and none should vote unless intelligent) should be yes or no, as shall best express their principles and interest in the action.

If the vote is upon men to represent

the voter in the capacity of legislative, executive, or judicial officer, then the men voted for should be living exponents of the views and interests of the voter. If a man votes for men and measures simply indifferent to his principles and interests, he simply "throws his vote away." If a man votes for measures and men in opposition to his principles and interests he works injury to himself and does violence to his principles.

Whom shall we select by ballot to represent us in an official capacity? Only men of principle, whose lives are and have been in accord with our principles and interests. Shall we to-day as farmers vote for a farmer whose life for 30 years is known to us to be pure and upright, and whose interests are identical with ours. Shall we not support one of us?

Who shall temperance men support? Shall it be men of long temperate lives, or men temperate in representation only for the time being?

For whom shall the Christian vote? Shall he cast his ballot for men of principles, of long consistent Christian lives, or for men of the world, or worse, men of liberal tendencies into whose hands he shall commit the important interests of his own or family's future?

Whom shall the farmers of our State vote for to present and defend their important interests—the most important of all interests to the Nation and the world,—in the Legislatures of State and Nation? Shall we vote for those whose interests are our interests and will advocate and defend our common interests, or for those who for the sake of position and pay profess to be our friends, but who will if elected prove to be against us, as they have in times past, when larger fees could be obtained from people and interests opposed to ours.

Brothers, and farmer friends, think well upon all these questions; and, of all things, don't throw your vote away, as you will do if you help to succeed in electing a man or men not in harmony of life and principle with your principles and interests. "But I have to vote my party ticket," you say. Then if the men your party present do not suit you, then ignore them, but do not stick to party at the loss of principle and the detriment of interests. Men, proved by their past lives, are better representatives of principles and men's interests than any party known. If party ignores you, ignore the men they present for your suffrages, if such men are not of you and for you.

As for us and our house we shall vote for a man for Congress whose interests are identified with ours, and whose life has been one of activity for the best interests of society and the State. We shall vote for men to go to the State Senate who when there will not burden us with outrageous tax commissions, but who will talk and vote for equal taxation of all species of property according to value, and will see the Agricultural College,—the Michigan farmer's pride,—made what it ought to be. We want no keen selfish lawyer to represent us.

In the Legislature's lower House we expect to have a tried Patron and farmer who has once been there, and there, as well as elsewhere, has shown himself capable and sound.

Brother farmers, you can't afford to do less, your wisdom may enable you to do far better. God grant that you may.

Which?

Will you sacrifice principle and truth as well as your best interests for that party which ignores you and your vocation, in the selection of candidates for your votes? Can the legal fraternity year after year as they represent you, present you and your interests better than you can yourself? What kind of a citizen is he who cannot tell or does not know what he wants as well as some one of another pursuit. O, man "know thyself!" Dare to be, to think, and to do.

Think When you Act

Think when you act on Tuesday, November 12, by the casting of your vote. Think of your wool interest, the shoddy competition. Think of the railroad freights, and the discriminations in them. Think of the patent right burdens and the other ills you feel and suffer before you cast your vote for member of Congress. Think of our Agricultural College and its needs of your excessive unequal taxes, and of that outrageous tax Commissioner as you prepare to vote for your Senator and Representative for the next Legislature, at the coming election.

Appointments.

As soon as the storm of election subsidies and the horizon clears, we expect to visit Tuscola and Lapeer Counties to form a County or Pomona Grange in each. In answer to numerous signed petitions received.

The meeting in Lapeer County is to take place at the Hall of Pine Stub Grange, No. 448, on Friday, the 5th of November, at 11 o'clock A. M. It is hoped that there will be a large meeting at that time. Other Grange work will be done in this County, if we receive encouragement to take the time.

The meeting in Tuscola Co. is appointed at Caro, for Wednesday, the 10th of November, at 11 A. M. Several other places will be visited in this Co. if arrangements are made in time.

Shall we go or Send?

It is an old and true saying, "If you want a thing done well go yourself, and if you don't care, send." Take this into all business, is it not true that we send too much? We, in other words, trust too much to irresponsible and uninterested parties. Nowhere is this more true than in politics. In the representation of our interests in the legislation of the country, we send, we do not go enough. We send lawyers and professed politicians to do and work for us, and how do they do it? They misrepresent us and our interests, and our work is not done.

If a member of a family, firm, society, or community is the representative employed, then in a general sense that family, firm, society, or community go. Think of Detroit sending citizens of Traverse City, or Toledo to represent it in the State Legislature. You laugh, so you may laugh also at the idea of sending a kid-gloved, patent-leathered gentleman lawyer to care for and protect the interests of agriculture in a State or National Legislature. We would almost as soon send the wolf or hawk to protect the interests or promote the welfare of the lamb or chicken.

There is an eternal fitness in things, and why will not men see it? Make a good true farmer go for you, Brother farmers, but don't send those who have nothing else to do,—they will do nothing save for themselves.

"The Executive Committee of the Dominion Grange of Canada had a large tent erected on the grounds of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, and also at the Provincial Exhibition at Hamilton. It was kept well filled with visiting Patrons, who thus enjoyed a glad reunion.—Cincinnati Gr. Bulletin.

An excellent idea. Why can not arrangements be made, next year at the State fair, Western Michigan, and Central Michigan fairs, where such or similar reunions and general exchanges could be held and enjoyed? Let the State Grange encourage such preparation by positive action, putting the matter into the hands of the Pomona or County Granges, near by such fairs to attend to the details of the same. The headquarters of the *Agricultural World* and *VISITOR* at the fair at Grand Rapids was a step in that direction. Only let the Fraternity order and advertise the arrangements for something better and more extensive in the future.

As a rule the flower of the family does nothing towards providing the daily bread.

"A lawyer is a learned gentleman who rescues your estate from your enemies and keeps it himself."

Music in the Grange.

We quote the following from the report of the Committee on the Good of the Order, at the late State Grange meeting of Nova Scotia.

Your Committee having strong confidence in the efficacy of good music in the Grange, suggest the propriety of encouraging our members, and especially our young people, to cultivate a taste for music; to procure song and tune books, and to meet from time to time to practice the songs of the Grange, and all the Grange rooms, whenever practicable, should be provided with an organ, or some suitable instrument of music.

Every Patron in Michigan should read and reflect upon these words, and every Grange will do well to help its younger members to a knowledge of music by some plan well digested, not only for the good of the young people, but also for the general good of the Order.

As the evenings lengthen, why not arrange for musical instruction to all the members of your Grange, by the employment of a competent teacher, to begin at once.

Let the Granges move in this, and then invite all the young people without the gates to join such school for instruction, to not only share in the benefits but also in the expense. The Grange making such a move would at once enlist the sympathy and good will of the young people, and they in turn would foster and support the Grange, aye, and many would be led to inquire into the merits of the Order, and become members.

Good singing is essential, and an instrument well played a factor to the successful Grange meeting.

True in Michigan.

If lecturing is expected to be of value in building up our noble Order, and securing greater and more permanent prosperity, it must be of the upbuilding and progressive kind, and more uniform over the State—working together for the same object, seeking to reach the same end, harmoniously working together in the same channel to accomplish like and desirable results. Lecturers treating upon realities, facts, and necessities, given in a common-sense way, plain, clear, and distinct, before the Patrons and farmers in the State, cannot otherwise but do good. And when uniform as to points, teaching the same doctrine alike every day and in every place, it will cause men and women to think, consider, and act that must accomplish good results. I candidly believe, and my faith is being confirmed stronger every day, that if the Patrons in the State unite in the effort of revival, and work together co-operatively, that this will be made the successful year for the Order in the State, more so than any year preceding it since its organization.—*Worthy Master Ehsbaugh, Missouri State Grange.*

Read This.

The Standard Oil Company have made their immense business, and crushed out all competitors, by the aid of the railroad corporations, that carried oil for them cheaper than for other oil companies. The railroads are practically now subject to their dictation. Now they propose to buy a million acres of land in the Great West and put it in wheat, and if we have no law regulating freight rates, what is to prevent them from putting up the rate on wheat grown by farmers, and putting down the rate on their own, till they have crushed out the farmer, as they did the oil refineries? Will the farmers stand by and see this done, and lift no voice of remonstrance—put forth no hand to stop it.—*Ec.*

LITTLE TYRANT.

Let every sound be dead!
Baby sleeps.
The Emperor softly tread!
Baby sleeps.
Let Mozart's music stop!
Let Phidias' chisel drop!
Baby sleeps.
Demosthenes be dumb!
Our tyrant's hour has come!
Baby sleeps.

UNMERCITED honors never wear well. GRIEF counts the seconds; happiness forgets the hours.—*De Finod.*

LOVE makes time pass, and time makes love pass.

TIME strengthens true love, if there be mutual discretion and forbearance; but makes havoc with lust and mere infatuation.

A LADY nowadays doesn't mind having her age recorded in the family Bible. It is almost sure to remain a secret.

The Sign of Caution.

Something like three years ago, under "Sign of Caution"—that we are so often called upon to give in the *Bulletin*—we showed up the spring-bed swindle. It has broken out afresh, and we hear from it almost at the same time in Vermont and Michigan. So we once more give the "sign" to all good Patrons everywhere.

The plan is about as follows: The parties travel out in the country, claiming to represent the Detroit Spring Bed Co. Calling on a farmer they show him a model of a spring bed, and after showing forth its good qualities, propose to send him nineteen beds, which he is to store until the agents come, which will be shortly after their arrival, when they will distribute them, giving each family two weeks to try them, or return them to the farmer who stores them. If they keep them, they pay him ten dollars, which he is to receive and remit to the company, deducting four dollars for his commission on each bed sold, and he is also to have one bed free. The smooth talking swindlers say it is better for the company to leave their beds in this way than to keep an agent on expense, as they do not expect to sell their beds without letting people try them—all of which is very fair. But before leaving them, they get the farmer to sign an order for the beds. In a few weeks around comes another man with the order and a bill for nineteen beds at ten dollars each. In vain the victim tells him of his verbal contract. No 2 knows nothing about it, and threatens to sue in the United States Court, and gets him to sign a note, sometimes throwing off a little. Look out for them.

DRIVE WELLS.

The following interesting information on the drive well question comes from Des Moines, Iowa, within a few days:

There are over 300 drive-well cases on file in the Federal Courts here, which have been on the docket over a year. It is expected that they will come to final trial at the next term. It may be of interest to thousands of well owners in Illinois, as in Iowa, to know the status of these cases, and the probable outcome.

The cases may be briefly stated thus, as has been developed and briefly shown by the records. In September or October, 1861, N. W. Green, at Cortland, N. Y., suggested to several persons that he believed a well could be made by driving a pointed iron tube with holes in the side for water to pass through, into the earth, to which a pump could be attached to raise the water. He got Bryan Mudge, J. C. Carmichael, and one Robinson, to make the experiment, and after five trials, they succeeded in the latter part of October of that year. The Seventy-sixth New York Regiment was then in camp at that place. Green was its Colonel, and Julius A. Graham sutler. At the suggestion of Green, Graham hired Mudge to put a well in the mess house, which was paid for by Graham, and used while the regiment remained there. Subsequently Mudge and Hiram Suggett put in several wells in Cortland, in 1862-'3-'4-'5. In March, 1866, Green applied for a patent, which he received in 1868. In 1871 he surrendered that patent, and got a re-issued patent; and it is on this patent that all these drive-well suits are brought. It is shown by abundant testimony that wells embodying all the principles claimed were made and in use in Cortland in 1858; and that in Warsaw, in 1858, was one exactly like Green's, and which was used one year, as sworn to by five witnesses. By over thirty witnesses it is proven that a drive-well was in use in Independence, Ia., in 1861. Fifteen witnesses swear to the existence of a drive well at Hunt's, in Livingston Co., N. Y., in 1850. Several witnesses swear that two wells were in use in Saratoga Co., N. Y., in 1860, and in Rensselaer Co., N. Y., in 1858.

The record shows that, by stipulation of the attorneys, the complainants were to close their testimony July 1st, last; that they then asked and obtained until Aug. 16th; that on the 12th of Aug. they obtained thirty days more time, which expired last Saturday. Unless they get more time, the cases will be tried in October. It looks very much as though they were seeking this delay solely for the purpose of pushing their claims for royalty.—*Grange Bulletin.*

PATRONS, let us ask ourselves the questions, what have we done since our connection with the Grange to advance its interests? Have we discharged our duty with an eye single to its good? Have we lived up to its rules and resolutions? Have we left anything undone that ought to have been done? If we make this inquiry, if we make a thorough examination of our past Grange lives, I am fearful that some of us will fall short. I for one, feel that at times, I have been remiss, and although I, in a manner performed the duties imposed upon me, yet there was lacking that earnest zeal that ought to characterize the efforts of a true Patron.—*Worthy Master Harrison, of Alabama.*

LOOK at the bright side. Keep the sunshine of a living faith in the heart.

THE habit of being always employed is a great safeguard through life, as well as essential to the culture of every virtue.

THE GRANGE VISITOR.

SCHOOLCRAFT, NOV. 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.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AND OTHER MATTERS.

In answer to the call of its chairman, Bro. Childs, the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange met at the Hudson House, on the evening of the 19th of October.

The committee were called together for the purpose of making arrangements for the annual session of the State Grange, and to dispose of two or three appeal cases from Subordinate Granges. All the members of the committee were in attendance except Bro. Satterlee.

The preliminary arrangements for the next session were soon made, Representative Hall in the new Capitol is the place, and 10 o'clock, December 14th, the time of meeting. Lansing seems to expect our annual sessions, and as our Capital City has treated the Order with consideration and given every possible facility in its power for pleasant and profitable meetings, the Patrons of the Peninsular State are likely to gather together annually in large numbers for social and business purposes at this central point. Those who attend these annual sessions all agree that nothing else can give such correct and pleasant impressions of the magnitude of the interests involved, and of the importance of the Order, as attendance at an annual session of its representative members.

The Order has increased in strength in Michigan this year, and is to-day full of confidence. More than a thousand new names have been added to the subscription list of the VISITOR, and there are many other evidences of the growing importance of the Order in this State.

The harmonious condition of the Order, and the good condition of its business affairs rendered a short session of the committee sufficient. Bro. Holloway was excused after dinner on Wednesday, and nearly all the other members of the committee took evening trains for home.

The Special Committee to arrange for hotel accommodations, reported rates substantially as last year:

Lansing House, per day,	\$1.50
Hudson House, " "	1.25
Chapman, Revere, Barnes, Dart, and Goodrich, Houses, each, per day	1.00

The Lansing House stipulated that this price meant one bed for two persons. That one occupant would be charged \$2.00 per day.

Bro. Taylor, of the firm of Day & Taylor, of Grandville, met with the Committee, and the plaster question was discussed. The conclusions reached are embodied in the address of the Committee found on our first page.

With increasing age, we are acquiring a dislike to being up all night, though we remember when we did not mind being up nearly all night—in fact rather liked it, but as we are older now and circumstances widely different, we

are free to say we don't like sitting up all night any more, even if that brings us home in the morning. So we staid Wednesday night with mine host of the Hudson House.

Thursday morning we took a run over to the Agricultural College. We had but little time to look about, but noted some improvements since we were there last June. The general appearance of the grounds in the vicinity of the buildings is good. We did not visit the farm, for want of time. Had a short chat with President Abbott and Secretary Beard, in the office of the latter gentleman, and afterwards met Professors Carpenter and Beal before the hour of recitation of their respective classes. All seemed confident that the College is each year not only doing more, but with increased facilities, better work, and that it is gradually overcoming a prejudice long entertained by perhaps a large share of the farmers of the State, against an institution that was most certainly established for the benefit of their class.

In this matter farmers have largely been taking sides against themselves, and been outspoken enemies of this State institution.

Without giving any opinion as to the management all through these years, we are fully assured that opposition to the College from our class has not only been in bad taste, but has been wrong and unmanly, without due thought or consideration. The farmers of Michigan should have known more about this institution, and if it was not what it should be, then by continual discussion, by comparison of views, and constant effort to bring it to their standard, they would have shown their appreciation of agricultural knowledge. On the contrary, the farmers of Michigan have had little faith in the institution, and as a class, have found a great deal of fault with it, when they should have been trying to make it better.

We have seen enough of it to be satisfied that the President and Professors are doing earnest, faithful work, and are really anxious to improve both the Agriculture and the Agriculturists of Michigan.

We hope the voting farmers of the State will not send men to represent them in the next Legislature who will vote liberal appropriations of the money of the people to the University, from which lawyers and doctors are each year turned out in large numbers, to oftentimes prey upon the community, and then on the assumption that farmers know enough already, refuse to treat the Agricultural College with equal liberality. Perhaps it has been ascertained by somebody that Michigan farmers really need doctors and lawyers more than they do agricultural schools or agricultural education. We have sometimes thought that some of our farmers who get into the Legislature entertain such views.

The farmers of the State, as a class, are to-day more friendly to the Agricultural College than ever before, and this favorable turn in the tide has been influenced by the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

As we saw boys by the score availing themselves of the advantages of the College, the mental inquiry arose, why are girls deprived of these advantages afforded boys at the expense of the State, and we conclude that the men who can explain why the University has claims on the State that over-

shadow entirely those of the Agricultural College, are the men to tell us why.

We have heard of one or two candidates for legislative honors who were the declared enemies of the Agricultural College. Of such we say as a farmer, most unequivocally, if they were candidates in our district, we should not vote for them, as we believe in employing men who work for us who will do our work, and also we believe in that kind of voting.

THE GRANGE VISITOR FOR 1881.

We have not importuned our friends much this year in behalf of the VISITOR. We have not offered dry goods, groceries or hardware, music, chromos, or other valuables as premiums to those who send us subscribers. We have only offered an extra copy to any person sending us ten names with pay for the paper for one year.

Perhaps our way is a little old fogyish. Maybe we don't insist upon it as much as we should, that ours is the best and cheapest Grange paper published, and prove it by offering all sorts of premiums to anybody and everybody that will send us a name or two for the paper. Well, we can only say that we never served any apprenticeship at this business and are probably too old to pick up all the smart ways that lead to success in the newspaper business.

We see that at the date of our report to the State Grange in December, 1875, we had less than 400 subscribers, and although we have had no paid agents or "splendid offers," or anything of that sort, the paper has been changed from a monthly to a semi-monthly—its size increased 140 per cent, and to its subscription list more than 5,000 other names have been added.

We have faithfully labored to promote the best interests of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and the great agricultural class of the State. Have been outspoken and independent upon all subjects that we have considered, though scrupulously careful to keep within the constitutional restrictions of the Order in referring to religious or political subjects, and we have always endeavored to give our subscribers full value for their money.

We feel so confident that the VISITOR is on a firm foundation that just now we feel unusually liberal, and while in this mood we offer the VISITOR for 1881 at the old price of 50 cents for 24 numbers and will supply to all subscribers, between this and January 1st the remaining numbers of this year, or 28 numbers of the VISITOR for the subscription price for one year.

This offer so far as relates to next year, is subject to any changes in price that the State Grange or its Executive Committee may make.

This proposition does not affect our standing offer to furnish an extra copy to any one sending us ten names and \$5 for the VISITOR.

We ought to have 500 new subscribers before the meeting of the State Grange, and shall, if our friends take a little trouble to show members of the Order and farmers outside the gate that the VISITOR is the most thoroughly independent paper working in the interests of the farmers that is published in the State.

Shall we have the 500 new subscribers?

THE SITUATION.

In looking over the political field just on the eve of "the most important election" the country has ever known, if we are to believe the men on the political stump, we do not discover anything so unusually important or alarming as to occasion or justify any loss of sleep.

The great mass of the people—having interests in common—have, in the main, permitted politicians to give direction to caucuses and conventions, and we shall, as heretofore, have an undue proportion of lawyers in our legislative bodies, more than the best interest of the country demands, and far more than that class are entitled to, in an equitable distribution of the honors, labor and emoluments incident to official position. While this is all true, we are quite sure that the grip which the profession have upon all the offices of the country has been materially loosened by the increased intelligence of the people, and we see, in the near future, a Congress that shall have less than 76 per cent of lawyers, and more than four per cent of farmers. The world moves, and never before with such rapidity as this last half of the nineteenth century.

The people, as a body, do not at once comprehend and accept every proposition which includes securing their rights and bettering their condition, on the mere presentation; but at no period in the world's history have they been progressing more rapidly than at the present time. More people are doing their own thinking than ever before, and, politically, more men each year are doing their own independent voting.

Our readers need not be told that, while we believe in organization, in concert of action, to obtain desired results, yet we have great faith in the value of the independent voter—the man who finding the name of an incompetent or dishonest man on the ticket of his party, has such independence and love of country at heart, that he can scratch out the name and substitute that of an honest, competent man of another party in its stead.

In this direction, we believe we are making real progress, in spite of a reckless, unscrupulous partisan press, that sees only meanness and dishonesty in the candidate of the other party, and as carefully suppresses all the weak points of its own. There was perhaps never a time when the two old parties of the country were having such a lively fight for the offices as at this election. With patriotic platforms, and a noisy distinction with but little difference—the ins want to stay in, and the outs want to get in, and while we personally have decided preferences, yet we are free to say that we look upon this as a very favorable time for the independent voter to select the best men, those whom he believes will do the square thing by every interest that comes within the range of his official duty.

For the office of Governor of Michigan, which for the last year we have insisted belonged to the farmers of the State as a matter of right, we find in the field two candidates who are farmers. Of these gentlemen we wish to say in such decided terms as not to be misunderstood, that they are not Granger candidates, as one might infer from the language of

some of our correspondents, but candidates of the Democratic and Greenback parties respectively. The Grangers, as such, have no candidate for Governor, any more than they have a candidate for Bishop of this Diocese.

We asked the people of the State to give us farmer candidates for the office of Governor for each of the political parties in the State; and we based our claim on the fact that since Michigan became a State, more than forty-three years ago, of ninety-one different men who have been Governors of Michigan and Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State, but two have been farmers. And this state of things was not because we have not had competent farmers who would have done honor to themselves and the State as Governors, Senators, or Representatives.

We insisted that state of things in an agricultural State was unjust and unsatisfactory to our class, and hoped that a claim so manifestly just and right, and needing no argument to sustain it on the score of expediency, would be recognized by the men who manipulate the party machinery. In this, so far as the Republican party were concerned, we were disappointed.

The claim of the farmers was ignored, and the annoying and mortifying feature of this case lies in the fact that farmers helped bring about this result.

As we have before stated, while the VISITOR is under our management we shall not permit it to have a partisan character, and desire to state only facts without prejudice, and let results follow as they may.

We understand that the temperance question occupies a prominent place in the canvass, that Mr. Jerome has substantially refused to commit himself either way, and that Mr. Holloway has so replied to the interrogatories of the liquor dealers association as to be their accepted champion, and that Mr. Woodman has pronounced squarely in favor of temperance legislation.

As we understand it the temperance advocates in the State have taken new ground this year, and simply ask that the Legislature shall authorize the submission of the question to the people for their determination. This proposition rests on the fundamental principles of the government itself, that majorities must rule, and we are surprised that however inexpedient these gentlemen may consider restrictive legislation, they should not have been willing to have in unmistakably plain English declared that they believed in the right of the people in their sovereign capacity to pass upon this question. Of Mr. Jerome's personal views upon this question we know nothing one way or the other, nor do we hold him in any way responsible for the stupid, blundering mistake of the Republican party in disregarding the demands of the farmers.

Of Bro. Holloway, we know that he is thoroughly honest in all his convictions, is a genuine farmer, and believes in the rights of the people to determine questions of public policy, and we regret that his open letter did not state that point clearly, regardless of the good or ill will of the liquor dealers, for whose business we have a decided abhorrence, and with whom we could in no way affiliate.

In regard to this whole matter about which we and our correspondents have so freely expressed our opinions, sometimes agreeing, and sometimes not, there is no one thing to which we attach so much importance as this:—*The stimulus that has been given to independent voting for competent men, whether found on the ticket of our own party or on that of some other political party.*

On the Governor question we have given correspondents nearly all the rope they wanted. Sometimes we have thought that some have been more radical than our judgment approved, but it is a conflict of ideas that lead to truth, and we have been quite willing to have our friends come close to the line of constitutional restriction in treating this subject. The election over, it will then be in order to make the most we can out of the situation, whatever that may be.

Of one thing be sure; whatever the result, the "Farmer Boom for Governor" has not been in vain.

TRANSPORTATION QUESTION.

We cannot say whether our friends have been remiss in offering to the candidates for Congress in this State that circular of enquiry upon the transportation question, or if they have failed to forward answers to us. Or, perhaps some candidates, like one we heard from, did not know what to say in reply, until he had enquired of some one who did know.

It strikes us that the circular itself covered facts enough to settle the question as to the necessity for protective legislation, and no man of average common sense and a disposition to take care of the interests of the people, would be at a loss for an answer to this circular. Of course the men who know of no rule of action but *policy*, might be uncertain as to the answer which would best subserve their purpose.

We have not the answers we had a right to expect from these gentlemen. The course taken upon this transportation question by those who happen to get elected, will be closely watched, and if that is at variance with the interests of their constituents, we shall endeavor to put them on record, and hope before the close of their official term that the people will so well understand the importance of this subject that their further services will be dispensed with.

This subject is vastly more important than any over which the political parties of to-day are making a fight, and we expect it soon to be recognized as such.

We do not waste much time on predictions, but we confidently hazard this: That the party that fights shy of this question, will go to the wall within the next ten years.

We give below the only additional replies received.

TRAVERSE CITY, Oct. 5th, '80.
S. A. GARDNER, Esq., Dear Sir:—The within circular letter has just come to hand, and my immediate departure for the Upper Peninsula renders it necessary to reply at once, without much time for thought.

I have long recognized the evils you complain of, and I know of no remedy, save by wise legislation, that shall allow a living compensation to the railroad, and at the same time save the shippers from their greed, and that shall compel them to treat every shipper alike, without favoritism. Just what might be the best course to pursue to fix and establish rates and enforce penalties for violations of law, I

am not prepared to say. I am very much opposed to multiplying public offices. But endorse and pledge my support to your first two questions, and as to the third, I should require time for investigation. It is possible that a board of railroad commissioners will be the best way to enforce and carry out these needed reforms, and if I should feel satisfied that such was the case, I should heartily endorse that also. But I feel like reserving my views on that question until I have more opportunity to investigate and satisfy myself as to the best method to secure these rights.

Yours truly,
E. S. PRATT.

After disposing of some preliminary matters, Mr. Parmelee says:

In answer to your letter, I will first say that, as the railroads derive their legal rights from the people, who are the source of all law, so I believed it is fairly implied that transactions between them and the people, growing out of their conferred rights, shall be conducted upon an equitable basis, and if not so conducted, it is the right and the duty of the people to regulate such transactions by laws, armed with every needed restriction and penalty. I believe this can be, and should be done, without trespassing on the proper rights of the roads.

So I will say of your first question, that the "cost and risk of service" is the equitable base of charges, and "what the traffic will bear" is the piratical one.

To your second question, "Will you, if elected, favor and labor for the enactment of laws prohibiting and punishing favoritism and unjust discriminations, through secret rates or otherwise?" I answer, Yes.

To the third question, relative to the establishment of a board of railroad Commissioners, with ample powers to protect the rights of people who use railroads, I will say that something effectual in that direction should be done, and, if opportunity ever devolves upon me, I shall do what I can to make a law that shall accomplish the desired object in the most direct and thorough manner.

Hoping you will accept my excuse for delay in replying to yours, I am,
Very respectfully,
GEORGE PARMELEE.

BOUND BY LAWS.

When we had the Constitution of the National Grange, the Declaration of Purposes, State Grange By-Laws, and Pomona and Subordinate Grange By-Laws, together with rules and regulations for trials in Subordinate Granges, all printed in book form last spring, at the suggestion of Bro. Whitney, we had 100 copies bound in cloth.

As this book contains more valuable Grange law than can be found elsewhere aside from the digest of the National Grange, we call the attention of those who desire to have a copy in convenient form and preservation to these bound copies, which we mail, post paid, to all applicants on receipt of 20 cents.

WM. STRONG, Esq., Secretary of the Kalamazoo County Farmers' Institute, sends us the minutes of a meeting of its executive committee. From these we learn that it was determined to hold an Institute on the first Wednesday and Thursday in February next, somewhere in the County, and applications addressed to D. T. Dell, Vicksburg; F. Hodgman, Climax, or Wm. Strong, Kalamazoo, are in order.

By an oversight of the printer, the article on our seventh page headed "A Visit to a Fair," did not appear in the Visitor of Oct. 15th, although set up for that number. Mistakes will sometimes happen even in a printing office.

TWENTY-EIGHT numbers of the GRANGE VISITOR for 50 cents.

We publish herewith a list of Counties, with the names of the representatives elected Oct. 5th, as voting members of the State Grange. This matter of electing members to legislate for the Order occurs annually, and has ever since the Order was first established in the State. And with the same uniformity we have requested Secretaries of Conventions to send us the names and post office address of delegates elected.

The election for this year occurred nearly a month ago, and our list is still very incomplete. This is perhaps a small matter, but it will not do itself; somebody must attend to it or it will not be done at all. Now some of these Secretaries may not take the Visitor. Of course no member of the Order should be elected to office, in the Order or out of it, who has not interest enough in the Order to pay 50 cts. a year for its official paper—but mistakes happen—always have and always will, and something of this kind may have occurred in these delinquent Counties. We hope somebody will report at once from these blank Counties, and we also request that errors, if any, be corrected. We want the list complete as soon as possible, and cannot secure that object without the co-operation of our friends.

- ALLEGAN—S. P. Albertson, Watson, 154
- M. V. B. McAlpine, Montecary, 247
- L. C. Gilbert, Moline, 248
- BARRY—
- BERRIEN—E. Nickerson, Ben Hurbor, 84
- Sam'l Mars, Stevensville, 84
- John Clark, Pipestone, 400
- BRANCH—D. A. Thompson, Gilead, 400
- CASS—G. W. Vannaken, Coldwater, 137
- CALHOUN—A. C. Johnson, Battle Creek, 390
- John Hough, White Station, 292
- EATON—Aaron Bark, 360
- S. L. Bentley, 360
- GENESSEE—
- HILLSDALE—
- INGHAM—D. V. Smith, Okemos, 235
- W. A. Higbee, Leslie, 287
- IONIA—Henry J. Hall, 175
- J. W. Vanden, Pease, 175
- A. S. Stannard, Lowell, 175
- JACKSON—
- KALAMAZOO—O. H. Fellows, Schoolcraft, 61
- A. B. Judson, Vicksburg, 61
- KENT—G. E. Calhoun, Lowell, 113
- J. L. Wells, Fishers, 350
- Jonathan Best, Grand Rapids, 102
- Geo. D. Wood, Grattan, 110
- E. C. Whitney, Rockford, 170
- LAPEER—
- LENAWEE—M. E. Elmore, Kelley's Corners, 478
- Martin Odell, Jasper, 278
- LIVINGSTON—
- MACOMB—J. F. Snook, 8
- MANISTEE—Geo. B. Fierce, Pleasant, 357
- MUSKEGON—D. N. Hanson, Casnovia, 316
- MONTCALM—Chas. R. Dickerson, Carson City, 495
- NAKAGAWA—H. W. Noble, Denver, 495
- OKLAHOMA—E. C. Newman, Milford, 312
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- W. E. Carpenter, Pontiac, 438
- OTTAWA—H. D. Weatherwax, Georgetown, 378
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- DAVID HUBBARD, Ely, Ok., 303
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- St. Clair—
- SAGINAW—
- VAN BUREN—E. W. Warner, Lawton, 25
- D. W. Sias, McDonald, 26
- WASHTENAW—Albert Day, Rawsonville, 59
- H. Baldwin, Chelsea, 239
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- BAY AND MIDLAND—
- SECOND DISTRICT.
- GRAND TRAVERSE AND ANTRIM—
- THIRD DISTRICT.
- LEELANAW AND BENZIE—Addison P. Wheelock, Almyra, 375
- FOURTH DISTRICT.
- OCEANA AND MASON—
- FIFTH DISTRICT.
- MONROE AND WAYNE—N. T. Bradner, Redford, 312
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- TUSCOLA AND OSCEOLA—Hiram R. Petty, Ellington, 548
- HURON AND SANILAC—Richard F. Welwood, Marlette, 641
- REPRESENTATIVES FROM POMONA GRANGES.
- WAYNE—Jabez Padley, 495
- L. D. Shirreff, 21
- CLINTON—John M. DeWitt, So. Riley, 21
- INGHAM—A. A. King, Dansville, 14

The farm is a good place to rear boys, and to produce men in the strict sense of the word. Men are what the world needs. True men are needed everywhere. Honest men are needed, who will stand by their word with the same tenacity that they stand by their property. The hope of the country is in the farms. If the farms fail to send forth an honest yeomanry then is our country lost. But if honest boys and upright men are brought forth by the thousands of farms in New England and the West, then they will be the salt of the earth and which will prove the salvation of our free institutions. The boy raised on the farm is usually exposed to fewer temptations than other boys, and usually makes a better man.—*Leviston Journal.*

Communications.

Shall the Farmers of this Country Produce their Own Sweet in the Future?

Among the many questions of importance that ought to be considered in the Grange—the question of farmers producing their own sugar, is perhaps as interesting as any that could have been selected to be considered at this time. This question has already been discussed somewhat in the Visitor and some other papers, and ought to be agitated more among the people.

A few weeks since, while in St. Joseph County, I called upon Mr. William Hull, a farmer living near Centerville, and a member of the Order. Mr. Hull has been experimenting somewhat in manufacturing sugar from sorghum, and exhibited a specimen of sugar he made from syrup, made one year ago this fall. The quality of the sugar was as good as that which we get at the retail stores for about from nine to ten cents per pound, and was very sweet.

Mr. Hull stated that he produced ten pounds of sugar from one gallon of syrup, and his opinion was that from one acre of good cane of the early amber variety, he could make about one thousand pounds of sugar, and have from ten to twenty gallons of syrup besides, and the sugar could be made at the expense of about three cents per pound.

If a farmer can realize one thousand pounds of sugar from one acre of cane, at an expense outside of his own labor of three cents per pound, it seems that it is a question of very great importance.

It is important for different reasons. First, the ability of farmers to obtain this necessary article at less expense than they have heretofore paid for it; second, the quality of the sugar would be more pure and healthy, it having been demonstrated beyond a doubt that some sugar contained substances injurious to the health of the people.

Again, if it can be demonstrated to a certainty, that sugar can be produced in Southern Michigan in paying quantities, would it not be well for farmers to devote a portion of their time to raising sorghum and manufacturing sugar, instead of trying to grow so much wheat year after year, which now does not bring more than some farmers say that they can afford to raise it for.

Again, when we take into consideration the great amount of sweet the United States imports from foreign nations, the question of producing sugar in this country becomes one of still greater importance to the people of this country.

From a document called the statistical abstract of the United States, prepared under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury at Washington, and issued the present year, I find that we imported during the year 1879, of sugar, principally brown, \$70,636,432, of syrup and molasses, \$8,645,137, making in all \$79,281,569, that the United States paid foreign nations for sweet in one year.

From the same document, I find that the people of the United States have paid foreign nations during the past ten years for sugar, syrup, and molasses the immense sum of over \$820,000,000.

From the evidence, coming from the source that it does, it seems that every farmer, and people of other callings as well ought, to be interested in having the sugar that is consumed by the people of this country produced in this country, and stop this immense drain of money, leaving this country to enrich foreign nations.

Yet this is not all the expense. The importer, the wholesaler, the retailer, and for what I know some other parties, must have a profit for handling imported sugar. And in addition to this, is the expense of transportation, unloading and loading, cartage, commercial agents, etc., all of which expense is added to the price of the sugar

which the consumer must pay; which makes it still more of an object to have the sugar produced in this country.

It may perhaps be interesting to some to know the amount of sugar and molasses that has been produced in this country for some years past. From the document referred to, I find that in 1850 there was produced in the State of Louisiana 269,769,000 pounds of sugar, 12,000,000 gallons of molasses. In 1854 there was produced nearly 500,000,000 pounds of sugar, 31,000,000 gallons of molasses. In 1856-7 there was produced about 80,000,000 pounds of sugar and not quite 5,000,000 gallons of molasses. In 1861-2 that State produced over 528,000,000 pounds of sugar. In 1863-4 there was only 84,500,000 pounds produced. In 1864-5 only 10,800,000, and did not reach a hundred million pounds until 1870-71, when there was over 160,000,000 pounds produced. In 1873-4 the amount was a little over 100,000,000 pounds and did not reach 200,000,000 pounds until 1878-9, when 239,478,753 pounds of sugar was produced, and 13,218,404 gallons of molasses. During the year of 1879 we imported from foreign nations 1,738,477,715 pounds of sugar, and 38,460,374 gallons of molasses. During that year we bought of foreign nations 1,543,998,972 pounds of sugar, and 25,251,943 gallons of molasses more than was produced in this country. The amount of sugar imported last year was greater than any other year for sixteen years, as given in the table in the document above referred to.

This is not as it should be. We have millions of acres of rich soil in this country which it is believed will grow sorghum successfully, and also give to the thousands out of employment the work they need. We hear that in some portions of northern Illinois sorghum is grown and sugar is manufactured successfully. If this be the case why cannot the State of Michigan produce sugar as well as northern Illinois. It is certainly worthy our careful attention. If the people of the United States can produce the sweet necessary for their consumption, hundreds of millions of dollars can be saved in a few years, and instead of enriching foreigners, our own people be employed, making them more prosperous and comfortable, and this more an independent Nation.

A. FANCKBONER,
Schoolcraft, Mich.

Vote Independent of Party.

Editor Grange Visitor:

It is well known that a large majority of the farmers of the State have heretofore sustained and kept the Republican party in power, and yet the managers in the State and Congressional conventions utterly ignored their just claims and treated them with contempt, and now they expect us to fall into line, and continue to vote the straight ticket, and pay nearly all the taxes, for the privilege of being governed by a set of unscrupulous lawyers and monied aristocrats who manage to escape taxation. Brother farmers, why not assert our independence, and teach the men who run the party machine, that they must respect our rights, and the just rights of all laboring men, or they cannot have our votes. The election of State and County officials can have little if any effect upon the National issues. We want honest, competent farmers who will represent our interests, regardless of party associations.
H. H. TAYLOR.

THROUGH the teachings of the Grange the social and moral standing of the farmer, has been greatly elevated, and the day is not far distant, when his influence will not only be felt but eagerly sought by all the professions. Farmers! be firm, and thus make your influence felt and your calling respected.

CREDIT where credit is due. The very classes who condemned the Grange the most in its early days are now giving us credit for having put in motion great reforms. Let it nerve us to still more earnest work and it but true to ourselves and our principles still more will we be thankful for our battle in the cause of right.—*Grange Bulletin.*

"WE MUST ANSWER TO THE MASTER."

As I rested on the hill-top,
Just beyond the foaming tide,
Gazing on the grassy uplands
Crowned with flowers on every side;

Where the flocks in fleecy whiteness,
Dotted all the landscape fair,
And the tinkling sound of sheep-bells
Floated on the drowsy air;

Suddenly a plaintive bleating
Fell upon my pitying ear:
The wailing cry of some poor creature
With distress and danger near.

Swiftly down the rocky pathway
Sped my willing eager feet,
Till I stood above the torrent
Where the foaming waters meet,

There a lamb was struggling vainly
'Gainst the deep and rushing tide,
While upon the brink its mother
Bleated loudly at its side;

And a shepherd-lad was striving
With his outstretched arm to hold,
By its tender fleece, the lambkin,
And restore it to the fold.

Thrice the strong and mighty current
Swept the lamb from out his hand—
Thrice he braved the raging waters,
'Ere he drew it safe to land.

"Little lamb, thou need'st not tremble;
I'll not let thee go," he cried,
And with tender arms he raised it,
Placed it by its mother's side.

Turning toward the kind deliverer
Said I, as he lingered there:
"Thou, my lad, art well rewarded
For thy patience and thy care."

"'Twas a wilful lamb, he murmured,
'But I could not let it go;
I must answer to my master
For his sheep and lambs you know."

Ah! has not the heavenly Shepherd
Given some lambs for us to tend?
Are there not some fellow-mortals,
Who upon our care depend?

Some poor frail and erring loved one,
Some weak brother at our side;
We should reach a hand to help them,
Draw them from the downward tide.

Though they wander and are wayward
We should never let them go;
"We must answer to the Master
For his sheep and lambs, you know."
—Mrs. Sarah J. Pettinos.

NATURE.

As a fond mother, when the day is o'er,
Leads by the hand her little child to bed,
Half willing, half reluctant to be led,
And leave his broken playthings on the floor,

Still gazing at them through the open door,
Nor wholly reassured and comforted
By promise of others in their stead,
Which, though more splendid, may not please
him more;

So Nature deals with us, and takes away
Our playthings one by one, and by the hand
Leads us to rest so gently that we go,
Scarce knowing if we wish to go or stay,
Being too full of sleep to understand
How far the unknown transcends the what
we know.
—H. W. Longfellow.

Ladies' Department.**Reading for our Young People.**

After bearing a part in the heat and burden of the summer, there seems just now to be a little respite from home cares and duties, which I will try and improve by sending a short article to our paper—(yes, it is *our* paper, and I wish every sister might feel this, and also the duty they owe in its construction). I know that home cares come thick and fast, that every house is full of work, sometimes ere it comes; yet it is a duty, nevertheless, that we owe our Grange organ to each send an article occasionally to its columns.

We are all now very busy planning and working to make our families comfortable the coming winter. Closets and drawers are being emptied of their warm woolen clothing, and all are looked over for this winter's wear. There are many garments to be cut over. Johnny will have a new pair of pants made from father's old ones. Sarah's dress must be remodeled so that Jane can wear it. The cellar is stored full of healthful vegetables to satisfy our bodily wants; but is there any provision made to supply the mental wants of our boys and girls this coming winter? Oh, many of you will say, that your children go to school, and their books must fill their minds. Our children do not all love to study, their lessons are tasks to some of them that they only learn because they must. There are the long winter evenings coming when there will be so much time for instruction.

A good many of us have sons—boys,

big boys, who, though considered but boys, have worked by father's side all summer, and many of them have done a man's work. They have had a warm interest in everything that has been done upon the farm, and it is in the interest of these boys that I rise now to speak. What shall we do for these boys this winter to fit them for the duties of manhood? How shall we interest, and at the same time instruct them? How shall we smooth off the rough corners of their natures, and add to them some of the polish that befits the man? How shall we keep them with us, and teach them that home is the best place this side heaven? How shall we strengthen their minds that they may overcome the many temptations they will have to meet? How shall we best help them to become honest, temperate, Christian men? These are some of the questions that we who are parents, and are responsible for the mental welfare of our children both socially and intellectually, must answer.

In the first place, let us give ourselves to our children every evening. Let the work be so managed as to be out of the way by evening time. If there are little ones, babies I mean, or very young children, let them be early put to bed; for at night they are tired and fretful, and no one can enjoy an evening of reading if these little ones are about, crying and fretful.

Provide something for these boys that they will like to read. They have no light fancy-work like their sisters, and they must have something to engage their minds.

You say you do have reading matter for them, "we take a Detroit paper, the GRANGE VISITOR, and our County paper." Yes, but I call that very unpalatable food for their young minds. The average newspaper contains but little more than politics, and that they care but little about; they are not Grangers, and so have but little interest in the Grange papers. You say the children's magazines and papers are very high, and we cannot afford to take them. Can you afford to let your boys spend their time in idleness, which always begets wrong? Can you afford to let them read those miserable, catch-penny papers and magazines that have such a wide circulation among our young people? Our children, if they have any taste at all for reading, will, in this day of cheap literature, manage to supply themselves if parents do not furnish it for them. It seems to me the eyes of parents ought to be open to the fact that the devil is very busy in sowing tares among the educational wheat. Look at the newsdealers' windows, and you will see for yourselves the highly sensational, blood and thunder reading matter that is thrust upon our children. Some of it is even given away, and any of it so cheap that a few pennies per week will procure it. Can we, as parents who are responsible for the intellectual welfare of our children—can we afford to let them read these works of evil, the seeds of which will early bear fruit for the poor-house, the jails, and prisons? Society feels the truth of this evil, and is awake to the fact that something must be done to suppress the evil. There are societies organized now in most of our large cities that are trying to put down this great evil. Shall we wait until society is obliged to do this for our boys and girls? In Scribner's monthly for March, I think, was an article written by Prof. Sumner on "What our Boys are Reading." I think if parents could only read this, it would awaken much interest in this neglected subject.

I am glad to know that there is plenty of pure, healthful reading with which we may supply our young people, if we will. I know good reading matter costs something—if fact it is high; but had we not much better pay the price now in money than later in regrets and heartaches? If we would save our sons intellectually and socially, we must cultivate our homes.

There is a great demand now for educated, honest farmers—men who are fitted to fill places of honor and trust; and I know of no better way to fill the demand than to educate our sons to this, and I know of no better lever to use to raise them to these positions than to supply them with instructive reading matter every week.

We may do much in this matter this winter; how much only the future can tell. Fathers and mothers, read with them and for them pure and instructive reading matter, and it will repay you a hundred fold, and your home will be happy and your sons contented. Poverty of thought is one of the worst forms of poverty. Our children may not all be rich in purse, but if their minds are stored with useful knowledge and their hearts full of love and kindness, their lives will be rich in noble deeds and lofty aspirations for good.

If we could but recognize the fact that whatever they read must make a lasting impression upon their minds; that whatever is pure and good will elevate them; that whatever is silly or vile will so blacken that the spot can never be white again—how necessary then to know that the books and papers they read are only those that will cultivate the good in them, and fit them to be noble, honest, cultivated men. Mrs. PERRY MAYO, Marshall, Mich.

Care and Growth of the Young.**To the Patrons of Michigan:**

As one of the most important functions of the Grange is the care and growth of the young, thoughtful members are everywhere proposing methods for accomplishing these ends.

The following suggestions, to my mind, embody the best that has come to my notice, from the fact that nowhere can children of the ages specified in these resolutions, develop mind, and clothe that development in thought, so rapidly as in listening to intelligent discussion by elders; and by observing habitually correct forms of business, these forms will become so much a matter of habit with them that they will not realize that they were ever ignorant of them.

Second, No age is so fraught with danger, if left to themselves while parents are within the gates. At this time of life, evil associations take quick hold, and strike deep root, affecting all their after-life.

Again, if these suggestions become incorporated in our Grange laws, it will permit parents to attend Grange regularly, with the full assurance that their children are with them, safe from all moral risks; while now they go distracted by thoughts of danger to those without; or, rather than leave them, go not at all, or do not even join the Order.

There is a manifest injustice in requiring youths to pay men's fees, while they do not earn men's wages, and at a time of life when they have so many demands for their small means, placing the Grange beyond their reach, at a time when they most need its shelter and protection—hence the half-price clause from 16 to 18.

I hope all Granges will act on these resolutions in time to instruct their delegates to present them at the State Grange.

As the present good of children, and the future good of the Order demand it, we ask that children from the age of 12 to 16 be admitted to Subordinate Granges at half the price paid by women, and that they pay half-price quarterly dues till 16 years of age, after which full dues be paid; that for such members the State Grange receive half-price fees, also half-price dues. That youths from 16 to 18 years of age be received at half price for men, with full dues, and that half price for such members be paid to the State Grange.

With these the law, our Subordinate and State Granges will be richer in funds; but that will be little, compared to the total wealth and strength it will

give them in sheltering our youths within their walls. Perfectly instructed, no age will keep the secret workings more carefully than these.

MRS. E. T. F. BRADNER.
Redford Grange, No. 367.

Correspondence.**Eureka!**

TEXAS, Oct. 21st, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

We are not dead, but sleeping. Eureka Grange, No. 11, is decidedly too reticent in matters pertaining to the interest of the Order. I think we have a living membership of about fifty, and should have, properly enumerated, ninety at least. But want of interest on the part of some of the should-be valiant leaders, compels our worthy Secretary to drop many of our worthy, well-wishing members for non-payment of dues; an unwelcome task indeed. Would not a general gathering of Patrons at our hall on no very distant day, be desirable and profitable?

It seems to me that the interest of the Order, of late, has been too distant to keep alive our home prosperity and advancement; and too much foreign missionary work, to provide and keep well clad our own family in the Patrons' armour.

Two of our worthy members stepped down and out last Tuesday evening, 25th inst. Not out of the Grange Order, but out of single obscurity to matrimonial felicity. This was not like the scenes that transpire upon the mighty deep, where sighs and anguish follow billow after billow, expecting every and each to be the last—

"When rose from sea to sea the wild farewell!
When screech'd the timid and stood still the brave!"

but were greeted by parents, brothers, and sisters, mutual friends, one and all. God bless you!

The occasion of this grand ovation, at the beautiful residence of D. K. Rix, Esq., was the marriage of his daughter Ella to Mr. Ashley Lapham, second son of Mr. C. Lapham, all of Texas.

The bride and groom were the recipients of many beautiful and artistic presents, too numerous to mention.

Rev. Mr. Hodge, of Paw Paw, Van Buren County, officiated. The ceremony was performed at 7 o'clock, after which the company, consisting of over one hundred invited guests, were invited to the dining hall to partake of the feast so bountifully and tastefully provided by Mr. Rix and his amiable wife. They had no reason to complain that ample justice was not done to the large supply of chickens, turkeys, oysters, cake, etc., that would make an epicurean exclaim, O, for a Rix wedding day!

The bride and groom are favorites in this community, and received, and well deserved the unfeigned congratulations of all present. They left on the 10 o'clock train for Chicago, and other points west, on their bridal tour. May the future of the groom be as prosperous and bright as was the bride sweet and lovely on her wedding day.

The way you handle J. C. Patterson, ex-Senator from Calhoun County, meets my approbation precisely. A man of his selfish calibre and unfinished garret is unfit to represent any constituency. Give him his just deserts.

As regards our nominees for Governor of this State, I am not personally acquainted with any of them, except David Woodman, 2d. I know him to be a worthy, upright, Christian citizen. He is not a polished, educated man, but he has an honest heart, is a good farmer and Granger, and is honest and true, and would be reliable in all respects to his constituents. I lived neighbor to him many years. I know whereof I speak.

Brethren, go for the right man, irrespective of former party affiliation. You will not be deceived by David Woodman, 2d. Many of you will say, We can't elect him, what's the use? I answer, Make your mark! It was once

said, Slavery could never be abolished. Judge of the future by the past.

TEXAS.

Ingham County Pomona Grange.

This Grange met October 16th, with Eden Grange. The afternoon was mostly occupied by papers, or speaking by Bros. Jason Woodman, of Paw Paw; W. W. Remington, of Lansing; F. W. Havens, of Fitchburgh; Wm. Cook, of Holt; W. H. Higdon, of Eden. Bro. Woodman is a student at the Agricultural College; Bro. Remington graduated last summer, and is now an instructor at this institution. These two just named occupied most of the time, speaking of the workings of the Agricultural College. They did themselves great credit, and their remarks were listened to with close attention. The "boys" were well received. Bro. Woodman showed that the College had already been a paying investment to the farmers of the State, looking at it in a purely financial standpoint. He spoke of experiments which had been made, and the work that had been done to help the farmers.

Bro. O. B. Stillman confirmed what Bro. Woodman said about the analysis of Clawson wheat by Dr. Kedzie. In one season he received 15 bushels of wheat per acre, while some of his neighbors the same year on poorer soil received 30 and even 50 bushels per acre. As soon as he heard of the analysis of Clawson wheat, it went up ten cents on a bushel. He sowed Clawson after that, and had made much more money than he could on any other variety with which he is acquainted. He raises about 1200 to 1500 bushels of wheat per year. Others confirmed the remarks in like manner.

Bro. Remington spoke of the College as an educator for farmers. Each succeeding class which enters shows a larger proportion of members of the Grange, or sons of members.

The Grange decided to hold a farmers' institute at Stockbridge at the time of a public installation of officers. We meet again on Nov. 10th, at 1:30 P. M., and in the evening at Holt. Two Granges in the County have for some time been dormant. Arrangements are in progress to put them again in working order before the coming meeting of the State Grange. W. J. B.

Cambria Grange, No. 74.

CAMBRIA, Oct. 16th, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

Enclosed please find quarterly report of Cambria Grange, No. 74, for quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1880, and P. O. order for \$1.35, that being the amount due on quarterly report.

We are small in numbers, but strong in the faith of Grange principles, and are working as best we can for the interest of the farmer, socially, educationally, financially and politically. The last as far as the Constitution of the Order will permit.

R. E. PERRY,
Sec'y Cambria Grange, No. 74.

Easton Thrives.

EASTON, Oct. 8, 1880.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I have to report Easton Grange in good condition. It now numbers some forty members, and we are having additions almost every meeting. Those outside the gate have become satisfied that we mean business. I think members should be more willing to devote time to the good of the Order, and not so generally indicate by their conduct their willingness to let the whole thing take care of itself. The Grange is what we make it—good, or good for nothing.

I am quite sure the VISITOR has done a great deal of good in educating the farmers of the State, and I should like to see every one take it. I enclose \$1.00 for two copies, and will do more as I can.

Fraternally yours,
J. N. HODGE.

Most people are like eggs—too full of themselves to hold anything else.

A RECIPE FOR A RACKET.

What does it take to make a racket? Well, bless me, I certainly ought to know, For I've made them a score of times or so! Here's the recipe—and I can't be wrong—For making them hot and sweet and strong!

What does it take to make a racket? Two small boys in pants and jacket; An empty room and a bare wood floor; A couple of sticks to bang the door; A chair or two to break and to swing; A trumpet to blow and a bell to ring; A stamp and a tramp like a great big man; And when you can get it, an old tin pan; A flight of stairs for a climb and a tumble; A nursery maid to growl and grumble; A chorus of howl, and cry, and shriek To drown your voice if you try to speak; A dozen good blows on knees and back, Each coming down with a terrible smack; A couple of falls that would crack a nut, And one good bump on your occiput; A rush and a scurry, a tear and a clatter; A mamma to cry "Now what is the matter?"

You take these, And shake these, And put in a packet, And you'll have just the jolliest kind of a racket! Of course I am bound to confess You can manage to make it with less, (For this is a regular, rich receipt, For pudding and sauce and all complete;) And still have a very good racket. If you follow the directions below: You can leave out the room and the floor; The bumps and the bangs in the door; The bell; and the sticks, and the stairs; The trumpet, the howl, and the chairs; The whack, and the pan, and the rise; The shrieks, and the groans, and the tramp; The nurse, and the growl, and the stamp—But one thing you must have, however you get it, (Or else if you don't you will sadly regret it—For remember my words—if you happen to lack it) You never can have the least bit of a racket—And that is, two small boys in pants and in jacket!

—M. E. B. in August Wide-Awake.

Communications.

Farmer Governor.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

WAYNE, Oct. 23, 1880. Owing to my being away from home, and not in the vicinity of any Grange during most of the summer, I have taken little active interest in Grange matters, still my heart is with the Patrons in every good work, and again I am glad to get where I can read your worthy paper, the GRANGE VISITOR. Almost the first question asked me after my return was, "What are you going to do about a farmer Governor, now that your party has ignored the farmers' request?" This question was asked by a worthy member of the Grange in this town, he being a good Democrat, while I have always been a true Republican.

Well, this was a stumper for me to answer, you can readily see, so I evaded the reply. But answering his own question by another, he says, "What is the trouble with the VISITOR since the nominations were made for State officers; not a word do we hear about farmer Governor any more." So you see he put you in the same boat with the writer. But now I find in the last two issues of the VISITOR that these questions are being answered by men of all parties, and I am glad to see it, for those that know me best in County and Subordinate Grange meetings, well remember that in the very first Grange meetings held in this part of the County, I had more to say upon this subject of selecting men for office-holders in sympathy with our purposes than was pleasing to most of the timid members at that time. "Mustn't talk politics, you know in the Grange; not allowed."

Very much like McClellan's mode of fighting Rebs, it looked to me. "Mustn't destroy their property, free their niggers, etc.; it will exasperate our Southern brethren so."

Well, Fremont saw the thing in a different light, and thought it best in times of war to use every means to whip the enemy. But he soon lost his place for his presumption, and the war went on for two long bloody years, and then the wise ones saw that he was right, and soon subdued the rebels by following the very course he proposed at first. Still, they got the glory—not he.

So in this case, I am glad to find that Patrons have waked up to know that "you can't stop the leak by closing the vent, and at the same time leave the bung wide open." It is all nonsense to

talk about Grange reform entirely within the walls of the Grange. It is the ballot that puts men in power, and it is the men in power that rule the State for weal or woe, to farmers, as well as to tradesmen of every calling. It is all foolishness to expect legislation to correct the evils of commerce, law, or usury, while at the same time you go to the polls and vote for just the men who are interested in these evils, just because they belong to your party ticket. It is useless to appeal to such men for help. They ask no sympathy, and give none, if they can only get into office. It is no use to tell them that the farmers represent half the wealth and voters in this State; what do they care for that so long as they know that you will all fall into line like so many slaves under the crack of the party lash. "Appeal to their sense of justice!" Why most of these chronic office-seekers have no hearts to govern their actions, and never had. They have no more use for hearts than hawks have for gizzards. Their food is already ground out for them by the hard working farmer and mechanic. All they need to do is to take and use all they can get, and to this end they labor, telling us to "fall in, or the country will go to smash, etc."

Yes, brother Patrons, if you want anything, the only way is to demand, and take it. Go to the caucus and vote and work for men who will care for your interests, and then to the polls, and see them elected. If thugs and political tricksters overpower you in your own party, look about you for the right man on other tickets, and by united efforts you will soon show politicians that they do not hold a lone hand every time in this business; and then when you ask for the correction of evils, you may be sure you will get what you ask. But we need to be wise in our choice, for not all men who belong to our Order, are in sympathy. There are many black sheep in our fold, for office only.

We are told that four out of nine State officers in the present administration are Grangers. Three of these again ask your votes; the fourth, the most truly a farmer of any, Lt. Gov. Sessions, retires with the welcome plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful farmer servant." Still if you ask these three remaining ones, who, together with the Auditor General, have the appointment of over 100 clerks, how many of these 100 are members of our numerous Order, they will tell you "nary a one." The only two that were left in these offices under the previous administration being discharged forthwith, not from any want of competency, but because they had no rights as farmers, and didn't belong to the ring that controls things. Are these the kind of men you get credit for sending? It is a mere farce to quiet the Granger element.

Now I do not intend to labor in the interest of any man or party, but since I happen to reside in this "wicked County," which gets credit for so much that is evil, even for preventing a "farmer Governor" to get on the Republican ticket, I trust I may add one word to in part atone for our evil ways, by wishing that each of you in every Congressional district in the State had as good a man to vote for as the Republicans in this district have; one who has done so much to relieve the wants of the poor; and the laboring classes, and elevate the calling of the farmer, as the nominee in the first district has done. Look well to your own interest as farmers.

ONE OF THE INDEPENDENT "10,000."

Who Will be Governor.

BUNKER HILL GRANGE, No. 262.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

When the GRANGE VISITOR started the farmers' boom for Governor, our Grange, No. 362, was right on the boom. We are about equally divided in politics, but we want a farmer for Governor. With two farmers nominated that are qualified beyond question,

we cannot elect but one. If we try to elect them both, we shall have a railroad man for Governor. Let us make a decision soon, for we have no time to spare. The name of Woodman is very familiar with us, and we think much of it; but we know the name of one Holloway, and let us hear the name of one of these two gentlemen sounded as Michigan's Governor. F. W. H., Secretary.

SPARTA CENTER, Oct. 18th, '80.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:

I presume you are bored to death by political epistles, as we are here by the political "spouters." But I feel a little hurt at the way the conventions have done their work. The vote of the Patrons will be divided between Bros. Holloway and Woodman, which will neutralize our efforts. If all could agree on a Senator, we might secure a little influence in Congress. I nominate Bro. J. J. Woodman. Hoping for success, I am,

Yours with respect,
W. S. CLARK,
Secretary No. 340.

[Inclosed please find draft, to balance with Sparta Grange, No. 360.]

What Ails Our Grange?

QUESTION. What appears to be the matter, or what are the symptoms?

ANSWER. Members don't come out to the meetings; they don't seem to take hold and do anything.

Q. What have you done to make your Grange interesting?

A. Nothing much to speak of. Q. Have you ever had any Lecturer from outside?

A. No! that would cost too much; can't afford it.

Q. Do you have discussions at your meetings?

A. Not much, unless we try to raise a little money, or something of that kind.

Q. Have you a hall?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you fixed it up to make it pleasant and attractive?

A. No! It is an old barn of a thing that didn't cost much. As to fixing it up, the sisters wanted to paper it, and get some curtains and furniture, but we voted that down. We think it is good enough now. If we should fix it up, it would be too nice for us old farmers to sit and smoke in, and benches are good enough to put our feet upon, if they are rough.

Q. The sisters don't like to go to your meetings, do they?

A. No; and when they do come they scold and fret because the men will chew, and smoke, and spit upon the floor. We would not have a woman in the Grange, if we could help it.

Q. What would you do for feasts? You like them, don't you?

A. Well, yes. The women might come once in a great while, to set table and wash dishes and clean up.

Q. You never had a lecture?

A. No! What is the use? We know enough now; and if a man should come here we would have to pay his expenses—a dollar or two.

Q. Have you copies of the Declaration of Purposes, for the use of members?

A. What's them, and what's the good of having them?

Q. They are for members to read, to learn the true principles of our Order, and to give to outsiders to inform them.

A. Ah! they cost something, too, don't they?

Q. Yes, 40 cents a hundred copies.

A. No use of talking, we don't pay out anything for such trash.

Q. Have you copies of the new By-Laws of the State Grange?

A. No, never seen 'em.

Q. Do you take the GRANGE VISITOR?

A. I used to take it out of the office when it came free to us, but it stopped.

Q. Don't any of your officers take it—or any of your members?

A. One man, an educated feller, took it, and wanted others to, but they

would not, and this fine chap and his wife got a dimit to join some other Grange.

Q. Would you not like to take the VISITOR a year, it is only 50 cents?

A. Can't afford it. It don't pay to take such papers, the women and children will want to read all the time.

Q. Do you ever visit other Granges, or the County Grange?

A. Ain't got time;—and I must go to work now, or I'll never get it done."

OBSERVATIONS.

No one Grange ever had all this trouble, but from a dozen different locations have we gathered these answers from questions asked similar to these.

Set these things down: 1st. A lecturer is just as essential to the success of the Grange as the missionary is to the success of the church. 2d. The members of a Grange make the Grange just what it is. 3d. That which costs nothing of time, means, or effort, is worth nothing. 4th. To advance in sphere of life, you must come in contact with others similarly situated. 5th. To learn and grow in thought, we must read and think. 6th. The members of a body will not do better than the officers. If the officers of a Grange don't take and read the VISITOR, others will not. Officers must be the leaders in every sense. They may lead down as well as up. Who blames the one man who did leave—to advance—for getting a dimit and going elsewhere.

Can any of our readers tell what ails this Grange? Show your VISITOR and these lines to all officers who don't take it. Read it aloud to them. Shame them into either leaving the Grange or honoring it by true Patronly conduct in their relations to it.

OBSERVER.

A Visit to a Fair.

GILEAD, Mich, Oct., 1880.

Bro. Cobb:

I have recently been forcibly reminded of what a few resolute men and women can do—what wonders they can perform if they only will it. Some six weeks ago I received an invitation from the president of a township or district fair to be held near the little village of Hadley. From a perusal of the map I learned that Hadley was situated in the southwest corner of Lapeer County, five or six miles from a railroad, and ten or twelve from the County seat. The morning of October 6th found me at the little village of Elba. An escort was soon on hand and I rode to the fair in good style after G. W. Crompton's matched steeds. On the road we passed the fine home and farm of John T. Rich. I found the Governor (not quite) at the fair, as sociable and good natured as usual.

From what information I had received I was prepared to see quite a collection of the products of farm, shop and loom, and to find a good many people on hand to see the show, but in both respects my expectations were surpassed.

The society was organized a little over two years ago and this is the third exhibition. While the grounds are new and many things crude, yet in many lines of the exhibits the show would do credit to any of our old and well established societies. This was especially true of the cattle. Indeed but few County societies can do as well.

The fair was well arranged, well conducted, and we hope it was a financial success. The officers certainly deserved success.

At 2:30 p. m., I was invited to the stand and introduced to a larger audience than could hear the introduction, or the speaker.

I have seldom, if ever, met with a more intelligent people than honored me with their attention at Hadley, the afternoon of Oct. 6th. These men and women had proved their industry,

perseverance, and executive ability, by originating and successfully conducting this fair. I thought, here must be magnificent material for a Grange. But judge of my surprise when I learned that no Grange existed there. No one seemed to know the reason why. With so much life, ambition, and culture as was manifest on all hands, I could only wonder why.

Farmers of Hadley and vicinity, this is one good thing thou lackest. You can if you will it, with the same zeal you have given to your fair, make it a perpetual school for mutual benefit and improvement. Try it.

C. G. L.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

LAKE—Died Sept. 17th, THEODORE LAKE, aged 50 years.

WHEREAS, Death has invaded our circle and removed BRO. THEODORE LAKE from our midst; Therefore,

Resolved, That our sympathy with his family in this bereavement is sincere.

Resolved, That this act of death has taken from the family a good husband and father; from our Grange a charter member who has long been true to the work of the P. of H., and from the community an old settler, whose many good traits of life entitled him to be called a good citizen;

Resolved, That out of respect to his memory our charter be draped for 60 days;

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of this Grange; a copy bearing the seal of this Grange be sent to his widow and daughter, and a copy be offered to the Otsego Union and GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

Adopted by Otsego Grange, No. 364, Oct. 12, 1880.

KROMER—Died September 18, 1880, Bro. A. KROMER, a worthy member of Cannon Grange, No. 33. The Grange adopted the following preamble and resolutions expressive of its regard and sympathy.

WHEREAS, The reaper Death having visited our Grange for the first time since its organization, and taken from our midst Bro. A. KROMER, a member of this Grange; therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of our Brother the Sister has been called upon to mourn for a loving husband; the family an affectionate parent; the community an exemplary member, and the Grange a Brother who has endeared himself to our hearts and has indelibly stamped his virtues on our memory;

Resolved, That in token of respect for our deceased Brother our charter and hall be draped in mourning for 60 days;

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the family of the deceased, placed on the Grange records, and sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

E. C. BELLOUS,
WM. HARTWELL, } Com.
L. S. JONES,

BISHOP—At a regular meeting of Brady Grange held on Tuesday evening, October 12, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, From this earthly life has been taken our beloved friend, a most cherished and honored member of this Grange, Sister BISHOP, and;

WHEREAS, Our Order has been deprived of one of our best members, and the world at large a true woman, that to know was to love and respect; one who so faithfully fulfilled the position of wife, daughter and sister; therefore,

Resolved, That our hearts go out in sympathy to the stricken husband who so many years has walked by her side, and now in old age must live on without her. To him we would extend the fraternal hand, and in this great trial be Brothers and Sisters indeed;

Resolved, That she who was truly a daughter in her care of our Sister has our warmest sympathy in this, her sorrowing hour, for the loss of one who a mother's place so well filled. May you emulate her virtues;

Resolved, That to the Brothers and Sisters of our worthy Sister we would extend our heartfelt sympathies. In the death of such a sister they have sustained such a loss as seldom falls to brothers and sisters. Let the memory of her noble character be enshrined in your hearts;

Resolved, That the hall of this Grange be draped in mourning as a mark of respect to the memory of our deceased Sister, and that a copy of the foregoing be presented to the family of the deceased, and copies be furnished the GRANGE VISITOR, Kalamazoo Telegraph, and Vicksburg Monitor for publication.

Z. N. ROBINSON,
DEMETRA CLOWES,
E. M. FRAZER,
Committee.

STOCKING.—At a meeting of the Ensey Center Grange, No. 544, held at their hall, Oct. 19th, 1880, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, In the sudden and unexpected death of our Worthy Brother ANDREW L. STOCKING, we recognize the admission of our Heavenly Father, to be at all times ready to meet the final change that surely awaits us all; therefore,

Resolved, That we tender our earnest and heartfelt sympathy to the family of the deceased brother, in this, their time of sorrow.

Resolved, That, in the death of our worthy brother, his family have lost an affectionate husband, a kind and indulgent father, the church a useful member, the Grange a worthy and respected brother, the community one of its best known and respected citizens and early settlers.

Resolved, That out of respect to the memory of our deceased brother, our charter and Steward's desk be draped in mourning for sixty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be entered on the records of our Grange, a copy presented to the family of the deceased, and published in the GRANGE VISITOR.

CHARLES HILLMAN,
EDMOND CLARK,
LEVINA HILLMAN,
Committee.

