

# THE GRANGE VISITOR

"THE FARMER IS OF MORE CONSEQUENCE THAN THE FARM, AND SHOULD BE FIRST IMPROVED."

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## The Grange Visitor

(ENLARGED)

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### THE LUCKY HORSESHOE.

BY JAMES T. FIELDS.

A farmer traveling with his load,  
Picked up a horseshoe in the road,  
And nailed it fast to his barn door,  
That luck might down upon him pour;  
That every blessing known in life  
Might crown his homestead and his wife,  
And never any kind of harm  
Descend upon his growing farm.

But dire ill-fortune soon began  
To visit the astounded man.  
His hens declined to lay their eggs;  
His bacon tumbled from the pegs,  
And rats devoured the fallen legs;  
His corn, that never failed before,  
Mildewed and rotted on the floor;  
His grass refused to end in hay;  
His cattle died, or went astray;  
In short, all moved the crooked way.

Next spring a great drought baked the sod,  
And roasted every pea in pod;  
The beans declared they could not grow  
So long as nature acted so.  
Reckless insects reared their heads  
To starve for lack of juicy food;  
The staves from barrel sides went off  
As if they had the "hooping"-cough,  
And nothing of the useful kind  
To hold together felt inclined;  
In short, it was no use to try  
While all the land was in a fry.

One morn, demoralized with grief,  
The farmer clamored for relief;  
And prayed right hard to understand  
What witchcraft now possessed his land;  
Why house and farm in misery grew,  
Since he nailed up that "lucky" shoe.

While thus dismayed o'er matters wrong,  
An old man chanced to trudge along,  
To whom he told with worn wood tears,  
How his affairs were in arrears,  
And what a desperate state of things  
A picked-up horseshoe sometimes brings.

The stranger asked to see the shoe,  
The farmer brought it into view;  
But when the old man raised his head,  
He laughed outright, and quickly said -  
"No wonder skies upon you iron -  
You've nailed the horseshoe upside down!  
Just turn it round, and soon you'll see  
How you and Fortune will agree."

The farmer turned the horseshoe round,  
And showers began to swell the ground;  
The sunshine laughed among his grain,  
And heaps on heaps piled up the wain;  
The lot his hay could barely hold,  
His cattle did as they were told;  
His fruit trees needed sturdy props  
To hold the gathering apple crops;  
His turnips, and potato fields  
 Astonished all men by their yields;  
Folks never saw such ears of corn  
As in his smiling hills were born;  
His barns were full of bursting bins -  
His wife presented him with twins;  
His neighbors marveled more and more  
To see the increase in his store.  
And now the merry farmer sings,  
"There are two ways of doing things;  
And when for good luck you would pray,  
Nail up your horseshoe the right way."

### A Bureau of Agriculture.

In the *Legislative Journal* of Feb. 3d, we find the following resolution, adopted by the "State Association of Agricultural Societies of Michigan," held at Lansing, Jan. 26th and 27th. Twenty-eight Associations of the State were represented by delegates, and the resolution undoubtedly voices the will of the people they represent:

**Resolved,** That this Association respectfully asks the passage of a concurrent resolution by the Legislature of Michigan, now in session, requesting the Congress of the United States to establish a bureau of Agriculture at Washington; and that the commissioner or head of that department be made a Cabinet minister.

**Resolved,** That this Association respectfully requests the Legislature of Michigan, now in session, to provide for the publication, as compared with the edition of 1879, of four thousand additional volumes of the annual report of the State Board of Agriculture; and that the allotment as heretofore made to the several Agricultural Societies of the State, be increased by, and in addition four thousand additional volumes.

Very respectfully, your obt. servant,  
FRANK LITTLE,  
Secretary State Association of Agricultural Societies of Michigan.

Referred to the committee on agriculture. The above resolution referring to the Commissioner, has already been adopted by both branches of the Legislature, and is the legitimate fruit of seeds planted by National and State Granges. It only shows that legitimate demands will be granted if only persistently pressed. The last resolution is to meet the demand for reports that exceed the available supply. Farmers begin to see the importance of possessing the important knowledge contained in these reports. They are not among that species of "Pub. Docs." that are stowed away in back stairways and

piled to the ceiling in some of our offices for the use of the County Clerk. If properly distributed, the whole four thousand will go into practical farmers' libraries, as contemplated in the resolution.

### Farm Experiments Again.

Since writing an article in a former number of the VISITOR on the above topic, our attention has been called to it again by the preparation in the State of New York for establishing an agricultural station or farm, and also by a letter from Professor Beal, of the Agricultural College.

After saying a good word for the VISITOR, he says: "You speak of experiments. Our board like to be pushed on to take progressive steps, i. e., they like to have farmers say what they want. I think the time has come when we could satisfy most good farmers that a few thousand dollars could be well expended in experiments at the Agricultural College."

Those familiar with the Professor and his work, are apprised of the fact that he is now carrying on a series of experiments in the interest of agriculture and horticulture more as a "labor of love" than anything else. It is outside work, for which he has as yet received very little compensation. The farm proper has had nothing. It now asks for the pitiful sum of \$125 for each of the next two years. The Professor thought he could use \$500 to advantage in making experiments for the coming year. The board concluded to ask for \$300. Former experiences with legislatures have taught them modesty.

The report of the Board of Agriculture for 1879 gives an interesting resume of the experiments then in progress at the College under the direction and personal supervision of Prof. Beal. No less than twenty-seven different experiments were being tried - many of them of very great interest not only to farmers, but to the State at large and the whole country. Two hundred and seventy-five varieties of young trees are now growing, having been started from the seed. Many of these are valuable for timber, and the experiment will show which are among the most valuable for that purpose. The time must soon arrive when we shall look to this experiment for valuable lessons to guide us in planting timber trees.

Those who feel an interest in knowing what is being done almost gratuitously, are referred to the report above alluded to. It is too lengthy for a recapitulation here. In a former article we urged upon farmers the necessity of making experiments for themselves. Many have not the leisure who feel the necessity of knowing the truth on many points of doubt in the process of farming. Others distrust their ability to successfully carry out the operations of an intricate experiment. No private individual farmer who has a longing desire to know the facts in relation to causes and effect in his operations, but would be glad to delegate the labor of finding out to some competent person. There should be no private rights in such useful information. There is no good reason why we should look to Germany, to England, or to any of the Eastern States for our experimental knowledge.

We should be foremost in all that relates to an enlightened agriculture. We feel an honest pride in our College for what it has achieved. Our professors stand high, and are looked to as authority on all questions pertaining to their departments. No doubts have ever arisen as to their fealty to the institution: if the "loaves and fishes" were the ultimatum of their efforts, they would have accepted the offer of more lucrative positions elsewhere. When they ask that the intricate experiments, so puzzling to the average farmer, be placed under their supervision, no thinking farmer will hesitate to give them the opportunity and the means for their proper development.

It may not be generally understood that one reason why so little has been accomplished in this direction is that the professors at the College are all overworked, and no time is left for much that needs to be done. It is safe to say that no adequate provision is as yet made for any lessening of the burdens. In Jackson, in the summer of 1878, at a meeting of the State Pomological Society, Prof. Beal overflowed a little while speaking of his plans and labors. In speaking of what might be expected from the College at the State Fair, he said:

"We shall probably show 75 lots of corn,

200 or 300 sorts of potatoes, 18 or 20 sorts of onions, and perhaps other articles not in this list. To raise good samples of all of these, keep them pure and unmixed, and show them in good condition, will be no ordinary task. We have not a cent for such an exhibition. I have more teaching than common, averaging about three hours a day in the class-room, and out in the garden from one to three hours each day, in the afternoon. Notwithstanding this, I have planned a large number of experiments in horticulture and vegetable physiology, more than ever before.

Most of those selected, like those of last year, will require only a moderate expenditure of money, but a good deal of time and care. I have often wished that we had more means for this purpose. I am repeatedly questioned on this subject by some pomologists and farmers of our State. A few of the most enterprising are urging us to try more experiments: I think I have experiments enough noted in my books to require all of my time, and that of two assistants, for the next ten years!"

All this is outside labor, apart from his duties to students in the classes. There is a limit to human capacity, and we must not expect large results from such a limited resource of time. We have been niggardly in our appropriations for the College. The principle of getting the most physical work for the least money, has been attempted here, but it don't apply. We need to be more liberal. An appropriation of \$50,000 for an exhibit of Michigan's industries at the World's Fair in 1883, is proposed, as an advertisement of her greatness. Comparisons are sometimes odious.

We are not writing in the spirit of complaint for an act of generosity toward any worthy enterprise, but would respectfully intimate that our legislators might with propriety appropriate a sum for experiments at the College commensurate with the importance of results that may reasonably be looked for, and that they occasionally inspect the bung, while so zealously watching the leaks of the spigot.

We have been noting the legislative proceedings thus far, and think that all the interests of agriculture will be well looked after, and that its claims will be recognized.

### The Institute at Schoolcraft.

One of the most enthusiastic farmers' meetings we ever attended, was held at Schoolcraft, on the 2d inst. Readers of the VISITOR may be assured that its headquarters is surrounded by as good agricultural talent and true Grange hospitality as is found in the State. The extreme cold no doubt kept many from attending who lived at a distance, but the large hall was filled early and late, the interest keeping up to the very last moment. Where the arrangements were so complete in every detail, it would seem invidious to particularize, but we cannot forbear to mention the most excellent manner in which President D. T. Dell, of Vicksburg, conducted the Institute. His merited grasp of the whole program, and the time allotted for each topic; the bringing up of routine business to fill in the time, his firm, yet courteous manner of presiding, all served to win from those present, the commendation of a model presiding officer.

The open-handed hospitality of the citizens of Schoolcraft is proverbial, but in this instance they rather heaped the measure. The program for the second day filled nearly every hour, leaving a brief "nooning" for dinner. This was provided for at Grange hall, but a few steps away. Readers of the VISITOR know something of the style of Grange feasts, so graphically have they been described in "Pickings by the Way," and any portrayal of ours for this occasion is superfluous. The invitation was to all, and those who delayed, were commanded to come in and partake. The hour and a half intermission for tea was again spent in this spacious improvised dining hall. The continuation of the topic of "Cattle Raising," to discussing cold beef, was almost without a break. Professor Johnson had just been talking about "Farm Economies," but to see his tall form bent over the result of those "economies," and the way he demolished them, did not argue the practice of his precepts. Worthy Master Woodman's capacious vest seemed to expand under the genial influence of nimble waiters and hot tea. Bro. Cobb was fitting here and there, caring for the little necessities of the occasion. An

occasional burst of laughter showed where his jokes had struck. Brother Judson, the master of these ceremonies, was jubilant. To see these good things disappear, and the continuous stream coming from behind the curtains, suggested the idea of the miracle of the loaves and fishes, or an Aladdin lamp. Brother Judson seemed to have confidence in the resources, for he gave notice that any who wanted anything to sustain the inner man, after the evening session, would be supplied.

At the sessions of the Institute, mental pabulum was as freely furnished as the physical was at the dining hall. We pocketed several papers, which will appear in future numbers of the VISITOR. The discussion elicited much general information which would be interesting to our readers, but space forbids a full report, and it would be hard to cull, where all is interesting.

The Kalamazoo County Institute is now a permanent institution, having adopted measures governing it, and selected the following officers for the coming year: D. T. Dell, President; F. Hodgman, Vice-President; Wm. Strong, Secretary, with a member of the Executive Committee in each township.

### Swindler Exposed.

DECATUR, Jan. 25, 1881.

Enclosed find list of subscribers to the VISITOR. This makes 23 names I have sent you, all but one for one year, so I am entitled to two extras. If it is not all right, let me know. I think I can add more to the club yet. I shall try what I can do for the three months' offer.

I am glad to see you have dropped Mrs. Cotton's advertisement. She has done mischief enough by her swindling operations, and should be sat down upon by all Patrons. She cannot gull those that take the bee journals and are posted, but her flattering inducements take in the unwary. If you still have her book, and do not wish to keep it, I would like to have you send it to me. I am curious to see the book that so many have sent and paid for, but never received. At least you are the first one I ever heard from that had received it, and she or he, as some surmise she is a man, has advertised it for several years. Read what the *Western Rural* says of her, in the last issue of Jan. 22d in the article headed, "People Not Rated A No. 1."

S. H. MALLORY.  
[Since giving Mrs. Cotton's advertisement one insertion, we received several letters all making the point of this complainant. We shall favor Mr. Mallory with the book on condition that after he has studied it well, he will return it, as some one else may want to see "Honey Bees - The new System of Bee-keeping." - EDITOR.]

### "Bread Cast upon the Waters."

BURLINGTON, Iowa, Feb. 6, '81.

J. T. Cobb, Editor Grange Visitor: - DEAR SIR: Covering some medicine sent me by Mrs. Dr. Clark, of Battle Creek, Michigan, I received a badly torn copy of your VISITOR for the 15th of January last. I am so well pleased with the few scraps of your paper thus obtained, that I wish to subscribe for a year, commencing with the number bearing the date of the 15th ult. - for which please find 50 cents in stamps enclosed. I find reference to the By-Laws of the Order, Declaration of Purposes, the Worthy Master's address to the National Grange, in pamphlet form; also Beecher's address, and many other Grange documents; what amount must I remit to pay you for them? I am particularly anxious to have Beecher's address; if by itself, please send with your paper, and I'll return pay therefore.

Though not a "Granger" (only for want of opportunity), I believe your organization has wrought immense benefit to our country; and if true to herself, and animated by the noble sentiments you advocate, it is destined to achieve incalculable good for the agricultural masses - the chosen people of God, but the taxed and plundered of our America; notwithstanding they constitute the majority of the voters, pay the most taxes, and fight the battles of this Nation.

I am your well wisher and friend,  
A. C. DODGE.

If you want lawyers to work with a will, give them a will to work with, especially where the estate is large and the heirs quarrelsome.

The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, FEB. 15TH, 1881.

Communications.

The Educational Needs of the Farmer.

[This essay was read before the Farmers' Institute at Vassar, Mich., Feb. 4th, 1881, which we have permission to publish.]

The earth is the source whence comes the means to sustain life, to move the wheels of trade and foster commerce. Indeed the wealth of our country lies chiefly in its agricultural resources. It not only feeds and clothes the millions of our own people, but contributes a large share to supply the immense annual requirements of the world. In this vast problem the producer is the chief factor. It is upon his management and labor that the needed supplies depend. Agricultural pursuits, then, should rank in dignity and importance with the highest that can engage the attention of man. It lies at the very foundation of our nation's prosperity, and is the source of the nation's real wealth.

History shows that the prosperity of nations has been accurately measured by the development of their agricultural pursuits. There is no page of our own history more replete with interest than that which marks our progress in this pursuit. In all the wide range of human effort, there is no field of industrial enterprise more promising in its results, more useful or more honorable, if directed by science and guided by intelligence, than American farming. But he who has carefully studied our American system of agriculture, and compared it with that of the best farmers of England, France and Germany, will be convinced that the comparison is unfavorable to us. If he is a man who has that patriotism which begets a love of country, and a desire for its prosperity, he will look with some apprehension to the future of agriculture in this country. We are apt to congratulate ourselves, and to boast that we are a great nation agriculturally, because we are exporting annually an immense amount of the products of our soil, and are supplying the world with the great staples,—bread and meat. Yet we forget that the "ships which bear abroad our grains are also freighted with the life blood of our soil," and leave us comparatively nothing to return, as compensation for the loss it has sustained. If any are disposed to call in question the truth of this assertion, that this system of farming is an exhaustive one, I would point him to our agricultural statistics, which show a gradual decrease per acre of our leading cereals; to the many farms, that by constant cropping and mismanagement have been so impoverished that they fail to produce crops that will pay for the labor bestowed upon them. What has produced this state of affairs?

We have been drawing from the capital stock of our farms, and have conducted our operations without a proper knowledge of the capabilities of the soil, or its adaptation to the various kinds of crops, or any intelligent system of recuperating its exhausted energies. The intelligent farmer needs no argument to convince him that continuous cropping and selling the product in the form of grain, will in time exhaust the most fertile soil. The farms of Tuscola county are comparatively new, and the evidences of exhaustion are not so apparent as in some of the older portions of the country, yet here the intelligent observer cannot fail to see that our naturally strong soils are becoming depleted of the elements of plant growth. Now what is the remedy for this state of things? It has been the too commonly received opinion that muscle was the main thing needed to become a successful farmer; that education in the sciences would be thrown away upon the boy who was destined to spend his life upon the farm. But at the present day another element is recognized as being of equal importance to success in farming, and that element is brains. We have, in many parts of our country, farmers who have learned the secret of producing good paying crops, and at the same time increasing the fertility of the soil, and in many of the oldest countries of Europe they are producing double the amount to the acre of the cereals that they did a few generations ago.

The remedy in a great measure for a diminished production, is the dissemination of agricultural knowledge and general intelligence. The farmer is of more consequence than the farm, and should be first improved. The great weakness of the farmer heretofore has consisted in his defective education, in an almost criminal indifference to educating himself and his family up to that high standard which comported with the dignity of a producer. The education of the farmer is now the great thing needed. He must keep pace with those in other pursuits, and thinking men in the profession are wakening up to these necessities.

From every part of the land they are calling for light and knowledge on the subject of agriculture. We are now in the transition state. The old idea held by many that it required but little knowledge to make a successful farmer, is giving way to the better

opinion that industry and thrift will follow mental culture as surely as seed-time is succeeded by harvest. We can not raise the heavy crops which have heretofore been grown with the elements of fertility in the soil that had been stored up for ages, if we, like the spend-thrift with a good bank account, keep presenting our checks without making deposits, until they are finally dishonored and we find the balance exhausted. While the soil was rich in all elements required for the growth of plants, it was only necessary to go through the simple routine of plowing, sowing and reaping, but when our crops begin to diminish in quantity and the soil deteriorates in quality, is it not time to pause and consider if we are not making too large drafts upon our bank account, or in other words, living upon the capital stock of our farms?

The science as well as the practice of agriculture must be progressive, and progress demands that we educate ourselves to a different state of things. In manufactures, and the mechanic arts, the aid of science has been invoked, and what marvelous results from her aid in the domain of agriculture! The application of science to farming is of comparatively recent origin. Near the beginning of the present century, Sir Humphrey Davy gave a series of lectures on the relations of chemistry to agriculture. Although far in advance of his time, even he had very vague and unsatisfactory notions on the relation which mineral matters of the soil had to the growing plant. But it was not till about the year 1840 that a decided advance was made in scientific agriculture. At that time Justus Von Liebig proclaimed the theory which has since received the sanction of scientific men, that the soil contained the mineral elements which were necessary to plant growth, and if these elements were taken from the soil by a succession of crops of the same kind, it would cease to be productive. Since that time prejudice on the part of agriculturalists against science has been gradually giving way, and agriculture has made a decided advance.

Farmers are beginning to understand that muscular force cannot solve all the intricate problems which present themselves in this complex art. In times past it has been thought that to give the son of the farmer an education was to give him a distaste for the labor of the farm. This undoubtedly to a large extent has been true. Instead of strengthening his attachment to rural pursuits, he has been educated away from them, and has sought admission to the so-called "learned professions," because they were more likely to conduct him to honor and distinction. Agriculture has thus been drained of its most promising young men. The only way to remedy this evil is to elevate our profession and make it a learned profession; and no other profession presents a broader field for liberal culture and scientific research than this. In order that the farmers may occupy that position in society and influence to which they, their numbers and the importance of their calling would seem to entitle them, they should be thoroughly educated for the business of farming, and also acquire some of those useful accomplishments which lend to professional life its influence in so great a degree. They should be suited by education and experience for the proper discharge of duty, whether in the field or in the halls of legislation. The farmer should be a politician, in the broader sense of the term, which should enable him to investigate the science of government and estimate justly the effect that will be likely to ensue from various legislative measures upon his interests and the prosperity of the country. He should be fitted by education for every species of intercourse with his fellow men, and be fully prepared to fill any and all positions that the interests of society may demand. He should not leave to others the prerogative of doing his thinking, for "he who thinks will always govern him who toils." He should realize that his profession is one that requires intellect and skill, as well as brawn.

The opportunities for the farmer of to-day are far in advance of those of any former period. The press with its million of tongues is arduously laboring for his improvement and welfare. Farmers' clubs and the Grange are affording him the opportunity to break away from the former isolated condition of those of his calling, and by personal contact and discussion, and comparing views and methods on the many questions relating to their business, draw strength and inspiration for the future. Farmers' Institutes afford the opportunity for practical farmers to meet with those well grounded in the sciences and in theoretical as well as practical agriculture, affording one of the best agencies for educating the farmer, by free discussion, lectures and essays, which will stimulate thought and lead to better methods of practice.

Finally our Agricultural Colleges, where the sons of farmers may obtain a thorough knowledge of those sciences so closely interwoven with the practical affairs of agriculture, and made familiar with everything which can contribute to success in their profession or give them character and influence in society, must exert a strong influence in giving our farmers a higher and broader view of the honor and dignity of labor. One great reason that a broad line of distinction has been drawn between farming

and the professions, is that many who are engaged in this, the noblest and most important of all callings, have not placed a just estimate upon their vocation. The farmer has not thought enough of himself; has not realized that "it is solitude and freedom of the family home in the country, which constantly preserves the purity and invigorates the intellectual powers of the nation." "An intelligent, cultivated and virtuous yeomanry is a nation's defence, a republic's safety and permanency. In this impressive age, when the fortunes of men and empires shift almost as rapidly as the scenery of a dream, every citizen should be prepared not only to guard himself from wrong and to uphold the right, but to fill his place with honor in the ranks of living men."

Education will dissipate in a great degree the wearisome monotony of farm life, will crown industrial effort with greater triumphs, make the earth more beautiful, life more inviting and every aim more exalted. The signs of the times are propitious. More educated men are engaged in farming than ever before, and the prejudices which have kept farmers from accepting the teachings of science are melting away. Progress in the future will be more rapid.

The farmer, then, should lose no opportunity or means to become well informed and strengthened by education to promote his own interests and the best interests of the science of agriculture.

J. Q. A. BURRINGTON.

Corporations and Monopolies.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:—It really begins to look as if Congress was at last aroused to the necessity of doing something for the protection of the people from the rapacious corporations, which for so long a time have been piling up their millions at the expense of the public, for whose benefit they were created. The unjust encroachments of the railroads and other monopolies have been the subject of much complaint, and the subject has been agitated for some years, apparently to no purpose. That portion of the public press which was working for the interests of the people, instead of the interests of the politicians and monopolies, kept the matter pretty well stirred up; the people were appealed to to elect no one to a legislative position who would not pledge himself to labor for the good of the people in curtailing the self-assumed privileges of the gigantic monopolies which are bleeding the many for the enrichment of the few. The Farmers' Alliance was established to continue the influence of the farmers so that their complaints, supported by numbers, might receive attention, while Congress has been flooded with petitions for relief from the galling oppression that bears so heavily on the agricultural community.

But what has been the result? The sovereign people, groaning under a grievous burden of extortion and oppression, have in many cases boldly asserted their rights by marching up to the polls and gloriously electing the same glib-tongued lawyer who has so long failed to make an effort for their relief; our petitions to Congress elicit a polite note from our member, expressing his sympathy for our grievances, and promising to use his influence to remove them. And that is almost all we have gained so far. The patent right man still prevails throughout the land, and the railroads still discriminate, and rebate and increase the tariff at pleasure.

But, on the principle that if only given rope enough they will hang themselves, it seems as if the recent consolidation of the three great telegraph companies, on which occasion several additional bucketsful of water were thrown into their stock, was the straw that broke the camel's back.

Congressman Springer is reported as making the following significant remarks in a recent interview with a newspaper correspondent:

"There is suddenly a feeling in the Capitol air, that this regulation of corporations may very likely become at once a great and leading public question, and that the popular side will be that of very decided interference and regulation, in such manner as to protect the public rigorously against the constant selfish schemes of a few capitalists who play with public interest for the mere object of doubling and redoubling their millions. \* \* \* \* I am in favor of very strict supervision, and to begin with, I am for an inquiry into the actual cost of both telegraph and railroads; and while this Congress has not time to do anything in this matter, unless I am greatly mistaken, the next Congress will have to do it or the people will have to elect one on purpose."

This shows that a feeling is at last aroused in Government circles that the people must be protected from the extortion and injustice of wealth accumulating corporations.

It is worthy of notice, that while the agricultural class has for years been laboring for a reform in railroad management, the injustice of which, under the present system bears most heavily on the farmers, little or nothing has been done for their relief; our complaints have been unheeded, our petitions answered by a polite note, and then quietly pigeon-holed, and our threats of political action leading to a change of representatives scornfully ridiculed. But when the three telegraph companies combined, for the purpose of putting the screws on the business men of the country, (for the telegraph is chiefly used by this class, and but little directly by farmers,) such a tempest of indignation is raised by Boards of Trade, the various exchanges, and other organizations of

the commercial and manufacturing centres, that steps are at once taken for an investigation looking to a proper control of telegraph facilities. Several resolutions have been introduced in Congress, nominally proposing that the Government establish a telegraph system after the style of the postal service, but really looking to an investigation of the existing corporations in order that suitable provisions may be made for their control, and for the protection of the public from extortionate charges. And while on the subject of controlling monopolies, it is probable that something will be done in regard to the railroads, for which, when it is done, let us be truly thankful, even though the action should be taken not as a matter of justice to the suffering agriculturists, but out of tender consideration for the interests of the business men.

In the meantime let us do our part, strike while the iron is hot, circulate for signatures the petitions sent out by the State Grange, and forward them as soon as possible, that our representatives may have no doubt as to our wishes in the matter, and that in case of failure we may not have to reproach ourselves for leaving undone anything which would tend to success.

Burr Oak, Jan. 26, 1881.

Farm Arrangement and Road Fences.

ORLEANS, Jan. 25th, 1881.

Bro. Cobb:—In the VISITOR of Jan. 15th, I notice an article on farm arrangements, etc., that contains facts as far as the eastern or middle States are concerned, and the tenacity in which we hang to the old ruts, etc., but when the writer of that article branches off on his farm of 160 acres, I beg leave to differ with him. The annual expense of fencing a farm of 160 acres, as suggested by him, would more than cover the profits derived from all stock kept on ordinary farms of that size in this State. The writer mentions the size of his fields as 20 acres. Now use the pencil and figure a little, and you will see that it will take 880 rods of fence to do this, (leaving out of the account the outside fences, of which, mention will be made hereafter). I do not wonder that the writer thinks about the "prodigality of farmers' muscle." Now to build and maintain such an amount of fence would cost—how much? What would induce a farmer to stare that question square in the face and say how much he would ask to do such a job for his neighbor?

Farmers may answer from their respective localities. Remember you are to keep them in good repair. Now figure the profits of all stock kept on ordinary farms and see how far I came from the truth in my former statement. I suppose you will ask me what I am going to do without fences, and I will tell you what I have been doing for the past five or six years. I went on a farm of 185 acres, with 140, or thereabout, improved; the outside fence was in tolerable condition, just having been built of posts and boards, but the middle fences were different. There were fields from 13 acres down to three, with nothing but an excuse for a fence around any of them; trees and bushes marked the lines as they always will unless great care is taken with the fence rows. As soon as the fields were worked the fences were removed, taking all good rails to an open corner in the woods and piling them up until I have one field of 120 acres, and as my improvements enlarge, my fields will, correspondingly. As near as I can I will describe the plan of my "ideal farm." The size makes no difference, the plan will work on a small as well as a large farm. In the first place I am opposed to "road" fences, or the custom of maintaining them for the benefit of the poor man, which is all the argument there is in favor of the custom, and that is not an argument at all. Why, the cost of fencing a township with road fence would furnish the poor man butter, bread, milk and honey! If funded in a new Government bond at three per cent, then he would not have to milk.

Now we will make our headquarters at the barn, and of course will have that on the road and near the middle of the farm, and here must be the watering place for all seasons. Now, consult your style of farming, and secure some kind of movable fence (I think rails are best, but in some localities, perhaps not), in sufficient quantity to meet requirements, and where you want your pasture, there put your fence. If you have outside fences, (as I believe most farmers have in this State), two strips of fence the length of your farm is all you need, and all you can afford to support; I except orchards, yards, permanent pastures, etc. I wish to be understood that this applies to ordinary tillable farms, where mixed husbandry is practiced. I use swamp oak blocks to lay my fence on, and when the fence is not in use, they are piled up and kept dry. Both blocks and rails last much longer than when they are allowed to settle together, and into the ground, as in the old plan. A great deal of this may be done in winter, and thus avoid the hurrying season. A good man and team will move and lay up quite a string of fence for five dollars, if you furnish the team, which does not cost much this time of year. The five dollars that he would give to the boys, I would give to the man, and "play checkers" with the girls myself.

Yours fraternally,  
MONT SPAULDING.

Feeding Sheep.

[Read before the Farmers' Institute held at Schoolcraft, February 3d, 1881, by Mr. Kirby.]

The question how to feed sheep profitably involves a very important matter, and covers a wide scope. There may be ways to feed sheep profitably that we do not yet understand.

The first and a very important question is to make good selections. Choose none but strong, healthy, well matured sheep. Second, you must have warm, dry, well ventilated sheds, so arranged that they can be opened or closed, as the weather demands, so as to keep as even a temperature as possible.

There should not be more than fifty sheep in a pen, allowing not less than five square feet of ground room for each sheep. Each pen should be carefully sorted as to size, conditions, constitutions, and grade. Never put coarse and fine wools together. They should have constant access to good pure water.

In each pen there should be a box easy of access, and kept well filled with ashes, that have a good sprinkling of salt, rosin, and sulphur, well mixed. Be sure each sheep has an opening at the rack, and plenty of trough room. Fodder for sheep must be kept dry. Give them all the straw, stalks, or hay they will eat, but not more at any one time than they will eat clean.

In feeding grain great care must be exercised. Never feed more than they will assimilate well. We commence with twenty-five pounds per day of corn, mixed with bran or oats, for one hundred sheep, and increase gradually to the largest amount that they will keep healthy on. We have never been able to exceed two pounds a day per head, and keep them in a healthy condition. Roots judiciously fed would, no doubt, be of some benefit, but in this climate water is cheaper than turnips, and I question the propriety of handling one hundred pounds of roots to get seven or eight pounds of nutriment, to say nothing of raising and storing them.

Sheep are the most timid of all the domestic animals, and should never be disturbed or excited if it can possibly be avoided. Do not disturb, even to feed them, while they are quietly ruminating on the previous meal. The ancients showed great wisdom in allotting the care of sheep to women and girls, as they are naturally more kind and gentle than men can think of being.

The pens should be cleaned thoroughly at least once a month, and in the intermediate periods it is an excellent practice to strew the floor with plaster, prior to putting on fresh litter.

The sheep is only a machine, to convert grass, grain, and other vegetable substances into wool, muscle, and fat, and there may be modes of practice yet unknown to us, by which the digestive organs of the sheep might be stimulated, so that the food would be better assimilated, and the animal take on fat faster than they do under present management. The great secret is to get the greatest amount of profit from the least amount of feed. Wool growing and sheep feeding is yet in its infancy. I believe the day is not far distant when there will be new modes adopted, quite as simple as at present practiced, by which we shall be able to secure a greater amount of profit.

Letter From Florida.

CEDAR KEYS, Florida, Jan. 29, 1881.

Bro. Cobb:—As you see, I have not yet reached Leesburg, where I expect to find the VISITOR, but being in the mood, I thought I would write a few lines. The first thing that strikes me here as peculiar, is the climate. I am sitting in the open air with my hat off, while writing. The weather is like a warm day in May in Michigan. I have just returned from a walk around the town. It is a beautiful sight from my hotel, looking out on the Gulf, with its many sails and lovely islands, but to look over the town is not so beautiful. It does not look much like our Northern towns. There has not been such a thing as a farmers' wagon in town to-day, and such a thing, I guess, is entirely unknown; nothing but darkies with mules and carts, drawing barrels and boxes to and from the wharfs, and barefooted boys with strings of fish. The markets are all supplied with meat and vegetables, shipped in here from the interior by rail or from Tampa Bay. The town is on an island. There is but one street in the town, and hardly room for that. Such a thing as grass is entirely unknown, and the only thing besides mules, dogs and negroes, that I have seen, was a goat, and I guess the owner had to feed it. A cow would be quite a curiosity. But the climate is delightful. I went to the cemetery, which is in a beautiful little grove about a mile from town. The sand is almost as white as snow, and the graves looked as though they were covered with a winding sheet. More anon.

From a Van Buren County  
MICHIGAN GRANGER.

It is said the Illinois Legislature is likely to enact laws restricting the powers and regulating the charges of railways, and repealing the statute limiting the damages for killing a person on the railroads to \$5,000.

Correspondence.

Forest Grange, No. 362, Mecosta County.

Worthy Editor :- It is an old, but homely saying, but nevertheless a true one, that what is everybody's business is nobody's business, and it is just as true in Grange work as in anything else. So to set a good example and also to encourage others, I make it my business to let the readers of the VISITOR know that we are yet one among those Granges that live, and move, and make our existence felt, as the next quarterly report will show. Last evening there were five applications for membership, and more applications are talked of from those outside the gates. We, as a Grange, are drawing to our standard a class of farmers who are not much intent on making money for selfish purposes, as they are in raising the social status of our class, and in thus doing pave the way to successful legislation in behalf of the sturdy yeomanry, when the time comes that the farmer shall be found just as capable to help enact laws as the political shysters who have in the past done so large a part of this work for us, ignoring our rights and our petitions, until patience is no longer a virtue. Our Grange, during the last year, took a new lease of life, and feeling that it was necessary to provide for our future, we built an addition of eight feet to our hall, and put on two coats of good Grange paint. Admiring the sublime teachings of our Order, to be kind and considerate of the comfort of our dumb servants, we concluded to build some sheds for our teams, and in order to raise the first sail to that breeze, we gave an oyster supper at the house of our Worthy Master, realizing therefrom upwards of eleven dollars, clear of all expenses. Besides, we find it has been the means of letting others outside the Order know what a sociable, homelike place the Grange is.

At our election we let our Worthy Master, C. W. Clifton, and Worthy Overseer, J. E. Williams, be their own successors, and we found that our sisters make the best Secretaries, we placed another sister, Mrs. J. W. Martin, to fill the place of Sister Williams, who, during her term did her work so faithfully and well.

Well, Bro. Cobb, you see by the list of subscribers our Worthy Master sent you at the beginning of the year, and also by the list that will probably reach you before this does, that we appreciate your improvement in the VISITOR. Last evening at our meeting, the Worthy Master called for voluntary contributions for sending the VISITOR to parties outside the gates; the result you see in an order for 22 copies for three months.

By the way, do you ever see anything of Bro. Whitney? If you do, our Worthy Mastersays, tell him that there is a large field for missionary work up here in Mecosta, Oseola and Newaygo Counties, and though poor, we will do all we can to make a visit northward pleasant to him, and profitable to ourselves and the cause generally.

In the VISITOR of Jan. 1st, under the head of "appointments," he says, "do not hesitate to let your wants be known," consequently we do not hesitate, and again, "Learn to labor and to wait." Of course the Worthy Lecturer will not doubt the fact that whether we have labored in the past few years or not, we certainly have had to wait the coming of the Lecturer. Hoping that under the caption of "appointments," in the near future we are to be remembered, I am, Fraternally thine,

JOSEPH SMITH, Lecturer of Forest Grange.

Marshall Grange, No. 83.

Bro. Cobb :- Feeling a deep interest in the growth and influence of our noble Order, and acknowledging the important part the VISITOR must take in shaping our future, I consider it the duty of ever live Patron to do all in his or her power to increase its influence, by extending its circulation, not only among our own members, but others who would make honorable additions to our numbers. The only complaint I have to make in regard to the VISITOR, is the length of the intervals between its coming, and as I understand there is but one way of remedying that, I purpose doing all in my power to assist in increasing the circulation, to the end that it may become a weekly, instead of a semi-monthly visitor at our firesides.

Our Grange is commencing the new year with a determination to make it more successful in the future than it has been in the past. Worthy Master Luce gave us a splendid address on the 21st, but for several reasons the attendance was not as large as it ought to have been. The day was a very stormy one and kept those living at a distance at home. Another cause was a mistake made by one of the city papers giving the time "evening," instead of 1 o'clock P. M. Still another cause was the circulation by some evil disposed person of the story that we made a charge of ten cents for admission; but for all that the address was good, and heartily appreciated by all who heard it, and it will bear fruit in the near future in the shape of new members.

Fraternally yours, J. L. KINYON.

From Elsie Grange, No. 202.

Editor Grange Visitor :- Elsie Grange has commenced another year of its existence— not dead yet, and with really no signs of diminished vitality. The chairs for the coming year are filled mostly by experienced members. M. W. Dunham, Master, A. D. Linman, O., L. E. Clark, Sec., L. Bradshaw, Treas., Wm. T. Tillotson, Chap., are among the principal officers—all old and time-tried workers. Samuel Waldron is elected, for the third time, Gate Keeper. This re-electing so many old officers, though the practice may not at all times be advisable, shows a confidence in tried workers, and is an endorsement certainly creditable.

We meet every Monday evening, regardless of the weather, and generally have a lively time, if not a profitable one. Our aim is to engage the entire membership in the active work of the Grange. The silent member may be a thinking member, and if shown to the front, may advance ideas worth remembering. We have learned this; that the best talkers are not always the best reasoners, and that the most words do not always contain the most wisdom. We sometimes have ideas advanced here that may be worth considering elsewhere. Indeed, it has been suggested that although peace, harmony, quiet, unity of thought and action, are all very nice things to talk about, but a little strife and contention, in fact, just a little quarrel, is better for the vitality of the Grange than a continual dumb show. To illustrate the idea in a manner that you will remember it, let me remind you: The mumps that strike in, are as often fatal as the measles that break out, so our aim is to bring all little troubles to the surface, and thereby keep the vitals sound. To keep up a healthy action we encourage discussion, and it would certainly please you to witness the uniformity with which the brothers and sisters disagree on almost any subject advanced.

For two weeks past the brothers have been comparing notes in regard to the prospects of the coming wheat crop. From Nov. 1st up to Jan. 10th, the winter here has been extremely cold, unusually dry, and the ground mostly bare. The wheat got but little growth in the fall, and the fields now generally look bare and dead. The members, however, were quite unanimous in expressing opinions that the wheat was not yet injured by the winter, but with warm weather and spring rains would soon show usual growth. The Lecturer stood almost alone on the proposition that the present promise was not good for over half a crop.

The sisters, with just a little masculine help, have had a lively time over the following proposition: "Is the making of patchwork quilts an economical outlay of time and material by the farmers' wives and daughters of the country, or is the business followed as a luxurious pastime, indulged in for pleasure without regard to profit?" This is a very simple question, as you see, but I tell you it led to a "heap" of interesting talk. I threatened to report the speeches made, but I find it would require as much space in your columns as the State Lecturers' travels, so I introduce a grand example, and "boil down stock."

Sister Higbee had the figures for it, and was certain that for \$1.64 worth of lining, bats, and thread, with stray bits of prints for blocks, that were really of no value for anything else, with, say one week's time, worth at most, \$3, a quilt could be made that would last, a family twenty years, and be worth at least \$10,—profit, \$5.36. Sister Dodge could do even better than that, by begging a bit in a place, which she seemed to think any woman of ordinary ability could easily do, and what is more to the point, on the second evening of the discussion she produced in the Grange a patch-work quilt pieced with small blocks 1 1/2 inch square, of the double Irish chain pattern, all put together ready for the lining, the whole taking her just eighteen hours to make, the material for the blocks costing twenty-five cents.

We purpose to discuss the economy of a rag carpet next week, and perhaps look over the Lecturers' Department in the GRANGE VISITOR. VAN.

Elsie, Jan. 20th, 1881.

The Right Way to Do.

BURNSIDE, Lapeer Co., Jan. 31st, 1881.

Bro. J. T. Cobb :- Please find enclosed a list of names of subscribers for the VISITOR. This makes 26 copies in all, ordered by this Grange this year. I think you will agree with me that this is pretty good for a Grange that numbers only about 13 or 14 male members. Of course some have been secured outside the Grange. As I had the privilege of attending the last session of the State Grange, which I enjoyed very much, I left there fully determined to work harder than ever in the interest of the Grange, and I think I cannot do it in any better way than to circulate the VISITOR. Now, brother and sister Patrons, let us all work for the VISITOR to increase its circulation. Let our aim be at least 10,000 this year; it is so enlarged and so cheap that it is an easy matter to get subscribers outside the gates among the farmers, if we only press the matter as live Patrons. The Order is rather weak in our county at present, but we have some live members. Please place the Grange in Lapeer County in the revised list.

Fraternally yours, W. A. MONTGOMERY.

A "Live" Grange.

LAWTON, Jan. 23d, 1881.

Br. Cobb :- Perhaps you would like to hear from a live Grange. Bro. Warner, our representative to the State Grange, invited us to accompany him on Thursday last to Woodman Grange, so we started about noon. We halted at Paw Paw a short time and reached Bro Healey's, of Gobleville, about 5 o'clock P. M., where we were kindly entertained. In company with Bro. H. and his children, we rode to the hall, about five miles distant. I think we were the second ones there, but we could see Grangers coming in all directions. In less than fifteen minutes the school house was filled. Still they came. Boards were brought in for seats, and all the available standing room occupied, and still they came, filling the entry. When the room was full, the number was estimated at from 250 to 300, and nearly all Grangers. They had invited Bro. George Breck, present Lecturer of Paw Paw Grange, to install their officers, which he did nicely, as he does everything that he undertakes. After this he was called on for a speech, which he delivered in his pleasant, easy way, talking acceptably for at least half an hour. Bro. Warner, Master of Porter Grange, was then loudly called for. He rose and spoke briefly of our duties as Patrons. He considered our legislators as our servants—to do our bidding—but believed that we should make known to them our wants, then watch their actions. Among others called for, was the retiring Master of their Grange. He spoke encouragingly of the Order at large, and of their prospects in the future. He gave a brief history of Woodman Grange; organized in 1875; its roll book now shows 79 members in good standing; six joined in 1879, and 30 in 1880.

He said that every family in the Grange took the VISITOR; also the Constitution and By-Laws, with their Declaration of Purposes, had been largely ordered. The time passed off so pleasantly that few were aware of the lateness of the hour, and it was quite late when the meeting adjourned.

We were taken charge of by Bro. Lemmon for the night. In the morning we bade our host and hostess good bye, feeling that we had had a good time, and more than ever impressed with this one fact, that although the outside world that surrounds some of our Subordinate Granges may fail to respond to the call for workers within its mystic fold; that although some of its members may sleep on while it is struggling for existence,—yet the Grange, as an institution, will live and be handed down to future generations as a rich legacy for all future time.

Geo. H. WELLDIN.

Letter from the Secretary of Ohio State Grange.

Bro. Cobb :- As a reader of the VISITOR, I am glad to note the improvements you are making in it, and that the Patrons of your State are rallying to its support. No better evidence of our growth can be given than that the patronage of our Grange journals is increasing. No reading Grange is in any danger of dying. Mental starvation is the disease most to be feared.

I am glad to report that all indications point to the growth of our Order in Ohio. Our membership is waking to new life, and those outside the gate were never more ready to hear, approve, accept and adopt our principles than now. Our "revival" has commenced. Orders for Grange supplies are coming in rapidly, especially for applications, manuals and song books. Our "Patron's Song Book" is well bound in board, in good style, and needs only to be seen and examined to be appreciated.

We will send them by mail securely packed and postage paid for \$2 per dozen. Within the last ten days we have sent books to Maine, Vermont, New York, Indiana, Missouri, and supplied a great many to Ohio Grangers. Improve our music and enlist the young is the prevailing sentiment. The sentiment of your own noble citizen—our Worthy National Master—"We have assumed the aggressive, let no backward step be taken," finds a response in the breast of every Ohio Patron. "Let no backward step be taken. Yours fraternally, T. R. SMITH.

A New Hall for Banner Grange.

IONIA, Feb. 2d, 1881.

Bro. J. T. Cobb :- I wish to briefly report Banner Grange No. 640, for your valuable paper. Our Grange organized about nine months since. Commenced meeting in a schoolhouse. We soon found that we should have trouble if we remained there, so we moved to a "dry-house," in which we still hold forth. We are so well satisfied with the Order and our own improvement that we are preparing to build in the spring. Have bought a lot and have the stone on the ground, and considerable lumber will be delivered this week. Things begin to look business-like. Nearly all the members put their shoulders to the wheel and do their full duty. We have not added much to our membership, but think we shall when we get well established in a house of our own. About two-thirds of our members take your paper, and I think more will. Will write you again some day and let you know how we are getting along.

G. E. V., Of Banner Grange, No. 640.

Home Grange, No. 129.

Bro. Cobb :- Home Grange, No. 129, in Newton township, Calhoun county, was organized in 1873. I think it time for your readers to know that we are prospering and increasing in numbers. After being organized, our Grange started out well, and for a time we seemed to flourish. In 1874 we had 85 names upon our roll book, but as a young man starting in life, with no well defined ideas of business, or specific object in view, generally fails in business, and disappoints his friends, so our Grange failed to understand the great principles which underlie our organization, and work together for the accomplishment of those purposes. As a result, the interest soon began to die out and our members to fall off, until in 1875 we had but just enough good members to fill the office, and at a meeting called to decide what was to be done, a motion was made to surrender the charter and divide the property equally among the members enrolled on our books, but as thirteen faithful ones expressed a desire to hold the charter, the Master ruled the motion out of order, and the Grange was saved. Some of our old members came back, and many of the young ladies and gentlemen in the vicinity have joined, until we have a good working membership of 32, with prospects of still increasing our numbers. We have shown our "Faith" in the Grange by our "Works," in building a hall 20x40 feet, two stories high, finished and furnished, with carpet, desks, chairs, etc., and the sisters have decorated the walls with pictures, mottoes and emblems. It was publicly and satisfactorily dedicated by the Master of the National Grange, on the 20th of January. The service was very impressive, and will be long remembered by our Grange. Bro. Woodman then made a short speech in his usual clear, forcible and convincing style. No one who heard him could fail to see the necessity for organized effort among farmers to protect their interests and maintain their rights. He spoke to the Grange in the evening, exemplifying the work, and giving valuable information and counsel. The event passed off pleasantly and we think profitably to our Grange. We hope and believe that this event will strengthen the faith of our little band, and the ties which bind us together in our fraternal brotherhood.

G. A. C.

Admirers of "The Visitor."

BALTIMORE, Jan. 26th, 1881.

Dear Visitor :- "Little Baltimore" wishes to congratulate you on your improved appearance. We thought you very nice, and were quite proud of you; but size adds dignity, and a new dress adds beauty; and we will be doubly proud now to introduce you to our friends outside the gates and say to them, "This is our Grange paper. That you may continue to live and grow in wisdom and beauty, until the beautiful truths you teach are wafted to the uttermost ends of the earth, is the wish of your loving friends. With this I send you the names of twenty-two admirers, some old and some new, knowing you will smile kindly upon them all.

LITTLE BALTIMORE, 472.

Greeting from Vermont.

WESTMINSTER, West Vt., }  
Jan. 31st, 1881. }

Bro. Cobb :- Last week I attended our Pomona Grange at Brattleboro, and having just received the VISITOR in its New Year's dress, which is so becoming, I took it with me and asked permission of the Master for a little time to take subscriptions, provided there were any present who wished to subscribe. It was a bitter cold day, and but few out, and as I had 17 miles to go, over the hills, could not give much time to speak of the many good qualities of the VISITOR; but as evidence of what a word or two may do, I enclose a draft for \$4, for which you will please send the VISITOR, as per enclosed list.

Fraternally yours, WM. B. CUTTING.

Wm. B. CUTTING.

Alendale Grange, No. 421.

ALLENDALE, Mich., Jan. 24, 1881.

Bro. Cobb :- Our Grange held its installation of officers on Saturday evening, January 22d, Bro. Henry D. Weatherwax, the Representative to the State Grange from this district, officiating. Although the weather was not very favorable, the hall was crowded to its utmost capacity, there being about forty invited guests present from outside the gates. The meeting seemed to be a grand success, as several applications were received for membership, and all seemed to enjoy themselves to the utmost. After the officers were installed, the room was cleared for the spreading of tables, and an oyster supper was served; and we think the oysters were done, whether those partaking done justice to themselves or not. However, we heard several express the wish that installation might come monthly instead of yearly. The Worthy Master, Bro. Henry C. Cooley, informing us that the hour of midnight had arrived, all took their departure for home feeling much happier, we trust, for an evening spent with their brothers and sisters.

Yours fraternally, BENJ. S. TAYLOR, Secretary.

Legal Dilemma of the Railroads.

Mr. Geo. Ticknor Curtis, in his opinion rendered to the President of the Erie Railway, maintains that there is nothing "in the situation of a chartered railroad, built and operated by private means, which makes it public property or State property, and hence concludes that a railroad is a private corporation, and as such, subject to its own control, as in the case of private corporations generally. This is a position the railroads would find it very convenient to establish, now that they have secured their chartered privileges and are in the enjoyment of a rich monopoly.

Let us see what was their attitude in their formative period, when they were engaged in establishing their claims to exercise the right of eminent domain. When the Saratoga & Schenectady Railroad was in process of construction, Mr. Beekman opposed its running through his land. Mr. Beekman took Mr. Curtis's ground that the Railroad Company was a "private corporation;" that the uses to which a railroad is devoted differ from those of a turnpike; that a railway cannot be deemed a highway because passengers and goods may be carried on it more expeditiously than on a turnpike; that the road, when completed, would be private property; and that the defendants, being thus in the nature of a private corporation, had not the power to appropriate his property. This, excepting the conclusion, is exactly the position assumed by Mr. Curtis. As, however, the conclusion drawn from Mr. Beekman's premises would have been fatal to the railroads of those times, the companies had to reason from directly opposite premises; and in that position they were supported by the courts. This case was carried to the Court of Chancery, where B. F. Butler—not he of Massachusetts, but Attorney General of the United States, and one of the foremost lawyers of those times—represented the railroad. Mr. Butler argued in behalf of the railroad,—

"It is admitted that private property may be taken without the owner's consent for turnpike, bridge and canal purposes. Where is the difference between such companies and this railroad company? Those companies are, equally with this company, authorized to receive tolls. The only difference is that the road is not traveled by all persons with their own carriages. It is, however, equally public as a turnpike as to traveling in a particular way. Turnpikes cannot accommodate every mode of conveyance, as for instance boats, nor canals accommodate carriages. So on the railroad ordinary vehicles cannot be used. The difference in the character of a railroad and a turnpike renders the mode in which the railroad is to be used less general. This is a difference, however, in degree and not in principle. To all persons who wish to travel on this route, this way, the road will be open. If the company should refuse to carry passengers, it would be a violation of its charter. . . . If the State had made this road, it would have been obliged to provide carriages. Yet in that case would anyone say it was not public? This test is decisive. . . . This company will not have any power to oppress the public. It must charge one uniform price. If it should charge an individual an exorbitant price, it would amount to a misuse of its privilege. There is a further check upon this corporation, in case of an abuse of its powers. The Legislature can repeal its act of incorporation. The corporation is by law compelled to keep the road in repair. If it neglect to keep the road in repair, it will be liable to indictment. . . . Here is not only a right conferred, but a duty imposed; and the right to receive tolls depends upon the performance of the duties so imposed. The right to take tolls is a public franchise, an attribute of sovereignty."

These are the grounds upon which the eminent attorney for the railroads argued that railroad companies differed essentially from private corporations, and that ground possessed certain eminent public privileges, and were subject to corresponding public obligations. It would be interesting for Mr. Curtis to harmonize this argument in behalf of the Saratoga & Schenectady Road with his own to the President of the Erie Railway. Unfortunately for the latter-day attorneys, the Court accepted the argument of the railroad counsel, the Chancellor in the course of his decision remarking:—

"The public have an interest in the use of the railroad, and the owners may be prosecuted for the damage sustained if they refuse to transport any individual or his property without any reasonable excuse, upon being paid the usual rate of fare. The Legislature may from time to time regulate the use of the franchise and limit the amount of toll which it should be allowed to take."

The doctrine affirmed by the Court of Chancery was reiterated, at a later date, by the Court of Errors in the case Bloodgood vs. the Mohawk & Hudson Railroad when, in reviewing the case, Senator Edwards affirmed,—

"If it is a public franchise, and granted to the company for the purpose of providing a mode of public conveyance, the company in accepting it engages, on its part, to use it in such manner as will accommodate the object for which the Legislature designed it. . . . The Legislature therefore has control over it, and may direct the management and use of the road in such manner as may best subserve the public interest."

Like conclusions in other cases might be multiplied at pleasure, but the foregoing suffice to indicate what has been the general conclusion of the courts on this question.

The thing that needs explanation is—how it comes to pass that the railroads have so remarkably changed their attitude. When they were appropriating private property for the constructing of their lines, they maintained their right to do so on the ground that they were not in the category of private corporations, but were created for public purposes, assumed public obligations and were subject to public control, and therefore were entitled to exercise the right of eminent domain as deputed to them by the Legislature in behalf of the people. Now that the right to appropriate property has been conceded to them and they have entered upon the full enjoyment of their privileges and are exercising them to the dissatisfaction of the public, they repudiate their former position, declare that they are private corporations, and that as such they are exempt from interference of the State, and can render facilities to the public on what conditions they may please. Now, if, by their earlier logic, it followed from their being created for public purposes and subject to public control and regulation, that they were entitled to have the right of eminent domain deputed to them; then equally, under their later reasoning, it follows that, in denying their public character and their subjection to public control, they surrender all claim to exercise the right of eminent domain and virtually acknowledge that the past use of that power has been a wrongful usurpation. Mr. Curtis, Mr. Depew, and the other attorneys of the railroad school, thus put themselves upon the horns of a very awkward dilemma. Which of the two impalements do they prefer?—The Review.

The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, FEB. 15TH, 1881

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, SCHOOLCRAFT.

THE TRANSPORTATION QUESTION.

Our old friend Patterson, of Calhoun, is pretty sound on the MAIN QUESTION before the American people. In our State Senate on Feb. 1st, he offered the following preamble and concurrent resolution:

WHEREAS, The material development and prosperity of the country depend upon a fair and equitable adjustment of the transportation question between the carrier and producer; and

WHEREAS, The policy of charging for freight as transportation on mechanical and agricultural productions "all the business will bear," is both unjust in principle and dangerous in tendency; and

WHEREAS, The common practice of increasing the rates of transportation at the will of the carrier, so as to absorb any advance in the market, deprives the producer of the just profits of his labor and capital, and is an exaction of such magnitude as to require prompt relief; and

WHEREAS, The right and authority of regulating and restricting charges for storage, freight and transportation, by legislation has been settled by the adjudications of the Supreme Court of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The general government has jurisdiction over the length and breadth of our entire railway and transportation system, and alone has sufficient power to cope successfully with these vast companies and combinations, and to protect that class of producers who are unable to protect themselves; therefore

Resolved (the House concurring), That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to use all reasonable and honorable means to procure the passage of a bill prohibiting discrimination in storage and freights, and regulating and restricting charges for storage, freights and transportation in such a manner as to secure to the producer the benefit of the market and the profits of his toil;

Resolved, That the Governor be instructed to forward copies of the above preambles and resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

On motion of Mr. Chandler, the preambles and resolution were referred to the committee on railroads.

This will give occasion for some of our Representatives in Congress to "rise and explain!" when the vote is taken, and they will be watched with vigilant eyes, and note taken of the result.

"CAMPAIGN EXTRA, No. 1."

Is issued from the office of the Cincinnati Grange Bulletin. It is the first of a series of five sheets, large editions of which are offered at a low price, with the laudable object of arousing Patrons and farmers into whose hands they may fall, and stimulating inquiry. No. 1 is received, and is a very valuable collection of opinions upon this most important question before the American people to-day—the railroad question.

We give below the series and price. These will prove of value to the Order, as well as to the great agricultural interest of the country. It will prove a good investment for any Grange that has stuck to its principles and kept out of debt, to send for a few of these sheets as they are issued, and distribute them for the "Good of the Order," and those outside, as well.

No. 1.—Railroads and the People.—Containing the letter of Judge Black on the transportation question, an article from A. B. Smedley, Past Lecturer of the National Grange, and a great amount of information on this important subject.

No. 2.—The Question of the Age.—Containing articles by F. B. Thurber, of the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, H. T. Niles, and a large number of smaller items of valuable information.

No. 3.—Farmers' Organizations.—Containing the "Declaration of Purposes" of the Grange, the Constitution of the Order, How to organize a Grange, and many short, pointed and convincing arguments showing the necessity of organization by farmers.

No. 4.—Why a Farmer Should be a Patron.—Containing ten short, boiled down, plain talks about the Grange; what it is, what it has done, and what it can do, by Mortimer Whitehead, Past Lecturer of the National Grange. Also many other items of general interest to the farmer.

No. 5.—The Farmer as a Producer, a Man and a Citizen.—Words of truth and soberness spoken by farmers to farmers, from the addresses of Masters of the National and State Granges, and other prominent farmers and Patrons.

THESE EXTRAS are 16x22 inches in size, 6 columns to the page, and the publishers only charge enough to pay actual cost of paper, printing and postage.

The prices are: 10 copies for \$ 12 50 copies for " 50 100 copies for " 1 00 1,000 copies for " 10 00

Address, CINCINNATI GRANGE BULLETIN, Cincinnati, Ohio.

We were in error as to the cost of the address of Worthy Master Woodman before the National Grange at its last annual session; and also the address of Thos. K. Beecher. We therefore correct prices. We will furnish on all cash orders the address of J. J. Woodman for twenty cents per dozen; Thos. K. Beecher's address ten cents per dozen; or one dozen each for twenty-five cents. Postage paid. Order early, and distribute freely. Send stamps.

We learn the proceedings of the National Grange have been shipped to us. We expect to distribute them to all entitled thereto, with the proceeding of the last session of the Michigan State Grange, next week.

We have frequent calls for some book that is authority on parliamentary law. Cushing's Manual is in the hands of parties who charge two prices for it, and we have determined to keep it in our supply department no longer. We have on our table a copy of the "American Manual of Parliamentary Law," by Geo. T. Fish, which seems to us a very complete work, in good form and arrangement for use. See his advertisement on eighth page. We expect to keep the work hereafter in our supply department.

BRO. HENSHAW, of Parkville Grange, writes that there is much talk and some controversy, in their Grange about building a hall. He thinks they will come out all right in the spring. He pays the VISITOR a handsome compliment, and adds a good word for the Order in St. Joseph county, and its Pomona Grange in particular.

We renew in this number the advertisement of A. Vandenburg, which was kept standing in the VISITOR for several months last year. From the good reports we get from those who have had dealings with Mr. Vandenberg, we take pleasure in commending him to the patronage of the Patrons of Michigan who want good goods at low prices. Worthy Master Luce gave him a strong endorsement last year, based on business done with him for several years. If you want a harness next spring, don't fail to look over the advertisement of A. Vandenburg.

We have had the Wool Growers' Bulletin published at Steubenville, O., on our exchange list for three years. We have found it an outspoken, intelligent advocate of the farmers' interests, and we very cheerfully commend it to all farmers interested in this branch of agriculture. Like the VISITOR, it is issued semi-monthly, but not with regularity, as it is issued more frequently during the wool season than the rest of the year. Twenty-five copies are guaranteed during the year. The subscription price is 50 cents per annum. We will furnish it with the VISITOR for 40c, and this offer holds good to all who have subscribed for the VISITOR. Send us 90c for the VISITOR and Wool Growers' Bulletin, or we will send the Bulletin one year to any person sending us \$5.00 for ten subscribers for the VISITOR.

OUR department looks rather lean this time. We have been favored with a liberal supply of communications. To as many of these as we could, we have given place, and the rest we hold over until we have space. We are well pleased with our friends for coming forward so promptly and so generously with contributions for our pages. Subscriptions are pouring in. Our friends are giving the enlarged VISITOR a cordial greeting everywhere and promising it new subscribers and full renewals. Do not overlook our offer to send the VISITOR for three months to ten new names of those outside the Order for \$1.00. Any member that has ten cents' worth of liberality can in ten minutes induce nine others to invest ten cents each, to send the VISITOR three months to some friend. Try it.

THE By-Laws of the Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan are printed in this number and are also in supply in the office of the Secretary. Blank applications for membership have been prepared and will be forwarded to all applicants. Address this office.

Campaign Extra, No. 2.

The Grange Bulletin, of Cincinnati, is fast gaining a National reputation. Its extras are "leaves for the healing of the Nation." No. 2 is just at hand. "The Question of the Age," by F. B. Thurber, is published at length upon one page. "Railroad Lawyer Senators" completes this page. "The Great Question," by Hon. H. T. Niles, is a four-column article upon another page. It should be read by every producer whether farmer or not in this land. "Taxes Levied by Railroad," and "Fiat Money or Watered Stock," and other short items are also in this number. The people need to be set to thinking, and these papers will do it. Let every Grange circulate them. Let every farmer read them. Scatter the seed broadcast. Read! Think!! Act!!!

Cheering News.

CHENEY, Crawford Co., Feb. 9, 1881. Bro. Cobb:—I suppose you think our effort for a Grange has frozen out, but if you do you are mistaken. This is a new county, and thinly settled, and the weather has been such that it would not admit of a general meeting, so we have postponed it until spring. The majority of the people feel that a Grange will be a benefit to us all. I know it will encourage us to greater efforts in farming, and will also be a benefit to us intellectually.

The new dress of the VISITOR pleases me very much. The agricultural department is a great improvement. I take great pleasure in showing it to my neighbors, and some of them have promised to subscribe for it in \$1.00.

the near future. Don't allow Bro. W. to deprive us of his "Pickings by the Way," as it would be like leaving the seasoning out of the soup.

Fraternally yours, W. C. JOHNSON.

From Dallas Grange.

FOWLER, Mich., Jan. 30th, '81.

It has been some time since Dallas Grange has been heard from through the columns of the VISITOR. Therefore, if space will allow, you may say to the Patrons that we report progress and improvement. Our election resulted in the reelection of our Master, H. D. Welling, who performed the duties of his office the past year with true Patron zeal, not being absent for a single meeting, and ever striving within and without the Grange to promote the interests of its patrons. Our membership is increasing rapidly. We conduct literary exercises and are soon to give a public exhibition.

Oh, yes; the VISITOR! We are all pleased to see it enlarged, and the addition of those new departments supplies a much felt want. Patrons, the question with you should not be, can I afford to take the VISITOR, but can I afford to do without it.

Brother Patrons, the principles underlying our Order are as broad as the universe itself, as everlasting as the mountains, and as grand as old Niagara. It is the duty of every Patron to make a practical application of those principles. We have the best thoughts of men of all ages before us, and of what consequence are they if we do not try to profit by them. The great minds within our Order have, in the councils of the National and State Granges, given us their best advice, and laid before us their best plans. They have placed before us high commanding objects at which to aim; but their words are mere nothingness unless we put them into practical application. Opportunities do not last. Let those Patrons who have left opportunities pass while at the district school, the academy, the college, be mindful that the Grange is now presenting chances for self-improvement, and the elevation of our fellow-beings.

As the work of another year demands our attention, let us go forth with new aspirations. Let the failures of the past aid us in securing victories in the future. As the oak which stands alone, and endures the scorching heat of the summer sun, and the fierce blast of winter, is sought for its toughness, so shall the Patron who manfully battles for the noble principles of our Order deserve the praise of man and woman.

Fraternally yours, MYRON BROWN.

The Detroit and Bay City Council.

ADDISON, Feb. 10th, '81.

Bro. Cobb:—The Detroit and Bay City Council of Patrons of Husbandry was organized in 1875, and has held quarterly meetings regularly ever since. It has taken a leading part in all enterprises having a tendency to foster and build up the interests of the Grange—very notably in the breaking up of the plaster combination of a few years ago.

There are Granges in this vicinity that owe their existence to the influence of this Council; yet its Delegate to the last meeting of the State Grange was refused admission as such.

But I hope and trust that the Council will persevere in its attempt to be heard in the State Grange, and that at the next meeting of that body it will see fit to admit Delegates from all the Councils in the State, to the end that all branches of our noble Order may be justly and fairly represented.

I expect to be able to send more copies of the VISITOR soon; it grows better and better.

The twenty-third quarterly meeting of the Detroit and Bay City District Council of Patrons of Husbandry, will be held in the basement of the Christian Church, Oxford, Tuesday, March 1, 1881, at 11 o'clock A. M.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

Opening of the Council in the Fourth Degree.

Appointment of Committee on Credentials.

Reading minutes of last meeting.

Reports of officers and presentation of accounts.

Address of welcome, by Geo. D. Cowden, of Oakland.

Response by M. P. Newberry, of Rochester.

"Relation of the Grange to Our Primary Schools," Mrs. L. A. Pearsall, of Disco.

Basket lunch at 12:30 P. M.; tea and coffee free.

Music.

Reports of Committees.

One hour discussion upon uniformity in washing and doing up wool.

An essay on "Kindness to Animals," Mrs. J. K. Haines, Oxford.

Report of Delegate to State Grange, Joshua Van Housen, Rochester.

A paper by J. P. Coon, of Orion, on the question, "Resolved, That threshing by steam power is more economical than horse power." Discussion opened by M. E. Delano, of Thomas.

Music.

"What Constitutes a Successful House-keeper," Mrs. J. Barwise, of Rochester.

Suggestions for the good of the Order.

All Fourth Degree members are cordially invited to attend and take part in the doings of the Council.

J. G. NOBLE, Sec'y.

By-Laws of the Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan.

ARTICLE I.—NAME AND OBJECT.

SECTION 1. This Association shall be called the Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan.

SECTION 2. The object of this Association shall be to furnish immediate pecuniary aid to the families of deceased members.

ARTICLE II.—MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Any Patron of Husbandry, in good health, and in good standing in any Subordinate Grange, may become a member of this Association by making application in the form prescribed in these By-Laws, receiving the approval of the officers designated by the Trustees, and by paying a membership fee of \$2.50, and one (the first) assessment as hereinafter designated in these By-Laws, and by complying faithfully with the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Society in force.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 2. Applications for membership shall be in the following form:

To the Board of Trustees of the Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan: I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_ County of \_\_\_\_\_ and State of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby make application to become a member of said Association. I am a Patron of Husbandry, in good health; I am correct and temperate in my habits, and have no injury or disease, constitutional or otherwise, which will tend to shorten my life; and am in regular standing in the \_\_\_\_\_ Grange, No. \_\_\_\_\_, located at \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_.

If admitted to membership, I hereby agree to comply with all the By-Laws now and hereafter in force in said Association. I was born \_\_\_\_\_, B. age \_\_\_\_\_ years. I now reside in \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of \_\_\_\_\_, and am a \_\_\_\_\_ by occupation.

I request that upon my decease, the pecuniary aid due in virtue of my membership, shall be paid to \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, in the County of \_\_\_\_\_ and State of \_\_\_\_\_, subject to be revoked or changed at pleasure by giving written notice to the Secretary.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_.

SECTION 3. The application shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Master and Secretary of the Grange of which the applicant is a member, in the following form, viz.:

To the Board of Trustees of the Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan: We hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_, the signer of the foregoing application, is a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Grange, No. \_\_\_\_\_, located at \_\_\_\_\_, in the County of \_\_\_\_\_ and State of \_\_\_\_\_, in good and regular standing, and is in good health, and we believe his statements above made to be correct. We cheerfully recommend the acceptance of his application.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_.

SECTION 4. If a Master or Secretary of a Grange shall use an application for membership, the Overseer may sign said certificate.

SECTION 5. Every application shall be subject to the approval of one of the Trustees, or a Standing Committee of said Trustees, designated for that purpose. In all cases where the application for membership is rejected by the Board, the fee paid shall be returned to the person from whom the same was received.

SECTION 6. Any member of this Association who refuses to conform to the By-Laws of this Association, or who neglects to pay to the Secretary any assessment within thirty days from the date of such assessment, or who shall be expelled or suspended from membership in his Grange, shall thereupon cease to be a member of this Association, and shall forfeit all claim for the benefits of this Association, and no person shall thereafter be entitled to any pecuniary aid or benefit in virtue of such previous membership—and the Secretary shall strike his name from the roll of members upon receiving a statement of such facts, signed by the Master and Secretary, and under the seal of the Subordinate Grange, of which he was a member.

SECTION 7. Whenever the Secretary shall strike any name from the roll of members, and any person interested may appeal from such action of the Secretary to the Board of Trustees, whose decision shall be final; provided, that such appeal be taken within sixty days after such name shall be stricken from the roll.

SECTION 8. Any member removing or changing his place of residence shall notify the Secretary of this society of such removal.

SECTION 9. Each member of this Association in good standing and entitled to its benefits, is entitled to vote at the annual meeting for the election of its Board of Trustees, and all other meetings of the members.

SECTION 10. Any person desiring a change in the person or persons chosen as beneficiary, shall notify the secretary of such change, who shall at once make record of the change desired.

ARTICLE III.—MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The annual meeting of this Society shall be held on the second Tuesday of December of each year at the city of Lansing, so long as the annual session of the State Grange shall be held at such time and place.

SECTION 2. Special meetings of the Society may be held upon call of the Board of Trustees whenever the interests of the society and its members shall seem to demand, and thirty days' notice shall be given to each member, but no business shall be transacted at any special meeting, except such as shall be specified in the call for such meeting.

ARTICLE IV.—BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

SECTION 1. The business affairs of this Society shall be managed by a board of twelve trustees, who shall be chosen at the annual meeting of the Society, and who shall hold their offices one year, or until their successors are duly chosen and qualified.

SECTION 2. In case of any vacancy in the Board of Trustees by death or otherwise, the balance of the Board shall fill such vacancy by selecting a member to fill the place until the annual meeting.

SECTION 3. All trustees of this Society shall be members thereof, and shall be members in good standing of a Subordinate Grange.

SECTION 4. A majority of the whole number of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. They may establish such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the plan and purposes of its incorporation, not inconsistent with its incorporation.

SECTION 5. The Board of Trustees shall elect from their number a President, Secretary and Treasurer, whom they may also remove from office at any time for cause.

SECTION 6. The officers and Board of Trustees of this Society shall receive such compensation as the said Board may deem proper, such compensation to be taken from the general fund.

SECTION 7. The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees shall be held immediately after the annual meeting of the Society, and special meetings may be held at the call of either the President, Secretary, or of five members of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE V.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Trustees, and shall exercise an active superintendence of the affairs of the Association; shall appoint all committees unless otherwise ordered by the Association or the Trustees; shall appoint officers pro tem, and shall fill all vacancies in office, with the approval of the Trustees; shall draw all orders on the Treasurer, with the consent of the Trustees, and shall see that respective duties; shall call all special meetings of the Association, when such meeting is ordered by the Board of Trustees, and shall see that all the laws and regulations of the Association are faithfully enforced, and shall make a statement of the affairs of the Society, when called upon to do so by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 2. The Secretary shall keep correct records of the proceedings of the Society and Board of Trustees, and shall keep an accurate account of all monies received by him, and pay the same to the Treasurer at least once per month, taking his receipt for the same; shall countersign all orders on the Treasurer; shall make out and sign a certificate of membership for each member, and send the same to the Secretary of the Subordinate Grange to which he belongs, upon the receipt of the application shall keep an accurate roll of all members of the Society, together with the age, No. of the Grange, residence, post office address, date of admission, name of beneficiary, assessments and time of payment of the same, and time of decease of each member; shall make and serve all notices, and keep a record of the same; shall perform such other duties as the Board of Trustees may require; shall make a full report at the annual meetings, and at such other times as the President or Board of Trustees may require; shall deliver to his successor in office, or to such person as the President and Board of Trustees may designate, all books, accounts, vouchers, papers, documents, and other property in his possession belonging to said Society. He shall give a bond with two sureties, for such an amount as the Board of Trustees shall determine, for the faithful performance of his duties, which shall be approved by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 3. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to the Association from the Secretary, giving his receipt therefor; shall pay the same out on the order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary, and in accordance with the votes of the Trustees, shall deposit with some Savings Bank or Trust Company, invest or loan any portion of the funds of the Society, as the Trustees may require; shall keep accurate accounts; shall make a written report of his doings at each meeting of the Society, or of the Board of Trustees, and at such other times as the President or the Board of Trustees may require; shall give a bond with two sureties, for such an amount as the Board of Trustees shall determine, for the faithful performance of his duties, which shall be approved by the Secretary and President, and shall deliver to his successor in office, or to such other person as the President and Trustees may designate, all moneys, books, accounts, vouchers, papers, documents, and other property in his possession, belonging to the Association.

SECTION 5. The bonds of the officers required by the preceding sections, and all other bonds, shall be deposited with the Master of the State Grange for safe keeping.

SECTION 1. At the death of any member there shall be paid to any person or persons, duly authorized to receive the same, as many dollars as there are members of the Society at the date of such death; provided, that no person shall receive more than two thousand dollars.

SECTION 2. If no person shall have been designated as the beneficiary of such deceased member at the time of decease, the payment shall be made to the wife, husband, children, mother, father, sisters, brothers, or legal representatives of such deceased members, respectively in the Order above named.

SECTION 3. Whenever the Secretary shall receive notice of the decease of a member, he shall forthwith notify the President of such decease, and of the number of members at the time of such decease, and of the name of the beneficiary of such deceased member, and he shall also issue and send to each member a notice of each assessment.

SECTION 4. Whenever the President shall receive notice of the decease of a member, and of the number of members at the time of such decease, he shall forthwith draw his order on the Treasurer for the amount due the beneficiary of such deceased member, and shall forward the same to the Secretary who shall sign and forward such order to the beneficiary of the deceased member.

SECTION 5. On the receipt of the Order of the President and Secretary, the Treasurer shall at once pay the same to the beneficiary of such deceased person designated therein.

ARTICLE VII.—FUNDS AND ASSESSMENTS.

SECTION 1. The membership fees, of \$2.50 for each member, and 10 cents upon each assessment shall belong to and form a fund for the general purposes of the Society.

SECTION 2. All moneys arising from assessments shall be placed in the beneficiary fund, and shall be used only to pay to beneficiaries of deceased members.

SECTION 3. Members of this Society duly authorized to take applications for membership, and collect assessments, shall receive 50 cents upon each member where application shall be accepted and approved, and 5 cents upon each assessment collected and forwarded to the Secretary of this Society, which amounts shall be paid from the general fund.

SECTION 4. Upon the decease of a member, every living member shall be assessed according to the age of the member at the time of the commencement of membership, by the following schedule:

Table with columns: Ages from, Am't of Assessment, Ages from, Am't of Assessment. Rows: 16 to 20, 20 to 25, 25 to 30, 30 to 35, 35 to 40.

To each of the above assessments made shall be added 10 cents—5 cents to be retained by the sender, and 5 cents to be forwarded to the general fund.

SECTION 5. The Secretary shall send each living member the following assessment notice, to-wit:

MICHIGAN PATRONS' AID SOCIETY. Secretary's Office, \_\_\_\_\_, Mich., \_\_\_\_\_, 188\_\_\_\_. You are hereby notified that by the decease of \_\_\_\_\_, a member of this Society, an assessment of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, and \_\_\_\_\_ cents is now due from you, and that the same is payable within 30 days from date, according to the By-Laws of this Society. \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary.

Sec. 6. A receipt from the Secretary, or credit upon the books of the Association only, shall be evidence of the payment of any assessment.

ARTICLE VIII—AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Board of Trustees, by a two-thirds' vote of the members present.

Lecturers' Department.

C. L. WHITNEY, MUSKEGON

PICKINGS BY THE WAY, No. 23.

The readers of the VISITOR had no "Pickings" in the last number because after they were duly gathered they were lost—spilled by the way we expect, for they were duly mailed to the Publishing Company on the 25th day of Jan. We duly forward what is left and hope they may be almost as good as those the mail man devoured, or is trying to find the place (Kalamazoo), printed in large letters upon the envelope—to deliver them.

A NEW GRANGE.

On the morning of Jan. 10th, "early to rise" was our motto, and even then we had barely time to eat breakfast at Bro. and Sister McDougal's board, near Litchfield, when the distant rumbling of a train, followed by a whistle, bade us hurry. It was a "mixed train," which had one good feature—it is never in a hurry to leave the station—and so thanks to our host's fast horse, we were there in time to get a ticket and aboard and go with the rest towards Albion, which this mixed train reached upon time, just in time for us to board the train west and reach Kalamazoo at 9:30 A. M. At the printing office where the VISITOR is rolled out to order we repaired, and soon heard a familiar cry of "copy." That means business if the paper is full and on time. We picked over our diary and sundry other places, and made the "boys happy."

After dinner the train bore us northward to Shelbyville, in Allegan County, where Bro. S. O. Smith met us at the depot, and hurried us to the eastward and northward across the line into Barry County, where we could safely take our supper. Bro. Luther and another Bro. and his wife, were guests with us at tea. All went to the meeting at the schoolhouse some distance back, where the meeting was to be. The house was well filled by strangers and members from the neighboring Granges. A lecture upon the aims and objects of the Grange was given, and 36 names were given as charter members of a new Subordinate Grange. Officers were elected and duly instructed, and Gun Lake, Grange No. 643, was instituted with S. O. Smith, Master, and Sister Mary Angel, Secretary. At a late hour we reached the home of Bro. Smith again, glad to rest and sleep. This Grange is near the center of the town of Wayland, Allegan County.

A COLD RIDE.

On the morning of the 11th inst, we got a later start than we anticipated, and so missed the train to Plainwell, but telegraphed the cause of our not coming, and that we would come by team. Bro. Smith was going to Plainwell so we rode along, but almost perished with the cold. We warmed at the hotel by the wayside, and upon reaching Plainwell found a telegram seeking some one to read it. An hour or two in this rural town and we took a train to Otsego, and spent the night in a huge rest—keeping warm and resting.

HALL DEDICATION.

At the train hour we took the cars to Allegan, where a message by wire stopped us, and we rode back to find Brother and Sister A. J. Edson, of Plainwell, waiting to take us to the field, which was at Trowbridge Grange, No. 296. This Grange had been building a new Grange home 26x60 feet, two stories in height, and to-day it was to be dedicated to the use of the Grange.

This hall is well located, well built, and is and will be the pride of the Grange that has so wisely built it. Spite of the cold, there was a goodly gathering when we reached the hall, and additions were made every moment until the hall was filled. Many Brothers and Sisters from neighboring Granges were present to join in the proceedings of the occasion. All things being ready, the ceremony of dedication was performed, assisted by a well trained choir of singers with an organ accompaniment.

From labor to refreshment was the order, and all repaired to the banquet room below to the feast of good things. Three long tables were filled more than once, and enough was left to feed many more.

A public address was the order of the afternoon, to which a large and attentive audience gave excellent heed. The evening was used for the installation of officers, and instruction in the unwritten work. Brother McAlpine, of Monterey, was present and assisted in the installation. There were members and officers from at least seven different Granges present. At a late hour good bye was said and the happy gathering dispersed, long to remember the scenes and instructions of the day. We went in company with Brother and Sister Edson to Brother P. Brender's to spend the night. This comfortable, even elegant home, like many others in Michigan, has been hewn from the wilderness by its owner. On the morrow we took leave of Allegan County, and its

Patrons, by taking the morning train which soon made Kalamazoo and Schoolcraft. A company of friends were at Brother and Sister Cobb's for the evening, and we enjoyed the social visit.

Jan. 14th was no warmer, but colder than some of the preceding days; so we found it as we made Kalamazoo, and later the village of Mattawan, where we called upon Mr. Hunt, at whose home we saw two fine portraits of the Worthy Master of the National Grange. One is for the hall of Alpine Grange, and the other for Wyoming Grange. They were painted by Miss Lydia Hunt, and will add much to the appearance of the two fine halls in which they are to be hung. At dinner with Brother C. Bonfoy, we met Brother Vining, who is engaged here in repacking winter apples to ship South. We saw a thousand barrels in one building in the process of preparation for shipment. Night brought us to Paw Paw, where as guest of Brother and Sister Woodman, we passed a very pleasant time.

TO HARTFORD.

The beautiful snow came plentifully upon the morning of the 15th. We took the narrow Gauge—we noticed that many spell this name, or at least pronounce it, as if spelled with an "o,"—Gouge. After stopping a few times to get breath, we reached Lawrence, and by stage made Hartford in time to go home with Brother J. C. Parker to dinner. Brother Parker has built himself a fine residence since we were last here, which adds much to the appearance of the place; and we have no doubt that his family find it adds to their comfort and happiness. Brother Goodspeed, the Worthy Master elect of Hartford Grange, was a fellow guest at dinner. The Grange met in the afternoon and transacted the business of settling up the accounts and dealings of the past year. Among other things was the appointment of a Plaster Committee to co-operate with the members of Keeler Grange in arranging for the storage of plaster, etc. In the evening a public installation of officers took place, Brother Cook, of Keeler Grange, assisting. An address was given, and late in the evening those attending sought their homes. We were the guest of Brother and Sister Robertson, and with them spent a very pleasant night. The following day Brother R. took us to Keeler and delivered us to Brother Baker, whose home we have visited several times before. How pleasant to revisit the places and homes where years since one has made pleasant acquaintances and agreeable friends, and renew the friendship then begun. Snow is a positive, if not a superlative quantity at this time, but lies still.

KEELER GRANGE.

To-day, the 17th, we have been very busy with our writing and correspondence, trying to catch up in this line of work, but night came too soon, and with it a public meeting and installation at the South church. The house was well filled by members and their friends, all of whom came to take part and show their interest in the advancing, aggressive work of the Order. A number of visiting Patrons were present from Hartford, Hamilton and other Granges. Brother Titus, of Hartford Grange, and Sister Cook, of Keeler Grange, assisted us in the service. Thus Keeler Grange, No. 159, has sailed out upon another year's voyage of successful effort.

Brother Baker's team soon annihilated the distance between his home and Hartford, where at 2 o'clock in the morning we took the cars for Grand Rapids, to attend the annual meeting of the WESTERN MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.

To say that we were a little tired, etc., when we reached the City of the Valley, would be the truth only, but the cheerful greeting of many friends and brothers soon rested us, and with the preparation of a breakfast we were as ready for work as ever. The work of the 18th and 19th passed the time rapidly, and early upon the morning of the 19th we started for Lansing, en route for appointments in Ingham county. At Lansing we met Brother Luce and Brother Cobb, and many other Patrons, most of whom were attending a meeting of the Superintendents of the Poor. At noon we reached Holt station, where Brother Cook met us at the train, took us home to dinner, and then 8 miles to Aurelius Grange, where in a church we talked an hour to those who came together to hear and learn. Supper was taken in company with Brothers Cook and Higdon at Brother Grinnelle's, and thence we rode to Eden Grange, at Capin's station. A goodly number were present at this, a public meeting. The night was spent near by, with a brother whose name has been overlooked.

AT LANSING.

We reached the Capital City upon an early train on Friday, the 21st inst. An hour was spent in Representative Hall watching those whom we have empowered to think, speak and vote for us in securing the legislation needed. Many were busy—attentive to everything that was doing. Not a word was said, not a paper read, that they did not understand. They had a voice and vote in the business as it was done—their constituents were well represented, and they worthy representatives. On the other hand many members of the House were absent, having gone home, anticipating the usual recess from Friday noon until Monday evening or Tuesday morning. Many of those present

were out of their seats, paying no attention to the business passing, seeming to have no interest in it, and important bills were under consideration—bills in which every member should be interested.

We attended to the filing of the articles of association of the

MICHIGAN PATRONS' AID SOCIETY.

thus making it a legal organization. Upon the evening train we rode through the storm which made us much behind at Morrice, and Brother A. B. Clark met us at the train and conducted us to the hall, where a public installation and address were given. We here met Brother and Sister Stevens and others, from Perry Grange, near by.

The Grange at Morrice, No. 151, has just come in possession of a new hall, which is very pleasant, having been fitted up in good shape for Grange purposes. Busy hands of active, earnest Sisters had been well employed in making a carpet and putting it down to have it ready for the occasion. We congratulate the members of this Grange, that they have been so fortunate in securing so good a hall and so successful in fitting it up for a Grange home. May it ever be home to all farmers and their families in the vicinity, ever leading them to build a higher and better manhood and womanhood.

Brother and Sister Clark assisted us in the installation and all went off pleasantly. A short sleigh ride took us to Bro. Clark's pleasant home where the night was duly spent in that rest one daily needs.

A NEW POMONA GRANGE.

The heavy fall of snow during the night and its continuance this morning, the 22d of January, did not prevent a company of earnest Patrons from riding 12 miles to attend a Grange meeting. In company with Brother and Sister Clark, and Brother and Sister Morrice we rode the 12 miles to Laingsburg and stopped at Brother Taylor's to dinner.

At 2 P. M. we met the members of the various Granges of the county in the hall of Laingsburg Grange, and were surprised to see so many present at this time. In due course of time Shawasssee Pomona Grange, No. 31, was duly instituted, with the following officers, duly elected and installed: Bro. D. D. Culver, Master; J. Woodhull, Overseer; A. B. Clark, Lecturer; E. S. Barnett, Steward; F. M. Randall, Assistant Steward; M. L. Stevens, Chaplain; W. C. Morrice, Treasurer; J. C. Stone, Secretary; George Wing, Gate Keeper; Sister Ellen Morrice, Pomona; Minerva Clark, Ceres; Julia Stearns, Flora, and Sister S. M. Place, L. A. S.; and its Executive Committee, Bros. A. B. Clark and C. S. Barnett, for two years, and Bro. J. Woodhull and S. Goodale, for one year.

Instructions in the beautiful lessons of the degree of Pomona were duly given, also in the general unwritten work of the Order.

The Grange took a recess for supper, which was given at the house of Bro. A. F. Place, and after supper the installation took place in due form; and at a late hour all went to their homes, and some of them were quite distant. We found many snow-drifts delayed the trains so that we did not reach home until Monday morning, having been from home and family just two weeks. It seemed good for us to be once more with our family, but only for a day, for to-morrow we are again called to the field, where we expect to be for at least three weeks to come.

Open Grange Meetings.

For the want of laborers in the Grange field as public lecturers, we would urge the use of open Grange meetings. Such a meeting should be well arranged, abundantly advertised and its program well prepared.

Its program should have good singing and a plenty of it distributed through the exercises. A well written essay or two by sisters and brothers upon some topic would be in keeping, also two, three or more well committed and practical declamations by the younger brothers, and recitations by sisters.

For the main part of the entertainment, have Judge Black's letter on railroads, or Thurber's railroad article, or that of Mr. Niles read by some good reader who shall have studied the piece and practiced it until he can read it well. Such a meeting systematically arranged and well carried out would be productive of good. Try it and if successful, repeat once in six months at least.

The address of the Worthy Master to the National and State Granges, reports of the committees of the National Grange upon Transportation, Good of the Order, State of American Agriculture and Education, also the report of the State Grange Committee on Patent Rights, Agricultural College, etc., would all be good to read at such meetings. Whatever you do, do well, and success will attend such well directed efforts.

Why Is It?

At a recent meeting of farmers it was announced that an article would be read on the subject of education, whereat a large number of farmers arose to leave. The chairman of the meeting caustically remarked that it was usually the case that when education was talked of the farmers were ready to leave, not being interested in that subject. Do farmers not need to learn? Do they not need organization? Do they not need to read? Who, more than they?

Vick's Monthly Magazine and the GRANGE VISITOR for 1881 for \$1.50. Address, C. L. Whitney, Muskegon, Mich.

The Proceedings.

The proceedings of the National and State Granges at the last sessions, will soon be mailed to Subordinate and Pomona Granges entitled to them, but you will not get these valuable papers if your Secretary has been negligent in duty and not reported your Grange officers, or your Grange is behind in reports or dues.

These proceedings are the property of the Grange, and not of the officers who may receive them. The same is true of the proceedings of previous years.

Where will you keep them? Every Grange should have a good *secrétaire*, or desk, with a place for everything, and then keep everything, proceedings, by-laws, digest, rituals, etc., etc., in that place, and ready at any meeting for reference and use.

Some Granges are like a certain rural post office. A stranger called for his mail. The lady said, "Mr. Smith was the postmaster, and carried all the letters in his hat, and he was in the field at work. Go and see him."

Patrons' Summer Resort.

Steps have been taken to organize a summer resort for Patrons of Husbandry in the cool regions and by the side of the clear, pure waters of Northern Michigan. A meeting for the election of officers and the transaction of business preliminary to the location of site, etc., will be held on the 23d inst. at Sweet's hotel, Grand Rapids. Excellent inducements are being offered by both the railroads and the citizens of Traverse City. All stock-holders will get reduced rates, half fare at all times. Patrons, come out to the meeting on 23d inst.

Lecturer's Appointments.

On the 5th inst. I received a telegram from home calling me to the bedside of my eldest son, who was very sick with the diphtheria. Every day since I have been needed at home, and in anticipation of the other two children and my wife having this fearful disease, I have not dared to make any new appointments. My intention is to go to Genesee, Sanilac and adjoining counties, the last of the month, if the health of my family will permit. I have agreed to spend a few days in St. Joseph county the first week of March, being at Colon on the 3d of that month.

Could I find any one to leave with my family in this their need, I should beat once in the field. Hoping for the best, I remain, Fraternally,

C. L. WHITNEY.

Items.

LET this number of the VISITOR, and any other you may have, do missionary work, by handing them to those who do not subscribe or have it to read. Read, and get others to read the railroad question.

The Grange has the "elixir of life" in its purposes, that the nation must use to live. "It has assumed the aggressive" on the railroad question, let no Patron falter, but prepare for the impending conflict.

LIKE many others, the publishers of the Michigan Almanac forgot that the farmers of this State have an organ of their own in the GRANGE VISITOR, with a larger circulation than any paper of the State outside of Detroit, or considered it unworthy a place in the Michigan "press" list. Had this been a dirty, bitter partisan sheet of 200 subscribers, it would have had a full share of attention. It can correct an error in reference to the liquor trade, but farmers may stand back.

Thanks.

We here express our thanks to those Patrons who have so promptly responded to our request for the earlier publications of the Order. We will in any way in our power reciprocate the favors thus received if the Brothers will indicate the way. Brother Draper, Master of Massachusetts State Grange, and Brother Nicholson, of the New Jersey State Grange, have our thanks for copies of the proceedings of their late sessions. We are glad these are uniform in size with those of our State, and hope those of other States will be, for then they can be bound, and make an excellent Annual for 1881. We should prize such a volume. The size is 6x9 inches.

STILL WANTED.

We still are in search of Nos. 3, 7, 9 and 10 of the Bryant Fund publications; have received but one of either of them. There must be some of Nos. 3, 9 and 10; all were excellent papers. No. 9 was by Prof. Welch, of the Iowa Agricultural College. What Nos. 3 and 10 were, we do not recollect. We would be glad of these Nos., and also some of Nos. 12 and 13 and Practical Tract No. 2. The earlier copies of the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Grange and first circulars sent out would be gratefully received. We think there must be copies of edition 1, 2 or 3 of the Ritual, especially of the third edition—the only one in use in 1872, and before.

We have, and to spare, of Bryant Fund publications Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 8, and No. 3 of Practical Tracts. Will members of the earlier Granges please look about them and inquire for these papers, etc. and greatly oblige,

Yours fraternally,

C. L. WHITNEY.

Communications.

From Outside the Gate.

KALAMAZOO, Feb. 5th, 1881.

J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft, Mich.:—Dear Sir: In response to your request of yesterday, that I occasionally contribute to the columns of your paper, the GRANGE VISITOR, I will say: If I can be of any service to the farming interests, through the medium of your paper, I shall certainly feel very willing to contribute to its columns.

I have never identified myself with the Grange movement, and I am but little acquainted with the Organization. My work has been so diversified—farming, bridge-building, water-works building, etc., that I have had but little time or opportunity for social life, or to devote to organized society work, such as, I take it, would be required from a consistent member of a society like the Grange.

That the interests of the farmer should be greatly advanced by such an organization, I can readily believe; and I am also ready to believe that great good does come of it—indeed I cannot see how such an organization could result otherwise than in great good, unless grossly mismanaged and misdirected.

I do not think anyone can well attach a higher value and importance to the farmers' calling than do I. His profession—and it is a profession, in the highest and most complete sense of the term—is the grandest and best of all the professions; and to be fully worthy of it will entitle him to the very front rank in the scale of human progress.

But, sir, our case requires heroic treatment, and the sooner we fully submit to such treatment, the sooner will we emerge from the false position we have so long occupied. I believe a large portion of our most intelligent farmers are realizing the importance of such treatment, and are adopting it; and the indications of a most glorious result are already becoming visible. A continuance of this treatment will bring to us the most vigorous health, which simply means the fullest, and best, and greatest mental and material prosperity and advancement.

Let us all hail the dawning of the better, brighter day—the day when we shall no more hear from the lips of any farmer the monstrous sentiment that has been so common in the past, "We need but little education to become farmers;" but rather this, the true sentiment, that to become worthy the name "good farmer," we need the best and most thorough education and culture that the human mind can attain to. Even then we have but barely entered this wondrous field. In this field, we are walking hand in hand with the Infinite. This thought should be a constant guide and discipline to us, and when once appreciated, even if imperfectly, we will cease to bemoan our calling, or to long for the minor professions.

Do I assume too much when I say that the brighter, better day is already dawning? I do not think anyone will say so who was present and witnessed the proceedings of the Farmers' Institute recently held at your place, who witnessed the keen interest there manifested, and the zest with which all participated, almost in spite of themselves.

I assure you, sir, I feel that the holding of that Institute has resulted in the largest single stride, in advance, that we have yet taken, and it is hardly possible to over-estimate its good results.

The benefit to be derived from such gatherings stands boldly out, no matter from what point we view it.

The mere gathering together of these people from all parts of the county, and counties, and conferring together, furnishes a lesson for daily use to every one who participates. It makes the knowledge and experience of all, of the collective whole, applicable to each and every individual case. We are thus, too, afforded the very best of opportunities for becoming acquainted with our representative men, and are enabled, from such an acquaintance to select the fittest men to represent us in all places, and thus will we be able to escape the wiles of demagogues and designing men, who use us only to abuse us, and to aggrandize themselves.

I repeat, it is scarcely possible to over-estimate the good that may result from the cause we are inaugurating. It is, most emphatically, a step in the right direction,—long delayed, 'tis true, but at last well taken.

Hastily yours,

W. R. C.

The Agricultural World and Michigan Homestead has assumed new form and size, being an eight page forty-column sheet. It pays its weekly visits to the farmers, who, looking well to their interests, take it. The subscription price is \$1.50 per year. Club rates much cheaper. We will send it and the VISITOR for \$1.50. Address, C. L. Whitney, Muskegon, Mich.

A copy of the Farm Journal is at hand. It is published by Wilmor Atkinson, Philadelphia, office No. 144 N. 7th Street. This is a neat 16 page sheet, issued monthly, at 50 cents per year. It contains the concentrated extracts of news and general farm intelligence. The "Household" is a department well edited and filled with choice articles. We welcome the Farm Journal to our table.

Ladies' Department.

THE LOOM OF LIFE.

All day, all night, I can hear the jar Of the loom of life, and near and far It thrills with its deep and muffled sound, As the tireless wheels go always round.

Basely, ceaselessly, goes the loom In the light of day and the midnight gloom. The wheels are turning early and late, And the woof is wound in the warp of fate.

Click, clack! there's a thread of love wove in, Click, clack! and another of wrong and sin. What a checkered thing will this life be When we see it unrolled in eternity!

Time, with a face like mystery, And hands as busy as hands can be, Sits at the loom with its warp outspread. To each in its meshes each glancing thread.

When shall this wonderful web be done? In a thousand years, perhaps, or one, Or to-morrow. Who knoweth? Not you nor I: But the wheels turn on, and the shuttles fly.

Ah, sad-eyed weaver, the years are slow, But each one is nearer the end, I know; And some day the last thread shall be wove in.— God grant it may be love instead of sin!

Are we spinners of woof for this life-web, say? Do we furnish the weaver a thread each day? It were better, then, O my friend, to spin A beautiful thread than a thread of sin.

A Talk with the Sisters.

I have been waiting for a "convenient season" to present itself, or a new idea, or perhaps an old idea in a new dress, to float down this way, that I might catch it on the point of my pen and fasten it on paper, and arrange my thoughts in a presentable form for the columns of the VISITOR. But I waited in vain: time and opportunities do not always come at one's bidding. So many times I have planned to write something to fill up, not to add to the interesting matter that is needed in the make-up of our home paper, but I have as often failed to carry out these plans. My pen has lain dormant so long from this use that I fear I shall not satisfy the readers of this article or myself.

We have received the first number of the VISITOR in its new dress, and if I had not found some familiar names appended to some of the articles I should have failed to recognize it as an old-time friend. I was so surprised to see it putting on "so much style," enlarged in its proportions, and an additional department, that I did not give it much of a greeting (reading) at first, but only stared in its face. But as it is a VISITOR come to stay a whole year, I shall get well acquainted with it in due time and know where to "find its bearings."

I was invited to write up the State Grange, as Sister Sykes suggested, but I do not feel equal to the task. Neither could I do justice to the many events that transpired at the last session of such a large assembly of men and women for the transaction of business of vast importance. I will write only from my own standpoint; and if others entertain different views, it only goes to prove that we do not all see, hear and think alike.

It was very much like the previous sessions that I have attended, and characterized by the great amount of business to be transacted in a very short space of time. I think, if the Legislature rushed business at the same rate that Patrons do at our State Grange, there would not be so many free passes, and "Uncle Sam" would not be obliged to shell out the money so freely "for nothing."

When I first entered the hall and looked over the "sea of faces," I failed to recognize very many familiar ones. I saw so many strange faces that I felt a sort of home-sickness, and was ready to say, I don't believe I shall have a good time at all: I fear it will not seem to me as it did when I was here before. There seemed something lacking, yet I could not tell what. Brother Luce came along and entered into the convention. I told him what I had been thinking: he said he had the same impression, but accounted for it by the fact that many of those who had always been on hand before to infuse life, zeal, order, enthusiasm, were absent—such as Brother Childs, who was detained at home by sickness.

Pardon me if I indulge in a little personality. Sister Steele was not there, with her active, sprightly ways. She always seems to me a person full of business, whose head, hands and heart are all alive with the interests pertaining to the Grange. But her husband was there, with his kindly ways, clean, pure personal appearance—a grand exemplification of the Christian gentleman. Sister Adams was not there, with her sunny smile and genial ways.

Here was the clue I had been helped to find, and when the point was made clear to my mind I said (to myself): Before you go home you will find others, equally as good, intelligent and kind-hearted, and they will make just as true friends, when you find them out. And so it proved: and I came away with just as pleasant feelings, just as much real enjoyment, and as much benefited as at other times. I found warm friends, with pleasant ways, kind words of encouragement; and if they were not real and all they seemed to be, the fault is theirs, not mine. With all my faults, I feel that I have one redeeming trait, and that is, I try to find the bright side of a person first; and, as first impressions are the strongest, it is best to have them favorable.

There was a great deal of human nature

cropping out, seemingly more than ever before. You are all aware that human nature is very frail and weak and cannot stand much pressure. Mr. and Mrs. "They Say" were there with their arrows tipped with poison, ready to attack one at every vulnerable point, unless the person was, as it were, iron-clad. These people are so cruel in their method of working, so sly and cunning! The wound may heal in time, but an ugly scar is left: and to forgive and forget requires a nature almost divine.

This yearly pilgrimage which very many farmers' wives make to Lansing to attend a session of the State Grange, is of great benefit. It breaks the monotony of every-day life. For many months previous they are looking forward to that time as a sort of holiday, a breaking away from care and toil, meeting with much-esteemed friends and adding to the list each year. Over-work and over-worry is the treadmill that crushes out the better nature, and sends many a wife and mother to an untimely grave.

There is always more or less sadness connected somewhere with the pleasures of life. Thus it is amid all the enjoyments of the State Grange. As the session draws to a close, the parting shaking of hands and the saddest of all words, "Good-bye," is said, and we each go to our home. The inquiry comes up, Shall we all meet again? or will some of our number pass from earth to the "home over yonder?" Who of us will pass under the "shadows" and taste the bitter waters of affliction? Our pathway through life is thickly marked with meetings and partings, and happy are we if we submit gracefully. But I must not write too much this time, or there will be no room for others.

Yours fraternally, MYRA.

Does the Husband Support the Wife?

We assume that he does not. Judging by superficial appearance he does, but this appearance exists because women do not represent their side of the question. Men marry, and the forms of the marriage ceremony and judicial law compel them to promise to support and protect the wife, and the promise made, they really believe that they faithfully fulfill the same. From a sentimental idea of love they imagine it is very romantic for the vine to cling to the sturdy oak, and then it gives them a power over the wife which is very sweet to man, for is not the monarch superior to his subject? and this subjection gives him power to control the earnings of the wife, thus making it appear that the wife is supported by the husband.

Now this is a false assumption, and as unjust as it is false, making a beggar of a hard working woman, when she not infrequently supports herself and husband, and performs double the amount of labor that he does for less than half the price, but her earnings are passed into his hands. He holds the one purse, and if she presumes to ask for what should rightfully belong to her, she finds that it is usurped by her husband. Men marry for the avowed purpose of getting a wife to help them earn a living and to lay up property for future use, which they are fully aware they cannot do alone, and is it not as reasonable to assume that the wife supports the husband, as that the husband supports the wife; he really is more dependent upon the wife than she on him.

There is hardly an hour in the day but she is performing some labor for her husband's comfort; preparing his food, making his clothes, keeping them clean and in repair, and performing all the duties which tend to make his home comfortable and cheerful, duties which none but a wife can do, and she could not do only for the love she bears her husband. And what disinterested love! The husband expects remuneration for all the duties which he performs for the wife—her earnings. She, on the contrary receives nothing, and is called dependent! The wife is indeed a pauper, depending upon the husband's capricious ideas of what he will give or refuse. He does not understand that which is given, is hers by right of hard labor performed, because does he not support his wife?

There are occasional circumstances where men mean to fulfill the marriage contract,—support the wife. He marries a "pretty" woman, without much brain and no ambition, to fondle and caress, but such soft sentimentalism soon grows stale, and he wishes he had a practical wife, if indeed, she did not look as pretty. Why this? Because he wants her labor to help him toward prosperity. Does that look as though he intended to support her. I am glad that Mrs. Sykes proposed this subject. But to state the case is not sufficient. We want to find a remedy for this great wrong; we want to study the cause, in all its bearings on woman's marriage relation, and when the cause has been ascertained, to apply the remedy.

There is no virtue in submitting to wrong which by energetic action can be righted, and I would suggest that every wife commence a system of educating the husband out of the selfishly absurd idea of "headship" and the wife's subjection. All that woman wants is equality with man, and that we mean to have if possible. I wish Mrs. Sykes and Aunt Kate would give us their views on this subject, because we believe they have had the experience that is needed to treat the subject intelligently. There are still other points of the marriage

relations that need attacking, and indeed woman's position generally, for men say, "woman is an enigma"; now let the enigma find its own solution. JUSTICIA.

Go thou and Do Likewise.

Bro. Cobb.—When I slipped myself into my shell, and congratulate myself on the feast of good things I was to absorb during the winter from the pens of the worthy sisters and brothers of the VISITOR, I counted without my host in part, for it looks as though all, or nearly all, the sisters did just as I did. Now I will try to step out, and taking pattern from the brothers, will try, from time to time, to help fill up that space headed "Ladies' Department."

The Grange interest in this part of the vineyard seems to be livelier up somewhat. The reports of Subordinate Granges in this county at the last County Grange were uniformly cheering, and out of the thirteen in the county, I think eleven were represented. Doubtless some member will report the County meeting, so I will try to report something else.

At the session of the County Grange held in October, a plan was devised by which arrangements were made to hold an institute with each Grange in the county during the winter. The one at our hall was very interesting, and gave universal satisfaction. In my private opinion, such meetings will be of more benefit to the Order than meetings where one person, even be he the best of speakers, does all the talking. Other advantages of these meetings will be, that more members will be called upon to prepare themselves to do the part assigned them, and a greater diversity of subjects will be presented; and some who seem to think the word "Grange" a dreadful word, will be led to think better of it, by not hearing anything said of it, except through the good example of the members in promptly discharging every duty, thus showing that the members of the Order are advancing, while the opposition are still in the old rut.

Now as the clock strikes nine, and I having so lately left my shell, am somewhat feeble in mind, I leave this to do with as you please. Thanks to Sister Sykes for kind remembrance.

Fraternally, MRS. H. FINCH.

An Appeal—Installation.

Really, ladies, our corner of the last GRANGE VISITOR looked too lonely for anything. Sister Patrons, this is altogether too bad, after Bro. Cobb's polite invitation—nay, his urgent request—to us to write: and then the VISITOR itself looking so handsome and genteel, with its clean face and new dress. Come, those of you with small families, you surely can, if you will, contribute something of interest to these columns. Now, we don't mean to insinuate that you spend any of your time in idleness—no, indeed, for don't we know just how neat and prim you keep everything? Why, your windows are like crystals, your curtains and bedding are all so fresh and clean, your carpets are bright and well kept, and not even the suspicion of a cob-web is allowed to wave in the remotest corner of your dwelling. But, after having thus gotten things into such excellent trim, and then there being few if any hungry little mouths to feed, or busy little fingers to displace and disfigure things, no little torn garments to mend or new ones to make,—of course you have time left. This you most likely devote to fancy work, and to reading and study; perhaps to watching and tending your cherished flowers and plants. Now, how interesting it would be to those whose lot it is to make, mend, and care and cook for a household of little ones, if you would only be so kind as to give a description of the pretty fancy articles you make, through the columns of the VISITOR. And, although the last hope of ever again having time to devote to such work themselves has long since died out, yet, after a hard day's work, how very refreshing and restful it would be to read of the delicately tinted zephyrs, worked into all sorts of woven flowers and leaves and buds, or knitted into cunning mats, jaunty jackets, and great fluffy hoods and shawls: then the embroideries of bright silk floss, the jet and bugle trimmings, the beautiful lace ties and edgings, fashioned after patterns of wonderful beauty and design; the painting in oil on broadcloth, or satin, or crockery; and of the flowers and plants, etc., even of your studies, if you are so fortunate as to be able to keep them up after having taken the responsibility of a home—for it is to be hoped that even the busiest of us can illy bear to see these beautiful days of our lives filing by, rolling themselves into a great barrier that is separating us slowly but surely from intellectual progress. Some day, if I find time, I will try to tell the busy, over-worked sisters and the young lady sisters why we would like to hear from them also.

Bro. C. L. Whitney conducted a public installation of the officers of our Grange (Hartford, No. 89), and afterwards made a comprehensive and eloquent address, which was listened to with wrapt attention by all present, but unhappily the attendance was far from what it should have been, owing to the apathetic condition of the neighboring farmers. I fear that this includes many of

the members also. We were glad to see Bro. Whitney in such good earnest in his labors for the good of the Order. We truly hope that the interest and zeal he manifests may prove to be contagious, and that in his goings to and fro among us he may ever succeed in driving away clouds and darkness, and scattering in their stead sunshine and blessings. SWEET BRIER.

A Grange Ruled Entirely By Lady Officers.

Bro. Cobb.—I send to the readers of the VISITOR a few words from Bengal Grange, No. 225. We have about 100 members in good standing, a hall of our own, with an organ, and other furniture to make us comfortable. We are out of debt, and have some cash on hand. At our last election we put a lady in the Master's chair, and chose a lady to fill every position in the Grange. This is a "new departure," and like all new ideas, created at first quite a sensation, but it has all died away, and the sober second thought has satisfied all that women are not only eligible to, but capable of holding any office and filling any position in the Order as well as men. Some said, "How shall we address the chair? shall we say 'Worthy Master' when a lady fills it? or shall we say 'Worthy Mistress,' when no such term is used in the ritual?" I wrote to Worthy Master C. G. Luce, and his prompt and plain decision settled the question to the satisfaction of all.

Bengal is probably the only Grange in the State that has elected a lady for Master, and the only Grange in the world that has elected a lady to fill every office in her gift. As we progress and move forward, new questions come up for consideration, and this "new departure" calls for a new ruling of our higher officials. The question is this: When a matron is elected Master of a Grange, does her husband become a member of the State Grange the same as when a husbandman is elected Master, or his wife, if a matron, becomes a member? Will Worthy Master Luce or Worthy Master Woodman, give an official decision on this question, in the GRANGE VISITOR?

A Letter From "Aunt Hattie."

Mr. Editor.—I don't like to take a back seat when called to the front, so will just step out of my corner and give my thoughts an airing on the subject Sister Sykes suggested, "Does a man support his wife?"—she doing the work of the household. The latter clause meaning, she works continuously from early morn until late at night the year around; if any time is spent socially or for self-culture, it must be made up by extra exertion in order to keep the domestic tread wheel evenly balanced, that no jar may occur. Now, Sykes, if I should come out and say he does not support her, she earns her own living fairly and squarely, is entitled to all she gets and a great deal more, many of the lords of creation that read this article would open wide their eyes with astonishment and pronounce Aunt Hattie a shrew, with a sharp nose and long tongue. As it is more agreeable to find favor in their eyes than reproaches, we will confine ourselves to a few general remarks and suggestions on this subject.

Judging from the frequent mention in various newspapers and magazines, of the wife's duties to her husband, one would suppose he had no faults, while she was invariably doing wrong. He is not reminded of his duty; no obligations or injunctions are laid upon him. She must use him as she won him, and when he returns home from his labors, exhausted, careworn and blue, she must meet him with a smile; never with disheveled hair or untidy dress. His meals must be on time, the children kept quiet, his slippers and newspaper at hand; everything agreeable, or forsooth, he will take himself off where he can find more congenial companions. Yes, meet him with a smile. No matter how bad your head or back may ache, or how tired and discouraged you may be. Ah! well, this is all right, but I would not dare advise everyone to try this experiment. I heard of a woman once, that had a very cross husband. Somewhere she had read the above paragraph and thought she would try it. Accordingly she put on her prettiest dress and stood in the door smiling a welcome. When he came up he said, "what d'ye stand there grinnin' for?" Oh my! how the romance was all knocked out of that notice. Now if she does the work of the household, I would suggest that he meet her with a smile, and now and then give her an endearing word.

In addition to the wear and tear of the work all day, she has had the care of the little ones; see that you relieve her of this care an hour or two. Get your own slippers and newspaper, and when she wants a new dress or bonnet, don't, while you grudgingly give her the money, lecture her on the extravagance of woman, and their frivolities generally, and if she wants an extra twenty-five cents, don't ask her what she is going to do with it. In regard to the purse question, much injustice is done woman. It is a pleasure to work for those we love, if it does take nearly all our time and strength, but we want to be fairly dealt with; we hate to be called extravagant when we are not. The greater part of our money is earned in his department and spent in hers. He does the work that is paid for and belongs to the sex that is paid. She does the work that is not

paid for and belongs to a sex that is underpaid. The case is against her. A sensitive woman is fully enough alive to her relation in this respect; she feels her dependence, and that dependence should be the strongest appeal to the manhood of any husband. That the majority of men are thoughtful and kind hearted, we believe, but there are those that will give money to their wives in such a manner she feels she has been robbing him, when it rightfully belongs to her. He receives his meals from her hands, together with other work that takes time and patience, without any sense of obligations, nor should he, any more than she should, feel obligated to him for money received, that goes more often for the general good of the family, than for any selfish motive. If husbands were more considerate towards their wives, and tried as much as possible to relieve them from care and help them to a higher life, they would never take to writing such lines as these—

We poor women, feeble natured, Lurge of heart—in wisdom small; Who, the world's incessant battle Cannot understand at all. AUNT HATTIE.

Theirs by Inheritance.

The following sensible remarks we clip from the Lowell Journal. They so fully express our own sentiment, that we beg you to please copy it into the VISITOR. We do not know the author, but believe it to be the distinguished editor of the Journal.

Yours respectfully,

AUNT KATE.

Grattan, Mich. If we were going to preach a sermon—and nobody knows how soon we may receive a call—we should take for our text the title of a bill recently introduced into the Senate of Indiana, viz: "To prevent the marriage of persons where either is a habitual drunkard, or criminal, or is weak-minded, or has the taint of insanity." A better text cannot be found, either in or out of the Bible. The law of transmission is inexorable. We believe it to be a crime to murder, to rob, to steal. Is it any less a crime to beget murderers, robbers, and thieves? We don't admire a fool or a lunatic, but we allow fools to beget more fools, and the insane to beget more lunatics. It won't do to pooh at the idea of transmitted vices and weakness. Read your Bibles and learn if thistles grow figs. Read the best authorities on medical science, and read your own book of common sense, and we believe the child inherits the most of physical, mental, and moral failings. Healthful influences may surround him in early life, and to some extent enable him to hide his true inwardness, but if his father was a devil, and his mother a fit companion for the father, the child is a little devil, and he can't help himself. Why, the human family are an hundred fold more careful and wise in growing cattle and horses and sheep than in growing children? We have often wondered at this, and so have you, undoubtedly. And, yet, how comparatively few after all, have ever given it any thought. The crime of begetting criminals, fools, and lunatics is permitted by our laws, and the stock of lunatics, fools, and criminals is multiplying every year.

It has been demonstrated that a whistle can be made out of a pig's tail, but it never has been and never will be demonstrated that the legitimate fruit of vice is virtue.

Woman's Work.

Women frequently complain that men do not know how hard they are obliged to "work." The many little things they are required to do are quite as taxing upon them, they rightly say, as the larger labors of the masculine sex. The Rev. Thomas K. Beecher says something on this subject which all women will appreciate. "All men," remarks this distinguished gentleman, "ought to go to the woods and do their own washing and general work, such as sweeping, house-keeping and dish-washing. The work of women is not spoken of sensibly by men until they have done it themselves." Gentlemen readers, it is easy to talk, but just try it on a very modest scale once, and you will honor working women more than ever. Do as I have done—do a wash of six pieces, and then remember that a woman turns off 200 pieces a day. Look at your watch and see how long it takes you. Look at your soap and see how much you have used. Look at your white clothes, handkerchiefs and towels and see what you have done, and never again speak harshly of or to a woman on washing-day, nor of laundry work as if it were unskilled labor. Try it. A sympathetic gentleman, having washed two pieces will never change his shirt again without a glow of reverence and gratitude. She did this. A similar and salutary consciousness will come over him who darns his own socks, patches his own trousers, splices his suspenders and washes his dishes. Look not every man upon his own things, but every man also upon the work of a woman. Such an experience in the woods will go far toward settling the woman question, by teaching us that we are all members of one another, and there must be no schism."

Horses should be watered in the morning before they are fed. A full drink of water immediately after being fed is a sure way of producing indigestion, if not inflammation. When water is drunk by horses, the bulk of it goes directly to the large intestines, and little of it is retained in the stomach. Some old and worthless horses, by way of experiment, were fed with split peas, and supplied with water immediately before being killed. It was found that the water had carried the peas into the intestines, where no digestion took place at all.

"My case is just here," said a citizen to a lawyer the other day; "the plaintiff will swear that I hit him. I will swear that I did not. Now what can you lawyers make out of that, if we go to trial?" "Five dollars apiece!" was the prompt reply.

THE world owes us a living, but the only way we can collect the debt is to pull off our coats and take it out of the world's hide.

Youths' Department.

Uncle Nine Gathers His "Children" About Him. Dear Uncle Nine—Who can answer this? Where did our forefathers find names for different families, such as Cobb, Woodman, Burgess, Whitney, etc., etc. Who will express their opinion? NETTLE. Chicago, Feb. 8th, 1881.

Dear Uncle Nine—In reading the VISITOR, I saw your question asking in what year your father was born, and thought I would answer it. He was born in the year 1836. I live in the township of Genoa, Livingston County. My father and mother are members of the Howell Grange, No. 90. We live about six miles from the village. FREEMAN J. FISHBECK. Genoa, Jan. 29, 1881.

Dear Uncle Nine—I will be ten this month. I saw some letters in the VISITOR, and thought I would try to write a letter. Pa has 240 acres of land, 365 sheep, 7 cows, 8 calves and 6 horses. He plants 50 acres of corn, and sows 75 acres of wheat each year. HERBERT MUMFORD. Moscow, Feb. 7th, 1881.

Uncle Nine—As I am getting interested in the "Youths' Department," I will send my answer to your puzzle as to the year of your father's birth. According to the figures he must have been born in 1836. With your permission I will send another puzzle for publication in this department. I am composed of eleven letters: My first is in grief but not in joy. My second is in barn but not in shed. My third is in drag but not in plow. My fourth is in corn but not in wheat. My fifth is in sled but not in wagon. My sixth is in rye but not in oats. My seventh is in apple but not in cherry. My eighth is in maple but not in beech. My ninth is in river but not in lake. My tenth is in good but not in poor. My eleventh is in sister but not in brother. My whole is one of Michigan's most prosperous cities. CHARLIE. Fremont, Jan. 29th, 1881.

Uncle Nine—In looking over the peculiarities of the year of your father's birth, I find that he was born in the year 1836, which gives him at the present date the mature age of forty-five, while you, his son, must be about twenty. Just imagine, dear friends of these columns, our dear, sedate old "Uncle Nine," of twenty years. Well, never mind if he is young and inexperienced, he will not be so at the end of the year, if he has all of us to bother him with our chattering twice a month. I never cared for the VISITOR, until one day, about two years ago, in a fit of abstraction, I read one of Aunt Kate's articles, and it interested me so much that I looked for more. Although I found other nice articles, none suited me so well as hers. They are so cheerful, and just juicy enough to make them attractive to young as well as old. Now let us have a good time while we may, for "Uncle" Cobb (I suppose he is our "Uncle" till we join the Grange,) may not be so obliging another year as to let us have a corner of his paper. Let us discuss our favorite authors; what kind of literature we prefer, and what sort of entertainments we most enjoy. In this way we will become acquainted, even if we are miles and miles apart. Let us also write letters, not too long, but just long enough to be interesting without tiring. I think we would all prefer to see fewer letters printed, and those more lengthy. We can each wait for our turn to have them printed, can we not? What think you upon this subject, Uncle Nine? Though I have seen sixteen summers, I have never before written for a paper, but as I am going to school, and writing compositions every two weeks, I hope to improve a great deal. And if you think this worthy of print, and not too long, I will write again sometime, though not so much, of course. SWEET BRIER. Keeler, Jan. 24, 1881.

My Dear Uncle—Dr. J. G. Holland says, "a boy must not expect the world to take notice of him until he has achieved something or in some way benefited the world, meantime he must consider himself naught but a cipher." I think he said perfectly right, and he might have added, some boys never become men, because they consider themselves lords, when they are not worthy the appellation of peasant. For instance, the boy who considers he knows more than his "old dad," struts about the town with a cigar in his vulgar mouth, and is afraid to help his father handle the "black, dirty logs," incident to clearing up a farm for that child's own benefit, for fear of soiling his white shirt front and velvety hands. Such a boy never loves to do anything but loaf and talk "large." Do you think he ever becomes a man? Don't you think the world serves him right in not taking notice of him? I shall strive to become a man; shall endeavor to merit notice from the world, and should she deign to notice me, shall endeavor to bear her honors with meekness. Please tell me about what it would cost to attend the Agricultural College a year, providing the student is willing to do all the work he can at the College. I should like to attend, but am rather too poor to incur much

expense. I am 17 years old, and am trying to improve as much as possible. I value nothing so much as a good education. We have been having spelling schools lately, and our school "marm" appointed four of us young ones to write essays on "Married vs. Single Life." At the appointed time, the room was full, and there was a good deal of giggling during my oration, I of course being quite ignorant of the cause, having prepared mine simply for the fun of the thing. Now I am in a dilemma, for since that time I have not been invited to write essays, although I can truthfully say that the audience seemed to enjoy mine more than any of the others. Why is it do you suppose? Truly your nephew, EDDIE GIBBON. Arenac, Jan. 18th, 1881.

[Eddie, you write quite well, but like every one else, have some faults which you do not notice as much as others, of course. It would seem much better to have the questions before your spelling school referred to those who have had experience, and could judge of the merits of each side of so very important a question. When I was young I much preferred to discuss a question with which I was acquainted. The cost of attendance at the Agricultural College is given elsewhere in an article by Prof. W. J. Beal. He gives a full account, and you can learn all you desire by perusing the same.—UNCLE NINE.] Letters have also been received from other "Young Grangers," but our space is too limited to publish them all. Cost of Attending the Agricultural College. You ask the cost of attending the Agricultural College, and when the terms begin. The best time to begin is the 6th of September, when a Freshman class enters. A good many enter the term after, beginning February 22d. In the latter case, students must pass examination in arithmetic, geography, grammar, reading, spelling, and algebra to equations of the second degree, including the theory of radicals, composition and ancient history. He may enter, however, if deficient in composition and history. These he can make up at some future time. On entering, he pays once for all, a fee of \$5.00; a fee of \$2.25 for incidentals; room rent \$1.25 a term of 12 weeks. Rooms are heated and furnished with bedsteads. Boarding costs, including heating room, about \$2.50 a week—\$2.38 on the average last year;—washing 42c per dozen. The annual expenses will be about \$100, besides clothing and traveling expenses, if a student is economical. In good weather he will earn about \$1.20 per week at work. For further particulars, send for a circular to the President of the College at Lansing. Our last year was fuller of students than ever before. We never had so many inquiries as we are now getting every day. Probably the rooms will all be taken early in the term. W. J. BEAL.

Another illustration of the rapidity with which the average cost of moving freight has been reduced in this country is furnished by the concluding paragraph of a letter Mr. Albert Fink has recently written in reference to the relation between passenger and freight traffic, in which he states that "on the main stem of the Louisville and Nashville railroad the cost per freight ton mile in 1873 was 1.44 cents, and in 1879 it was 0.767 cents, showing a reduction of 46 per cent. On the Pennsylvania railroad the cost per freight ton mile in 1873 was 0.886 cents, and in 1879, 0.483 cents, a reduction of 45 per cent."—Railway World.

Reductions in Railway Costs. S. had a son who is not precisely an ambitious and industrious scholar. A report from the lad's school the other day showed him to stand No. 27 in his class. "How many are there in your class?" asked his father. "Twenty-seven." "Then you are at the foot?" "Yes, papa." A week afterward the report showed him to stand No. 29. "How can that be?" demanded S. "Very easily; we have two new scholars."

SOME arithmetical chap has figured out that Vanderbilt's income would allow him to visit 8,000 circuses, eat 10,000 pints of peanuts, and drink 5,000 glasses of lemonade every day in the year. But he doesn't do it. Thus it will be seen wealth is given to those who don't know how to enjoy it.

PRESIDENT HAYES made a reply to an office-seeker recently that sounds like Lincoln. He was asked to fill a vacancy in the army by the appointment of a young man whose great-grandfather was a naval officer during the Revolutionary war, whose great-grandfather was a gallant soldier of the army, and whose father was a distinguished ex-army officer. "Don't you think it about time that one of that family earned a living for himself?" remarked the President with a quiet smile.

In answer to a Coldwater correspondent, the Detroit Post and Tribune says: "The copper produced in Michigan during the last year was 21,840 tons, worth in round figures \$8,000,000. The iron ore produced was 1,925,000 tons, worth \$10,000 at the mine. With double track sidings, etc., the total number of miles of railroad built was 7,900. The plaster produced reaches 64,000 tons; barrels of salt, 2,675,588; bushels of wheat, 31,000; pounds of wool, 9,482,000." Which goes to prove that we are not entirely poverty-stricken if we cannot afford to pay our Governor but an ordinary clerk's salary."

THE crop of wheat on the Dalrymple farm, in Minnesota, for 1880, was 547,000 bushels. The San Francisco Commercial News thinks this may do for a small Eastern farm, but it would be regarded as pretty small potatoes for California. It goes on to say, "Dr. Glenn has already shipped ten large cargoes to Europe, aggregating 724,336 bushels, and expects to ship about ten cargoes more before the season is over. This is a fair sample of what the smaller farmers are doing in California this season, and it isn't much of a season for wheat, either."

To TEN names not members of the Order, we will send the VISITOR three months for \$1.00.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

LUNG.—Died, at her residence in Orange, Iowa Co., Jan. 17th, 1881, MRS. ELLEN LUNG, aged 36 years, a charter member of Orange Grange, No. 168. The following resolutions were adopted as a tribute to her memory: Resolved, That, by the death of our sister the Grange is called upon to mourn the loss of an earnest, faithful worker, one ever ready and foremost in every good work of our Order, ready to stand firmly for the right against all opposition, "doing with her might what her hands found to do." Of her it may be truly said, "She hath done what she could." Let us tenderly cherish her memory and imitate her virtues. Resolved, That, as by her death we are reminded of the uncertainty of life, we heed the admonition, "Be ye also ready." Resolved, That we tender to our bereaved brother and his family our heart-felt sympathy, and beseech our Heavenly Father to give unto them grace and support in this their time of sorrow.

Resolved, That as a token of respect for our departed sister the charter of our Grange be draped in mourning for sixty days, and that these resolutions be placed upon the record of the Grange and published in the GRANGE VISITOR and county papers. She journeyed forth rejoicing, From this sad vale of tears To heavenly joy, and freedom From earthly bonds and fears, Where Christ our Lord shall gather All His redeemed again, His kingdom to inherit, His good night to her till then. BARNEY MATHEWS, MARTIE WOLVERTON, HENRY PIERCE, Committee. Orange, Jan. 26, '81.

GILLET.—As a regular meeting of Crystal Grange, No. 441, P. of H., held Jan. 1, '81, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted: WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst by death our sister, Lucy Gillet, we bow in submission to the Divine will, feeling that He doeth all things well. And though we more will she grace our hill with her presence; nevermore will she extend to us the hand of fellowship; nevermore from her lips shall we hear words of counsel and of cheer. Therefore, Resolved, That we unite in giving our heart-felt sympathy to the brothers, family and friends that mourn her loss. Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for sixty days; that these resolutions be entered upon the records of this Grange, and copies presented to the family of the deceased and to the GRANGE VISITOR and Mountain papers for publication. D. L. SPALDING, Mrs. S. M. BEACH, Mrs. C. CASE, Committee.

HIMEBAUGH.—The following preamble and resolutions were adopted in memory of SISTER MELISSA HIMEBAUGH by the Grange of which she was a member: WHEREAS, On the 11th day of Dec., '80, the reaper, Death, again invaded our ranks and cut down our beloved sister, Melissa Himebaugh, thus reminding us once more of the uncertainty of human life, and the vanity of all human pursuits; therefore, Resolved, That in the death of Sister Melissa Himebaugh this Grange has lost an earnest and consistent member, her family a kind mother, her husband an indulgent wife, and the community a good citizen. Resolved, That we sincerely, deeply and most affectionately sympathize with them in this their afflictive bereavement. Resolved, That our heart-felt sympathy be extended to the family of the deceased, and a copy of these resolutions be sent them. Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the GRANGE VISITOR, and that our charter be draped in mourning for sixty days. Rest!— Life's battle fought; Its victory won; Its work out-wrought; Its labor done. No toil nor pain Shalt thou endure; Then why complain? Rest cometh sure. W. A. DEXTER, DAVID STRAELY, A. J. HOTT, Committee.

GATES.—In memory of SISTER JULIA GATES, who died Jan. 15, '81: "One more loved sister has passed away, One more tired body gone to rest: And hands that did life's duty well Are folded o'er an honest breast,— A loving wife, mother, daughter, friend, Whose smiles may greet us nevermore: Yet weeping souls keep fresh this thought: 'She is not dead, but gone before.'" After a long and painful illness our sister passed to a higher life. She died at the age of 28, and leaves to her sorrowing friends a legacy in the remembrance of her virtues, and her memory will be cherished in the hearts of her brothers and sister.— Just as the day came gliding in, She passed toward the starry shore; And what sweet peace, in that blest home, Will crown our loved one "gone before!" The following resolutions were submitted to the Grange and adopted: WHEREAS, We deeply realize the severe loss we have sustained; therefore, Resolved, That we extend our heart-felt sympathy to and mingle our tears with the bereaved relatives, in this their day of sorrow. Resolved, That copies of this obituary notice be presented to the husband and to the father of our deceased sister; also entered upon the records of our Grange, and sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication. Mrs. MARTHA JACKSON, Mrs. AMANDA MALLERY, Mrs. SARAH FOSTER, Committee.

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This powder has been in use for many years. It is largely used by the farmers of Pennsylvania, and the Patrons of that State have bought over 100,000 pounds through their purchasing agents. Its composition is no secret. The receipt is on every box and 5-pound package. It is made by Dr. L. Oberholtzer's Sons & Co., Phoenixville, Pa. It keeps stock healthy and in good condition. It helps to digest and assimilate the food. Horses will do more work, with less food while using it. Cows will give more milk and be in better condition. It keeps poultry healthy, and increases the production of eggs. It is also of great value to them when molting. It is sold at the lowest wholesale price by R. E. JAMES, KALAMAZOO, GEO. W. HILL & CO. 30 WOODBRIDGE ST., DETROIT, and J. M. CHAMBERS, 163 SO. WATER ST., CHICAGO. Put up in 60-lb. boxes (loose), price EIGHT CENTS per lb., 30-lb. boxes (of 6 5-lb. packages), TEN CENTS per lb.

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DAY & TAYLOR, Grandville, Mich., Are prepared to furnish LAND PLASTER, fresh ground, at contract prices, made with the Executive Committee of the State Grange. A large stock on hand of pure, finely-ground LAND PLASTER. Send us your Orders direct. jan-ly DAY & TAYLOR

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We Have Again Reduced the Prices of Our Paints, from June, 1880.

Patrons' Paint Works,

FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF INGERSOLL'S READY MIXED PAINTS. Also, Dealers in— Paris Green and London Purple.

In these days of Benzine Paints, that peel and wash off as soon as lead and zinc that are adulterated so largely—we are not surprised that the Ingersoll Ready Mixed Paint is having such an extensive sale. The annoyance of procuring the various articles necessary to mix Paint are avoided, and the colors are permanent. Proof is given of its enduring twenty years, and still looking well. Its price is lower than even the best materials can be procured in the ordinary way. Its base is old English lead and French red seal zinc, chemically mixed in such a manner as to bind the component parts in one insoluble field, that defies the weather for so many years. All you have to do is to write to the Ingersoll Ready Mixed Paint Works, 102 South Street, New York, and they will mail their book, free, telling every one how to be his own painter; containing, also, specimens of twenty beautiful colors, with a rule by which the quality and price of paint required for any sized building can be ascertained. The paint comes ready mixed in cans for instant use, and at a price lower than the materials can be purchased in the ordinary way; besides this, the paint will endure over three times as long as any other paint. FREIGHT PAID ON TEN GALLONS OF PAINT AND OVER.

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Kept in the office of the Secretary of the MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE, And sent out Post Paid, on Receipt of Cash Order, under the seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary. Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred, 75 Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep accounts with members, 1 00 Blank Record Books, (Express paid), 1 00 Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound, 50 Receipt Book, containing 100 Receipts from Treasurer to Secretary, with stub, well bound, 50 Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound, 50 Applications for Membership, per 100, 50 Membership Cards, per 100, 50 Withdrawal Cards, per doz., 25 Duplicates, in envelopes, per doz., 25 By-Laws of the State Grange, single copies 10c, per doz., 175 By-Laws, bound, 20 Patrons' Singing Book, with music, Single copy 15 cts. per doz., 2 40 Rituals, single copy, 25 " per doz., 2 40 Blank "Articles of Association" for the Incorporation of Subordinate Grange, with Copy of Charter, all complete, 10 Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100, 40 Declaration of Purposes, per doz., 5c, per hundred, 40 Cushing's Manuals, 60 Address, J. T. COBB, Sec'y Mich. State Grange, SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

Letter from an old Editor.

LAINGSBURG, Jan. 24, '81. Though some some years ago I gave up farming, and commenced the publication of a newspaper, I have not by any means lost my interest in the farmer's profession, nor in the welfare of those who make it the study and the business of their lives.

A full line of officers were elected and installed: D. D. Culver, Master, Laingsburg; A. B. Clark, Lecturer, Morrice; J. O. Stone, Secretary, Laingsburg. Eight new members will be added to Laingsburg Grange at its next meeting.

Fraternally yours, J. C. STONE, Sec.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

BURR OAK, Feb'y 7th, 1881. Bro. Cobb: St Joseph County Grange will hold a special meeting at Colon, Thursday, March 3d, 1881. Every effort will be made to have one of the State Lecturers present, and the afternoon session will be open to the public.

COLDWATER, Feb. 9th, '81. Bro. Cobb:—Will you please give notice in the VISITOR that Brother J. J. Woodman, Master of the National Grange, has engaged to address Butler Grange, at its hall, on Tuesday evening, March 1st, and he will meet with the Quincy Grange, at their hall, on the next evening, March 2d.

[We presume that these meetings are for the public, although Brother VanAken has neglected to say so in his notice.—Ed.]

HOWELL, Feb. 8th, 1881. An adjourned meeting of the Livingston County Council, will be held at Howell Grange Hall, on Saturday, Feb. 11th, commencing at 10 A. M. All Patrons are cordially invited to attend.

The NATIONAL CITIZEN-SOLDIER, an 8-page, 40-column weekly journal, published at Washington, D. C., comes to us brimful of good things for the citizen as well as for the soldier. It opposes monopoly, favors equal and exact justice to all classes, and is the special champion and defender of the rights of the soldier, his widow and orphans.

Michigan Central Railroad. DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO. Time Table—May 9, 1880.

WESTWARD. Accommodation leaves... 4 50. Local Passenger... 9 30. Evening Express... 1 53. Pacific Express... 2 42. Mail... 1 13. Day Express... 2 38.

EASTWARD. Night Express... 2 25. Accommodation leaves... 8 50. Local Passenger... 9 35. Mail... 12 33. Day Express... 1 41. New York Express... 1 38. Atlantic Express... 10 25.

South Haven Division. Leaves Kalamazoo... 7 40. Arrives at Kalamazoo... 11 10.

Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad. (Kalamazoo Division Time Table.) Time 15 minutes faster than Kalamazoo, GOING SOUTH.

GOING NORTH. Le. Grand Rapids... 8 00AM. Ar. Allegan... 9 17.

GOING NORTH. Le. Buffalo... 12 30PM. Ar. Cleveland... 7 35.

All trains connect at White Pigeon with trains on Main Line. A. G. AMSDEN, Superintendent Kal. Div., Kalamazoo

To the Patrons of Michigan.

A large and growing trade is now being carried on at our co-operative store in Allegan, and under the management of Bro. A. Stegeman, is rapidly gaining a reputation not excelled, if equalled, by any other store in the State; and for this success we are greatly indebted to him for his zeal and untiring energy in managing its business transactions.

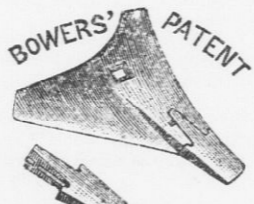
SEEDS, SEEDS, THE Patrons' Seed Catalogue, 1881.

Fresh, Reliable and Guaranteed. Garden, Flower and Field Seeds. Every Package of Seeds stamped with the year in which it was grown. Send postal card for Catalogue. To get the Patrons' discount sheet, give the number of your Grange.

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Is recognized by the leading parliamentarians of the land as the most complete, concise and systematic work on the modern practice. Every citizen of this republic should have a copy. It has received strong testimonials from Samuel E. Adams, Past Master of the National Grange; Senator Ferry, ex-Vice-President of the U. S., and from the chief executive officer of the following and other fraternal organizations: viz: Knights of Honor, Knights and Ladies of Honor, Knights of Pythias, Royal Arcanum, Foresters, Grand Army of the Republic, Knights Templar, A. O. W. R. T. of T., I. O. G. T., A. J. O. K. S. B., I. O. B. B., etc.

To the Patrons and Farmers of Michigan: The undersigned, having charge of the sale in Michigan of



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THE BEST WORK WITH THE LEAST LABOR to man and team, which gives the best satisfaction to the plowman. A Good Live Man Wanted in every Township to take orders for these Points. PRICE, one Share, complete, and two extra points, \$1.10.

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Yours very respectfully, A. VANDENBERG, 92 MONROE STREET, GRAND RAPIDS.

Pensions. THOUSANDS of soldiers and their heirs entitled by late laws of Congress. Send two stamps for laws, and copy of CITIZEN-SOLDIER, to N. W. FITZGERALD, U. S. Claim Att'y, Box 588, Washington, D. C.

AUCTION SALE

OF THE Riverside Herd of Short-Horns, TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1881.

at my farm on the main road, one and one-half miles south of Jonesville, and three and one-half miles north of Hillsdale, Mich. Advancing years, and poor health, compels me to retire from the noble pursuit of raising Short-Horns for the improvement of the herds of this and other States, and I take this course to transfer it to other hands.

F. M. HOLLOWAY, P. O. HILLSDALE, MICH. Fayette, Jan. 24th, 1881.

TO PATRONS We Will Send the "Visitor," NOT MEMBERS OF THE ORDER. THREE MONTHS FOR \$1.00.

TO PATRONS

DETROIT, Jan. 24, 1881. Dear Sir:—The copartnership heretofore existing under the firm name of GEO. W. HILL & Co. is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

A NEW BOOK.

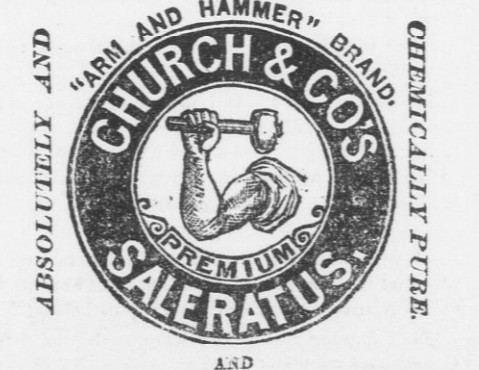
Containing a few reasons why Farmers, their wives, sons and daughters, should become members of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and suggestions how to be benefited thereby, by Theodore Bathy. With a lithographic picture containing thirty-one faces of the early projectors and workers of the Order, suitable to be hung up in our homes and Grange halls as a reminder of the wisdom, labor and perseverance of those noble men and women to whom we are indebted for the success of the Order.

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IS THE BEST PLACE FOR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN TO GET A THOROUGH BUSINESS EDUCATION. Send for College Record, giving full particulars.



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THIS SPACE BELONGS TO THE OSGOOD SCALE. H. P. BUELL, Agent, 54 Madison Avenue, DETROIT, MICH.

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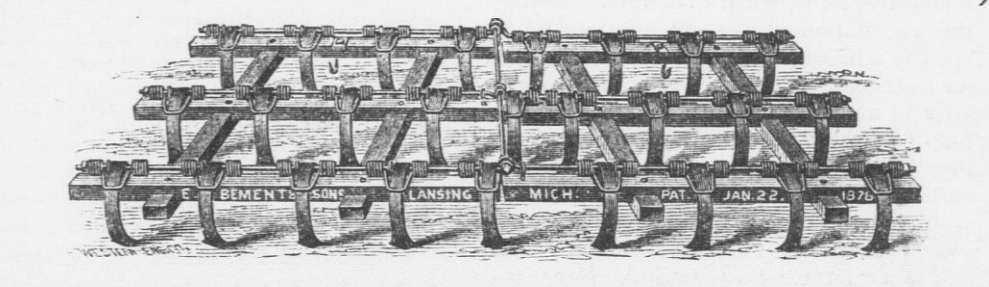
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