

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. 7.—No. 19.
WHOLE No. 123.

{ Printed by Kalamazoo Publishing Co. }

SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH., OCTOBER 1, 1881.

{ YOUR SUBSCRIPTION
{ will Expire with No. }

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

The Grange Visitor

(ENLARGED)

Published on the First and Fifteenth of every month.

AT FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM,
Eleven Copies for \$5.00.

J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager,

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

Communications for, and Correspondence relating to the Agricultural Department of the GRANGE VISITOR, should be directed to A. C. GLIDDEN, Paw Paw. Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order, or Draft.

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DEACON DAY AND THE HIGHWAY COW.

BY EUGENE J. HALL.

The best o' bein's will hev their cares—
There's alwus sumthin' to cross our way,
To worry an' fret us in our affairs.
An' sech wuz the lot o' old Deacon Day;
He hed his trials,—I'll tell you how
He wuz tempted an' tried by a highway cow.

The hus o' her hide wuz a dusky brown;
Her body wuz lean, an' her neck wuz slim;
One horn turned up, an' the other down;
She wuz sharp o' sight, an' wuz long o' limb,
With a peaked nose, an' a short stump-tail,
An' ribs like the hoops on a home-made pail.

Many a day hed she passed in pound
Fur mealy helpin' herself to corn;
Many a cowardly cur an' hound
Hed been transfixed by her crumpled horn;
Many a tea-pot an' old tin pail
Hed the farm-boys tied to her stumpy tail.

Old Deacon Day wuz a pious man,
A frugal farmer, upright an' plain;
An' many a weary mile he ran
To drive her out o' his growin' grain.
Sharp wuz the pranks that she used to play
To git her fill an' to git away.

He used to sit, on the Sabbath-day,
With his open Bible upon his knee,
Thinkin' o' loved ones far away,
In the Better Land, that he longed to see—
When a distant beller, borne thro' the air,
Would bring him back to this world o' care.

When the deacon went to his church in town,
She watched an' waited till he went by,
He never passed her without a frown,
An' an evil gleam in each angry eye.
He would crack his whip, an' would holler "Whay!"
As he drove along in his "one-hoss shay."

Then at his homestead she loved to call,
Liftin' his bars with her crumpled horn,
Nimbly scalin' his garden wall,
Helpin' herself to his standin' corn,
Eatin' his cabbages one by one—
Scamperin' home when her meal wuz done.

Off 'en the deacon homeward came,
Hummin' a tune, from the house o' prayer,
His kindly heart in a tranquil frame,
His soul ez calm ez the evenin' air,
His forehead smooth ez a well-worn plow—
To find in his garden that highway cow.

His human passions wuz quick to rise,
An' stridin' forth with a savage cry,
With fury blazin' from both his eyes,
Ez lightnin's flash in a summer sky,
Redder an' redder his face would grow,
An' after the critter he would go—

Over his garden, round an' round,
Breakin' his pear an' apple trees,
Trampin' his melons into the ground,
Tippin' over his hives o' bees,
Leavin' him angry an' badly stung,
Wishin' the old cow's neck wuz wrung.

The mosses grew on the garden wall;
The years went by, with their work an' play;
The boys o' the village grew strong an' tall,
An' the gray-haired farmers dropped away,
One by one, ez the red leaves fall—
But the highway cow outlived 'em all.

The things we hate are the last to fade;
Some cares are lengthened thro' many years;
The death o' the wicked seems long delayed,
But there is a climax to all careers,
An' the highway cow at last wuz slain
In runnin' a race with a railway train.

All to pieces at once she went,
Just like savin' banks when they fail;
Out o' the world she wuz swiftly sent;
Leetle wuz left but her own stump-tail.
The farmers' gardens and cornfields now
Are haunted no more by the highway cow.

Farm Improvements.

There are two things that take time—gettin' a farm in good order, and gettin' honest men in office. The one affords pleasure in its performance, the other keeps people in a perpetual stew. A good example is a great promoter of farm improvements, but the good example in politics is frequently followed by bad practices in the successor.

We have not soiled much good paper, nor taken much valuable space in the VISITOR to vent our indignation over some of the political practices of the times. We should like to see improvement in politics as well as on farms, but rather work toward an end that seems possible rather than toward something that is problematical.

The peculiar feature among farm communities is the sameness of style, following in regular order, continuing through a neighborhood the architecture of the buildings, the style of the fences, the arrangement of the yards, etc., all indicating the power of example to mold styles as well as character. One gets accustomed to unsightly objects and inconvenient arrangements, and stumble over piles of rubbish which only needs the spirit of improvement to pervade the air to remove or re-construct.

Now, as the busy season has passed, and every day is not freighted with a full load, and some left over, there will be leisure to

do up some odd jobs. It might be well to remember some of the many solicitations which the good wife has made to fix up something. Take the hired man and go quietly about it some morning as though it was an idea of yours. It will relieve you of the imputation of being controlled by the women folks, and you can point to it with a feeling of pride, and tell your wife how much better that looks. There is many a pile of broken boards, old fence rails, broken sleds, a kind of catch-all for the refuse of the yards—this might be handled over, the pieces that would answer for wood carried to the shed, and sawed up, and the worthless bits burned. Even the hens will scratch the place in thankfulness for the favor.

The spirit of improvement once imbibed will usually be sustained until several needed reforms are brought about. The progressive farmer has always some plans for future completing, and is always working toward that end.

The arrangement of the fields is always a matter of time. The rotation does not come around so that the change can be made in one season, but the removal of a portion of the old fence, and rebuilding on the line of the original plan, is the work of every season. Those who have not already arranged the farm into fields, and made a plat of it, should do so, and go about the work of adjustment. Farmers often get stuck in a rut of indifference. They let the present arrangements satisfy them, and accept the situation as fully as though it was inevitable. They see the same state of things existing year by year, and they get to feeling that any change would be distasteful. Their enterprising neighbors are "stuck-up folks" and "above their calling." The moss will climb their buildings, and gather on their backs until death liberates their little souls. Farmers who feel this inertness should shake themselves a little, and go about doing something. Men don't stand still. Things will rust. It must be scraped off. Mildew and mold will come to hasten decay. Disuse don't make things shine. Farms show what the men are who own them. If each year shows some change for the better, they are among those whom people look to for patterns. If the buildings are in better shape than their fields, they think more of the pattern than of the quantity of the cloth. But farmers do not vary more than other people, and we don't propose a reading of character from their surroundings. We like to see improvement and in the right direction, and feel that farmers need to improve, not only their farms and surroundings, but their minds and hearts, that they may be fit to lead in all the great movements of the world.

Selling Farm Products.

The successful farmer is a composite character, made up of essentials, which, each in themselves, would render success certain in several of the avocations of life. Combining one class of these essentials, makes the production of farm products comparatively certain. Another faculty, which is more generally found wanting, but which is none the less necessary, is that of selling. This faculty, among a large class of farmers, is the stumbling block in the way of success. The margin of profit is lost by selling at the wrong time, or at a price below its market value. Contracting debts that mature in a season of stagnation, which necessitates a sacrifice in the disposition of crops to meet the demand for payment, is a common fault among farmers. That indefinite pay day "after harvest" has shipwrecked many. It gives the creditor the power to press his claim at a season when selling is suicide. It presses products upon the market before the wants of trade demand them, and has a tendency to depress values. This fact induces many persons with a little money, some brains, and less muscle—with no disposition to use what they have—to become speculators, and live off the surplus earnings of those farmers who have placed themselves in a position where they must sell to meet the demand of creditors.

The information necessary to base correct conclusions upon in regard to selling is generally solicited from buyers, whose continual cry is, "sell," "sell." The unsophisticated is usually misled with the idea that these unselfish conservators of the farmers' welfare are actuated by an unmixed desire to forward his interests, and he follows their instructions and advice, with a sort of gushing confidence that overlooks short weights, dockages, and half-penny stealings.

The manufacturer makes his goods only so fast as there is a demand for them, and usually upon orders that give a fair profit, and command the money as soon as the goods are ready for shipment. If an offer is made for goods under the market price, and for less than the cost of manufacture, he refuses it, and holds his stock until the demand brings the price up to a profit on the manufacture.

With farmers there is usually a scramble to sell as soon as the crop is harvested, and this fermenting desire continues, and is stimulated by speculators until the crop is off their hands, when both speculator and farmer seem satisfied. The one, that the labor of the year has been exchanged, not for its equivalent perhaps, but for something that will go toward paying debts, and the other chuckling at the ease with which money can be made off farmers.

There are two classes of farmers at opposite extremes. The one sells with no definite idea of value as regulated by supply and demand, and the other holds under the same conditions of knowledge. The one is impressed with the idea that when his crop is sold the market will be glutted, and the other is as certain that he, with a few other fortunate ones, "hold the fort," and can demand their price in the immediate future. There can be no intelligent sales of farm products, without a general knowledge of the supply available for the wants of consumers. This knowledge can only be gathered through reports of the condition and quantity of products in kind within the limits of transportation. These reports can be gathered in the interests of the seller, as well as of the buyer. Not looking at what might be, but what really is, the farmer can now avail himself of information sufficient to base an intelligent opinion upon prospective markets. A class of persons in all the leading markets of the world gather this information for speculative purposes. Much of it is, no doubt, garbled by interested parties for selfish ends. Manufactured reports fill the air, serve their purpose, and die; but reliable statistics are not wanting. The grain markets at present command the attention of the world. Our own agricultural reports are above the suspicion of being manipulated for interested purposes, and their lessons should be heeded by farmers. The forthcoming reports from our own State will be an index of the amounts available for consumption. Farmers must become familiar with commercial reports. A regular reading of them will familiarize him with the tone of the market, his judgment will become strengthened, and he will be better able to combat the specious, one-sided argument of the buyer. Last week's report will not serve to influence him to sell now, nor can any cock and bull story cheat him out of the market value of his product. When intelligence is watched with intelligence, profits will be more evenly distributed, and more commensurate with the labor performed.

Wheat Estimates and Prices.

The reports from all the wheat producing countries for August have again been reduced from former estimates. The universal drouth which has spread over such a vast extent of the globe, and continued rains in England, have destroyed the hope of abundant harvests, with the usual surplus in exporting countries. The extent of crop failures in the United States is just beginning to be realized. The estimates have been reduced for each month until the true state of the case is reached, and the showing for a large surplus for exportation is becoming smaller at each investigation. If the surplus wheat of the United States could pass from first hands into the currents of trade at once, at current rates, the price would advance twenty-five per cent. The grain "in sight" would be a basis for speculation, and surplus funds would be invested in wheat as being good property to hold.

The recent International Grain Fair held at Vienna has confirmed the impression held by many that the harvests of Europe were far below the average. A comparison with last year's crop shows an average loss of 22 per cent, notwithstanding the increase

in Russia of 32 per cent over the crop of last year. Germany shows a deficiency from last year of 15 per cent. Switzerland falls 17 per cent. Denmark is 25 per cent below an average. Italy and Roumania, both large wheat producing countries, show a large falling off from last year, which will probably make them importing instead of exporting countries this year.

The surplus which Russia has for exportation cannot become available for several months. The transportation facilities leading out from the interior of Russia are such that the wheat cannot reach the seaboard, and thence to the markets of the world, in season to materially affect prices on this side of the ocean during the current year. The 22 per cent of loss from last year's harvests, covering the wheat producing countries of Europe, coupled with the lower yield in the United States, must and does have the effect to stimulate prices for this cereal in the home markets, and its influence is not yet spent, but, in our opinion will continue through the autumn months, and bring to the farmer what for several years has been denied him—a compensation for labor in the production of wheat.

Michigan Crop Report for Month of Sept., 1881.

For this report returns have been received from 901 correspondents, representing 624 townships. Five hundred and eighty-nine returns are from 373 townships in the southern four tiers of counties, where 85 per cent of the wheat crop is grown. The returns were made between Sept. 1 and 10. At this time much of the threshing was done in all parts of the State, and in some localities it was probably nearly all done. The yield of wheat, corn, oats, and barley is reported in bushels, and the yield of hay in tons. The acreage and yield of corn, and the acreage of oats, barley, and hay, are reported in per cent of the crops of 1880. The average yield of wheat per acre, as shown by the returns, is 10 and 15 hundredths bushels, or about one bushel more than the yield as estimated by the supervisors, July 2. The number of acres in wheat in May, 1881, as reported by the supervisors, was 1,781,865. Multiplying this acreage by the above average we obtain, as the probable aggregate product, 18,055,929 bushels. The "Acreage in May, 1881," represents the acreage sown, and the average yield per acre is the average of the acreage sown, no deductions being made for that portion of the crop plowed up or not harvested. In aggregate yield, the crop of 1881 is greater than in any year previous to 1877, but there is little doubt that the average per acre is the lowest of which we have record.

The returns show for corn an acreage of about 101 per cent, for oats 104 per cent, barley 93 per cent, and for hay 103 per cent of the acreage in 1880. The yield of corn per acre is estimated at 80 per cent of 1880, indicating a total product of 46,519,773 bushels of ears. The yield of oats per acre is reported at 31 bushels, indicating a total yield of 15,045,386 bushels. Barley is estimated at 22 and 9-tenths bushels, and hay at 1 and 2-tenths tons per acre.

True Value of a Farm.

There is something in the owning a piece of ground which affects me as do the old ruins of England. I am free to confess that the value of a farm is not chiefly in its crops of cereal grain, its orchards of fruit, and in its herds, but in those larger and more easily reaped harvests of associations, fancies, and dreamy broodings which it begets. From boyhood I have associated classical civic virtues and old heroic integrity with the soil. No one who has peeped his young brain with the fancies of Grecian mythology but comes to feel a certain magical fancy for the earth. The very smell of fresh turned earth brings up as many dreams and visions of the country as sandal wood does of oriental scenes. At any rate, I feel in walking under these trees and about their slopes, something of that enchantment of vague and mysterious glimpses of the past which I once felt about the ruins of Kenilworth Castle. For thousands of years this piece of ground had wrought its tasks. Old slumbering forests used to darken it; foxes have blinked through its bushes; and wolves have howled and growled as they pattered along its rustling leaves with empty maws.

How many birds—how many flocks of pigeons, thousands of years ago—how many hawks dashed wildly among them—how many insects, nocturnal and diurnal—how many mailed bugs, and limber serpents, gliding among mossy stones, have had possession here before my day! It will not be long before I, too, shall be wasted and recordless as they.—Henry Ward Beecher.

It is wonderful how silent a man can be when he knows his cause is just, and how boisterous he becomes when he knows he is in the wrong.

The butter product of the United States for 1880 is estimated by the department of agriculture at 1,000,000,000 pounds, and the cheese product at 300,000,000 pounds.

Communications.

From a New York Patron.

THREE MILE BAY, Jeff. Co., N. Y.,
August 25, 1881.

J. T. Cobb, Editor Grange Visitor:—Your very readable journal has found its way into our midst, and some of its articles are read in our Grange from time to time, and are listened to with marked attention.

We have a live Grange, we own our hall and it is commodious and well furnished; it is all new and worth about \$2,000. We live in a rich farming section. Our crops are good this season and are secured in good condition.

We meet as a society on Saturday evening of each week. We do quite an amount of business in the way of purchasing groceries and such articles as we need, thereby making quite a saving to individual Patrons, but most of all we prize the social and intellectual advantages of our Order.

The Jefferson County Pomona Grange met with us in June last, and a grand time we had, I can assure you. Among the many things offered was the following original poem which, by request of one of our members, I send to you that it may appear in the VISITOR if you think it worthy.

GEORGE W. RICKETT.

THREE-MILE BAY GRANGE.

Some stranger here might ask to-day,
How is your Grange at Three-Mile Bay?
How has it prospered in the past?
How long think you the thing will last?
In all these years what has been gained?
Please tell us what has been attained:
What benefit do you derive?
Why try to keep the Grange alive?

Dear Patrons, we should each prepare
To meet these questions everywhere,
With answers candid, clear and true,
And argument, if needed, too;
And that we may achieve this end,
Our thoughts should often backward tend,
That we may study and compare
The things that were, with things that are.

Our Grange, dear friends, was Heaven-ordained,
And by God's hand has been sustained,
And we are prospered by His smile,
And growing stronger all the while;
And we His favor will retain
While we our sacred vows maintain,
To never wrong sister or brother,
Nor suffer it by any other.

We love our Grange; to us 'tis dear;
No discord ever enters here;
With confidence we grasp the hand
Of every Patron of our band;
In perfect harmony we meet,
And cheerfully each other greet;
We strive to do each other good,
And this maintains our brotherhood.

No one can tell the priceless worth
Of essays that are here brought forth.
The sentiments which they contain
Are ever moral, good and plain;
They tend to elevate the mind;
They make us better and more kind;
They help the timid and the weak
Their sentiments to write or speak.

Our organ's notes ne'er fail to please,
When graceful fingers sweep its keys.
And then the songs our choir do sing,
Like David's harp, would please the King.
The more we have of scenes like this,
The more we'll know of earthly bliss:
We don't appreciate, I fear,
The blessings we enjoy right here.

With faith in God, our hand we raise,
Receive His blessings, sing His praise;
We nurture hope, for hope, you know,
Helps us to bear all earthly woe;
And of the blessings we receive
In charity we freely give,
And with fidelity we share
Each other's joy, or grief, or care.

We love to meet each other here
Week after week, from year to year,
To pass an evening hour away,
And gain the knowledge that we may,
As we compare the facts we've gained
With those another has obtained,
Discussing oft in friendly mood
Some subject tending to our good.

We love our noble calling, too—
The work our Master bids us do:
Go forth and till the soil, He said;
And day by day He gives us bread.
We, in accord with the command,
Go forth to occupy the land:
In Spring we plow, we plant, we sow,
And harvest then will come, we know.

Now let us each our pledge renew,
As Patrons, ever to be true;
Assist a brother when in need;
Be friends in word, and friends in deed:
So live that, when our work is done,
The Master calls us one by one,
We may go home to realms above,
Where all is joy, and all is love.

What are We Doing?

The question is often asked, What does the Grange amount to; what has the Grange done, or what is it expected to accomplish?

These and similar questions can be best answered after an examination of the Declaration of Principles put forth by the National Grange.

To improve each other socially. Then there is a question, Do the agricultural community, as a class, need social improvement? We believe they do, as a large part of the people are peculiarly isolated in their

homes and in their business, and social improvement is much needed, and the Grange is specially adapted to bring about the desired effect. That it has been and is being brought about in some measure, who will deny in the face of the gathering from all parts of the county here to-day. How few of us were known to each other before the organization of the Grange. Yet we are not a political organization; but did anybody ever know an organization that had no policy? Surely, the Grange has one, and that one of the best—to improve each other socially, intellectually, and morally. We believe the agricultural communities of the United States to be one hundred per cent better informed than they were previous to the Grange movement; then that is what the Grange has been doing, is doing, and is expected to keep doing. There is no limit to the improvements that may be attained, or to the benefits that may accrue from intellectual and moral improvement. You cannot know a person from an occasional meeting, but here you shall have something to do, and by their fruits ye shall know them. Theory and practice are absolutely necessary for a perfect understanding of any business. Here in the Grange we acquire a personal knowledge of each other, so that we are morally certain who will make good Grange officers, and when you have studied well the characters necessary to fill the offices of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, you may look a little farther, for the people who derive a living directly from the soil are not far from sixty per cent of the whole population, and you are very much interested in all the officers, from path-master to president of the United States, and good, true, intellectual persons are absolutely necessary for every office.

I shall never forget the remark of a person I once knew, who said there was not much profit in being path-master, but there was considerable honor. He was right, too; it is honorable to faithfully and intelligently perform the duties of any office in which the votes of the people have placed you, and if intelligent and honorable persons should be generally elected to office, it would certainly be an improvement. Further, I believe it would be proper for you to enquire as to the utility of all offices, whether they are necessary, or whether the circumstances and condition of society require a change or the abolition of an office.

Let us think what benefit the office of Vice President of the United States ever has been to the people. The Vice President presides over the senate of the United States—a body of which he is not a member. He has no vote, he can take no part in any debate. He is just a figure head. It seems to me to be a mistake to elect, under such circumstances, a person with the idea that he shall fill the office of President of the United States in case of the death or removal of the President. It would seem as though there had never been the care taken to select a person for Vice President who would have any chance of being elected if run at the head of the ticket, but the idea seems to prevail that anything will do for Vice President because, as such, he has nothing to do but to watch the Senators, and to draw his pay. Could the present Vice President of the U. S. have been elected if at the head of the ticket? If not, is it reasonable to suppose the people would be satisfied with him placed in the presidential chair by the bullet of an assassin.

The office of Vice President of the U. S. should be abolished, because it is inductive of crime. Remember that during the late war threats of assassination of the President were quite frequent. On one occasion when the President was being remonstrated with for exposing his life as though of no more importance than a common citizen, he replied, "Do you think they would like Hannibal Hamlin in my chair better than me? I believe I'm safe"—or words to that effect. But as soon as Andrew Johnson was elected, Lincoln was shot to death. It would seem that Andrew Johnson could not have been elected president in any circumstance, but it did not matter who was Vice President if we had a good, true, tried man at the head of the ticket. We had a President whom almost everybody was satisfied with, and it was said the convention took up with Chester A. Arthur just to please Roscoe Conkling. These facts seem to me to be sufficient grounds to abolish the office of Vice President of the U. S.

From an Illinois Patron.

Dear Sir and Bro.—Rev. Joseph Wassall, an eminent clergyman and also a well known naturalist, residing for many years in Jo Davis's county, Ill., is about to remove to Iowa, Mich., and as he has been a valued member of Warren Grange, No. 65, located in said county, that Grange bespeaks for himself and family a kindly reception and welcome from the Patrons of Iowa county. Bro. Wassall can not do without the Grange, and proposes to connect himself with the Order in Iowa county, to which he and his estimable wife will prove a valuable acquisition. Fraternalty yours,

G. W. CURTISS.

Nora, Ill., Sept. 12, 1881.

[We see by the *Industrial Press* that the writer of the above is editor of the *Farm and Grange* department of that paper.—ED.]

To the Tax Commission.

HALL OF OLIVE GRANGE, No. 355,
ST. JOHNS, Sept. 7, 1881.

To the Honorable, the Board of Commissioners on revision of tax laws, Lansing, Michigan:—

WHEREAS, The Governor of the State of Michigan has, by authority of an act of the Legislature, appointed a Tax Commission to take into consideration questions pertaining to taxation, and

WHEREAS, The said Commission has prepared a circular asking or eliciting information from all those who are contributors through the various collections to the funds necessary for maintaining a good government, and

WHEREAS, We recognize great consideration on the part of the Commission in its desire to obtain information from every available source to enable them to act in the best interests of those they serve; therefore,

Resolved, That we, the agriculturists of the Pomona Grange of Clinton County assembled, would reply to these questions as follows:—

1. Should church property be taxed?
2. Should property owned by a church society in excess of a fixed amount be taxed?
3. If you answer the last question in the affirmative, then state what amount should be fixed for exemption.

Yes: making exemptions according to populations and surroundings, from \$1,000, and in no case to exceed \$5,000, and in no case should such exemptions be made unless the property be opened up and used for public service.

4. Should any personal property be exempt from taxation?

No: and in furtherance of this end would take receipt from collector on real estate which has mortgages against it, legal tender to apply on said mortgage to the amount of tax paid by the party in excess of his interest in said real estate.

5. Should the present method of paying highway taxes by labor be changed so as to require payment in money?

No.
6. What proportion of personal property and credits in your estimation, escapes taxation?

We should say fully two-thirds of all bonds, mortgages, and notes.
7. What rate of interest should be charged on delinquent taxes?

Not less than 10 per cent.

8. Should delinquent taxes be carried by the State or by the several counties?

By the several counties, for under the existing laws the County Treasurer has all the labor to perform, and returns made to the State are of importance only so far as to keep a party indefinitely in power.

9. Should persons liable to taxation be required in all cases to make a sworn statement of their property?

Yes: we believe it the only available method of obtaining correct statements, and then only unless suitable penalties are attached to compel obedience to its mandates.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Grange be instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to the Tax Commissioners, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR.

FRANK CONN, Sec'y.

Farmers. Stand by your Local Insurance Companies.

I suppose that nearly all our older counties have their local fire insurance companies organized and in full operation, and I have no doubt that the farmers who are insured in them (if they have given the subject any thought) have become satisfied of their cheapness and safety as compared with any of the stock companies. After being insured in one for eight successive years, I had settled down so firmly to the conviction of the fact that I thought the day had passed when anyone would dispute it, but I find I am mistaken in this.

I take an Eastern agricultural journal of National circulation, and one which I have esteemed very highly. In a recent number of this paper I find a whole page devoted to the task of convincing farmers that a certain stock company which is insuring farm property at the rate of one per cent for three years, is cheaper and more reliable than the mutual companies organized and operated on our Michigan plan. Now, the whole page is no doubt paid for as an advertisement, and it seems to me that its whole bearing is to mislead and dupe its farmer readers, and it does seem despicable to me that any respectable journal published in the interests of farmers, should stoop so low for the money they gain by such style of advertisements.

After reading the arguments in the paper I made a little practical comparison with the result of eight years' insurance in the Farmers' Mutual of Oakland county, with the cost in this same company amount on a like amount for the same number of years in the stock company advertised. I found by my receipts for payments of assessments that in eight years I had paid on \$2,200, \$24.10, and this had covered all losses and running expenses of the company, while in the Stock Company, to insure the same amount for eight years would have cost \$58.67, or a difference of \$34.57 in favor of our Farmers' Mutual, on this small sum. Verily, let the farmers think and figure for themselves.

Lecturer's Department.

Fairs and Patrons.

The season of State and county fairs is already upon us; some have taken place, but the larger number in this State are to follow.

What good can the Patron get from the fair? None unless he attends; much if he seeks to get good from them. Every Patron who attends should form the habits of observation, inquiry, etc., and the Grange has taught him to be able to gather much that he can use in a future day. A fair should be a school conducted on the *object lesson plan*, and those who attend should seek to gather facts and store them until wanted.

Many of our readers will say that the fairs are not what they ought to be—not conducted properly—are immoral, etc.; but will your staying from them make them any better? If so, stay away by all means. But can you not aid by judicious management, to make them much better? We know of some localities where Patrons have quietly come into the general control and management, and much improved the character of the fairs. May not a gentle yet potent force be quietly used in other places? Can we not elevate the moral tone and refine the social character of these meetings by our presence and efforts? Let us try, and do not be discouraged. Let all try and by co-operation and persevering effort continued, see if we cannot elevate this medium of educating not only the farmer, but all other classes which share in our industrial fairs. One thing we can do at these gatherings—we can meet Patrons from other localities and extend many friendly words and exchange cheering messages. What a grand place to meet and discuss the work of our Order, arrange for future meetings and plan for a general movement forward during the fall and winter months. What an opportunity to meet the many good farmers who are not Patrons, and get acquainted with them, and to interest them in the Grange and its work!

Where can Patrons better sow good seed than at these fairs, by taking along "Declarations of Purposes," extra copies of the GRANGE VISITOR and of the *Campaign Bulletin Extra* to give away, or to use to get subscribers. We have known of a Patron getting sixty 3 months subscribers to the VISITOR at an auction. Can't that number or more be got at every county or other fair held in this State this fall? Let every Grange see to it that some one or more is duly authorized and prepared with copies, etc., to act, and see how much Grange reading matter can thus be put into circulation this coming season. Scatter seed! The harvest will come. Have faith and work with fidelity, and hope will be realized.

New Relations.

It is doubtless known to many if not all the readers of the VISITOR that we have taken on our shoulders new duties in becoming an associate editor of the Cincinnati *Grange Bulletin*. Our reasons for doing this are that in so doing we could still serve Michigan and the interests of our Order here, and extend our sphere of usefulness and enlarge our field of labor.

The GRANGE VISITOR has become a national paper, devoted to the good of the Order of the whole country. Its aim is and will be to make the Grange and its influence as universal as the calling it represents. The *Bulletin* proposes some new and forward movements, as a correspondent in Washington, "a virtual friend at Court," who shall report Congress and the central government as seen by a farmer and a Patron. It proposes to put into the field at once a National Lecture Bureau for the Order and in the interest of farmers. An experimental farm is also a new feature, upon which to try new varieties, which if successful, will be distributed among its subscribers. An Eastern office will also be opened in the spring. Our *Little Grangers* will be doubled in size in December and other Campaign Extras will be issued from time to time to aid in the grand advance all along the line.

The *Bulletin* will not in anything interfere with the interests of the VISITOR, or any local or State Grange paper, but will rather seek to aid and encourage them. We say to any Patron of Michigan, it is not only your duty to take the VISITOR, but to see that it finds its way into every farmer's family in the Peninsular State, and we shall seek to aid you in doing this, knowing that where your paper is most taken and largely read, there will the Order be strongest, and there will be most of those who will desire a broader and more general knowledge of the Order and its doings, such as the *Bulletin*, through its columns by its National Lecturers' Bureau proposes to furnish.

While we may not be able to give so much time in person to the work at home, we propose to use the time given you in a way that will accomplish more for you, and enable you to accomplish more for yourselves. We, as once before this year, invite the freest correspondence upon all Grange questions, especially on the revival of Grange work, the formation of new Granges

and the rejuvenation of old ones. Remember at all times the people must be taught. They must read or be told of the matters in which you would interest them. Use both the reading matter and the lecturer. Long winter evenings are now coming, and with them less work on the farm. Let every Patron prepare for a grand advance.

Lecturers' Last Document for 1881.

To the Lecturers and Members of Subordinate Granges, P. of H.:

This is the last issue for 1881 of questions for discussion in Subordinate Granges. Believing that sufficient time has been devoted to local questions, and to increased productions, etc., until we are fully satisfied that relief from injustice will never be reached through these means,—our only hope rests in educating to fully understand the causes of oppression; how they are brought about, by whom and for what purposes, and how they are managed. And when fully understood, there will be no difficulty in applying the proper remedies to remove the tyranny that now so unjustly robs the farmer of the rewards of his labor and capital.

We have therefore named questions for this quarter that will lead in that direction, hoping that these will be followed by others of like character, until every error is fully understood. We have no time to lose, for soulless corporations are still marching on, entrenching themselves behind the bulwarks of monopolized power. Hence our advance must be more rapid, progressive and earnest. The time spent in Subordinate Granges in discussing fence laws, dog laws, increased production, etc., is valuable time wasted: we are losing, while the enemy is gaining. For the present we had better attend to the *weightier* matters, if we expect to accomplish desirable results. The desire of corporations is that we keep quiet and inactive, and spend much of our time over smaller matters, while they will arrange for the larger ones. Let us arouse from inactivity to active and energetic work in our noble cause, for the good of our common humanity.

Hoping that this, or a better system, may be employed in the future in the distribution of general questions to be considered throughout our land, and that the duty may be assigned to one more capable than myself, so that greater good may be accomplished,—with best wishes for the permanent prosperity of our common cause and for speedy and triumphant results, I remain, ever faithful to the cause,

Your fraternal servant,
H. ESHBAUGH,
Lect'r National Grange.

SUBJECTS FOR SUBORDINATE GRANGES,
FOR OCTOBER.

Question 18.—How can we save the reward of our own labor, and make farm operations more profitable?

Suggestions.—Better tillage, mixed husbandry, improved stock, and scores of other questions developing agricultural science, are of the utmost importance, and should be well studied in every Grange. But there are other questions of greater importance than these, that must be solved in the Grange, and they demand the most earnest attention of every member.

Patrons have spent much time in considering how to produce most with least expense, as though large production and close economy was the way to prosperity and wealth. These questions are all right in their place, but they have failed to relieve the farmer from his depressed condition.

The increase in production during the last twenty years has been from 1,229,139,616 bushels of grain in 1860 to 2,714,992,631 bushels in 1881, with nearly a like increase of meats, cotton, dairy products, fruits, etc. And with this large increase of production, and with economy exercised, so close as to border on stinginess, the real condition of the farmer is less favorable now than twenty years ago.

We must educate to understand these great questions. And then co-operate in the selection of our public servants, and especially the representatives to the legislative bodies, so that legislation and the affairs of government be managed upon the principles of exact justice. Then, and only then, will the farmers secure their just rewards.

FOR NOVEMBER.

Ques. 19.—Why are agricultural profits so small compared with other investments?

Sug.—Agriculture produces 80 per cent. of the wealth. Its prosperity is distributed to all classes in exchange for labor and supplies. Expenditures may be economical, the product large, prices good, and yet tax and transportation consume it all.

Farmers are taxed on all they possess. Crops may fail, stock die, but taxes must be paid. The surplus products are the means of payment. But transportation is extortionate in its charges, the surplus is consumed, and the producer left without profit.

We are told that freight rates are not unreasonable, and the railroad corporations only divide a dividend of from four and a half to six per cent. per annum. These corporations have adulterated their stock by the watering process to an alarming extent. We find the following amounts of fictitious capital claimed by railroad companies: one \$59,000,000; another \$22,000,000; two, \$40,000,000 each; two \$50,000,000 each; one \$36,000,000; and one, \$45,000,000; making a total of \$322,000,000 stock that has no existence, other than the "fat" of the corporation issuing the decree to increase their wealth. They then tax the products of the country, so as to divide six per cent. per annum on this fraudulent stock, and \$19,320,000 is extorted by only eight of the corporations annually from the product of the farm.

The evil lies in legislation, or rather in farmers electing legislators as these corporations dictate, instead of exercising that free and independent manhood that should characterize true American citizenship.

FOR DECEMBER.

Ques. 20.—What is the most equitable method of taxation?

Sug.—The system of taxation in practice is regulated by legislation in State and nation. Changes and alterations will be made only when we elect legislators for that purpose.

The present mode of taxation includes the farm and everything on it, while much other property escapes, and this increases the burden of farm taxes. In some instances

crops are assessed—they fail, yet the taxes must be paid. Live stock is assessed, and it may die the next day, yet tax on same must be paid. Millions of dollars worth of live stock have died in a single year between the assessment and collection of taxes, and taxes on the dead stock had to be paid all the same. As a general rule those who escape taxation are the ones best able to pay tax, and they often claim more than a just share of government favors, and yet are unwilling to bear a share of government burdens.

THE ASSASSINATION.

A prize offered by a London weekly for the best poem on the attempted assassination of President Garfield was awarded to the author of the following: Veil, now, O Liberty, thy blushing face, At the fell deed that thrills a startled world; When fair Columbia weeps in dire disgrace, And bows in sorrow o'er the banner furled.

OPEN AVOWAL.

On the 27th day of January, 1880, the President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, in an argument before the Committee on Commerce of the House of Representatives of the United States, in Washington, said: "I have heard the counsel of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, standing in the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, threaten that Court with the displeasure of his clients if it decided against them, and all the blood in my body tingled with shame at the humiliating spectacle."

Monopoly is growing in all the States. It has completely subjugated only one. In California it has ripened its fruit. There, monopoly is king. There, a few men control steam transportation. They have annihilated competition. There is not a farmer, not a producer between the mountains and the Pacific who does not pay them heavier tribute than conquered people ever paid to their conquerors. They fix the value of the farm, the mine, the mill, and the forest. They decide year by year whether the producer shall make a profit or a loss; whether his children shall travel toward the academy or the poorhouse. They name senators and judges. They have their candidate for the Presidency. They have bound the prosperity of California in fetters of iron, as fatal as death, as unyielding as the grave. Reviving commerce, which covers her sisters with the sunshine of prosperity cannot pierce the wall within which she is imprisoned. Her soil may bring forth golden grain, her mines yield a golden harvest, but her people do not profit thereby. Once they united together, made a new constitution, and declared that a repetition of the acts which had destroyed competition, should henceforth be crimes, and those who committed them be punished as felons. These monopolists nullified the Constitution and went on making the very contracts it prohibited.

From the first decision of the supreme court of the United States which protected the rights of the public in the great Continental railroad, built with the public money, to the present hour, the decisions of that court have been unsatisfactory to these west-coast monopolists. They denounced this decision as a tyrannical invasion of the rights of property. So far as they could they have brought the court into contempt and derision. Their influence seems to have reached the temple of justice, compelling that court to devise new rules for the preservation of its dignity. We call the attention of the people to the opinions of a typical, matured Californian monopolist on the subject of the rights and qualities of property and respect for the decisions of the courts of law.

THE RAILROAD CREED.

A committee of the Chamber of Commerce of New York city recently addressed certain enquiries regarding the relations of railroads to the public, to a number of prominent citizens, among them the President of the Central Pacific railroad of California. He has given his reply to the press in the following terms: "The value of property consists in its use or rents or the profits to be derived from it. In the celebrated Granger cases, so called, the use of profits and control were declared to be subjects of legislation. The principle in these cases, especially as enunciated in the Warehouse cases, was, that the right of the Legislature to control the use and the benefits of the property of private individuals, in connection with their own personal services, was to be determined by the nature of the business, or the number of the people with whom the business might be transacted."

After a denial of a fact taught in the very elements of law that railroads are public highways and common carriers, and derive their franchises and existence from the public, he continues:—"Your second question is: 'Railroad managers justify the practice of giving low rates to some shippers and refusing them to others, on the ground of the development of business in certain localities: is it consistent with the public welfare and the rights of citizens to allow railroad managers to decide what persons and places shall be thus developed?'"

I shall not say anything to justify discrimination against individuals and communities, but content myself on this head by simply stating that such has never been practiced by railroad companies with which I have been connected. So far as they are concerned, they practice the same business principles that govern and regulate individuals in the management of their own affairs. The primary consideration of railroad managers under the observance of the golden rule is their treasury. With this in view they often carry freight at less rates for a longer than for a shorter distance, because they cannot do better, and because a small profit is better than none."

Declining to commit himself to the suggestion of a court to determine questions arising between railroads and their patrons, he proceeds to deny "that competition is mainly supplanted by pooling arrange-

ments;" to assert "that there is no justice in limiting what may be earned by sagacity;" that "increase of the capital is the concern of the companies only, and nobody else's business;" that "it is the right of railroad managers equally with individuals, to contribute large sums to control elections and influence legislation; and that railroad companies do these things to resist aggression and threatened confiscation under the plea of regulation;" and he then prescribes the golden remedy—the universal panacea. "Let us alone!"

The remedy proposed is not new, it has been the cry of every selfish tyranny since the unclean spirit first uttered it in the Synagogue at Capernaum. "Let us alone!" Leave the railroad industry uncrippled. Leave the Central Railroad property as you leave other property.

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES DENOUNCED.

"What you propose in regard to railroad property is on a par with principles contended for by the communists; and the agitator Kearney advocated no doctrine in regard to property more atrocious than the principles embodied in the Granger cases and the laws they sustain."

Such are the phenomena of monopoly at an advanced stage of its development. They are its articles of faith. We do not believe in them. We reject them. They are dishonest, false, and pernicious. The statement that it is right to use the money which corporate greed extorts from the industrial classes to corrupt the fountains of legislation is an atrocious statement, not fit to be heard by free men. Such disrespect for the decrees of the highest court, subverts the principle of obedience which lies at the foundation of all government, and should be punished as a crime. The assertion that railroads are not common carriers is a fallacy not to be imposed upon children in the public schools. The proposition that the value of railroad consists "in its use, or the rents and profits to be derived," and not at all in the benefits it may confer upon others than its owner, ignores the moral side of humanity, and converts man into an animal with miserly instincts; and finally the suggestion that the people of free America are, or ought to be abandoned to the unrestrained control of monopolies, is an impudent proposition. Such and all similar claims and teachings we disapprove and oppose because they destroy the liberties and subvert the rights of citizens of a free Republic.

We have reached the conclusion that the encroachments of monopolies upon the rights and property of the citizen constitutes the most imminent danger which now threatens our government—that they increase the cost of the necessities of life—that they set a bad example before the ignorant and unthinking—that neither of the great political parties will take a decided stand against them—that they must be arrested, that monopolies must be struck down,—and that the blow which crushes them must be dealt by organization on the part of the people.

We believe that the time for action has come—that good citizens throughout the country belonging to all parties, are ready to unite with us, in a strong, determined, and patriotic effort to suppress these monopolies, and bring all corporations into obedience to the law. We do not underestimate the importance of the contest nor the power of the enemy. We know that he fights behind entrenchments, which he believes impregnable, and with weapons which he deems irresistible. To the money of monopolies we oppose the virtues of the people. The people will prevail if this government remains the law of the land, and the constitution is worth preserving, and the constitution is the law of the land.

This is not a party question. Political parties are alike responsible for these monopolies, whose managers divide their politics, their votes, and their bribes to Democrat and Republican with impartiality. Where corporate interests are concerned, Democrats and Republicans pull kindly and lovingly together.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT? What are the people going to do about it? That question was put by Tweed at a time when he thought he had control of the Governor, the Legislature, and the judges of New York. The people answered him. It has been put by every tyrant who has believed that he held the people in his grasp, since governments were created.

Whether the people will do it, let the people answer. They can organize an anti-monopoly league in every State, and county, and district in this broad land. They can put votes and an honest, patriotic purpose against money. They can combine those who believe in the principles upon which our government was founded, against those who think they are obsolete and that money is king.

They can disregard party lines, and in every district and at all times throw a solid vote against candidates who will not pledge themselves to protect the public interests against the encroachments of corporations. We believe that these encroachments were never contemplated by our forefathers, who rebelled against unjust taxation, and threw the tea into Boston harbor, upon which it was sought to levy taxes. We believe that the men who abolished the laws of promulgation and entail, in order to insure the more equal distribution of wealth, would not justify a system of freebooting under the guise of law, which places the production and commerce of a continent at the mercy of a few men who recognize "no principle of action but personal or corporate aggrandizement." We therefore associate ourselves together under the name of the "National Anti-Monopoly League" to oppose the evils before recited.

OUR PRINCIPLES.

Anti-Monopoly. We advocate, and will support and defend the rights of the many against privileges for the few.

Corporation, the creation of the State, shall be controlled by the State. Labor and capital— allies, not enemies; justice for both.

OBJECTS.

In accordance with the general principles above enumerated, we will endeavor to secure, among others, the following specific results:

1. Laws compelling transportation companies to base their charges upon "cost and risk of service," instead of the new theory enunciated by them—"what the traffic will bear."

2. Laws to prevent pooling and combinations.

3. No discrimination against any citizen or class of citizens on public highways.

4. Railroad Commissions or Courts, State and National, to give effect to laws which are or may be placed upon the statute books.

5. Laws making it the duty of public law officers to defend a citizen's rights against injustice by powerful corporations.

6. No taxing the public to pay dividends on watered stock.

7. Stringent laws against bribery, including a prohibition of free passes.

8. Laws enacted by Congress enforcing the provisions of the first article of the Constitution, to regulate commerce among the several States, fixing a maximum rate to be charged by corporations for labor, service, or the use of property.

9. A liberal policy toward our water ways which, during the season of navigation, are potent in preventing exorbitant charges by corporate monopolies.

10. Laws providing for the restriction within proper limits of corporate powers and privileges generally, and for the protection, education, and elevation of the masses.

What Will it Bear?

A recent report to the Board of Trade of this city calls attention to a most important principle. When railroads were first invented the principle upon which charters were first granted was that charges should be reasonable, and based upon "cost of service;" that when the capital invested in their construction had been fairly compensated, the public should receive the rest of the benefits of the new invention, in the shape of reduced charges of transportation, and as common carriers they are expected as a matter of course to charge all shippers alike.

Though the non-enforcement of these principles the railroad has become the dominant power of commerce. It is fast acquiring a controlling power in politics, and under the right which it has assumed to exercise, of charging "all an article will bear," it is rapidly concentrating in a few hands the wealth of the nation. It is this principle which, within a few years, accumulated the fabulous wealth of railroad kings; which, unless the principle is changed, will roll up as a snow ball gathers volume at every turn.

In the testimony given by Messrs. Vanderbilt and Jewett before the Hepburn Committee, which recently investigated the management of the railroads of this State, we find the following:

"The managers of a railway company desire to make all the money they can for their clients, and to do this they have before them the question what rate within their chartered limits will an article bear that will yield the largest profit and at the same time stimulate its production." Referring to this, the committee, in their report (page 19), say:—"Now, as the necessity for some regulation to protect the public, see testimony of Mr. Rutter, pages 453 and 454, where he testifies that he serves the stockholders only, and only regards the public interest to make it tributary to the interest of the stockholders."

"Mr. Vilas (testimony page 415) testifies to the same controlling motives. Mr. Blanchard after describing a railway officer as subject to three practical tribunals—first, the president of the road; second, the law as laid down affecting transportation; and third, the unwritten law of commerce says: "It has been our policy in this matter, while keeping within the statute law, so far as I knew it, or had occasion to know it, that wherever this public unwritten law came into contact with the interests of the shareholders, I believe it to be my conscientious duty to decide in favor of the shareholder; I know of no claim that the non-shareholding interests had upon me as a railroad officer so long as I was within the written law to concede its views in the matter of rates and in the management of our traffic."

The marked importance which is here attached to keeping within the law emphasizes the necessity of a law for governmental control. What an article will bear, is to a certain extent, a legitimate and necessary question to discuss in making rates for transportation, but when it is left entirely to such men as Huntington, Gould, and Vanderbilt to decide, it simply means that they will take the largest share of the profit there is in production and commerce, leaving the workers only enough to keep them from getting discouraged, and stimulating production only as the fowler preserves game—allowing it to develop enough to be profitable.

The charge for transportation is in the nature of a tax, and it should be both reasonable and uniform. How it affects the producer is shown in the evidence of Messrs. John Allen, Jr., and Charles Ensign, of Buffalo, before the Hepburn Committee. These gentlemen are all large owners of vessels on the lakes.

"Q. Suppose the rate was reduced, who gets the difference: the consumer or the producer? A. I should say the producer." "Q. And what is your reason for that? A. The producer, upon a reduction of the rates of freight, would simply advance the price of his property. We have that evidenced by the open markets in Chicago and Milwaukee every day. Take the rate of freight to-day of 7 cents per bushel, to-morrow it goes down to 3 cents, and if there is nothing to disturb the value of the wheat, the above price would advance just 3 cents per bushel.

"Q. Just 3 cents a bushel in Milwaukee and Chicago? A. Yes, sir." "Q. And the price in New York would remain the same? A. Yes, sir." "Q. And likewise in Liverpool? A. Yes, sir."

Mr. Ensign testifies (pages 2,306-7):—"Q. Suppose, for instance, that all other things remain the same, no special demand and no special supply, that the demand and supply remain equal, but that suddenly the rate, by competition or otherwise—the transportation rate—goes down 5 cents a hundred: where does that difference of 5 cents a hundred fall, to whom does it come? A. The difference would come to the producer." "Q. You have said that when the transportation rate goes down, all other things being equal, that is the supply and the demand being equal, the amount inures to the benefit of the producer, or to the man who has the property? A. Yes, sir." "Q. When it goes up, out of whom does the

transportation rate come? A. It would come out of the producer too; he has to pay it."

Is it not about time that the people of this State and the United States did something towards compelling the return to old principles in the operation of railroads—that charges should be based upon cost of service instead of what it will bear, or at least that the public, through duly authorized officers, should have something to say in deciding this momentous question?—Daily Graphic, July 2, 1880.

The Poultry Yard.

CHICKENS CHOLERA.—A piece of salt bacon or shoulder nailed to a stump or board and placed where the fowls can pick at it. Old wormy stuff that is not fit to eat is as good as any, and a large piece can be bought at almost any country store for a mere song. Try it.

There is one thing which nature does not supply, and which civilization renders quite necessary to fowls. It is charcoal. But charcoal made of wood does not answer the purpose. It has no taste of food, is not attractive to the fowl and is never eaten. But if any one will put an ear of ripe corn into the fire until the grains are well charred, and then shell off the corn and throw it to his flock, he will see an eagerness developed and a healthy condition brought about which will make a decided improvement. All pale combs will become a bright red, that busy song which succeeds laying will be heard, and the average yield of eggs will be greatly increased.

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, it 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. Therefore to offer these facilities to all Patrons wishing to purchase through our agency, the executive committee of the co-operative association have made such arrangements that our agent will fill orders for goods from all parts of the State.

For further information, address A. STEGEMAN, Allegan, Mich. J. S. BIDWELL, Sec. of C. A. of P. of H.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL R. R.

Table with columns: DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO, TIME-TABLE—MAY 9, 1880, WESTWARD, EASTWARD. Lists train names, departure times, and arrival times for various stations.

L. S. & M. S. R. R.

Table with columns: KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE, (Time 15 minutes faster than Kalamazoo), GOING SOUTH, GOING NORTH. Lists train names, departure times, and arrival times for various stations.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Table with columns: Corrected Time-Table—July 31, 1881, WESTWARD, EASTWARD. Lists stations, train names, departure times, and arrival times for various stations.

The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, OCTOBER 1.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

GENERAL NOTICE.

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE, } Secretary's Office, Sept. 27, 1881.

The books of this office show at this date the following Granges entitled to delegates to the County and District Conventions, to be held on Tuesday, Oct. 4th, 1881, by virtue of Sec. 3, Art. 4 of By-Laws of the State Grange.

For the purpose of securing the benefit of representation to all delinquent Granges, we added to this list all who have reported up to the last moment practicable, and delegates duly elected, who are able to show a receipt for dues for the quarter ending March 31st, 1881, on which is endorsed by me "entitled to representation," should be allowed to participate in the work of the Convention.

- Allegan-3. Representatives. Nos. 37, 53, 154, 238, 247, 248, 271, 296, 338, 339, 364, 390, 407, 520, 643.
Barry-2. 38, 55, 127, 145, 424, 425, 472, 590.
Berrien-2. 14, 40, 43, 46, 80, 81, 84, 87, 104, 122, 123, 188, 194.
Branch-2. 88, 91, 96, 97, 136, 137, 152, 400.
Calhoun-2. 65, 66, 83, 85, 96, 129, 130, 200, 232.
Cass-1. 42, 162, 427.
Clinton-3. 140, 202, 225, 226, 342, 343, 358, 370, 439, 450, 459, 487, 505.
Eaton-2. 87, 134, 223, 224, 260, 301, 315, 360, 361, 619, 625.
Genesee-1. 255, 386, 387.
Gratiot-1. 310, 391, 431.
Hilldale-3. 74, 78, 106, 107, 108, 133, 182, 183, 251, 257, 269, 273, 274, 285, 286, 568.
Ingham-3. 7, 54, 115, 189, 235, 241, 262, 265, 287, 289, 322, 347, 540.
Ionia-3. 163, 168, 174, 175, 185, 186, 187, 190, 191, 192, 270, 272, 281, 325, 430, 646.
Jackson-1. 45, 320, 321.
Kalamazoo-2. 8, 11, 16, 18, 24, 49, 61, 171, 203.
Kent-4. 19, 39, 63, 73, 102, 110, 113, 170, 219, 220, 222, 285, 337, 340, 348, 350, 353, 479, 563, 564, 634.
Lapeer-1. 246, 448, 549, 607, 641.
Leelanaw-1. 374, 375, 380.
Lenawee-2. 167, 212, 213, 276, 278, 279, 280, 293, 384.
Livingston-1. 57, 90, 114, 336, 613.
Monroe-1. 471, 492, 509.
Muskegon-1. 316, 372, 373, 376, 554.
Newaygo-1. 494, 495, 544, 545.
Oakland-3. 141, 245, 253, 257, 259, 267, 275, 283, 323, 328, 335, 377, 385, 395, 408, 443.
Ottawa-1. 30, 112, 313, 421, 458, 639.
St. Joseph-2. 22, 76, 178, 199, 215, 236, 237, 266, 291, 303, 304, 333.
Shiawassee-1. 151, 160, 180, 228, 606.
Van Buren-3. 10, 23, 26, 32, 36, 60, 89, 158, 159, 172, 230, 346, 355, 610.
Washtenaw-2. 52, 56, 59, 92, 239, 329, 351, 399, 478, 604, 631.
Wayne-1. 331, 367, 368, 389, 618, 622, 636.

For the purpose of representation, as provided for in Sec. 2 of Art. 4, the following counties are formed into Representative Districts; and I would recommend that the several conventions for these Representative Districts be held at the county seat of the county having the largest number of Granges entitled to delegates.

- First District-1 Rep. Manistee, 556, 557, 580, 633. Wexford, 632, 644.
Second Dist.-1 Rep. Saginaw, 326, 464, 574; Bay, 597, 635; Midland, 603.
Third Dist.-1 Rep. Grand Traverse, 379, 469, 624, 638; Antrim, 470.
Fourth Dist.-1 Rep. Oceana, 393, 401, 406, 600; Mason, 415.
Fifth Dist.-2 Reps. Montcalm, 318, 436, 437, 440, 441, 530; Mecosta, 362, 517; Osceola 629.
Sixth Dist.-2 Rep. Tuscola, 513, 526, 548, 582, 589, 593, 642; Sanilac, 417.
Seventh Dist.-1 Rep. Macomb, 403, 414, 623; St. Clair, 480, 491.

We append a list of Granges that were delinquent in reports for the quarter ending March 31st, 1881: Nos. 6, 31, 44, 57, 71, 90, 118, 125, 126, 128, 229, 252, 298, 344, 345, 381, 396, 422, 438, 461, 462, 503, 511, 514, 529, 574, 602, 631, 637.

The following have not reported for Dec. 31st, 1880: Nos. 68, 201, 227, 288, 523, 566, 616, 640.

Send for blank credentials, that every representative to the State Grange may have the proper voucher to show that he is a voting member of the State Grange.

Remember the By-Laws of the State Grange that relate to representation in the State Grange, were printed in the VISITOR of Sept. 15.

P. W. STEVENS threshed from 12 acres of Clawson wheat 272 bushels, or an average of 22 2/3 bushels per acre. Considering the season, this yield is better than a slap on the back with a club. The wheat was grown a couple of miles south of Kalamazoo, on what is known as the Hyden-burk place. It was sown September 16, 1880. We have heard of no better in Kalamazoo county, and would be glad to hear of a heavier yield.

If the railroad corporations of this country own absolutely the railroads of the country as their own private property, then the corporations have the country by the throat, and are its masters.

LAND is taken for public use in the construction of railways, and therein is the right acquired of legal appropriation of private property for right of way.

PATENT RIGHT-DRIVEN WELLS-LEGISLATION.

Evidence that the patent right swindlers had again made a raid on Michigan, was presented in the last VISITOR. This time the people they propose to victimize are not all farmers, as outside of our large villages and the cities of the State, the drive well is in general use by all classes. In the fight which these fellows invite, we shall therefore have the aid and support of the most of the people, and we need not hesitate to call upon them to take part in meeting the expense which test suits will involve. We have already made a move to procure evidence to meet this brazen attempt to plunder the people of a State, under the forms of, and in the name of law. To the legal fraternity of the country, to whom its farmers have in the decades of the past conferred the law-making power, are we indebted for the opportunity given this or any other organized band of plunderers to make a raid at any time upon a peaceable, law-abiding people.

Our patent laws seem to have been framed by lawyers, and for lawyers, and although the farmers have petitioned from time to time in large numbers for such amendment to those laws as would protect an innocent user of an implement or device that is found everywhere in the market of the country, yet no relief has been furnished, and this neglect has been continued from session to session of Congress, not only in utter disregard of these petitions and in the face of repeated cases of, practically, the robbery of considerable numbers of people, but we, the people, continue to send once in two years the same or another delegation of lawyers to Congress to perpetuate a condition of things that are a disgrace to the Congress of the United States, and a reproach to our boasted civilization.

We had written this far when a letter was handed us, headed, "American Driven Wells and Water Supply System for cities, towns, manufacturing, &c.; Kalamazoo Co. Collection Agency, Kalamazoo, Sept. 26th, 1881," and signed "Wm. O. Campbell, Collecting Agent." Mr. Campbell, in courteous terms, invited me to call at his office in the village of Kalamazoo. Having as much leisure as we were likely to have very soon, we repaired at once to his office. We found this "Collecting Agent" a pleasant gentleman, claiming to represent an unfortunate poor man who had been really a philanthropist, by furnishing facilities for getting water cheaply to the people of our vast country. Our interview was not protracted, as I replied to his attempt to make out his case of having a well founded claim for royalty upon the user of driven wells, by assuring him that frauds of this character had been attempted and had also been perpetrated upon not only the people of other States, but upon the people of this State, and if the party that he represented had any legal claim for royalty upon the users of driven wells, he could only get his money from the alleged infringer in this State at the hands of the Court of last resort.

On his part, Mr. Campbell assured me that his orders were imperative—that he had entire confidence in the validity of the patent he represented, and that however reluctant he might be to resort to the law for the recovery of the rights of Mr. Green, yet he should proceed at once to serve the preliminary notices and should follow the refusal to pay the royalty demanded, by suits against the parties refusing; adding that suits had already been commenced against quite a number of citizens of Ottawa county.

With this outlook and the precedent of our past experience, I shall venture to anticipate the action of the Executive Committee of the State Grange of Michigan, by inviting all the Subordinate Granges of the State to pledge such amounts as they may severally feel willing to contribute to a fund for the defense of any test suits that may be brought for alleged infringement of a driven well patent of this or any other claimant. The Executive Committee will meet at an early day, and this matter will receive from the committee the consideration which its importance demands, and the action of Subordinate Granges should be made subject to the action of the Executive Committee of the State Grange.

Our conference with Mr. Campbell does not cause us to abate in the least a disposition to resist to the utmost this and every other attempt to collect royalty. If relief from the wickedness of the patent right laws as they exist to-day can only be found by subjecting the people to these recurring demands and annoying suits, until such a spirit of resistance shall be aroused as shall cause them to look the evil square in the face and apply the remedy as they cast their votes for Members of Congress, then we are not sure that these attacks and the tax which they impose will not prove in their educational features a positive advantage to the country.

If we continue in the future to confide our law making to lawyers who are only interested in such legislation as shall inure to their own advantage as lawyers, then we and those who come after us may expect to be subjected to this sort of annoyance and legalized robbery for generations to come.

As our article has taken this turn, we are just now reminded of an article on our hook that has been waiting for some time for

something to call it out, and this would seem opportune, for while we ask for no class legislation, we do insist that a Congress of lawyers have for all these years ignored the most important interest in the country and allowed agriculture and the agriculturalist to shift for themselves; and until the Grange came forward a few years ago and entered its protest against this state of things, we were going from bad to worse. Not much has yet been accomplished in the way of reform beyond taking the initiatory steps and getting the attention not only of the class most interested, but of the people of the whole country, and this article from a business man whose life and pecuniary interests had formerly been identified with the agricultural way, that should convince the most stolid that the lawyers of the country have for the most part appropriated to themselves not only in this State but throughout the whole country the legislative department of the government. It is not worth while to stop for a moment to discuss the question of the ability of citizens from other classes to fitly represent the people. No sensible man will deny that in every representative district of the country we have practical business men, many of them farmers, of ability quite equal to an average Congressman; and yet we have gone on from one decade to another, sending delegations of lawyers from this State to Congress—for what purpose? Why, to take care of themselves and their constituents, in so far as getting all the official positions, big or little, for them that they could, and thus providing for their own future.

Farmers of Michigan, read the article below—now five years old—and be thankful that the writer by some fortuitous circumstances is a Congressman elect from Michigan; and after having read it, do not forget to hold him and his lawyer associates responsible for the continued existence of this iniquitous law of lawyers that permits any brazen rascal to pounce upon an innocent user of an article found for years everywhere in the market—we say do not forget to hold these representatives responsible if they do not make a united and determined effort at the next session of Congress to so amend the patent laws as shall relieve the innocent purchaser and user from all liability of infringement of patent.

REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS—SOME FACTS AND COMPARISONS.

To the Editor of the Detroit Tribune: Your editorial article of June 27th, entitled "Something to be Considered," shows, as you intend it shall, that the farmer has very little chance to distinguish himself in Congress, and for the reason that he cannot get there.

This disability is not peculiar to the farmer. "If a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind," we who are not farmers should extend to the farmer our sympathy and ask full return of his.

The last census of the United States shows the number engaged in agriculture to be 5,922,471. The number engaged in trade, commerce, and manufactures, 3,898,238.

Of these deduct the number of women so engaged, 418,550.

And it leaves 5,402,059. If we deduct from this for persons, say under 25 years old, 1,402,059. Then we have agriculturists, merchants, and manufacturers, in round numbers, 4,000,000. The same census shows that we have in the United States, lawyers, 40,706.

If we deduct those under 25 years of age, by estimate, as, 2,706. We have left, 38,000.

As compared with the eight millions engaged in agriculture, commerce, mechanics, and manufactures they (the lawyers) are as 1 in 210.

In a country like this, where official position is alike free to all, at least in theory, the profession of the law would be entitled in a Congress of 290 members to about one member and one-third of a member, because they hold about that relation to the 8,000,000 aforesaid. And in a senate of seventy-four members they should have one senator about once in three Senatorial terms, provided other classes are equally qualified.

We do not insist that this calculation of averages should be strictly construed. Wherever the point of justice in the division, we would have it tempered with liberality toward a profession so learned and so respectable.

If it would in the opinion of many persons be absurd to claim that the lawyers should have less than two members of Congress and but the third part of one Senator; we admit that and urge it is more absurd for a body of men forming the 210th part of their fellow workers, and less than the 30th part of that portion equally well educated with themselves, to hold against all comers two-thirds of both houses of Congress.

The facts are, as they exist now, in a Senate of seventy-four members the lawyers have fifty, and other classes combined (including with those named, editors and doctors) have in the aggregate twenty-four. And in the house of Representatives, of 290 members (exclusive of the territorial delegates), the lawyers have 207, all other classes aggregate eighty-three.

A lawyer's chance for the Senate of the United States is, therefore, as about 1 in 745, and his chance for the lower house about as 1 in 183.

The chance of any one of the 8,000,000 engaged in the other pursuits is, for the Senate, 1 in about 347,000, and for the lower house 1 in 96,385.

This is an enormous disproportion, for which there do not appear good reasons fully to account.

The profession of the law is a learned profession, and congressional duty calls for educated men. But this does not fully meet the case. The profession of medicine is also a learned profession. Its number of members in Michigan is 2,037. The number of lawyers in Michigan is 1,160. Comparisons are said to be odious; but no disrespect is intended to the medical profession, when we

say that it may at least be claimed for its members, that their 2,037 members represent as much learning as the 1,197 lawyers possess; and the former are not without political ambition, but would like a share of Congressional honors, as well as the others.

The lawyers, however, have six out of the nine members of Congress from Michigan, and several stand at "point" over the other three. The physicians have no one of their number in Congress from this State, and, according to the writer's recollection, have had but one member up to this time.

The farmers have, in Michigan, 187,211 persons engaged in agricultural pursuits. Many of these men are uneducated; but no one can suppose that there are not in the whole body 1,167 persons who would not be equal in education and statesmanship to the 1,167 lawyers—yet the lawyers have six members of Congress, and the 187,211 farmers, even if boiled down to 1,167, do not appear worthy to get, or at least do not get one member of Congress.

Men in Michigan, engaged in trade, transportation, commerce generally, and mining and manufactures, number 115,000. These are not all as well educated as the lawyers, but perhaps possess among them at least 1,167 men as well qualified for Congress as the 1,167 lawyers; yet the former, when considered in connection with the farmers, and having in all 302,211 of the population, have but three out of nine members. They have one member to 100,000, the lawyers one to 191.

Yours truly, HENRY W. LORD.

Pontiac, June 28, 1876.

HOW TO DIRECT A LETTER.

The reader has already thought: Well, this a pretty small subject. We shall not stop to discuss this point. We think the subject is big enough to entitle it to a column, more or less, of the VISITOR. We remember thinking so once before, and we wrote an article then on this topic; but we have twice as many readers now as then, and besides, we are not quite sure that some of our old readers have not forgotten what we then said, and may need another reminder.

During the eight years that we have been Secretary of the State Grange, we have received, as well as written, very many letters—how many thousands we cannot guess—and these have come to us largely from farmers, their wives, their sons and daughters. Some of them have been complete and creditable in every particular, from the address on the envelope to the signature of the writer. Some of them have been less complete in one respect or another. The direction has been "a little off." Sometimes name, postoffice and State all crowded down into the south-east corner, as though the less room the direction occupied the better.

Another comes from somebody who evidently gets up early in the morning, and we find the direction in a line at the top of the envelope, and the space below looks so bare and blank that when we pick up such a letter, we always think, "Room to let."

We are not going to find fault with the penmanship or spelling, but we started out to say, in so many words, that we don't like to have our farmer friends advertise their carelessness in this way. We have not read any Treatise on Letter-Writing, or taken lessons of professors, but we long ago noticed that the direction on some letters looked very much better than on others, and we noticed that wide-awake, thorough business men did not tuck the superscription down or up on a corner, but wrote the name of the party addressed on the face of the envelope, right through the center, with the postoffice below and a little to the right, and the State below, still farther to the right. If the postoffice is not an important one, the county should be written to the left, on a line with the State. Now, there is no need of going to college to learn some things, and this is one of them.

We occasionally get a good, thick letter that is suggestive of an article for the VISITOR. If the superscription is off in one corner, looking really lonesome from the comparatively large blank space on the face of the envelope, we at once have a lurking suspicion that the article will soon find its way to our waste-basket. The chances are not even that a person who has been too unob-serving or careless to notice the direction of a letter will have well-defined ideas at all, or that the ideas he may have will be well expressed.

This matter of directing a letter may seem a small affair, but it is still true that dollars are made up of cents, hours of minutes, and the great events of life are brought about by a combination of numerous smaller ones. What we know is what we have learned little by little, and we think it is not asking too much of the members of this, one of the farmers' educational institutions, who have occasion to direct a letter to this office or elsewhere, to give heed to our suggestions.

We may safely add in conclusion that we are hitting those who do not belong to our class just as hard as we hit those who do.

"THE PRESIDENT IS DEAD"—extinguished the hope with which millions the world over had clung with the tenacity of a drowning man to a straw. Since this sad fact flashed to the ends of the earth, the great heart of the American people has throbbled at a Nation's loss and in sympathetic sorrow for the stricken mother, and the devoted and heroic wife of the illustrious dead. Since then the curtain has fallen upon the last act in the drama prepared by the assassin to shock the world. That President Garfield's protracted suffering and death has not been without some compen-

ating good, has come to be believed by every thoughtful, considerate citizen, and it best becomes us now to accept the situation and treasure in our hearts the immortal words of our honored dead when he stilled the fury of the populace of the great city of New York, on the 14th day of April, 1865: "Fellow citizens: God reigns, and the Government at Washington still lives!"

THE LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

We commend to our readers the ladies' department in this number of the VISITOR. Read it carefully and thoughtfully, and then answer for yourself the question, "What is the Grange doing?" What has it done for the women of this country? It has afforded an opportunity for the development of the latent talent that had for want of opportunity lain dormant; and this developed talent with a truly missionary spirit is extending its influence for good in every direction.

Talent, culture, and refinement are not confined to large cities which men have made, but are found in the broad, beautiful country that God made for man's use. We again say, read the Ladies' Department of the VISITOR, and if you have any sort of appreciation of good ideas, well expressed, backed by good sense and an earnest desire to promote the welfare of your fellows, we think you will agree with us that so much original matter of such excellence as appears in this department from month to month, must commend the VISITOR to the approval of all who are desirous of mental and moral improvement, and to those, its real friends, we look for that assistance in extending its circulation on which we have hitherto depended. We have an abiding faith that the ladies' department will be sustained in a most creditable manner, and we also look to them for help in enlarging the sphere of usefulness of the VISITOR.

Remember the eleventh copy is free to the one sending us a club of ten.

THE government of the United States has a confessed criminal on its hands—one whose crime has caused more wide-spread grief than the crime of any one man since this people became a Nation. We are curious now to see if the authorities who, by virtue of law, must take cognizance of this crime; in the face of fifty millions of people, who unitedly demand that the severest penalty of the law shall be visited upon the culprit, will permit in this case the slow and tedious process of reaching a conclusion in this judicial proceeding that characterizes all the judicial tribunals of the country. If every paltry pretext which is usually sufficient to protract a case in any and all of our courts is allowed to affect this judicial proceeding, then we may safely conclude that the wretch who has visited upon our country the greatest calamity since the assassination of President Lincoln, will enjoy a comfortable life for a year or two, within sight of the scene of his murderous assault. We believe that for once fifty millions of people demand that the machinery of law shall be operated in this case without the intervention of the delays that have brought odium upon every department of our judicial system.

THE Anti-Monopoly League, with headquarters in New York city, has been doing some good work for the people. We have given on the inside a part of an address issued by the League some months ago, which we hope will be read by every reader of the VISITOR, and we wish our friends to call the attention of their brother farmers to this matter. If there is any political duty that we owe to ourselves and to posterity, it is the vindication of the great principle promulgated by the Supreme Court of the United States in the Granger cases, that the authority of a State, granting specific rights to a railroad corporation, retains and holds the right to regulate its fares and freights, or in other words, that the creature of law cannot become superior to its creator. This is a matter of vital importance to the people. The future prosperity of this great country depends largely on the vindication of this principle. Read this address, and then hand it to your neighbor, and talk with him about it. The public mind must be aroused, and you, an interested party, should be willing to do some part of the work.

SEE the new advertisements of George W. Hill, of agent S. L. Beardsley, the Chicago Lithographic Co., and the Kalamazoo Business College.

Save the Fodder.

Small grains are damaged or a failure. Corn will be short everywhere and is already ruined in many places. The hay crop is short. Pastures are fast drying up. What is to be done? Simply make the most of what remains. Where corn is ruined, cut and shock the stalks, or feed them now to young stock or milch cows. Save every nubbin or soft ear for hog feed; for the pork crop is a staple and must be looked after. Utilize everything in the form of straw that farm animals can be induced to consume. Cut all the wild grass possible. It is not as good as tame, but will do to piece out with—will save grain, and grain is money now. Waste nothing. Part with a portion of the stock, rather than half feed through the winter. Look the situation squarely in the face and don't drift into despondency or inertness.—Exchange.

Lecturer's Department.

PICKINGS BY THE WAY, NO. 33.

On the early morning of August 16 Worthy Master Nicholson came and took us away to the upper portion of Jersey to Hunterdon county, opposite Buck's county, Pa. Brother and Sister Holcomb, the Gatekeeper and Lady Assistant Steward of the New Jersey State Grange, met us at the depot at Lambertville, and took us to the "Swamp," as the brother called it, but a fine upland farming country we think it. It was dry up here, so dry the sign boards are twisted around and point the wrong way.

LOCKTOWN

was our destination, and the hall of No. 6 the place of the meeting of the Pomona Grange of the county. The meeting was good, full of interest. A public meeting occupied most of the afternoon, and those present paid excellent attention. A pleasant ride through some beautiful country brought us to the home of the Holcomb's where we spent the night, and in the early morn took leave of our host and hostess for GLOUCESTER COUNTY.

En route at Camden we were joined by Bros. David and John Haines. The station was soon reached and a short walk took us to a most beautiful grove—a natural temple whose leafy dome was supported by natural columns of chestnut and oak, where the meeting was to be held. This picnic was a grand success. There were present the Master, Secretary, and Treasurer, and one member of the Executive Committee of the New Jersey State Grange. Bro. Nicholson was introduced by Bro. Adams, Worthy Master of the Pomona Grange of the county. A very attentive audience was present. We were followed by Bro. David T. Haines. All the exercises were made more effective and pleasant by the excellent singing. The exercises were followed by a picnic supper when the old folks mostly went home, while strains from the viol and lute told what those so inclined intended to do. We spent the night with Bro. Ellison Horner, who took us on the following morning to the town of WOODSTON, SALEM COUNTY,

where another picnic was to be held. This one was to be larger than that of the day before. This was the home of Bro. Dickerson, the Worthy Secretary of the New Jersey State Grange, and here we were pleased to meet again his pleasant family and others of last winter's acquaintance. Good singing and attentive listening were things to be remembered of this meeting. Bro. Perry, Worthy Master of the County Pomona Grange, presided. The stage was beautifully decorated with grain and fruit. After a night's rest at Bro. Dickerson's we started for our next objective point,

BRIDGETON, CUMBERLAND COUNTY,

with Bros. Nicholson and Haines for guides. The meeting was at Beaver Dam, a lake near the town. Bros. Tyler and Bonner met our party, and soon we were meeting old friends and forming new acquaintances.

Sister Bristol was present and spoke again to-day, and added to her reputation as a speaker and Worthy Patron. The meeting over, a boat ride brought us to the home of Bro. Chas. Hunt, where we inspected his sugar mill just ready to begin operations on 50 acres of amber cane. New Jersey pays a bonus of \$2 per ton on all cane grown and one cent per lb. on all the sugar made in the State. A large factory is being erected near Cape May for the manufacture of sugar.

The next day took us back to Camden and Bro. Nicholson's to spend Sunday. Attended his Grange in the evening. At this meeting it was voted to purchase coal together. Two hundred tons were needed, saving by co-operation in buying, \$120. The dealers here buy coal by the long ton, 2,240 pounds, and sell it at 75 cents advance of cost and sell 2,000 pounds for a ton.

We had a very pleasant call with our host the Honorable Silas Betts of Camden, once a resident of Michigan. Our readers will recall him as a prominent educator of Michigan, a principal of the Niles public schools. We found Mr. Betts at home on Michigan school matters. He is now engaged in cattle breeding and dairying. He has a fine herd of Guernseys, the first large herd we ever saw. Fifteen cows and a like number of males and young cattle constitute his herd. He also has a herd of well bred Jerseys, but give us the former for farm and general purposes.

On Monday, August 22, we had the pleasure of meeting the County School Superintendent, and learned much of the school system of the State.

HOMEDALE, MONMOUTH COUNTY.

This is in what is called "Pleasant Valley," and well named too. We called it the most pleasant part of New Jersey. At Freeholder we were met by Bro. Statesir, who took us home to dinner. The meeting was at a church in the village of Homedale. A pleasant ride we had to reach it. Tea was taken with Bro. M. Taylor, who has an excellent farm and is engaged largely in raising potatoes. Was harvesting his crop and shipping to New York when we were there. The apple crop here was excellent. One man had sold the product of a twelve acre lot for \$3,500, and the purchaser packed them.

That night we took the "owl train" for Philadelphia, being all night going two hours' distance. With little or no sleep we were illy prepared for work the next day of riding to and speaking at

CAMDEN, DELAWARE.

Our next appointment took us into the little "Diamond State" at Camden, near Dover. On the train we were joined by Bro. and Sister Dilworth of Port Penn en route to the meeting. Sister D. is the Worthy Lecturer of the Delaware State Grange. At the picnic we met Brother and Sister Rosa, the Worthy Master of the State Grange and his wife, and a host of other warm Patrons. The meeting was very successful and full of interest. We were obliged to hurry away and back to Philadelphia to be enabled to go on the morrow to

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, to attend their Pomona Grange. This was a treat indeed. Here we met Brother and Sister Rix and daughter again, and enjoyed the long anticipated pleasure of meeting Bro. Samuel R. Downing, late Lecturer of Pennsylvania State Grange. He is as strong in the faith as ever, and only an enfeebled body keeps him from the field. We also met Bro. Holstein, the Worthy Chaplain of the Pennsylvania State Grange, and his wife, the very Worthy Lecturer of this Pomona Grange. At this meeting was a very fine exhibit of fruits, grains, and vegetables by the members, and Sister Rix ruled queen among the flowers which she brought and put to good purposes in decoration. The exercises were of the best character. The evening meeting was a regular one of Cold Point Grange, with which we were highly pleased. Literary exercises were the order for the evening. A load of brothers and sisters were present from Goshen, in Chester County, 18 miles distant, and we returned with them after the evening session. Between the distance, late hour of starting, slow roads, and a horse that pulled best when led behind, having three to draw, we reached Bro. Roberts at 5 o'clock A. M., just in time for breakfast, near

GOSHEN, WEST CHESTER COUNTY.

A day spent in rest and sleep we were ready for the evening at the hall of Goshen Grange, No. 121. We had excellent music, and Bro. S. R. Downing presided at the public meeting. The hall was well furnished with furniture made by members of the Grange from wood grown on their farms. Some of it was elegant indeed.

Our next appointment was in the west part of the county near the Octararow Creek. The meeting was small but very good indeed, and at its close we rode back to Philadelphia and to Bro. Nicholson's to spend another Sunday and Monday getting ready to go homeward and to attend the great tri-State picnic at William's grove.

Civil Service Reform.

NEW YORK, September 16, 1881.

Dear Sir:—The recent murderous attack upon the President, the result of which is still in doubt, but success in which under the present system might mean a redistribution of offices, has drawn attention everywhere to some effectual remedy for the abuses and dangers of patronage in the Civil Service. Such a remedy, however, will be delayed until there is a general agreement upon measures.

To this end, it is respectfully suggested that at any public meeting in your neighborhood to express the strong feeling which has been excited by the assault, or on other appropriate occasion, a resolution be introduced, asserting the paramount importance of the question of reform, and pointing out that as the evils spring chiefly from personal influence upon minor appointments, the only effective remedy lies in annulling that influence, by providing that appointments shall be made for proved merit instead of personal favor, and that connection with the service in such offices shall be terminated only for legitimate cause, such as dishonesty, negligence, or inefficiency, but not for political reasons.

If this suggestion should meet your approval, it is hoped that for the common welfare you will interest yourself in the passage of such a resolution.

Yours, respectfully,

- PETER COOPER, WM. HENRY HUBLEERT, THEODORE B. WOOLSEY, C. SCRIBER, A. A. LOW, HOWARD POTTER, JULIUS H. SEELYE, HOWARD CROSEY, FRANCIS WAYLAND, F. B. THURBER, CHARLES W. ELIOT, R. B. HAYES, DORMAN B. EATON, JOHN HAY, CHARLES H. MARSHALL, CHARLES F. ADAMS, JR., B. H. BRISTOW, J. M. BROWN, HENRY HITCHCOCK, A. R. MACDONOUGH, FREDK. LAW OLMPSTED, ROBT. B. MINTURN, JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN, J. D. COX, HENRY W. BELLOW, DAVID M. STONE, DAVID A. WELLS, EVERETT P. WHEELER, J. N. MATTHEWS, THOS. P. RANDOLPH, JAMES FREEMAN CLARKE, ABRAHAM S. HEWITT, WHEELER H. PECKHAM, W. E. DODGE, JUR. GEO. WILLIAM CURTIS.

Look After the Seed Corn.

This is a year when every planter should select seed corn with care. Hardly anywhere is the crop at its best. Ears will be small and few of them well filled to the end. An early frost will prevent the hardening of later fields, and a great deal of soft corn will go into crib unless more than ordinary care is exercised. It is proper, under the circumstances to go to the fields at once and select the stalks of largest and most perfect ears, remove those likely to interfere with the development of the selected stalks, that the sun and air may do their full work. When fully ripened, husk or "trace" the corn in good old Yankee style and hang in some loft or garret safe from dampness and vermin. Be sure to select more than you think will be needed. Some one will want it at a price sufficient to warrant the extra work.

We are never so well satisfied with the world as when we are satisfied with ourselves.

Communications.

Thinkers and Toilers.

BY C. G. LUCE.

[Read before the Branch County Grange.]

At the last meeting of this Grange these words were assigned to me. No question is asked; nothing to indicate the thought of the sister or brother in presenting these words; nothing to call out particular views upon any subject to which these words may relate; just Thinkers and Toilers, and nothing more, leaving me to treat the subject in my own way.

The world is full of thinkers and toilers. It has always been full of them. In the ages of the past these two have been regarded as forming two distinct classes; that between the two a great gulf existed, wide and impassable as that which separated the rich man from Lazarus; that there was and of necessity must be a well-defined boundary line between the two; that upon one side of this line the vigilant and active forces of the great army of thinkers were rallied; that it was the born or achieved privilege of this class to think out the great problems of life; that it was theirs to think out and shape the policies of governments; to create and uphold the religious sentiment of the world; to make and restrict its educational laws and institutions. It has been the privilege of thinkers to hold exalted positions in the world because they were thinkers and not toilers. This distinct class has been the honored one in the religious, political, and social world in the ages and ages of the past. Holding these positions of trust and power in church and state, the thinkers have too often imposed grievous burdens on the unthinking toiler. Thought has given them power, and in common with the whole animal creation, they have been swift to use it for their own aggrandizement. Numerically the distinct thinker has always been in the minority. The great majority of mankind have been toilers. In the ages of the past they have toiled as the ox or horse toils: whether contented or discontented they have taken the places assigned them and toiled on and on.

While these two classes are and always have been somewhat dependent upon and indebted to each other, yet the student of history and of current events is forced to the conclusion that in the distribution of the good things of this world the thinkers have had more and the toilers less than fairness demanded. At the commencement the world was filled with the raw material. All the woods, all the soils, all the streams, all the mines, the rain and the sunshine were here furnished by the Creator.

But these things, in a crude condition, were unfit for use until shaped by the hand of the toiler. The changes that have been made were wrought out by him. He has felled the forests. He has removed obstructions, and turned the furrow; tilled the soil and compelled the earth to bring forth and minister to the necessities and wants of mankind. He has delved deep into the bowels of the earth and brought forth metals and minerals of great value to the race. He has constructed homes for high and low, rich and poor. The toiler has always been conferring blessings on the world; but he has been by various ways and means deprived of his full share of these blessings. In the world's history we learn that the man who robbed labor of its just reward and feasted in baronial halls was the honorable man; but he who guided the plow and wielded the sickle, or toiled at a mechanical art was degraded. The hand browned and hardened by toil was dishonored, because it was not supposed to be guided by thought, and the toiler has seemed too willing to acquiesce in the verdict of those claiming to be above him. He has been too willing to concede everything that the thinkers, and pretended thinkers claimed was true. Now, I would not detract one jot or tittle from the name, fame, or usefulness of the honest thinker, for I know and willingly concede that he has thought out many problems of immense value to the human race. While many of these have not received more than their due yet others have, and the toiler has received less than his due. But our interests are not so much with the past: its chief interest lies in the fact that it points out the road for the present and serves to guide our future.

And the point I desire to make in this paper is that the old notion, not yet fully eradicated, that there is an impassable gulf between thinkers and toilers, is a mistaken one. The genius of our American form of government has done much to emancipate the toiler from the bondage of that old notion, but there still remains much to do in this direction, much that the toilers themselves must do. These notions with their attendant evils are not yet eradicated. Very recently I read in the home circle department of a daily paper a communication from a lady in reference to the domestic help question. The article was written in excellent style, exhibiting culture and thought. Her notions on this subject were the old ones. She said, "The fact is that laboring people and the descendants of laboring people ought to be compelled in some way to do the toiling. That manual labor was inconsistent with high intellectual attainments

and noble thought." That was in an American paper, in the last fourth of the nineteenth century.

The toiler must overcome these ideas, he too must become a thinker, he must think as he toils, and toil as he thinks. He must think out the best method of utilizing his toil, or the result of it. He must compound brain and muscle. High and noble thoughts have emanated from the toiler. When we call the attention of those who are skeptical in regard to combining the thinker and toiler in one and the same person we are told, "O, he is an exception."

In this great movement in which we are engaged there is a grand opportunity to make toilers think. Thinkers are respected and honored the wide world over for their thought. The most thoughtless toiler does this. We cannot rob the honest thinker of his fame, honor, and renown if we would, and would not if we could. It is the right, nay more, the duty of all to think. In a country like ours where all are equal before the law, the great army of toilers should think wise thoughts, so that they can become a great power for good, and enjoy an equal share of the good things of earth with the other thinkers who toil not. We can do this if we will. We can use thought to make and save money, thus getting more time for study. So we can rebel the slander that high, refined, and noble thoughts find no place in the heads or hearts of the toilers of the land.

The greatest, the most benignant work that we can accomplish is to elevate and dignify labor. This can be done by making the toiler a thinker. We must not only think, but apply thought; we must think out problems to a conclusion, think for a purpose.

Toilers in all ages have been too much inclined to be moved by prejudice and passion or to fold their arms, lay back and grumble. Either of these courses is seldom marked by success. If things are wrong and the toiler is robbed of his just rights, he should think out and apply a remedy. If a newspaper cannot be procured to suit or represent his interests, combine with others and publish one in some manner that will. If prices of any commodity are too high, think and combine upon some process that will reduce them. If we farmers do not receive a fair compensation for the products of our farms, we must think out a way to cheapen production or increase the price. If transportation companies oppose us we must think and enforce control through the law-making power. We cannot well think out a way to compete with them, but in nearly all the vocations and relations of life the toiler can, if he will, think out a way and combine so as to relieve him from injustice and wrong. Will he do it? That is the question.

Correspondence.

The Secret Whispered.

Bro. Cobb:—I have eagerly scanned the VISITOR for some word from Rockford Grange, but for many weeks my search has been in vain, and I would almost believe they had ceased work if I did not know to the contrary. It has been my good fortune to attend several meetings of late, and to find them at work and working hard. Nearly every meeting is disturbed by some stranger knocking at the door, seeking admission to the Grange, and wishing to be enrolled as a laborer in the grand army of "Patrons of Husbandry." They now have a class of 13 ready for the third degree.

The question is often asked, How can the Grange be made interesting? If any brother or sister could visit Rockford Grange at the time the Master's gavel calls to order, and see how quickly and quietly all came to order, and the attention given to all business, they would say: One Grange has found the key which unlocks the mystery.

Now, Bro. Cobb, let me whisper in your ear the secret I have learned. It is this: When the members of a Grange can be made to understand that or them, and not on the officers, rests the blame if the Grange is not interesting, and that they should be well posted in the secret work of the Order, also in parliamentary usages, and then let each one endeavor to do all in his power to help the good work along, all will be astonished at the result—no more dull meetings, no more delinquent members, because none can afford to miss a meeting if it is possible to attend. That is the secret I would like everyone to learn who complains of uninteresting Granges.

Fraternally yours, Rockford, Sept. 19. PAT ROSE.

Keeping Hens for Eggs—Bug Preventative.

Bro. Cobb:—I wish some of the readers of the VISITOR who have had successful experience in keeping hens for their eggs in summer and winter, would give their views through its columns in regard to their food, management, houses, etc., and oblige. A solution of hen manure and water will not only make melon and other vines grow, but will prevent the striped bugs from destroying them. Put about a pint around the roots. Yours fraternally, C. M. WOOD.

Pinckney, Sep. 26, 1881.

Bee-Keepers' Convention.

The Western Michigan Bee-Keepers' Association will meet at Berlin, Ottawa county, Thursday, Oct. 27, 1881, in Huntley's hall, at 10:30 A. M., and at 2 P. M. All are cordially invited to participate.

WM. H. WALKER, Pres. Address, WM. M. S. DODGE, Sec'y, Coopersville, Ottawa Co., Mich.

HE who makes a baseless insinuation against a neighbor's integrity or honor, is guilty of an injustice which is atrocious and monstrous, in comparison with the petty depredation of the despicable thief who breaks into his granary and surreptitiously carries away his corn.

HE is always the severest censor on the merits of others who has the least worth of his own.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

The Kent County Pomona Grange will be held with Ellena Grange October 12, 1881. Yours respectfully, E. STILES, Lecturer.

The Ionia County Grange will hold their next meeting at the new hall of Banner Grange, No. 640, on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 18 and 19. Hon. C. G. LUCE, Master of the State Grange, will dedicate their hall on that occasion. JOHN HIGBEE, Sec'y.

The next regular meeting of Berrien Co. Pomona Grange, No. 1, will be held at Coloma, in Home Grange Hall, Oct. 11th and 12th, having been postponed from the 4th in consequence of the Benton Harbor Agricultural Fair. W. J. JONES, Sec'y. Oronoko, Sept. 26th, 1881.

The regular meeting of Wayne County Pomona Grange will be held at Flat Rock, October 7, commencing at 10:30 A. M. A program of much interest will be presented to the meeting, an important feature of which will be a discussion on the Agricultural College. Fourth degree members are cordially invited to take part in this discussion. A public meeting will be held in the evening, addressed by Charles E. Mickley of Adrian on matters of deep interest to farmers. All are invited to attend. N. T. BRADNER, Lecturer.

The next meeting of Branch County Pomona Grange will be held at Sherwood Grange hall on Oct. 18, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M., sharp, at which time a full attendance is desired. There are 12 members to be initiated in the fifth degree, beside much other work. The program, as prepared by the Worthy Lecturer, is as follows: Mixed Husbandry.—H. B. George. Select Reading.—Miss Maria Warner. Decoration of Farmers' Homes.—Mrs. E. A. Horton.

Is it the Duty of Congress to Regulate Inter-State Commerce?—Worthy Master C. G. Luce, of the State Grange. Also, the Worthy Lecturer will continue the history of his travels through Europe the past summer.

WALLACE E. WRIGHT, Sec'y. Coldwater, Sept. 20, 1881.

The annual meeting of Lapeer County Pomona Grange will be held in the hall of Pine Stub Grange, No. 448, on Tuesday, Oct. 4. All fourth-degree members are invited. Election of officers will take place. The following is the program: Opening of the Grange.

Music. Address of welcome. First question for discussion: Should fruit-growing receive more attention than it has in the past, in this county?—Nathan Stover. Essay.—Jacob W. Schell. Under-Draining.—H. Bradshaw. Which is most profitable, butter or cheese? Also, the best method of making butter.—Sister H. Bradshaw. Which is better, to sow grain broadcast or with drill?—S. F. Muir. Select readings.—W. A. Montgomery and others. R. W. RUDD, Sec'y. Marlette, Mich., Sept. 13, 1881.

The St. Joseph County Pomona Grange will meet at Centreville Grange hall Thursday, Nov. 3, 1881, at 10 o'clock A. M. All fourth degree members who contemplate taking the fifth degree are invited to be present, as the conferring of that degree will be a special order of the day. A full attendance is desired, as business of unusual importance will come before this meeting.

FLOW TRIAL. The Pomona Grange have arranged for a field trial of plows and other implements for tilling the soil, with a view to select from the number those we wish to use. The trial will take place on the farm of Bro. Wm. B. Langley, two and one-half miles north of Centreville, on Thursday, Oct. 13, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. Manufacturers, farmers and others interested are requested to be present. The ladies are invited particularly, and requested to bring their lunch baskets—well filled. Persons wishing further information in regard to the trial can refer to the committee of arrangements, William B. Langley, Centreville; David Handshaw, Mendon; Sam'l H. Angevine, Mendon. SAM'L H. ANGEVINE, Sec. pro. tem. Mendon, Mich., Sept. 23, 1881.

Alabastine

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Fifty cents' worth of ALABASTINE will cover 50 square yards of average wall with two coats: and one coat will produce better work than can be done with one coat of any other preparation on the same surface. For sale by paint dealers everywhere. Send for circular containing the twelve beautiful tints. Manufactured only by ALABASTINE CO. M. B. CHURCH, Manager. Grand Rapids, Mich. July-1st.

Ladies' Department.

For the Visitors.

MY OLD HOME.

BY A. E. D.

That is the place that I love the best—
The little log house, like a ground-bird's nest,
Nestled away among the hills and trees—
Summer retreat for the birds and bees.

The tenderest light that ever was seen
Sifts through the vine-made window screen,
Sifts and quivers, and fits and falls.
On home-made carpet and grey-hung walls.

All through June the west wind free
The breath of the clover brought to me;
All through the languid July day
I caught the scent of the new-mown hay.

The morning-glories and Michigan rose
Over the door-way find repose;
And every day, when the house was still,
The humming birds came to the window-sill.

In the cunningest chamber under the sun,
I sank to sleep when the day was done,
Wakened at morn, in my snow-white bed,
By a singing bird on the roof overhead.

Better than paintings brought from Rome
Were the living pictures I saw at home—
My uncles and cousins all so fair,
And grandma's face, like a painting rare.

Far from the city's dust and heat,
I found but rest and odors sweet.
Who can wonder that I loved to stay
Week after week there, hidden away
In that shy little nook that I love the best—
The little log house like a ground-bird's nest?

Home.

BY MRS. C. E. WHITCOMB.

It is my good fortune on the present occasion to have a theme to present in which it may be presumed that we are all deeply interested, and to which the speakers, without any claim to the magic power of genius, may hope to hold your attention. For what is there in all this wide world of greater interest to us than our homes? How important is home! Only man has a home: the tired lark sinks in the evening shades down to her quiet nest, and offers her grateful anthems for the boon of a house; but man, wearied with the strifes of the mart and of the field, seeks shelter in his home, the sacred retreat of the heart. Foxes have holes, birds have nests, lions have dens, tigers have lairs, dogs have kennels, but men have homes. The supreme exhibit of divine love is seen in Jesus, when he forsakes his home and wanders a stranger, not having where to lay his head; while the extreme display of man's sinfulness is found with those human beings who are "without natural affections." The air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, the rooms in which we sit, the grass and flowers among which we walk,—these and a thousand other more or less subtle influences are promoting to a beautiful and healthful symmetry, or dwarfing and disabling the body in which the soul lives and through which it acts. In view of the intimate relations between the physical and spiritual, how important becomes every item of home convenience and comfort! Physical comforts and conveniences do not, however, constitute a home. Amid these the inmates may live, and in the ripeness of their years, die—without having had any experience of a home in its truest and best sense. These must be transmuted into life and love to constitute what is worthy to be called a home.

We are doubtless interested in the various associations with which we are connected, and desire their prosperity. The man who feels no responsibility with reference to his social relations, who would not give of his time, and money, and personal influence to help forward the religious, educational, and other organizations by which he may be helped, and in turn rendered more helpful in the development of all that pertains to a true manhood and womanhood, is a very poor specimen of a citizen. certainly not such as we are likely to find at a County Grange. Yet those social organizations do not lie so near our hearts as do our homes. We love them none the less because we love our homes more.

Some one has suggested that the three words which call up the most tender and endearing associations are the words mother, home, heaven. Did it ever occur to you how intimately these words are associated together? For "what is home without a mother" as its soul and center, making it the one spot on earth where youth can unburden all its sorrow, and to which memory recurs in after years with a thrill of joy, and will recur as long as memory endures? Then the words "home" and "heaven" are hardly less intimately associated, for when He that spake as never man spake, drew that matchless picture of heaven which takes hold of us as no other ever did or can, it was in these words, "In my Father's house!" How suggestive of what our homes should be, and of what heaven is! The former is to be the school of all excellence, a place where dissatisfied looks and angry words should never come, where no kind office is left unperformed, a place where the sky is always clear and the sun ever bright; the latter a place where all the best things of earth shall be fully realized.

An important consideration in connection with the household is the house—the material structure or building in which the family live. There are many comfortable, convenient, and even elegant houses in our State, especially in the older and more improved portions of it. Yet the number of such houses is small, compared with those that are inelegant, inconvenient, and uncomfortable. This is not always from the lack of means necessary to provide what is better, but not unfrequently from the fact that the tight-fisted occupant is unwilling to make any investment that does not yield an annual return of ten per cent. It is a fact that I presume will not be disputed by any, that country homes are generally less convenient and comfortable, and do not exhibit so much refinement of taste as the houses that are occupied by a similar class of people in our towns and villages. I think it will be at once apparent that this disparity ought not to exist, and in fact cannot exist without entailing the most disastrous consequences. The country home should, of all others, be the most attractive. The isolation of country life as compared with life in the city makes the attractions of home a more absolute necessity, doubly enhances their blessings, and causes the want of them, where they are lacking, to be more keenly felt. In the city many of the long evenings are spent at the concert, the lecture, and the opera, but in the country they are mainly spent at home. The business man of the city may talk over the haps and mishaps of the day to his evening associates at the club, but if the new horse has shown a disposition to balk or attempted to run away, if the cow has kicked over the milk-pail, the farmer tells it to his wife as they sit by the cosy evening fire.

One of the evils much complained of in our time, and one for which a remedy must be found, or the days of our National prosperity will soon be numbered—is that so many of our youth, born and brought up in the country, rapidly develop a distaste for rural life and agricultural pursuits, and without casting even a lingering look behind them, leave the old home and the parental acres, to seek a new home, new associations, and new occupations in the city. There is a constant and disastrous drain from the farming population of its brightest intelligence, its most stirring enterprise, its noblest and most aspiring natures—of all those elements which are necessary to elevate the standard of agricultural labor, and make it what it should be.

There may be a number of causes for this drain from agricultural pursuits, but prominent among them we believe to be the harsh contrast between actual farm life and life in the city, a contrast which would entirely disappear, or turn in favor of rural life, if farmers' homes were all they should be. I know of farmers whose farms are paid for, and have been for years, whose income from their farms has enabled them to buy adjoining land, improved stock, and implements of husbandry, and to put money out at interest, and yet they live in houses almost destitute of comfort or convenience, with no visible touch of refinement within or around them, no ornamentation surrounding the building, except, perhaps, a variety of farm implements strewn around, bleaching and cracking under the influence of the weather, and a dilapidated hog pen in disgusting proximity to the house. Stepping inside you find it equally unattractive, no carpet on the floor nor pictures on the walls, no books nor ornaments, nor anything to indicate that any other than the lowest type of physical life has its wants supplied here. It is no wonder that the children brought up in such a home should learn to despise it and should choose any other calling than the one with which they have learned to connect all these ungainly and unattractive associations. Some one has defined an agricultural college as a place where farmers' boys are weaned from the farming. We have known not a few farmers' boys to go forth from the Agricultural College with a more intelligent appreciation of, and a more ardent love for agricultural pursuits than they would have been likely to attain under any other circumstances, and we have known young men who were most effectually weaned from all desire ever to become farmers by the harsh and unattractive aspect of farm life presented by their early homes. But wherever you find a farmer's home the embodiment of solid comfort and liberal taste, the scene of an exalted family life, which shall be the master, and not the slave of labor, and of a bright and happy social atmosphere, you will find daughters who will not be afraid to marry a farmer, and whom no farmer need be afraid to marry, and you will find boys who will not be in haste to seek in other callings a more congenial style of life, but who will stick to the occupations of the farm, which have blessed their youth with health and plenty, with intellectual development and a virtuous growth.

The farmer's home should be located near the principal thoroughfare, allowing enough room in front for a pleasant lawn, which a refined taste can render beautiful and attractive with but a small outlay of money. I shall not enter into the details of the drawings of the plans and the arrangements of rooms—people's ideas and tastes are so varied that almost any plan will have some one who will admire it and some who will

not. If you are going to build, consult your wife, if you have one, and if you haven't, get one. Somebody has said that God made a man and then He made a woman to tell him what to do. I think this is eminently true about the planning and arranging of a house. How frequently we hear men discourse eloquently on the duty of wives to make home pleasant for their husbands, poor afflicted mortals! (the husbands I mean.) I do not think there is any less necessity for reminding husbands of their duty in regard to building houses with a view to the comfort and convenience of their wives. The husband probably spends but a few of his waking hours in the house, but there the wife and mother spends her life. Her work is there, and while money is freely spent for whatever will facilitate and lighten labor outside, how often it is withheld or grudgingly spent for working conveniences in the house. Not only is the house the woman's workshop, and as such she has a right to plan and arrange it, but it is also the scene of her pleasure and seat of her power; there she radiates those influences which are fixing the habits and moulding the characters of those who are soon to mould the destinies of the world. Everything in the home and its surroundings that can contribute to its brightness and its joy will tell through the mother beneficially upon the children from the earliest beginning of life onward.

A house with the necessary conveniences and also attractive in appearance, both as regards its construction and furnishing, need not be very costly. Most of us are not wealthy, and the practical question with us is how to make home cheerful and beautiful with the means we can legitimately devote to that object. In order that every room in the house may be charming and home-like expensive furniture is not essential. A carpet on the floor, a few pictures on the walls, and such ornaments as daughters of taste and refinement can readily make, a window full of plants, with the light of heaven gliding their fresh green leaves and gay blossoms, a hanging basket, and an aquarium—these things cost but little and yield a larger return in the influence which they silently but constantly exert.

Every home should have a liberal supply of good books. There are many things that we can better afford to be destitute of. Books are not furniture, yet they constitute the best kind of furnishing that a house can possibly have. A family that is content to walk on cheap carpets, and use the plainest of furniture, that they may have the fellowship of good books, at once rises in our estimation on our discovery of the fact. Children learn to read in the presence of books, and as they read the love of knowledge grows. The farmer needs a library not only as a home attraction, but also that he may successfully prosecute his calling. His is a profession that requires study as truly as any other.

Fill any land with good homes, and it must be a good place in which to live. It is one peculiarity of the Anglo Saxon peoples that they abound in homes. The walls about the hearth shut out all the world, and shut in a kingdom. This is the fort; keep it clean and free, and religion will thrive and liberty will dwell in the land forever.

The Social Position of the Farmer's Family— What it is, and What it Should be.

[The following essay by Mrs. Shattuck, of Pontiac Grange, was read at a joint meeting of the Detroit and Bay City District Council, and Oakland Pomona Grange, held at Orion, September 6, 1881, and by the unanimous vote of the meeting is forwarded to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.]

The subject of this article is one of great depth of meaning, and would compass vast breadth of thought, and cannot be condensed into one short essay and do it justice. It is worthy of being elaborately treated; and this topic ought to have been assigned to a person of many talents, not to one with only the one talent. However, not wishing to shirk responsibility or work of any kind assigned me, I offer a few crude thoughts for your consideration, knowing that charity is one of the precepts of our Order. The family is the oldest and most valuable institutions on earth. In the early part of the creation of the world God said, "It is not good for man to be alone," and he gave him a companion and helpmeet, and assigned them the noble occupation of tillers of the soil, and their home was located in a beautiful garden, where everything was pleasant to view, good to eat and where were all manner of fruits.

Again we read that "God set the solitary in families." Thus we see that it is not only a time honored institution, but that it originated in the Divine mind. Every one may notice, if he will, that the strongest ties exist, that motives for honesty, sobriety, and diligence in business arise from the family circle, and home is the one charmed spot on earth.

To-day we are met together as whole or parts of farmers' families, and this subject was given by our Worthy Lecturer that we get some light in regard to our position which we occupy in the world at large. In the early years of the settlement of our broad domain, farmers' families occupied isolated positions. It was only at long intervals that there could be found cultivated land and the rude dwelling, and some-

times neighborhoods comprised the whole township. These families were struggling with poverty, privations, and self sacrifice, and were obliged to practice the strictest economy. It is true they were very hospitable towards each other, but they were too intent on getting a home and the comforts of life around them to spend much time in sociability, and mental and intellectual advancement, hence the epithets—mudsills, ignoramuses, "O, he is nothing but a farmer," came to be applied to them. Stopping to call at a dressmaker's shop not long since, the proprietress said, "I can tell a country woman as far as I can see her," and yet this same woman worked harder and more hours than many a farmer's wife.

Years ago books were not plenty in farmers' homes, neither was there much of a variety. Oftentimes the family Bible, Pilgrim's Progress, and Fox's Book of Martyrs comprised the list, not because there were no intelligent, cultivated minds, but because books were of a high price, money scarce, and they thought there was not much time to read them. In those days if a farmer's son or daughter manifested a desire for a classical education, or wished to attend a better school than the one in their own district, they were looked upon as prodigies, or of more than ordinary material of mind; they were the exception, and not the rule.

But all is changed. This, an age of improvement and grand possibilities has reached the rural districts. Thanks to the Grange movement, agriculture is assuming its true position, and farmers and their families are learning to "add dignity to their labor," and begin to know and feel that they are the bone and sinew which form our commonwealth, that they are the bread winners of the land, and without them all other occupations would be of little consequence, and if the farming portion of the community were taken away those who are getting a living by their wits, or sharp practice, would have a sorry time. The farmers and their families are fast finding out that their way of accumulation leads to honor, health, and wealth, and though a competency is not gained with the rapidity that characterizes other branches of business, yet in the main it is a safer investment.

The man who has a farm free from debt, under a good state of cultivation, with a kind, loving, cheerful wife, and healthy, dutiful children to make music and add happiness to his home, is one of God's noblemen, and such a family is among the happiest of our land. With proper care and effort country life can be made as enjoyable as city life, and no more drudgery attached. A farmer has the privilege of spending more time in his home than a mechanic, tradesman, or professional man has. When evening comes and the day's work is over, he can gather his family about him, and rest and read.

What a beautiful change has come over the rural districts within the last few years. In traveling through the country, either by private conveyance or on the great thoroughfare, we see the beautiful, well cultivated farms, large fruit orchards, commodious barns, elegant houses with shrubbery and flowers adorning the front yards and piazzas. The beautiful is not now confined to cities. Homes with modern improvements and conveniences meet us everywhere. If we should go into those homes we would find them nicely and many times elegantly furnished. Books, papers, and magazines in great profusion and variety, musical instruments from which sweet tones emanate, render those homes cheerful. Sons and daughters with moral and intellectual powers cultivated, husband and wife cultured, refined, and informed on the leading topics of the day, and of the highest type of hospitality and sociability, and a company of Patrons meeting together seem like brothers and sisters of one family, and though strangers at first sight soon become like old time friends.

It is past our comprehension how much the Grange has done for the farmer's family. It has opened up an avenue to wealth, honor, and self respect, and a demand for respect from others, a demand for rights and privileges which have not been ours to enjoy in the past, both because we did not claim our right to them, and thus they were appropriated by others. Farmers have a power in the community in which they live, and they are wielding it for the good of humanity. This power is being felt to-day, and will be more forcibly realized in the years to come. There is true moral worth in very many of the homes in the rural districts, and it is destined to shine forth. Our sons and daughters are given grand opportunities to become useful men and women in society. These are glorious days in which to live—days of improvement, progression, intellectual advancement and true sociability. Let us improve them.

Beautiful Hands.

BY MRS. P. MAYO.

Some one—I forget who—has written a poem, entitled "Beautiful Hands," and described in a very touching manner his mother's hands. To him—though seamed and wrinkled, rough and hard—they were beautiful—beautiful because they were his mother's. There is many another pair of beautiful hands that are quietly and loving-

ly doing the tasks that come to them every day and every hour, smoothing rough places, lifting another's burden, caring for others, fulfilling grandly life's mission.

It was my fortune to be associated some time ago with an aged lady for whom that beautiful gate that swings only inward was but a short way off, and as I was often sat and listened to her tales of other days, heard her relate her pioneer experience, saw her bowed and tottering form, her rough, seamed and hardened hands,—I could but think how much she had done in her place in life, how fully she had performed her mission, how all her life her thoughts and words had been for others; and that poem would come to my mind, and I would say to myself, "Beautiful hands!" Her hands, as to size, were large, large almost to awkwardness,—perhaps they were comely once, perhaps the fingers were tapering and the nails were rosy, but now they were twisted and out of shape, till they hardly looked like human hands.

For forty years she had led the pioneer life. Four times had she moved to the front, "and now," she said with a smile, "were I ten years younger, I'd go West." Michigan at last was reached, and as that was the frontier then, here she settled. At the age of about forty, she was left a widow; and, my friends, a widow, fifty years ago, in Michigan, with six children and only herself in the gap between them and poverty, meant something. It meant a trial of every resource, a trial of every particle of woman's strength, fortitude, ingenuity and courage. Bravely she stood in the gap; single-handed and alone she fought the battle, and was victorious. The wolf was kept from the door, her children were warmed, fed and clothed, and received some education; and to-day they rise up and call her blessed. Among some of her old souvenirs that she was showing me, she came across a tiny linen cap that she said she made herself, and as she drew it over her hand and I looked at the yellow, gauzy thing, "This," said she, "was my son's baby cap." I looked from it to the stern, gray-bearded, spectacled man reading his evening paper, and it was hard to believe that he ever was the dimpled, laughing baby that cowered beneath this tiny cap. She picked up a piece of seal-brown ribbon, and drew it through her crooked fingers. "This," said she, "was a piece of ribbon from my wedding' bonnet, and a dreadful pretty bonnet it was, too. This was a piece of my wedding' short-gown. I spun, wove, cut and made it myself—didn't take as much then to make a dress as it does now," and she looked down at my dress with a smile. "This," she said, and she held up a little shoe, "was my baby's—my baby that we buried in York State. A tear rolled down her wrinkled cheek and fell upon her hand, and after lovingly turning over the little, half-worn thing, she laid it aside without further words. Among her relics were a skein or two of tangled yarn, some linen thumbs, I think she called them, and an old vest of butternut brown. These were all, yet to her they were so much! "Now," said she, "I'm nearly done. Father has gone, and three of the children, and I've done what I could and am ready. I've lived to see Michigan's wilderness blossom as the rose; I've lived to see the railroad supplant her Indian trails; I've lived to see cities, towns and villages dot her landscapes; manufactories, mills and printing presses—I've seen them all come, and I'm nearly done." Her whole life had been a labor of love for others. She had ministered to the dying, nursed the sick, comforted the widow and the orphan, fed the poor, clothed the naked, and kept herself unspotted before the world. Two years ago we crossed those beautiful hands upon her breast, and now, in that great hereafter, the tangled threads of her noble life will be all unraveled, and some of the great *whys* of life will be solved.

Our hands are the dial-plates of our hearts. Sisters, may our hands grow just as lovely, with every year of our lives, as did hers—lovely because they do deeds of love for others; beautiful, because we daily exemplify that it is better to give than to receive.

Our Motto: Faith, Hope, Charity, and Fidelity.

BY M. A. J.

"Faith, Hope, Charity, and Fidelity."—Do we realize how much is contained in those words? God has written in His word, "Faith, hope and charity, but the greatest of these is charity." Now, do we have the charity we should? Is our brotherly love all that the words should signify? Do we not at times feel anything but love for some of those around us, and do we not say unkind things of them? Do we remember that they are our brothers, for whom we profess to have charity? Ought we not to be more careful, and when we cannot say good, say nothing? I leave it for the conscience of the reader to answer. It makes no difference whether they be our brothers and sisters in the Grange, or those who look upon us with scorn: will it not help them to learn to love the Order, and may we not, by kindness and by living as our motto teaches us, win many to our ranks that are looking and waiting for "some sign of good before they unite" with us? We have all heard this and similar expressions. Many of us have formed habits of saying things we ought not, and we find it hard to "break" ourselves of them. It would save so much

quarreling and wrangling in a neighborhood, and even the life of some Granges, if we ever kept in mind this plain duty.

"Hope"—Let us take down Webster, each one of us, and see what he says in regard to hope, and then let us analyze our hearts and see how much hope we have, not only for the success of our dear Order, but for ourselves in this world and the one to come.

"Faith" is the assent of the mind to the truth of what is declared. Do we understand what our faith is? Do we have the trust we should, and do we trust in our own success, or do we feel that we can do nothing in ourselves? Do we trust in God for the success of what we as a body, and also as individuals, have undertaken? Do we realize that if the Great Master above chose, He could cut us off from earthly things in an instant? Ought we not to do our best, with His help, to assist by our support and most earnest efforts the more earnest workers in our "vineyard"? For there are some that do the most of the work, and the rest of us let them, not realizing that we should work, as well as they.

"Fidelity"—meaning faithfulness, adherence to the right, exact observance of duty or discharge of duty, and especially adherence to the party to which one is attached; loyalty; a disposition of heart which inclines favorably to their brothers to do them good. Do we stop to think, when we see or hear that word true, Are we true to our trust—true not only to our obligation, as some of us understand it (to me it means all), but to everything pertaining to our Order; and to be true to that we must be true to ourselves, and set an example of truth and honor before the world—true to all creatures placed in our care. Only think, all combine to make one harmonious whole. Are we true to those placed in our care? Today I am a teacher in a school, and the thought comes to me, Am I true to district and school? There are many in all paths in life whose whole care is to get along as easily as possible, and do as little as they can and have it pass for as much as possible: let us look that it be not so with us, but that we are true Patrons.

Boys' Department.

FINDING FAULT.

In speaking of a person's faults, Pray don't forget your own; Remember, those with homes of glass Should seldom throw a stone. If we have nothing else to do Than talk of those that sin, 'Tis better we commence at home, And from that point begin. We have no right to judge a man Until he's fairly tried; Should we not like his company, We know the world is wide. Some may have faults: and who has not, The old as well as young? Perhaps we may, for all we know, Have fifty to their one. I'll tell you of a better plan, And find it works full well: To find your own defects to cure, Ere others' faults you tell. And though sometimes hope to be No worse than some I know, My own shortcomings bid me let The faults of others go. Now, let us all, when we begin To slander friend or foe, Think of the harm one word may do To those we little know. Remember: curses, chicken-like, Sometimes to roost come home; Don't speak of others' faults until You have none of your own.

NOT QUITE A TRAMP.

"No tramp wanted here, young chap: so you may jog along." The speaker was a fine-looking and apparently an easy-going gentleman of middle age who was standing leaning over the gate, looking out on the road. The gate opened on a gravel walk which led up to a two-story cottage house. In front of the house and at the sides, the ground was overladen with trees, shrubs, and flowering plants, which, to say the least of it, did not show careful attendance. Altogether it was a bright, cheerful and attractive place. So thought, no doubt, the stranger, whose halt near the gate had provoked Mr. Horton's utterance. He was not an ill-looking man, or boy, for he could not be twenty-one, but his clothes were ragged and dirty, his shoes worn and muddy, and his general appearance unkempt and disreputable. He had stopped in the road and had directed at the man, or at the house, or at the grounds, or at all three, a wistful look, which might intimate a wish to enter. It was this look which Mr. Horton had answered, when he addressed the young fellow, and advised him to jog along. "You are not?" Then your looks belie your nature. You can't deny that you have all the symptoms." "That is true, sir; I know that I am poor and ragged, but I don't consider myself a tramp. I am looking for work." "That's what they all say: they are looking for work. To say that is to advertise the fact that you are a tramp." "I suppose I must be a tramp, then, but I wish I wasn't." "You do? That's a good symptom, anyway. Are you sure you wouldn't run away from work, if you should find it, or lie down and go to sleep by the side of it?" "I am sure that I am willing to earn my living, and am anxious to get a chance to do it." "What sort of work can you do?" asked Mr. Horton. "Everything in general and nothing in particular?" "What was the agent's name?" "I know that I could put that yard of

yours in much better trim than it shows now."

"Humph! That don't offer an opening. The flowers are my wife's pets, and she is like a dog in a manger about them—won't touch them herself, or suffer anybody else to touch them."

"I can draw your portrait, sir," suggested the boy.

"You can? Are you a wandering artist in disguise?"

"You ask me what I can do, and I know that I can do that."

"Any of the tools of that trade?"

The boy produced from the pocket of his vest some crayons and the stump of a lead-pencil.

"All right," said Mr. Horton. "I will try you at the job. Come in."

He opened the gate and led the way to the house. On the veranda were some chairs, one of which he offered to the boy.

"Want any more tools?" he asked.

"Mr. Horton brought out the required article, clamped upon a drawing board; also some crayon holders and a sharp knife."

"I'm sort of an architect," he said, "and keep these things on hand. But hadn't you better eat some lunch before you begin this business? You have a hungry look."

"I'm not so hungry, sir, but that I am willing to earn a meal before I eat it. Will you have the kindness to sit down?"

"Side face or front?"

"Side face, if you please. I can do that the best."

Mr. Horton seated himself, presenting his profile to the ragged artist, who went to work without much ado. His strokes were quick, vigorous and artistic, and in a surprising short time a capital sketch of Mr. Horton's head and shoulders appeared on the paper. The gentleman looked at it and puckered his lips so as to produce a low drawn whistle.

"I am not ready to pronounce you an angel, young fellow," he said, "but I may truly say that I have entertained a pretty fair artist unawares—although the entertainment is yet to come. Here, Emily, Bella, come out here and witness a new sensation!"

Mrs. Horton hurried out on the piazza, with her young sister Bella, and her little girl Lulu. For an answer, Mr. Horton handed his wife the crayon sketch, which was hastily scanned with starts of surprise and ejaculations of delight.

"What a nice likeness!" exclaimed Mrs. Horton. "Where did it come from?"

"This young person did it just now," answered Mr. Horton.

"Goodness! Gracious me! I wonder if he would make one for Lulu."

"Of course he would, and of Bella and the whole tribe, if you want one. But he is tired and hungry, and you had better give him something to eat before you ask any more of him."

"I will gladly do that. I am sure that this kindness of yours is worth a dozen pictures."

"Give him some, anyway, and we will talk about the rest. It won't do to be too liberal at the start. Please to follow my wife, young fellow, and I have no doubt that you will feel better when she gets through with you."

When the young stranger was washed and combed, and had been fed, his personal appearance was improved, and he had gained in ease and grace of manner. He was anxious to make a picture of baby Lulu, and was permitted to do so, producing a likeness which sent the fond mother into ecstasies.

This production having been sufficiently admired, Mr. Horton dismissed the "female rattle," as he chose to call them, and coralled his artistic tramp for a conversation, asking him who he was and all about himself.

His name was Abel Kentridge, and he was the son of a miller at Queensport, Md., who had died suddenly, leaving an estate so encumbered as to be worth less than nothing.

Abel had gone to Philadelphia to seek his fortune, and had found nothing but disappointment. He knew something about milling and gardening, but could find no employment in the city, and went into the country to look for work, but his tramp-like appearance told against him, and he was on the verge of despair when he encountered Mr. Horton.

"There is no milling to do here," said that gentleman, "but I have no doubt that my wife, since you have made that sketch of Lulu, will allow you to straighten up those grounds. If you turn out as well as I think you will, I may find something else for you to do."

So it was settled that Abel Kentridge was to remain at Mr. Horton's. A room was prepared for him, and some of his employer's partly worn garments were fitted to him, and he was set to work on shrubs and flower and grass plats. His work was quite satisfactory, and he acquitted himself generally so as to gain the confidence and respect of all the house. Besides the work on the grounds, other odds and ends of employment were found for him about the place, but nothing was said to him about his compensation.

Thus he was kept busy for a week, at the end of which time Mr. Horton gave him a written order, and directed him to go to the village and select for himself suitable clothing to the amount named in the order.

"But I have not earned so much as this," he suggested.

"If you haven't you will earn it," replied Mr. Horton.

When Abel returned from the village he carried his head somewhat higher than when he set out, and appeared to be, what nature and education had made him—a young gentleman of attractive person and manners.

He was ushered into the room in which the family were seated, and Mr. Horton coralled him for what he called a business talk.

"What do you know about milling?" he asked.

"I never was regularly employed by my father," answered Abel, "but I picked up many points of the business while I was about his place. Shortly before he died, I invented, or believed I had invented, an improvement on the turbine water wheel, by which greater speed could be got, with the use of less water; and my father said it was a good thing. After his death I gave my model to a patent agent, for the purpose of applying for a patent. But the agent finally told me that he had been unable to procure a patent, because the examiners decided there was nothing new in the invention. That discouraged me more than any of the rest of my disappointments."

"What was the agent's name?"

"Silas Northwick."

"And your name is Abel Kentridge?"

"Yes, sir."

"That agent lied to you, Abel," said Mr. Horton. "He procured the patent, which is very valuable, and meant to swindle you out of it. He would probably have succeeded if you had not come to my house."

"How do you know this?" eagerly asked Abel.

"I am a sort of a speculator and occasionally dabble in such affairs. Northwick offered the patent for sale to me before I perceived that it was in the name of Abel Kentridge. He assured me he could procure all the assignments from the patentee, who desired to sell, and I told him if he could do so I would negotiate with him. He is to meet me to-morrow and bring the assignment, and of course you can't have signed your name in Philadelphia while you were at my house."

"I should think not," indignantly exclaimed Abel.

"Therefore, Northwick's assignment will be a forgery, and I shall bring him here and confront him with you."

Mr. Horton was as good as his word, met the rascally agent at the time and place appointed. Northwick did not have the assignment, although he professed the ability to produce it as soon as the negotiation should be concluded, and Mr. Horton had brought him to the house for the purpose of winding up the transaction. There he was confronted, greatly to his astonishment and dismay, by Abel Kentridge, and it was made evident to him that his swindling scheme was discovered.

The upshot of the interview was that Abel got possession of his precious patent, and Northwick was glad to get clear of criminal proceedings.

"Now, my boy," said Mr. Horton, "if you will take me as your partner in this business, I will furnish the needed capital and push it, and I have no doubt that both of us will grind out a grist of money with your turbine wheel."

Abel gladly accepted this arrangement, and the result soon became so satisfactory to both parties that Mr. Horton heartily congratulated himself upon the fact that his supposed tramp had not taken his advice to "jog along."

It should be added that his pretty sister-in-law, Bella Gratton, also found in the same fact cause for self-congratulation.

THE REAPER. DEATH.

FINCH.—Died Aug. 21, 1881, at the residence of Miles Finch, in the township of Blackmore, Jackson county, Mich., Mrs. NANCY M. FINCH, wife of Frank Finch, and a member of Champion Grange, No. 300.

WHEREAS, Death has again visited us and removed from our Grange below that great Grange above, our worthy sister; therefore

Resolved, That, while we humbly bow to the will of the Great Master above, we would offer our sympathy to the bereaved husband in this his hour of trial. Especially would we remember the stricken parents, and that circle of sisters, who cannot forget one so dear to them. Under the parental roof, at your accustomed home gatherings, there will be a vacant chair; but we know that all will be well with her, and may we so live that when our feet go through the cold waters of that turbid stream, our voices may be that angelic song, ere we reach the other shore.

Resolved, That, as a token of respect for our departed sister, these resolutions be spread upon the records of our Grange, and a copy be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

T. R. MOFFET,
E. E. MOFFET,
A. WOODSWORTH,
Committee.

GREGORY.—Died at his residence, East Muskegon, May 18, 1881, of typhus fever, W. B. GREGORY aged 70 years and six months.

WHEREAS, The angel of death has summoned from our midst our beloved brother, W. B. Gregory; therefore

Resolved, That, while we bow in humble submission to the divine will of our Heavenly Father, we mourn the loss sustained by the Grange with which he was so lately connected; and we tender our earnest sympathy to the family of our departed brother, and realize the inability of our poor words to heal the wound inflicted by the loss of a loving husband and father.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the wife of deceased, a copy be placed upon the records of the Grange, and also one be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

B. O. FELT,
B. O. BUCKINGHAM,
B. O. COLLIER,
Committee.

Strawberry Grange, No. 504,
Muskegon, Mich., Sept. 3, 1881.

FULLMER.—Died at her home in Big Rapids, Aug. 6, 1881, Mrs. PHILEAS FULLMER, a charter member of Forest Grange, No. 302. The Grange adopted the following resolutions of respect to her memory:

WHEREAS, The Reaper Death has again been in our midst, and an all-wise Father has seen fit to remove from her earthly home to her home above, our worthy and respected Sister Fullmer; therefore

Resolved, That in her death this Grange has lost an earnest, working member; and we would acknowledge with gratitude her perseverance and faithfulness in attending the meetings of our Order in the earlier years of our existence as such, until failing health compelled her to remain in the quiet of her own home. Let us strive to imitate the example which she left us, "doing with our might what our hands find to do."

Resolved, That in Sister Fullmer's death the church of which she had long been a consistent member, has lost an earnest advocate of the cause of truth. We therefore extend our heartfelt sympathies to her aged companion, to her children and friends, knowing so well that "what is our loss is her great gain."

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

Mrs. ELIA ROBISON,
Mrs. E. J. MARTIN,
Mrs. C. W. CLIFTON,
Committee.

WRIGHT.—Died of consumption, Aug. 5, 1881, brother RUEL WRIGHT, aged 27 years, a charter member of Windsor Grange, No. 619. The following resolutions of respect and condolence were adopted by this Grange:

WHEREAS, An all-wise Father has seen fit to call our brother, Ruel Wright, who was a faithful member of our Order, from his earthly home to his home above; therefore

Resolved, That as a Grange we extend to this bereaved family that earnest, heartfelt sympathy that springs from a true brotherly and sisterly love; and above all we would commend them to Him whose tender mercies are over all his works.

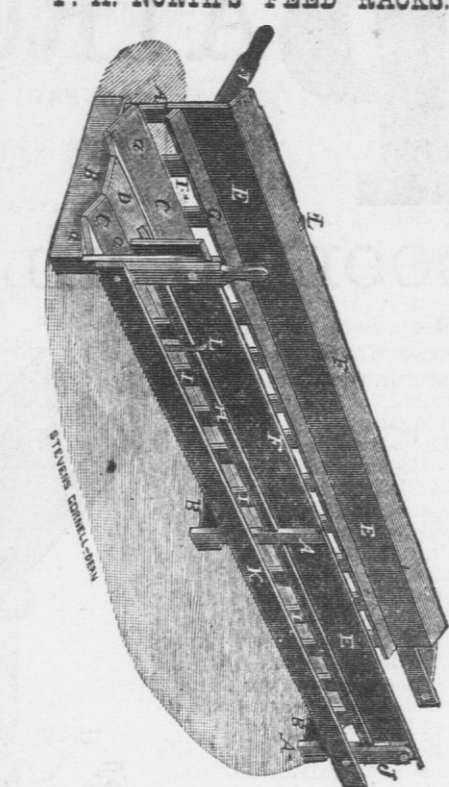
Resolved, That, as an expression of our respect for our departed brother, we drape our charter in mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on our Grange record, and also that a copy be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

H. M. TOULSEY,
Mrs. H. M. TOULSEY,
A. P. VANAUKEN,
Committee.

Dimondale, Eaton Co., Sept. 17, '81.

F. A. NORTH'S FEED RACKS.



My invention, patented May 10, 1881, relates to a rack of peculiar construction designed for the purpose of feeding sheep and other animals, the structure being designed with special reference to an equal distribution of the feed, to the protection of the attendant from the animals, and to the points of cheapness, durability, and facility of operation. It will be noticed that the rack constructed affords feed openings on both sides, that the two independent troughs prevent the animals on one side from obtaining the food from those on the other, and that by means of the central interior board the attendant can pass freely back and forth through the interior without stepping in the trough or having any interference with the animals outside, also the strips or slats serve as a means of separating the animals so that each may obtain proper proportion of the food. On each side of the Rack I suspend by swinging links a board in such a manner that the board may be raised or lowered across the outside of the feed openings to prevent the animals from having access thereto, or elevated above the openings so as to leave them exposed. And standing at one end you can elevate this board by one move of as many racks in a line, and divide your flocks as you wish and do away with the old practice of shifting from one yard to another. There are guards to throw the feed inward to prevent the hayseed and other impurities from entering the fleece of the animals. It is used with equal advantage for mush feeds, grains of all kinds, and for hay. If there is hay in the rack it does not prevent your feeding grain in them. You can use the lumber in your old racks. They can be made of any length of lumber. For further information, address: F. A. NORTH, Inventor, Ionia, Ionia Co., Mich. P. O. Box 555. 1j1u6m

HEADQUARTERS FOR LAND PLASTER. 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 your Orders direct. jan-ly DAY & TAYLOR

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German Horse and Cow Powders. 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-pounds pack. It is made by Dr. L. Oberholzer'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., 80 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 1/2-lb. packages, TEN CENTS per lb.

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A. VANDENBERG,

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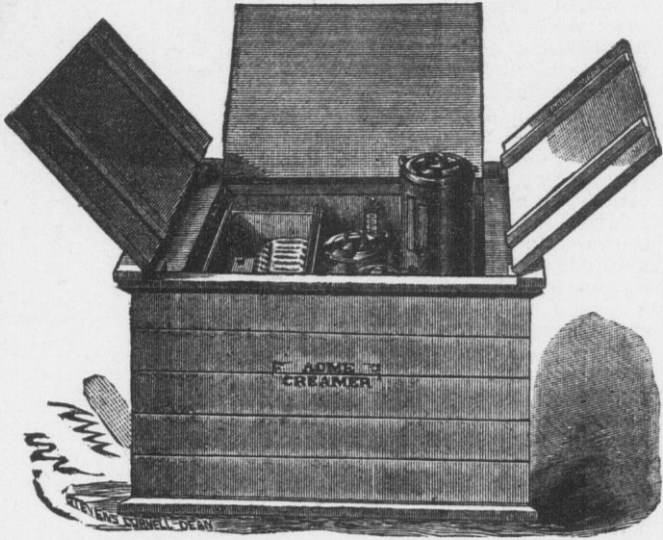
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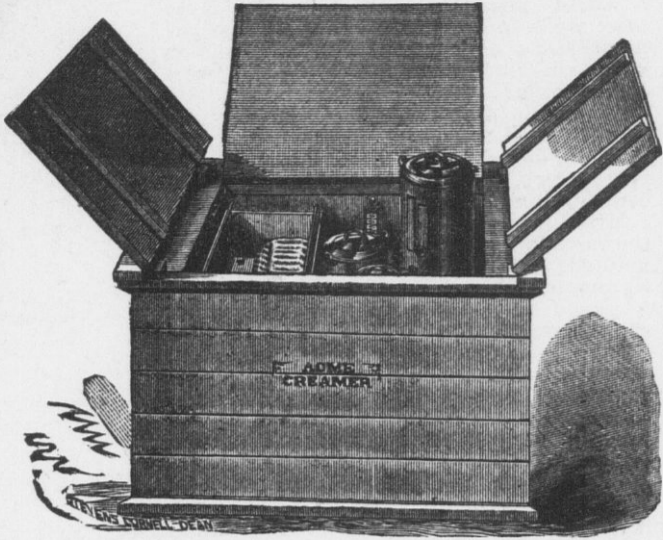
The milk cans are twenty inches high, holding eighteen quarts. They have a ventilator in the cover that allows all the gases to pass off while the milk is cooling, making a better quality of butter than can be produced with cans that are sealed tight before the gases or animal heat is allowed to pass off.

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