

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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TIED MOTHERS.

A little elbow leans upon your knee—
Your tired knee, that has so much to bear—
A child's dear eyes are looking lovingly
From underneath a thatch of tangled hair.
Perhaps you do not heed the velvet touch
Of warm, moist fingers holding yours so tight;
You do not prize the blessings o'ermuch—
You almost are too tired to pray to-night.

But it is blessedness! A year ago
I did not see it as I do to-day—
We are all so dull and thankless, and too slow
To catch the sunshine till it slips away.
And now it seems surprising strange to me
That while I wore the badge of motherhood
I did not kiss more oft and tenderly
The little child that brought me only good.

And if some night, when you sit down to rest,
You miss the elbow on your tired knee,
The restless curly head from off your breast,
The listless tongue that chatters constantly—
If from your own the dimpled hands had slipped
And ne'er would nestle in your palm again;
If the white feet into the grave had tripped,
I could not blame you for heart-ache then.

I wonder that some mothers ever fret
At their children clinging to their gown,
Or that the foot-prints, when the days are wet,
Are ever black enough to make them frown,
If I could find a little muddy boot,
Or cap, or jacket, on my chamber floor—
If I could kiss a rosy, restless foot
And hear it patter in my house once more—
If I could mend a broken cart to-day,
To-morrow make a kite to reach the sky,—
There is no woman in God's world could say
She was more blissfully content than I!

But ah! the dainty pillow next my own
Is never rumpled by a shining head;
My singing birdling from its nest has flown—
The little boy I used to kiss—is dead.

THE SUNRISE NEVER FAILED US YET.

Upon the sadness of the sea
The sunset broods—grieffully;
From the far, lonely spaces, slow
Withdraws the wistful afterglow.

So out of life the splendor dies;
So darken all the happy skies;
So gathers twilight, cold and stern,
But overhead the planets burn,

And up the East another day
Shall chase the bitter dark away.
What though our eyes with tears be wet?
The sunrise never failed us yet.

The blush of dawn may yet restore
Our light, and hope, and joy once more.
Sad soul, take comfort, nor forget
That sunrise never failed us yet!

The Progressive Farmer.

We hear much of this ubiquitous individual and it seems desirable that we should know how generally he is mingled with the one hundred and sixty odd thousand farmers of the State, and when to recognize him. There are degrees and grades in all classes of men as well as in productions and animals. It is usually assumed that the progressive farmer is among the best of his class, but the line of demarcation has never been clearly defined. It is a rare thing to find a colony of them either large or small, all of whom could be termed progressive farmers, but occasions will call out a great proportion of them within the radius of the circle affected by its influence, and such a gathering is called a "Farmers' Institute," or "Farmers' Clubs," State and County Fairs, etc. They do not attend horse races, big circuses, or any other kind of jamboree where there is nothing to be learned or gained by an attendance. The confidence men with lightning rods, wagon tongue supporters, bargains in bankrupt cloth, or any other swindling device drives straight by the progressive farmer. He is not beset on election day by half a dozen wire-pulling demagogues to secure his vote, nor enticed by a pat on the back to use his influence for questionable men or measures. He does not cling to the old style of his ancestors nor follow traditional farming when a positive demonstration has proved them incorrect and a better way has been pointed out. He tries new plans and processes, makes experiments, and follows the suggestions of science, and makes a practical application of the results of scientific knowledge. He buys the best in the market either of seeds, tools, or of fruits. The itinerant tree peddler selling "blight proof pears on a French root," "bush strawberries," "upland cranberries," "Tree roses," "creeping poplars," or any other unheard of monstrosity finds a poor customer in the progressive farmer.

The farmer who is imbued with the idea that his public influence or usefulness is circumscribed by his avocation, that society

as illustrated by professional men and town people, has no niche for him to stand in, who is satisfied within the narrow circle of his immediate neighborhood, will never become a progressive farmer or rise above the petty prejudices of the past. Society, politics, education, public improvements each demands a share of his attention and exacts a portion of his time, which should be given not grudgingly, but freely for their maintenance and guardianship.

The ranks of progressive farmers will not be very largely increased by those who have been plodding along in the ruts of custom of in the time honored tracks of their ancestors. These will follow the landmarks of other days and be satisfied with the progress they make by floating with the current which is impelled by push of the age. To the young men who are taking the plow-handles from the hands of their fathers we must look for such an increase of numbers as shall work out the many problems left unsolved. Students of the Agricultural College scattered all over the State take the front in all agricultural enterprises and are progressive farmers in the true sense.

There is a class of farmers who do not care to be classed among the fossils, but who wait for others to experiment and to carry forward all advance improvements. They look over the fence into the place of the experimenter to see how the matter is turning and assume a vast deal of wisdom if the process is not a success, but are among the first to adopt successful results and to claim the merit of pioneers in the new method.

Progressive agriculture has advanced slowly to its present state. Wisdom has been sought, attained, and doubtless died with men because no association of farmers was organized for exchange of ideas and practical plans for mutual benefit. The progressive farmer is happy to associate himself with other practical men to exchange views and to adopt measures for mutual advancement and a higher knowledge of the art of farming. Thus aided and stimulated, progress must be made and the farmer become the thinker as well as the actor among men.

Farm Fences.

This is a fruitful theme for discussion at all meetings of farmers, whether at Grange meetings, farmers' clubs, or farmers' associations. It is usually considered in relation to its cost, to the ground occupied, or to its unsightliness, with variations of these main arguments. Those who claim that fences are entirely unnecessary are mostly theorists on that point, never having had a practical test of that system of soiling which the absence of fences involves. We would not discourage theorizing, for all improvements have their starting point in conjecture, and we must have pioneers in all new enterprises. But we take the ground that in mixed farming, fences are as essential as any other process, especially when lands are cheap, and farms are large.

The cost of the fences of the United States, taken in the aggregate, assumes large proportions, but it is begging the question to say that all this expenditure could be saved by a system of soiling, or that this sum is out of proportion to the other improvements of the farm. The first cost of fencing a large farm is considerable, but that is a part of the improvement for which we pay when we buy a farm, and we must take into consideration that the timber on the land from which the rails were split was an incumbrance, was really of no value for anything else, and was worked up into fencing to get rid of it. The timber that is left is of value because of this, and we cannot argue that rails are wasted timber which would now be worth much more for something else. Even now where rails can be obtained at a price that is at all reasonable, they are the cheapest in the long run. The cost of maintaining a rail fence is but slight, and the advantage of a farm fenced into fields is so much greater that the cost of repairs is as nothing compared to it.

It requires about 800 rods of fence to lay out a hundred acre farm into proper fields, or a little over 11,000 rails for a seven-rail fence. This estimate allows a road on one end, and half the line fence surrounding it belonging to the farm. Allowing 25 years as the limit of endurance of rails (and many kinds of timber will last much longer) it would require about 450 rails per year to re-

plenish and keep the fence in repair. If rails can be laid down for \$50 per 1,000, the annual expenditure for repairs would be only \$22.50, or twenty-two and a half cents per acre for a farm of 100 acres. In this estimate the allowance for the number of rails is ample and above the average. The probable expense for repairs of rail fences through the State, even where stakes and wires are used would be less than the amount estimated.

Wire fence in various forms is insinuating itself into public notice, and when Yankee ingenuity suggests or invents a durable post of hollow tile or iron, that shall take the place of the short lived wood fence post, and that shall be cheap enough to commend itself, then will the question of soiling be relegated to smaller farms and higher priced lands.

The question of movable fences is often suggested, and patents innumerable have been issued for their manufacture. The idea is an off-shoot of the hurdles of the old country, where flocks are kept in movable enclosures. But the plan is entirely impracticable here. The expense in time necessary for their removal and re-setting would be more than the expense attending the repairs of a permanent fence and its advantages no greater. The cost of making would be greater than a permanent fence, and the fact that it has never come into general use, is proof that it is an exotic that will not bear removal to our country, for our farmers are sharp enough to discover advantages, and quick to adopt anything that will advance their interests in any way.

Soiling and silos are twin fancies that may be sustained and supported by fancy-priced products, but fifteen cent butter and five cent beef, will not warrant a large expenditure in order to follow an eastern fashion, with the expectation of becoming rich by it. Our present style of farming requires fences, especially where the fields are alternated for pasture and grain, and it will require a radical change in practice to exclude them.

Fall Plowing.

In almost every agricultural paper, at this season of the year, an article is found advocating fall plowing for spring crops, regardless of the character or condition of the soil. We are ready to stake our reputation on the statement that not one per cent. of the soils of Michigan are benefited by plowing in the fall. The only redeeming feature of the system is that a portion of the spring work can be done at a time when other work is completed for the year. The object of plowing is to obtain fresh soil and a friable seed bed for the sustenance of the young plant. Fields plowed in the fall become packed and sodden, and their proper preparation becomes a matter of considerable labor; and then only the surface is properly prepared, the settling after freezing rendering the lower strata as compact as ever. Those advocating the practice claim for it exemption from the ravages of cut and wire worms, but later knowledge shows that worms are not killed by freezing, that their natural food is found in the grasses and their roots, and that when their accustomed supply is cut off they forage on the plants sown or planted by the farmer. The mechanical improvement of the soil by freezing is a mythical and mooted question among farmers this side of the great prairies of the West. A tenacious clay may, under certain conditions, become more friable from freezing and allow earlier cultivation, but the generality of the soils of our State are not benefited in any manner by fall plowing, and the practice is becoming less general year by year.

Unruly Stock.

This is a vice in domestic animals that is taught, as surely and as certainly as any other of the acquirements that make them servicable to the owners. Teaching French in "six easy lessons" may seem a difficult task, but an animal that is proficient in the art of vaulting has learned it often with a less number. The first lesson was given by leaving the gate open or the bars down, thus giving them a taste of forbidden fruit. The next by failing to replace a rail or board that had blown off, or been displaced by some means. A low fence, allowing stock to reach over and nibble the succulent grasses on the other side, is a strong incentive to proficiency. Starving cattle in dry

pastures with verdant fields adjoining, is a lesson, stimulated by a longing that impels toward the acquirement of this unruly knowledge. Sending boys and dogs to force them from fields by dint of fear will give an animal confidence in its power of escape, and a fence becomes of no account to oppose where the will or inclination leads to go.

Adding a rail at a time to a "breachy" fence is the culminating lesson. The four first lessons will give an animal proficiency sufficient to endanger the owner's undisturbed repose, and to awaken a feeling of concern for his green corn and cabbages, but when the fifth and sixth have been taught, the climax of vice is reached, and the animal is worth about as much for domestic use as an antelope, or a wild turkey. They take French leave from pure wantonness. They can only be caught with a lasso, or cornered with a rifle. And yet these lessons are constantly taught and compensating results follow.

An animal that has become breachy by any or all of the above lessons, however valuable they may be in some respects, is more valuable for the butcher, if a bovine.

When a horse becomes unruly, it is best to keep him in the stall, except when at work. Get rid of every animal that shows a disposition to jump or throw fence, or make the enclosure sufficiently strong and high to prevent them from succeeding. The most efficient plan is to forestall any attempt by such a fence as will deter, or such care that no excitement will be sufficient to allure them astray.

His First Poultry Venture.

We know a boy of eleven who has this year made a beginning in the poultry business. He began on the 2d of July by purchasing six grade White Bantam hens and three cocks. These fowls had belonged to a former occupant of the premises and were bought at \$1.50. One of the hens had a young hatch of 12 chicks. A little later another came off with five chicks. Both proved excellent mothers, neither having lost a chick by October 1. On this date the young proprietor gave us the following additional items: He had paid for feed and fixing his hen yard, \$1.24. The small amount for feed he accounted for by the fact that the fowls run at large a portion of the time. He had sold off the three cocks (preparatory to the addition of a new breed to his stock) and three cockerels, getting 25c. apiece or \$1.50 for the lot, which exactly balanced his purchase money. He had sold nine dozen eggs at 15c. per dozen, or \$1.35, which exceeded his feed expenses by 11c. He had on hand 20 fowls and chicks worth 25c. each. He thus calls himself a gainer by \$5.11.

Of course our little friend is enthusiastic over his success. Certainly he has cause to be.

Of course he got his fowls cheap; not every boy can do as well in this respect, but at a price considerably larger the investment would have been a good one.

The boy's next venture will be with five pullets and a cockerel of the Plymouth Rock breed. He will enlarge his poultry quarters at small expense, and promises us to report progress from time to time. Are there not many other boys, or girls even, who can as well as not, begin business in a similar way?

Happiness.

To watch the corn grow and the blossom set, to draw hard breath over plowshare or spade, to read, to think, to love, to hope,—these are the things to make men happy; they have always had the power of doing this; they never will have the power to do more. The world's prosperity or adversity depends upon our knowing and teaching these few things, but upon iron, or glass, or electricity, or steam, in no wise. And I am utopian and enthusiastic enough to believe that the time will come when the world will discover this. It has now made its experiments in every possible direction but the right one; and it seems that it must at last try the right one in a mathematical necessity. It has tried fighting, and preaching, and fasting, buying and selling, pomp and parsimony, pride and humiliation—every possible manner of existence in which it could conjecture there was happiness or dignity; and all the while, as it bought, sold, and fasted, and wearied itself with policies, and ambition, and self-denials, God had placed its real happiness in the keeping of the little mosses of the wayside and of the clouds of the firmament.—Ruskin.

HERE is a lesson from a California paper: A farmer was yesterday bargaining off his wheat, which was filled with all sorts of stuff. He was offered \$1.40. He was thunder-struck, expecting \$1.60 at least. "Well," said the buyer, "clean your wheat, and I will give you \$1.60. I would rather give you \$1.60 for it clean than \$1.40 as it is. I do not want to market all this hog and chicken feed."

AFTER THE BURIAL.

Fallen with Autumn's fallen leaf,
Ere yet his summer's noon was past,
Our friend, our guide, our trusted chief,
What words can match a woe so vast?
And whose the chartered claim to speak
That thrills the hushed and shrouded hall,
When sorrow saddens every cheek
And broods in every aching heart?
Yet Nature prompts the burning phrase
That thrills the hushed and shrouded hall,
The loud lament, the sorrowing praise,
The silent tear that Love lets fall.
In loftiest verse, in lowliest rhyme
Shall strive unblamed the minstrel choir,
The singers of the newborn time,
And trembling age with outworn lyre.
No room for pride, no room for blame—
We'll sing our blossoms on the grave
Pale—scandalous—fad, d— all we claim,
This only: What we had we gave.
Oh, could the grief of all who mourn
Blend in one voice its bitter cry,
The wail to heaven's high arches borne,
Would echo through the caverned sky.
Not ours the verdict to decide,
Whom Death shall claim or skill shall save—
The hero's life, though Heaven denied
It, gave our land a martyr's grave;—
Nor count the teaching vainly sent
How human hearts their grief may share,
The lesson woman's love has lent
What hope may do, what faith can bear.
Farwell! the leaf-strewn earth unfolds
Our stay, our pride, our hopes, our fears,
And Autumn's golden sun beholds
A nation bowed, a world in tears.
—Oliver Wendell Holmes in Boston Globe.

Abstract of Reports of Masters of State Granges.

NATIONAL GRANGE, PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY,
MASTER'S OFFICE, PAW PAW, MICH.,
Oct. 20, 1881.

The following is a brief summary of the reports of Masters of State Granges received at this office since the date of my last report. As it was made the duty of State Masters, by the last National Grange, "to report briefly in writing to each annual session of that body, the condition of the Order in their several States" (see printed proceedings, pages 60 and 101), no further reports for this year will be expected at this office.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Brother Wason, Master of the State Grange, reports under date of July 21 as follows:

"As regards the growth and interest of our Order, I gather from the reports of the Masters that have responded, very encouraging accounts of their Granges. All speak of the worth and power of our Order for the class it was designed to bless. The intellectual and social features seem to give the most satisfaction, and are most appreciated by the members. In nearly every Grange there has been additions, and very many are increasing rapidly. One Grange reports 25 candidates taking the 4th degree in one evening. Several dormant Granges have started anew, and seem to be doing good work. One which for a year or more had been dormant, at the election of officers made great efforts and got the members all out. Many brothers and sisters from neighboring Granges lent their help and sympathy to make the occasion interesting and pleasant, and they were encouraged to persevere. Now they are growing fast, new members coming in, the meetings growing interesting, and so prospered that they are talking of purchasing a hall for their special use. At a large meeting in March, where were gathered some 200 brothers and sisters representing 12 different Granges, one brother remarked that in his town they had nearly every farmer in the Grange. During the month of January I visited a large number of Granges, and at every meeting recommended and urged the taking of Grange papers, advising the Grange to take several, to come to the Lecturer and other officials. In many cases this has been done and with desirable results. Co-operation in buying and selling has not been one of the prominent features with us. Yet I feel that as we advance in numbers and knowledge, we shall reap great benefits from this feature. I am hoping to do good work this fall among the Granges. Shall endeavor to visit the dormant ones. I find a little encouragement and instruction helps the weak members very much. I can truly say of the Order in New Hampshire that I believe it to be in a prosperous condition, marching steadily and strongly onward."

NEW JERSEY.

Brother Nicholson, Master of the State Grange, writes under date of August 9th, as follows:

"The reports I have received from the Subordinate Granges (which, by the way, have not been as full as I hoped for) leads me to the conclusion that we are now taking a more lively interest in the Order than for the past few years, and are receiving accessions to some of the Granges, particularly those whose members display an interest in the meetings of their Grange. The business feature has been the wrecking point of some Granges in this State, and wherever it has occurred there is a general apathetic feeling in the community toward the Grange. One new Grange organized, and one dormant Grange revived."

NORTH CAROLINA.

Brother Cheek, Master of the State Grange, under date of August 30, says:

"I have the honor to subscribe the following as my report of the condition of the Order of P. of H. in North Carolina at this time. My failure to make the previous quarterly reports, as by law was required of me, is to be attributed to the lack of information upon which to base them. The Masters of Subordinate Granges have almost entirely failed to make their reports. The want of information that should have been acquired from this source is partially supplemented by observations in my travels and correspondence. From impressions thus obtained I am pleased to report our condition much more satisfactory than at the corresponding period last year. Four or five new Granges have been organized, and as many more revived. The old Granges I believe are all holding on, and many have increased in membership. I trust and believe North Carolina will show a creditable advance at the close of the year."

MARYLAND.

Under date of Sept. 1, Brother Devries, Master of the State Grange, reports as follows:

"Judging from the best information obtainable, the Order in my State is fairly holding its own, with no marked improvement, however, except in a few localities, the cause moves steadily forward. The gain in membership seems to be about balanced by the trimming off of the dead wood, which we feel hopeful will but facilitate the growth of the healthy fibers. As a matter of fact, I think the organization is on a more enduring basis than ever before. The conjectures, even prophecies, of the vainly-wise as to the mushroom growth of the Order, have not been fulfilled, and now the fear is, that after all, the success of an organization of farmers generally is among the possibilities, and its future welfare must endanger the safety of the great goddess whom monopolists, corporate bodies, and politicians worship. Our task cannot be accomplished in a day. If in a lifetime, we shall have done well. It required about a generation for the oppressed and down-trodden of Europe to reach the capitalists that there was a power behind the throne, and that capital was but the servant of the people, and should not forever hold despotic sway. It is enough for us to know that upon the success of our principles depends the Nation's life. Knowing this, let us not falter. There is one noble feature of success connected with our Order in Maryland—our business arm. This steadily moves forward in significance and importance; and with us is a power for good, not only to the Order in a pecuniary sense, but is giving prominence to the organization. Farmers, other than Patrons, are beginning to seek its protection in their dealings, from the ruinous exactions of other houses. This can but result finally to the great advantage of the Order, and if we cannot talk down, we will live down the prejudices of those not in sympathy with our efforts."

MISSOURI.

Worthy Master Eschbaugh says:

"I can only say that the Order in Missouri is still prosperous, although not as we would like to see it, nor what it might and should be. Subordinate Granges report holding regular meetings, with good attendance. Questions pertaining to agriculture and to our Order have been more freely discussed during the past year than formerly, and Grange literature is more extensively circulated. These are indications hopeful of the future. In some sections we have lost in numbers, in others we have made large additions; but taking all in all I am much pleased with the outlook. Selfish controversy among a few members did us much harm, but we shall outlive it, for the working members in the State are in earnest, and are educating themselves upon all questions relating to our interest and to the welfare of our Order. And they will stand firmly by the principles of the Grange in sunshine and in storm, in adversity as well as in prosperity. While it may seem that the Order moves slowly, yet the progress is certainly sure and permanent, and perhaps as rapid as could be expected, and it is more safe than if moved by exciting impulses. I see no cause for discouragement, but much to encourage, and look to the future with great hopes of final results."

MICHIGAN.

Brother C. G. Luce, Master, has made a very full and interesting report, under date of October 1st, which I have abridged and summarized as follows. He says:

"In compliance with the action of the National Grange at the session of 1880, I herewith submit a summarized report of the condition of the Order in this State. Careful and judicious use of the State Grange funds has given us a good working balance in the treasury at all times for the past six years. This has been regarded by the Executive Committee, as well as by the Order throughout the West, as an essential element of success. Our State finances are now in good condition."

He sought for all the information required by the National Grange, and Masters of Subordinate Granges very generally made the desired reports, a few failing to answer letters of inquiry. He sought for the reasons why some Granges prosper, while others make but little progress, or fall entirely. Also for the present condition of each Grange; and from these reports carefully studied, he has classified the Granges in the State as follows: Strong and prosperous Granges as "Good." Those weak in numbers, but strong in faith, and earnest in work, "Hopeful." Those which are merely holding their own, and working without any definite system or purpose, "Fair." Those apathetic or discouraged as "Bad."

"These several classes rate as follows:
Good, 76 per cent.
Hopeful, 10 "
Fair, 8 "
Bad, 6 "
But very few, if any, are suffering from financial embarrassment. Only two report internal troubles. Nearly all the more successful Granges report that they resort to literary entertainments, debates and discussions upon any Grange, and all subjects relating to the farm and home, or the general welfare of the people, select readings, essays, social converse, etc. In short, the great mass of our people regard it as a perpetual school for the mutual improvement of all the members—where all are teachers, and all are pupils. Evidently the science of the thing is in inducing all to work. When this is done the progress is onward and upward."

The County Grange has proved itself in many, if not in all cases, to be a powerful agent in aid of the Subordinate Grange.

All agree that the GRANGE VISITOR has been of immense value to the Order. By its judicious, careful management, it seems now to have the confidence of all. The best interests of the Order evidently demand a yet even wider circulation.

Most of the Granges in the State have done something in a financial way. A large majority keep a few of the never failing necessities at the hall and distribute at the meeting. All who resorted to this method report satisfactory results. Some have established co-operative stores. These have been conducted with varied results. Brother Siegelman, at Allegan, has accomplished all that the most sanguine ever promised. It has aided much in building up the Order in that vicinity."

The general cause of the discouraged condition of the small per cent of that class of Granges is apathy, want of interest, failure on the part of all to work for the cause. It will be seen from the classification that a large portion of the Granges are in good condition, and prospering.

Another writes me: "Our members come to the Grange because they love it. Another says, "Our Grange has always been a good one, but it is now stronger and better than ever." Many, very many, write in the same strain.

In this State there is everything to encourage us to hope on, work on. The demand for field work has been urgent, we have been able to only partially supply the demand."

WISCONSIN.

Brother Parker, Master of the State Grange, writes under date of Oct. 1;

The general tone of the reports is hopeful. Those reporting the meetings of the Grange ever since. A lowry on rainy day is the rule, a fair day the exception. The want of good Lecturers in our State is severely felt. An effort was made at the State Grange to divide the State into lecture districts, with a Lecturer appointed for each district, but this has not been as successful as anticipated, on account of the Lecturers' being unable to devote the necessary time to the work. The only lecture we have had, except from our own members, was one delivered at the city of Madison on the 3d of September by Bro. Woodman. Those who were fortunate enough to hear him were pleased, and are anxious to hear more.

Brother Whitney, Lecturer of Michigan State Grange, has been engaged to deliver 10 or 12 lectures in the State, commencing on the 17th inst., and we hope for good results. All kinds of farm work is being neglected on account of rainy weather. But little corn is harvested, and it is being seriously damaged in the field. Should the weather become more favorable, all the energies of our farmers will be required to secure the crops and prepare for the winter. Consequently it will be surprising if the annual report of our State Secretary does not show an actual decrease in our paying membership for the past year. Yet we hope that when the winter sets in, our members will avail themselves of the opportunity now offered, and have a series of lectures by the best Grange speakers in the land, when I look for a great and lasting revival of Grange work in this State. I feel safe in saying that nearly all Granges are meeting regularly, and are on a firm foundation."

ALABAMA.

From a letter received from Bro. B. C. Howison, Master of the State Grange, under date of Sept. 1st I take the following which will be interesting to every member of our Order.

"The Grange in Alabama is surely building up. We are growing in strength, and I hope in usefulness, every day. Alabama will be represented in the National Grange at its next session, which will be the first time in years." J. J. WOODMAN, Master of Nat'l Grange P. of H.

That Buggy and the Care of it.

It is the fashion now for the farmer's boy to have a buggy, and he must have it. It is no longer respectable for the lad to ride to church or to the village, or to see the girls, on horseback. The boys are getting to be as ignorant of the art of riding on horseback as are the horses of a saddle gait. The absurdity of this buggy business is too immense to do justice to. It is deep-seated in the home management. Young America has got the start on the farm, and the old man has to keep up with the fashion and turn out a buggy and harness for the boy to dash around with the best horse on the premises, whether the plow stops or not.

We know farmers who cannot afford to buy a reaper, or a planter, or an improved cultivator, nor a thoroughbred calf, or buck, or pig, but can buy a buggy and harness for the boy. Now, it is one of the evidences of decay when thing of luxury takes precedence of things of necessity or improvement. This universal buggy buying is not only damaging the farmer by crippling him in the first outlay, but it is demoralizing to the boys. They are less useful and steady on the farm, just in proportion to the time spent in cavorting about the country.

But we intended to speak of the care of the buggy. We see many of the lads in so great haste that they have no time to keep the buggy clean. They come home late at night and leave it out in the dew or rain, bespattered with mud. They sleep late the next morning, and have to hurry off to the fields or the buggy stands in the sun or storm.

In a few short weeks that new buggy is tarnished and damaged inside and out. When we see a Young America buggy pass on the road we can read the habits of the boys by the appearance of the buggy. Some of the boys are exceedingly careful of the new buggy, and spend more time on it than on the wood-pile, or all the other implements on the farm. This fit of neatness lasts until by some unfortunate combination of weather and roads the buggy comes in at night bespattered or plastered with mud, and the lad is too short of time or courage to attack and clean it.

The mud dries and sets, and when the young farmer attempts to remove it, he attacks it with an old broom and a corn-cob, and by dint of vigorous laying on, he brings off the heft of the mud and all the lustre of the varnish. The shine has gone for good, and with it the boy's pride in the new vehicle declines, and he wonders why the thing don't glisten in the moonlight, as when it came fresh from the painter's hands. He perhaps claims that the painter swindled him, and the varnish was no account. The coats of mud and grit and the consequent rubbing and scrubbing were enough to deface a brickbat.

The carriage painter is blamed for a miserable job. Another class of young men have their buggy and are anxious to keep it in good order, but they ruin it, perhaps, in a few months' time, by bad washing.

We lay it down as an axiom that the farmer who can not afford a cover for his implements and vehicles has no business with a buggy.

A buggy is too frail and delicate to stand heat and storms. The buggy must be kept housed when not in use. When brought out of the house it should be dusted off with a feather duster. If it comes home muddy it should be cleaned before putting in the house. It may be inconvenient, but in the end it will pay. There is no need of taking it to a creek, and there attacking it with the old scrub broom. Take a bucket or two of water and a sponge, and gently wash the top, then the bed, and wring out a chamolis and wipe so no water stands on the varnish. Wherever water dries on varnish it will lose its lustre. A bucket and a sponge and chamolis and feather duster are as necessary adjuncts to a farmer's buggy as a wrench.

A careful man will have his buggy look neat and last three times as long as the class first named. The average farmer can ill afford to buy a buggy and harness for pleasure, and neglect it for any other farmer can afford to neglect and destroy them. Wastefulness treads on the heels of extravagance, and the model farmer will not tolerate either on his premises. — Rural World.

Communications.

Work in the Party.

Mr. Editor:—I read the VISITOR with much interest, and have looked for an outline of policy to be pursued by the agriculturists and their allies in the next political campaign.

Next year will be the year of conventions again, and I fear unless we agree upon some general plan of operations, we will find ourselves working single-handed, as we have done in the past.

It will not help the cause for which we labor, to claim that we are in the majority, and therefore we ought to be represented. The principles advocated by us in relation to inter-State commerce are admitted by the masses to be correct. Equal taxation is readily assented to also, and with these principles admitted, so that we have to use no arguments to convince anyone of their correctness, we ought to be thoroughly organized, and ready for work at our primaries.

I fail to comprehend the necessity for a farmers' party. I fail to see the necessity of a farmers' policy, solely as such, but let us ground our faith in the eternal principles of right, and inscribe on our banners: "Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes"; and that "Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, etc."

With this motto upon our banner, let us go into our primaries in our respective political parties, and wage a relentless warfare, and from the primary of the town or ward, to the County and State conventions. Let us stand up in our party conventions, and ask for what we consider to be right, and if our demands are disregarded, then the issue is made, and we can organize a party that will sweep the country.

I desire to see this matter thoroughly discussed. Fearing that I have already trespassed too much on your time and space, I will look anxiously for suggestions from others.

ADRIAN, Oct. 17, 1881.

Something Concerning Some Silos.

In the town of Sharon, Conn., silos have been built the past summer by Mr. John Knibloe and Mr. E. K. Dean. Mr. Knibloe's is 14x30 feet, inside measure, and 14 feet deep. Was filled from seven acres of sowed corn and cut $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch long, and is estimated to contain 110 tons. That of Mr. Dean is 11x12 feet inside, and 22 feet deep, Mr. Dean preferring this form because making less labor in weighting, as any given weight will press a deep silo as well as a shallow one. It was filled from 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres of sowed corn, cut $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, and contains about 60 tons. Both these farmers use one-horse power in cutting, and consider it sufficient.

In the town of Amenia, Dutchess county, N. Y., the first silo I visited was that of J. S. Chaffee, Esq. It is built between the barn on one side, and a bank wall on the other. It is 50 feet long, nearly 13 feet wide, and 16 feet deep, and is estimated to contain 250 tons, and was filled from 16 acres of sowed corn. The power used in cutting is a five-horse power engine. During the first half of the filling the corn was cut $\frac{1}{2}$ inch., after that the feed of the cutter was shortened to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Mr. Chaffee says that the shorter the fodder is cut, the more compactly can it be pressed in, and the more perfectly it will keep. This silo was built in 1880, and gave the utmost satisfaction last season.

Wm. H. Tanner also built one at the same time, and of about the same capacity, though of different proportions. He uses an engine for power, cutting the corn $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch. He also expresses the utmost satisfaction with its working last season.

The silo of Mr. Franklin Cline is 16x25 feet, and 18 feet deep. The corn was cut $\frac{1}{2}$

of an inch, by a one-horse endless chain power, and it is said that this power cut the corn as fast as two teams could draw it from the field. It is estimated to contain 140 tons.

The silo of Mr. Albert Cline is 13x32 feet, and 13 feet deep, and contains 100 tons. The power used in cutting was an eight-horse power engine.

The silo of N. Gridley & Son is 12x31 feet, and 13 feet deep, and contains about 90 tons. The power used was a one-horse endless chain, and the cutter was so arranged as to deliver the cut fodder in the center of the silo. This saved labor in keeping the mass level while it was being filled.

The silo of Mr. Edward Cline is built under a small barn, is 18x24 feet, and is 7 feet deep, and contains between 50 and 60 tons.

Jacob Pugsley, Esq. has built an immense silo 105 feet long, and 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, outside measure. This is divided into six compartments, each compartment being a silo by itself, and having an inside measure of 16x25, and 15 feet deep. Compartment No. 1 was filled during the fore part of July with clover and timothy. It was a fair crop of grass growing on 18 acres, and yielded about 110 tons. Beginning August 1, No. 2 was filled with Hungarian grass, requiring 110 tons, which was a light crop on nearly 20 acres. Nos. 3, 4, and 5 were filled with sowed corn, using 35 acres of corn, large and small.

In this silo, as in all the others I have described, the crop is put in perfectly green as fast as cut in the field. After filling, it is covered with a few inches of straw, then with boards, which are then loaded with stones, generally about a foot deep. For a week or two after putting on the weights it will settle a good deal. In a silo 15 feet deep it will settle about three feet, and more if it has not been well tramped down in filling.

Mr. Pugsley is the first to experiment with putting other crops than corn in a silo, at least in this vicinity, and the outcome will be watched with interest. SOIL.

Life Insurance—Michigan Patrons' Aid Society.

Editor Grange Visitor:

I read with much interest in the last number of the VISITOR the communication of R. C. C., and the editorial comments on the above subject.

The argument of R. C. C. as to the importance of life insurance is right to the point and very plain and conclusive. His statement too, of the plan on which the stock companies operated and made so much money is very plain, and, as pointed out in his communication, the plan of the Michigan Patrons' Aid Society, it seems to me, as compared with the stock plan, or even with any other mutual, is very much ahead of them all. It seems to me to present a perfectly fair and just plan of life insurance to the Patrons of Michigan, and its entire safety is beyond question.

The operation of the stock companies some dozen or so years ago, completely disgusted a large portion of the people with that plan of life insurance, and however much parties prized the principle of life insurance, the notorious frauds of the companies convinced them that in this plan there was no protection whatever, and at this time you can find plenty of people in Michigan who, after paying hundreds of dollars in premiums, waked up to the fact that the entire amount was thrown away, and that their insurance was worthless.

That the mutual plan is the true one, and that to make this plan perfectly safe, some organization like the Grange should stand behind it, I think is perfectly clear to any one who has given much thought to the subject, and in this our Michigan Aid Society meets the demand.

Another important point in our Aid is the fact that sisters as well as brothers can be insured, and thus secure, in case of death, some immediate aid for their children, or other loved friends who may be left behind them. C.

Saving the Profits.

Bro. Cobb:—The question for discussion among Subordinate Granges for October being "How can we save the reward of our own labor and make farm operations more profitable?" I should like to say a few words on it. It is also suggested that though the production has been doubled in twenty years, the real condition of the farmer is less favorable now than then.

When the farmers have doubled their products, and the prices for them are and have been for years higher than they were twenty years ago, their depressed condition is evidently owing to the high price of what they buy. This is caused by "protection," artificially raising the price of everything the farmer buys two or three or more times.

A farmer's wealth consists in the articles of every kind—food, clothing, furniture, etc.—that he changes his surplus crops for. The more of these articles he can get the better his condition, the less he can get the worse his condition. "Protection" for twenty years has put an enormous false cost on everything a farmer buys, so that he can get but a very small return for his surplus produce, and this return is continually becoming smaller. Then, how can his condition be otherwise than depressed?

Even if the farmer should have all his other wrongs remedied he will never receive the full reward of his labor till this blackmail be abolished.

For What Purpose is our Railroad Commissioner Appointed?—A Mystery Cleared Up.

I have often heard the matter canvassed as to whose interests the railroad commissioner of this State was appointed; whether in the interest of the public, or in the interest of the railroad companies.

I must confess it was beyond my power to see wherein he was doing the people of the State any special service, except to compile the reports of the various railroad companies of the State and publish them in book form for more general convenience.

From a recent item from Atlanta, Ga, we are somewhat enlightened on this important subject. By this it appears that a National Association of Railroad Commissioners were holding a meeting at that place, and Commissioner Williams of Michigan was president. The first great question which was to be considered by the association was the subject of "Large Damages Awarded in Suits against Railroad Companies."

This subject, of course, is one entirely under the control of the courts, and it should be a question of great interest to the general public to know in what manner this association expect to deal with it, unless it expects to fix a measure of damages independent of the courts, and more acceptable to the railroads.

But there can be no doubt hereafter, I think, for whose interests these gentlemen are at work, to wit: in the interests of the railroads.

Correspondence.

The True Inwardness of a Meeting at Sherwood.

Bro. Cobb.—Yesterday the 18th, was the time appointed by the Branch County Pomona Grange to meet with the Sherwood Grange, No. 96. The weather looked rather dubious. It had rained every day for a week, and notwithstanding Old Sol tried very hard to show his smiling face, he was obliged to beat several retreats, while the clouds dispensed a succession of very fine showers.

Only one Pomona officer put in an appearance, nevertheless, after dinner was over, the meeting was called to order by Brother Wm. B. Langley, of Centerville, St. Joe county—he acting as Master, and Sister George, of Ovid, acting Secretary pro tem. They succeeded in holding a sort of Pomona, which resulted in another meeting being appointed to meet with Sherwood Grange again upon the 15th day of November, for the purpose of conferring the fifth degree upon a number of our members.

The goat had received considerable extra care for the occasion, and when it was decided not to initiate, he became indignant and kicked himself out of place, but one of the sisters soon readjusted the halter, and put him into position again.

And now when the 15th day of November arrives we shall expect a full house, and especially shall we expect the officers of said Pomona Grange to be on hand, for we have no desire to have our brother and sister candidates "laid back on the shelf" the second time.

I think if the outsiders could come in and hear the discussions of the Pomona Grange, it would open their eyes to the fact that the Grange means business; and it might impress upon them a desire to become members of our Order.

I certainly think the Pomona Grange would accomplish the greater amount of good by having that part of their meetings open to the public. It would rid some of the idea that all we meet for is to have a little fun. I regret to say that many of our first-class farmers suppose that the Grange is like a social—the one who gets the most fun out of the thing is the best fellow. But that shows they don't read the Visitor.

Fraternally yours, H. M. T. Sherwood, Oct. 19, 1881.

One Thing and Another.

Bro. Cobb.—Having the honor to be a Delegate to the First District Convention, I left home on the afternoon of Oct. 3, going as far as Sherman that night. Thus far on my route I noticed that the farmers were well along with their fall work. What all along the route was up and looking finely. Clover has also made a good catch, judging from what I saw on the road. There has been a greater breadth of wheat sown in this part of the county than ever before. The corn crop is nearly all husked and taken care of; the crop is fair. The potato crop is being harvested; the quality is fair, but the quantity is light, and potatoes are

While at Sherman, I met a gentleman selling a newly patented washing machine. The machine is said to do its work well, but alas! it has no name. The gentleman claimed that the patentee lived in the town of Schoolcraft; that he had to pay 75 cents royalty on every machine that he made and sold, which, considering the price of the machine (\$3.00), I think pretty high, and I wonder if our patent laws will sustain the patentee in such exorbitant royalty.

The Patrons at Sherman were so busy that they could not attend the Convention, or the Pomona Grange, which met at the same time and place, though they would like to have done so very much.

So I left Sherman on Tuesday morning alone, but soon reached Brother G. B. Taylor's, Master of Sherman Grange, and as we found him nearly ready to go, we kept him company to Marilla Grange hall—the place of meeting—14 miles from Sherman. The road runs through a pleasant and good farming country, timbered with beech, elm, maple, and basswood. I found the farmers in this section behind with their fall work, and the majority just sowing their wheat. We arrived at the hall about noon, and met several of the Patrons of Marilla Grange that were awaiting their guests.

It was my good fortune to be the guest of Brother H. A. Danville. I found Brother Danville well situated, having a large farm well stocked with horses, cattle, and hogs, and having large and commodious buildings; and above all he has a pleasant family, and is himself one of those genial, whole-souled Patrons whom it does one good to meet. We wish there were more such.

Brother Danville showed me some specimens of the snake cucumber that were a novelty. They were about four feet long, and lay coiled up as if ready for a spring, the effect of which is somewhat startling to the timid at first sight.

After dinner we returned to the hall in time to meet with the Convention at two o'clock P. M.

The Convention was called to order by Brother James McDiarmid, of Pleasanton Grange, and after a few preliminaries, we proceeded to the election of Representatives, resulting in the election of Brother G. B. Taylor on the second ballot. Brother Wm. H. Pope was elected alternate. As there was no more business, the Convention adjourned sine die.

And now, Brother Cobb, if this article finds favor in your eyes, I will finish up my trip another time. Respectfully, D. S. CARVIN. Colfax, Mich., Oct. 12, 1881.

The Fair.

Bro. Cobb.—As we are having more rain than anything else now-a-days, it might, perhaps, be a good time to give the readers of the Visitor a short report of our local fair, held Sept 28 and 29. So far, we call it the Acme and Northwest Grange fair. I think it will or ought to change its name by another year, as it has stepped outside of the two Granges located here, and invites all to help. I would not be in the least surprised if it would come up with some big name next year. The location is at the intersection of the three great States, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. I have no doubt Toledo begins to tremble already, for she may not always be able to hold the Tri-State fair.

The first day of the fair was not as pleasant as we wished; the second day dawned with a heavy fog, but by nine o'clock the fog disappeared, and we had a splendid day. On the second day, Brother C. E. Mickley gave us an address on the fair grounds in the afternoon, and at Acme Grange hall in the evening.

I will give number of entries below in each division in as condensed form as possible, and will avoid classification:

Table with 2 columns: DIVISIONS and NO. OF ENTRIES. Rows include Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, Mechanics Hall, Agricultural Hall, Floral Hall, Second Division, Pomological Department, Fourth Division, and Total.

On the whole, the fair was a decided success this year, and I think the quality of the exhibits were above the average. I would say more, but for fear of the waste basket.

October 19, 1881.

Berrien County Pomona Grange, No. 1.

Berrien County Grange, No. 1, held its regular quarterly meeting at Coloma, in Home Grange hall, October 11th and 12th. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather there was quite a large number of earnest working Patrons present. The reports from various Subordinate Granges throughout the county showed a good condition of the Order in Berrien county.

The subject of co operation was thoroughly discussed by W. A. Brown, Thomas Mason, and others.

Brother Vanderveer presented a leader on the subject of stock running at large in the public highways, which was listened to with marked attention.

At the evening session fifteen members were instructed in the beautiful lessons of the fifth degree, after which Brother and Sister A. N. Woodruff were elected to represent Berrien County Grange at the next session of the Michigan State Grange. At the morning session an interesting essay on the subject of "Household Economy" was read by Sister Helen Finch. Bro. Hiram Fish presented the subject of "Winter Treatment of Milch Cows" in a very clear and instructive manner.

Bro. Thomas Mars offered the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Some parties claiming to be agents of the so-called drive well, have published their call to receive royalty from all users of said drive wells, until the expiration of twenty days, after which they will prosecute, and

WHEREAS, The said device has been brought into general use, and from anything we know by these same parties, for the express purpose of collecting excessive royalty from innocent purchasers; and therefore,

Resolved, That we the members of Berrien County Grange, No. 1, now in session, believing as we do that this collecting royalty for a device in common use is a swindle that is devilish and will not be recognized by this Order, and that we stand ready to co-operate with the action of the State Grange in resisting this unrighteous demand by all lawful means.

By resolution of Bro. J. Clark, the third Saturday of April of each year will be observed as Arbor Day, and each Patron is required to beautify his home by transplanting trees, shrubs or flowers on that day.

The Secretary was instructed to give notice of the passage of the above resolutions by having the same published in the GRANGE VISITOR. Wm. J. JONES, Sec'y Berrien Co. Pomona Grange No. 1, October 15, 1881.

Address by the State Farmers' Alliance to the People of New York.

[Adopted at Watertown, Aug. 25.] The persistent effort to misrepresent the attitude of this Alliance towards railroads, demands a statement so definite that our position shall admit of no misinterpretation. To this end it may be necessary to state, negatively, what we do not propose, as well as, affirmatively, what we do.

1st. We do not propose that the State should undertake the management of our railroads.

2d. We do not propose any measures that shall impair the efficiency of the roads.

3d. We do not deny the right of the owners of the stocks of the railroads to reimburse themselves by liberal dividends for the money invested in the construction and equipment of the roads, by rates and fares levied upon freights and passengers.

4. We do not claim that the transportation of freights should be the same per mile on long and short hauls.

5. We do not claim that there should be no special rates to build up and encourage special industries.

6. We do not deny the propriety of consolidation of lines where consolidation will facilitate or cheapen transportation.

7. We do not deny the propriety of competing roads agreeing to the maintenance of permanent and fairly compensating rates.

What we do claim and insist upon is: 1st. That the railroads are public highways, that their construction by chartered corporations does not divest them of their public character, nor place them beyond legislative control.

2d. That the corporations constructing these roads are the servants of the State, entitled to receive from the people for money expended, and service rendered, liberal compensation by rates imposed on the traffic of the roads.

3d. That these rates should be adjusted as nearly equal in reference to the service rendered, as it is practicable to so adjust them.

4th. That there should be no favoritism, or partiality, in favor of one individual over another, or of one locality over another.

5th. That rates should be as permanent as circumstances will permit, and that no changes shall be made therein except upon timely notice.

6th. That there should be no secret rates or contracts.

7th. That the capital stock of the corporations should represent the actual amount expended in right of way, construction and equipment, over and above amounts borrowed on the credit of the corporation for such purposes, and no more.

8th. That these corporations should not use any money, or grant any privileges, to influence the election of any public officers or the vote of any legislator.

To this end we ask for the passage of laws: 1st. That shall require all companies, whose roads, in whole or in part, are within this State, to post in a conspicuous place at every station the regular rate of transportation, and to enter in a book at each station, open to inspection, a list of all special rates and copies of all special contracts.

2d. That shall forbid all discrimination in rates between individuals for like service.

3d. That shall forbid all discrimination in favor of one locality over another.

4th. That shall prohibit any contract with any individual or company that shall secure to such individual or company a monopoly of any article of traffic over any road, or roads, or upon the line of any road.

5th. That shall prohibit the issue of any stock or bond upon any consideration other than money or material for the construction and equipment of the road.

6th. That shall prohibit and punish any use of money, or the granting of any favor to influence the election of any public officer, or to influence the vote of any legislator by any corporation through any of its agents or otherwise.

7th. The appointment of a commission that shall have authority to examine all the transactions of every company, and whose duty it shall be to report to the legislature, or the Attorney-General, any and all violations of law on the part of the companies, and to recommend to the legislature any other or further legislation necessary to pro-

tect the public against any abuse of power on the part of the corporations.

We do not believe the efficiency of railroads of our State would be impaired in any sense by the enactment and enforcement of such laws as we propose. England has laws for publishing rates, general and special, as here proposed. So has Germany, and we think other European countries. Such legislation would not lessen the amount to be carried, but would enable men in trade to predicate purchases and sales on known cost of transportation, and would do much for the roads by preventing the cutting of rates. This law would not apply to freights from, or to, western roads that do not break bulk in passing from or to our roads.

It will be hard to show that roads would be losers by refusing to discriminate between freighters, or that should refuse to discriminate in favor of one locality over another. It has been urged in favor of this line of discrimination that, at competing points, one road lowering rates makes it necessary for another to do the same.

But we propose to impose the same restriction upon each competitor, and to compel each to publish fixed rates. It will hardly be contended that the interest of roads can be promoted by enabling any individual or company to monopolize any branch of production or industry. Nothing can be more plain than that all creation of stock to be divided among the corporations, without payment for the same, is a fraud upon the public, and all charge upon the traffic of the roads to pay dividends upon such stock is extortion.

The proposed laws would be of little effect without the appointment of the proposed commission to stand between the people and the corporations to see that the laws were respected. Nor should the corporations object to such commission if they intend to abide by the laws and respect the public interest. Other corporations, banks, insurance companies and the like, are subjected to the supervision of officers of the State. Why should these companies, that are of so much importance to the public, be exempt? No one is compelled to deposit with, or borrow from a bank, or to insure with an insurance company, while many producers in our country are entirely dependent upon railroads for transportation.

In stating that we do not claim that transportation should be the same per mile on long and short hauls, we do not intend to admit that more should be charged for a short, than a longer distance. While we do not propose legislation in regard to the transportation of the western states, we nevertheless protest that the discriminations against the citizens of our own State are extravagant and unjust, but as the remedy of this abuse can only be effected by national legislation, we do not recommend state legislation. Inasmuch as the railroad corporations have resisted all efforts to legislate for the correction of abuses, and denied all right in the legislature of the State to exercise any control over their management, the question is squarely presented, whether the industrial interests of the State shall be at the mercy of these corporations, or whether they shall be protected by just legislation? There is no doubt but the corporations have used, and still are using their money and influence to control our elections, and it is at the polls they must be met if the public interests are to be protected. The right is with us, the power is with us. Shall we assert the one and exercise the other?

Prince Bismarck, in a recent letter to the Farmer's Committee of Lower Franconia, touching protection, says: "The accomplishment of our common economical programme depends mainly upon the support it receives from the agriculturalists. The latter constitute the majority of the population of Germany, and are strong enough to secure by legislation their own, and the whole country's interests, if at the elections they combine among themselves, and with the representatives of other productive trades endeavor to return only such Deputies as are resolved to protect and advance German labor and production, and assist them by reducing direct taxes and commercial burdens."

What Bismarck says of the power of the German farmer may be said of the American farmer.

The resolutions intended to give effect to the spirit animating the Farmers' Alliance in its recent session, are as follows:

Resolved, That we regard the question, whether the transportation of the country shall be guarded by legislative enactment against abuse or not, paramount to any other question in State or national politics; that we will vote only for candidates for legislative offices who are known to be with us in these reforms, and who can be trusted against corrupt influences; that in districts where both political parties put such men in nomination, we will follow our political preferences, but when opposing candidates are in nomination, one of whom we can trust on this question, and one whom we cannot, we pledge our votes to the candidate favoring these reforms.

Resolved, That we ask such change in the laws regulating the assessment of property for the purpose of taxation as will equalize the burden, making personal property bear its due share in proportion to value.

A COMMISSION was appointed in Belgium lately, to test the comparative merits of skimming milk after standing, following the ordinary method, in porcelain pans, or in specially constructed pans, immersed in a receptacle containing running water or susceptible of receiving ice. The same quantity of milk, 90 quarts, was placed in the pans, and allowed to throw up the cream during 24 hours: the pans were then skimmed and the cream churned. There was invariable 11 per cent. more butter, and of superior quality, obtained from the milk artificially cooled than that treated in the ordinary way.

PARIS, France, Aug. 13.

GEORGE was a good boy. He was always willing to take good advice. The teacher told him one day that he should avoid the appearance of evil. George remembered this. When he stole Farmer Clover's apples that night, he saved the cores and dropped them in front of Dick Blackerskite's yard. Dick was a bad boy, and got punished for stealing Farmer Clover's apples, but George avoided the appearance of evil. He ate the apples. The good are always rewarded in this world, and the bad punished.—Boston Transcript.

WHILE ten men watch for chances, one man makes chances; while ten men wait for something to turn up, one man turns up something. So, while ten fail, one succeeds, and is called a man of luck, the favorite of fortune. There is no luck like pluck, and fortune most favors those who are most indifferent to fortune.

MODEL SILO.—An experimental silo has been constructed at Houghton Farm, Mountaintown, N. Y., to test the value of green corn fodder preserved in the form of ensilage. The silo is of the most improved pattern, the walls being of masonry, and the corn, instead of being loaded with weights, is fastened with iron rods and screws to insure the necessary pressure and to keep the ensilage from contact with the air. Analyses will be made of the corn fodder when fresh and also in the preserved state, to determine the chemical changes taking place in the process, and tests will likewise be made to ascertain the feeding values and relative profits of the ensilage as compared with field corn.

WITH corn at 60c per bushel, the glucose manufacturers will have to compete on an even basis with the sorghum men, and the owners of the new 12 story building in Chicago will look from its top upon the smiling cane fields of the Mississippi Valley with feelings the reverse of jubilant.

PAINT for PATRONS. THE BEST AND CHEAPEST. Immense Reduction in Prices from April 15, 1881. FREIGHT FREE. Quarterman's Ready-Mixed Paints. Used by Patrons all Over the Land. QUARTERMAN'S GUIDE TO PAINTING. WITH SAMPLE COLORS SENT FREE TO ANY PATRON. Send for our Prices before purchasing elsewhere. Address E. A. QUARTERMAN, may15-6m 159 South Street, New York City.

CLOTHES WASHER. We are prepared to furnish our justly Celebrated CLOTHES WASHERS in large numbers. We have been unable, until lately, to supply the increasing demand. The Washer is now in successful operation in more than a hundred families in this vicinity, and its merits are fully established. SCHOOLCRAFT WASHER CO. Schoolcraft, June 28th, 1881. july1-tf

MICHIGAN CENTRAL R. R. DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO. TIME-TABLE—MAY 9, 1880. WESTWARD.

Table with 2 columns: Accommodation leaves, Local Passenger, Evening Express, Pacific Express, Mail, Day Express. Times listed for Westward and Eastward.

L. S. & M. S. R. R. KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE. (Time 15 minutes faster than Kalamazoo.) GOING SOUTH.

Table with 2 columns: Le, Grand Rapids, Ar, Allegan, Ar, Kalamazoo, Ar, Schoolcraft, Ar, Three Rivers, Ar, White Pigeon, Ar, Toledo, Ar, Cleveland, Ar, Buffalo. Times listed for Going South.

Table with 2 columns: Le, Buffalo, Ar, Cleveland, Ar, Toledo, Ar, White Pigeon, Ar, Three Rivers, Ar, Schoolcraft, Ar, Kalamazoo, Ar, Allegan, Grand Rapids. Times listed for Going North.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. Corrected Time-Table—July 31, 1881. WESTWARD.

Table with 2 columns: Le, Port Huron, " Grand Trunk Junction, " Inlay City, " Leper, " Flint, " Durand, " Lansing, " Charlotte, " Battle Creek, " Vicksburg, " Schoolcraft, " Cassopolis, " South Bend, " Valparaiso, Ar, Chicago. Times listed for Westward.

Table with 2 columns: Ar, Chicago, Le, Valparaiso, " South Bend, " Cassopolis, " Schoolcraft, " Vicksburg, " Battle Creek, " Charlotte, " Lansing, " Flint, " Leper, " Inlay City, " Grand Trunk Junction, Ar, Port Huron. Times listed for Eastward.

All trains run by Chicago time. All trains daily except Sunday. CHAS. B. PECK, Traffic Manager. S. B. GALLAWAY, General Superintendent. For information as to rates, apply to E. F. Keary, local Agent, Schoolcraft, Mich.

The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, . . . NOVEMBER 1.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

CIRCULAR FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE, P. OF H.

The Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange, in session in the city of Lansing, have had under consideration the claim for royalty of one N. W. Green, for alleged infringement of a patent he claims to hold for driven wells.

This committee, without having given this claim that careful and exhaustive examination necessary to know its actual status, believe it to belong to that class of frauds that through the unjust and oppressive patent laws that disgrace our national statutes, furnish opportunity for pretenders to levy a species of blackmail upon innocent users of inventions that have been in common use all over the country for a long time.

It is a part of the scheme of these unscrupulous persons who undertake to collect royalty to wait until the use of an article has become general, that they may reap a larger harvest when they come to count up those they propose to victimize.

The successful issue of the suit instituted by parties in the eastern part of this State, three years ago, to collect royalty from Patrons for alleged infringement of patent by the use of the common slide gate, is still fresh in our minds. And we believe it our duty as Patrons, to make the same spirited and determined resistance to this new demand upon the farmers of the State for royalty, which then baffled and thwarted in the United States Court for the Eastern District of this State the further prosecution of a well devised scheme of robbery, after several thousands of dollars of royalty had been collected.

With the opinions we entertain we can but advise all Patrons and other persons interested, to refuse to pay one cent of royalty to N. W. Green, his agents or attorneys, or to any other person making a like claim, until such time as the claim is established as good and valid by a judicial decision in the court of last resort in the United States.

For the purpose of providing the means necessary to resist this claim, and of making the defense which we advise, we recommend that the Subordinate Granges of the State pledge to a DEFENSE FUND such amounts as they may severally feel able to give, subject to the call of the Committee in installments as needed, and that such pledges, signed by the Master and Secretary of the Grange and under its seal, be forwarded to the Secretary of the State Grange.

And we also invite all parties outside the Order interested in this matter, to make common cause with Patrons in this defense, and that they may share in the expense which such defense will involve we invite persons interested to contribute to this Defense Fund a sum of not less than one dollar each, the same to be forwarded to J. T. COBB, Secretary of the State Grange, at Schoolcraft, provided no organized resistance to this patent right claim is perfected by those outside the Order in this State. And if one or more organizations, having the same object, are perfected, they are hereby invited to make common cause with us in contesting the claim of N. W. Green, or any other party demanding royalty for driven wells, and share with us in the expense in all prosecutions. And we recommend and authorize Secretary Cobb to employ H. D. Platt, of Ypsilanti, to investigate the whole subject, procure evidence for the defense, and secure legal aid in his discretion, and make report from time to time to this Committee.

Bro. Platt's connection with the Slide Gate cases has given him some knowledge of patent right law, patent right lawyers, and patent right rascals, and we have entire confidence that he is the right man to take charge of this matter.

Secretary Cobb will issue numbered postal card receipts to all contributors to the Defense Fund, and make report from time to time through the GRANGE VISITOR of the progress of any and all suits that may be

instituted against Patrons or other contributors to the Defense Fund.

Whenever the matter in controversy shall have reached a final issue and determination, the Executive Committee of the State Grange will make a full statement of all expenditures, and all unexpended moneys of the Defense Fund shall be faithfully returned to the contributors in proportion to the amount contributed.

THOMAS MARS, J. WEBSTER CHILDS, F. M. HOLLOWAY, J. Q. A. BURRINGTON, WM. SATTERLEE, THOMAS P. MOORE, JOHN PORTER, Ex. Com. Mich. State Grange. C. G. LUCE, J. T. COBB, Ex-Officio.

Lansing, Oct. 19, 1881.

TO PATRONS AND THE PUBLIC.

This circular of the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Grange herewith presented sets forth a purpose to have the validity of the claims for royalty for alleged infringement of patent on driven wells, determined by the judicial tribunals of the country; provided the said N. W. Green, or his attorneys, brings suit to recover the royalty he claims.

The driven well is an institution of the country, and the hundreds of thousands of people, who by fair purchase and payment, have been in the undisturbed daily use of it for many years, are surprised to learn at this late day that they have been infringing all these years upon the rights of a citizen of another State.

To some this knowledge has come through a notice to the party addressed to call at a designated place, and pay the sum of ten dollars for a single well, and an indefinite amount for a greater number. As this notice is simply a bare declaration, with an unsupported demand for money, there is a general disposition to ignore this claim of Mr. Green until he proves up.

In coming to the front and taking this stand, the Executive Committee are in good faith, acting, as they believe, not only for the good of the Order, but for the best interests of a very large proportion of the people of the State.

Although the Patrons of the State are but a very small percentage of the people interested in this matter, yet we recognize the fact that in having a complete organization, we are in better condition to make a determined and protracted resistance than the great mass of people who are without organization, but who are involved in this matter.

While the Committee have unabated confidence in the Declaration of Purposes of the Order, which among other things declares: "We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange"—yet this is a case that cannot be reached in that way. Resort for the defense must be had to the courts, and the Committee are determined that if the "sineus of war"—the defense funds—are provided, this matter shall not be left to the uncertainty of conflicting claims and denials, but shall be passed upon by a final decision in the Supreme Court of the United States, provided the claimant succeeds in obtaining decisions in his favor in lower courts.

This will necessitate a large expenditure of money, which must be raised by voluntary contributions by the users of driven wells. We have no doubt the Patrons of the State will promptly do their part, and it remains to be seen whether other users of driven wells will come forward and contribute their fair proportion to this defense fund, or some other. We shall see.

In accordance with instruction from the Executive Committee we had printed a large number of circulars, and have sent a copy to every newspaper in the State, with a request to print the circular.

We also sent several to every Grange Secretary, with a little poster to call attention to the circular.

We are prepared to furnish printed blanks to all applicants, to be used in collecting this DEFENSE FUND.

We have endeavored to systematize this work as much as possible in the little time we have had, and believe that with the active co-operation of the Granges of the State we shall soon be in receipt of ample funds to conduct a defense.

But this business will not take care of itself; not some one must give it attention, but some hundreds. The people must be visited, the facts explained, and their dollars obtained for this fund.

Secretaries who receive the circular of the Executive Committee are the first to act. Then the Granges, by the appointment of a committee of one or more resolute, active members to canvass the township or district of the county, within the jurisdiction of that Grange, be it small or large, then the work of these committee men, and that work must be active, earnest, and determined.

Send for blanks for the use of this Committee, and they will be forwarded at once, together with more circulars, wherever they can be used to advantage. See that your local paper prints this circular of the Executive Committee and invite editorial comments.

Remit defense funds collected to this office, and be sure to forward with each remittance a list of the names and post office address of the contributors. This will ensure by the return mail a receipt to each contributor for the amount paid. A register will be kept of the name and post office address, the names numbered in regular Order, and the receipts will have a corresponding number.

The end of this thing may not be reached in a long time, and we hope the plan adopted will be carefully worked by those to whom the work is committed. The Executive Committee in making me the custodian of this defense fund, have not only imposed additional responsibility, but a very considerable amount of labor, which, to be of value to anybody, will require the co-operation of large numbers of the people of the State.

We shall make statements in THE VISITOR regularly of the state of the business, and hope our friends will abstain from writing letters of enquiry about this matter, as we shall have no time to give information in that way. THE VISITOR will tell you semi-monthly all we know about it.

ABOUT REPRESENTATION, Etc.

We find from our correspondence and from the official action of some Granges and conventions, that a misapprehension existed and still exists, in regard to eligibility of fourth degree members in the legislative bodies of the Order.

We call to mind at this moment a convention that elected a fourth degree member as a representative to the State Grange from a good Grange in a neighborhood of intelligent people. And the Patron so elected was in point of ability above an average of representatives who obtain certificates entitling them to seats in the State Grange as voting members.

To our mind this proves at least two things. First—that the members of the Order do not know of and appreciate the little pamphlet of fifty-four pages, the title page of which reads—

CONSTITUTION AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSES OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE OF THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY, TOGETHER WITH THE BY-LAWS OF THE MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE, AND FORM OF BY-LAWS FOR POMONA AND SUBORDINATE GRANGES, AND CODE FOR TRIALS. REVISED EDITION.

This pamphlet was compiled by the Master of the National Grange, assisted by Bro. Whitney, and is, we venture to say, second in value to no other compilation of Grange laws, rules and recommendations that has ever been published.

Secondly, that among the members of the Order there is a very general dissatisfaction with that feature of the fundamental law which confines representation in the State and National Granges to Masters and Past Masters.

The instructions annually given to the representatives to the National Grange from this State sustain this statement.

As this matter relates to the well-being of the Order, it is of course a fit subject for discussion in the columns of THE VISITOR. One desirable result would certainly follow such discussion. The members would become a little better posted and not likely to repeat the mistake referred to at the beginning of this article.

We had such faith in the completeness of this little pamphlet that we had several thousand of them printed, believing that but little alteration was likely to be made in any of the laws and rules therein published, and we made provision for such changes as the wisdom of the State Grange might devise by interspersing a few blank leaves through the book, or, better still, printed slips of such amendments may be pasted to those blank leaves.

We have these by-laws, &c., in our list of supplies, and think some of our members would be benefitted by becoming better acquainted. We shall be happy to give them an introduction at the regular price, ten cents for a single copy, or seventy-five cents per dozen, mailed to any address free of postage.

We have a letter from the Secretary of Fremont Grange ordering supplies. He represents the Grange as awaking from a condition of apathy, with a good prospect of return of delinquent members and some new ones. We often have cheering reports of this character. Will these Secretaries aid the work of introducing THE VISITOR to the attention of not only the members of the Order but those outside who have time to give the paper careful reading. Remember, copies are sent free on application to this office. Send for a package for distribution.

REVIEWING.

Our readers will find in this number some valuable contributions on the inside. First, a communication from Worthy Master Woodman of the condition of the Order in several of the States not before reported. These indicate that the Order is neither dead nor sleeping. Nearly all the reports are encouraging in character, and none more so than that from the Master of the State Grange of Michigan. Carefully read these reports.

"Work in the Party" is a fit subject for the careful consideration of the voting brothers, and the sisters who want to vote. Don't fail to read it twice if you have time, and then talk with your neighbors about the points made by our correspondent—they are vital to the future welfare of this country. We regret that the brother stopped so soon. Shall expect to hear from him again.

That Silo business is attracting a great deal of interest in some quarters. Our correspondent C. is an intelligent New England farmer, and will keep us well posted on this new method of preparing winter fodder, and from our personal acquaintance with him we are quite sure that we shall get the bottom facts without any coloring for effect.

Young America has been given a well deserved blow under the ear, in his care of the buggy, in the article from the Rural World.

Our Canadian friend is very much in earnest on the protective question, and we shall neither deny or affirm anything he has said. While the question is of vital interest to the people, yet its general discussion in these columns would not be "in order." Men of the best intellect hold such diverse views on this question, and the field of discussion is so broad and interminable, that both space and the good of the Order forbid that we open the door for a general discussion.

The Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan gets a good endorsement from "C." and right here we will add that what has been said about this society in the last two numbers has awakened an interest and brought several applications and many inquiries to this office. The society will certainly have a good fall growth.

We think "C." has perhaps reached a conclusion about the value of a railroad commissioner rather soon, but the subject should be better understood than it is. No question is more prominently before the people than railroad management. Without giving the matter thought, the average citizen would answer the enquiry at the head of the article that, as the service the commissioner renders is paid for by the people, their interests should have special prominence and attention in the work of his office. We want to hear more on this subject. In short, we should like a clear statement of the duties of this State officer under the law, and then we shall be prepared to consider the value of the law itself, after which it will be in order to enquire whether the railroad commissioner of this State is worth to the people what he costs them. From an acquaintance with the gentleman now holding that office, we feel loth to take the chances of getting more faithful service by an exchange for some other man.

Under the head of Correspondence are several letters of interest to Patrons. In glancing over them we see that we have forgotten to ask our Schoolcraft washing machine patentee to christen his machine and console our correspondent.

The resolutions adopted by Berrien County Grange on the royalty claim for driven wells, are a sample of what may be expected from every Grange in the State.

The value of the organization known as the FARMERS' ALLIANCE may be inferred from its address to the people of the State of New York. This should be read in every Grange once a quarter. It should be printed in every local paper all over the country; but it won't be, for the larger part of them are as indifferent to the demands of the people for legal protection from the encroachments of corporate monopolies as though they had never heard that a complaint had been uttered. This address is temperate and strong in statement, and reaches a conclusion so sensible and well founded that to that end every citizen loyal to the best interests of the country must come at last.

To the articles in the Ladies' Department we need not refer, as they are so uniformly good that we think it safe to assume that they are generally read.

The monthly crop reports seem likely to amount to something, and to the observing farmer will add very much to his knowledge of the relative value of different parts of the State. To the thousand correspondents of the State Department it is a school of training as well as information.

We sympathize with the neglected "Nephews and Nieces" who advertise for "Uncle Nine." We hope this free advertisement will be worth to the advertisers the space it occupies.

We are sorry that so much space is occupied by the Obituary Department in each number of THE VISITOR, but it is proof of one thing, that there are a great many Patrons in Michigan.

THERE is an error in the fourth paragraph of the Executive Committee's circular, as printed and circulated. Instead of "in the Supreme Court," it should read, "in the United States Court for the Eastern District."

THE LANSING MEETING.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Grange, held at Lansing on the 18th of October, found all the members present. The routine business of appointing Committees to arrange for special railroad fares and special hotel rates for those who attend the December session of the State Grange, and for arranging and preparing for its place of meeting was promptly done.

The Committee on Hotels discharged its duty and reported that the Lansing House and the Hudson House made their rates \$1.50 per day, and no charge for fires. The Chapman \$1.25 per day, and the Everett, Goodrich, and Barnes, \$1.00 per day.

The committee to secure place for holding meeting could not find any of the parties authorized to promise the hall of the House of Representatives, as the Yorktown Centennial had drawn them from the city. An application was left for presentation and I have answer under date of Oct. 23, from the Secretary of State as follows: "It affords me pleasure to say that the Board of State Auditor's consent to the use of the hall of Representatives by the State and National Granges at the dates desired, unless the Legislature should be in session." Further on he says, "I think that if an extra session should be called it will not conflict with the time of the meeting of the State Grange the second Tuesday of December."

This answer discloses the fact that the committee had applied for the use of the hall in November, 1882, provided an invitation, which the committee had directed the Master of our State Grange to extend to the National Grange, to hold its session of 1882 in our Capital City, should be accepted.

Besides this routine business, which always comes before the committee at its fall session, there was less business than usual. No cases of appeal were presented by Worthy Master Luce, and after the driven well matter had been disposed of, as appears by circular, and providing for music for the session, the committee adjourned.

MICHIGAN GRANGES THAT OWN HALLS.

To the list as heretofore published we make several additions. We begin to feel encouraged about this matter. We think asking for the same thing regularly twice a month, for about three months, will satisfy the most dilatory Secretary in the State that we are going to have a complete list of the Granges of Michigan that own halls.

Table with columns: NAME OF GRANGE, NO., SIZE OF HALL, VALUE. Lists various granges and their hall details.

INTERNATIONAL COTTON EXPOSITION.

We have received a letter from H. J. Kimball, President of the International Cotton Exposition, asking for the publication of the following circular. This Exposition was planned on an extensive scale. It opened at Atlanta, Ga., on the 5th of October, and will not close until the 31st of December. This circular is an answer to many letters of inquiry asking what provision had been made for board, &c.

"MEN'S ENCAMPMENT, kept in military style by Geo. A. Chafee. Board by the day, week or month, with or without lodging. Food of the best the market affords will be served, well cooked and first-class in every respect, at reasonable rates to all parties. Special terms made for Patrons of Husbandry, Masonic bodies, Military and other visiting organizations. Encampment on the slope overlooking the Exposition grounds. Satisfaction guaranteed. Address, George A. Chafee, Men's Encampment, Atlanta, Ga."

We had an article in the hands of the printer, from the Agricultural World, in answer to the question, "Ought farmers to pay royalties on driven wells?" The answer by A. E. Burlingame is good, and we were sorry to find, on account of its great length, that it must go over until the next issue.

Ladies' Department.

THE WIFE.

BY PERCY RUSSELL.

The good wife ever is the keystone strong That binds the arches of the social state; It is her quiet counsel that creates That solid virtue and endurance long.

WHAT IS THE GAIN?

If one should run a noble race, And at the last, with weary pace, Win to the goal, and find his years A harvest field of waste and fears.

What is the gain?

When, having reached a sunlit height, Through barren swamps of gloomy night, Hoping to see beyond the crest Fair lands of beauty and of rest.

What is the gain?

To sail for months of cold and toil Across wide seas, where winds roar only To gather strength, and roar A loud challenge than before.

What is the gain?

The race is won, we see the light, We conquer where the storm-winds fight; We show the way to those who wait With faint hearts by the walls of fate.

Our Childhood Home.

How beautiful and touching are the memories of our early childhood home. Memories of the time when our hearts were light and free and the sorrows of this world had not encompassed us.

In imagination again with our playmates, we tread those old familiar grounds, gather flowers and nuts in those same old woods and together drink of that cool spring which quenched our thirst in days "long, long ago."

We remember too, the friends and loves of early days, the pledges of friendship, the promise that whatever may come we never would forget each other.

Life then, instead of a great wide sea where we must battle with the waves of adversity and temptation, seemed like a beautiful, peaceful river, on which we might launch our boat and sail up and down gathering the golden, luscious fruit that grew on either bank.

As soon as a little surplus means had been accumulated (and sometimes before), people in the rural districts erected a sort of a mansion, or pulled down the old house and built larger, and have now a good deal more room than is necessary, or can be utilized, thus making hard, slavish work for the women-folks to keep it in order.

Home is not merely a place on which the architect and upholsterer may display their skill, but the place where all the love of which our natures are capable should center, where father, mother, brother, and sister shall each strive to add to the happiness of the other.

Happiness is like a beautiful mosaic, composed of many smaller stones, their color blending together in perfect harmony; so should our deeds of love and kindness form a jewel beyond all price—our own and others' happiness.

by his enemies, and was supposed to be confined somewhere in a foreign castle. A devoted courtier determined if possible to discover the place of his concealment and effect his rescue.

Nor was his faithful search in vain. The captive prince, who long had pined in hopeless woe, so long that even the spirit of resistance to captivity had died out in his bosom, heard softly stealing out upon the air one day, a sound that startled him out of his stony grief—a harp, a voice, a song, that thrilled him, filled him, transported him back to the home of his childhood, and the friends of his youth.

To many a man, the memory of his early home, his mother's early counsels, and his mother's prayers, have been the means of his salvation, body and soul. My sisters, what are we doing, each in our own sphere, for the ennobling and elevating of the human race?

All through the history of our Nation, in times of direst need as well as in days of prosperity, the women of these United States have been a power and honor. What is the work and honor of to-day? To my mind, greater far the honor of training such a son as our late lamented President than ruling Victoria's realm.

A few days since I sat watching the bricklayers at work upon a building opposite our Grange hall. I noticed with what patience and precision each brick was put in its place, one at a time. Slow work it seemed to be. And the thought came to me—what if they should grow careless or impatient, and each layer of brick as the building grew be only a little out of place, or that they should give up in despair, what or where would the structure be?

There has a mania prevailed to a great extent within the last ten years, that of building very large houses. As soon as a little surplus means had been accumulated (and sometimes before), people in the rural districts erected a sort of a mansion, or pulled down the old house and built larger, and have now a good deal more room than is necessary, or can be utilized, thus making hard, slavish work for the women-folks to keep it in order.

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pitied her that she had such erroneous ideas—that they did not need a pleasant cozy sitting room, and those articles which render a room attractive and home like. It seemed to me they needed it all the more because the young folks had gone from that home, and taken so much of the music and sunshine with them.

A gentleman replied to an inquiry in regard to the health of his wife: "How many times I am sorry we were so foolish as to build such a large house, as it is one cause of her poor health. She is anxious to keep it in order, and the care and oversight is too much for her, and too great a tax on her strength."

I think if a large proportion of the house-keepers were asked their opinion in regard to the size of the house for comfort, convenience, and pleasantness, the answer would invariably be—one of medium proportions. I have written on this subject for the benefit of those who are contemplating the erection of an entire new house, or remodeling the old one, and to call up a discussion between the sisters through the columns of the VISITOR.

I will submit another question for discussion, "Shall farmers' wives occupy the kitchen instead of the sitting room after the house-work is finished?" MYRA.

Cheering Words. [Written by a sister of Hamilton Grange, No. 355.]

Worthy Master, Sisters and Brothers:—To you I return my sincerest thanks for the kind reception extended to me on my advent into your honorable Order. By so doing you have conferred upon myself lasting obligations, and to fulfil these to the utmost of my poor abilities will be a pleasure as well as a duty.

A word of good cheer, by way of reply to some well meant, but rather disconsolate, remarks of a highly esteemed sister, in our last Grange, in regard to the small number in attendance, also the semi lukewarm condition its members appeared to have fallen into. Although this may be the state of our Grange and many others throughout the land, while it perplexes it must not discourage or most surely not appal. As we scan the annals of all societies, either secret or open, even nations that may be republics, kingdoms, or empires, we behold that they have to encounter "Alps on Alps" of obstacles, however difficult or hazardous, for there is nothing perfect on this earth.

With permission we will glance over two or three from the many secret societies. The Odd Fellows have been the least paralyzed at any time, and have enjoyed prosperity with a very few misfortunes. Forget we must not, that little earnest band the Good Templars, who have the most powerful and wicked potentate to contend with known to humanity, whose reign extends over all nations under the sun, beating and driving them back with his merciless sword on every side, bringing countless miseries, dire calamities, death and destruction throughout his limitless domain. Need I name this terrible tyrant? Doubtless you know him. Though few in numbers, from pure exhaustion, they yet live, and may our prayers in unison rise that the Good Templars never die.

The Free Masons—can it be said their path has been smooth and bordered entirely with flowers, with their most fragrant aromas to cheer them on their way? On the contrary, however dark the shadows that have surrounded them, they have been faithful to one another, and well and wisely they in secret council keep their deeds of good or ill. As the years pass on their brotherhood increases, while they encircle alike within their mystic bands the Bedouin of the Sahara's burning sands, the Indian of America's deep forests, and from these through all grades in life to the President and his cabinet, the royal crowned heads of kings and emperors. Leaving all these, with their merits or demerits, we turn to state and church. Our own beautiful fatherland, "the home of the brave and the land of the free," has had its days of revolution that tried men's souls, but those Ironides despaired and lost not their cause of right. Even through two more wars, nothing daunted they came to the dreadful days of anguish which hung over us like a sable pall, and that fearful baptism of brothers' blood reigned, yet despair did not conquer, and to-day our republic is a pride and glory among nations.

Time will not permit me to speak of other countries, and I will give one more grand example—the Head of the Christian church. Looking back 1880 years and over, when the morning stars sang together for joy when the Prince of the House of David came to fulfill the severe Messianic Pentateuch, and leave us an easier, more beautiful law that we might live by and be happy. He healed the sick, raised the dead, and did other astonishing miracles without number, his teachings were pure and holy, his life spotless, thousands believed on him, yet he found no perfection. They who were clothed in purple robes condemned him to death for a deceiver. Lo, he received the ignominious death of the cross, the only Son of God.

Again I say, be of good cheer. Neither let us faint or fall by the wayside, for there is nothing great or good that is lightly won. We should revere and respect the Grange as the storm-tossed mariner, amid dangerous rocks, does the friendly beacon in a harbor of safety. To do so we have only to follow its precepts and obey its injunctions. HAMILTON.

What Shall We Eat? We are told in the inspired writings "not to trouble ourselves about what we shall eat or what we shall drink," and yet it is among our uppermost thoughts what shall we eat to-day. If a person were to read and treasure up one-half the articles published in the newspapers now-a-days, one would almost wish to live without eating, or that fasting forty days, like Dr. Tanner, were the rule rather than the exception; but then to sustain life under such difficulties would seem too much trouble, and many would give up the contest, not having sufficient will power to hold out for any great length of time, and they would at once cease to work and live. But, as we are of the "earth earthy," we must exercise some care to prolong life. Looking over the long list of adulterated articles of food, there does not seem much left to select from, so much is pronounced deleterious to the human system.

But I am not going to discuss what we buy at the grocery, but the meat question. In the last number of The World I find an article in favor of eating pork, and then taking up another paper I find an article very outspoken in its tone saying, "pork has long been considered deleterious to the human system, and that she (the writer) never shortens anything with lard, nor keeps it about the house." Pork that is fattened on the farm with corn, apples, and milk from the dairy, is no more injurious than some of the cheap beef we find in the market. The lame, blind, and old, perhaps diseased, creatures are fed until they do not show their ribs too plainly and then sold to the butcher who comes to drive them to the slaughter house. He puts the cruel ring in the nose of the animal, or ties it head and foot, and the creature, not knowing what to do or where to go, is beaten and tortured until it becomes enraged, blood up to fever heat and meat almost poisoned from the nervous excitement. If we are to relish what is set before us it is sometimes a good idea to be blind, deaf, and stop thinking (if such a thing were possible) until we get a good square meal. The grand, strong, sinewy people of the New England states ate pork and used lard, and we read of the baked pork and beans, and of the great variety of pies at Thanksgiving dinners, where all gathered at the old home and enjoyed the festivities of that time-honored holiday. My experience tells me that I meet with as many invalids who never taste pork or lard as there are who indulge in eating both. Some people say it is coarse and vulgar and makes our complexion gross; be that as it may, I know of a family of four sons and three daughters that have anything but fair complexions, full of pimples and festering sores, and they never have a particle of pork about their house. A physician once ordered pork fried to a crisp, or toasted on a fork over the coals, for an aged gentleman of my acquaintance. He said the coating of the stomach had become inactive and had lost its power to aid in digestion. He also said wholesome pork had many times cured people who were suffering from dyspepsia. A gentleman from the city occasionally came back to the "old home," and he would say, "Mother, cook me some pork just as you used to when I was a boy. I am tired of beef." Of course in warm weather when a person's appetite is none of the best, pork is not a suitable article of diet, but later in the season when the new potatoes are white and crisp, a few slices of pure nice pork, cooked either by broiling or rolling in flour and thoroughly done, how it relishes, and the farm hands, tolling early and late, crave such a substantial meal. I do not advocate eating all pork and no other meat. Beef that is all right and mutton are good for a change. In hot weather use mackerel, codfish and halibut, which are very relishable, but I do say that a farmer ought always to have some pork put away to treat the persons who surround his table with, cooked in different ways.—Myra in Agl. World.

Michigan Crop Report for Month of October. For this report returns have been received from 1,002 correspondents, representing 674 townships. Six hundred and twenty-nine returns are from 386 townships in the southern four tiers of counties. The returns were made between October 1 and 14.

The estimates show that the acreage sown to wheat this fall is but little if any greater than in 1880; that the number of acres of potatoes raised was about the same, but that the yield per acre not over two-thirds as much, and that the acreage of clover seed was about one-fifth greater, and the yield per acre one-fourth greater, than in 1880. As there has probably been considerable wheat sown since Oct. 1, the estimate is doubtless too low, and later reports are likely to change the estimates of the yield of clover seed and potatoes. Correspondents will be asked to again report on December 1 the acreage of wheat sown, and the yield of corn, clover seed and potatoes.

The following table shows for each county the average price of wheat during September, and the price Oct. 1, and as compared with 1880, the condition of pastures during each of the months of August and September; the supply and condition of beef cattle and sheep; and the yield of winter apples. The averages for the State are as follows: Average price of wheat during Sept., \$1.28; price, Oct. 1, \$1.34; condition of pastures during August, 65, during Sept., 73; supply of beef cattle, 84; condition, 87; supply of sheep, 98; condition, 93; yield of winter apples, 40; yield of peaches, 25.

In their "special remarks" correspondents have noted the effect of the drouth upon the various products of the farm. It was originally intended to publish a summary of these remarks for each county, but they are so nearly alike for all parts of the State that it seems to be unnecessary. The drouth has been general throughout the State, though it seems to have been less severe in the northern than in the southern counties. It has materially reduced the yield of some of our leading crops, particularly corn and potatoes, and has greatly injured the apple crop. Winter apples ripened prematurely, and have fallen to the ground in large quantities. Pastures have been so effectually dried up in some localities as to necessitate the feeding of stock.

In consequence of the difficulty of turning over clover sod for fallow, and of the very general loss of the spring seeding to clover, the area summer-fallowed was somewhat less than usual, and the acreage of stubble ground seeded to wheat has been correspondingly increased. The rains came between the first and fifteenth of September, just in time to enable farmers to put in their wheat in excellent condition. In some instances it was sown a little late, but this is not to be regretted in view of the continued warm and wet weather.

Table with columns: STATE AND COUNTIES, WHEAT, PASTURES, CATTLE, SHEEP, WINTER APPLES. Rows list various Michigan counties and their crop yields and prices.

A VIRGINIA farmer says: "About 25 years ago I commenced to pick out a small quantity of the best ears of corn when thinking. The corn thus selected was planted by itself, and had a better yield than the rest of the field. Every year since I have been saving more each year, picking out when the corn was husked, and spreading it in a loft until Spring. When I first commenced saving seed, it took 600 ears to make a barrel, while in the last few years it has taken but 285 ears to make a barrel. The corn is white, flinty and weighs over 56 pounds to the bushel."

FARMERS who wish to keep their stock in good condition, should provide a comfortable shelter for them during the cold, damp or frosty nights of autumn.

Patrons, Caution!

A Mr. Quarterman is representing that he is manufacturing a Paint equal to, or the same as the Ingersoll Ready Mixed Paint. The facts are that previous to 1876, A. M. Ingersoll manufactured under the Jas. Quarterman patent, but the paint proved to be poor and unreliable, and large quantities were returned as unfit for use, and great dissatisfaction was expressed by others.

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Is the only preparation based on the proper principles, to constitute a durable finish for walls, as it is not held on the wall with glue, etc., to decay, but is a Stone Cement that hardens with age, and every additional coat strengthens the wall. It is ready for use by adding hot water, and easily applied by anyone.

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.

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The only complete story of his noble life and tragic death. Fresh, brilliant, reliable. Elegantly printed in English and French. Magnificent illustrations, tract, handsomely bound. Fastest selling book ever published. By John C. Ridpath, LL. D. CAUTION Do not buy the cheaply re-ramped campaign books which the country is flooded. They are utterly worthless as an incentive upon the memory of the great dead, and a base fraud on the public. This book is entirely new. The only work worthy the name. Send 50c. in stamps for Author's outfit. J. C. CHILTON & CO., Detroit, Mich.

OFFICE OF

GEORGE W. HILL,

80 Woodbridge St., West,

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 7, 1881.

DEAR SIR:—I have decided to make every Grange the following offer, which will give each family represented an opportunity of saving a considerable amount on their groceries, and at the same time will be little or no trouble to the Secretary to transact the business.

I will send to any Grange, upon receipt of order with SEAL, the articles named in subjoined list, and if goods are not lower in price than at home stores, and not in EVERY RESPECT perfectly satisfactory they may be returned at my expense of freight BOTH WAYS.

My cases are made and arranged expressly for the purpose; goods cannot get damaged, or mixed; lids have hinges, and screwed down, the whole is a complete little GROCERY STORE; prices guaranteed two weeks. Don't be confined to the list if anything else is wanted, but I do want the case to go out complete. I am trying to solve the problem of how I can supply each Grange with their goods—especially Groceries—at the lowest prices, with the least expense to myself and least trouble to the Secretary. so that it will be to our mutual advantage. I think I have hit on the right plan, but may have to make some changes. If you ever expect to be benefited pecuniarily, accept my offer and try my plan long enough for me to get it into practical order.

ORDER NO. ONE.

- 12lbs. Best Jap. Tea in 2lb Pkgs, 45c.....\$5 40
24 " Best Rio Coffee in 4 " " 16c..... 3 84
6 " Gloss Starch 1 " " 75c..... 45
6 " Corn Starch 1 " " 85c..... 51
12 " Good Soap 1 " " 55c..... 78
12 " Baking Powder 2 " " 25c..... 2 40
12 " Cream Tartar, 2 " " 25c..... 3 00
6 " Ground Pepper 1 " " 20c..... 1 20
6 " Ground Ginger 1 " " 25c..... 1 50
3 " Nutmeg 1 " " \$1.00..... 3 00

Total.....\$22 08

Empty cases to be returned very soon.

LAMP CHIMNEYS ARE PACKED SIX DOZEN IN A CASE.

- Size "0"—smallest—40c per doz., or \$2 40 per case.
"1"—medium—45c " " " \$2 70 " "
"2"—large—60c " " " \$3 60 " "
Sold by the case only.

1 Bushel Baskets, \$2 00 per doz. OYSTERS IN CANS AND BULK. ROGER'S PLATED WARE. SCALES OF ALL SIZES AND KINDS.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

SALT. I will furnish Salt for stock and fertilizing purposes. IN BULK, on board cars at Bay City, at \$4.50 per ton, in car lots of 12 to 15 tons, which is equivalent to 63 cents per barrel. Freight rates to your station on application.

Everything in the Line of Merchandise Purchased for Patrons.

Observe the following changes in Prices from my last List

- Syrup and Molasses, about 5 to 10c per gal. advance
Beans,..... 45 to 60c per box "
Peas,..... 2c per pound "
Matches,..... 30c per gross "
Brooms,..... 25c per doz. "
Fine-cut Tobacco,..... 5 to 10c per pound "
Smoking "..... 2 to 5c " "
Soap of all kinds,..... 1c " "
Best Family Crackers 7c per lb. and 25c for barrel. Oct 1st

PATRONS' PAINT WORKS, MANUFACTURERS OF Ingersoll's Pure Ready-mixed Paints. OFFICE, 162 SOUTH STREET, NEW YORK. MASTERS and SECRETARIES Please write under Seal, For CONFIDENTIAL Circulars.

COOLING MILK and BUTTER.

We present here with an illustration of the Acme Creamer and Butter Cooler, manufactured by us at Schoolcraft, Michigan.

The advantage claimed for this Creamer over its competitors, is its combination of Creamer and Butter Cooler at prices within reach of all.

The water tank is lined with zinc, with an air space between it and the wood tank, which is lined with heavy inodorous waterproof paper. It has double doors, with an air space between, making it the most perfect non-conductor of heat or cold.

The Butter Cooler or Safe is made of galvanized iron, and is so placed in the water-tank that it is wholly surrounded by water, which keeps it at a low temperature. It is not only used as a Butter Cooler, but as a receptacle for fresh meats and all articles for family use usually kept in an ice refrigerator, and at no extra expense or labor, as the water that is used to cool the milk is sufficient to keep the cooler at desired temperature.

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. These cans, when filled with milk, are placed in the water tank beside the Cooler, and are surrounded and rapidly cooled by the water flowing among them.

The skimming is done perfectly by an arrangement upon the side of the milk can, and so simple that a child ten years old can skim a can in less than a minute.

By this process the cream is first drawn off, leaving all sediments in the milk instead of drawing off the milk and gathering all the impurities in the cream, such as thick substance, often streaked with blood, which many times escape the observation of the most careful butter makers. This gives the butter made by the Acme system, a reputation for purity, which insures a better price and more ready sale.

The Acme Creamer and Butter Cooler saves two-thirds, the labor in butter making, it is easily handled, and produces an even grade of butter, both Winter and Summer, which sells at a remunerative price to the producer. It is so arranged that all the water pumped for the stock, either by wind power or by hand, passes through the tank, that being sufficient, no extra labor is required. Farmers should investigate this system, and not stick so tenaciously to the old way, and be obliged, as they often are, to sell their butter at ruinously low prices.

Schoolcraft, Mich., August, 1881.

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE, MASTER'S OFFICE, GILEAD, MICH., August 23d, 1881.

MESSES. McCALL & DUNCAN: Gentlemen,—We have now tested the Acme Creamer until we are satisfied that it is a good thing. It makes less work with an equal amount of better butter than with pans. Yours truly, C. G. LUCE.

McCALL & DUNCAN, Schoolcraft, Mich.

After thoroughly testing your Creamer and Butter Cooler for the past two months, we can say that in all respects it is a complete success. It not only saves a great amount of labor, but furnishes a cheap and convenient place for milk and butter. During the extreme hot weather and thunder showers, our milk remains sweet. We have the same grade and quantity of butter without the use of ice. It is simple in its arrangement, and is easily kept clean; and lastly but not least, we regard it as possessing that essential quality of being a time and labor saving arrangement for making butter, and can cheerfully recommend it to all. L. F. COX & WIFE. Portage, July 30, 1881.

MESSES. McCALL & DUNCAN, Schoolcraft, Mich.,

I have given the Acme Creamer a thorough trial, by setting equal amounts of milk in the Creamer and in shallow pans in the cellar. From the shallow pans I made 2 1/2 lbs. of butter; from the Creamer 4 lbs., and better quality. I can make more butter and a great deal better quality in the Creamer with one-third the labor. The Cooler will keep butter in a splendid condition for any length of time. It certainly is as necessary to have a place for the preserving of butter until ready for market, as for the raising of cream. After using it through the heat of the summer, I find the Cooler an indispensable addition to the Creamer. You will always find me a true friend and warm advocate of the Acme Creamer and Butter Cooler. MRS. O. H. FELLOWS. Prairie Ronde, Mich., July, 1881.

Send for Circular and Price List. McCALL & DUNCAN, June 15th. SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

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It works in ONE LINE and in that line it excels. The tender, Nervous Girl, the anxious, expectant Mother, the overburdened Housewife, the Matron, passing the critical change, are all guarded, soothed and sustained by its Gentle Influence. It is the prescription of an experienced Physician, perfected during a life-long practice, and its nine years of public record, in 30 different States, have proved it rightly named—A FRIEND INDEED TO WOMAN. The good words of those who use it are its best advertisement. An 8-ounce (\$1.00) bottle, or a 20-ounce (\$2.00) bottle sent on receipt of price, express prepaid, also references and testimonials, on application to

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As a combined machine, it stands unrivalled in excellence, doing the work of a Harrow and Seed Sower most thoroughly and satisfactorily. It has taken high rank at once as ONE OF THE VERY BEST IMPLEMENTS FOR THE USES DESIGNED EVER INVENTED. Sows Harrow does not trail, and is of lighter draft than any other Harrow in the market. It received first premium and diplomas wherever shown in 1880.

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The EUREKA MILL

Stands without a rival in assorting grain and seeds. Separates and grades grain and seeds of all kinds; cleans perfectly; has six fans, is simple, runs easily, and works rapidly. Agitator in hopper, with lever and ratchet for regulating feed. The sieves are well made of copper and annealed wire cloth; other parts of the most durable material. The Eureka is the only mill in America that makes

Four complete Separations on two Sieves at one operation.

It separates cockle, chaff, mustard, redroot, dock, or any other small seed from your wheat; making one grade of seed wheat, taking the shrunk and cracked wheat out and cleaning it for market at the same time, besides putting the small flour seeds that may be in the grain perfectly clean by itself, also the cockle and chaff by itself. The Eureka does all of this in running the grain once through the mill. One dollar in cash will be given for every cockle or chaff that can be found in the seed wheat after being once run through the mill when properly adjusted. This mill was awarded the highest medal at Philadelphia in 1876, also at the last two State fairs of Michigan. Manufactured by HENRY CORTRITE, Lansing, Mich. For terms to Patrons address T. J. SHOEMAKER, Sec'y 637, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

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THE 5-TON WAGON SCALES.

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