

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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The Grange Visitor

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THE WORKING-MAN.

The noblest men I know on earth,
Are men whose hands are brown with toil,
Who, backed by no ancestral groves,
Hew down the wood and till the soil,
And win thereby a prouder name
Than follows king or warrior's fame.

The working men, whate'er their task,
Who carve the stone or bear the hod,
They bear upon their honest brows
The royal stamp and seal of God;
And worthier are their drops of sweat
Than diamonds in a coronet.

God bless the noble working-men,
Who rear the cities of the plain,
Who dig the mines, who build the ships,
And drive the commerce of the main—
God bless them! for their toiling hands
Have wrought the glory of all lands.

Fattening Cattle, No. 4.

BY C. G. LUCE.

I had intended closing No. 3 with a table of the relative (edible as printed) value of different varieties of cattle feed. But the table had disappeared, but has now been returned, and a few of the items are quoted.

One hundred pounds of well cured hay is used as the standard. Quoting from memory, I was in error in giving the value of wheat straw in the last VISITOR.

56 pounds corn equals.....	100 pounds hay.
62 " oats ".....	" "
105 " wheat bran equals.....	" "
165 " oat straw equals.....	" "
320 " wheat straw equals.....	" "
340 " mangold wurtzel equals.....	" "
300 " carrots equals.....	" "
500 " turnips equals.....	" "

The chief value of tables of this sort is they afford us a basis for a proper estimate of what we can best afford to do, or what we cannot do with profit. In order to apply the information contained in the table it becomes necessary to know how much cattle should be fed, and what the probable results. And here feeders as well as carefully conducted experiments will differ to some extent. But the rule that will prevail in a large majority of cases is as follows. For winter feed, fattening steers should be fed four pounds of good hay or its equivalent, to each 100 pounds live weight. Of course turnips, straw and even hay are too bulky to be fed alone for fattening purposes. Corn is too concentrated to be fed alone. A mixture of some or all of these different substances is attended with the best results.

Whether cattle should be stabled, and whether their feed should be ground or unground are questions about which men differ. I have tried stabling; have fed meal and whole corn; have taken some pains to test results, and have arrived at the conclusion that, on the whole, neither system has as much advantage over the other as some suppose. If a farmer is feeding a few, anywhere from two to eight, it is well to stable, and if grinding facilities are convenient, get his corn ground and feed meal. This is of more especial importance if intended for spring market. The reason why it is not as important if they are to be grazed is that cattle that have been stabled all winter do not do as well for the first few weeks on grass as those do which have been fed out doors. The better way is where a few calves are raised and fed for beef to crowd them along winter and summer until two years old. Sell in the winter, summer or fall, as circumstances shall dictate. At this age the breed and feed ought to be good enough to make them weigh from 1200 to 1400 pounds. Then they ought to sell at the top of the market. On our farm we keep but two cows and of course raise but few calves. Buy nearly all we feed. Have been feeding for the last twenty years from 20 to 60 head each year. Have always kept an account with my cattle. Have taken some pains to ascertain the best method of feeding and time of year for selling. The cattle are bought up in the months of November, December and January. Taking one year with another, have found the best time for me to sell to be from the first day of August to the tenth of September. The cattle are fed in a yard or lot with sheds, straw stacks or thick grove for protection. They are fed shock corn drawn from the field as fed. When on full feed they eat about one third of a bushel of corn each day. This with the corn fodder and straw is ample. We turn two pigs with three steers to utilize the waste or undigested corn. From December 1st to May 1st

three steers will consume 150 bushels of corn. The two pigs will gain 400 lbs. This gain at five cents will pay for 40 bushels of corn at 50 cents per bushel, leaving 36½ bushels to charge to each steer. If corn is ground and fed with cut straw or fodder the result so far as feed is concerned is not widely different. So far as the effect upon the cattle is concerned 12½ lbs. of meal is equal to 18½ of whole corn. After paying toll we receive about 50 lbs. of meal for a bushel of corn. At 12½ lbs. per day we should feed 37½ bushels from December 1st to May 1st to each steer. The growth of the steers will be about the same in both cases. I am aware that the correctness of this statement will be questioned by some feeders.

There is a popular belief that feeding corn to cattle is attended with much waste, but a careful test will prove that this is a mistake. When we add the extra labor in husking and preparing the corn for the mill, and in feeding, the method practiced in this vicinity is on the whole, the most economical. For me it has been attended with better results than grinding.

In the statement of the growth of the pigs I have estimated below rather than above the actual result, taking one year with another. The price is stated less than hogs are worth to day, but is given at a price relative with corn at 50 cents per bushel.

In the next VISITOR we will conclude this series of articles.

System and Economy in Farming.

The science of agriculture, if it may be called a science, is the oldest and most essential occupation of man. The first requirement of our great progenitor was to dress the garden and to keep it. Notwithstanding its great antiquity there is no occupation that has been conducted with such reckless carelessness. Any man could be a farmer, no skill or system or education was required to run a farm. The young man that could swing the axe or hold the plow or drive the team had every requisite for a hired hand without knowing anything of the rules of grammar, the laws of chemistry, or the principles of philosophy. The young lady could command good wages if she knew how to milk the cows and churn the butter, without knowing the difference between a piano and a spinning wheel.

But these times are passing away, and men are beginning to learn that to be successful in any business, skill and system are essential. In no branch of industry are these more needed than in agricultural pursuits, for there is no business on which so much depends.

To make farming a success everyone engaged in it should adopt some rule to govern his labor, and rigidly adhere to that rule till he finds a better one. What that rule shall be each one must determine for himself according to the farm he occupies. The same rule will not apply to upland and bottom-land, to a grain or grass farm.

Whatever farm we occupy we should prosecute our work with system, use good sense. Never depend upon chance to accomplish what a well devised plan seldom fails to effect. Never overdo yourself or team by doing a big day's work to boast of when you are old, but let all work be regular, systematic and temperate. One overstrained act may lay you or your team aside for weeks. As the constant dropping of water will wear away stone, so systematic labor persevered in will accomplish much, and he who adheres to it will never beg for bread, nor want for help. A successful farmer will have a place for everything and everything in its place. His machinery and farm implements will be under shelter when not in use, and all his tools in order before the work commences. His stock will be made comfortable under good shelter with plenty to eat, and bedding to lie upon. His fences will be kept in good repair, free from bushes and briars, and everything will denote thrift and prosperity.

System in farming will require that accounts be kept of labor and money expended, and of the proceeds therefrom, so that if one branch of farming is not remunerative it can be abandoned for something that will pay.

But not only is system needed, but rigid economy is essential to success. And here is where so many fall—the rock on which so many farmers have been wrecked. No farmer should ever live beyond his means, no matter how small they are. All

extravagance should be avoided in living, in dress and recreation. It is bad economy to buy a fancy suit, and then be compelled to sell our produce at a low market to pay the debt or save the expense of a law suit. If we would use such articles only in our living as are conducive to our health and strength, we would save one-half in the cost of living. Tea, coffee, tobacco could be entirely dispensed with and no one would die the sooner. In most of families, sugar costs more than bread, and yet this article is mostly used to tempt the appetite to gluttony.

Economy should be practiced in the saving of fertilizers to enrich the farm, and to supply the waste that continued cropping occasions. For this purpose all stock should be housed in winter, and the cleanings of stables carefully preserved, formed into compost, and spread on the land in spring. A few years of such practice will convince any man that one hundred loads of well prepared compost is better for the farm than a thousand dollar mortgage. Everything in the shape of weeds, straw or stubble should returned to the land to supply food for plants. With me it is very doubtful economy to use plaster instead of compost as a fertilizer.

It is bad economy for farmers' wives to make butter and sell it for grease at eight cents a pound when proper care in its manufacture would make the same article worth twenty to twenty-five cents. It is not good economy for farmers living in the country to try to imitate their more genteel cousins in the cities and villages in their style of living. In flourishing towns where the side-walks are kept clean from filth and dust, ladies can sweep the streets, if they choose, with their silks and satins, but it would be neither economy or good taste for farmers' wives or daughters to sweep the cow yard or garden walk with their dresses.

In short, system and economy in all the transactions of the farm and the household, with diligent perseverance, will insure success, competence, and happiness; and farmers, instead of being looked upon as inferior in their calling, may rise to the dignity of the loftiest position, not only as equals in other professions, but the peers of any class that lives.

COURTLAND HILL,
Bengal, Feb. 7, 1882.

What is Ensilage?

Editor Grange Visitor:—If not too much trouble would you please explain for the benefit of a new subscriber how ensilage is made. I have the impression, though how I got it I don't know, that it is something of a saur-kraut mixture. If so, how does it differ from the brewer's grains which are so justly condemned. I believe that every kind of decay taken into the animal system helps that system to decay.

MRS. A. HAMILTON,
Peach Belt, Mich., Feb., 1882.

My Experience in Raising Potatoes.

Mr. Editor:—As it will soon be time to plant and sow spring crops, I thought I would tell my brother farmers who read your paper what I have learned by experience about raising potatoes. Born and brought up a farmer, I followed in the footsteps of our fathers in this branch of farming until a few years ago. I used to plant small as well as large potatoes and from four to ten eyes in a hill, and, as many farmers still do, I used to raise a great many small potatoes. When I determined to experiment a little in this business I selected the largest and smoothest for seed and cut them to one eye on a piece, planting two pieces in a hill in rows three and one-half feet apart each way.

The crop was better than I had ever raised before. The next year I again selected the best for seed, cutting as before, but putting only one eye in a hill, and using a bushel and a half of seed for three-fourths of an acre. When planting, a neighbor passing by gave me the comforting assurance that I was throwing away my time and the use of the land. He said he planted from four to six eyes in a hill, and that was few enough. The result was that I raised more potatoes than he did off from twice the amount of land. I took mine to market without sorting, and had the satisfaction of knowing that they were the best that had been offered for sale in that locality that season.

My little experiment not only taught me

something, but my success has proved of value to all my observing neighbors; and I recommend to all who raise potatoes to take the chances on at least a few rows this year, with but one eye in a hill, cut from the best potatoes you have. We are quite sure you won't need any advice next year in the matter of seed potatoes and planting.

H. F. CUMMINGS.

Stanton, Montcalm Co., Mich.

Talks on Poultry, No. 3.

SETTING HENS.

March, April and May are the months for raising chicks; many raise a few in early fall. Set only hens that will make good mothers, and that are not too heavy. If a hen acts as if she wasn't particular about sitting, say to her in the language of Shakespeare, "Lay on, Macduff, lay on." Set a number of hens at a time, and give the chicks to the hen known to be the best mother, not much over a dozen chicks per hen. Set hens in the evening, so they will get used to the eggs and quiet.

Set an odd number of eggs, as it makes a more complete circle. Eggs from two-year old hens are best for setting, and may be kept in a well ventilated cellar; avoid a hot, dry place. Be sure of your eggs. Mark each egg with a lead pencil with date and variety; this will also show if any fresh eggs happen to be laid there. If an egg breaks, cleanse the nest and wash the rest with warm water. There is no way of telling by the eggs what sex the chicks will be.

A man in Vermont has a room for sitting and another for laying hens. There is an opening like a doorway between the two. There are four or five shelves, one above the other, extending into each room, and enough boxes on each shelf to equal the width of the door. The room for laying hens is open and the other closed. When a hen finishes laying she is set, and the box shoved through into the sitting room, and another box put in its place if necessary. In the room for sitting hens is food, water, etc. In this way hens cannot lay to those that are set.

Always contrive to have all nests so hens cannot roost on the sides. For sitting hens there is no better way than to have a room which can be closed, and with a ground floor; have a lattice or screen wire coop over the hens if necessary. Keep your sitting room always supplied with food, water, and dust boxes. If your nests are covered, take off all the hens daily for food, etc.; and after they have finished eating let them out for exercise, and come back as they choose. If you make nests off the ground, put a fresh sod in the bottom of the nest, as eggs must be kept moist. Hay is the best material for nests; sprinkle with sulphur, and put a few tobacco strips in the bottom (the best use tobacco was ever put to). Mark on a card with ink the date and number of eggs, and tack over the nest; then register the same in a book. Then you will know what you have done at the end of the season. Success in anything is system.

Remove the chicks as hatched, and don't be in too much of a hurry to feed them.

Grand View Farm, } OLD POULTRY,
Kalamazoo. }

RAISING WEAK LAMBS.—A successful breeder of choice Merinos in Vermont writes: "Formerly as soon as I had a lamb drop, if it did not get up at once and take care of itself, or if it was weak, I had to take it into the house and keep it warm for the least chill is sure death. I have finally hit upon a plan that I think will benefit others who are breeding high priced sheep. It is to keep a few bricks on the stove, and when the lamb drops, put the warm bricks into a basket or box and a little straw over them; the lamb is put in the bed thus prepared, and he is up as quickly as in July."

The chief danger to a free country is not the corruption of the civil service but that of the legislation. The principles which regulate the civil service are responsibility and subordination; the principles which regulate the legislature are irresponsibility and independence. The former is under the complete control of the latter; the latter is under no control whatever. A corrupt civil service cannot exist where the legislature is pure; while a corrupt legislature necessarily taints the civil service. As it is less dangerous, so also it is more difficult, to corrupt the civil service than to corrupt the legislature. The civil servant, if bribed, is bribed to commit a violation of law, which is a crime; the legislator, if bribed, is bribed to vote, and to vote is his duty. If legislators are not steeled against the corrupting influences of railways, under our present system how can we expect them to become so against the constant baits of a stupendous monopoly controlling the wealth of the whole country?—Isaac L. Rice.

Communications.

The State Public School.

A short time since it was our good fortune to visit Coldwater, and while there the State school for the poor, which is located a mile and a half north of the city on the C. & Marshall road; and we were so pleased with what we saw and learned while there we thought that perhaps it might interest some of the readers of the VISITOR, hence will write of some of these things.

The Superintendent, Lyman P. Alden, kindly welcomed us and provided us with a guide under whose direction we visited the various rooms. Upon leaving the office we passed through the library, a nicely furnished room provided with a good assortment of books. In the school rooms we found the children engaged in the various exercises like those in any of our primary schools. After the close of the afternoon session the children are gathered in the chapel for a drill in vocal music under the instruction of one of the lady teachers, assisted by the other teachers in keeping the children in order.

Soon the supper bell rang and we heard the tramp, tramp of the three hundred hungry children approaching the long dining room each keeping step to the music of the bass drum played by one of the boys. After all were seated at their respective tables, at a signal from the matron every head was bowed and with voices united as one, the children repeated the Lord's Prayer, than which nothing could be more appropriate. During the meal and while filing from the room after it, we noticed that the older ones looked after and assisted the little ones—for there are some here only three years old—thus showing that they are taught to not think of self alone but to help one another.

Besides this dining room there is one smaller for the teachers, matrons etc., and still another especially for the use of the Superintendent and his family, with whom we were invited to sup, and from whom we learned many facts that we couldn't otherwise have obtained, for all of which they have our sincerest thanks.

While here we met two friends of former days, Miss Sarah Parsons, who is the Matron of the girls' cottage, and Miss Mary Houston who makes a very competent superintendent of the sewing room which is in the basement and is provided with sewing machines and everything necessary for the making of all the clothing required by the members of the institution. Cupboards filled with thread, buttons, factory, gingham, etc., all material being purchased by wholesale. We find the buildings all heated by steam and lighted by gas, each cottage provided with bath rooms in which each child is taught that cleanliness is one of the first laws of health.

The buildings are on the cottage and congregate plan combined, there being the main building and wings, in which are the Superintendent's residence and office, dormitories, for matrons, teachers, and other employees, the school rooms, the dining-rooms and kitchens in the rear projection; and the store-rooms, shoe-shop, sewing room, laundry, engine and boiler rooms, etc., in the basement which extends under the entire main building and wings. In the rear of the main building and connected with the same by a covered passageway are the eight cottages for about thirty children each, who are in charge of a lady cottage manager in each, whose duties are similar to a mother with a smaller family. The capacity of the school can be increased by the additions of cottages only.

The children are taught the common English branches as in our district schools. So far as their age will permit they are taught how to work, the boys on the farm of 41 acres, in the garden, the shoe shop, etc. The girls assist in making their own clothes and in the housework. Special effort is made here to cultivate in the children industrious habits. Life in this institution with a good school, moral and religious training, wholesome food, comfortable clothing, kind treatment, with good discipline soon produces excellent effects upon the children. Their moral culture has proper attention, as required by law, both in cottages and school rooms, religious services are held for the children each Sunday in the chapel, conducted by the Superintendent assisted by ladies and gentlemen from the city, representing various denominations.

The children entitled to admission are those of sound mind and body under 12 years of age, that are dependent upon the public. Until the buildings have a capacity for all such in the State the admissions to the school are divided *pro rata* among the counties in proportion to the number in each that are admissible. They are sent here by the superintendents of the poor on a decision of the judge of probate of the county where they belong, with a copy of the decision and an abstract of the evidence necessary for such a decision,—which papers form the basis of the child's history, and are kept upon the records of the institution. The law requires the board of control to place the children in good family homes as soon as practicable. The law contemplates that the whole life of the child during minority shall be as carefully watched over and all its interests as jeal-

ously protected by the State as by an own parent.

Anyone wishing a child from this school is obliged to sign a contract with the State, one clause of which is that "said child is to have a good common school education, and upon becoming 21 years of age is to receive, if a male, \$75 and two new suits of clothes, and if a female, \$50 and the same number of suits."

This school has a two-fold character. First, it is a temporary educational home for the children of the poor, to which poverty alone grants admission. Second, it is a merciful agency to restore a child that has lost its natural home to a family, home, and society. In its characteristic first named it is a branch of the educational department of the State, purely a school, making all its reports to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. This is the only government institute of the kind in any country. It is established and maintained entirely by the State for dependent children who without it would have no home excepting such as private charity or the county poorhouse may provide. The motives in establishing this school were first, to benefit these children; second, to benefit the State, the children being benefited by being removed from the streets and county house to good homes,—the State by a decrease in pauperism and crime. I must stop here after giving the names of those men to whom the State of Michigan is indebted for this institution, as being among the first to originate and cause to be executed the plan: C. D. Randal, Dr. S. S. Cutter, C. I. Walker, F. H. Rankin, Chas. E. Mickle, James Beems. A. S. W.

D. W. Ferry & Co.—Another Instance.

Bro. J. T. Cobb.—The letter from Fish Commissioner Miller published in your issue of February 15 reminds me of a similar transaction last year. I am well acquainted with a party who ordered from D. M. Ferry & Co. one bushel of white Russian oats and four packages of his valuable varieties of corn, paying well for the confidence (?) placed in their flaming advertisements. In due time the goods arrived "apparently in good condition," with letter accompanying stating that one of the varieties of corn ordered was exhausted, but they had substituted another equally good, retaining of course for said "equally good" corn price of that ordered. Each of these packages was beautifully illustrated with one of their "mutual agreements" to which the purchaser did not heartily subscribe, nevertheless the embellishment was so attractive that the corn was planted without any mental reservations. The oats looked well enough (when cleaned). But from the reputed bushel three pecks only of the seed were sown.

Results: Three packages of corn were planted by different neighbors under ordinary conditions and produced as well as other corn under as favorable circumstances. The other package, Blount's prolific, was planted under as favorable conditions as the first three and perhaps one grain in 25 germinated. Probably the "agreement" had slipped off this one. The three pecks of oats were sown upon half an acre of land well prepared and in good season, producing 14 bushels, machine measure. Norways sowed upon land alongside with same preparation, sowed and harvested at the same time and with same care, yielded 32 bushels per acre, a difference of four bushels per acre in favor of latter.

After harvest a letter came from aforesaid enterprising firm inquiring about yield, appearance, comparative yield, growth of straw, also price at which oats raised would be sold, with other legitimate questions. To this kind letter an answer was returned which was "as true as truth has ever been of late," giving the facts in the case, the producer however taking it into his head to ask some impertinent questions about the "mutual agreement" matter and to make some unpleasant criticisms upon the propriety of such proceedings, telling the firm at the same time that they had written to different parties whose testimonials they, D. M. Ferry, had published and had received no answers. To this a courteous reply was received; good was rendered for evil. They had failed to give the post office address of their references for the previous year. The mutual agreement was explained by the statement that all reliable seedmen labeled their goods in that way. With a thankful heart the man of oats replied that the year's crop would be cleaned and delivered at the railroad station for \$1.00 per bushel, with a request that the correspondence be published for the benefit of future purchasers. For some unexplained reason the oats have never been called for, and if this shall get a free insertion they will be most cheaply advertised, so that any one wishing to purchase the lot can have them at the same price, and should more be wanted perhaps D. M. Ferry & Co. would supply any friend of yours at reduced rates for advertising their wares.

GIDEON HEBRON.

Porter, Cass Co., Feb. 20, 1882.

It is only a few years ago that petroleum was discovered in this country. The export of that article, last year, amounted to \$40,315,596 against \$36,218,625 in 1880; yet this is but a small part of the production.

Paper on Country Roads.

The last Legislature revised the Acts of former sessions relative to highways, and passed Act No. 243, entitled "An act to revise and consolidate the laws relating to the establishment, opening and improvement and maintenance of highways and private roads, and the building, repairing, and preservation of bridges within the State." It is found on page 288 of the Public Acts of 1881. The act is voluminous and embraces 12 chapters and 142 sections.

On the whole it is a movement in the right direction, many of its provisions being an advance upon the laws repealed by a preceding act. The highway commissioner becomes in certain contingencies the most important officer in the township. Among other duties he is to report to the township board the amount of money received and how expended, the improvements made on roads and bridges, and the condition of roads and bridges, an estimate of the amount of labor or money in his judgment required for the next year, the improvements necessary to be made and the amount of money that should be levied for that purpose, which statement the township board shall present to the electors at the next annual meeting for their action thereon.

The highway commissioner shall have the general care and superintendence of all the highways in the township. Section 12 of chap. 3 enacts that "all road work hereafter done upon roads that have been opened and worked for ten years or more, except such as may be required for necessary repairs, shall have in view the permanent improvement of such roads by grading and turpiking. Elevations upon the line of such roads shall be cut down and depressions raised in order to form a grade as level as the nature of the ground will permit. Such roads shall be worked so as to form a turnpike sufficiently crowning to turn the water, with gutters adequate for drainage, and the width of the turnpike shall not be less than ten feet each side of the center of the road." Section 13 enacts that "after any such turnpike shall have been used one year the ruts shall be filled, after which it shall be grayed in cases where gravel can conveniently be obtained," and describes the manner in which the gravel is to be placed and the time when it is to be done. Section 15 permits "residents to pave or macadamize at their own expense." Section 1 of chapter 4 provides "that the electors of any town in the State may by a majority vote determine that the highway tax may be assessed on a money basis and paid in money, instead of labor, to be expended under the supervision of the commissioner of highways, subject, however, to the direction of the township board: conditioned, that where any work is required in one place exceeding fifty dollars the commissioner shall advertise for sealed proposals and let to the lowest bidder, giving good security for the performance of the work, such contract subject to the approval of the township board. And when the township has by such a vote decided to collect a money tax in place of highway labor as heretofore, the commissioner acting with the township board shall divide the town into not less than four road districts, in each of which districts an overseer of highways shall be elected, who shall report from time to time to the commissioner any defects in their several districts, and shall if required by the commissioner supervise the repairing and working of roads therein. Where townships have determined to avail themselves of the provisions of this chapter, the provisions of chapters requiring labor shall have no effect."

There are many other duties devolving on the commissioner of highways, such as planting shade trees on both sides of highways at a distance of sixty feet apart unless otherwise directed by the township board. He may also cause watering troughs to be constructed and maintained on the more important roads in the township. He shall cause guide-boards to be erected and kept in repair at all important road crossings leading to cities and villages. He shall have power to administer all oaths required in any proceedings before him, and the township clerk shall be the clerk of the commissioner of highways keeping, a correct record of his proceedings and an accurate account of all orders drawn by him on the township treasurer, stating the amount of each and in whose favor the same were drawn. Some States have already adopted a plan substantially like the one proposed by chapter 4 of this act and after a trial of several years are more than satisfied with the results. Massachusetts passed such a local option act and the townships which availed themselves of it advanced at once to the front in the character of their country roads.

The best road ever traveled by the writer of this article is found in Washington city. It was constructed by "Boss Shepard," and for a time, owing to the expense of construction, rendered his name a by-word everywhere. But as time has proved the durability and absolute perfection of the roadway it would not be a surprising thing if the same name had a statue erected to its honor. He adopted the mode introduced in England by Thomas Hughes. After the surface is prepared by the proper grade, which in Washington is a very slight convex surface, a concrete of gravel and minutely pulverized quicklime was then applied to the depth of

six inches, care being taken that the lime be perfectly slacked. Another four inches of very finely broken stone is then placed upon the concrete and made absolutely even by the application of an immense steam roller of 48 tons weight, the last application of stone being made just as the concrete is about to set. Many miles of this pavement are in use in Washington and justly give it the name of the best paved city in the world.

As the act of last winter seems to look toward "permanent improvement in graveling" I have examined good authorities on the subject of improved country roads and will briefly refer to them. Mc Adam of England, whose name has become so familiar, advocates a thorough drainage, making a solid dry path on the natural soil, and then applying broken stone of small size, making a coating of from six to ten inches which, he says, becomes waterproof and sufficient to carry anything. Thorough drainage, however, is indispensable and the ditches at the sides must have openings at every opportunity that the drainage of the roadbed may be secured.

Mr. French of New England in an exhaustive article on the construction of "country roads" says: "We have urged the importance of drainage at some length because we are sure that in no particular in the construction of common roads is so much money wasted as in the vain attempts to do the impossible thing of building a good roadway on a wet foundation." He says: "We know of instances when thousands of loads of gravel have been hauled upon a low or springy piece of land and the roadway rounded up so as to be unsafe to travel, when one-tenth of the money expended in drainage would have rendered the road safe and easy."

In this part of the State the highways are for the most part permanently located, and after a fashion "worked." This term, "worked," is so truthfully and graphically described by the author last quoted that all will admire the picture. He writes: "No one who has once witnessed the process of 'mending the roads' in a New England country town needs any argument to convince him that a system more ingeniously devised to accomplish nothing was never invented. The surveyors are elected at the town meetings and as the office is of no pecuniary profit persons of peculiar skill would not usually accept it; in fact the farmers generally take their turns in the office. Often some citizen who lives on a road out of repair seeks the office and is elected, and takes the opportunity to expend most of the tax on his own road and leaves the rest of the district to be attended to in the future. The surveyor selects not the season when repairs are most needed but that which is most convenient for himself and fellow farmers, after their spring's work is done, or after harvesting, and notifies every one assessed to come and work out his tax. The time arrives and at 8 o'clock A. M. a motley assemblage gathers, of decrepit old men each with a hoe on his shoulder; of pale merchants from their shops, armed with worn-out shovels; half-grown boys sent by their mothers, who, perhaps, are widows; possibly the doctor, the Lawyer, and even the Minister, all of whom understand that "working on the road" does not mean hard labor. The farmers bring their steers, great and small, with the old mare in the lead with a cart; and the Irishman drives up with a rickety horse cart and the mortal remains of a railroad horse to do his part. Here is the surveyor who never held the office before and who knows nothing of road making or of directing a gang of hands. The work must go on some way; with the roads are soft and full of ruts or rough with stones. The stones must be covered, and the roads rounded up into good shape. The cattle are all put to the big town plow which is set at the side of the road. The boys ride the beam and the drivers put on the lash, and the gutters half filled with sand and soil, and leaves of a dozen summers are plowed up. The shovel and hoe men waiting patiently for their turn to work. The teams now stand idle, and this mixture, more fit for the compost heap is thrown upon the road and finally smoothed by the old men with their hoes, and thus the road is "mended." The occasion is regarded rather as a frolic than as serious labor. The old men tell stories to an audience always ready to lean on their tools and listen. The youngsters amuse themselves by all sorts of practical jokes, among which the favorite one is to overload the carts, when any carts are used, so as to stick the teams." He says: "The whole system of overseers at town meetings, and receiving labor instead of money, should be abolished, and a competent road master should be appointed for each town who should be held responsible for maintaining the roads in good condition, and who should employ the labor and expend the money necessary to do so." He says: "In some towns in Massachusetts this plan has been adopted with great economy and success. The town of Waltham may be cited as an instance where this plan has been tested. There are in the limits of the town 51 miles of roads, and for nine years they have been under the charge of one superintendent. It is an admitted fact that no town in all that region has highways so uniformly good as Waltham." Mr. Carter, the superintendent thus

describes the method employed in that town. "The town owns three good horses with plows, carts, and other necessary tools. There have been usually employed eight men in the summer, and six in the winter. Most of the time in the winter is employed in excavation preparation, and hauling of gravel to places of easy access for use in the summer. In early spring the men go over the road with picks and hoes filling the ruts, cleaning out ditches and watercourses, and picking off the loose stones. Any bad spot is noted and as soon as practicable repaired. From April to December at intervals of about six weeks the workmen go all over roads and pick up and remove all the loose stones and rubbish found thereon." He adds: "The importance of constant care in keeping up a road cannot be overestimated. A road kept in the best condition receives least injury from travel and therefore requires the least expenditure for its maintenance. When roads are fairly constructed on a permanent plan the best authorities agree that a thin covering of proper material often applied is of much greater value than a large quantity of gravel at one application.

Penfield, an eminent English road masters, says: "Suppose it necessary to increase the substance of the roads and it is intended to apply material for that purpose, and not merely to make good the wear and tear. It should be done by thin coats. As soon as one is embodied in the road apply another, and another until the desired thickness is attained, but by no means put the whole thickness on at once." Law, another eminent authority on road making in England, says: "It is certain that many roads are spoiled by having too much material put on them at one application. Roads should always be under repair. Every road should be divided into lengths, on each of which an intelligent laborer should be placed to attend constantly and all times to the proper state of the road, for which he should be responsible, as it is vastly cheaper to keep a road in repair than to renew it when it has been neglected." An intelligent author in speaking of the application of these coatings says: "It may seem a trivial matter, perhaps, to give specific directions regarding the spreading of the materials applied. The common method is to shoot down a cart load upon the spot needing repair and another and another at short distances, then with hoes and shovels a portion is thrown each way, the main body remaining where it was dumped. Roads repaired thus are almost always undulating. Those parts where the dumps were made remaining more solid than the rest. The best mode is to deposit it in heaps a little one side of the pathway and then scatter it evenly with the shovel as if sowing grain over the surface; an even coat will thus be given.

It will be seen in the opening of this paper that our Legislature has made an advance movement on the line in the direction of the improvement of our country roads. Some counties appreciating the value of such a movement have already organized what is known as a highway improvement association. Their object in part is to cultivate a public sentiment in favor of paying the road tax in money, and expending it in making good gravel roads under a competent road master, as a good solid road will greatly enhance the property value of any town where it is constituted. If every county in Michigan would organize such a society and act efficiently it would be hardly possible to overrate the benefit to our community. In this connection I clip the following item from the Kalamazoo Telegraph:—

Last week there was a meeting of what is known as the highway improvement association at Buchanan. It was attended by prominent citizens of Berrien county, and excellent addresses on road making delivered. The object of this association is to keep the road question intelligently in mind and give Berrien county better roads. Kalamazoo might well adopt such an organization. Nothing pays the county better than good roads.

I think a change in the act of revision of last winter might be made with beneficial results by making the term of the official in charge more permanent. He should have time to carry out a system of improvement reaching through a term of years, if he is the right man for the right place, and surely every old settled town may be supposed to have a citizen qualified. And now it only remains for the people of the State to consult their best interests by embracing the opportunity presented by the Legislature, and in a wise expenditure of a money tax secure good and permanent roadways "in the good time coming."

ELI R. MILLER.

"HONESTLY and equitably managed railroads are the most beneficent discovery of the century, but perverted by irresponsible and uncontrolled corporate management, in which stock watering and kindred swindles are tolerated, and favoritism in charges is permitted, they become simply great engines to accomplish unequal taxation, and to arbitrarily re-distribute the wealth of the country. When this state of things is sought to be perpetuated by acquiring political power and shaping legislation through corrupt use of money, the situation becomes more serious."

We once saved the life of an infant which had inadvertently been drugged with laudanum, and was fast sinking into the sleep which knows no waking, by giving it strong coffee cleared with the white of an egg, a teaspoonful every five minutes until it ceased to be drowsy.—Hall's Journal of Health.

DO AS NEAR RIGHT AS YOU CAN.

The world stretches widely before you, A field for your muscle and brain;

Remember the will to do rightly, If used will evil confound;

Though foe's darkest scandal may speed, And strive with their shrewdest of tact

Success.

The successful accomplishment of anything furnishes the mind with an index to the stratagem by which we succeeded.

This position conveys to us the idea that all have an influence, and in the same thought we are impressed with the fact that this way is necessarily detrimental or beneficial in preparing the foundation upon which the world conceives us to endure.

The road to success is steep and laborious, but it may be shortened by ambition and energy, smoothed by cheerfulness and hope, and made permanent by honesty and fair dealing.

Thrift is very apt to make a man prominent in his own estimation, and before he can comprehend its presence, it has conceived his downfall.

Your merits and your demerits are made prominent in your achievements, and you will be judged by your successes.

JOHN HOPKINS.

Department of Agriculture.

For the VISITOR.

Brother and Sister Patrons and Farmers:—We should take courage and never give up until we succeed in making the Agricultural department equal in standing to any other department of the government.

The object of the bill is therefore plainly to put the great agricultural interests of the nation under the control of a branch of the government co-ordinate with, and equal in all respects to the department of State, War, Law, Postal and Finance.

We should all be heartily in favor of any measure which thus proposes to distinguish, honor and elevate the rights of the agricultural masses of the nation.

The whole system of agriculture in that historic country was superb and wonderful. With peculiar political and social arrangements, and their balmy and delicious climate, the country at its most advanced stages must have exhibited such an example of high cultivation, rich and varied produce, wide-spread plenty and contentment, as the world has never yet elsewhere produced on an equally extensive scale.

It comes to us from history, having inscribed on its banner a long list of honorable names. There was no greater praise among the old Romans than to be called a good farmer.

The most famous houses among the ancient Romans, such as the Pisones, the Fabii, the Senucci, etc., took their names from their favorite crops and vegetables.

"a land flowing with milk and honey," and in every country mentioned in sacred and profane history, the chief men have been husbandmen.

Cicero, the greatest orator and one of the greatest patriots and statesmen of the ancient world, in speaking of agriculture, puts the most glowing and exquisite language in the mouth of his Cato.

He says: "I come now to the pleasures of husbandry, in which I vastly delight. They are not interrupted by old age and they seem to me to be pursuits in which a wise man's life should be spent.

In Egypt, Chaldea and China, in the very dawn of authentic history, agriculture seems to have reached great perfection and success. From the paintings and inscriptions with which the Egyptians decorated their tombs we get the first knowledge of agriculture among that wonderful people.

In Judea, in the patriarchal age, the people were nomads, but rapidly turned to agriculture. Vast herds constituted their chief wealth, at first of sheep and goats, but finally of oxen.

Along with the Babylonians, Egyptians and Romans, the Israelites are classed as one of the great agricultural nations of antiquity.

Education is one of the most important features in our Order. Much of the future prosperity and welfare of Patrons of Husbandry depends upon the educational advancement of its members.

Acme Grange, No. 269. [To be continued.]

and control of territory. With the Greeks the dominant idea was the culture of art and aesthetics. This fact marks the great line of divergence and difference between these two great contemporary nations.

It was the custom among the Romans to send the evidences of the greatest success in agriculture to the emperors. Pliny tells us that four hundred stalks of wheat were grown from one seed and sent to Augustus; also that three hundred and forty stalks were grown from a grain, in another instance, and sent to Nero from Africa.

The mighty area of land now under super cultivation, the wonderful perfection of culture, the extraordinary efforts put forth by scientific, experimental and practical farmers to develop, foster and extend the science; the stupendous amount of products; the vastly improved methods by which these immense crops are gathered, garnered and carried to market,—are the greatest and truest and most enduring victories of our age.

Let me see you put some cornstalks into the stove," I said.

Mr. Ruggles stepped to the door and brought in a bundle of cornstalks about three feet through. They were bound tightly together.

"How long will they burn?" I inquired.

"Three hours. I don't let them burn with a flame. My stove closes airtight. I get all the heat there is in them. The stove is large, with an immense radiating surface. It doesn't have to be very hot."

"Now," said Mr. Ruggles, "five such bundles a day keep my sitting room warm—or 600 bundles for the winter. I can bind up 500 bundles of cornstalks in two days alone. I could not chop the wood to warm this room in a week. Then in the spring I have a load of strong ashes for my wheat fields, while my neighbors have to cut up the same cornstalks in the spring to keep them away from the barrow. It makes me smile when I hear these idiots up in Minnesota who have 50 acre corn fields, and must go cold or buy coal. Why, I'd rather burn cornstalks than cut maple wood within sight of the house."

"How would your wheat straw do?" I asked.

"Just as well, although the stove would have to be twice as large. I'd have it made of 16-inch boiler iron, four feet wide and four feet high, with one little damper which could be closed airtight."

These stoves can be made of sheet iron. Any tinner can make them. They should be large, air-tight vats with little pipes, and one little damper which could be closed airtight.

On each side of the stove, between the stove and the partitions, were layers of brick a foot thick, which acted as heat reservoirs.—Eli Perkins.

CLEANING HAIR BRUSHES.—Put a teaspoonful of ammonia into a quart of soap-suds. Shake the brush well in the suds, drawing a coarse comb through the bristles until perfectly clean. Rinse in clear water. The water should not be hot, as the brush will come apart, being put together with glue.

The iron draw in the bridge at Albany is opened in three minutes, 2,000,000 lbs.

it as closely as circumstances and seasons will admit. Thought and system properly employed can be made a profitable substitute for much of the hard work on the farm. Diversified crops, mixed husbandry, may be made profitable. Exchange thought and experience upon these questions, so as to profit by the educational advantages of the Grange organization, and our influence will be exerted for good in the community in which we live and with those with whom we are associated.

A Lawyer's Trick.

A and B are lawyers in Grand Rapids. They don't occupy whole flats for offices, richly furnished, nor do they ride in their own carriages, with liveried coachmen, or anything of that kind.—But they have keen eyes for business all the same.

Corn Stalks and Straw for Fuel.

The smartest man I've met in Iowa is a farmer near Fort Dodge. His name is Bill Ruggles. He owns a 400 acre farm, a splendid dairy, a coal mine under his farm, and a fine belt of hard timber within sight of his house.

"I see you burn wood, Mr. Ruggles?" I remarked as I held my hands up to warm.

"No, sir; can't afford to burn wood; it's too much trouble to cut it."

"Then coal, I suppose?" I continued.

"No, sir; too much work to dig coal. I am burning something that beats coal or wood—cheaper than either of them, though I have both coal and wood on the farm."

"Why, I burn cornstalks, sir. Cornstalks are the best and cheapest fuel on earth. It is ten times as easy to gather cornstalks and tie them into bundles as it is to cut down those trees. Why, I can go into the cornfield with two men and in a day bundle up cornstalks enough to warm my house all winter long."

"Let me see you put some cornstalks into the stove," I said.

Mr. Ruggles stepped to the door and brought in a bundle of cornstalks about three feet through. They were bound tightly together. The bundle weighed about forty pounds. Then lifting the top of the stove, he laid them in upon the glowing embers and closed up the front damper.

"How long will they burn?" I inquired.

"Three hours. I don't let them burn with a flame. My stove closes airtight. I get all the heat there is in them. The stove is large, with an immense radiating surface. It doesn't have to be very hot."

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The iron draw in the bridge at Albany is opened in three minutes, 2,000,000 lbs.

H. H. TAYLOR, DOWAGIAC, MICH.

Will sell on receipt of postal Orders about 50 BUSHELS of the JUSTLY

Celebrated Burbank Potatoes,

at \$1.75 FOR A SINGLE BUSHEL, or 6 bushels to one order for Nine Dollars, Sacks included. Also about 8 Bushels of

BEAUTY OF HEBRONS,

AT TWO DOLLARS PER BUSHEL.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

Kept in the office of the Secretary of the

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE,

And sent out Post Paid, on Receipt of Cash Order, over the seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.

Table listing various supplies and their prices, including Porcelain Ballot Marbles, Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep accounts with members, etc.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL R. R.

DEPARTMENT OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO.

Table showing train schedules for Michigan Central R.R. from Kalamazoo, including Westward and Eastward directions.

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

KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE.

(Time 15 minutes faster than Kalamazoo.)

Table showing train schedules for L. S. & M. S. R. R. from Kalamazoo, including Going South and Going North directions.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Corrected Time-Table—January 31, 1882.

WESTWARD.

Table showing train schedules for Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway, Westward direction.

EASTWARD.

Table showing train schedules for Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway, Eastward direction.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Corrected Time-Table—January 31, 1882.

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Table showing train schedules for Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway, Westward direction.

EASTWARD.

Table showing train schedules for Chicago & Grand Trunk Railway, Eastward direction.

All trains run by Chicago time. All trains daily except Sunday.

Genl. Supt. S. R. CULLAWAY.

Traffic Manager. General Superintendent.

For information as to rates, apply to E. P. Keary, local Agent, Schoolcraft, Mich.

The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, --- MARCH 15.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, --- SCHOOLCRAFT.

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To ten trial subscribers for three months we will send the VISITOR for \$1 00
Sample copies free to any address.
Address, J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft, Mich.

PREMIUMS—TIME EXTENDED—ANOTHER OFFER.

We offered some valuable premiums to persons who should send us the largest number of subscribers before the 1st of April, grading the same and giving any person who had sent us names an opportunity to include those in their count.

It has occurred to us that town-meeting day, April 3, some good work may be done in securing subscribers, and we therefore extend the time to include that day.

Now, while there are not a great many town-meeting days, there are a great many places in Michigan where town meetings will be held, and to induce some to take hold of this canvassing business, not only for the good of the Order, but for the inducement we offer.

We now propose to give a lithograph of the new State Capitol at Lansing to each and every person who sends us five subscribers to the VISITOR for one year, or their equivalent in subscribers for six or three months: \$2.50 in new subscribers to the VISITOR for any length of time will secure this engraving, which is on a sheet 22x28 inches. The engraving will be sent by mail, post-paid. To any person wanting sample copies we will send them on receipt of application, and shall be glad to do so. Friends of the VISITOR who have not the time or inclination to engage in canvassing for the VISITOR on town-meeting day, will do the Order good service by getting this matter into the hands of some one who will do work of this kind.

KALAMAZOO COUNTY FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

OUR FARMERS' GARDENS AND HIGHWAYS.

There are two papers on the inside of this number both of which were read before the Farmers' Institute at Galesburg, February 1, both of which were upon subjects of a practical character and of such importance that we give them entire.

This Institute was the only meeting of the kind that we found time to attend during the winter and are therefore not able to institute comparisons between it and others of its class that have been held elsewhere this year; but this meeting, when compared with the first held in the county—and that but a few short years ago—indicated a growth, an improvement of the average farmer that was most gratifying. The several papers called for by the program were able, and the discussions which followed were earnest and were entered upon without any of that hesitation and delay that used to give such painful proof that farmers were deficient in that schooling and training that is absolutely necessary to secure and maintain the position in business affairs to which the importance of their calling should give them place.

As we ran over the program we thought it a good one, as the papers were all upon subjects with which every farmer has more or less to do, and generally less upon the one assigned to Sister J. W. Strong, "The Farmer's Garden." This paper is found recorded on our sixth page, in the ladies' department. If we supposed the farmers of the sterner sex did not read the ladies' department of the VISITOR, we should not have allowed this most excellent paper to have got into that company, but should have given it place in the agricultural department, on our first page. But the ladies' department is so uniformly good that we think it safe to assume that it is always read by every farmer who takes this paper. If in this we are mistaken, we invite all such as are in the habit of neglecting this department to read "The Farmer's Garden," and if they don't see themselves as others see them, they have better gardens than the average Michigan farmer. Its reading should not only stimulate some good resolutions, but its well-said truths should show results in thousands of vegetable gardens this very year.

It takes a great deal of this kind of preaching to produce a complete reformation. In fact it must be had like that we get at church, continuously, to be effective and bring about great results. We should like short, reasonable articles on this subject for the next half-dozen numbers of the VISITOR: Shall we have them?

We started out to abstract the very valuable paper of Mr. Miller, but as we went over it we concluded that instead of serving up a part to our readers we would recommend every one who either pays taxes,

works on, or travels in the highways should read every word of the article twice. In this whole matter of road improvement the example of the shiftless farmer is followed rather than that of the thrifty one.

This is a seasonable time of the year for the presentation of this subject. The wretched condition of much of the roadway of the State is now apparent to every one who goes off his own premises, and proves to the most careless observer that the individual citizen is much less interested in what concerns him only in common with his neighbors than in his own affairs.

In the older settled portions of the State it is high time that an effort be made to call attention to this matter, and we are glad to be able to present for the information of our farmer friends some of the results of the last Legislature, bearing upon this subject. It strikes us that the amendments to the old law are in the right direction, and that the next thing to do is to arouse and fix public attention upon this subject of improving our highways. In a few days after the reading of this paper by several thousand voters of Michigan the annual town meeting for the election of township officers will be held. But just before that the caucuses of the several political parties will have determined that one of two or three citizens of the township shall discharge or rather hold the office of highway commissioner. Discharge the duties is putting it too strong altogether, if the condition of the roads has any sort of relation to those duties. Just now seems to be an opportune time to make a few suggestions. Is it not a fact that a man's special qualifications for this work are seldom thought of at a nominating caucus. The local politicians who arrange things seldom think of the suitability of a man for commissioner of highways. Anybody that has a hankering for an office will do, and too often, as far as the highways are concerned, it does not matter which of the candidates found on the tickets is elected.

Now this matter of roads, like your breakfast, concerns each person, and as a rule the people who live in the country more than those who live in villages and cities, and the difference in the condition of the roads over which each voter will travel during the year as between having a competent officer and an average highway commissioner will pay the voter more than harvest wages for time spent in attending the caucus of his party for the sole purpose, if no other, of getting the right man nominated to the office of highway commissioner.

Then, there are the overseers of the several road districts of the township that the blind statutes seem to expect will exercise some sort of paternal care and supervision over the roads within the territory assigned them. To us a weak point in the application of laws relating to this highway business has been, that so many men were charged with their execution. We have too many road districts and too many overseers of highways. With the custom of passing the office around a large proportion of these officers are of no sort of use. They have not given the subject of road making any thought, and what labor they get applied to the roads of their district is largely misapplied in time, place, or manner. From the manner in which labor is expended we have sometimes thought an average overseer of highways had never learned that it is dirt and water that makes mud, as so little effort is made to induce the water to escape from the traveled part of the highway.

Now the common selfishness that seeks our own good demands that in the selection of overseers that we make a personal effort to have some one elected to engage in the work with earnestness and intelligence, and we should elect and re-elect the most competent men for commissioners and overseers whether they are on our party, ticket or not. It devolves on the men most solicitous to improve the roads of the township to step forward, and, impelled by an entirely different motive from the politician who telegraphs from inner circles at 10 o'clock, P. M. to the county seat that "We have elected the entire ticket and every pathmaster," to do some work to awaken the voters to the advantages that must come to them by having competent men to manage the business of road making and repairing.

The exercise of a little good sound sense will not permit the setting aside of a good sound man adapted to the work because he is not on your party ticket. That sort of work is only justifiable in small boys and congressmen; practical business men should ignore it altogether.

SANITATION.

Number 14 of volume 5 of the Sanitary Engineer has been sent us for examination. From its own statement of its purpose—"Its aim is to enlighten the public concerning public health, house drainage, water supply, sewerage, ventilation, heating and lighting."

That the farmers of this country, and it is quite safe to say every other pursuit need information upon each of these several subjects needs no argument. In the first place science has not yet made clear all the essential facts upon each of these several subjects with that unerring accuracy that pertains to mathematics. But many facts have been developed as well as many theories presented that are known to the comparative few,

and not to the many, and we understand it to be the purpose of this paper to disseminate knowledge among the people on these subjects. If this point is kept in view it has entered an immense field where are unrestricted opportunities to instruct its readers. We boast much of our civilization, but upon these subjects that so largely concern our every day life that we don't know is the largest volume.

STATISTICAL FACTS WHICH INVITE CONSIDERATION.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to the truths so forcibly stated in this brief extract. The facts recited are known to observing men in city and country. The Grange movement is intended to obviate some of the evils complained of and deplored by the good everywhere. It is hoped through its means that the current may, to some extent, be changed, that by furnishing opportunities for culture and enjoyment the young may find more inducements to remain on the farm. We hope too that it will occupy this broad educational field and develop a higher and nobler manhood and womanhood amongst ourselves. The very best interests of the Republic demand this at our hands.

Table with columns: City, County, State, Population. Lists cities like New York, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Chicago, etc., with their respective populations.

The Census Bulletin gives the population of the 100 principal cities of the United States in 1870 and 1880, which is a very interesting exhibit. The total increase in population in the decade was, in round numbers, 12,000,000, and of this 2,396,228 was in the 100 cities specified. The total population in 1880 was 50,100,000; of this 9,998,154 was in the 100 principal cities.

Thus we have almost 20 per cent of the entire population in cities having 20,000 inhabitants and upward. When it is considered that the wealth of a nation rests upon its mineral and agricultural products chiefly, the census figures, showing the distribution of population, are startling. A large proportion of the city population is engaged in various industries, but the whole is dependent for support upon the labors of the tillers of the soil, and it is probably within bounds to say that not over 33 per cent of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits. Yet the latter constitute the life of the nation. Strike them out and the nation would die, but strike out those who are crowded into the cities and the nation would still live. Yet in the face of these facts, the tendency is to cities and from the country. This is particularly true of young men. The disposition is to get away from farm life,

and this accounts for the greater proportionate increase of the population of cities as compared with that of the country. As it is there are too many people in the cities and a deficiency of muscle in the country.

It is also to be remarked that nine-tenths of the poverty and crime of the nation are in the cities, and it was upon this phase, no doubt, the remark was founded that God made the country and man the city.

If it were possible to change the current, and within the decade show a greater proportionate increase in the country than in the city, society would be better and the whole country would be better. There is a field in this direction for educational work that is broad and inviting.

CONGRESS AND THE PATENT LAW.

Our attention has just been called to the action of the State Grange at its late session upon the following resolution offered by Bro. T. R. Harrison, of Van Buren county which was referred to the committee on publication.

Resolved, That the State Grange declare through the columns of the GRANGE VISITOR, that if their representatives in congress do not during their present session take action to relieve the innocent purchaser and make the manufacturer and vendors alone responsible for the infringement of patents that they declare upon their sacred honor as patrons that they will never support these men again for office and that we will vote for no man hereafter that shall not publicly declare himself in favor of such amendments.

The resolution was adopted. We find this resolution, page 76 of Proceedings of State Grange and are greatly obliged to our friends for calling our attention to it.

We need not add that we most cordially endorse this resolution, and as this subject of voting with an intelligent purpose to reach so far as possible results that lie in the direction of the interest of the voter, is fairly raised, we deem it an opportune time to republish a resolution adopted by the National Grange at its session in November last. It is found in the report of the committee on agriculture and is worthy of that distinguished body of Patrons to whom is committed the work of general legislation for the Order.

With the amount of matter already up for this number we have not room for the whole of the report of the committee and can only give a paragraph or two in connection with the resolution.

"Recognizing as we do the origin of artificial hardships placed on agriculture in the indifference of farmers to their civil duties which cannot be deputized to others without certain harm, and recognizing, also, corrupt party usages as the outgrowth of such neglect, we, as the representatives of that calling which enlists the greatest number of laborers, do solemnly declare ourselves absolved from all allegiance to whatever political party does not invite support by wisdom of purpose and purity of method, and we declare our unalterable purpose to manifest our independence by refusing our votes to all candidates claiming them when such candidates do not exhibit fitness in known integrity, capability for the discharge of duties designated, and full sympathy with the principles herein enumerated.

As an expression of this determination we submit the following declaration, and invite thereto careful consideration from all good citizens of whatever calling or profession: Resolved, That this National Grange, representing a membership spread over the entire Union, will exert all its force, with unflinching zeal and persistent purpose to encourage independent political action, to the end that dangers lurking in partisan management of public affairs may be eliminated; that corrupt party strife may incur the odium it deserves; that the elective franchise in its exercise may become the true expression of the desire of the citizen; that the useful industries of all our people in every calling may receive just consideration; that intelligence, capability, and worth may become the recognized qualifications for persons designated to official trusts; that the money shall cease to be a potent factor in determining nominations and elections to office; and that the government may return to that simplicity that befits a frugal, industrious people.

But this pledge we solemnly declare our purpose to abide steadfast and resolute, and with good will and unselfish desire, we ask the workers of every other calling or industry to join us in earnest effort to attain the objects named.

DELINQUENT GRANGES.

We have put the list of Granges, with the names of Masters, Lecturers and Secretaries, in the hands of the printer. From the following Granges, by number, we have received no report of these officers for the current year. If such report is sent within a few days, it may not be too late to find a place in the printed list. We hope to hear from these, or some of them, at once.

6, 31, 36, 57, 63, 91, 102, 112, 114, 118, 126, 128, 130, 134, 159, 176, 189, 224, 241, 255, 286, 292, 301, 325, 331, 335, 340, 381, 385, 396, 401, 422, 431, 440, 462, 469, 470, 471, 487, 492, 523, 574, 602, 603, 621, 922, 629, 636.

We find on our table a copy of the Original Chatterbox, published by Estes & Lauriat, Boston. This is a monthly of 32 pages, and, as its name implies, is intended for children and youth. With its numerous picture illustrations and pleasant stories it seems well adapted to interest the class for whom it is intended. Subscription price \$1 per year.

A chance to get a fine lithograph of the State Capitol for a little work—April 3d, at town meeting is the time to do the work. Forward the names of five new subscribers to the VISITOR with the money and the engraving will be returned by mail.

VISITOR RECEIPTS (CONTINUED).

FEBRUARY.
25—S B Ceady, \$3.00; Martin O'dell, 1.50; C H Rowe, 1.00.
26—Eliza Moore \$6.90; J T Beckwith, 2.50 M E King, 1.90; A L Benedict, 1.50; W C Howell, 1.00; Mrs D Eddy, 1.85; John Ranney, 1.00.
27—J C Jordan, \$5.00; Abbie Olds, 3.00; Caleb Thompson, 1.00; J J Hendershott, 1.00; P H Evans, 3.25; E Howe, 1.10; J H Davis, 10.35; R F Taber, 5.50.

MARCH.
1—A A King, \$5.00; Warren Haven, 2.00; J F Muir, \$2.50; G W Van Aken, 2.20; F A Bail, 3.00; D J Devoe, 4.00; S G Brown, Jr., 1.90; C F Howe, 4.00; G Snyder, 1.00.
2—S Gibson, \$1.00; C V Nash, 1.00; M N Corwin, 1.00; G McIntosh, 1.20; E H Bancroft, 2.00; Samuel Morey, 1.00; Chas Buttrick, Jr., 1.00.
3—H N Bowman, 1.00; J Woodhull, 1.50; Flora Pratt, 3.50; A Mench, 1.00; H Andrews 2.00.

4—O L Holton, \$3.10; D S Gardner, 7.50; M V B Williams, 2.00; L L Carleton, 1.50.
6—O H P Sheldon, \$1.50; T M Sheriff, 1.00; Mary Yantney, 1.00.
7—L G Hunt, \$1.00; B Helmick 1.00; J F Robbins, 1.80; J V Armstrong, 1.50 N E Sutton, 2.50; Peter Hewitt, 1.00.

8—S O Smith, \$1.00; C T Carr, 1.00; J V Armstrong, 1.00; E Cuthbert, 1.20; M Buell, 3.00; Wm Barker, 1.00; S P Albertson, 1.00; A L Davis, 3.00.
9—N T Bradner, \$1.00; Cyrus Mead, 9.50; E Taylor, 1.00.
11—H M Hillyard, \$8.75; W White, 1.00; Jas Humphrey, 3.10; J J Hendershott, 1.00; W C Howell, 2.00; Geo Alders, 1.00; Jas Felker, 1.00; A H Rice, 4.00.

13—Mrs D Eddy, \$1.10; P A Wood, 1.00.

As Bro. Gideon Hebron whose most excellent article on stock raising appeared in a late number of the VISITOR has kindly volunteered to furnish the copy we give space in this number for another free advertisement for D M. Ferry & Co. We have received a letter from an Allegan Co. seedsmen and will give it next number.

LOREN DAY writes that Patrons should remember that to insure their getting plaster the seal of the Grange should be affixed to their orders.

The Patent-Right Bill as Amended.

A bill to amend Sections 4884 and 4919 of the Revised Statutes relating to patents.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that Section 4884 of the Revised Statutes of 1876, and Section 4919 be and the same are hereby amended to read as follows:—

[A Copy of Section 4884 with the word "use" after "make" in sixth line left out.]

Every patent shall contain a short title or description of the invention or discovery, correctly indicating its nature or design, and a grant to the patentee, his heirs or assigns for the term of seventeen years of the exclusive right to make and vend the invention or discovery throughout the United States and the territories thereof, referring to the specifications for the particulars thereof. A copy of the specifications and drawings shall be annexed to the patent and be a part thereof.

* Section 4919. Damages for the infringement of any patent may be recovered by action on the case, in the name of the party interested, either as patentee, assignee, or grantee, and whenever in any such action a verdict is rendered for the plaintiff the court may enter judgment thereon for any sum above the amount found by the verdict as the actual damage sustained, according to the circumstances of the case, not exceeding three times the amount of such verdict together with the costs; provided, that no judgment at law or decree in equity shall be rendered or entered against a defendant for either damages or costs for the using of any patented article, when it shall appear on the trial that the defendant purchased or received the same in good faith without actual personal knowledge that the maker or vendor had not obtained the lawful right to make and use, or vend the same for use, proof of which may be given in evidence under the plea of the general issue.

* This Section down to the proviso is an exact copy of Section 4919 and of all the Section.

The Tax Law—Potatoes.

DOWAGIAC, March 11, 1882.
Mr. Cobb.—Please publish the ayes and noes on the amendment offered to the tax law making the oath peremptory in all cases; real estate owners want the names of members who voted against it, in view of the fact that the stringent Vermont law requiring the oath in all cases, brought out an increase of assessable personal property of more than two-thirds in a single year, which would be the result in this State with a peremptory, instead of discretionary oath. Are the members who opposed the amendment directly interested in covering up their property? If not why do they ignore the demands of justice, and of nine-tenths of the tax-payers on real estate?

P. S.—The Burbank potatoes I offer for sale are assorted, and all sizable for table use. Have some small culls I will sell for \$1.00 per bushel, if wanted.

H. H. TAYLOR.

WHITE MOUNTAINS EXCURSIONS.

In the Detroit Evening News of March 3, an advance announcement is made of the sixth season of excursions "From Detroit to the Sea." They will be three in number, and will leave Detroit on the mornings of July 5, 20 and 27, and tickets will be good to return any time before Sept. 4. The route is to be via the Grand Trunk railroad and St. Lawrence River steamers, through the Thousand Islands and famous Rapids to Montreal, thence to the White Mountains and sea shore at Portland, Maine (near Boston). On the return trip Quebec, Niagara Falls and Buffalo are to be included, making altogether a trip of over 2,000 miles for \$20. Each of the excursions will be conducted by W. H. Breahey, who has taken seven parties over the same route in former years and who last year successfully managed three excursions. The trains are "special" trains of Pullman Palace cars, and upon the St. Lawrence River a special steamer will be used. A handsome guide-book, giving full descriptions and illustrations of the route, may be obtained for 30 cents by writing to Mr. Breahey, office of Detroit Evening News. Over 40 maps have been engraved for this edition, and the title page is an exact copy, in colors, of an oil painting of Glen Ellis Falls, near the Glen House, in the White Mountains.

Communications.

Patent Law Amendment.

Bro. Cobb:—In your issue of the first of March, I notice an article by J. J. Woodman on "Patent Laws" and as the aforesaid article does not fully meet the difficulty in relation to the trouble which farmers have to contend with in their dealings with "Patent Right sharks, allow me to point out some of the changes in our patent laws that I think ought to be made for the benefit of all parties desirous of using improved machinery. That the patentee has such a property right in his invention as is given by law there can be no doubt (see paragraph 8 section 8 of article one of the constitution of the United States and the remedy for any infringement of said right is also given by law and is such only as the law by its terms gives. One of the most objectionable features of the law as it now exists is the fact that the patentee may stand silently by and see the article placed upon the market and freely sold to innocent purchasers and when it has got into general use then claims a royalty of the user and also requires the manufacturer to account to him for all articles manufactured thus securing a double royalty. To remedy these defects I would suggest that the law be so amended that no action shall be maintained against the user of a patented article either by way of royalty or damages for infringement where the article used has been on sale in the open market for a period of two years. This would make the patentee vigilant in claiming his rights and the purchaser would feel safe when he knew that unless the action was brought promptly he would not be exposed to prosecution in a court far removed from his home. I would have the law so amended that he would not be liable for even the two year's use unless the action for damages was brought within two years of the time when the article was first on sale in the open market and I would make it a perfect defence to any suit against the user that a suit calling for an account of goods manufactured and sold had been brought against the manufacturer to recover for the same article, and would allow the manufacturer to show in mitigation of damages that damage had been recovered or suit pending therefor against the user of the manufactured article leaving the patentee only one chance to recover damages by way of royalty and then only against the manufacturer after the article had been publicly on the market for two years. I would also amend the law as to costs recoverable and unless the patentee recovered damages of fifty dollars that he recover no more costs than damages, and that unless his damages exceeded five dollars that he should pay the costs when the defendant was a user, and had purchased in the open market paying full value therefor. I would also limit the damages recoverable against the user of a patented article to five per cent of the retail price of the article in the open market thus doing away with all kinds of speculative damages as often shown by professional and standing witnesses. By professional witnesses I mean such as patentees keep in training for that express purpose. Five per cent of the retail price is a liberal royalty and more than they ought to have but such a provision would stop all small suits against purchasers for use of patented articles, and especially so if the above provisions as to costs were in the law. Suppose a person were sued for using a patented article under such a law as Mr. Woodman proposes, what would the courts tell him was "full knowledge that the same was an infringement"? He would be told that every patent with all its specifications was a matter of public record of which he was bound at his peril to take notice, and also that he was bound to put himself on inquiry as to the vendor's right to sell the article, and if he failed in either respect he must suffer the consequence of his indiscretion. As all the rights the patentee has comes from the statute it is perfectly competent for congress to so form the law as to protect purchasers, and at the same time secure the patentee in the enjoyment of all his property rights, and a limitation to his right to maintain an action for infringement is no greater hardship than a limitation to a right of action in any other case. And he should not be allowed to bring suits where the damages recoverable must be small, just to harass and vex a purchaser or extort from him a heavy royalty to save the expense of a suit in a distant court. I think such an amendment to the patent law as I have suggested would be fair to all parties, and would afford a reasonable protection to purchasers.

THOMAS J. HILLER. Hudson, Mich., March 9, 1882.

THE anti-monopolists have gained a decided victory in New York state, by the election of their candidate, A. B. Baucus, in the Schenectady district to fill the vacancy created by the death of Senator Wagner, who was a thorough monopolist and practically owned by the New York Central Railroad. The opposing candidate was a brother of Leland Stanford, the railroad tyrant of California. The anti-monopoly league have issued an address congratulating their friends and the public on the election, and urging them to take fresh courage and follow up their victory at the elections next Autumn.

Reviewer Reviewed.

Bro. Cobb:—On the fifth page of the VISITOR of Feb. 1, under the title of "Reviewed," there is a very good article signed, "Kent Co." I endorse every word of his article except two or three mistakes which, with your permission, I will now point out. It is fortunate that mistakes are not crimes, otherwise we would find ourselves all criminals sooner or later.

The brother says: "There are two leading articles on the second page of the VISITOR of Jan. 15 that will arrest the attention of the thoughtful reader. The tendency of both articles is alike. The adoption of all of the suggestions made by either or both of the writers would weaken if not eventually destroy the Grange." The articles referred to were on the third, not the second page but that is nothing. Perhaps the tendency of Mr. Campbell's article is "alike," I rather think it is, but the other isn't, so Kent Co. surely made a mistake when he said "both" are alike.

The article reviewed entitled, "Liberty or Slavery," contains a good deal of talk, but only two suggestions. The first is a quotation from Master Woodman, to the effect that farmers, mechanics, laborers and business men should "jine drives" and vote together to secure their just rights and to promote the welfare of all the people. The second suggests that the people should name their organization, viz: Anti Monopoly.

This is the peoples' movement, and I suppose Patrons are a part of the people, but the article reviewed never thought of calling on Patrons exclusively to institute an anti-monopoly party, much less the Grange in its official capacity. If the people should take it into their heads to act on Bro. Woodman's suggestion, or on their own suggestions, pray tell us Bro. Kent how it would weaken or destroy the Grange. The brother says, "This organizing a new party by the Grange or through its agency is one of the things we solemnly promised one to each other we would not do." Correct brother, and the Grange as solemnly promises not to interfere with the political rights of any of its individual members, and among these rights is the right to free expression on all proper occasions, for I cannot believe as some have supposed, that the Grange ever intended to forbid freedom of speech.

Kind and considerate parents instruct their little boy to abstain from whistling in prayer time and school hours, and he yields cheerful obedience, because he sees the reasonableness of the requirement, but if any man or set of men should tell him he must never whistle he would not obey, unless he was an innocent, who, does not know nor care to know his rights. There is absolutely no difference between Oakland Co. and Kent Co. in regard to the violation of obligation that would be involved in transforming the Grange into a political machine. And very likely we would agree that it would not be best to monopolize the time of our regular meetings in long harangues on anti-monopoly. It never has been done in Grange No. 267, though it is not forbidden; the time can be more agreeably spent in the transacting of the regular business to be followed with music and intellectual exercises which are pleasing to all, especially to the women and the young folks.

Everybody knows that for a Patron to keep posted in regard to the principles, positions and doings of the Anti-monopoly League of New York involves no violation of his obligation. But suppose the League should suddenly become a political organization would Patrons think that ignorance in regard to the League and its principles was a duty imposed on them by their Grange obligations? Would they think that ignorance in regard to the parties that favored monopoly was also obligatory? If so, then we would have to admit that there was ground for the criticism of our critic who has said, "The trouble with the Granger is, he chases a monopoly till it hides behind politics and then he will call off his dog." Patrons might reply that there is so much selfish scheming among politicians that it would be a waste of precious time to try to investigate them. The same remark would apply equally well to leagues. The objects and purposes of the league are commendable and they have not been withheld from us merely, because Tammany's love for the League is inspired by a desire to spite Samuel J. Tilden.

It is claimed that Patrons are better informed on general subjects than an equal number of other intelligent people. I think an exception will have to be made to this claim, and I think the reason that Patrons are not better informed than other people upon politics, is that many have supposed that the promise not to bias the political opinions of a brother or sister of the Order implies that they will studiously withhold light and knowledge on the subject.

Bro. C. E. Mickle last fall gave a rousing address at Orchard Lake on anti-monopoly and then said, "you will not find any such talk in any of your political papers." At that time there were men in the audience who had political papers filled from beginning to end with just such talk. It could not have been intentional, it must have been through ignorance or inadvertence that this good brother fell into so great an error. Some say that politics is distasteful to them and they will have nothing to do with

it. They said so twenty five years ago, but soon found that politicians would have something to do with them. Then the low mutterings of the rebellion were heard, and people said, "It is only a little gasconade and a few threats," and even after the rebellion broke out Wm. H. Seward said it could be put down in sixty days.

Now the low mutterings of a new rebellion begin to be heard, and some of them are getting loud, but ninety-nine out of every hundred are "dead asleep" and cannot hear. Senator Sharon says that rivers of blood shall flow before capital and corporations, the power that he represents, shall relinquish the advantage which it now has. Surely, this is not the "rose of Sharon" nor the "lily of the valley," but whether he is a rose or a thorn, he is authorized by his employers to speak, and "we, the people," are authorizing nobody to speak in any other way. If we, the people delay the consideration of this subject till the war begins the enemy's money will have power to drag us more than half of us into the service, and the rebellion will not be put down in sixty days—probably not in sixty years. If the people only could be aroused this incipient rebellion might see who are the rightful rulers of America, and a threatened war with all its horrors might be averted. America enjoys the proud distinction of being the only nation on earth that ever decreed that "The negro has no right that the white man is bound to respect," will she add this other decree, the individual has no rights that the corporation is bound to respect?

At a Grange picnic in 1875 at Orchard Lake two Patrons told what they thought was the cause of the hard times. One thought it was over-production of farm production that caused the low prices. The other thought it was owing to so many farmers abandoning their occupation and trying other pursuits; setting up so many peanut stands, and when they failed in that they took to tramping. They agreed that we must have more stringent tramp laws.

If the recommendation of the President should be adopted, viz, to demonetize silver and the silver certificates and to make illegal the legal tenders we should have a repetition of the hard times of 1875, and again we would hear the over-production and peanut songs, and I should say to a brother Patron that the hard times had been caused by bad legislation I should expect to be answered by a look that would say more plainly than words Beware, beware brother or you will violate your Grange obligation. Pray, do not ride that poor little hobby of yours to death. Come, come along with the rest of us and take a swing on the slide gate, or a drive at the driven well.

The hobbyist is necessarily somewhat disagreeable, but a little reflection and a little of the "gift to see ourselves as others see us," are the best remedies for the fault. Some hobbyists are not inspired with the insanely selfish desire to go thundering down the ages, but they simply respond in every fibre of their being to the divine command, "Remember them that are in bonds, as being bound with them." Though he was a hobbyist the good and the lowly will forever love and honor William Lloyd Garrison.

One correspondent of the VISITOR has said, "We did not elect our farmer governor, but we stuck to party." For one, I had much rather we never should elect a farmer governor, nor a farmer anything else than that he should be elected through bias or by an edict from the Grange. Kent Co. says, "The able Master of the Ohio State Grange was recently elected to the Ohio State Senate, he has introduced a bill, etc." That bill necessitates the creation of two or three new State officers, and since similar plans have been tried in other States and have not proved a success. I fear it will not in Ohio.

Farmington, March 1, 1882.

National Bureau Lectures.

Having heard three lectures delivered in this county by members of the Bureau, under the auspices of Wayne Pomona Grange, No. 8, I feel free to say that they are doing a great work in behalf of Grange interests, and in awakening farmers to an appreciation of their present position, their needs and possibilities.

As Bro. Brighton has ably reported Bro. Franklin's lecture at Willow Grange, I will pass to Sister Bristol's at Redford Feb. 14. A large audience gathered in McIntyre's hall despite the mud and darkness, and she came before them—the poet and philosopher, the lady of culture and the sister—and grasped the horny hand of toil with her firm, tender grasp, claiming brotherhood with the lowliest tiller of the soil, the humblest laborer who wins his bread by the sweat of his brow, and bade him come up with her to a broader, higher plane, and stand by her side and work with her for rights that were being wrested from them. She told them there was no calling more honorable than the farmer's nothing more ennobling than labor; and she called on them to prove this to the world by their works and their lives; to show that, though their hands were hard and knotted with toil, they were true; that, though their brows were sunburnt, that they were manly; that they were noble of life and honorable

of purpose; that by being independent the farmer's life was elevating, and she asked all to rise to noble rank; that from it sprang the best men of the nation; that the boy who began life at the foot of the ladder and mounted step by step, was far surer to gain the top and remain there than he who should begin at the top, showing that the country and not the city boy was most happy in condition. She testified by her presence to the beauty and loveliness of culture, and that of itself it strengthens manhood and womanhood. She said to the farmer boy that with active, intelligent persistence there was no place he might not reach, that no calling was nobler than elevating his own class. All listened with interest and regretted the close. Each felt better for having heard her, and would be glad to hear her again, and we hope they may.

Brother H. B. Smith, of Kentucky, before Plymouth Grange at Amity hall March 1, spoke to a good audience, mostly farmers, though the roads were almost impassable, and he was quite unwell and had been for several days. Yet he showed his strength by the many strong things he told his hearers regarding legislation, discrimination and monopolies; the many things farmers do not do that as citizens of a republic they should do; and that as the majority of this nation they should do; how their agricultural interests in congress were looked after by lawyers; that there were not farmers enough in congress to form the Agricultural Committee, that a lawyer was chairman of that committee, and that it reported adverse to the Agricultural Commissioner being made a Cabinet officer; that the said Agricultural Commissioner is not a farmer. He showed how railroads and other monopolies buy up such legislation as they want, and that the people can never throw off their yoke but through organized, persistent effort. Altogether it was a strong lecture from a strong man—a farmer talking in earnest to brother farmers. We need more just such men to come among us and rouse us, and keep us roused, till we act what we know needs to be done. His strength was most felt in the Grange, where he came in closer contact with his hearers and made them feel that something must and could be done. Both he and Sister Bristol say that if they come again they must have two days in a place, one for the public, and one for Grange and social labor; and all say yes, yes! to that; God speed to the Lecture Bureau and its speakers. MRS. E. T. F. BRADNER. Redford, Wayne Co., 3-6-82.

The Care of Poultry.

In the first place, a person should admire chickens, and enjoy taking care of them, in order to make it very profitable. For instance, you notice that those farmers who take more of a fancy to horses than to other farm stock, will generally have the best horses, and so with those who fancy cattle; those who fancy sheep generally get more profit from them than those who do not. I think you will find it so with almost any industry, and so I believe that farmers who cannot bear to see a chicken around their yards, and those who don't care where their fowls go, letting them roost on trees or in a cold shed all winter, giving them only a few ears of corn, and letting them get water the best way they can, will not get very large returns from their poultry, for, in order to have hens lay in cold weather, they must be made comfortable, must be fed and watered regularly, and not be compelled to eat snow for water, as snow is injurious.

Hens should not be fed entirely upon corn, for it is fattening and will make them too fat, and so decrease the egg production and also tend to sterility in the egg. I prefer to give soft mixed feed in the morning, changed frequently, and at noon a little small grain, occasionally with some green food, such as cabbage, turnips etc. A good way to feed these is to put a wire in a block and stick them on the wire. At night they should have a full feed of whole grain. Corn is the best for cold weather, but oats and screenings should be fed in warmer weather. Do not forget to keep them supplied with lime, in the form of old plaster, which is essential to form the shell. I think that in many cases when hens eat their eggs this is where the fault lies, because the shells are tender, and are often accidentally broken in the nest and eaten by the hens. It will not take them long to learn to break them purposely. I do not say that this is always the cause, for sometimes it is for want of animal food. This is often the case with pullets when they commence laying, and they should be supplied with scraps, chopped meat, etc.

Hens should have a box of road-dust or ashes to dust in, and also some coarse sand or gravel to assist digestion. Hen houses should be situated on dry soil, with plenty of windows on the south side, and should be well ventilated. F. W.

We have received the first number of Farmers' Gossip printed in New York by the representation of the Patrons' Paint Co. It is promised quarterly for the small sum of ten cents a year. This specimen number has biographical notes and likenesses of members of the Order, and abounds in proofs that the Patron's paint is the best in the world and that their neighbor Quarterman engaged also in the manufacture of the paint is a fraud.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

The Clinton County Pomona Grange will hold its next meeting at the hall of Dallas Grange in the village of Fowler on Wednesday, April 5th. FRANK CONN, Sec'y.

The next meeting of Manistee District Pomona Grange No. 21 will be held at the hall of Silver Creek Grange on Tuesday, March 21, 1882 at two o'clock p. m. Fourth degree members in good standing are invited to attend. B. L. DEEN, Sec'y.

The next meeting of the St. Joseph county Grange will be held at Centerville, on Thursday, April 6, commencing at 10 A. M. sharp. Conferring the fifth degree will be a special order of the day. SAM. H. ANGEVINE, Sec.

The next meeting of Hillsdale Pomona Grange will occur on the first Wednesday in April, at the Jonesville Grange hall.

Resolved, That the Grange may be made to afford all the social enjoyments needed by the farmer and his family. Opened by Sister Freeman.

Essays by Sister McDougal. Auxiliary horticultural and pomological society. By Bro. Curyell.

Farmer's garden—How shall he grow a supply for family use, and how shall he exterminate the pests of the garden? By Rev. Richards. N. T. BROCKWAY, Sec'y.

The next regular quarterly meeting of the Lapeer County Pomona Grange No. 29 will be held with North Branch Grange No. 607, near the village of Clifford, April 13 (second Thursday), 1882. All 4th degree members in good standing are cordially invited to attend. The program includes the following discussions:

Is the Grange beneficial to the farmer? By John F. Muir.

Should farmers ship their own produce to the seaboard? E. Bartlett.

Is it more profitable to pack butter during summer months; or to sell it as you make it? By the Grange.

Which is the most profitable, cooking food for stock, or feeding it in the raw state? A. E. Leavigne.

Which is the most profitable stock for the farmers of this county, sheep or cattle? E. Bartlett.

We hope members will come well prepared to discuss the foregoing questions. Meeting to open at one o'clock p. m. sharp. 15mar22 JACOB W. SCHELL, Sec'y.

Program of Wayne County Pomona, No. 8, to be held at Plymouth Grange hall on Friday, March 31, 1882, to commence at 10:30 A. M. After calling to order by Worthy Master O. R. Pattengill, music by Plymouth choir. After reports of some Subordinate Granges are heard, discussion will be had on sorghum, introduced by L. Dean, of Plymouth Grange.

12 M. Music: How to make home happy. An essay by Alma Bryant of Plymouth G ange. Recitation by C. Maud Cady (elocutionist), of Union Grange.

1 P. M. Dinner.

2:30 P. M. Call to order. Music. Entrenched regulars and cornstalk militia, Call for volunteers. Introduction by N. T. Bradner, of Redford Grange.

4 P. M. Music. Essay, Energy of Purpose. By Sister Wildie, of Plymouth Grange. Recitation by C. Maud Cady.

5:30. Adjournment.

7 P. M. Call to order. Music. Essay, Justice for the farmer. By Arthur Stevens, of Plymouth Grange. Discussion. Fifth degree work. N. T. BRADNER, Lecturer Wayne Co. Pomona.

The next regular meeting of the Cass Co. Pomona Grange will be held at Goodwin's hall in the village of Cassopolis on the 29th inst, commencing at 10 o'clock sharp.

PROGRAM.

Opening of Grange by the Worthy Master. Music.

Reports of Subordinate Granges. Essay on language and uses of flowers. By Mrs. Moore.

Discussion. Recess for dinner.

MUSIC.

Essay, Etiquette and its defence. By Mrs. Robert Wiley.

Discussion. Music.

Pian of house with draft of same; also essay on building, appointment, appurtenances, lawn, gates, etc. By Mrs. R. J. Dixon.

EVENING.

Select reading. By Mrs. J. Woods.

Essay, Hired help on the farm. By the Lecturer. G. HEBRON, Com.

The Bronson Grange will entertain the Branch Co. Pomona Grange at their hall in the village of Bronson on Wednesday, April 5, 1882. The following will be the program, as near as practicable:—

Grange called to order at 10 o'clock. A. M., sharp.

Reports of committees and Subordinate Granges.

Conferring fifth degree.

Afternoon Session—Open session—Question, "Is not direct taxation for highway purposes, and direct application preferable to our present system of highway labor?" Discussion to be opened by Bro. Seth Reed of Bronson Grange. Question—"Insects injurious to vegetation." Brother Fisher of Sherwood Grange. Question—"What is the duty of a member in promoting the harmony and seeking the prosperity of the Order." Sister Fuller, Bronson Grange. A paper by Bro. Langley of Centerville, St. Joe Co. President of the Patrons' Aid Society of Michigan on "Life Insurance among members of the Order and their duties in this connection." Question—"Is butter improved by washing." by Sister Rawson of Bronson Grange. A paper by Sister Luce of Gilead Grange, topic, "The value of an attractive home in forming character in the young." Continuation of Bro. H. D. Pessel's trip to the Old World." Music to be interspersed through the exercises by Bronson Grange. Members of the Order are cordially invited. H. D. PESSELL, Worthy Lecturer.

AFTER the inside of this paper had gone to press we received notice that the signature of Traffic Manager attached to the time card of C. & G. T. R. R. should be Geo. B. Reeves, instead of Chas. B. Peck.

Ladies' Department.

"TIRED OF LIFE."

It is the idle tire of life,
The idle hearts, that duties shrink;
The idle brains, that have no thought;
The idle hands, that have no work.
The good man knows that life is good,
And strives to make his own complete.
The thoughtful know that it is great;
The loving know that it is sweet.

Yea, even when life halts with pain,
Or falls with anguish by the way,
Great souls patiently detain,
And hope and bear and humbly pray,
Because life is so grand a thing;
Because beyond its pain and strife
They see a fair eternity
That must be bought by noble life.

Then, thou who art so "tired of life,"
Go work, go love, go try to think,
Go find some duty, how'er small,
And then beside it do not shrink.
Go take thy place; it may be low,
And in the seat of mortal strife,
But fill it well, and then I know
Thou wilt not say, "I'm tired of life."

Let us Act.

Read before the Hartford Grange, No. 89, by Ida L. Frey, and ordered printed in the VISITOR by unanimous vote of the Grange.

We are always thinking or planning something to do, but we never find the time to accomplish it. We are continually putting off, we are never ready to act when the opportunity offers. We mean to, oh! yes, we mean to do our part, but do we? When the time comes for us to do our part do we not feel like shirking, or shrinking back into some corner and exclaiming I can't? But let us try, let us resolve to do our part; no matter if we are not the most eloquent speakers or writers in the world, every little helps, and by constant and continued effort we may in time become quite useful speakers. No matter if we do almost fail, let us try. It is said that Abbie Kelley in her first attempt to speak in public utterly broke down and was not able to proceed that evening; but did she give up? No! but tried again and did but little better, and again, until finally she became one of our ablest speakers.

But is it necessary that we should all be great speakers or writers? Some of us may desire to be, but all cannot. Then let us do what we can in our own little way, remembering that life is made up of littles, for do not the little drops of water make up the great ocean? And where is the desert but for the little grains of sand. And so it is that little opportunities for doing good, little lessons that may at present seem so unimportant, help materially to lay the foundation for a great and useful life.

I repeat let us be ever ready to act, ever ready to do some good deed, some act of kindness, so that when the noon of our life comes it may find some work finished, some duty discharged so that as the sorrowful sunset draws near, as the darkening twilight and the darker night approach we may be able to look back on the bright midday hours without the bitter thought that humanity knows of having lost time which even with all eternity before us we may never retrieve.

We look around and plan so much to do,
We hope and wonder, work and rest and sigh,
And hardly is our journey half way through
Before we break the brittle thread and die.

So all along the busy path of life,
We meet and mingle with each other here,
And drink but drops of mingled joy and strife,
And learn too late that life is half so dear.

—MISS IDA L. FREY.

"Lost Opportunities."

These two words have a depth of meaning almost unfathomable, and yet they enter into our every day life as one of the factors which constitute the reality in which we live. Many of us are casting about us, constantly trying to find some great work to do, some high position to attain, a grand mission to perform, when in fact there is much work waiting to be done in our own homes, or among our acquaintances, or to the stranger that may enter "within our gate." But we too often turn away from these small opportunities as a something beneath our notice. A kindly word, a simple act of courteousness, the bidding a person God speed, and wishing them well, would not cost anything and might do very much good and send a gleam of sunshine into their heart. The words "lost opportunities" have rung in my ears and fastened themselves on my mind to-day and somehow I cannot get rid of them, but instead feel a great depression of spirits.

Yesterday I wrote a long letter to a young man in whom I have become deeply interested and feel a great solicitude for his future course in life. I had written him words of counsel and advice, trying to point out to him the true road to noble manhood and purity of life and financial success. The question arose in my mind, why do you interest yourself in work so far away? Why not take as much interest in the young people of your own town? I mentally replied, there is no opportunity like this, no work presents itself. Just at that moment the door bell rang and as I glanced out of the window I saw a boy with a satchel in one hand and a pack on his back. My first thought was to not stop my work, and let him go away without opening the

door, but I opened the door. He said in a mild and pleasant voice, Will you please buy something this morning? I replied, Not anything to-day. But won't you buy something; let me show you? I said impatiently, Not anything to-day and hastily shut the door and locked it, leaving him to gulp down his disappointment as best he could—I went back into the kitchen but my enthusiasm was all gone. The work dragged and as I saw him slowly go down the road I imagined his feelings were none of the most cheerful and that he would say to himself, what a rough world this is, cold words and frowns fall to my lot. And as I recalled his looks and appearance I fancied this was almost his first attempt in the business of peddling; that perhaps he had no home, no friends, and no employment, and took this method of gaining an honest livelihood. It was not at all necessary to treat him so unceremonious. I might have shown that I had a kind heart if I had not been so intent on doing a great amount of work that day and did not wish to be interrupted. I need not buy any of his wares to show that I was interested in him, but a little more civility on my part might have strengthened a good resolution or given him a better impression of humanity, and not stirred up the worst side of his feelings. Many a time I have refused to purchase of a peddler but never did a circumstance impress me like this. The opportunity came to me to do good and I refused to do it, looking for something grander and nobler. It is praiseworthy to do a duty nearest to us though not always the most pleasant to perform.

The Farmers' Garden.

BY MRS. J. W. STRONG.

An essay read before the Farmers' Institute, at Galesburg, Feb. 1, 1882.

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Directly following the creation is recorded the planting of the first garden. The first man was divinely appointed gardener. It is not my purpose in this paper to follow his successes or failures from that day to this, nor yet to note the faithfulness with which he has labored in this first department assigned him, but to briefly sketch the present condition of the farmers' garden, with some suggestions for its possible improvement.

The average farm garden is not a very attractive spot; that it is a by-word and a disgrace to this beautiful country of ours we dare not deny. It usually contains a few currant bushes struggling for life in a dense growth of grass and weeds; a plant or two of rhubarb that is allowed to blossom and seed undisturbed; an old grape vine that wanders at its own sweet will over a tumble down trellis, and from thence to the nearest cherry tree, which it finally succeeds in killing, with perhaps a little asparagus, and a few strawberry plants vainly striving to outlive the weeds. And as a love for the beautiful manifests itself in flowers wherever woman dwells, you will notice here and there a small plot devoted to their culture.

But as you look you can plainly read—enthusiasm, hard work under difficulties, discouragement, failure. In all this there is no attempt at order, but everything is thrown in as it comes. Many a wife has felt a chill creep over her as she sees in her husband indications of the annual fever to "plow and plant the garden," for with many farmers about their only idea of garden work comes to them in this dread form. For well she knows when the double team and great plow start for the garden, we betide the luckless shrub, however choice, that stands in the way. The time for this annual raid depends on his feelings. Sometimes he says he will see if he can't have a garden as early as his neighbors, and starts in when the soil is entirely unfit to be stirred, and he sometimes refuses to do a thing until his spring crops are all in; but when he begins to plant everything must go under. It is mildly suggested that a succession would be a nice thing, but he says, "What I plant must go in now; I can't be planting all summer." It is now left to rest from four to six weeks, "waiting for the seeds to come up," when the weeding process is pursued with the same relentless vigor that characterized the planting. Result: a few slender, sickly looking plants, so tender that the few that survive the hot sun and winds can never yield a good supply of properly matured fruit. We do not marvel that the verdict founded on this experience is, "The garden don't pay."

Farmers of Kalamazoo county, is this not a truthful picture? Is it a flattering one? I have no doubt that many of you, hearing this picture for the first time, are saying, "Overdraw." But a ride of 18 miles, from my home to Kalamazoo, takes me over a portion of as fine country as southern Michigan can boast, and should furnish an average specimen. Beautiful farms under a high state of cultivation, residences that 30 years ago would have been called palatial, everything betokens industry, ability and thrift; but the gardens, with modified variations, are scarcely better than the above description. I never take this ride without asking again and again, "How can a man who manifests neatness and good order in everything else, be so blind to the defects in his garden?"

Horace Greeley once said, "If you would bring about any great reform, you must agitate, agitate." Now, I submit if you agitate this question until farmers are made to see how this little carelessly-tilled plot mars the beauty and hence decreases the value of the entire farm; until they are made to feel the want of a generous supply of fruit and vegetables in their season, and to know that a remedy for all this lies within their easy reach, the "reform" is already on the high-road to success. Many have never been accustomed to have anything to do with planting and attending a good garden. At table they never learned to miss many of our best vegetables and berries. They have regarded everything in this line as expensive luxuries.

If we would improve on this mode of living, two things are imperative. The first is an interest in the work, with a determination that it shall be a success. I believe that almost any farmer can, by being inter-

ested himself, so interest his hired man and boys that work in the garden will be a pleasure instead of an irksome task. The second is, plant everything in rows one way. The corn-marker may be used, as it makes a row enough for anything; for grapes and berry or currant bushes you can skip one row or more, but make everything row one way. This admits the horse and cultivator, and where there is so much to be done, all of so much greater importance, unless you plan to do with a horse all he can be made to do, the garden will never be properly worked. Not a man of you who expects a good corn crop but sends the cultivator through it every week. Do not hope for a satisfactory garden with less work. It will take you ten or fifteen minutes, and this, with the hoe used at odd times, if you have given the selection of a succession of vegetables and berries the careful study they demand, so that your plot is well laid out—will afford table luxuries that when once enjoyed can never be willingly dispensed with. I believe there is time enough wasted on almost any of our farms each season, that judiciously spent in the garden would produce a better one than many farms can boast. The amount and variety must depend upon the size and taste of the family. I do not advise raising twice the amount we want, to be wasted or given away, but we see no reason why we may not have something fresh for the table every day after the last of April, when we are regaled with the first "pie-plant pie" and the most delicious asparagus. Thanks to our seedsmen, whose catalogues are so freely given, all the instruction we need may be had for the reading.

I have spoken of berries, but wish to call your attention to the necessity of a variety of small fruits. The fact that "of all the productions of the soil, fruits in their almost endless variety are the only portion of our food which nature furnishes ready for our immediate use," is conclusive evidence that "it should form a large portion of our daily nourishment." Yet farmers as a class have been prone to think them luxuries only to be enjoyed by their city neighbors who could buy fresh from the market. In the last few years, however, many choice varieties have been brought into farm gardens, but through ignorance or shiftlessness, or both, they have not as a rule proved satisfactory. Hence we hear them say they would rather buy the little they want than be bothered. Easy enough to say, but will you, can you do it? When we want fresh fruit it is when we want it, and that is three times a day all summer, and a good supply nicely stored away for winter. Many of us live four or five miles from town, and many times, during the busy season, we cannot get to town from one Saturday evening to another; then you may have a dish of berries for Sunday—if they are there. Sometimes they are nice, but more frequently, if found at all, they have spoiled in the market until unfit for use. I cannot believe that the human stomach had tainted butter or meat. Our choice, then, seems to lie between raising it ourselves and doing without it. Which shall we do?

There were flowers in the first garden, planted by the Creator. Dare we ignore this high precedent? "Men may have homes without flowers, and still be refined and happy, but the lesson Eden teaches is against this hypothesis. The flowerless home is not the ideal home designed by the Almighty." "The idea that the cultivation of flowers is beneath the dignity of able-bodied men, is a mistake which everywhere needs correction. Men who love and cultivate flowers, fruits and vegetables, are better men, better to themselves, their families and their God. Nature's lessons in this work are manifold, teaching industry, patience, faith, hope and a love for all that is good, and true, and beautiful on earth." While we would urge you to give this subject more attention, we never wish to see the farm work neglected for the cultivation of flowers. Mathematics teaches there is a mean between two extremes. I believe this true in every phase of our life-work: let us seek it in this.

A well-ordered garden is one of the best summer schools for the boys and girls. Let no opportunity pass to teach them a lesson from its well-filled pages. Let them be so thoroughly imbued with a knowledge of and love for this work that its influence shall be felt all through life, and you bequeath to them a legacy of greater worth than vaults of hoarded gold. To retain their interest, it must be made attractive by constant improvement, for which they are required to plan and work. This will demand a trifling outlay of time and means, but for every hour you spend in such a garden, in pleasant converse with your family—aided, perhaps, by a pocket microscope, which will reveal marvels of beauty in minute objects around you—and for every dollar that adds one more charm to the dearly loved home, you shall reap a hundred fold.

In the years to come, when your step is no longer elastic, when your once proud form is bowed and tottering, when you no longer lead but are led, — then shall the loving care bestowed upon your children return to bless your declining years and smooth your pathway to the more beautiful gardens beyond; when all—from the noble son, upon whom you so confidently lean, to the lisping grandchild, who gleefully brings the first blossom of spring or the first ripened fruit—shall vie with each other in their tokens of love; and finally, when your tired hands are folded, and your body laid to rest, and the daisies bloom above you—"your children and your children's children will rise up and call you blessed."

Mrs. Benton's Spare Room.

"Didn't we have a good sermon, Jack? asked pretty little Mrs. Benton of her brother, as they sat on her cool shaded veranda, one summer Sabbath afternoon.

"Fair," responded Jack, puffing away at his cigar lazily, and sitting back in the easy chair.

"Fair! it was splendid," indignantly asserted his sister. "It made me just long to do something for some one."

"Well, go on and do it then, sis. The heathen are not all out in India or Japan, or any of those places; and there are plenty of poor souls that need sympathy and help that never saw Five Points. I've no sort of patience with these far-sighted folks who never do any good in the world because they can't go off on a mission."

And having relieved his mind, Jack resumed his paper and cigar, leaving his sister to meditate or not, as she pleased upon

his discourse. Truth to tell, her reflections were not quite comfortable.

"Jack does upset one so," she sighed. "He makes me feel as though I had never done anything in my life. Oh dear!"

The sermon had been eloquent and thrilling, full of zeal for the cause of missions; and Mrs. Benton had come home, as we have seen, impressed and regretful, though rather resignedly so that it was impossible for her to follow its teachings. And here Jack was asserting her in such a matter of fact way that there was plenty to do within her reach.

"I wonder if there really is," she was thinking to herself, when the ringing of the tea bell dispelled her thoughts for the time being.

"I'm going into the city, Jack, to spend the day," announced Mrs. Benton the next morning, as she rose from the breakfast-table. "And I believe I will bring Helen home with me for a week; it is so pleasant here now."

"I'm agreeable," said Jack, while mentally planning to spend the next week fishing.

Mrs. Benton's main errand was at her dressmaker's. Accordingly she betook herself there immediately.

"Oh dear!" she sighed, as she waited for her a few moments. "I don't see how folks can live in the city in the summer; and they don't more than half live," she added, as the lady entered the room.

"You're not looking well," she said, after she had given her orders. "You should take a little rest, and go into the country for a week or so, at any rate. It would do you ever so much good."

For just a moment the tired face brightened at the mere thought of the cool, fresh pure air, then the sad, tired expression returned. "I know I need it, but I cannot possibly afford it."

What was it that brought yesterday's sermon and Jack's pertinent remark to Mrs. Benton's mind just then? She shrugged her shoulders a little impatiently, and turned to go.

"I'm sorry; it would do you good," she said as she passed the door.

But she did not feel easy. Mrs. Gray's tired face fairly haunted her as she went about doing her errands. She tried her best to shake it off, but the more persistently it came before her, while she seemed to hear Jack saying, "Well, go on and do it, sis."

"I might ask her home with me for a week or more, just as well as not," was the suggestion that had come to her even at the house, and that she was trying to get away from.

"I haven't but one spare room, and I want Helen," she pleaded to herself.

But Helen did not need the rest one particle, and the poor woman is fairly pining away for it, whispered conscience.

Then Mrs. Benton remembered that Mrs. Gray had a boy, a rosy cheeked, wide awake, brown eyed fellow, just the sort of looking boy that you would know would be in everything. And they would have to have her pretty, dainty, blue room—oh! no she could not.

She started for Helen's and before she was half way there, turned suddenly about.

"I'm ashamed of myself," she said aloud, heartily ashamed, and she drove straight back to the dressmaker's.

"I want to take you and your little boy home with me for a week or so," she said cordially. "He shall have all the milk he wants, and you shall just rest and do as you please."

And what do you think! The poor woman just dropped down where she stood on the stairs, and cried for very joy.

"Thought you were going to bring Helen home with you," said Jack that night, as they stood in the parlor alone, after their guests had retired.

"So I was, but you see she didn't need it, and this poor woman did. I—you know you said there was plenty to do, and for me to go on and do it, she added, laughing.

"Then a moment later, she added, softly,

"But I'm ashamed to say, Jack, that though only yesterday I thought if it weren't for you and Arthur I would like to go off as a missionary, yet it was awfully hard to do this little bit of kindness to-day."

"Brave little sis!" said Jack, very much as when they were children, and she had been specially brave. "You've got it real this time."—Canada Casket.

Advice to Young Ladies.

John Ruskin gives the following advice to young ladies: "In order to investigate oneself, it is well to find out what one is now. Don't think vaguely about it. Take pen and paper and write down as accurate a description of yourself as is possible; and if you dare not, find out why you dare not, and try and get the strength of heart enough to look yourself in the face, mind as well as body. Always have two mirrors on your dressing table, and with proper care dress mind and body at the same time. Put your best intelligence to finding out what you are good for, and what you can be made into. The mere resolve not to be useless and the honest desire to help other people will, in the quickest and most delicate way, improve oneself. All accomplishments should be considered as means of assisting others. In music get the voice disciplined and clear, and think only of accuracy; expression and effect will take care of themselves. So in drawing: learn to set down the right shape of anything, and thereby explain its character to another person; but if you try only to make showy drawings for praise, or petty ones for amusement, your drawing will have little or no interest for you, and no educational power. Resolve to do each day something useful in the vulgar sense. Learn the economy of the kitchen, the good and bad qualities of every common article of food, and the simplest and best modes of their preparation; help poor families in their cooking; show them how to make as much of everything as possible and how to make little niceties; coaxing and tempting them into tidy and pretty ways, and pleading for well folded table cloths, however coarse, and for a flower or two out of the garden to strewn on them. One should at the end of every day be able to say as proudly as any peasant that she has not eaten the bread of idleness. Get quit of the absurd idea that heaven will interfere to correct great errors, while allowing its laws to take their own course in punishing small ones. If food is carelessly prepared no one expects providence to make it palatable; neither, if through years of folly you misguide your own life, need you expect divine interference to bring around everything at last for the best. I tell you positively the world is not so constituted.

The consequences of great mistakes are just as sure as those of small ones, and the happiness of your whole life, and of all lives over which you have power depends as literally on your common sense and discretion as the excellence and order of a day."

A Good Word from Ohio.

Mr. J. T. Cobb.—The sample VISITOR sent me was valuable and entertaining, and I could not help but feel that I had suffered a loss in not being a subscriber and reader in the past years the VISITOR has been published.

It is urged by our State Lecturer here that many other Granges might be established in this State, and the membership of the Order largely increased, by energetic work and appropriate effort. Surely this is true, and I would suggest, as the first and most efficient means to that end, that every farmer and others interested, both in and outside the Grange, be urgently solicited to subscribe for one or more of our valuable Grange papers. Were this done thoroughly, the Order would take a jump forward and upward to an extent that would delight and surprise its friends and much disturb its enemies, including all the monopolies in the United States.

There is perhaps not a successful, energetic Grange in the United States in which the members are not informed of the current history, objects and accomplished results for the Order at large, through and by the reading of Grange papers. If there is one permanent, loyal and successful Grange in the country that does not read, let us beg its Master or Secretary to report the fact. True, it can be urged that the members likely to make a good Grange will be apt to be intelligent, and therefore readers by choice, yet it should not be forgotten that there are many men, and women too, outside the gates, who are not liable to the charge of ignorance, but who persistently refuse to become members, generally because, first, they have never realized the necessity of organization of the farming and industrial classes; and second, because they have never understood the objects sought to be accomplished by our organization. There are other objections of minor importance, but these are the main ones.

When a farmer here, in answer to a question, told his wife that the cows were in a certain field near the house, to which he pointed, she said he must be mistaken, because she could not see them. But it happened that the cattle were in a farther corner of the field, and an elevation, or hill, it might be called, hid them from her sight. A similar difficulty exists with many good people with regard to the Grange. They refuse to believe that there are any or so many wrongs to avoid or redress by their brother farmers elsewhere, because they do not witness them nor take any paper informing them of these things. There is a hill in the way, perhaps several, and they have no means of seeing these facts. It is this very class too, who know nothing reliable of the efforts, the means or methods designed to remedy the evils, and if they know of a Grange that has failed or disbanded they make sure the whole thing is dead and beyond any resurrection.

Nor is this at all strange. We have many good but non-reading members in the Grange to whom our State Secretary's report of progress, activity and strength would be a surprise were they to read or hear of it. The truth is that few of us, even of the most zealous, have done our whole duty, not only in regard to the Grange press, which we have been under special obligation to sustain, but also with regard to many other obligations.

It might be useless or unnecessary to recount the many shortcomings we have been guilty of, but it is a pleasure and profit to note a few exceptions we hear. Take this instance, from the Grange Bulletin, of regular attendance: Ten years ago, when Stockbridge Grange was organized in Ingham county, Mich., Bro. H. H. Bruerton became a member, and was its Master the past eight years; in all that time he has not failed to attend a single one of its meetings. Who can beat that? In Monroe Grange, this county, was Bro. Wm. Green, who, besides all the virtues of attendance, zealous work, etc., has conscientiously made it a rule to purchase no article of outside parties that he could buy through Grange dealers. When he has wanted any article or articles, he has written on paper the kind, quality and amount wanted, and instructed the Secretary to send.

Millwood, Knox Co., Ohio, Feb. 28, 1882.

THERE is a smart girl in Clark county, Iowa, who lately had her flock of sheep sheared, consisting of 92 head, securing an average fleece of 8 1/2 pounds. She lost but eight full-grown sheep during the past severe winter, and they were killed by a vicious horse.

To the Editor:—WORTHY BROTHER,—I want to say to all Patrons that I have used the Ingersoll Liquid Rubber Paint on the outside of my house, and am very much pleased. It is perfectly beautiful, and any one, though not a painter, can make a fine job. The paint does not set quickly, but flows in and fills up all marks of the brush, hence a farm hand can make as good a job as a painter can with the common lead paint. My neighbors all admit that there is no humbug about the Patrons' Paint, and I think I am but doing my duty to the Order in thus writing. Fraternally,
OAKLAND CO., MICH. C. C. STEVENS.
[See advertisement.—EDITOR.]

Correspondence.

Eighty Workers.

Bro. Cobb.—Allow me space in your excellent paper to say that Roxand Centre Grange, No. 315, still thrives, with a membership of about 80 workers; and, with a hall both comfortable and commodious, we still continue to enjoy ourselves in a home of our own. At our last meeting the fourth degree was conferred, with Bro. J. W. Ewing, Master of Grand Ledge Grange, No. 301, officiating. About 48 of their number were present. Repairing to the basement, refreshments were discussed, and all did ample justice to the viands prepared for the occasion, nearly or quite 200 participating in the harvest feast, and we could but say, "It is good for us to be here." With steadily increasing numbers, full attendance, and perfect union of feeling and purposes—for verily, "in unity there is strength"—I think we can truthfully say, with pardonable pride, that our Grange stands at the front.

Respectfully, MRS. H. L. STEARNS, Cor. Sec. Roxand Centre Grange. Hoytville, Feb. 18, 1882.

Report from Calhoun County Grange.

Bro. Cobb.—As you have not heard from Calhoun county Grange in some time, and as I have something to tell, I write. Our County Grange met at Battle Creek for its annual election of officers, Feb. 9 and 10. You see we took two days for it. The report of the Lecturer showed eight Granges in the county, six of which had been visited by the Lecturer during the year. Quite a good many additions had been made to their numbers in that period. The Treasurer's report showed \$22.99 in the treasury. The Secretary's report showed that the Pomona Grange has now a membership of 104; eight meetings have been held during the year; 23 candidates have been initiated. The meetings all through the year have been largely attended, and have been full of interest. The following officers were elected for the year; Master, E. White; Lecturer, Nancy Cameron; Treasurer, John Hough; Secretary, MRS. PERRY MAYO. Marshall, Mich., Feb. 20, 1882.

Capital Grange, No. 540.

Bro. Cobb.—Some of the most interesting things that I find in the GRANGE VISITOR are the reports of the various Granges of our State. We, as Patrons, are all interested in each other's prosperity and welfare. Therefore, thinking that perhaps it might be of some interest to others, I will say that "Capital Grange" is doing well. We have at present 233 active members, and more coming in. It is not often that a Grange is losing interest on account of too many being received, but such was really the case with us, as we were conferring degrees at almost all of our meetings, leaving but little time for discussions and literary work, and for this reason our Grange decided by vote to confer degrees only every quarter. This makes it more pleasant for the candidates also, as we have then larger classes.

As a Grange we often have exceedingly lively times, most members taking a very active part in the programmes, the subjects being earnestly discussed pro and con, but always in the best of spirits and feeling, for you know, the Grange is a good school to learn to be tolerant.

The Lansing Co operative Association intend to break ground very soon, and contemplate putting up a building 30x80 feet in size, three stories high—the entire third story to be used as a Grange hall. This will give Capital Grange plenty of room. We don't believe in the swarming process, better make larger hives.

While writing of our prosperity, I must not forget to mention the exceedingly interesting lectures we had during the winter, by speakers furnished by the "National Lecture Bureau," the last but not the least of whom was Sister Bristol, of New Jersey. Her subject was a grand one, and was treated in a truly masterly manner. It has been my good fortune to hear other women lecturers of national reputation, but I must candidly confess that none excelled her in sound logic, argument, and manner of delivery. I would advise Granges to engage her if possible; she will do them good. I wish every farmer in the land could hear her.

Fraternally, WM. SHAFER, Lecturer. Lansing, Feb. 20, 1882.

Another "Sleepy Grange" Wakes Up.

After a comfortable nap of several years' duration, Armada Grange, No. 445, woke up on Thursday evening, Feb. 9th. This desirable event took place after a lecture from Bro. C. L. Whitney, who spent several days in Grange work in this vicinity. Nearly all of the old members came back, and, in addition, some of the most influential citizens of the neighborhood, who had, in former years, appeared somewhat indifferent to the success of the Order, became members.

In the election of officers the members were so well acquainted with each other that they were able, in each case, to choose the person peculiarly fitted to discharge the

duties of the office he was selected to fill. Judging from appearances, Armada Grange starts off in its reorganized condition with prospects very favorable for a successful career, and we shall be sadly disappointed if it does not soon become one of the most prosperous Granges in this part of the State. Certainly, no Grange with which we are acquainted possesses a membership embracing persons of more ability, and it is only necessary for them to work in unison to accomplish great results. May they so continue to work!

We heard some regrets expressed that the Hon. Geo. W. Phillips, who was present at the lecture, and who, from his earliest manhood, has done so much for the cause of agricultural improvement, should have felt that his time was so fully occupied in the discharge of the duties he owed to the organizations to which he already belonged that he had no time to devote to the Grange. He expressed himself, however, as heartily in sympathy with the Order, and stated that in his extensive travels throughout the State he saw abundant evidence of the good work the Grange was doing.

Besides the lecture above referred to, Bro. Whitney delivered two other public addresses, which were listened to by very attentive audiences. One of these lectures was delivered in a neighborhood in which there had never been a Grange meeting, and we shall not be surprised if some of the intelligent farmers who so closely followed the earnest address of Bro. Whitney, will sooner or later find their way inside the gates.

As usual, our Worthy ex-Lecturer was constantly at work during his stay among us. We, who have known Bro. Whitney from boyhood, and were so well acquainted with the arduous duties he performed in another department of useful labor, were especially gratified to observe that years of toil had not lessened his enthusiasm in a good cause, and that the practice of his youth,—of doing with his might whatever his hands found to do,—was still continued. Long may he be spared to do efficient work for the Grange. Fraternally,

F. E. SCOTT, Romeo, Feb. 18th, 1882.

A Visit to Lent and Orangeville Granges, Barry County, Mich.

Bro. Cobb.—We have been somewhere and are anxious to tell the VISITOR about it. We were invited by friends to make Lent Grange, in Barry county, a visit, and give them words of encouragement and good cheer. They have made up their minds to build themselves a Grange home, and though there are many adverse circumstances to overcome—as there always are—the hall will surely be built.

After a ride of 36 miles through one of the finest sections of Michigan, we found our good friend Bro. Honeywell with open door and open heart to receive us, and we were not sorry to accept the kind hospitality extended to us by himself and wife. We spoke that evening to a large and intelligent audience at Warner church, and we are afraid they owed us some sort of a grudge, as a vote of the house called for us to speak to them again at the same place the next afternoon. As Mr. Green's agents have been most thoroughly stirring up the farmers in that section of country, Mr. Mayo tried to show the people what the Grange was trying to do for her Patrons in defending them against all such swindlers. And as so many of them have been notified to "call at the captain's office and settle," they begin to see that it is useless to sit still any longer and be robbed by any or every highwayman who may come along.

The next evening we spoke at Prairieville to a churchful of people. We wish we could tell you what an excellent choir followed us 'round the circuit, over the worst roads and in the darkest nights. They are composed of the same material that the very best Grangers are made from. We were entertained that night at Bro. Perkins' of Prairieville, and while there he asked of us this question, and not being able to answer it we submit it to your readers for their consideration: "Is there one good reason why every farmer should not be a Patron?" The next day we drove to A. C. Towne's, and were most heartily welcomed and as heartily entertained. That night we spoke to a smaller audience at the Spaulding school-house. The night was fearfully dark, with a drizzling rain, and the roads nothing but mud. Still our good friends were there.

Bro. E. Brown, of Orangeville Grange, gave us an invitation to visit their Grange and give them a lecture. Though our engagements were ended, and we felt we must set our faces homeward, still we went, and after the meeting how glad we were that we did go! Bro. Hewitt, Master, greeted us on our arrival and kindly provided for our entertainment. We are sure of two things in regard to Orangeville Grange: first, they have a membership of between 30 and 40, and they are solid, working Grangers; second, their Master is also solid, being a gentleman of capacity both mentally and physically. Their hall was full, and they endured the lectures from us of two hours and a quarter's length. Bro. Brainard's family kindly entertained us that night, and though home demanded our presence we were very sorry indeed to leave the many kind friends we had found.

The location of their hall will be made in a small grove of trees, upon a promontory that puts out into Crooked Lake, and is certainly one of the finest situations for a Grange hall we ever saw. They have some funds raised, and are going right at it. It will not be long before you will hear something from Prairieville Grange, which is the name they intend to incorporate under.

If we should ever become so demoralized as to run out of home, friends and everything else, we certainly shall go to Barry county, for we know of no place where they are so forbearing, charitable and hospitable as there. MR. AND MRS. PERRY MAYO. Marshall, Mich., Feb. 20, 1882.

Youths' Department.

OUR TRUSTY.

[All of our young folks who have ever known and loved a Newfoundland dog will appreciate this pleasing picture of "Old Trusty."]

Seven months old and black as night, Of the Newfoundland breed and race,— "Up on your hind-legs, Trusty dog, And let our young folks see your face."

Such a grave, good face, with its great brown eyes, And look of eager, wistful appeal; There's a full round throat for a ringing bark; There are strong white teeth for a foe or a meal!

A paw on this knee and a paw on that,— Isn't he handsome, this dog of mine? See how he wags his honest tail! See how his rosy eyes glint and shine?

Up, and out on the sunny porch, With the children running a breezy race; "Hey! Trusty," here—"Ho! Trusty," there,— You cannot match him about the place.

When the sleigh shoots over the snowy road, And the horses neigh at the fastened gate, Who hears the sound of the bells the first? Greetings us early and greets us late?

Who but Trusty? "Down, dog, good dog!" A voice from the sleigh cries; "Hold! enough! You'll scatter the mail on the frozen ground; You'll tare my dress with your gambols rough."

His breath on my cheek,—his tongue on my hand,— They are but trifles; y't. somehow, sirs, I never feel them, but deep in my heart A something tender and loving stirs.

Think of the difference 'twixt the two, The boy and the dog; the dog and the man, (I say to the children gathered round,— Long haired Mary and 'Nance and Stan);—

Think what you were at seven months old,— A chubby baby dimpled and pink, Gurgling away on your mamma's lap, Without the power to walk or think!

And here's Trusty but seven months old,— "Hey! dog, there's a mouse behind you boot! Hey! dog, there's a strange cat under the barn!" And away he bounds like a grown-up brute.

Come, children clasp your hands in mine: This baby don't know where its mother lives, But we'll make his childhood a sunny one, If ever kindness a sunshine gives.

No cuff, no curse, no brutal blows, No taxing the dumb brute beyond his powers; But plenty of meat and plenty of love, And a bright, glad life for this dog of ours.

And down on the bank where the violets blow, And spring is flinging her silver rain, If your foot should slip on the river-brink, 'Tis Trusty will fetch you out again!

And all through the long, bright summer days, In roadside ramble, in woodland walk; He'll follow your footsteps, far and near, His quick bark chiming in with your talk.

Lift up your silken head, good dog, And look at us all with your deep brown eyes; Children, the bond is made and sealed, And Trusty's a nobleman in disguise. —Eleanor C. Donnelly.

"Improvement" Our Motto.

Dear Nieces and Nephews:—Why didn't you take Sweet Briar's advice and give us your opinions on one of the two subjects she selected? There has not been a letter received on these subjects, and the one from A Granger Girl is the only one which has shown any thought. The letters from Brown Thrush and Snow Bird were good, but if there is to be any improvement it must be in the way pointed out. You certainly don't want it said that you can't do as well as the young folks did—"when I was young."

No longer ago than ten years there was a magazine printed in Boston called the Young Folks—ask your older brothers and sisters, they remember it—and there was a young contributors' department for those young people between 14 and 20 years of age, and they succeeded in making it the most interesting department in the magazine.

You certainly have an opinion as to whether you can learn the hard lesson as easily after being up late the night before having a jolly time at a "sugaring off." And I don't believe there is one of you but has put that arithmetic one side to wait until you had finished a story. You know about your standing in the class that day. Sweet Briar, as you proposed the subject we shall expect to hear from you, and we truly hope that everyone of you will try and give us your experience. AUNT NINA.

"Every Man the Architect of His Own Fortune."

Aunt Nina.— "Chisel in hand stood a sculptor boy, With his marble block before him; And his face lit up with a smile of joy, As an angle dream passed o'er him. He carved that dream on the yielding stone, With many a sharp incision; In heaven's own light the sculptor shone,— He had caught that angel vision.

"Sculptors of life are we, as we stand With our lives unclouded before us, Waiting the hour when at God's command, Our Life dream passes o'er us. Let us carve it then on the yielding stone, With many a sharp incision; Its heavenly beauty shall be our own, Our lives that heavenly vision."

Yes, sculptors of life are we, and yet how few realize it as we carve our life daily? How we mar and deface our blocks of life daily and hourly without once thinking that all the thousand and one little acts of life are making their impression upon our future.

Our brain is the sculptor whose chisel is ever busy, and must be making incisions of good or evil, and if we let it carve unaided who knows what it may construct? Some day we will see the sculpture exhibited and will not even recognize it.

Brain is a good servant, and a trusty one if well trained, but the most unruly one that a person ever employed unless guarded with the greatest vigilance. If we had a piece of work to perform that needed the utmost care and precision, and expected a reward if performed according to the contract, we would not set an ignorant servant to perform it alone, but read up the case, study it out, and instruct him till the work was completed. If any flaw existed erase it, and try to perfect the work. But do we so with our lives?

Possibly a few do, but the majority let the brain educate itself almost entirely, and never lay any dictates upon it, and expect their sculpture to be perfect. Brain, uneducated and misinformed, with chisel rough and heavy and dull is chipping and fretting away at some of our finest material, marring and defacing until it is useless and a blot on our Creator's name when a little care and education might give it a polish the world would admire. Some one has said, "Fate trims the corners, rough hew them as we may." True, but when that is said Faith steps out but the Master workman has other engagements, other corners to hew, and leaves his subordinates a few instructions and opportunities and expects a good piece of sculpture as the result.

Now, we are prone to carve for our neighbors. You see a place on Neighbor Jones's block where you would like to put a few taps. You are not interested enough to strike good sharp blows and go over and go to chiseling and leave your own uncared for for the time. Now, Neighbor Brown thinks: I'll go and give a few raps on that block; it sadly needs it. You both work away till you wake up and find Fate's nicely trimmed corners marred and defaced beyond recognition, and perhaps the only bit of real carving, the only sharp incision your brain ever did for you chipped and hacked till 'tis irremediable, then you assail Brown. "Here, sir! what did you do this for?" Brown is astonished, "Why, I thought to help you; I saw you needed it." "But you have only ruined what was well done. This is the corner Fate trimmed for me. My block is worthless now, or only second rate at best." "Well, you should not have your choice corners exposed in that style, and I would not have been carving them." That is all the consolation we ever get, no matter what the damage.

Now, we can never reasonably expect to perfect our block till we quit hewing for others and go to hewing for ourselves in real earnest. Brain was given us by a Power all-powerful, by one mightier than we, who said, "as hewers of stone." Then let us all in unity strike each our sharpest incisions against ignorance and error, and give Brain supreme command of knowledge, for while superstition and ignorance are sculpturing for us we can never reach our ideal, nor even the real. While we sleep and doze and leave our mallet oftenest for our neighbor, we will never reach anything the Master Workman would accept as even third rate. There are some noble ones who have struck sturdy blows for advancement, and they are world-renowned; but we, as a mass, are letting all the finest, most acute faculties of our brain lie dormant, while only the rudest part is used, from necessity more than from forethought.

A GRANGER GIRL.

Coloma, Feb. 24, 1882.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

TUCKER.—After a long and painful illness Bro. G. W. Tucker, a worthy member of South Boston Grange, No. 175, departed this life Jan. 22, 1882. Resolutions of sympathy for the bereaved family were adopted by the Grange and ordered spread upon its records.

HOGUE.—Charles F. Hogue.

CROCKER.—Emma Crocker.

Each of the above obituary notices were incorporated in very lengthy preambles and resolutions, expressive of the esteem in which they were each held by the brothers and sisters of the Order, and tendering to the afflicted relatives their well-expressed sympathies; but neither the time when, the place where, the name or number of the Grange was mentioned.—Ed.

YATES.—Bloomer Grange, No. 436, on the 4th of February adopted resolutions of respect and condolence on account of the death of its worthy Past Master, Wm. Yates, and ordered the same spread upon the minutes of the Grange.

FLEMING.—Death has again entered our circle and claimed for his own one of our members, Brother JAMES FLEMING, one who has outlived his threescore and ten years. It is another of the main props taken from our Grange, but we trust that which is our loss is his gain. To the family in their bereavement we extend our heartfelt sympathy, and would ask not only the family but the whole Grange to remember that these repeated calls should warn us to so live that when our summons comes we may be found ready to obey the call.

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F. M. CARROLL, Publishers, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

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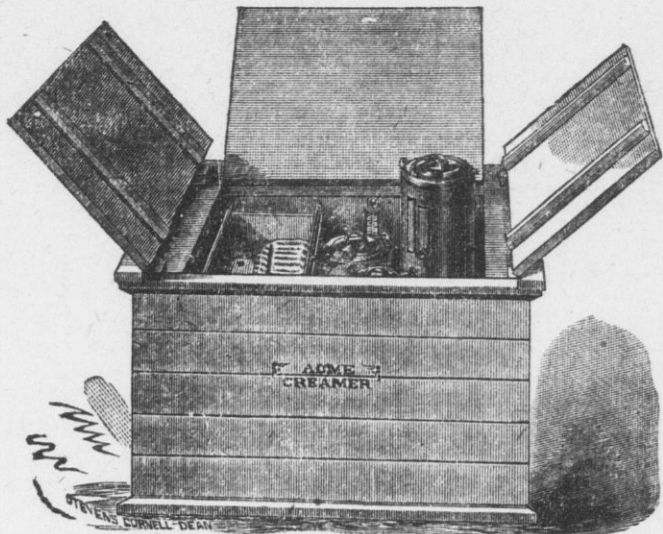
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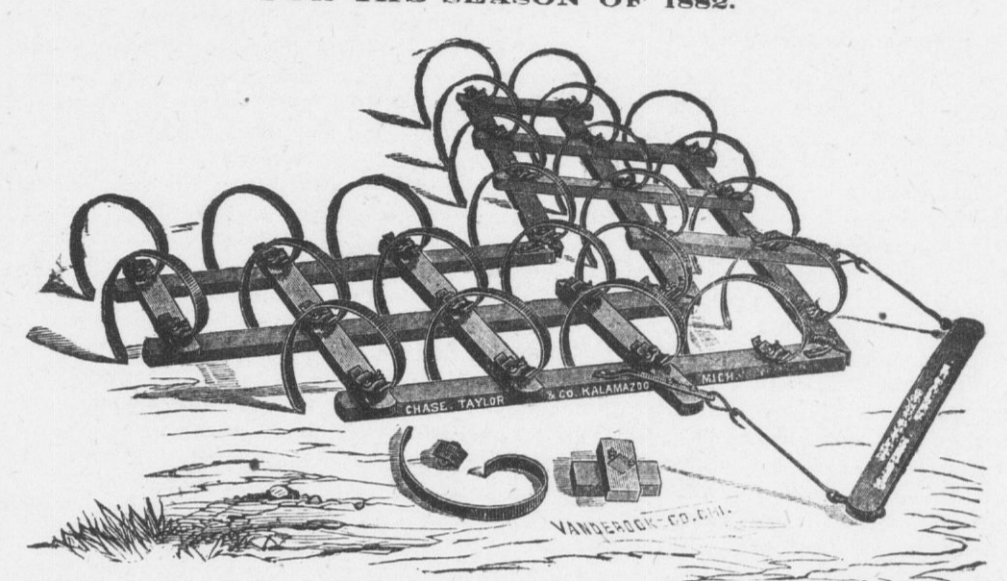
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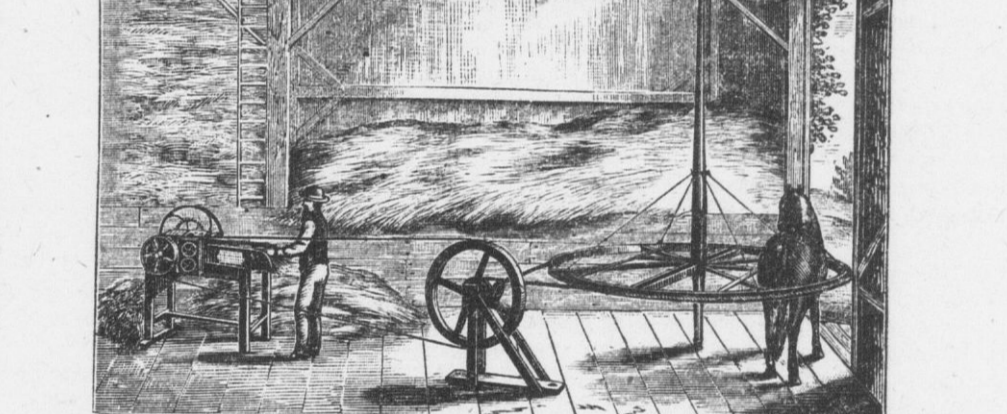
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