

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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FATHERLY ADVICE.

Then you've decided on your course—you'll be a doctor, Jim?
The old man's trade ain't good enough—you'll go ahead o' him?
All right; you're now of age and own the privilege to do
As you see fit, though all the world should rise and caution you.

The doctor's life's a hard one, Jim—this getting up of nights
And ridin' miles is not the chief of secular delights,
And bravin' storms to save a man who fails to pay you, boy,
Is not what might be rated, unadulterated joy.

'Twere nice, within your office, with your 'shingle' hung outside,
To write cash-down prescriptions as the blissful moments glide,
But striking out at midnight, when the wintry zephyr hisses,
Ain't what good judges might set down as unadulterated bliss.

And then the smell o' drugs, why, Jim, a r-a-a-l fast-tippin' nose
Belonging to a doctor's face would never find repose;
Now, your proboscis might survive all sorts o' smells, but me—
I toss the sponge at one good whiff of assafœtida!

Too many new-fledged doctors, Jim, are coming from the schools
To make slipshod experiments on weak, confiding fools;
The cemeteries grow sparse and undertakers grin
To know their agents are at work and trade a rollin' in.

My words may have but little weight, but common sense insists
That breathing poisoned, druggy air and holdin' sick men's wrists
Ain't like inhalin' pure, fresh air that fans the farmer's brow,
And grasping with a manly hold the handles of a plow.

You may succeed, but oh, my son, misfortunes dark may fall,
And you some day may be reduced to the saddest strat of all—
Sick nigh to death and dropped by friends, your last resort may be
To try your nostrums on yourself to ease your misery!

Michigan Crop Report, July 1, 1882.

For this report returns have been received from 902 correspondents, representing 685 townships. Five hundred and fifty-six of these returns are from 389 townships in the southern four tiers of counties.

The first footing of the wheat columns in the crop and stock reports returned to this office by Supervisors, shows that the number of acres harvested in Michigan in 1881 was 1,669,405, number of bushels, 20,173,471, and number of acres in wheat at the time the assessment was taken this year (will be harvested this year) 1,718,155.

The probable aggregate yield in the State this year as shown by the figures at hand is 31,420,834 bushels, an average of 18.29 bushels to the acre.

The aggregate yield is obtained by multiplying the acreage in each county at the time the assessment was taken, by the average yield per acre, as estimated by correspondents, and taking the sum of the totals. Owing to the backwardness of the season harvesting will begin from ten to twenty days later than usual. Continued rains cause some some anxiety as to the final outcome of the crop.

The Hessian fly and other insects are reported present in various parts of the State, but it is probable they will reduce but slightly the aggregate product. Reports of damage from this source are mainly from the southern section of the State, notably from Kent, Ottawa, and the southwestern counties of Van Buren, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, and Branch. It was this locality that suffered most from the ravages of the Hessian fly in 1877. One correspondent in Branch county states that "quite a number of farmers are now cutting their wheat for fodder." In the northern counties insects are doing the most damage in Crawford, Grand Traverse, and Kalkaska.

According to the estimates only about three per cent. of the old crop yet remains in farmers' hands. The small and constantly diminishing amount of wheat marketed, although a reasonably fair price is offered, itself indicates that the old crop is nearly or quite exhausted.

The condition of corn is 87 per cent., of oats 105 per cent., barley 100 per cent., clover meadows and pastures 91 per cent., timothy meadows and pastures, 100 per cent., and of clover sowed this year 117 per cent. of the condition July 1, 1881.

Apples now promise 87 per cent. as against 113 per cent. on the first of June. Reports from all parts of the State show that the apples are falling from the trees in large quantities.

Peaches promise four-fifths of an average crop, or about the same as on June 1.

Reports have been received of the quantity of wheat marketed by farmers during the month of June at 298 elevators. Of these 240 are in the southern four tiers of counties, which is one-half of the whole number of elevators and mills in these counties. The total number of bushels marketed is 419,918, of which 129,846 bushels were marketed in

the first or southern tier of counties, 143,040 bushels in the second tier, 38,092 bushels in the third tier, 94,426 bushels in the fourth tier, and 14,534 bushels in the counties north of the southern four tiers. At 63 elevators and mills, or 21 per cent. of the whole number from which reports have received, there was no wheat marketed during the month. At 236 elevators and mills the quantity of wheat marketed 359,511 bushels, which is 60 per cent of the quantity marketed at the same places during the month of May.

Something About Trees.

Leonard B. Hodges is doubtless the best authority on tree-culture in this State [Minnesota] but so much does business call him out of the city that a reporter was unable to obtain an extended interview on the subject of arboriculture with him. In the short conversation held with Mr. Hodges gave, however, some valuable information, which is here-with appended:

I will in a hurried way just try to correct some recent and very foolish ideas which are now having a run through the public press. Some months ago I noticed a very readable article in your columns from some Iowa correspondent about the Smartest Girl in Iowa—how she had hitched up the team, loaded it with sprouts, black-walnuts etc., struck out for the Jim river country, made a homestead and tree claim, stuck her sprouts and black-walnuts, etc., into the ground, and was thereby the owner in fee of 320 acres of land so very easily acquired, and was going back in the spring to repeat the operation and double her fortune, already prospectively set at some \$30,000, more or less. When reading it, I thought the absurdity of the yarn carried its own antidote, but having had my attention called to it by many inexperienced and sensible people who have swallowed it whole as true, and who seriously intend to follow the example of the "smart girl in Iowa," allow me to say this, that in making a tree claim, the law requires that during the first year five acres must be broken, and during the second year another five acres shall be broken, and the first five acres shall be cultivated to crop or otherwise; that during the third year the first five acres shall be planted to forest trees and the second five acres shall be planted to crop or otherwise; that during the fourth year the second five acres shall be planted to forest trees, and that thereafter the entire ten acres thus planted shall be thoroughly and annually cultivated—that no patent for land so entered shall issue until eight years from the date of entry; that the person making such entry must

PROVE BY TWO CREDIBLE WITNESSES that he or she has planted, and for not less than eight years has cultivated and protected their trees, as aforesaid; that not less than 2,700 trees, as seeds, or cuttings were planted on each acre. Positive proof must be made that there are trees growing at least 675 living and thrifty trees to each acre. Such is the substance of the law. It cannot be evaded with impunity. Its terms and provisions are plain and imperative. There is no romance in it. I do not learn from the article referred to that the "smartest girl in Iowa" ever took the trouble to break or plow the ground; just stuck the cuttings, sprouts, etc., into the raw prairie land.

The probabilities are all that when the "smartest girl in Iowa" goes into the Jim river country this spring to make another tree claim and another \$30,000, she will find her claim jumped because she failed to make any pretense of complying with the law; that she has exhausted her rights under the law and will not be permitted to make another entry under the congressional timber-culture act, and that she will be compelled to turn her attention to something she knows better how to do. I'm too busy to read all there is in the newspapers, but lots of fellows are after me everywhere I go, about planting black walnuts, and lately they all tell me that Eli Perkins says that all you have got to do to grow a magnificent forest of black walnut timber is to go out on the wild, raw prairie and take a hammer, and with the hammer knock a hole in the sod, drop the black walnut into the hole, and in a few years you have your blackwalnut forest.

NOW, I DON'T KNOW ELI PERSONALLY, but his general reputation for truth and veracity will be seriously impaired unless he is more careful how he talks about growing black walnut timber. I'm inclined to think the boys have misunderstood his remarks. For their benefit, and also for the benefit of Eli, permit me to say that the most successful growers of black walnut timber in Iowa and Minnesota pursue substantially the following method, to-wit: After having completely subdued and prepared the ground by years of plowing and cultivation, mark out as for corn; plant deep enough so that a temporary drouth won't dry up the nut; plant the nut where the tree is to remain permanently; cultivate the ground thoroughly until the young trees have developed so as to shade the ground so as to choke out all weeds and grass; from that on protect from fire and cattle.

The nuts should be gathered soon after maturity and before they have dried any. (A dry black walnut is not worth planting.) When gathered, spread them out on the ground, or in small heaps—cover with most any kind of mulch—throw on buckets of water occasionally, enough to keep them moist. Thus handled, the frost will crack

the shell, and when planted in the spring the young trees will follow promptly. The black walnut delights in a deep, rich and moist soil. Second bench river bottoms, and the deep ravines leading into the river bottoms, are the sort of localities nature usually selects when she goes into the black walnut business.

The black walnut is not the hardest forest tree in the world. None of any account are found in Minnesota higher north than the Minnesota valley. That don't prove that they will not grow higher up. In certain localities in Stevens county, where they had the shelter of young groves, the black walnut is growing and doing well. I found black walnut trees 28 years ago in the sheltered valleys of the Zumbro and its branches, then standing two and a half to four feet in diameter, and from 40 to 50 feet of straight, clear body timber before reaching the limbs. Many such trees, which if now standing would sell for a hundred dollars each on the stump, were cut for firewood and fence rails, and others for saw-logs and the lumber sold for \$15 to \$22 per thousand.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

I think if I were going to plant a quarter section of black walnut I would go south of the Minnesota valley, far enough south to be sure of no trouble in freezing down. Then I would plant four feet apart each way, and keep the ground clean by thorough cultivation until the young plantation overpowers the weeds and grass. Nature will do the thinning out. Thick planting insures tall, straight timber, which Nature will thin out ultimately to about what the wild produce will carry easily. Thin planting trees—not timber trees. The black walnut is a rapid and steady grower. I saw some on the farm of Mr. John Kepner, in Olmsted county, Minn., a few years ago—four years from the seed, the largest of which were then four inches in diameter and in full blow for a crop of nuts. I think the largest plantation of black walnuts (that I am personally acquainted with), artificially grown, is on the plantation of Judge C. E. Whiting, of Whiting, Monona county, Iowa. The judge plants the nuts by wagon loads and makes a grand success of it. It will amply pay any one contemplating planting black walnuts largely to see the judge and his plantation. On the bleak prairies of the Northwest I am inclined to think the black walnut will require the protection of harder trees. I am planting mine among the cottonwoods and am awaiting results.—St. Paul Pioneer Press, May, 1882.

Sorghum for Cows.

A successful dairy farmer of Wisconsin relates his experience as follows: I planted an acre of Impece (sorghum or Amber do as well.) A touch of frost induced me to cut it early, and not succeeding to get a mill to work it in time, I stacked it the same as corn, and afterwards drew it convenient to the barnyard. In December I fed it to my milk cows, throwing it over to them whole, same as corn stalks. Now the result! Although they had abundance of hay they were as greedy for the cane as boys after sugar plums. Every scrap of it was eaten, and so close that nothing was left to indicate what had been fed to them; no food seemed to do them so much good. We could see no material difference in the quantity of the milk, but in the quality, one good housewife says she never saw anything like it, for it was nearly all cream. I believe an acre is worth more for milk cows than many acres of hay. Plant a patch of cane for your cows for cream, and a bed of carrots for the color, and feed; the cow's mouth is the true strainer for a good color; and let dye stuff alone. Try it.

Curculio.

Speaking of curculio, the *German Town Telegraph* says that the one thing that is a remedy, and will assuredly prove to be, if carefully attended to—but it is this "if" that is in the road—is the jarring of the tree as soon as the fruit begins to form until the stone has become too hard for the larvae to penetrate, every morning and evening, placing a sheet underneath large enough to receive the fallen insects, and then burn them. Cut off a bough of the tree an inch or two from the trunk, and strike it sharply with a pretty heavy mallet; and the curculio, which drops easily and never clings to a leaf or other portion, falls into the sheet, where it will remain coiled up as if dead, looking very much like a piece of the bark; but it is only "playing possum," and let alone a little while, will soon make its escape. All the large plum raisers of the country adopt this course as the only one certain to get rid of curculio and obtain a full crop of sound, uninjured fruit.

Squash Bugs.

A New Jersey farmer says: "I have found the following a sure preventive against the attacks of squash bugs, cucumber beetles etc., on my garden vines, Saturate a piece of cloth or old rags with coal oil and tie to a short stick, or draw them through a split made in the top of the stick to fasten them, insert the stick in hills or near the vines, and the bugs will soon disappear. After a shower, and usually once in three or four days the rags will need to be saturated anew."

Talks on Poultry, No. 12.

SUMMER HINTS.

Possibly fowls have been neglected during harvest and the best we can do is to make amends. Farmers who have good watch dogs, or who never have their fowls borrowed, fumigate their hen house and close it until fall, leaving fowls to roost in tree or sheltered places prepared for them. The hen house should be fumigated anyway, and if obliged to use it, some whitewash the windows to act as curtains. Shady places, with roof and low rooms, should be provided, to which fowls may resort during the sultry days of August, and which should afford shade fore and afternoon. Food for hot weather was given some attention in No. 11. A couple of furrows of ground plowed or spaded will be appreciated, especially after a rain. Drag the ground after a few days. Many advocate a few nails or piece of iron in the drinking fountain as an iron tonic.

Hens will lay outdoors from choice, and considerable detective ability is required to find the nests in time to secure the eggs fresh. Eggs should now be kept down cellar. There will be nothing gained by forcing hens to lay this time of year by extra feed. They must rest sometime, and better now, and then commence laying in the fall. At this busy season when eggs must be gathered late at night, we see the advantage of china nest eggs over other kinds, as a touch tells which is the nest egg. Besides they do not crack, freeze and are always clean. We prefer them.

Sitting hens are a bother to some, as the hens have mostly laid their long litter, and sitting comes next in natural order. Descriptions of parks have been given in the *Visitor*. A box of ashes should be placed inside, and arrangements fixed to feed and water from the outside. We feed sitting hens liberally, because if sitting they would eat sparingly, and we are trying to resist nature. We have seen people grab hens by one leg, and head down, amid the screams of the poor fowls carry them to the park, forgetting that there is a right way and a wrong way to do everything. Take one hen at a time, grasp both legs above the first joint with one hand, putting the other hand under the breast bone, and the hen will seldom make a noise. It is not well to take a hen by the body from a nest, for there is often an egg under a wing, as they are more broody than earlier in the year.

You may notice that spring chickens, after leaving the mother hen, go to roost later than hens. Take advantage of this and quietly feed the chickens all they will eat the last thing at night, after the hens are roosting. They will soon learn to come without calling or attracting hens. We speak from experience.

Grand View Farm, }
Kalamazoo, } OLD POULTRY.

A New Cattle Car.

Two cattle cars, patented by W. S. Hunter, were loaded recently at the Chicago stock-yards for shipment east. The cars are fitted with troughs along the sides, and from oscillating bars, crossing the roof of the car, depended, by running rings, a folded partition or screen, which, when fastened by a ring to a staple, divided up 26 inches of the width of the car, and was flexible enough to permit the animal to lie down, and had tension enough to prevent the beast crowding to any great extent its neighbors in the stalls on either side. The car, which on this plan carries 15 cattle, is padded at either end. For speed in loading, arrangements are made so that the cattle face right and left according to the end of the car into which they are driven. By the ordinary method 16 or 17 cattle are driven into a car in three or four minutes. Eleven minutes were occupied in loading the first, and nine and one-half minutes in filling the second. An officer of the Humane Society accompanies these cars on their trip to note the results. When loaded, the beasts have the appearance of being stalled, and several of them can lie down at one time. The troughs are filled by means of hose at different points, and feed given the animals.

SOUTH CAROLINA, like the rest of the States, suffers from the all-pervading dog nuisance. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Colonel A. P. Butler, estimates that the losses caused by dogs, range from ten per cent. on the flocks to about 100 or total annihilation. No doubt the blame is to be divided among several classes. It seems rather a natural habit that negroes and poor whites should keep dogs, while the rich planters or other property holders want them for fancied use or amusement, and between them all the sheep interest suffers.—*Philadelphia Press*.

Correspondence.

Up and Doing.

Paper read before the Elk Lake Grange, convened July 1, 1882.

Grange 469 was reorganized on Saturday evening, October 30, 1880, by Bro. Whitney, lecturer State Grange, when seventeen persons had their names entered in the roll book as Grangers.

Then we had a meeting on the fifteenth evening of a new year—1881—when by an equal contribution we raised funds for the purpose of purchasing cloth for the ante room, which was accomplished with little trouble.

This is a Grange which many know Was not a Grange some years ago, But now this Grange is doing well, As all may judge from what I tell.

And as this is the time appointed to remit to our secretary of the State Grange his dues for the July quarter of 1882, I find that dissolution and demits, etc., have reduced our number of members to forty-eight; but, Worthy Secretary, it affords me great pleasure in saying that this evening, July 1, we received another member, and more are coming.

To benefit the farmer, and also his wife, To benefit his household and keep them from strife, And to make home attractive, house, garden and farm, His horses and implements when placed in the barn.

How Springville Grange Spent the Fourth. As has been their custom for years past on the Fourth of July Springville Grange held one of their tea-parties, and this time at the home of Bro. Nelson Kinney, where a program previously arranged was successfully carried out and which consisted of songs, selections, recitations, &c., together with the following questions:

Resolved, That the traveling menageries which pass through our country every season, result in more evil than good, and that in patronizing them we countenance drunkenness, crime and disorder.

The subject was earnestly discussed by many present. At the close of these exercises all present partook of the bountiful repast prepared by the sisters, who know so well not only how to prepare but to serve a repast acceptably to every one.

One feature of the program I would not forget to mention was the oration prepared and delivered by the Hon. Marshal Reed, which commenced with a historical review of our national independence, ending in a mirthful prediction of the future of some of the members of the Order.

Springville Grange. J. E. GIBBS, Secretary.

Summerton Grange, No 310.

Bro. Cobb.—Our Grange is growing some now and I will be able to make a better showing at my next report. Summerton Grange has lingered between life and death for some time but I am glad to report it convalescent now.

medicine good for sick Patrons to take. He did not get up as far as our Grange, but "our Grange" went where he was. We intended to have him speak in our hall on the 23d, but owing to several new cases of diphtheria in the vicinity, it was thought best not to have a meeting.

SECY GRANGE 310.

A Lucky Misfortune.

You would not have thought, at first sight, that it was a good thing that Joe Carver broke his ankle just in the middle of harvest. But it was, in more ways than one. It was not a very pleasant prospect which his wife had, having him around the house to wait upon when she was so hurried and worried with summer work.

But after the first fever had worn off and the caged lion had begun in a measure to subdue his restlessness, he settled down on that wide, cozy lounge in the sitting room determined to make the best of a bad job. He read the papers and magazines which Mattie canvassed the neighborhood to borrow for him, even when her poor little feet were about worn out, and he had really not indulged in so much literature for a dozen years, if, indeed, he ever had.

But it was not in that line that the advantage chiefly came in. He spent some share of the time "taking notes" of the ways and means by which the domestic machinery of his household was carried on.

It considerably surprised him to see the amount of work a woman had to do. Somehow he had imbibed the impression so common among men, that a woman had a rather easy time of it generally, staying in the shady house, while the poor men toiled out in the boiling sun.

Then that worried and hurried look which came into her eyes when the clock was creeping up to the hour of noon, made him wince a little as he saw how the burdens were bending down those shoulders once so fair and straight. He had nothing now to do but to take observations, and they were not as comforting as he would have liked.

He felt ashamed of himself when he saw her fence in the baby with pillows and lay before it a basin of clothespins, preparatory to taking a great market basket, and going out to the distant garden for potatoes and corn and cucumbers, which that great hired boy of his might just as well have brought in before he went to the fields.

By the end of that week his mind was made up. He should have help in that kitchen if he sold the best cow he had to pay for it.

"Mattie," he said, "I want you to look around among the neighbors, and see whose girl you can hire for awhile. You must have somebody if it is only a boy in the house to do chores and save steps."

Mattie looked up from her kneading pan in a half-scared way, fearing that her saving Joe was losing his mind.

"You needn't look so wild about it, Mattie. It is a settled thing. I shall be too busy if I ever get about again, to go around hunting up a second wife."

Mattie laughed as she looked down again at her dough, and concluded that Libbie Baker would be glad of the chance to earn a little before school began in the fall. So Libbie came into that house for the rest of the summer, and oh, what a burden was lifted from that over-worked little woman's shoulders.

It is strange that any farmer should suppose that he can accomplish more single-handed than by a union with his neighbor. They should not lose sight of the fact that "In union is strength."

A FARMER may get, in an hour's talk with a neighbor, the result of his experience, which likely costs him days and weeks of time to learn. He may thus in one hour save a week's work, or learn that which will make a week's work doubly profitable.

Women at School Meetings. To the Editor:—In some parts of the State, people are asking this question: Have the women of Michigan the privilege of voting at school meetings? Please enlighten your readers by printing the following copy of the law on this subject.

SESSION LAWS 1881. Page 155, Section 103:—"No person, except an elector, as aforesaid, shall be eligible to any elective office contemplated in this chapter; provided, however, that any female person of or above the age of 21 years, who has resided in this State three months, and in the township ten days next preceding any election, shall be eligible to the office of school inspector."

Page 168, Section 17:—"Every person of the age of 21 years, who has property liable to assessment for school taxes in any school district, and who has resided therein three months next preceding any school meeting held in said district, or who has resided three months next preceding such meeting on any territory belonging to such district at the time of holding said meeting, shall be a qualified voter in said meeting upon all questions; and all other persons who are 21 years of age, and are the parents or legal guardians of any children included in the school census of the district, and who have, for three months as aforesaid, been residents in said district or upon any territory belonging thereto at the time of holding any school meeting, shall be entitled to vote on all questions arising in said district which do not directly involve the raising of money by tax."

Page 171, Section 4:—"Any qualified voter in a school district who has property liable to assessment for school taxes shall be eligible to election or appointment to office in such school district, unless such person be an alien."

Little Good Things.

BY MRS. M. B. BUTTS.

With most of us our doing must be in little ways. The mite is daily required of us. But we, dreaming of great things, let the little opportunities slip by.

Some of our best chances for helpfulness are not even thought of as such till it is too late. They are overlooked because they are so small. How often we keep a cold, impassive face when a smile would do wonders.

"What can we do?" is the question we learn to ask; and if we see something attractive we say instantly, "She would like that," or "It would just suit my friend." It may be but a rosebud, or a cluster of violets; it may be little, very little, yet it is much.

"I think the six months before she died were the happiest part of her married life," said a lady, speaking of a young wife, who was a child of the sunshine. And her husband, while he loved her truly, and mourns her passionately, was careless in the expression of his love, thoughtless of her needs.

It is not alone the young who are careless; we are at fault in all stages of life. Of ten the father and the mother forget the right of childhood to childishness and stand between the little one and its sunshine with a blind selfishness that is unpardonable.

By-and-by, when they go away and strangers fill their places, the children remember with an aching heart how much they might have done to cheer their loneliness.

In many country homes the mother waits day after day for letters from the children out in the world. They, busy with work, amusements, companions, put off their home letter till weeks have become months and sometimes years.

Little helps to young mothers whose burdens are overwhelming—how great they are! A child's garment that some other child has out-grown; a walk with the restless, fretful little ones when the poor young mamma cannot get out, and some other young woman does not know what to do with herself.

Those who are childless have it in their power to make themselves a blessing to their neighbor's children in little ways; a trip to the woods in a big wagon; a little festival on the lawn, to which the dolls could come, and at which nobody is allowed to appear in fine dresses; a subscription to a child's magazine, giving some boy or girl delight for a long year.

Of a piece with these little kindnesses are the flower missions and the boxes for newspapers to be sent to hospitals. It quickens one's better impulses and helps our faith in human nature to see, "Please drop your papers here for the hospitals." Surely our great city is not hopelessly forgetful of little things,

while such legends are found in the centres of business and travel. And as the age progresses this spirit will increase; for in proportion as men become refined and spiritualized they will remember the little as well as the great needs of their fellows, and will act more and more in the spirit of that religion which says, "As we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men."

At the annual exercises of the medical school for women Prof. Huxley presided and delivered an address, in the course of which he said: This experiment has shown that there are hundreds of women who have the capacity and power to do the work of the medical practitioner just as well as the majority of their brothers.

Nothing can be effected without organization. This need not necessarily be of a political character. However, let a beginning be made, whenever we have opportunity, of selecting and placing in nomination such officers for positions of political trust as are intelligent and conscientious and who are clear-headed enough to see that laws for the good of the majority are placed upon our statute books instead of special enactments designed to benefit a few.

Need of United Action.

The census of 1880 reveals the startling fact that the tendency of our population is to concentrate more than ever heretofore in all the large cities throughout the country. It is known that with this concentration the political power of the principal cities is increased to such an extent that the control of the political matters of some States is dependent upon the efforts of the wire-pullers in such cities.

In order to avert such a calamity ring after ring must be broken by the influence of honest men now engaged in agriculture and mechanical pursuits. Those who toil with hand and brain should control our political destiny, the assessment of our taxes, and see that equal and exact justice is accorded to all, in order that social and material prosperity may prevail throughout the length and breadth of the land.

The power of "rings," and the powerlessness of opposing influences has not escaped the attention of our most sagacious statesmen. The farmers and producers who are numerically in a large majority, are a decided minority in point of influence, when the enactment of just laws are needed in the interests of farmers and working men.

Nothing can be effected without organization. This need not necessarily be of a political character. However, let a beginning be made, whenever we have opportunity, of selecting and placing in nomination such officers for positions of political trust as are intelligent and conscientious and who are clear-headed enough to see that laws for the good of the majority are placed upon our statute books instead of special enactments designed to benefit a few.

Peter Cooper on Railroad Corporations.

The railroad corporations now have such extensive control over the products of the country by their excessive charges for transportation, that they deprive the people of a large share of the products of their labor. The officers of a half-dozen railroad corporations can now agree to raise the prices of transportation on the products that are sent over their roads so that in a short time they can take hundreds of millions of dollars out of the pockets of the people, which they appropriate to themselves.

I trust that at your meeting in Albany, steps will be taken to organize and educate the people, in opposition to these monopolies. We must have legislators elected who will make just laws for the people, and not special laws for the benefit of corporations.

A PENNSYLVANIA dispatch says that the coal operators "recognize the absolute necessity of curtailing production, and some of them are willing to work half the time for two weeks; but others urge that this restriction should be continued two months," and here is the reason given for this "absolute necessity": "Production continues large, and the warm weather has reduced the consumption so largely that a suspension of mining or a break in the price of coal is considered inevitable."

It is as incumbent upon every Granger to attend the meetings of his Grange regularly and punctually as it is for any honest man to pay his honest debts. We mean the principles are identical, because it is his personal obligation to preserve his own credit and interests.

Mason Co., Mich.

Mr. Editor:—I have the honor to report on the 16 gallons of paint sent me by the Patrons' Paint Works. My order was filled promptly and the paint came in good order. Last week I employed two first-class painters to spread the paint on the outside of my house. They were much prejudiced at first and thought that I would have to send for as much more to finish, but were surprised to find a full gallon left after completing the job.

MICHIGAN FEMALE SEMINARY, KALAMAZOO, MICH. Board and tuition, \$175 per school year. Location delightful. School on the Mt. Holyoke plan. Influence Christian, but not sectarian.

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 supplies and prices: Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred, 75; Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep accounts with members, 1 00; Blank Record Books, (Express paid), 1 00; Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound, 50.

J. T. COBB, SECY MICH. STATE GRANGE, SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL R. R. DEPARTMENT OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO.

Table with train schedules: WESTWARD, EASTWARD. Columns include Station, Time, and Class of service (A, M, P, M).

J. A. GRIER, General Freight Agent, Chicago, O. W. ROGULS, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

L. S. & M. S. R. R. KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE.

Table with train schedules: GOING SOUTH, GOING NORTH. Columns include Station, Time, and Class of service (N, Y, C, N, Y, C, E, M, E, M).

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. Corrected Time-Table—May 14, 1882.

Table with train schedules: TRAINS WEST. Columns include Station, Mail and Express, Day Express, Pacific Express, and Way Freight.

Table with train schedules: TRAINS EAST. Columns include Station, Mail and Express, Day Express, Night Express, and Way Freight.

All trains run by Chicago time. All trains daily except Sunday. G. B. REEVES, Traffic Manager. S. R. CALLAWAY, General Superintendent.

The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, - - AUGUST 1.

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Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - - - SCHOOLCRAFT.

THE STATE CAPITOL ENGRAVING.

We have sent several dozen lithographs of the State Capitol to those entitled to them by virtue of having sent us five or more names of subscribers and \$2.50, since our offer in the VISITOR of March 15th. If we have neglected to send to any person entitled to this fine engraving we shall promptly forward it on receipt of notice.

UNTIL WITHDRAWN THIS IS MADE A STANDING OFFER—FIVE NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR ONE YEAR WILL ENTITLE THE PERSON SENDING US THE NAMES AND \$2.50 TO A SPLENDID LITHOGRAPH OF THE STATE CAPITOL OF MICHIGAN, SIZE OF SHEET 22x28 INCHES.

THE PATENT RIGHT AMENDMENT IN THE SENATE.

The amendment to the patent laws introduced by Mr. Burrows in the House, passed by that body and sent to the Senate, now seems probable, will not be brought to a vote this session. In the meantime the *Scientific American* and other papers working in the interest of patentees, are exhorting the senators to be just to inventors before they are generous to infringers. The *Scientific American* in its issue of July 15, says: "The abuses which the farmers complain of are vexatious no doubt, but it is not to be believed that the country is ready to seek a remedy for them in a law which raises the infringement of patent rights to a semi-legal, semi-honorable occupation."

The argument now rests entirely upon the alleged injury to be inflicted upon inventors by taking away the right possessed by every claimant of a patent to worry and threaten responsible persons and exact tribute from them at will. The intolerable evils of the present system, as administered by the courts, are freely admitted, but it is urged that it is better that the people should be wholly in the power of patent right lawyers and adventurers than to do anything that might discourage invention.

The article to which we have referred recites also a great benefit of which the people would be deprived if the amendment should become a law, and the innocent purchaser should be freed from the wholesome discipline of paying bonuses to needy lawyers. "One condition," the editor says, "which patent legislation cannot reach, and ought not to try to reach, is the ignorance and carelessness of many people in respect to legitimate business practices. They have not learned the tricks of swindlers and are prone to buy patented inventions from unauthorized dealers, as they buy worthless lightning rods, worthless "specifics" for all human and animal ailments, or good-for-nothing seeds of impossible plants from plausible peddlers and traveling sharpers. This class of innocent buyers are slowly learning by experience the advantage of being more guarded in their dealings with unknown and irresponsible parties; and that is all the protection they need."

Experience in the ways of the world is certainly a great advantage to the farmer. The patent attorney has a mission to dispel the dense ignorance of the agricultural population. He will teach them by "experience" the advantage of being more guarded in their dealings.

The fact is that only a small portion of the patented articles in use are purchased from peddlers. A large part of every stock of hardware in the hands of regular dealers consists of patented articles. Letters patent are often issued for the same device to different claimants, and reissued patents are constantly allowed to cover more than the patentee is justly entitled to claim. This gives rise to conflicts whenever the device is a valuable one. Multitudes of articles regularly bought and sold in the trade are in dispute and no notice whatever is given to the public concerning the contest or its result. No human intelligence can guard the purchaser against liability to loss, no matter which one of the contending claimants may attack him.

If the subject had not a serious side to it in the vexatious suits and blackmail robberies that of late years have grown up all over the country, and by judicial decisions received encouragement, this paltry argument of the *Scientific American* and its fellow pettifoggers, that with the passage of the bill now before the senate a death-blow would be given to inventive genius, we

could look upon and treat as frivolous and unworthy of serious answer. But the patent right lawyer finds in this bill danger to his chosen avocation, and he must endeavor to prevent its passage by whatever means he can command, and this bugbear of smothering inventive genius by destroying its incentive seems to be relied on by these wise fellows as a strong point.

We beg leave to say, that with the manufacturer and dealer still liable to the inventor or for infringement upon his rights, our confidence in the indomitable Yankee is in no wise shaken by all the wise talk of these alarmists.

The fate of the Burrows bill ought not to be doubtful in the senate. The agricultural interests are united in its favor, and to this larger half of the people may be added more than half of the remainder who are interested in the protection secured by this bill. The time has come when these interests cannot safely be disregarded by our representatives. The people demand protection, and sooner or later they will have it.

THE DECAY OF COMPETITION.

The science of political economy has occupied the attention of the best scholars and ablest writers for a century past. Its theories and doctrines have possessed the weight of established truth. It has been observed, however, that some of the fundamental principles have failed when applied to certain features of modern trade and commerce. It has been assumed that under a free government competition is inevitable, and competition is the central force in all of the theories of science. John Stuart Mill taught that only through competition had political economy any pretensions to the character of a science. Competition protests against extortion, it is the stay and support of industry, it is the hope of civilized society.

It seems to be the tendency of modern improvements to substitute combination for competition. This is producing such a reversal of foundation principles that there is already a general distrust of all the conclusions of the science. Henry D. Loyd, a brilliant writer in the *July Atlantic*, says: "Political economy of the competitive school, is dumb before the railroad problem, for it is one of combination. A parliamentary commission reports that it is more and more evident that competition must fail to do for railroads what it does for ordinary trade, and that no means have yet been devised by which competition between them can be maintained."

Monopoly has always been feared as one of the worst forms of despotism. It ruins enterprise, it oppresses the poor, it exalts the few and degrades the many. But formerly monopolies did not seem to arise naturally. Exclusive rights of trade were granted by the sovereign and maintained by law, but whenever the protection of government was removed, competition invariably overthrew and destroyed every monopoly. Now, however, capital seems to have acquired new tendencies, and competition has lost its force. Combination is the ruling principle and capital in great masses is controlled and wielded by a few. It is represented largely by certificates of stock and corporate bonds, and great men with the genius of Napoleon or Wellington manipulate these symbols of wealth—buy and sell and pledge them, and juggle with them until their power is greater than that of any government on earth. They levy taxes for their own benefit on all industries, and indeed they can destroy industries if they choose to do so. They determine the value of property and withhold or distribute wealth as they see fit.

The mining industry is an illustration of the power of capital to subjugate the laborer. Formerly the profits of rich mining deposits were gathered in by individuals in proportion to their industry and good fortune. Now the work is managed by corporations, and the profits accrue to those who are most expert in operating stocks and bonds. The individual works as hard as ever, but his compensation is a fixed amount per day. The road to fortune is no longer open to individual effort.

Agriculture is not so easily monopolized as other pursuits, but its products are placed more and more at the mercy of corporate power. The effect is to place the farmer by the side of the individual laborer in manufacturing and mining, making his compensation a fixed amount, while the profits are absorbed by the corporations. He has one great advantage in this country and that is his ownership of the land. The rise in value is his own and cannot be taken from him; but his labor is already nearly as much in the power of corporations as if he were in their employ by the day. Competition has very little to do with the business of the agriculturalist. The prices of his leading products are fixed in Liverpool and the expenses of getting them to market depends, not upon cost of service, but upon what certain managers think those prices ought to bear. In other words, the farmer is already working for certain wages offered by the kings of commerce from year to year. The effect is not so oppressive now because of the expansion of land values, but this only masks and does not remedy the evil.

The State Picnic Aug. 16th at Lansing.

REFORM IN CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

Every great criminal trial which drags its slow course through the courts illustrates the necessity of reform in the procedure of criminal law. A criminal trial is principally an investigation of facts, and there must be something radically wrong when inquiry relating to a single transaction is likely to last for months. It is desired by all that every accused person should be secure in his rights, but there is a wide spread feeling that the delays and quibbles and disputes which afflict our courts do not result in protecting any person from unjust conviction. Nor has the public any confidence that conviction follows guilt when we proved our modern criminal trials serve to bring out the shrewdness and resources of counsel on both sides, but they are poor methods for arriving at facts. If an innocent man is acquitted, it is not likely to be on account of his innocence, but rather on account of the "staying" qualities of his counsel. Indeed our criminal jurisprudence is rapidly falling into contempt as only worthless and expensive, nor is there any confidence that conviction will follow guilt well proved.

Both the members of the bar and the judges are responsible for these difficulties. If the power of the court were used to restrain the lawyers we should be spared the disgraceful scenes that characterize our courts of justice. A writer in the current number of the *New York Nation* remarks that "of late years the tendency of the counsel is to consider himself the prisoner's agent for facilitating his escape from punishment in any way that may suggest itself; or if total escape be impossible, the utmost attainable postponement of the sentence. The result is thorough frivolousness in the conduct of the trial, frivolous exceptions, frivolous questions, unnecessary witnesses, endless applications for habeas corpus and certioraries, no matter how hopeless and absurd." It is in the power of any judge to regulate the practice before him so that the counsel for the defense shall not appear as the prisoner's agent, working simply to effect his escape from punishment. The court has full power, too, to protect witnesses from the disgraceful and cowardly bullying by unscrupulous attorneys which has become an incident of almost every trial. There is no warrant in the rules of the profession for heaping insults upon witnesses, and yet it is seldom that a witness gains anything by calling upon the court for protection from this outrageous and very general practice. The court will invariably show the utmost consideration for the most contemptible shyster who can manage to gain admission to the bar, while respectable witnesses are treated by council as if presumed to be guilty of falsehood and perjury, and the court permits it. The fact is that our judges come from the ranks of the professions after a course of practice with just such associations and their prejudices and sympathies are with the bar.

The general inefficiency of our courts of justice in criminal trials calls loudly for reform, and the attention of the people should be constantly directed to the subject. We insist that the worst evils could be greatly modified, or obviated altogether, by firmness and courage on the part of the judges.

ABOUT OBITUARIES.

One of the evidences of the large membership of the Order in Michigan lies in the fact that a large number of obituaries seek a place in our columns.

We believe that very many of the readers of the VISITOR read the greater portion of each number, but we are quite sure that some do not.

Some months ago we gave notice to all our readers that we must abbreviate the obituaries sent us for publication, and we had two reasons for doing so. First, on account of the space they occupy, and, secondly, on account of the uniformity of statements. It is true the subject is every time identical. Some Patron is dead, and as we said before when considering this subject, we are quite willing to give space for a notice of that fact. But to preamble and resolve in substantially the same language half a dozen times in each number becomes very monotonous. We have adhered pretty closely to our determination as then announced and have seldom gone beyond the two-inch space to which we restricted each notice.

The proof that many of our readers do not heed our notice is shown by the fact that we continue to receive the old fashioned preamble and resolutions covering a quarter of a column. Of course these people never read an obituary themselves except it be from their own Grange.

Some one has sent us a preamble and resolutions relating to the death of Jonathan N. Hickley. But as the notice has nothing about time, place of death, name or number of Grange to which he belonged, we must set it aside, only adding that the preamble and resolutions set forth that the deceased was a worthy Patron.

We have taken a look at the Rix harrow advertised on our eighth page. It is not another pattern or style of spring tooth harrow that is with the *spring in the tooth* but the tooth is hinged in the middle and held to a working position by a coiled spring that allows the tooth to surmount any obstruction that it may meet when at work, and restores it to a working position as soon as the obstruction is passed. We have seen several kinds of broad tooth harrows, the teeth of which were adjusted by coiled springs, but this is the first one of that class that seemed to us really practical. We think farmers will find this a most excellent implement. We think another thing, that Patrons in want of this sort of a harrow can get it for what it is worth.

STATE GRANGE—ANNUAL PIC-NIC.

The Patrons of Husbandry, of Michigan, have had two large gatherings known as State picnics. The first held at Grandville, August 22, 1879, was a notable event for the Order in the western part of the State.

The second held the following year on the 12th day of August on the fair grounds of Ingham county close to the city of Lansing was very largely attended from many parts of the State. Nearly 10,000 people were on the grounds on that occasion and were ably entertained by the Worthy Master of the Ohio State Grange, Hon. J. H. Brigham. It was a grand sight as the long trains one after another pulled up to the fair grounds and their living loads poured out with well filled baskets and sought the sheltering shade of grove or hall to spend a day of recreation in sight of the towering capitol of our great State.

As we said in the last VISITOR, the harvest of 1881 made farmers feel poor. Many in this part of the State had but their seed and bread.

On the heel of such a harvest, it was not deemed best to invite the Patrons of the State to come together, and a State picnic in 1881 was not attempted.

With the improved condition of the farmers this year we see no reason why we should not have a large gathering this year.

We remember the Patrons of Ingham county made very complete arrangements for the accommodation of all in attendance at the time, and the same wide-awake Granges with the benefit of their former experience have the matter in charge at this time.

Worthy Master Brigham, of Ohio has again been engaged to address the Michigan Patrons who attend the picnic, and from good authority we also learn that the Worthy Master of the Indiana State Grange Hon. Aaron Jones will be present. These able gentlemen, together with Brother Luce of our own State Grange will present a trio of good talkers that guarantee an abundant intellectual feast. And the other, the feast of substantial and indeed luxuries, was never known to be meager when Grangers gather together. With favorable weather we expect an immense turn out. And as we safely judge the future by the past we expect from the abundant stores of the boxes and baskets the multitude will be bountifully fed and of the residue there will be left more than the well-filled baskets that helped make famous that miraculous feast of old.

You have ample time to get ready, and we know that all who can reach railroad facilities cannot afford to stay at home. Do not be satisfied with inviting your wife, or your husband to go, but ask your farmer neighbor and his wife to visit the Capitol City of our State, with its grand new Capitol building and spacious grounds. A day cannot be more profitably spent now than the harvest are safely gathered. This trip will break the monotony of farm life, and is the kind of medicine farmers need to take about dog days.

The arrangements for transportation were undertaken by a committee of the Ingham County Grange, and it was expected would be complete in time for publication in this number of the VISITOR. Up to the time of going to press we have notice of perfected arrangements only over the Grand Trunk at half rates, and special trains over the Toledo and Ann Arbor and the Detroit, Lansing and Northern at reduced rates.

We presume all roads leading to Lansing will give excursion rates, and Prof. Beal is confident that special trains will be run to the accommodation of all who may wish to go.

GRANGES IN MICHIGAN.

A communication signed Frank, asks the number of Granges in Michigan; to which we answer; There have been from the first, until now, 651 Granges organized in this State. Of this number several were organized for the benefit, apparently, of the organizing deputy, and never made a report to this office, and some we suspect never held a meeting after the deputy turned his back upon them.

Others, left to themselves, struggled along for a time; and then, failing to realize the promised pecuniary advantages, become dormant then dead.

Others, again, having some members who appreciated to some extent the benefits or possibilities that lay within this organization held on, and can look around them with pride to-day on the good work already accomplished in the first decade of our existence.

In the rush and whirl of early and rapid work it is perhaps not a matter of surprise that quite a percentage of that work was not done well—was done with special reference to adding members to the Order, and with little or no regard to a clear understanding of the prime object had in view by its founders.

But the question of "Frank" was, How many Granges have we now in this State?

As near as we can determine there are 350 that we shall include in our next report to the National Grange.

There has been a gradual gain of membership since September, 1878. Our report for that quarter was for the smallest number since our first report for Dec. 31, 1873.

RAILWAY ROBBERY.

We publish on our second page under the title of "The Brigands of Mussel Slough" an account of the hardships imposed upon helpless settlers by the Central Pacific Railway company. This is only an example of the unrestrained rapacity exhibited by this corporation whenever opportunity offered. The instance related is well authenticated, although it seems almost incredible that the forms of law should be used to cover and protect the most outrageous robbery of a whole community. The Southern Pacific Railway received the usual gift of public lands from Congress, that is to say the odd numbered sections for ten miles on each side of whatever line the company might survey for its track. In most cases the grant was made before the company had established its line by surveys. If the line when established should include any sections already settled upon and subject to the right of pre-emption or homestead, the law provided that the settlers right should be sustained and the company should have the right to select in lieu of such sections an equivalent amount of land on odd numbered sections within ten miles on each side of the strip first granted. Thus the railroad rights covered the granted limits and the indemnity limits. The settler however in all cases was held to the strictest compliance with the law and must make his filings as in other cases. In a contest between two settlers the first settler always had the preference, even if he had not complied strictly with the law in filing his statement, but when a settler's right was attacked by a railway corporation, no such allowance was made. Thus the contests between settler and the railway companies, decided by the Department of the Interior, often resulted in the loss of years of labor and improvement made by original settlers long before the government surveys were made. The case of the Mussel Slough lands however showed the most deliberate fraud and misrepresentation. It is probable that the courts would have protected the rights of the settlers if they had possessed the courage and means to fight, but the Pacific Railway companies terrorized the whole state of California at that time. It was well known that the case would be carried to the supreme court of the United States, but that tribunal was about three years behind in the cases on its docket. This with the preliminary litigation would require at least five years. In the mean time the settlers would be in uncertainty, and their titles would be practically valueless.

California has been retarded many years in its development by the incubus of railway monopoly. The State was bound and fettered by the monopolists at every point. All the means of transportation, including every ferryboat, and even the street railways were in the hands of a few men, who seized and appropriated all the savings of the people and the richest revenues of the State. It is only of late that the State has commenced to recover its right to exist, and enjoy the fruits of industry and economy.

THE "SANITARY ENGINEER."

We have before us this most practical and instructive paper. It is published weekly in New York, with a branch office in London. Its expressed aim is to enlighten the public concerning public health, house drainage, water supply, sewerage, ventilation, heating and lighting. Its list of editors and contributors includes many of the most noted specialists, both in this country and Europe. The subjects discussed in this paper are of the highest importance in every community and every home, and yet we know very little attention is given to such topics among the people. They are all difficult subjects, and the highest scientific and engineering skill is devoted to them in all parts of the country by specialists.

It is noticeable that many fine farm houses are built with no reference whatever to late improvements in drainage, water supply, and ventilation. There is no good reason why our new country residences should not be provided with nearly all of the comforts and luxuries of good city houses. The plumbing and hot and cold water supply ought to be just as complete as in large towns. With the convenient and beautiful lamps and fixtures for using kerosene and its very moderated cost, country residences have little use for the luxury of gas light and, besides, the kerosene furnishes a more steady light than gas. The time is almost at hand when electric lighting will be within the reach of any person who has means enough to put up a good dwelling house.

We believe that in the construction of country houses much more attention should be given to comfort, convenience and health. It would be better to build a house much plainer in the matter of finish and ornament, and have a full water supply with bath rooms and complete arrangements for heating, drainage and ventilation. The subjects are not yet so perfectly understood in a practical way among scientific men that no mistakes are made. Such papers as the *Sanitary Engineer* which makes these subjects a specialty, ought to be taken and read in every community, or at least be added each week to each township library.

MONEY ORDER CHARGES.

The House has passed a bill reducing the rates for postal orders, and providing for an order under \$5.00, upon which the charge shall be 3 cents.

We find this item in an exchange. The chief advantage of this money order business, in places where banks or exchange offices are located, lies in the fact that money orders can be bought at any time between 7 A. M. and 9 P. M., while you are restricted to banking hours—only about half the time—in the purchase of exchange.

The law as amended by the House is better than it was, but the charge is excessive on sums exceeding \$30, and will not save the business from banks and the express companies.

MONOPOLY IN IOWA.

We give elsewhere a report of the Secretary of the Farmers' Protective Association of Iowa. From that and other items which we gather, and from the determined spirit shown by Patrons and farmers of Michigan, we feel safe in saying that the relief and protection demanded by the people must and will be accorded—whether reluctantly or willingly, no matter.

What the people demand can be secured. But the demand must be backed by such consistent, independent personal action as will show the professional politician that his wisest course will be to yield a ready acquiescence to the popular demand for security against the injustice of those who seem disposed to oppress by their exactions.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

Bro. J. Q. Bennington, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the State Grange, has issued a call for a meeting of the Committee at the Hudson House, Lansing, at 8 P. M. of the 16th of August.

VISITOR RECEIPTS (CONTINUED).

- JULY. 13—Mrs C A Travis, \$1.50; Mrs G W Crosby, \$2.00; M B Averill, \$1.00. 14—Mrs H J Eddy, \$1.00; F E Wilcox, \$3.00; W E West, \$1.00. 15—Wm Hangby, \$1.00. 22—S W Barrett, \$1.00; Thos Bathy, \$1.00. 28—W H Castle, \$1.00; O M Sikes, \$2.00; Mrs M M Hall, \$1.00.

A private letter from Washington of late date, gives us an opinion from an intelligent, well-informed source that "The Burrows Bill will probably go over until December and then be passed with some amendments."

The curious fact, too, in support of this origin, is that wherever Druidical remains have been found there also has been prevalent a small breed of good cattle, and mostly of black and white, or of a cream or dun color.

The following Granges are delinquent in reports and payment of dues for the quarter ending June 30, 1882:

- 2, 10, 14, 19, 23, 24, 32, 39, 43, 45, 46, 49, 52, 55, 56, 57, 63, 65, 73, 80, 97, 106, 107, 108, 110, 112, 123, 136, 137, 151, 152, 158, 159, 162, 175, 176, 185, 186, 191, 192, 199, 219, 226, 227, 229, 230, 236, 239, 245, 246, 252, 253, 255, 257, 263, 270, 277, 280, 281, 283, 285, 286, 301, 304, 321, 323, 328, 329, 331, 344, 345, 351, 353, 355, 361, 362, 370, 375, 380, 389, 399, 403, 407, 408, 425, 437, 445, 448, 456, 494, 505, 509, 511, 513, 530, 545, 563, 566, 568, 574, 580, 590, 600, 607, 610, 623, 624, 632, 633, 634, 637, 645, 447.

The following are delinquent for the quarters ending March 31 and June 30, 1882: 26, 36, 42, 83, 87, 89, 96, 113, 114, 115, 118, 163, 182, 189, 194, 200, 228, 241, 293, 298, 320, 332, 339, 340, 343, 390, 395, 396, 415, 417, 421, 430, 458, 464, 471, 476, 492, 503, 514, 554, 556, 559, 603, 631, 635.

The following are delinquent for the three quarters ending Dec. 31, 1881, March 31 and June 30, 1882: 203, 401.

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS—THE PEOPLE AND THEIR CATTLE.

Under this head we find a very interesting paper by Willis P. Hazard, of West Chester, Pennsylvania, in the Proceedings of a Convention of Agriculturists held in the Department of Agriculture last January.

Directly south of England flows the British Channel, connecting the North Sea with the North Atlantic Ocean, and separating England from France. After passing through the narrow straits between Dover and Calais, the English Channel widens very much, owing partly to bays and harbors on the English coast, and partly to two large indentations or bays on the north coast of France.

From their situation, these islands are called the Channel Islands, though more popularly known by the individual names of the larger three of the group, viz., Jersey, Guernsey, and Alderney. These have attracted the attention of England and America in recent years, through the merits and beauties of their two famous breeds of cattle, the Jersey and Guernsey breeds.

The larger islands lie nearly south of each other, and of England, and in the following order: Alderney and the Casquets, about 60 miles from England; Guernsey, Herm and Sark, 70 miles; and Jersey 90 miles. Alderney is 3 1/2 miles long by 1 mile broad, having 1,962 acres; Guernsey is 9 miles long, by 7 miles broad, having a population of 30,000; and Jersey is nearly double the size of Guernsey, being 11 miles long by 5 1/2 miles broad, having 40,000 acres, and 57,000 population.

In regard to the quality of the flesh of these cattle, he says:

The meats we examined with care, and tasted with relish the Guernsey beef, as we felt anxious to test its quality to know whether the animal of that breed made good beef. We found it to be juicy, tender, and delicious, with a fine peculiar aromatic flavor. The color of the fat is of a deep orange color, much darker than that of the short-horn or Devon, and to many would be somewhat objectional, but only from prejudice.

THE JERSEY CATTLE.

The cattle of these islands are now famous for their beauty and their merit, and are of late being widely scattered over our whole country. In the comparatively short time that they have assumed prominence there must be some great value in the breed to so assert itself.

The origin of the Jersey breed has been by most writers traced back to the neighboring coast of France, and more particularly to that part of it called Brittany. To this day cattle very similar in size and appearance, and which might be sold as inferior Jerseys, and have been largely so sold in England, are to be seen there.

The curious fact, too, in support of this origin, is that wherever Druidical remains have been found there also has been prevalent a small breed of good cattle, and mostly of black and white, or of a cream or dun color. The original colors of the Jersey breed, as stated by writers of the time, were of black and mulberry, and of a cream color, and in most of them plashed with white.

Whatever the origin of this breed, we know the fact that for two centuries it has been famous in the island as a good one, and that great care has been taken to perfect it and to keep the breed pure. Necessarily in so small an island, and where the number of animals were so few, the effect of breeding without introducing new blood would be, to a certain extent, in-and-in breeding, consequently certain traits would be perfected, increased and maintained; while at the same time, owing to the manner in which this was carried out, the size and stamina of the animals might be lessened.

That this is the case, those who have paid attention to the breed for a length of time are perfectly well aware. Such remember the size and color of what is now called the old-fashioned Jerseys. They were of a much larger size than at present, and would weigh from ten to twelve hundred pounds, and were

usually of a dun color. Then came the fashion of having them smaller and finer, and of a cream color, and mostly blotched with white. The next color sought for was for a deer or fawn color, and all the better if it was shaded in the flanks and about the head with black. As some would revert and go back to the old colors, and come solid without any white, solid colors became fashionable.

More than a hundred years ago the states of Jersey, in 1763, and again in 1789, passed stringent laws to prevent the importation from France; and more recently they passed a law to prevent importation from Guernsey, England, or elsewhere, thus using every effort to maintain the purity of the breed. The Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society was formed in 1833, and they have jealously helped to maintain this purity, and have been mainly instrumental in leading to its development and improvement.

In 1844, "the Channel Islands or Crumple-Horned cattle" first received prizes in England from the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and the prize-takers were sold for about thirty notes each. From this time forward the breed came rapidly in favor in England and until now it is the fashionable breed with the nobility and gentry, more than two thousand being imported into that country each year, while up to this year only one-tenth of that number are imported here.

In 1853 the effect of American wealth and influence began to be felt, for then there were several animals sent to this country, which was much increased in the following two years; prize-takers being mainly bought for the United States. The earliest recorded importation was of one cow in 1815. The number of persons interested in Jerseys had so increased by 1869 that the American Jersey Cattle Club was then started, and the first volume of the Herd Register was published in 1871, with a record of 539 bulls and one thousand four hundred and twenty-seven cows registered, and it has now increased to nine volumes.

The leading sources of income and profit with the Jersey farmer are his cattle and his potatoes. For the development of these, his farming is mainly directed; and from the small sizes of the farms, his farming is more of the nature of gardening. Pasture, hay, and the cultivation of roots and potatoes, occupy the bulk of his attention.

The grass is strong and rich, much like our green grass or blue grass, and clover and lucerne is much used. The cows are led out in summer in the morning, and tethered with a rope or chain to an iron peg driven into the ground by a wooden mallet, and are allowed a space of about thirty feet in diameter. They are changed again at noon. In summer they are milked three times a day—such cows as are flush in milk—from April to August, and during the other months twice a day. When milked three times the butter is not greater in proportion. As this work is largely done by women who lead them to pasture and to water, the animals become very docile.

It is thought an extraordinarily good cow that gives twenty quarts—the quantity being more usually from ten to fourteen quarts—the medium quantity is possibly ten quarts. In summer it requires nine quarts for one pound of butter, and in winter rather less if they are fed upon parsnips.

The milking is done by the women into a pot, over which a linen cloth is spread, and upon which is placed an escallop shell. The milking is done upon this so as not to be forced through the strainer, and prevent the rapid wearing of the cloth. From the shell it overflows, and thus is strained as it passes through the cloth. The milk is placed in Norman coarse unglazed earthenware "crops," or tin pots, and stands about ten inches deep, until all the cream is risen, which is hastened, in winter, by placing it upon the warm hearth at bed time. When the milk is coagulated, the cream is loosened around the sides by the finger, the crock is dexterously tilted, and the cream slipped off. If any is left, it is skimmed with an escallop shell. In Guernsey they frequently churn the whole milk after standing for days. Some crops have a hole with a peg in at the bottom, by which the serous milk is drawn off. They endeavor to churn twice a week in summer. Clover and lucerne are considered to whiten the butter in summer, and potatoes and turnips in winter. The natural pasture, or parsnips, make the richest butter. Late in the fall and in winter the cattle are turned out for a few hours each sunny day, for here the grass is always green, though not possessing strength in winter. The grass in February was as it would be with us about the 10th of May.

The pasture is considered sufficient in summer, and in winter the main feed is hay and straw, parsnips, ruta-bagas, and potatoes. The milk is sold in the towns at three pence, or six cents, per quart, and sometimes in winter at seven cents. Butter is good, but generally not of first-rate flavor, and sells in winter for about two shillings, or fifty cents, and not much less in summer, for the demand is much greater. Not near enough is made for the consumption, and large quantities are imported from France. It is usually self-colored, not much coloring matter being used, though one will frequently hear the term "a white butter cow."

The butter is churned in a peculiar shaped old dash churn, though the barrel churn, with fixed dashers, is being much introduced. As no farmer makes much butter, it is all done by hand. It is made into round stamped pats, about twice the size of ours, of 18 ounces to the pound, and is sold in the market in St. Helier's, by the women, from their baskets. We saw no spring-houses, and the milk is usually kept in an apartment partitioned off from an outer sort of kitchen or store-house, where, in the main

part, frequently roots were stored, and not with that care necessary to make the sweetest tasted butter. Cheese is now seldom or never made.

SALES OF CATTLE.

From the small size of the farms, it may easily be supposed there are no large herds in Jersey or Guernsey. Ten or twelve is an unusual number; five or six are more frequent, and most every farmer tries to have one or two heifers to sell. Altogether, there are nearly twelve thousand head in Jersey, and between five and six thousand in Guernsey. The sales from the two islands are less than three thousand each year, the great bulk of them going to England. Canada is beginning to take a few, some go to France, and about three hundred come to the United States.

America is taking the best, and paying the highest prices, and with the care taken in breeding in this country, we shall soon, and we might almost say now, have finer animals than the islands can show. They would hardly believe my statements of the yields of some of our cattle. The breeding is not at all worthy of copying, and we have no lessons to learn from them. With some exceptions, the stables are filthy and bad, the cattle are dirty, and not properly cared for. Then, the bulls are used when only two months old, and sold off when two years old. I asked the reason of thus sacrificing an animal in his prime, and just when he was in the height of his fame, and had proved of value. Their reasons are, that they get fierce, they get heavy, and as there is a law requiring bull beef to be so marked when sold and it brings a lower price, that it does not pay to keep him longer than two years. Surely this course pursued steadily of using an immature animal must degenerate the race. Heifers, it is desired to bring in at two years of age, and in the spring and summer, as they sell better for shipping. So that they are constantly selling their animals before they have an opportunity of testing them, and many of the best have left the islands under these circumstances. The prominent, careful breeders seeing this are endeavoring to check it, but the demand is greater now than the supply. Prices are rising, and the farmer is tempted by the prices to part with them. We can supply better stock to-day in this country than can be imported. As only registered or pedigree stock can now be entered in the American Register, this new rule has cut off from coming many of the best stock in Jersey. Consequently the number being limited, the prices have much increased for the eligible ones.

GUERNSEY CATTLE.

What we have said of Jersey may, with equal justice, be applied to Guernsey. About the same attention is paid to breeding their stock, but the farmers are more contracted in their views, and generally, if they can use a bull for a shilling they will not pay five shillings for a much better one. The result of this is seen in the escutcheons, and the hair of their animals. The one is not as well developed as might be, and the other is not as fine. But the Guernsey cow, we think, is rising rapidly in the estimation of our farmers. She is an animal of larger size, of greater yield, of greater docility, and yields the richest quantity of milk. Her butter is self-colored, even in winter, is firm and of beautiful texture, and her golden milk will color that of from six to ten common cows.

Wealth in Walnut Trees.

Mr. C. B. Wilson, of Jacksonville, Ill., drove me out to his farm sometime ago to see some black walnut trees. "These trees," he said, "were planted from the seed twenty years ago. I saw them planted." I measured these trees and they were sixteen inches through. They would saw into a timber a foot of clear black walnut boards, and then have the top, limbs and stump left. The stump itself would sell to-day for five dollars to be sawed into veneers. The boards would be worth thirty dollars. "What would you sell these trees for to timber men as they stand?" I asked. "I could sell them for twenty-five dollars per tree, and ten years from now they will be worth \$50." From these facts I came to this conclusion: A black walnut tree will pay \$1.25 per year for 20 years. A thousand of them will pay \$1,250 per year. Now every Illinois farmer has had it in his power to make more money off a row of black walnut trees around his farm than he can make off his farm if sowed in wheat. How can he do it? This way: A farm of 160 acres would be 10,500 feet in circumference. Now plant walnut trees four feet apart all around it and you will have 2,625 trees, which will be worth \$25 a piece in twenty years. Again a farmer can set all his sloughs, low places and all hog pastures into black walnuts. Two thousand handsome walnut trees growing on a farm would be worth \$50,000 in 20 years, and would not interfere with the farm at all.

Orange raising in Florida will not pay half so well as black walnut raising in Illinois. "How should black walnut be planted?" I asked Mr. Bates, a nurseryman, at Whitehall, Illinois. "The easiest way," he said, "is to strike the ground with a common hammer in the fall, make a round hole two inches deep and drop the walnut in. It will cover itself with leaves and dust. The debris over the kernel will be so light that the sprout will have no trouble in finding its way out." "What would you do after they come up in the spring?" "I'd go around and put a shovelful of saw-dust, tan-bark, grain-chaff, or straw around each sprout. This will keep the roots damp and kill the grass or weeds around the roots. A boy could plant 1,000 trees in a day in this manner. I'd plant them twice as thick as I need them and then thin them out."—Chicago Tribune.

The Michigan Female Seminary, located at Kalamazoo, and conducted on the Mt. Holyoke plan, is advertised on our third page in this number. As this plan includes physical as well as mental labor, it commands itself to our judgment, and we can very cordially endorse the business management so far as our acquaintance extends, and that is far enough to feel confident that we are safe in saying that the institution is first-class in every respect, and deserving of the patronage of those who desire their daughters to combine labor with study.

In the last number of the VISITOR, an article "The True Basis of Railroad Charges," by J. M. Mason, is the first of a series of valuable articles on this subject which we find in the Southern Farm and Fireside, a weekly agricultural newspaper published at Baltimore, Maryland.

We said valuable articles, as we assume the writer will hold out as he has commenced. We shall from time to time copy the articles for the benefit of our readers. We like the independent tone of this Farm and Fireside Journal. It has ideas of its own, and handles subjects with that independence which entitles it to the support and confidence of a large list of subscribers, and we hope it has them. It devotes considerable space to the Patrons of Husbandry, and is evidently doing a good work. This F. and F. has our hearty God speed.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

The regular meeting of the Livingston County Council has been postponed until Tuesday, Aug. 8. This meeting will be held in Howell Grange hall. Program as follows:

- Essay, The relative value of the different breeds of cattle for general farming purposes.—Bro. Charles Fishbeck, Brighton Grange. Essay, Education.—Sister Crout, Brighton Grange. Essay, —Bro. J. S. Briggs, West Handy Grange. Essay, Bread and butter.—Sister Sexton, Howell Grange. Essay, Temperance and the Grange.—Sister Wells, Oak Grove Grange. BY ORDER OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The next regular meeting of Berrien Co. Pomona Grange will be held with Mount Hope Grange at Hill's Corners on the 22nd and 23rd of August when the following program will be carried out:—

- Grange opened at 10 o'clock, A. M. Reports of Subordinate Granges. Recess for dinner. Farming for Profit and at the same time increasing the fertility of the soil. Subject by C. T. Howe, and followed by Almon Keigley. Essay—The Grange as an educator, by Mrs. Helen Finch. Work on the fifth degree. Farm Economy. Presented by Lewis Sparks, followed by John Clark. Essay—Home Adornments, by Sister A. N. Woodruff. The exercises to be enlivened by music. We invite all fourth degree members in good standing to come with your baskets well filled with the necessities of life and make this one of the most interesting meetings of the year. W. J. JONES, Secretary Co. Grange. Berrien Springs, July 22, 1882.

A regular meeting of Macomb Co. Pomona Grange will be held at the Grange hall in Washington, Wednesday, August 9, beginning at 9 A. M., with the following program: Music. Prayer by the Chaplain. Music. Reports of Subordinate Granges. Music. Essay—What the Grange has done, socially, for women? by Mrs. A. S. Pearsall. Recess at 1 P. M. Music. Essay—What the Grange has done for farmers, by Mrs. A. W. Stone. Music. Essay—What will the Grange do for our Nation? by A. H. Canfield. Discussion—What is the best and most economical fence for the farmers of Macomb County? by J. J. Snook. Music.

Essay—Wheat Culture, by A. J. Leonardson. Music. Essay—Stock raising and mixed farming, by T. J. Shoemaker. Recess at 7 P. M. Conferring Degrees. All fourth degree members are cordially invited to attend. T. J. SHOEMAKER, Secretary.

Kalamazoo County Pomona Grange will hold its next regular meeting at the hall of Eureka Grange on the 17th of August, opening at 10 A. M. with the following program: Essay—Kinds of Fruit, for this County and their Culture, by Eumous Buell. Music.

Essay—Subject selected by essayist, Miss Anne L. Fellows. Recess for dinner. Fifth degree work. Essay—The Best Breed of Cattle for the Kalamazoo County Farmer, D. T. Dell. Essay—Good of the Order, S. F. Brown. Essay—How to Entertain Company, Mrs. Pike of Portage Grange. Profits of Corn and Wheat Culture Compared, Lewis Johnson. S. F. BROWN, Lecturer.

The Clinton Co. Pomona Grange will hold its next meeting at the hall of Eagle Grange on Wednesday, August 30, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M. The question for discussion will be "What shall we do to increase the interest and retain the membership in our Subordinate Granges?" All are cordially invited to attend. FRANK CONN, Secretary.

The next regular meeting of the Newaygo Co. Pomona Grange, No. 11, will be held at Enos Grange hall, August 8, commencing at 2 P. M. Bro. J. Holbrook, of Lansing, has promised to be with us. The afternoon meeting will be open to all, and we hope as all are invited the attendance will be large. For Program see Lecturer's notice. A. TERWILLIGER, Sec'y.

PICNICS.

The annual Harvest Picnic of the Patrons of Oceana county will be held in the grove of Wm. F. Lewis three miles west of New Era, August 19, 1882. Addressed by Thos. F. Moore. GEO. W. WOODWARD, GEO. C. MYERS, H. S. LEWIS, Committee.

There will be a Farmers' Picnic at Kling-er's Lake the 10th of August, under the auspices of the St. Joseph County Grange. Worthy Master Luce and Rev. E. R. Willard will be the speakers. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend. We would be pleased to see your smiling countenance upon that occasion. Yours truly, WM. HULL. By order of committee. Centreville, July 28, 1882.

Ladies' Department.

EVENTIDE.

JULIA C. R. DOBR.

Whenever, with reverent footsteps,
I pass through the mystic door
Of memory's stately palace,
Where dwell the days of yore,
One scene like a lovely vision,
Comes to me o'er and o'er.

'Tis a dim, fire-lighted chamber;
There are pictures on the wall,
And around them dance the shadows
Grotesque and weird and tall,
As the flames on the storied hearthstones
Wavering rise and fall.

An ancient cabinet stands there,
That came from beyond the seas,
With a breath of spicy odors
Caught from the Indian breeze.
And its fluted doors and mouldings
Are dark with mysteries.

There's an old armchair in the corner,
Straight-backed and tall and quaint;
Ah! many a generation—
Sinner and sage and saint—
It hath held in its ample bosom
With murmur nor complaint!

In the glow of the firelight playing,
A tiny, blithesome pair
With the music of their laughter
Fill all the tranquil air—
A rosy, brown-eyed lassie,
A boy serenely fair.

A woman sits in the shadow
Watching the children twain,
With a joy so deep and tender
It is near akin to pain.
And a smile and tear blend softly—
Sunshine and April rain!

Her heart keeps time to the rhythm
Of love's unuttered prayer,
As, with still hands lightly folded,
She listens, unawares,
Through all the children's laughter
For a footfall on the stair.

I know the woman who sits there;
Time hath been kind to her,
And the years have brought her treasures
Of frankincense and myrrh,
Richer, perhaps, and rarer,
Than life's young roses were.

But I doubt if ever her spirit
Hath known, or yet shall know,
The bliss of a happier hour,
As the swift years come and go,
Than this in the shadowy chamber
Lit by the hearthfire's glow!

Reminiscences of the State Grange. No. 4.

BY MRS. O. M. SYKES.

"Music—O how faint, how weak
Language fades before thy spell
Why should feelings ever speak
When thou canst breathe her soul so well."

This was our feeling as we listened to the beautiful "Over and Over Again," sung by four gentlemen, with Mrs. Winship presiding at the organ; but we must not linger over the music. We will pass up the middle aisle and pause to shake hands with Bro. Brown, the treasurer. He is so quiet and unassuming we do not tremble as we do when we approach the very formidable Secretary, and Editor of the VISITOR. Bro. Holloway sits near Bro. Brown, and we do have a little timidity as our eyes catch his sturdy features, for we have listened to his report and marked the manner of his emphasis, and have drawn the conclusion that he has very "decided views," and what if we should not come up to his standard? but we have since been glad we risked it, for he is not only firm but gentle and kind, and fortunate is the young man who may be privileged to grow up under his influence. And now we will to the editor. We have no "club," but will get one if necessary to win his favor. Three years ago he was the busiest man in the Grange, this year his son does the work and has Miss Fellows to assist, thus leaving J. T. at liberty to chat with the ladies or—catch subscribers for our paper. We found him genial and jovial; our ideal of an editor.

The Michigan State Grange has ever been fortunate in the selection of its officers, both for good looks and behavior; we have yet to learn that the harmony has ever been marred by even a ripple. Among the chairmen of committees who gave lengthy reports, T. R. Harrison, of Paw Paw, Thos. Mars, of Berrien, and Richard Moore, of St. Johns, stood pre-eminent for clearness, conciseness and good language. Bro. Tooker was faithfully at his post, and there can be no intrusion so long as he guards the inner gate and Bro. Bartlett the outer. Wednesday evening, by request, the Wool Growers' Association having been in convention in the Senate Chamber, were invited to meet with the Grange, and did so. The evening was spent in discussing sheep washing. A. C. Glidden, of Paw Paw, could discuss either side; he was both for and against, according to circumstances.

Thursday we will look over and note some of the visitors. The gentleman who towers head and shoulders above the medium man, is the Master of the National Grange, and now and then has a word to say; but only as he is called on, for he seems to enjoy his freedom from responsibility. His wife comes and goes with some lady friends, and says she is free, and stands ready to help in any emergency; she busies herself with some fancy needle work; in conversation we find her entertaining and universally charitable, and kind to the erring; as hostess she is a model.

A. C. Glidden and wife are also from Van Buren. Mrs. G. is a fair-haired, lively, pleasant lady of perhaps 35 years. A. C. is smooth faced, and has a very independent

way of expressing his opinions; last year he conducted the Agricultural Department of the VISITOR.

Mr. and Mrs. Shattuck, from Pontiac, were fortunate in meeting at the hotel. Mr. S. has an eye to business, is clear headed, strong in the right and a thorough Granger; is cultivated in his manners, and wide awake on thoroughbred stock especially Holstein kine. Myra is a quiet, retiring, middle aged little woman, is easily affected by the moral atmosphere, and modestly shrinks from publicity, but enjoys enthusiastically the society of those who are in sympathy with reform in any of its phases, and as the readers of the VISITOR know, has been an acceptable contributor to its pages almost from the first.

Mr. and Mrs. Mayo, from Marshall, are young, active and full of Grange vim. Mrs. M. is also a contributor to the VISITOR, and she and her husband are both public speakers, so many of us may have the privilege of listening to them during the coming winter.

Another contributor, Mrs. Sexton, and her husband were present. Mr. S. is a large dealer in Holstein cattle. They are so well known I need but to mention them by name.

Aunt "Hattie" was not present, but her husband represented the firm.

A pleasing incident happened Thursday evening just before the recess for supper. The chair announced a cessation in the regular order of business, for the purpose of exemplifying a portion of the unwritten work, which consisted in the presentation of a beautiful silver tea set, from individual members of the State Grange, to the retiring lecturer and his wife. In answer to the presentation, both Bro. Whitney and wife expressed their gratitude in befitting terms, and seemed to value the feeling that prompted the gift equal with the gift itself, proving "When gratitude o'erflows the swelling heart, And breathes in free and uncorrupted praise For benefits received, propitious heaven Takes such acknowledgment as fragrant incense, And doubles all its blessings."

Sister Mayo paid a tribute of respect, in a few well chosen sentences, to Sister Whitney, regarding her life and works in the Grange.

The Fifth degree was conferred on a large number of candidates. And now we will take leave of the Ninth session of the Michigan State Grange, hoping at the Tenth many of us may have the privilege of meeting and renewing our acquaintance.

Woman and Property.

Bro. Cobb: I would like to say a few words through the columns of the VISITOR, in regard to what Brother Chase is pleased to term the "bellicose challenge" of Sister L. E. Drake. I confess that I fail to see a good reasoning argument in his answer to her question. He seems much pleased with the clause "that makes good the husband's debts against the wife's property," but I think a true wife will gladly pay all honest debts after her husband's death. It might seem a little rough should the aforesaid bills be for liquor and cigars, still I think they would be paid, and that as a rule women are more prompt in the payment of debts than men. He says "where children are third parties to husband and wife the State is interested, etc. Will he tell us why the State should be more interested at the death of the father than when the mother is taken away? Is a mother any more apt to wrong her child than a father? We are taught that there is no love so pure and unselfish as mother-love, and experience verifies the truth of the teaching. I fail to see why property earned by husband and wife jointly, should not belong to the one as much as to the other, or why there should be any more necessity for legal interference in the one case than the other. If there are no children what does the law give the widow out of her own hard earnings? Simply the use of one-third during her life-time, she cannot sell or otherwise dispose of it, while the two-thirds goes to her husband's nearest relatives. Yet we are told, "that the law is in advance of the people." We can only hope that the present generation will make rapid strides, until it reaches the level and can appreciate such generous (?) laws.

Again, he says, "that husband and wife should first have a say as to who should manipulate their property after they are gone, and the law admits of such an arrangement." It is true the husband can make his will, but how few there are that do this. Many kind and considerate husbands doubtless intend to, but death often comes suddenly, and the sorrowing wife is left to fight life's battle as best she may. We hear a great deal of woman's incapacity for business, but has she ever had a fair chance in this respect? Is not her effort to inform herself in regard to her husband's business in the large majority of cases frowned upon? And if she persists in her search for information and dares to express an opinion, the term "strong-minded" is sneeringly applied to her, and she is accused of a desire to do the male habiliments, and is so ridiculed that she has no other resource, but to "endure in silence the wrongs she cannot right."

But we live in a progressive age and we trust the time is not far distant when our brothers will realize the truth embodied in the lines of the Poet Laureate, that—

The woman's cause is man's; they sink or rise Together dwarfed, or God-like, bond or free.

I could say much more, but that capacious waste basket looms up before my mental vision and I hastily leave the subject, for abler pens, hoping that it may be thoroughly canvassed before it is dropped. We have had the VISITOR only a few weeks, and like it very much. We think the last number the best until we get the next, which seems still better.

Fraternally yours,

MRS. NELL H. GIDDINGS,
Grange No. 112, Hudsonville.
July 10th, 1882

Natural and Conferred Rights of Women.

Brother Cobb:—Having been absent from home the last three weeks have not seen Brother Chase's reply to my "bellicose" (contentious) challenge, as he termed it, until the present moment.

If considered contentious I only hope it may prove to be so in the true sense of contending for equal justice for all.

He thinks the investigation of said challenge "will start many questions of common interest."

Heaven grant it may, for especial interests and special legislation have already worked treason and injustice to the common good; made millionaires of the few, paupers or toiling serfs of the many; robbed women of the privileges and opportunities given to men: hence their ignorant and dependent condition.

My challenge was on the community property only, but as Brother Chase sees fit to go farther, I concur, and shall discuss all questions upon the unrestricted and equal rights between the sexes founded upon the natural rights of humanity as I see it.

I do not question the good intention of legislating women into ignorance and dependence, but I do contend it is unjust, and works more harm than good to them and the rising generations. First, then, what are natural rights? We are often told that there are natural rights and conferred rights in all governments; it is the conferred rights of which I complain, and insist that every law which robs one part of the human family that it may confer greater power upon the other part is tyrannical and unjust, notwithstanding the intention of law makers.

The first and greatest natural right is to live—this right none will dispute, it being a free gift of Nature—but to exercise this right forces the conviction that other rights equally free must follow, guaranteed by the same power, among these are opportunities to secure each for themselves the required means of subsistence, also an equal right to the earth or soil on which to live.

None who has physical or mental ability to labor should have the right to live upon what another has produced, unless he or she has in some way rendered an equivalent in exchange, or benefits to the common fund equal to their expenses."

Brother Chase seems to think our present system is good, and only those who are ignorant of the fact are inclined to scold. Well, let us see. We will give a fair illustration, one which often occurs. Jane Smith is a poor girl, and Tom Jones is also poor, but they are both ambitious and willing to work. They agree to share the responsibility of a co-partnership; marry, rent a farm and go to work. Tom plows and sows and reaps and mows. From sunrise to sundown, day after day, Tom is always found hard at work. Jane, equally as ambitious, keeps the house in order, cooks the meals, washes, irons, bakes and churns, makes Tom's clothes, darning and mends, and in the busy time of haying and harvest Jane milks the cows, feeds the pigs, and often splits her own wood, or gathers up the chips to do the cooking; in fact 10 or 11 o'clock at night often finds her still at work, for poor Tom is so tired she takes more upon herself, notwithstanding the extra men to cook and clean for.

But all goes on well for they are so happy thinking and talking of the time when they will be able to have a home of their own.

A few years pass; children are born to them, and though cares multiply future prospects grow brighter as the little store is laid by each year to buy the wished for home. Finally the time comes; the home is bought; but whose home is it? Tom's of course; still Jane is seemingly happy, though down deep in her thoughts, hid away from all eyes, even Tom's, lest he should fear that she doubted his great loving heart and his honor to do justice to her, there sometimes came fears that she had no home. But she would not complain; though faded and broken in health, would continue to do all in her power to increase the value of Tom's home, for so long as she is a good, faithful wife, and Tom is satisfied with her, she will have a home with him, but if Tom should grow arrogant as men often do when prospered, and wish to live at ease and see more of the world, he can leave her at home while he rolics and dissipates as much as he likes, and if she protests, she only gets Tom's ill will and a command to mind her own business—he knows what he is about and so long as she has a home and enough to eat she has no right to find fault.

What shall she do? She cannot call for a division of the property, appoint a receiver and stop all further waste until justice is done her. Oh, no, the law does not see in Jane an equal partner in the firm, she is only Tom's wife. If she falters and grows weary, gets discouraged in seeing things going to waste while Tom drinks, gambles and finds

other company more to his taste than hers; becomes desperate, takes her children and leaves, determined she will work no longer for one who looks upon her only as a source of profit and convenience—Tom comes home, sees a note from Jane telling him why she has left. Well, what course is left him now? The law is in his favor again. He procures an officer, searches for the once happy wife, now heartbroken and homeless. Though the best part of her life was spent in working for the home she has left, he commands the officer to take the children from her, and tells her-with the authority of a master if she refuses to return he will advertise her, forbidding any one to trust her on his account, and in due time obtain a divorce for desertion. Then she will have nothing.

Now to further illustrate. We find Tom did not take the advantage the laws provided for him either because he was too great and good, hence in "advance" of the law, or, so "ignorant" he failed to "appreciate it." Tom and Jane are still in their home, or Tom's home, both doing all in their power to beautify the home and give their children every advantage equal with their neighbor's. They are now well-to-do, as the world would say, for they have prospered and have plenty. A few more years pass, and Tom dies. Not even a will is left to give Jane the right that any partner would have in a common dry goods store or shoe shop, and the law fails to consider her as such—she may have a life lease of one-third of the property. But to even secure that, a long and tedious process must first ensue in which judges, lawyers and administrators must have a part, or if she becomes an administrator herself she can only become such at the expense of an appointment by a legal tribunal, must also pray the judge to grant her the right to become guardian of her own children. Now, why all this special legislation in favor of Tom. If Jane had died no such proceedings would have been required and lawyers' pledges or administrators would not have disturbed him.

My reasons for at present giving a wife one year before debt can be collected by law, is from the fact that few husbands consult their wives with regard to their business, hence time would be required to become acquainted with all the matters left for her to settle.

When the laws become impartial in their demands, and all property accumulated after marriage shall be considered joint stock in which both have equal claims, unless provided otherwise by special enactments at the request of said parties (husband and wife). Then and not till then will it be justifiable in woman to be conversant with all business matters, hence able to settle up all claims and transact all business left by deceased husbands without some time for investigation and consideration.

As for "marrying property" I am opposed to the law, but all profits from individual property after marriage should become a part of the community property.

As my article is already too long I will not give my reasons why I am opposed to marrying property in this, but hope to at some future time.

LYDIA E. DRAKE.

Plainwell, Mich., July 12, 1882.

Politics Affecting Suffrage in the Grange.

How often do we hear members of the Grange say, "We can never accomplish the end for which the Grange was instituted, without admitting politics," or in other words making politics a corner stone of the structure. I often wonder if our brothers who make these assertions so often, ever stop to think of anything in this connection except personal advancement politically, or party interests which might be advanced if voted for by the Grange in a body. Let us look a little at this matter.

It is the boast of the Grange, you see it emblazoned high on their standard, that we have admitted women to our councils with equal rights and privileges; no other society has done so, etc., etc. Now, worthy Patrons, who is it that has admitted woman to equality and all this of which the Grange boasts. Why, we! and who is we? Who to be sure but lords of creation. For was not the Grange instituted by noble, great hearted men, who in their wisdom saw that the farmer's wife even more than the farmer needed just these Grange associations? Then do not think I am grumbling at we for admitting woman, for I am devoutly thankful for admission. But after we (the lords of creation) have made this so, why wish to inaugurate a change, which with the present suffrage law would sooner or later drive every woman from the Grange. Did our politically inclined brothers ever look upon this question in this light? Did they ever look forward to the time when, politics legally entering the Grange, our brothers would be upon the floor with the usual election talk [slang I had nearly said] and think where the women would be, or if present be doing? Let me tell you she would be deeper in gossip and scandal than she has ever been accused of being. Why? Simply because no person is going to take an interest in politics when they do not expect to be benefited even so much as expressing an opinion by ballot. There might be an occasional one, as there is now and has ever been, who would be rampant on politics without the least understanding of the different party principles or platforms, but who having convinced herself that women ought to be allowed the franchise, would straightway go about denouncing this or that

political measure, and taking and even making every opportunity to thrust her suffrage views upon all persons who might still be found in the Grange? But the majority of women would turn their attention to anything rather than political discussions as at present carried on.

In one of our neighboring States the members of various Granges tried the experiment of binding their members by pledges to vote for certain party men and measures, the pledging being done after the close of the meetings. And what was the consequence? Never a Grange did I hear of which ever held another meeting after that certain election day. It was more than the Grange could carry.

Many claim that we are growing more and more toward that political end which it is their aim to reach. They tell us the Farmers' Alliance is an outgrowth of the Grange and in many ways an improvement. This brings us again to the outset. Woman is also admitted to the alliance. But did any of you ever see her there? Perhaps she was there, but I guess she was not very plenty. I don't think our brothers were badly crowded by her. Are you sure that the president's wife did not let him go to the alliance meeting alone while she attended the Grange?

Perhaps a condition might be attained by both the Grange and Alliance, which could include both women and politics. Does any brother who wishes to bring politics into the Grange think what that condition is? Nothing more or less than an entire revolution of the suffrage law. Give woman the right to drop a ballot for or against as she might choose; make her eligible to any and every position in our government which is in the gift of the legal voter; give her the same incentive to gain political power which her brother has; give her the same incentive to study political intrigue and inform herself on party issues, and then try politics in the Grange. On no other plan can I see how woman and politics can both be members of the Grange. And then, heaven help us all, for if this was to be brought about with the present general knowledge possessed by woman what a hurricane would ensue! There would be more political hair pulling than congress ever knew anything about.

But this picture need frighten no one, as our brothers would rather keep politics out than allow the ballot to fall into the hands of woman. And the chance for politics getting in while woman stays is small, for my dear brothers must remember that in the Grange woman has an equal right, and she is learning too much and acquiring too much individuality of character to tamely submit to seeing our only hope for independence in the future blighted by the foul breath of unscrupulous politicians and political chicanery.

MRS. HELEN FINCH.
Coloma, July 12, 1882.

Agreeable Meals.

It is impossible to estimate properly the immense influence which is exerted upon a household by the atmosphere of the family table. If it is true that one does not come out of a room the same person he went in, the mind ever after retaining the impress of what affected it there, what great results must be achieved from the meeting in the dining room, and the sentiments habitually expressed in there. A neat, well-covered table is in itself a lesson to the children.

I have noticed that a sensitive child almost invariably has better manners when dressed in his best, and have seen with surprise the effect produced upon a certain small boy of my acquaintance by handsomely dressed ladies who are polite to him. To the inviting table, where there should always be something attractive, however simple the meal may be, most children will come prepared to behave properly. It is really worth while, and, when philosophically considered, is a matter of great importance, to lay aside as far as possible all thoughts of hard work done before or to be done after the meal, and to allow no vexatious questions to be discussed at this time. The habit of brooding over our work and exhausting ourselves by going over it all in our minds is one to be studiously avoided. There is nothing takes from one's energy more than this, and it is frequently a cause of insanity.

Everybody knows that food digests better when in agreeable company. It was something more than pleasant that made a friend remark that he could not have his wife and children spend the summer vacation away from him, as it gave him the dyspepsia. The poor child who comes to grief at the table, and is sent away from it with his dinner half eaten, and who suffers the whole afternoon with an undigested lump of food in his stomach, is to be pitied, and it is a wise plan to explain to children that in this way they will be punished for bad conduct at the table.

It follows then, that pleasant surprises in the way of preparing favorite dishes, that good taste and painstaking in arranging all the appointments of a table and dining room, rise above a mere ministering to the animal existence, and effect the fine issues of life. Good behavior and cheerfulness ought to accompany each meal as naturally and unwaveringly as bread and butter. The happy laughter which distributes nervous force, and calls the blood from the brain, allowing the stomach to get its share, should be heard more frequently at our tables. No one should feel at liberty to say one word that is not kind and thoughtful, any more than he would go without a sufficient quantity of food. These facts need more careful consideration than they have usually received.

—Housekeeper.

ARMIES have been ruined by having too many men on furlough. Granges have been ruined in the same way.

GOOD timber for baskets is getting scarce and dear, and the demand for baskets is increasing very fast. The consequence is that willow is imported from Europe, when it could be much better grown here. There is no tree or plant easier to grow than the basket willow. It is cultivated to considerable extent in this country, and proves to be one of our best crops. About four miles north of Syracuse are several hundred acres of willow, and new plantations are made every year. This land is worth several hundred dollars per acre, and is valuable for market gardens, but pays quite as well for willow. This willow is made into baskets by Germans, and about \$100,000 worth at wholesale prices is annually sold in this city. The most of these baskets are sent West, where they could be procured cheaper than here on account of their cheap land. There is no comparison of the profits of willow and ordinary farm crops. The present price of willow is about \$30 per ton. It needs to be planted but once, and will grow on any land, wet or dry. In most German settlements are men that will work up the stock; or it can be sold by the ton. It will be a great benefit to the West and South to get this industry started; and all that is lacking is a little knowledge on the subject.—A. M. Williams, Syracuse, N. Y., in N. Y. Times.

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We also make a fine Nickle Trimmed Farm Harness, stitched 6 to the inch, stock all selected, an extra fine article, Breaching, Round Lines, complete..... 36.00
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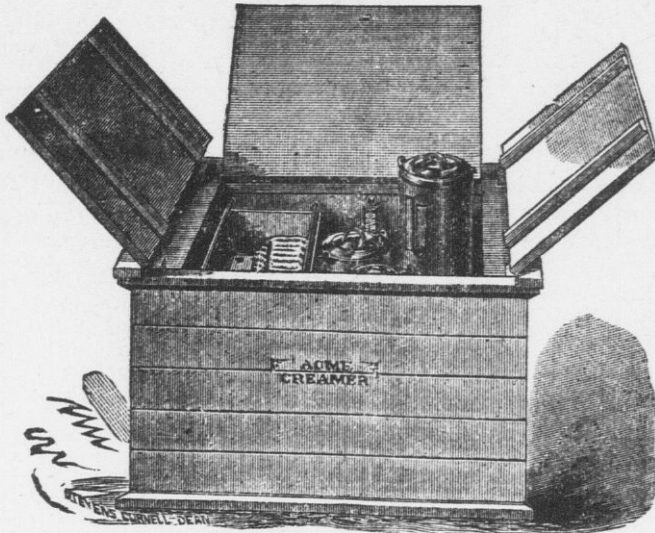
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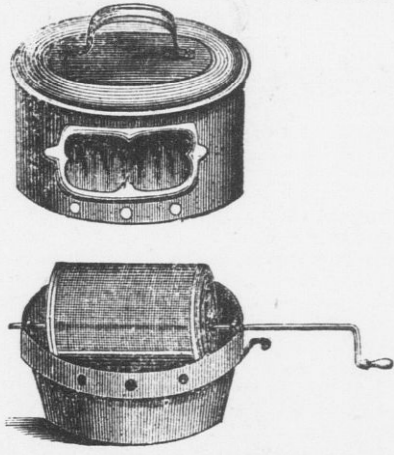
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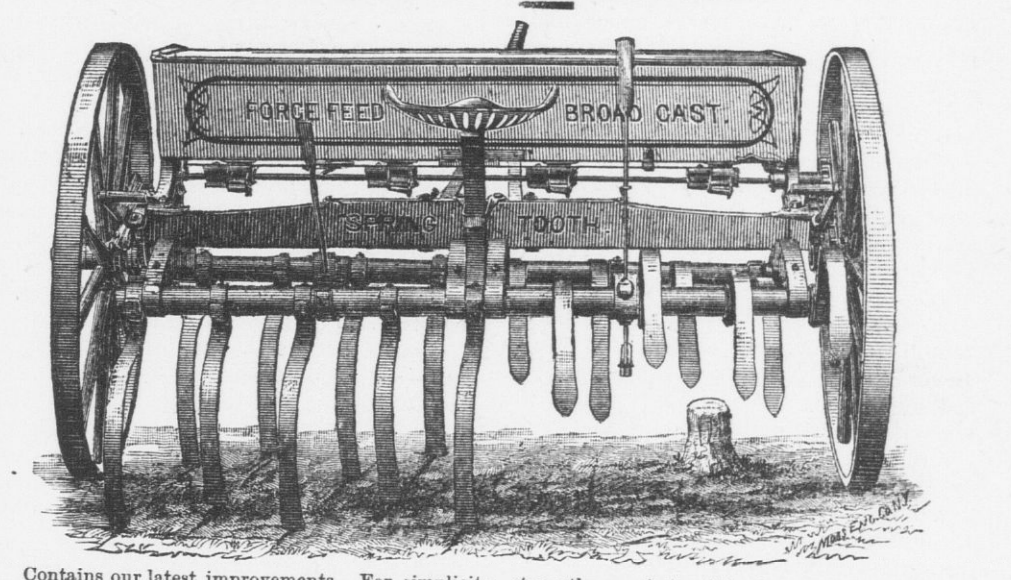


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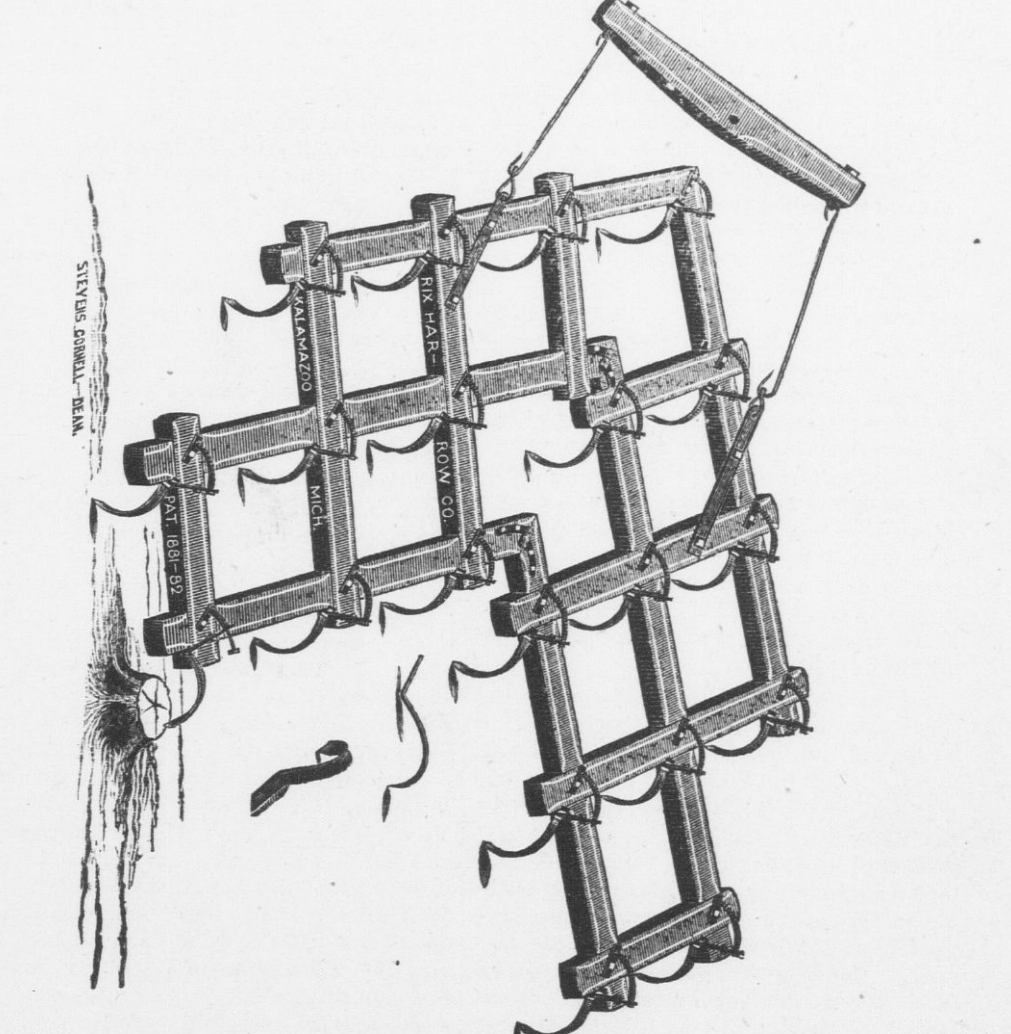
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