

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

SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH., DECEMBER 15, 1882.

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## The Grange Visitor.

SCHOOLCRAFT, - DECEMBER 15.

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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UNTIL WITHDRAWN THIS IS MADE A STANDING OFFER-FIVE NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR ONE YEAR WILL ENTITLE THE PERSON SENDING US THE NAMES AND \$2.50 TO A SPLENDID LITHOGRAPH OF THE STATE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.

## LEGAL REFORM.

The proposition to increase the salaries of circuit judges has brought to the surface the old question of reform in the administration of the law. The judges and lawyers ought to be foremost in the agitation of this important question. If the evils which have been referred to so frequently in the VISITOR and which are recognized by all intelligent citizens are only imaginary, then these gentlemen ought to have something to say by way of explanation or in defense of the mode of procedure in our courts of law. They have generally preserved a dignified silence upon the subject except an occasional intimation that the evils complained of are necessary and can never be remedied.

The practical common sense of business men has taught them that our courts of law are both insufficient and enormously expensive. The methods of procedure are in the hands of those who are personally interested in increasing expenses and burdens of litigation. No effort seems to be put forth to make the courts of any real use to the people. In some States sweeping reforms have been introduced, but in Michigan very little progress has been made. The absurdities of the ancient common law proceedings have been somewhat modified by statute, but not essentially changed. We have the same barbarous jargon of technicalities and many of the same legal fictions that were employed in England centuries ago. The world seems to have advanced in everything except in the administration of justice in the few common law States in this country. New methods are adopted everywhere to facilitate the transaction of business and avoid delays, but in our courts delays are cultivated and encouraged. Reams of paper are used in the transcription of forms that are wholly meaningless and are never read in court or even referred to except by an abbreviated name. These absurd writings are solemnly filed and copies are duly served as a part of the mysterious jugglery of the case. A large part of this painful foolishness is carried on in the clerk's office and in the offices of the respective attorneys, but the minutest details of form are insisted upon. Every step that is taken requires time and if anything should be omitted, full time is given for amendment. Form is everything and time is regarded as of no importance whatever.

England, the most conservative of all countries, adopted the reformed code some years ago and at one blow cut off a mass of superfluous and endless forms that had hampered the courts since the dark ages. It is idle to look for reforms from within. If reforms come at all, they will be forced upon an unwilling profession; or at least no sign of improvement to any perceptible extent has yet dawned upon a long suffering people.

The people must and will protest against the continuance of usages that make our courts worse than useless to those who are taxed to support them.

The legislature of 1883 can perform no duty so acceptable to the people of this State as to enact that no suit shall go on appeal to the circuit court where the judgment in the lower court was less than \$100.

To do this members will have to brace up against the legal gentlemen of the body who will step to the front and first, last and always look out for what they conceive to be the welfare of the profession.

## ANOTHER MONOPOLY.

The National Starch Company was organized yesterday at Chicago. It embraces the following manufacturers: A. Erkenbecker and the Fox Starch Company, of Cincinnati; William F. Piel & Co., Indianapolis; Thompson, White & Co., Franklin, Indiana; S. Cut-singer & Co., Edinburgh, Ind.; the Elkhart Starch Company and the Excelsior Starch Company, of Elkhart, Ind.; and the Peoria Starch Company, of Peoria. The new concern forms a pool by which each member deeds over his factory and shares in proportion to the capital invested. The capital invested is about \$1,600,000. Our townsman, Mr. A. R. Beardsley, was honored with the Presidency of the organization. -Elkhart, Ind., Review.

From a friend we have just secured the above, clipped from a late number of the Elkhart, Ind., Review. The same gentleman has learned from a reliable source that the manufacturing establishment in Elkhart heretofore managed by Mr. Beardsley, the President of this new association, has annually expended \$10,000 in advertising its business. If these other concerns expended as much in proportion to their manufacturing capacity snug little fortunes will annually be saved in this one item of expenses. It is understood that the business has been very profitable. And now the question of importance to the consumer is, will any part of this economic movement inure to their benefit, or is this combination effected to control and enhance prices. It looks so much like our plaster combination that we fear the user will suffer. We have come to look with suspicion upon all movements of this kind, it illustrates the value of co-operation but restricts the benefits to the few to the detriment of the many. These are all lessons to farmers that if heeded would soon by force of numbers judiciously guided, be independent of all such combinations if found to extort prices above a reasonable profit.

## SEVERAL MATTERS.

In this number is found the address of Worthy Master Luce to the State Grange, which convened at Lansing on Tuesday, the 12th inst., in the State Capitol, and our annual report. We also present two valuable reports from Committees of the National Grange upon two most important subjects. These reports written up and endorsed by some of the ablest members of the Order, should receive careful consideration. They embrace living interests that are not only present with us today, but will be vital questions for some years to come, demanding frequent and earnest discussion, and ultimate political action.

As "better late than never" is not an outlawed maxim, we will say in this number what we should have said in the last. A little more than a year ago some one said that fresh pie plant might be had for pie or sauce with little trouble by putting a box say two or three feet square in the cellar and filling in six inches of good earth. Take from the garden a root and set it out in this box and water it occasionally. As we are fond of that sort of vegetable we tried it and were surprised at the production of one root. We had stalks more than twenty inches in length and this root flourished all winter. Farmers who have the mammoth pieplant and are fond of it when nicely prepared, will be well repaid for their trouble by trying this experiment. A half hours work will put this branch of cellar gardening in running order. As farmers usually have a great aversion to garden work, it may be necessary for the good housewife to see that this thing is done. We hope she will not do it herself, but look after it and see that it is done.

We hope our readers looked over the program of the Berrien county Institute published the VISITOR of December 1st. We meant to have called attention to it in that number but in the make up found we were short of room. The enterprise of our Berrien county friends should be imitated by other county Granges, and the committee on program have done a good work in presenting so many excellent subjects. Subordinate Granges will here find topics to discuss or by the lecturer assign to members for an essay. To these faithful enquirers who ask what has the Grange done or what is it doing, we say read this program and you will be compelled at heart to admit that there is an appearance of valuable educational work.

PARSONS' Hand Book of Business and Social Forms is having a wonderful sale in all parts of the country.

Look over our clubbing list in this number and see if we can't save you some money when you renew for your weekly paper or your magazine.

## THE SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR, 1882.

Worthy Master and Fellow Patrons:-For the fourth time in this new Capitol Building of our great State are assembled the representatives of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry to legislate for its future good.

For the tenth time we come before its legislative body to make our annual report of the business of the Secretary's office. In doing so, it seems hardly necessary for me to particularize in some matters, as the executive committee having appointed its chairman to examine our accounts, has performed the duty assigned, and as has been the custom with the committee, will in their report give you a detailed statement of receipts and expenditures as verified by him.

We shall therefore abbreviate and here only make a comparison indicative of progress.

The receipts of the Secretary's office from all sources.....\$10,109 00  
 as compared with receipts of last year.....9,899 14  
 show an increase of.....\$ 209 86

The disbursements reported last year were.....9,538 53  
 against the lesser sum this year of.....8,847 21

leaving a favorable balance here of.....\$ 691 32

A more detailed account of the financial condition of the GRANGE VISITOR properly belongs to this report, and is as follows:

RECEIPTS.  
 Subscriptions for fiscal year 1882.....\$3,160 58  
 Papers sold.....6 28  
 Advertising.....504 75  
 Total receipts.....\$3,671 61

EXPENSES.  
 Publication.....\$2,653 10  
 Postage.....299 35  
 Type for mailing.....17 26  
 Freight and drayage.....24 15  
 Traveling expenses.....12 00  
 Premium goods (Capitol engraving).....8 50  
 Wrapping paper.....12 00  
 Express.....7 60  
 Total Expenses.....3,033 86

Leaving a credit balance of.....637 75  
 The credit balance of last year was.....429 84

Increase over last year.....\$207 91

To this year's credit balance might be added about \$60.00 on account of advertising bills uncollected.

This showing presents an increase both in the amount received on subscriptions and also for advertising as well as a larger credit balance than for any previous year. We are however compelled to say that the increase in circulation has not been as great as in previous years.

With the larger circulation we had hoped that as heretofore, like the rolling snowball, which with each revolution presenting more surface, attracts more snow to its bulk; so the VISITOR with each rolling year, would have an increase of readers and of friends, who having faith in it as a disseminator of the principles of the Order, and as an outspoken champion of its legitimate work would be willing to perform such necessary work in its behalf as would add more than a thousand new names to our list. In this the result has hardly met our expectations. With no complaint that the paper has deteriorated in quality, we can ascribe this want of proportional increase, only to a lack of activity on the part of its friends, as a comparison of monthly receipts shows that in January, when our largest additions have heretofore been made, there was no increase over the previous year. With this statement the question arises: may we expect that more vigorous volunteer work will be done by the friends of the paper? Shall we be satisfied with the means heretofore employed, or shall we by paid canvassers attempt to add to the circulation of the VISITOR. We have not felt authorized to try this experiment, and now bring this matter to your attention to be passed upon by this body or by the Executive Committee of the State Grange. Our opinion is that it can be made to pay. In its editorial department we have endeavored to go beyond the field of mere record of Grange work, and by aggressive articles upon questions involving the general welfare arouse more interest, and stimulate more thought upon subjects of public concern. We trust that our efforts in this direction have not been wholly lost.

The unparalleled growth of population, of manufacturing art and inventive skill, with unprecedented accumulations of capital and concentration of wealth, demands, to keep pace with the rapidly changing conditions incident thereto, such wise and careful legislation as will protect the interest of the great mass of the people against the bold encroachments of corporate strength, backed by vast wealth and the lust of power.

To our view such desirable legislation would soon be had, were the press outspoken, independent and prompt in insisting from legislative bodies, such measures of reform as are clearly in the interest of the people. The newspaper is everywhere, but so intent on news, and news only, that it seems disposed to overlook, and pass by unnoticed the delinquencies of legislators, the burdens imposed by adherence to traditional usages in our judicial system, and to the dangers that lie scarcely hidden from view, in the vast accumulations of capital which the last twenty-five years have witnessed in this country. Did the press everywhere demand good work, and boldly present the case of the people, we should soon have less occasion of complaint.

But little improvement will come in this direction however, until demanded by the people, and such demand is made only as the people from a better understanding of the situation grow stronger and more self-reliant, and this is a part of the educational work of the Grange. That it has already done good work, every careful observer well knows.

From our criticism of the press generally, we are glad to except some influential city dailies, a part of the agricultural press, and the periodicals of our Order everywhere. We have endeavored to make the VISITOR perform its part in the educational work of the Order, and that it discharges this duty more fully in the future depends, no matter by whom conducted, upon the cooperation of the Patrons of the State. Co-operation in every department of the work is essential to the most complete success.

CONDITION OF THE ORDER.  
 To return to evidences of thrift and prosperity in the Order. We have shown that as compared with the previous year, receipts have increased and expenses diminished in every department of our work. The same favorable conditions apply to Grange organizations and membership.

Eight new Granges have been organized, and our returns to the National Grange show an increase of 945 in membership.

Rives Valley Grange, No. 344, has been consolidated with Pleasant Lake Grange, No. 28, taking the name and number of the latter. Numbers 256, 277, 445, 466 and 528 have been re-organized and put in working order. Only one, No. 144, has given notice that it had disbanded. Several others have not reported with that promptness indicative of good officers and a healthy condition, but with a new election, some of these that are delinquent are likely to resume their good standing in the Order.

## THE DRIVEN WELL.

In our report of last year, considerable space was devoted to a statement of what had been done to protect the people of the State from the demands of certain royalty robbers, who under color of law had undertaken by intimidation to pump by installments, fortunes for themselves from the pockets of the people of the State. It will be remembered that we were directed in a prescribed manner by the Executive Committee to procure the sinews of war, to defend in the courts all contributors to a Defense Fund, against all claimants of royalty, on account of the driven well. The result of our work is shown by the following statement:

We received from individual contributors, mainly of one dollar each, \$2,037, and to these contributors we gave receipts consecutively numbered, and stamped with the seal of the State Grange. From 120 Granges we received pledges in amount from \$5.00 to \$50.00—in all \$1374 19. At a meeting of the Executive Committee during the session of the State Grange, last December, an assessment of 25 per cent of the amount pledged was ordered, and on that assessment \$339 32, has been paid. The total amount of Defense Fund collected to date is \$2364 32.

Of this amount we paid over to H. D. Platt, the authorized agent of the State Grange for conducting the defense, \$700, and hold his receipts for the same. There was expended for printing, postage, to agents and witnesses whose affidavits were taken in Kalamazoo county, \$118. 16. This leaves in our hands \$1546 16, subject to the order of the executive committee of the State Grange. As to the present status of the test case in the United States District court, and the expense already incurred, we respectfully refer to Bro. Platt, who we doubt not will make a satisfactory showing.

Our successful resistance in court, of the claims of the slide gate swindlers, taught at least one lesson to those who undertook to extort royalty from owners of driven wells. As soon as they found that the Grange had taken hold of this matter, we conclude the business became unprofitable, as it was soon abandoned and we have not heard of one of these fellows for many months.

## PLASTER.

The plaster question has been almost from the first, one of the most important matters demanding the consideration of the State Grange and its Executive Committee. Since our last session, this question has assumed new relations. The accidental death of Bro. E. L. Taylor practically annulled a contract that had still two years to run. But this terrible accident, so sad in its family, society and fraternal associations, was felt to be in its business relations a calamity indeed.

After a sort of running fight, covering several years, a feeling of security had come over us as year after year every attempt of the combination to control prices had been baffled.

Taking advantage of the situation the manufacturers of the State again combined and established a central office, through which all orders for plaster from every source must pass. The combination included in their pool the owners and managers of the old Grange plaster mill of Day & Taylor. When the fact came to be known the universal feeling among Patrons, so far as our observation extended, was that the old fight will have to be repeated. All felt this was the same organization that some years ago, against all arguments and remonstrances, undertook to compel the farmers of the State to buy only of their agents or dealers supplied by them at exorbitant prices. In their eagerness however to command the situation and prices, the association blindly overstepped the line of a prudent judicious regard for the rights and interests of consumers, and by their first demand defeated their own purpose.

By this, to the Patrons and farmers of the State fortuitous circumstance, and the good judgement and prompt action of a worthy member of the Order, the Executive Committee were able to take such steps as resulted in the renewal of the forfeited contract of Day & Taylor with a responsible firm. The outlook of the plaster business is now most satisfactory.

But Patrons must not forget that the continued success of this effort to obtain plaster at a fair price rests now, as heretofore, largely on themselves. In this matter your efforts have from first to last labored most faithfully to protect your interests, and their efforts have been sustained by the Patrons throughout the State to their principles and to their interests with fidelity. This successful work has not only again demonstrated the value of co-operative effort, but has saved many thousands of dollars to the farmers of Michigan. The same fidelity to the new arrangement with the Alabastine company that first surprised, then disappointed, and finally baffled the manufacturers of plaster, who undertook to dictate high prices with unreasonable conditions to the farmers of the State must be maintained. Of the progress of the company in the work of preparation Patrons will be kept posted through the VISITOR.

## TRANSPORTATION.

The duties imposed on me by the Executive Committee in arranging with railroad officials for commutation rates for all Patrons who, for business or pleasure, are with us on this occasion, was performed without delay or any unpleasant friction in making the arrangement, and we hope it may prove satisfactory to all concerned.

## RECOMMENDATION.

Though clearly not within the scope of our official duty to suggest changes in laws affecting this body, yet our connection with the work has made us so familiar with certain facts that we shall presume to do so at this time. At the first two sessions of the State Grange each Subordinate Grange was entitled to a representation of two members. This was found to convene too large a body for the expeditious legislative work required in a short session of four days. No legislative body, composed of nearly a thousand members, many of them strangers to each other and unacquainted with the work

before them, could make much progress with such a burden of members, and besides it was a greater draft on the State finances than the treasury could carry.

In its wisdom the State Grange established the present system of representation, which has been in force with little complaint for seven years. The present law works no hardship in the southern part of the State, but in counties having but one or two Granges the district system in force practically deprives them of representation. It has been our duty to arrange the districts, and in so doing not unfrequently a county having a single Grange has been attached to one having enough to give it a representative without any additions. Of course delegates of the single Grange had little or no inducement to go frequently a long distance only to see themselves always left without a voice, a vote, or influence in this body. We cannot always know how best to arrange districts so that the convenience of Granges will best be met, and mistakes are made that an intimate knowledge of location and facilities of travel would enable us to avoid. Now that the State Grange treasury is so able to bear the additional charge, we recommend that Section 2, Article 4, of By-Laws of the State Grange, be so amended as to give each county a representative in this body, and that the last clause of Section 3, Article 4, be stricken out.

## CONCLUSION.

From the address of the Worthy Master, and the financial exhibit made in this report there seems no cause of discouragement in the work of the Order in this jurisdiction. It is true some Granges are making but little or no growth; others are dormant or dead, yet these conditions attach to all organizations of men. In human affairs one unbroken flow of prosperity, one continuous forward movement, and upward growth, is not in accord with nature's law. But the man or woman who with clear vision and unclouded judgment, reviews with an honest purpose the work of the Order in this State in the last decade, will, we think, accord it a faithful adherence to its grand "Declaration of purposes," and certify to a great advance as farmers, in our social relations, and in that practical and business education which improves individuals and qualifies them to take part in the business affairs of the neighborhood, the county and the State. By results, we are assured that the wisdom of the founders of the Order has been affirmed, and our confidence in its necessity, its permanence and its value was never stronger than now.

As we look abroad over this wide field in which are seen such a host of laborers—as we recall the fast receding years of our official life—as memory calls around us from far and near the many friends born of our noble Order, the retrospect brings to our heart a throng of pleasant memories tinged with that shade of sadness which clings to the memory of friends already fallen in the battle of life.

That retrospect sees much good already accomplished. Seeds sown by the faithful laborer have germinated, and encouraged to grow by the diligent cultivator have required the skilled hand of the harvester and already the husbandman and matron have partaken of some ripened fruit; and without prophetic eye we see in the years to come if we continue faithful to our trust, that the good work of the Order will secure to our children and to theirs a rich inheritance.

We who were early in the field, must in the order of human events, one after another give place to others who will bring to the work the ambition and vigor which belongs to fewer years.

Under a constitutional provision, our official services have again come to an end, and it seems but meet and proper to express to the brothers and sisters here assembled, and through them to that large constituency that it has been our pleasure and duty to serve our grateful recognition of that confidence and support which through all these years has materially aided us in our work, and added much to its compensation.

J. T. COBB.

## VISITOR RECEIPTS.

NOVEMBER.  
 14 H J Lovell, \$1.00; Mrs C D Parker, \$3.00.  
 16 A L Little, \$2.25.  
 20 David L Tweedle, \$1.00.  
 23 Sidney Secord, \$1.00; W M Andrews, \$2.00.  
 24 Wm Campbell, \$1.00; Geo Alpine, \$1.00.  
 27 Mrs H L Wickman, \$1.50.  
 DECEMBER.  
 1 B J Wiley, \$1.00; W E West, \$1.00; G W Curtis, \$1.00.  
 2 J E Barrington, \$2.00.  
 4 J E Phelps, \$1.00.  
 6 W E West, \$1.40; H C Rawson, \$2.50; L R Davis, \$3.00.  
 9 Mrs Joe Bowser, \$2.50.  
 11 B W Sweet, \$1.00; O C Spaulding, \$1.00.

We have received from Messrs. L. Prang & Co, a set of their prize Christmas cards which are the result of the last prize Christmas card exhibition held in New York in November 1881. In their endeavor to improve the style and artistic character of these cards, which go into thousands of homes, and there help to elevate, if possible, the innate love for the beautiful, they have the encouragement and kind appreciation of the public as is shown in the ever-increasing sales of their productions.

Editor of the Grange Visitor.—I agree with what you say with regard to the defects in the present practice, and pleadings. They are too cumbersome and technical, and lead to expense and delay. Many of the causes reversed by the supreme court, are upon technical points not affecting the real merits of the case. They ought to be reformed, and adapted to our progressive age, and simplified so that plain men can understand them.

DANIEL L. PRATT.

Ex-Judge, First District.

LAND on Fifth avenue, New York, between Murray hall and Central park, is worth \$4,000 a running foot. Twenty-five feet of it, therefore, would cost \$100,000, and the house still to be built. That land is surely as high as the highest mountain.

The fire-fly only shines when on the wing; so it is with the mind; when once we rest darken.—Bailey.







## Communications.

## IT NEVER PAYS.

It never pays to fret and growl  
When fortune seems our foe;  
The better bred will push ahead  
And strike the braver blow,  
For luck is work,  
And those who shirk  
Should not lament their doom;  
But yield the play,  
And clear the way,  
That better men have room.

It never pays to foster pride,  
And squander wealth in show;  
For friends thus won are sure to run  
In times of want or woe.  
The noble worth  
Of all the earth  
Are gems of heart and brain—  
A conscience clear;  
A household dear,  
And hands without a stain.

It never pays to hate a foe  
Or cater to a friend,  
To fawn and whine, much less repine,  
To borrow or to lend.  
The faults of men  
Are fewer when  
Each rows his own canoe,  
For friends and debts,  
And pampered pets  
Unbounded mischief brew.

It never pays to wreck the health  
In drugging after gain,  
And he is sold who thinks that gold  
Is cheaply bought with pain.  
A humble lot,  
A cozy  
Have tempted even kings,  
For station high  
That wealth will buy  
Naught of contentment brings.

It never pays! A blunt refrain,  
Well worthy of a song;  
For age and youth must learn this truth—  
That nothing pays that's wrong.  
The good and pure  
Alone are sure  
To win prolonged success;  
While what is right  
In heaven's sight  
Is always sure to bless.

## The National Grange.

The sixteenth annual session of the National Grange has closed its labors and the readers of the VISITOR may like to know who were there, and how they looked and what they said and did. So, Brother Cobb, with your permission I will try to tell you something about all these things.

The National Grange met in Indianapolis on the 15th of November as everybody knows or ought to know. The headquarters of the members were at the Grand hotel, a well kept house, where quiet comfort and good cheer are to be found. In No. 1 was to be found Worthy Master Woodman and his wife, the Worthy Ceres. No. 3 was the session room of the Executive Committee and of the Court of Appeals. No. 7 was the general gathering room, where every body met for information and where Worthy Secretary Ireland held sway, intrenched behind a long table, with a chair full of papers on either side. A little farther down the hall was the room of Worthy Treasurer McDowell who was accompanied by his lovely little wife and his pretty daughter Louise.

I might take you to many other rooms in the hotel and introduce you, kind reader, to their inmates, but only one will we visit and that is "95" where our Brother Armstrong, Master of New York State Grange and editor of the *Husbandman*, and Brother C. L. Whitney, late Lecturer of your State Grange, now associate editor of the *American Grange Bulletin* of Cincinnati and one of the managers of the National Lecture Bureau, P. of H. You would think this room editorial headquarters and it was.

Had you seen the Patrons at dinner in that great dining hall (and all could not dine at once, because of numbers) you would not have thought of the Order's dying out very soon or likely to.

## AT THE COURT HOUSE.

The daily sessions of the National Grange were held in the court house of Marion county, of which Indianapolis is the county seat. This building is a very large and a fine one, large enough and good enough and fine enough for a State house, and few States have as good one.

In the criminal court room the National Grange daily met. Yes in the criminal court room, and just think of it! Brother Woodman presiding in, and Brother Luce sitting and speaking at the bar of the criminal court. It was all well enough but hard it looks and sounds. This was a very large and fine room indeed and the judge kindly gave up his use of it, and the judge of the circuit court held in another room gave his room half of the time for the use of the criminal court.

To describe the beautiful fresco finish in its elaborate character will take too much time had I the ability. In the centre of one end in the judge's desk sat daily one well known to Patrons of Michigan and others, Worthy Master Woodman. In front of the master sat Ceres, Sister Woodman. On her left was Worthy Flora, Sister Nicholson of New Jersey, while on the right sat Worthy Pomona, Sister Darden of Mississippi. At the left of the Worthy Master, in the clerk's desk, was seated Worthy Secretary Ireland and Worthy Treasurer McDowell, and at the Worthy Master's right was the reporter's desk, where was to be found Brother Whitney taking notes, and we expect he will print them.

Opposite the Worthy Master and just inside the rail that divides the hall into nearly

equal parts sat Worthy Overseer Darden of Mississippi. On his right was the Worthy Assistant Steward Rosa, of Delaware, while on the Worthy Overseer's left was Worthy Lady Assistant Sims, of Kansas, while at the inside gate was Worthy Steward Sims, of Kansas. At the outer gate was the Worthy Gate Keeper, nominally Bro. Scott of Arkansas, but really most of the time Brother Robert Mitchell Worthy Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Indiana State Grange, who was on hand at all times to do his best to make the session pleasant and profitable to all. Inside the rail before named sat the voting and honorary members of the National Grange, while on the other side were seated the many visiting members from many States.

## ONE SIDE.

On the right side of the hall were seated at the table next to the lady officers the Worthy members of the Executive Committee, Worthy Brother Henly James of Indiana, the one who walks a little lame, with a cane always in his hand. Next is the stout brother, Dr. Blanton, Worthy Master of Virginia State Grange and also commissioner of agriculture of the Old Dominion. Nor far from the doctor is his estimable wife whom everybody knows but to esteem. Behind the table is the Hon. D. Wyatt Akin of South Carolina, the secretary of the committee. Brother Akin has just been re-elected to his 4th term in Congress.

About midway of that side, opposite the altar sat the Worthy Lecturer, Brother Eshbaugh, and his wife, from Missouri. They are a small couple in stature but both capable representatives of a good Grange State. Brother E. thinks the measures he submits are right and needed, and he is not always pleased if the members don't vote and endorse them. Behind these are a group of members. First, Brother Scott from Arkansas who does not appear to enjoy the poor health he seems to have; may he be better in health next year. Brothers Armstrong of New York and Harrison of Alabama are right behind the Executive Committee and ready with resolution and reports as often as any upon the floor. Their motions and words are usually (not always) wise. Next sits the tall, slender, gray headed elderly Brother from Louisiana, Daniel Morgan, formerly a sugar planter but now an extensive cotton grower. Next is a plain, quiet, Brother who seldom speaks or even rises, that is Brother Deadwyler of Georgia, who represents the State in place of Brother Smith, who so long filled the Master's place but died a year since. Brothers Armstrong, Harrison, Scott, Morgan, and Deadwyler have not their wives with them. Why I cannot tell.

In front of the last, near Sister Blanton, is the oldest lady in the body, Sister Baylor of West Virginia. Her husband is usually upon the other side of the house. Farther along are Brother and Sister Cheek of North Carolina, both worthy members and have long been. You will usually see them together, both quiet but true Patrons. She appears feeble in health but seldom is absent from her post of duty. Could you know either of them you would esteem them.

In the corner sit Brother and Sister Carr from Wisconsin. They are new members but very attentive to their duty. In front of the last two are Brother and Sister Giller from Illinois. They are both lively people and love fun, and get a great deal of it if they are small in stature. Brother and Sister Rohne of Pennsylvania are the good looking pair who sit next to the rail. Their cultured taste and good understanding of the Order and its field of labor prompts them to ask for some advanced steps, such as a "Hand book of plans and decorations of Grange halls." The Order needs such a book. They are the worthy representatives of a great worthy Grange State. On this side too is usually Brother James of Indiana. He too is alone, as his wife is caring for the sick ones at home. Brother James has gray hair, a small face and large eyes that one will remember a long time. He usually speaks on all questions where there is anything of politics and he has just come out of the late canvass the Auditor-elect of St. Joseph county.

Brother Gifford, the Worthy Master of the Dominion Grange, sat on this side. He is the small man with heavy beard. He gave Canadian work a good standing in his remarks. Brother E. H. Hilborn, the Past Master of the Dominion Grange, was here a few days and spoke eloquently. He informed me that he was upon a lecture bureau trip and will be in Michigan on Wednesday the 6th of December, at Buchanan, and on Friday the 8th at Palmyra, Lenawee county.

## THE OTHER SIDE.

Beginning at the entrance near the Assistant Steward we find the tall Buckeye, Brother Brigham. He too is a politician as I judge from his being a little sepsitive on the tariff and other questions. His report upon the good of the Order had many good points in it. Brother and Sister Flint, the able members from California, sit next towards the corner. They came a long way to the meeting and go to Michigan and thence to New England ere they return home. In the front of the last two, at the table, is the Worthy Master of the Michigan State Grange. You know that he is neither tall or handsome, yet he is a working member here as he is at home.

In the corner stands the organ, before which sits Sister Wason of New Hampshire. She is a solid sister in pounds and ounces, and every ounce is true to the principles of the Grange. She played the organ and lead in the singing, which proved the new song book to be a worthy effort of the Order, that will give satisfaction wherever used, and reflects credit upon its author and all who aided him by their contributions. The "National Grange Choir" should be used in every Grange hall and home. You will have it in use at your State Grange meeting next month.

Brother Wason, the tall, slim brother who sits near, is from New Hampshire, to whose Senate he has lately been elected. Near by is Brother and Sister Franklin of Vermont. He is the leading male voice in the singing, and his wife sometimes plays the organ. They are both true Vermonters and worthily represent the Patrons of that State. He very properly reported "adversely" for the committee on constitution and By Laws, upon most of the efforts to tinker with the constitution of our noble Order. Another male voice heard in song is that of Brother D. W. Jones, the large man who is from the large State of Iowa. He is wholly a Patron and is proud of his calling, and the Order that represents it. When he speaks he amuses as well as interests.

Near Sister Wason is Sister Augusta Cooper Bristol the Worthy Lecturer of New Jersey State Grange. Her sweet voice is always heard in the songs that are sung. She is here on her way west to her daughters at Sedalia, Missouri. On the fifth of December, she begins a tour upon the National Lecture Bureau and will be in Michigan the week after the State Grange. She visits Berrien, Allegan, Ottawa, Kent, Ingham, Clinton, Wayne and Lenawee counties, giving about 12 lectures. She then passes into Ohio and then home. Sister Bristol captured the admiration of all present at the public meeting by reciting her poem, "When this old world is righted."

That short, gray old gentleman is Brother Baylor of West Virginia, whose wife sits upon the other side.

That short, tidy looking man near Brother Luce is the lone Brother from Tennessee; his wife is not here, for rumor says he is a bachelor. The worthy lady Lecturer of Indiana, a maid, received some attention from Dr. Harwell. He is educated, so is she. Why not unite forces and represent Tennessee?

That stout firm looking Brother who wants everything "just right" and "to be put upon the record every time," is Brother Lipscomb of South Carolina. He has just been elected Secretary of State for that leading southern State. He is an earnest and honest man and a true Patron. His wife was not well enough to come to the meeting. Brother Nicholson sits next and worthily speaks for New Jersey when that State's interests are at stake.

Who is that noble looking, stoutly built couple who sit near the Secretary's desk? I am pleased to inform you that they are Governor Robie and wife. Why are they here? Because the people of Maine have seen fit to elect the Worthy Master of the State Grange Governor of the State. They are here as Patrons and members of the National Grange leaving home and farm to come.

Slim and tall and slender is the Brother near by, and he is the Worthy Master of the State Grange of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and his wife is the busy, lively little lady near Sister Bristol. Brother Draper and wife ably represent that intellectual State and its cultured Patrons.

Sitting in front in the centre is Brother Devries, the worthy Chaplain, who with his wife near by ably represent the interests of Maryland Patrons. The National Grange has no abler men than Brother Devries. Back farther near the window sits a tall slim man of years and a lady near him. They have come further than any others in the body. Their mileage was each over 6,400 miles and they came from Oregon on the Pacific shore.

We will now with pride present you to the royal representatives of Kentucky. Tall, stately and finely proportioned are they both. They show good minds well cultured, are fair representatives of the better class of men and women of that State. It does one good to know them.

Last, but by no means least, we come to the Roses of Texas who were regularly in their corner. Their state may well be proud of them and of the able manner in which they discharge their duties.

What would such a body do or be without a Smith? Minnesota sent one who came alone, for reasons unknown to any. Bro. T. T. Smith represented Minnesota and Dakota of the northwest. You would know him by his gentle mein and good natured ways.

Such, if I have not omitted any, was the appearance of the body in brief that held court for eight days in the place of the criminal court, rendering decisions in behalf of justice to the farmer, such as were never before seen here.

Flora held her grand court here on Thursday evening, the 16 inst., and the highest court of our Order. The assembly of the 7th degree convened here on the evening of Wednesday the 22 inst.

## VISITING PATRONS.

A large number of visiting Patrons were

present the first four days from Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky and Michigan. 200 took forms at Flora's court in the sixth degree. I was pleased to meet Bro. Huxley and his esteemed wife, of Wisconsin. The Worthy Secretary of Wisconsin State Grange is the right man in the right place. Bro. Thos. Mason, Grange Business agent, at Chicago, put in his appearance, spent two or three days, forming many acquaintances.

From Michigan was Sister Flora Luce, Bro. Luce's daughter, who accompanied her father. Bro. Geo. B. Horton of Weston, Mich. and his neighbor Wm. Smith spent a day in the sessions. Come earlier and stay longer next time, Brothers.

Just as the National Grange closed its last session Brothers and Sisters Burlingame of Wyoming Grange, near Grand Rapids, come in to see the members say good-by. I had expected to see more Michigan Patrons, and Brother and Sister Cobb among them.

## NOTABLE THINGS.

Among the noble features of this session, was, 1st, the public meeting that took Governor Porter quite aback and taught him that farmers are peers to any class. The Governor made every effort in his power to make things pleasant for the meeting and those who attended it. Mrs. Porter called upon the ladies of the Grange at their hotel and then on Saturday evening gave a very handsome reception at the executive mansion, to the members who were present. The Governor's carriage called at the hotel and took many of the Patrons out to see the city, and its attractions.

The Belt Railroad that nearly incircles the city, 22 miles in length, used to transfer cars from one to any other of the many railroads that enter the city, invited the members to a free ride upon it, and to see the stock yards and the city.

## GRANGE WORK DONE.

Some excellent papers have been submitted and acted upon by the National Grange at this session, especially the Worthy Masters address, and the reports of the committee on Transportation and that of the committee on Agriculture.

Two changes of the constitution have been submitted, but they are both of doubtful tendency, and will if adopted bring much confusion and strife, and make necessary several rulings upon the construction or meaning of the articles if amended.

The next meeting is to be held at Washington, D. C. Nashville was the strong competitor and Washington had but one vote the most.

Dr. Loring will not be happy when he reads the resolution demanding the publication of the suppressed report of the eminent chemists upon the value of the plant sorghum, for the production of sugar.

## The Defective Patent Laws Shown Up.

Mr. Editor:—I desire to say a few things concerning the articles of D. L. Garver on the subject of patents and patent laws found in the VISITOR of September 1st, upon points which seem to have been overlooked by your correspondents who have written in reply to him, and I feel more liberty in criticising him than I should if he did not possess the courage to "talk back." He says in his first article "I venture that in nine cases out of ten when a farmer gets swindled it is because he has neglected to post himself." In reply to such an assertion and as showing some of the outrageous features of our present patent laws allow me to relate a patent case that came under my observation.

Some years since a resident of this place secured letters patent for an improvement in grain separators on fanning mills. The patent, which I will call No. 1, was what is known as a "combination patent" and included in its specifications screens, the manner of hanging the "shoe" or screen frame and of giving it what is known as the "end shake." I will not particularly describe it except so far as to enable your readers to see the peculiar beauty of our patent laws. The shake was produced by means of a hook attached by a staple to the center of a bar placed across the shoe with the hook working in a perforated wheel, which was attached to the center of a box placed across the shell of the mill and the wheel connected to a pulley on the fan-shaft by a belt. The shake was regulated by changing the hook to holes in the wheel that were different distances from the center of the wheel. He manufactured and sold a good many mills to farmers in this vicinity of that construction and he also sold the right to manufacture and sell said mill in a good deal of "territory," giving deeds to manufacturers and furnishing to each manufacturer a sample mill constructed as I have described.

After the mills had been in use some time his customers complained to him, saying the belt would stretch and slip, thus giving the shoe an irregular shake and causing the screens to load up and making the mill worthless. Claiming the right to use "equivalents" he took out his crossbars, hook, wheel, belt and pulley and substituted therefor a crank in the fan shaft, which worked in a slotted arm which was attached by a hinge joint to a bar placed across the shoe just above the lower end of the long screen, thus giving the shoe an end shake that was regular and uniform.

He subsequently changed the mills he had sold to farmers in this vicinity by putting in the crank and slotted arm, and after he

had put up his mills in that manner for about a year he started out to sell the right, or as patent right men say "to sell territory" taking with him his letters patent and a sample mill which contained the crank and slotted arm and was marked "Patented" of the date of his letters patent. At Parkersburg, West Virginia, he sold the right to manufacture and sell said mill, under said letters, in the states of Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, giving a deed therefor and furnishing a sample mill marked as before stated and which contained the crank and slotted arm. He then came home.

About the time he arrived home he received other letters patent for an improvement in fanning mills which I will call No. 2. It also was a combination patent, and in its specifications was precisely like the sample mill he had furnished the Parkersburg manufacturer. In less than a month he painted over one of the mills he had built for sale under patent No. 1, and painted on it the name of his mill under patent No. 2, marked it patented of the date of letters No. 2, and with it started out to sell "territory" under letters No. 2, and at Wheeling, West Virginia, he sold the right to manufacture and sell mill No. 2 in the States of Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, giving a deed thereof, and furnished a sample mill in every respect like the one furnished a short time before to the Parkersburg manufacturer, save only the lettering. Both purchasers were wealthy and energetic, and soon each had five hundred mills on the market, and each claiming the exclusive right. As both manufacturers were men of sterling integrity, and each had a deed from the patentee, their respective customers had no doubt when purchasing a mill that he was perfectly safe in doing so.

I therefore ask, could a farmer tell which was an infringement? Could a lawyer who had not made the subject of patents a special study, tell or enlighten them upon the subject? Could Mr. Garver himself, after his twenty-five years of posting up, tell? And this is no creation of the imagination, but a reality, about which I was frequently consulted before the affair ended.

Our abominable patent laws permit just such outrages, and the consumers of all articles of machinery are now subjected to expensive litigation growing out of such or similar transactions. If the patentee is entitled to "equivalents," why should the government grant a subsequent patent for those "equivalents?" The whole patent law and the practice in the patent office needs a thorough overhauling. As it is now conducted, it is a shame and a disgrace to the country that tolerates it.

If a man of ordinary intelligence finds it difficult to determine in the above case which was the infringer, why complain of the farmer, who finds such an article a necessity, when he asks to have the law so framed that he can fit his grain for market without the risk and vexation of a law suit a hundred miles from his home. The farmer needs the best machinery he can obtain, and the best interests of society demand that he should be safe in using such machinery when he buys it in the open market, and his claim to be relieved from danger of prosecution, therefore, is just and proper. To make him safe would also work to the advantage of the patentee, for if such were the law, many farmers who now decline to purchase, for fear of litigation, would under such circumstances purchase, and the patentee would find more ready sale for his invention, and both parties would be benefited thereby.

I had intended to say something about Mr. Garver's complaint of being compelled to surrender his right to the exclusive use, at the end of a few years, but as this article is already long, I will defer that to some future time.

Respectfully,

THOS. J. HILLER.

Nov. 20, 1882.

## Plaster.

Bro. Cobb:—The following significant resolution was adopted by Western Pomona Grange at Georgetown.

Resolved, That as Mr. M. B. Church, manager of the Alabastine company, built a mill and proposes to manufacture plaster, on terms, satisfactory to the members of the State Grange, that we pledge him our patronage. And furthermore be it resolved, that in case Mr. Church should be unable to furnish sufficient plaster to supply the demands of the Patrons for the ensuing year, that we will not buy any plaster of other parties except they sell it to us at the same price as per contract with Mr. Church.

S. K. VAN SKIVER, Secretary.

## A Strange Suit.

A suit to recover an enormous attorney fee was heard and developed events of a sensational and romantic character. Pete Finnerty, a man suddenly made rich by lucky mining investments, and who left his family when a poor man, being the defendant. His wife sued for a divorce and alimony to the amount of \$1,500 on the ground of desertion. Afterward news came of his good luck, and a modification of the judgment was allowed and \$100,000 was granted her, and judgment for that amount was entered against Finnerty. He succeeded in settling with her for a nominal sum, and her attorney, who had filed a lien for one-fourth of the judgment, asks for an execution and order upon Finnerty to cause him to show the amount he is worth, and where his property is located. Arguments were heard, and the case was taken under advisement. Finnerty has been rapidly accumulating wealth. He is now residing at Denver, being largely identified in mining and financial interests thereabouts.



## Ladies' Department.

## THE FARMER'S WIFE.

Bird-like, she's up at day-dawn's blush,  
In summer heads for winter snows;  
Her veins with healthful blood afire,  
Her breath of balm, her cheek a rose;  
In eyes—the kindest eyes on earth—  
Are sparkles of a homely mirth;  
Demure, arch humor is ambushed in  
The clear curves of her dimpled chin,  
Ah! guileless creature, hale and good,  
Ah! fount of wholesome womanhood,  
Far from the world's unhallowed strife,  
God's blessing on the Farmer's Wife!

I love to mark her matron charms,  
Her fearless steps through household ways,  
Her sunburnt hands and tawny arms,  
Her waist unbowed by torturing stays;  
Blithe as a bee, with busy care,  
She's here, she's there, she's everywhere;  
Long ere the clock has struck for noon  
Home chords of toil are all in tone,  
And from each richly bounteous hour  
She drains its use, as bees a flower.  
Apart from Passion's pain and strife,  
Peace gently girds the Farmer's wife.

Homeward (his daily labors done)  
The stalwart farmer slowly plods,  
From battling between shade and sun,  
With sullen glebe and scurrying sods.  
Her welcome on his spirit hovers,  
Is sunshine flashing on a cloud!  
All banished is the brief eclipse!  
Hark to the sound of wedded lips,  
And words of tender warmth that start  
From out the husband's grateful heart!  
O! well he knows how vain his life,  
Unsweetened by the Farmer's wife!

But lo! the height of pure delight  
Comes with the evening's stainless joys,  
When by the hearthstone spaces bright  
Blend the glad tones of girls and boys;  
Their voices rise in gleeful swells,  
Their laughter rings like elfin bells,  
Till with a look twixt smile and frown  
The mother lays her infant down,  
And at her firm uplifted hand,  
There's silence 'mid the jovial band;  
Her signal stills their harmless strife—  
Love crowns with law the Farmer's wife!

Ye dames in proud palatial halls—  
Of lavish wiles and jeweled dress,  
On whom, perchance, no infant calls  
(For barren oft your loveliness)—  
Turn hitherward those languid eyes  
And for a moment's space be wise;  
Your sister 'mid the country dew  
Is three times nearer Heaven than you,  
And where the palms of Eden stir,  
Dream not that ye shall stand by her,  
Tho' in your false bewitching life,  
Your folly scorned the Farmer's wife.

—Paul Hamilton Hayne.

## Home Influences.

[An essay by M. E. Bartholomew, read at a meeting of Keeler Grange, and published by request of the Grange.]

**Worthy Master:**—In following out the wishes of the committee, by giving a few thoughts upon this chosen subject of "Home Influences," I must say that I feel incompetent to treat the subject properly, and would much prefer that some one else had been chosen in my place.

It is a matter that comes very near to the hearts of all of us. It is of vital importance what kind of homes we make for our families, the influence arising from them, and the influence they exert upon the community at large. There is an old saying often quoted, that "every family has a skeleton in its closet." Be this as it may, all know that very many homes are established upon an unhealthy basis—where good intentions and best endeavors always meet counteracting circumstances.

The best home influences, of course, are expected from the best regulated homes. The question is, what constitutes a well regulated home? As a start-out, we will venture to say—the two heads of that home must not be divided, but must act upon the true Grange principle of co-operation as well as co-partnership. As well might a bird attempt to fly with a broken wing, as for a husband or wife to attempt to establish a pleasant harmonious home, with all its kindly influences, without giving aid, one to the other. Disasters will be the result in that home, where one head virtually says, "I run this establishment." To keep the domestic machinery free from jar or friction, there should be frequent councilings to gether, as in a firm, both anxious for the best results, bearing and forbearing when any little discrepancies arise. The conduct of each individual member should exert over every other one a beneficial influence. The children must be taught obedience, habits of industry, neatness and order. Their feelings and opinions should be respected, their faults corrected in kindness, not in a fault-finding manner. Parents must understand the art of governing themselves, if they would govern their families properly. Precept amounts to nothing unless it harmonizes with example. Parents that habitually scold and find fault with their children lose their influence over them; they expect it, become accustomed to it, and finally indifferent to it.

Judicious praise should never be withheld. It encourages and stimulates a child to do well, for they like to be appreciated, and will love best those who understand them best. Their pleasures should be looked after in games and recreations suited to their tastes and inclinations, books and papers provided them to suit their understanding, not the understanding of maturer minds. Their comfort, mental as well as physical, should be looked after, and disturbing causes as far as possible removed. They should be in the confidence of their parents, allowed to talk of their plans and views, without always having enjoined upon them the old-fashioned and erroneous injunction, "children should be seen and not heard." They should be taught lessons of self-denial, of self-reliance, and above all things, to regard the rights of others inviolate as their own. A habit of censoring, ridiculing and criticising their friends and associates should not be tolerated. Any good results that may arise from this course, either in the parents or children is questionable. Charity is a beautiful garment and hangs with becoming grace upon every member of a family. A love for the beautiful should be encouraged. Little home adornments, both indoors and out, in which they have borne a part, will help them to feel an interest and love for their homes, as for no other spot on earth. The influences arising from this kind of home training, we think could not be otherwise than beneficial in its results. But it will sometimes happen, that the best laid plans "off gang away." Outside associations, of which the parents cannot always be apprised, are brought to bear, and the child learns to take steps in immorality and vice. Then a skeleton creeps into the closet, and from that time thence forward, happiness is a stranger.

The raising of a family of children may well be compared to the cultivation of crops and fruits. For in one, as in the other, eternal vigilance is the price of success. There is a time to sow, and a time to reap. A good farmer puts his seed in the ground in the spring time, he carefully cultivates the soil, if it is not rich enough he adds fertilizers, he watches for the young weeds, and when they put in their appearance pulls them out. He does not wait till they have taken deep root, thus weakening and destroying the life of his plants, for he knows full well that as he cultivates so will the harvest be. His young fruit trees are carefully looked after, cultivated and pruned, and here great skill is required to top off just the right branches, that they may grow up shapely and well balanced, and capable of resisting the elements. Many cunningly devised schemes are resorted to, to entrap and destroy the wary little insects that would otherwise mar and ruin the fruit. And should the home training of these children, placed in our charge by a wise Creator, receive less attention, less patience at our hands, than the cultivation of a field of growing corn, or the judicious pruning of a young orchard, with an eye to its future possibilities?

As the highly cultivated soil receives to its bosom the tiny seeds and gives back again a generous harvest, so the youthful mind, in the purity of undeveloped richness, with careful culture may be brought to yield returns for which the most ambitious parent may well be proud. But the same vigilance, the same watchful care and patience that a good farmer bestows upon his crops, is required to bring the character of the child up to a high standard of purity and excellence. The tendency of the age is to extravagance and display. The main object of life to make money, legitimately if convenient, if not otherwise. In all our larger towns and cities every art that ingenuity can devise, every inducement, seemingly innocent, is brought to bear and thrown around our young men to entice them to spend their money and debauch their souls. In the licensed saloon they may spend their idle hours in company with men of doubtful reputation, gradually learning to tipple, to treat and otherwise familiarize themselves with all the vices attending such an establishment. And here lies the great rock of danger not laid down on any of the maps or charts. No friendly lighthouse with its timely warning sheds generous rays upon a rocky coast. No red signal flags of danger mark the places where many young men of brilliant prospects have wrecked a life of usefulness and promise.

If the "home influences" thrown around the boy in his youth have been of the right character he may, in the consciousness of his integrity, be enabled to stand firm, to meet and resist all the temptations and fascinations that may come to him, stronger for the ordeal. And knowing these things, wise and thoughtful parents should make it the chief aim and object of their lives to early implant in the hearts of their children true principles of temperance, virtue and honesty, that they may not, when the time comes for them to take their places in the "battle of life," be weighed in the balance and found wanting.

## Look Around You.

Soon after the first railroad was built on Long Island, an old Dutch lady, who had never ridden in or seen a steam car, told her daughter, one bright morning, she thought she would take a ride on the road, just to see how the thing worked. Accordingly she went and having ridden out several miles, returned much pleased with her trip.

In reply to her daughter's inquiry: "Well, mother, what did you see?" she said: "Oh, nothing much but a haystack, and that was going the other way."

Now, my young friends, you are disposed to laugh at this answer of the old lady, but do you know that there are a great many people who travel through this world and never see much but haystacks, and they are going the other way?

I am going to talk with you a few moments concerning the importance of cultivating early in life the habit of close and careful observation, the habit of noticing things around you with thoughtfulness.

I said a short time since to one of my pupils, a young lady who would graduate at the end of the term, and one who is a good scholar:

"How long have you occupied that room of yours in the boarding hall?"  
"Nearly three years."

"Has one large window, has it not, with large panes of glass?"

"Yes?"  
"How many panes of glass are there in the window?"  
She was surprised that she did not know.  
"There are many trees in our school-grounds, mostly deciduous, and a very few evergreens. Among those immediately around the school buildings, are the fir or pine more abundant?" I asked, and again she was surprised that she did not know.  
She will not forget that object lesson.

When I first began to teach school in the country I said to a bright boy one pleasant spring morning, who had a long mile to come to school every day:

"Well, my young man, what did you see this morning on your way to school?"  
"Nothing much, sir."

"To-morrow morning I shall ask you the same question?"

The morning came and when I called him up to my desk you would have been surprised to hear how much he had seen along the road—cattle of all sizes and colors; fowls of almost every variety; sheep and lambs, oxen and horses, new barns and houses and old ones; here a tree blown down and yonder a fine orchard just coming into bloom; then a field covered with corn or wheat; here a broken rail in the fence; there a washout in the road; over yonder a pond alive with gurgling geese and ducks; here he met a carriage and there a farm wagon, and not only had he seen these and many more things in the fields about the wayside, but looking up he had noticed flocks of blackbirds going north to their summer home. He saw the barn and chimney swallows flying about in every direction; there he had noticed a king bird making war on the crow, and here a little wren pursuing a hawk; yonder he had seen robins flying from tree to tree and over there the bobolink mingling his morning song with that of the meadow lark.

In a word, he had seen so much to tell me that I had not time before school to hear it all.

A new world had sprung up all around him: earth, water and air were now all full of interesting objects to him. Up to this time he had never learned to look and think. Things about him had not changed in number or character, but he had begun to take note of them.

How many of my young readers have ever watched the insects creeping over the ground or up the trees? What do you know about their ways? Do you ever watch the clouds in their movements across the heavens, or at sunset when they are golden with the rays of the setting sun?

How many objects there are in the air, earth and water worthy of our closest study, if we would only learn to take note of them!

Wherever you go, my young friends, always be observing and thoughtful.—Prof. Hasbrouck, in *Golden Days*.

## Rick Staples.

BY EARNEST GILMORE.

The broad, well lighted street looked bright and gay one beautiful winter's eve. Deep snow had fallen in the morning, followed by a light rain, and the weather immediately afterward changing to clear and cold, caused the face of nature to sparkle and glimmer, making a lovely picture fresh from our Creator's hand. However enticing the out door beauty, Mr. S.—evidently was not admiring the scenery as he opened the heavy glass door of the Eldorado saloon and peered outward. His face, never famous for beauty, was still more disfigured by an unmistakable frown. A woman's voice was heard loud and shrill, then sinking into a wail so agonized and piercing that it seemed like the groan of a lost spirit:

"Sowing the seed of a lingering pain,  
Sowing the seed of a maddened brain,  
Sowing the seed of a tarnished name,  
Sowing the seed of eternal shame,  
Sure, ah! sure will the harvest be."

The perspiration stood in great drops on the forehead of the proprietor of the Eldorado.

"Where can she be? How dare she come here?" he muttered, stepping outside of his handsome saloon, and walking along slowly to discover the bold singer. A crowd was gathering, but he did not find the owner of that weird trembling voice; it was hushed now.

"Having a free concert this evening, Mr. S." laughingly inquired one of a group of young men just about entering the saloon.

"Well, so it seems. It is some crazy creature who ought to be handed over to the authorities. But she has vanished into air, I guess," was the answer as Mr. S.—followed his customers into the brilliant rooms.

"Sowing the seed of a lingering pain,  
Sowing the seed of a maddened brain."

The young gentlemen put down their glasses simultaneously as these truthful, terrible words came tremblingly wafted in to them. Looking through the plate glass door, they saw a woman, whose pinched and piteous face was channelled with sorrow, whose large eyes were wild looking yet tearless, as if all hopes were beneath a sepulchre which could never be lifted. They saw all this at a glance, and then Mr. S.—opened the door and shouted angrily: "Begone, this is no place for such as you. Begone, I say!"

She crossed her thin arms and folded her blue hands appealingly. "Where is Dick, Mr. S.—? Let me in. Please let me in. I'm so lonely without Dick—darling Dick—precious Dick! Let me in, please, Mr. S.—I want to find him!" she said, endeavoring to force her way past the strong man.

But he wouldn't allow it. He took hold of her frail arm and, as he recognized who the woman was, said with less anger, but with great sternness, "Go home, my good woman; your Dick is not here."

"Maybe you've forgotten how Dick looked, Mr. S.—? It's a good while since you've seen him; or since I've seen him; but I could not forget him, you know, because I'm his mother. Dick is all I have got. Please let me in, Mr. S.—. It would be cruel to keep a mother away from her darling, her only one."

In spite of the cold the perspiration stood on the proprietor's forehead again. "Go away," he spoke threateningly. "Your son is not here. If you do not go this minute, I will have you arrested," he said, going in and closing his door, for a second group was gathering curiously outside.

"Sowing the seed of a lingering pain."

"There the demented creature is at it again. I will put her out of the way this minute," Mr. S.—said, while his face grew red with excitement. But the door opened softly and the woman stood inside.

"Where is Dick?" she demanded standing in front of the young men. They all laughed but one, the youngest of the group, a fair-faced, blue eyed youth of twenty. He answered respectfully: "I do not know, madam."

"Jim, call a policeman. I declare I will not be imposed upon by this creature any longer," said Mr. S.—. But before the servant Jim reached the door the same young man who had answered her question touched his arm, saying: "I'll see this lady home, sir, and relieve you of any further trouble."

"Humph! new style of lady, she is," said one. "Big fool Rick Staples is, said another."

"If he is a fool, he'll be envied—the handsome, accomplished Rick Staples, gallant as a lady attired so elegantly as this one!" still another remarked in a loud voice. But Rick buttoned up his coat quickly, quietly turning his face meanwhile from his companions—not to get rid of their banter, but to hide the tears that would fill his eyes at thought of that heart-broken mother.

Those stockingless feet, through whose tattered shoes the blood oozes from her wounded feet on the polished floor of the saloon; those purple rimmed sunken eyes; those blue lips and bony hands—O my Father! that a woman should come to this, thought Rick Staples, whose big, loving heart would overflow in tender pity.

"Are you Dick?" the woman asked pleadingly, looking up into the gentle, boyish face as Rick told her he was going home with her.

"Yes, madam, Rick or Dick, as you choose, as my name is Richard."

"I knew I'd find you, Dick darling. And you look as you did in the old days, my boy. Before you ever came here to drink; you'll never come here again, will you, darling?" she asked eagerly as she tottered from the room, clinging to the strong young arm.

No, never, he answered unwaveringly. Those soft behind laughed at the sight of handsome Richard Staples gallanting a crazy ragged, (as they called the poor woman) through the streets, and one of them called out: "Wish you joy of your sweetheart, Rick!"

Rick threw back a glance of indignation, but did not condescend to speak with his lips.

"Tell me where you live, please?" he inquired as they reached the first corner. She told him, and, calling a cab, he lifted her in gently, and giving the directions to the driver, stepped in beside her. The driver soon turned aside from the wide, well-paved street and entered one narrow and foul and poorly lighted. There was light enough, however, to see that the court reeked with filth. The weary woman dropped to sleep before she reached her home, but as the carriage stopped she roused and said: "Such a good boy you are, Dick, looking up steadily."

"You are home now, let me help you out," he said.

"And you are home. Come, Dick," she said.

Whispering to the driver to wait a few moments, Rick followed the woman into the shrunken, gray tenement. Through the broad decayed looking hall he followed her. Two or three coarse looking sailors sat there chewing tobacco and talking to a frowny Irish woman, but although they looked their surprise at seeing a young gentleman in such quarters, and in such questionable company, no remarks were made until he had passed on up the stairs.

Rick's companion did not speak until she reached her attic room; then, pushing the only chair toward him, she said, with a glad cry, as she sank at the foot of a cot in one corner: "We're home again, thank God! you and I, darling Dick!"

Rick was in a dilemma. No problem in geometry or trigonometry had ever appeared so formidable to him as how to leave this poor broken hearted woman without bringing back to her eyes the terrible, agonized look which he had seen in them when she had asked so wildly, "Where is Dick?"

He had inferred from what he had seen that her husband had died a drunkard, and that that fact had overthrown her intellect. The thought occurred to him that he would get her to prepare some supper, and while she was doing it he would slip out of the room and inquire about here; perhaps some one would know. He suggested the idea to her, but she answered simply, "Are you hungry, child? Mother is so sorry, but I haven't a crust. Lie down on the cot, Dick, and sleep, and perhaps God will send us something in the morning."

"No, no; we'll have it to-night," he said, and he left the room. He found a German family one flight below, who were willing to send one of their boys up with wood for a fire and hand to Rick a bowl of soup for the liberal pay he offered. With his own hand Rick fed her the soup, and afterwards when she had peacefully fallen asleep he hired the little German woman from below to watch her, and entered the carriage for his boarding place. Rick had found out the woman's name, and while trying to enlist his landlady's sympathy in his new acquaintance she astonished him by saying she knew all about her former life. It is too terribly common and true a story to be repeated. But she wound up her recital by saying: "I don't wonder that her reason forsook her at the death of her idolized boy. Died in a drunken brawl. That beautiful boy! I can never forget his fair face, with the ugly cut across the temple, the golden hair, the glorious eyes closed forever. Rick, that boy looked strangely like you."

"Yes, I suppose so, from the fact of her taking me for him; and, Mrs. Fowler, since mother is dead, I shall be her son," Rick said earnestly.

"What do you mean, Rick Staples?"

"I mean that, with your permission, I will bring her here, if you will give her a sunny, pleasant room and the kind attention you know so well how to bestow. I will pay you well for all you can do for her, for I believe her race is almost run; and I cannot endure to spoil her blissful illusion that her Dick is found." Rick was actually sobbing, and his sobs seemed to be contagious, for Mrs. Fowler's voice was low and husky as she said, "God bless you, Rick Staples!"—*National Temperance Advocate*.

THERE are two ways of being happy—we may either diminish our wants or augment our means. The result is the same, and it is for each man to decide for himself, and to do that which may happen to be the easier.

Little things console us because little things afflict us.

## Peach Trees. Peach Trees.

## AT KENT COUNTY

## "POMONA NURSERIES."

We offer a full assortment of fruit trees and ornamental stock including plants, vines, and Evergreens at lowest living rates.

Send in your orders by mail.

Send for Price Lists.

BUTTERICK & WATTERSON,  
CASCADE, Kent Co., Mich.

## 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.

Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred,.....	75
Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary to keep accounts with members,.....	1 00
Blank Record Books, (Express paid),.....	1 00
Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound,.....	50
Receipt Book, containing 100 Receipts from Treasurer to Secretary, with stub, well bound,.....	50
Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound,.....	50
Applications for Membership, per 100,.....	50
Membership Cards, per doz.,.....	25
Withdrawal Cards, per doz.,.....	25
Dimits, in envelopes, per doz.,.....	75
By-Laws of the State Grange, single copies 10c, per doz.,.....	30
By-Laws, bound,.....	1 50
"Glad Echoes," with music, Single copy 15 cts. per doz.,.....	2 40
Rituals, single copy,.....	25
"per doz.,.....	2 40
for Fifth Degree, for Pomona Granges, per copy,.....	10
Blank "Articles of Association" for the Incorporation of Subordinate Granges, with Copy of Charter, all complete,.....	10
Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100,.....	40
Declaration of Purposes, per doz., 5c; per hundred,.....	40
American Manual of Parliamentary Law,.....	50
"Pomona Tuck,".....	1 00
Address of J. J. Woodman before the National Grange—per dozen,.....	20
Address of Thos. K. Beecher—per dozen,.....	10
Digest of Laws and Rulings,.....	40
Roll Books,.....	15

Address, J. T. COBB,  
Sec'y Mich. State Grange,  
SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

## MICHIGAN CENTRAL R. R.

DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO.

TIME-TABLE—MAY 15, 1882.

WESTWARD.

Accommodation leaves,.....	A. M. P. M.
" arrives,.....	4 55 9 25
Evening Express,.....	1 35
Pacific Express,.....	2 47
Mail,.....	1 13
Day Express,.....	2 36
Local Passenger,.....	9 18

EASTWARD.

Night Express,.....	A. M. P. M.
Accommodation leaves,.....	6 50
" arrives,.....	9 30
Mail,.....	11 40
Day Express,.....	1 28
New York Express,.....	7 37
Atlantic Express,.....	10 35

New York, Atlantic and Pacific Expresses daily. Evening Express west and Night Express east daily except Saturdays. All other trains daily except Sundays. Freight trains carrying passengers out from Kalamazoo as follows: No 29 (east) at 5:56 P. M., and No 29 (west) at 7:37 P. M.

H. B. LEITCH, Gen. Manager, Detroit.

J. A. GRIER, General Freight Agent, Chicago.

O. W. RUSSELL, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

## L. S. &amp; M. S. R. R.

KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE.

(Time 15 minutes faster than Kalamazoo.)

GOING SOUTH.

Le. Grand Rapids,.....	NY & CNY & B Express, Ex & M Way Fr.
Ar. Allegan,.....	8 00 AM 4 25 PM 6 00 AM
Ar. Kalamazoo,.....	9 17 " 5 40 " 8 10 "
Ar. Schoolcraft,.....	10 15 " 6 40 " 11 40 "
Ar. Three Rivers,.....	10 50 " 7 22 " 12 40 "
Ar. White Pigeon,.....	11 18 " 7 52 " 1 24 AM
Ar. Toledo,.....	11 45 " 8 20 " 4 50 "
Ar. Cleveland,.....	12 35 PM 9 05 AM 5 45 AM
Ar. Buffalo,.....	10 10 " 7 05 " 9 10 PM
	3 55 AM 1 10 PM 7 40 "

GOING NORTH.

Le. Buffalo,.....	NY & BNY & O Ex & M Express, Way Fr.
Ar. Cleveland,.....	12 45 PM 12 25 AM 3 50 PM
Ar. Toledo,.....	7 55 " 7 00 " 9 50 AM
Ar. White Pigeon,.....	12 01 AM 10 50 " 10 00 PM
Ar. Three Rivers,.....	6 00 " 3 40 PM 8 45 AM
Ar. Schoolcraft,.....	6 28 " 4 05 " 10 00 "
Ar. Kalamazoo,.....	6 55 " 4 34 " 12 10 "
Ar. Allegan,.....	7 30 " 5 05 " 1 40 PM
Ar. Toledo,.....	8 40 " 6 05 " 4 20 "
Grand Rapids,.....	10 00 " 7 25 " 8 10 "

All trains connect at White Pigeon with trains on main line.

A. G. AMSTADT,

Supt. Kalamazoo Division, Kalamazoo.

## CHICAGO &amp; GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Corrected Time-Table—November 1, 1882.

TRAINS WESTWARD.

STATIONS.	Mail and Express, No. 2.	Day Express, No. 4.	Pacific Express, No. 6.
Le. Port Huron,.....	6 10 AM	7 40 AM	7 55 PM
" Tully City,.....	7 18 "	8 48 "	9 03 "
" Lapeer,.....	7 42 "	9 10 "	9 22 "
" Flint,.....	8 00 "	9 35 "	10 05 "
" Durand,.....	9 03 "	10 27 "	10 35 "
" Lansing,.....	10 10 "	11 30 "	11 35 "
" Charlotte,.....	10 45 "	12 05 PM	12 10 AM
" Battle Creek,.....	12 00 PM	1 20 "	1 20 "
" Vicksburg,.....	12 45 "	2 07 "	2 06 "
" Schoolcraft,.....	1 00 "	2 15 "	2 17 "
" Cassopolis,.....	1 55 "	3 08 "	3 10 "
" South Bend,.....	2 42 "	3 50 "	3 58 "
" Chicago,.....	4 27 "	5 25 "	5 40 "
	6 50 "	7 45 "	8 00 "



## The Master's Address Before the State Grange 1892.

**Worthy Patrons and Members of the State Grange.**—The events of another year are now added to those which make up the history of the past and in obedience to the requirements of our constitution and established custom, we now meet in our tenth annual session to deliberate and devise means and measures to secure the ends we seek. We now have the history of the past year as well as the years that have gone before it to point the way to future efforts.

We meet under favorable auspices. The year now drawing to a close, is one of general and state prosperity. Unlike the preceding year no great calamity has afflicted us as a people. The earth has brought forth a fairly generous harvest, and while the afflicting hand has darkened many households yet good health has generally prevailed. For these and many other untold blessings we should render devout thanks to the author of all good.

Our Order was established, lives, moves and acts for the highest and grandest purposes known to the race. It is our duty and privilege to develop the agricultural resources of the country. Upon a proper discharge of this duty, not only our own welfare depends, but the prosperity of all others is intimately identified with it, and any means or efforts that will enhance our profits or increase our prosperity tends towards the good of all, and the pursuit of any course or policy that retards our progress or shackles our efforts will sooner or later react upon those engaged in other pursuits.

If the rules or laws which govern trade and commerce are of such a character that they bear in undue proportion upon the agricultural industries, it is our right, nay more our duty to devise means that will secure relief. Involved in this subject there is enough to challenge the closest attention of the wisest and best. To develop agriculture requires the united wisdom and efforts of all. It needs the social experiences and friction of ideas to stimulate thought. For this purpose our organization furnishes a grand opportunity.

It is also our unalterable purpose to adhere to our first and noblest declaration, and develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. We place upon our banner these great truths. "The farmer is of more consequence than the farm and should be first improved." To aid in the promotion of these and many other important objects this State Grange is now assembled. The members are entrusted with high and responsible duties. Through confidence in your ability, zeal and fidelity, your fellow members have for the time being delegated these important trusts to you. Experience and observation have convinced me that it is scarcely necessary to invoke patient and industrious application to the discharge of these duties.

But the short time allotted for the consideration of the various subjects that will come before you, induces me to call your attention to the fact that we must prosecute the business of the hour as speedily as practicable. We must not wait for business or matters to be referred to us but seek it, construct and present it to the body for action. Committees are under no obligation to wait for work to be referred to them. But they should originate and prepare for the body for deliberation and action. Sometimes time and opportunities are lost when these suggestions are not observed. With a view of aiding in the work of the session, I briefly present some of the subjects which usually come before the Grange for consideration.

## GENERAL CONDITION OF THE ORDER.

For a detailed statement of the receipts, disbursements and present condition of the State Grange treasury, you are referred to the reports of the Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee. These all exhibit a sound and prosperous condition. It is gratifying to notice the steady and healthy growth of the Order in the State, indicated by the increased receipts for fees and dues. Standing where I can to some extent survey the whole field, and overlook the Order all over the State, it affords me much pleasure to assure you that in all that makes up the solid virtue of greatness, the Order never stood better than it does to-day. It is not only increasing in numbers, but in knowledge, which is the power which moves the world. It is better understood by itself, and with this increased knowledge it entertains a higher estimate of itself and the calling in which its members are engaged. And while it still falls far short in numbers, education, force and power of what it should be, yet it is marching on and climbing upwards; and if the members, not only of this State Grange, but all members everywhere will live and work up to the high standard of principles enunciated in our Declaration of Purposes, an era of unexampled success is dawning upon us, and we shall live and grow on and on, securing blessings not only to ourselves but to the world. Earn something, and we can and will secure them. The great question that forces itself upon the attention of every ardent lover of the Grange, is how shall we feed the multitudes who now belong, and that are to be added to these in the future? What opportunities shall be afforded? What inducements placed within reach? What can be done to supply the crying demand for improvement and rational enjoyment? If a complete solution of these questions can be found our permanent success is assured. To its consideration your earnest attention is solicited. Bring to your aid the experience and observation of the years gone by. Examine and profit by the various reports adopted by the National Grange. Your attention is especially invited to the very practical suggestion contained in the report of the Committee on the Good of the Order of the

## NATIONAL GRANGE.

This body met in its sixteenth annual session in the city of Indianapolis, on the 15th of November. Thirty-two States were represented, a greater number than for some years previous. The full official report of its proceedings will be ready for distribution at as early a day as practicable.

The great questions affecting agriculture and the agriculturist were carefully considered. It would be strange indeed, if representative men and women, coming together from so wide an expanse of country, living under different local laws, and where different customs prevail, did not sometimes entertain diverse views upon questions of policy. Yet all were imbued with an earnest desire to promote the good and extend the usefulness of the Order. Under all circumstances sectional barriers are entirely obliterated, North, South, East and West are merged in one common country in this body.

Petitions for amendments to the Constitution of the National Grange were received and considered. The following were submitted to the State Granges for ratification: Amend Article one, Section one, by inserting after the word Grange in the second line

these words: *And such fourth degree members as may be elected as delegates thereto.* Amend Article one, Section three, by striking out the words, "A Past Master," where they occur in the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words: *Any fourth degree member in good standing.*

Under the existing provisions of the Constitution the State Grange is composed of Masters and Past Masters, and their wives who are Matrons.

If these amendments are ratified by three-fourths of the States, a State Grange that has reduced its representation may make provisions for the election of any fourth degree members as members of and delegates to the State Grange. States that have not reduced their representation may make provisions for the election of such fourth degree member as a substitute, where the Master for any reason is unable to attend the meeting of the State Grange. A careful consideration of these amendments is commended to this State Grange.

## EDUCATION.

As we pronounce or hear the word our thoughts involuntarily turn to the text book, the school house or college. It is with these the thought and word is associated. With it we connect the professional teacher. We have no desire to weaken or destroy this tendency of the mind, but we do desire to broaden, deepen and extend the education acquired in the schools so that it shall reach out over the practical affairs of life. To do this is the important task to be now assumed. We must draw out the latent energies of our people. We must educate ourselves and each other in regard to our own calling in such a manner as shall fit us for the high and responsible position of American farmers.

As an aid in this direction it has seemed to me that agricultural text-books may be introduced into the common schools with benefit. Truths learned in the impressive days of childhood are often retained long after those learned in later years are forgotten. Some of the States have introduced these books and it is claimed with success. If Michigan, noted for its progressive spirit in the line of education, cannot do this, why not?

We must also educate in regard to our rights, duties and privileges as citizens of the republic, so that we can bear the broad seal of citizenship with higher intelligence and greater fidelity. We can and ought to be the great moral conservators in the world. In order to fill this position we must educate, and continue to do so from childhood to old age and the grave. It is because we have not grasped the opportunities in the long years of the past that we have fallen behind in this respect, and have partially failed to reach and fill the places which nature and circumstances have assigned to us.

We must, and I believe can, to a good degree, shake off our lethargy and arouse our sleeping faculties. We must learn to be keen, careful and honest observers of men, their character, and of events. Here is where we often lack. Close observation will enlarge thought, remove prejudice and often furnish us with valuable facts upon which we can base wise and profitable action. Then educate to observe, and observe to educate. As we travel along the journey of life we can acquire knowledge by observation when it will not interfere with the discharge of other duties. A learned professor in a public lecture, recently delivered, desiring to impress the importance of careful observation upon his audience, related the following: "A lady took her first ride on the railroad. She traveled through city and town, through the country, over the hills and through meadow and woodland. Upon her return her friends asked her what she saw? She replied, nothing but a hay stack and that was going the other way." Let us profit by this neglect of opportunity. Let us see and retain. Stimulate thought in each other, observe stock, implements, and anything that pertains to home or farm.

In order to educate properly every Grange hall should be a school-house, where all are armed with a certificate of qualification to teach in some department, for surely our success or failure is to be measured to a great extent by the quantity and quality of the education we acquire and to the practical use we make of it in accomplishing results. As a co-laborer in this work of educating the farmers of the land,

## THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

occupies an important position. There are some things in the establishment and maintenance of this institution that we have reason to be extremely grateful for. One of these is that it is an agricultural college and not attached to any other institution. As we know more of the practical working of these institutions we more and more feel like commending the wise forethought that retained it as a separate institution. When connected with our great interest, they are much as a Grange would be with four-fifths of the members following other pursuits.

Our college is doing a good work. It is ennobling and elevating labor. It is educating young men for advanced positions on the farm and in the circle where they move. These students should and we believe will remember that these exalted opportunities place upon them grave responsibilities. They impose duties that cannot be carelessly shirked or evaded.

The series of institutes aided or conducted by the president and professors are of great value to the farmers of the State. Perhaps through the influence of these, similar institutes are being held in various parts of the State under the auspices of the county Grange. And in this connection I desire to call attention to the very elaborate program prepared for the winter's exercises by the brothers and sisters in Berrien county. We can afford to accord credit to the college for inaugurating this system of imparting instruction.

Now, while we award to this college a high meed of praise for what it has done and intends to do, yet there are some changes that seem to me to be desirable. Speaking for myself, (alone perhaps,) the suggestion is made that a new professorship should be added to those now existing. The very best possible method known to man of performing the practical work on a farm should be taught to the student. And a man of the greatest skill and knowledge should be employed to teach it. Teach the sciences by all means, but it requires practice to make perfect. As there is no prospect of an early adoption of the plan proposed we must look to the experimental farms for aid in this direction. New York and Ohio, and perhaps some other States have established these; from them good results must follow.

Facilities for the admission of girls to the college have been much discussed. If this college is to grow with the growth of the

State these must be afforded for instructing the daughters as well as the sons. If our civilization has a tendency in any direction it is to open up all of the avenues to woman on terms of equality with man. This college now occupies an anomalous position. To all other institutions of learning the doors are open to woman. If this college is to continue its prosperity the exception must close. Passing events seem to strongly indicate this.

A deep interest in the welfare of this school, as well as the partnership that has existed for years between it and the Grange, is my apology for these suggestions.

## THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Believing as we do that agriculture is the basis of individual and national prosperity in this country, we claim that it is the province of intelligent statesmanship to encourage this great industry in every legitimate way. At the session of the National Grange in 1876 the question of elevating the agricultural bureau or department to a cabinet position was introduced. At that time it occupied a very inferior position. It was and had been for years a sort of a burlesque upon agriculture. Thoughtful men desired its elevation to a position in keeping with the great interest it claimed to represent, or that it should be abolished entirely. As conducted it was a standing insult to the intelligence of the farmers of the country. From this condition of inferiority the Grange, National, State, and Subordinate, with great unanimity have undertaken to elevate it to high rank in the government.

This we have demanded in the interest of agriculture, and as a recognition of an industry so vast. An industry that furnishes a very large proportion of our immense exports abroad, an industry that builds and sustains railroads, and that does so much to cover our lakes, rivers, and old ocean itself with steam and sailing vessels, it seems to us should be placed in position to guard and advise that does so much for a nation is entitled to the highest consideration from and by it. Firmly convinced of this we have agitated this question with earnestness and efficiency that the House of Representatives of the present Congress was induced to pass a bill in harmony with our requests. This has now gone to the Senate where it will sleep the sleep of death unless forced upon the attention of senators by the people.

All legitimate means should be used to secure the passage of the measure. Those seeking this exalted position should be interrogated in regard to their views. This measure has sufficient merit to secure its passage if it can secure careful consideration by the Senate. Some opposition to it has arisen. Part of this has grown out of a misapprehension of the purpose of the measure, and partly out of an instinctive belief that doing anything for agriculture is small business anyway. While ours is one of the greatest agricultural nations on earth, yet in governmental recognition we fall far short of many others. We can imagine no good reason for this. A country like this, capable of producing almost anything that grows on the face of the earth, can be immensely benefitted in all of its varied interests by the appointment of a Secretary of Agriculture in the government itself. We trust that the objections will be overcome and the bill become a law and the position filled by a man of wisdom who is in sympathy with and has knowledge of the farmers of the whole country.

The present department has been elevated from the very low position it occupied prior to 1877. And it is a matter of profound regret that the present incumbent is not in harmony with the great body of the agriculturalists of the country. Whatever may have been the cause it is unfortunate. And the sooner a judicious change is made the better for all parties concerned. Want of confidence in the fitness of the commissioner impairs his usefulness. It has been hoped that he would place himself more in harmony with those he should serve or willingly give place to one who would.

## LEGISLATION.

There are many questions of public policy and matters of legislation upon which farmers differ widely. They differ upon the tariff, taxation, suffrage, and perhaps upon the absorbing question of prohibition, and many other subjects. But there are at least two important questions upon which we are all agreed. From ocean to ocean and from the lakes to the gulf we are in accord. The first of these is governmental control of transportation companies. If good reasons existed last year or the year before, these have been strengthened by the events of the past twelve months. Competition grows less and less available as a remedy. Control falls into fewer and fewer hands. By the exercise of an arbitrary power these men fix the value of farms and their products. Larger and larger become the fortunes of the railroad kings. More and more do these men deny the right of the public to protect itself. Yet, notwithstanding the opposition of these gigantic corporations, this will be done. Because, first, the power which these men wield cannot safely be surrendered by a free people. Secondly, because the rates which they adopt and change at pleasure are not based upon principles of justice, and under the infliction of injustice the public mind is and will continue to be restive until the cause is removed.

Under a government by the people and for the people wrong cannot become an established fact. In one way or another this menace to the best interests of the people will be removed. With the history of the world before them it is strange that these men do not invite the representatives of the people and invite such restrictive control as will protect their own interests and guard the rights of the public. But it seems to be hard for humanity to voluntarily surrender power. The Grange organization was the pioneer in the agitation of this question. The discussion has attracted the attention and enlisted the efforts of many other able and patriotic men all over the land. As an index to a fast crystallizing public sentiment I quote as follows:

"The New York Times in the discussion of this subject says 'They are not only absorbing to themselves the fruits of labor and the gains of trade, and piling up wealth in the hands of a few, but are controlling legislation and endeavoring to sway the decisions of courts in their favor. We are now at a stage in the contest where the people may vindicate their authority and place these corporations under the regulation of law.'

The Brooklyn Eagle says, 'There is a pretty general feeling that the continent of America was not discovered by Columbus and civil liberty established by the fathers of the Republic, to the end that 50,000,000 of people might be made tributary to a horde of railroad magnates, or that the farmers, artisans and merchants might by hard work and

keen competition raise up a dozen Vanderbilts with several hundreds of millions of dollars. Those who entertain this opinion have become persuaded that the time has come for the industrious masses to protect themselves if they ever intend to do so. In this contest every delay is to the disadvantage of the people. Let the issue be deferred for a few years and nothing but a revolution as violent as that of France will overthrow the oppression.'

The lamented patriot and statesman, James A. Garfield, in the discussion of this question said: "The modern barons, more powerful than their military prototypes, own our greatest highways and levy tribute at will upon all of our vast industries, and as the old feudalism was finally controlled and subordinated only by the combined efforts of the kings and the people of the free cities and towns; so our modern feudalism can be subordinated to the public good only by the great body of the people acting through the government by wise and just laws."

The Hon. J. H. Regan says: "The wishes of the people on this subject may be baffled and delayed, but when we consider the interests involved and that in all of the world's history so much of interest has not been left without the protection of law and to the mercy of a class of persons interested in levying the largest exactions on it, and when we consider the principles involved and the probable, nay the almost inevitable consequences to our liberties and form of government, I say to you in all seriousness that action by congress on this subject can not much longer be delayed."

I give to the sentiments of these extracts my unqualified approval. Every student of history, and close observer of passing events will readily perceive the necessity for the timely warning given. They are justified by surrounding circumstances; and we, representing the great national industry, should not fail to give emphasis to them. They should upon all proper occasions be pressed upon the attention of those who speak for us in the council of the nation. In the name of this great class of our people we make an urgent appeal to the law making power of the country not to delay action upon this subject; even though the action taken may not be perfect or even the wisest the ingenuity of man may devise, yet it is better to claim and exercise rights, than it is to even tacitly admit that the people have no rights that these corporations are bound to respect. It is not wise to delay action until the inevitable financial convulsion comes which may arouse a whirlwind that it will be hard to allay.

## PATENT RIGHTS.

Upon these questions we are agreed that legislation is demanded. Protection from the infliction of wrongs under our patent right law will only be secured through constant agitation of the subject. This question has been so generally discussed in National, State, County, and Subordinate Granges as well as by the press that only brief allusion will be made to it here. Your attention is directed to the discussion of the subject by the Master of the National Grange in his communication to that body at its late session.

Growing out of our efforts a bill has passed the House which it is believed will effect the required relief to innocent purchasers of patented articles. In the mean time strong and concerted opposition has arisen to the passage of this bill by the Senate.

Those who oppose it base their argument upon the ground that the farmers as its warmest advocates, desire to appropriate the skill and ingenuity of the inventor to their own use without making any compensation. This is the claim of Mr. Reed of Maine who led the opposition in the House. The same claim is supported by Mr. Singleton a patent right lawyer of Washington who has distributed his opinions broadcast east through the press of the country. Some kind of a scientific or literary association of Philadelphia has also taken a hand in the same direction.

Now all these men either ignorantly or wilfully misrepresent us. We expect to and do pay for the ingenuity that devises implements when we buy the thing devised. When we purchase an article we then and there buy and pay for the whole of it. And here the rights of the inventor should cease. And the laws should not and a just law will not allow its minions to be placed on the track of innocent purchasers for using their own. And we insist that a law that will permit a patentee to swoop down and see his device placed on the market and then drag the innocent purchaser into court and punish him as if he had been guilty of some great crime is an outrage upon common sense and justice. The present law opens wide the door for extortion and robbery. Laws to command the respect of the subject must be based upon principles of justice.

A law that inflicts injustice breeds contempt for all law, and that is one of the unfortunate results of this patent right law. But it will require constant and persistent effort to secure its amendment. We must urge Senators to give it attention and support. Ask members of the House who have done their duty in the matter to impress it upon the Senate. It is unfortunately true that most Senators see too little of their constituents except it may be once in six years. But we can secure the passage of this bill if we only will it.

## BUSINESS RELATIONS.

There has been no change in the agencies for the past year. The co-operative stores now in existence are believed to be doing well. Experience has taught us that these efforts require great care in their management. Where skill, industry and economy are exercised in all departments these enterprises have satisfied the expectations of those interested. In order to command success fidelity, skill and efficiency must be employed. Our agencies at Detroit and Chicago are in a good healthy condition. Perhaps not patronized as liberally as they might be with profit to all parties concerned.

We might save more in the sale of products and purchase of supplies really without harm to any other interest. If we save money in this manner we have the more to increase our purchases, and in this way increase our demand upon manufacturers and merchants.

A system of distribution of some varieties of goods from the Grange halls has been adopted with general satisfaction. The Maryland State Grange has carried business co-operation to as great an extent as any other. Their agency in the city of Baltimore has distributed over \$800,000 to the Patrons of that State within the past year. Their plan is similar to the Rochdale, but they have facilities not enjoyed by all, more limited territory, concentrated population, and one general central market.

The Executive Committee will make a full report in regard to the plaster arrangements. By it we are still assured of cheap plaster.

By our efforts in the past we have saved more to the Patrons of the State in this one line than the entire cost of the Order in the State since its organization. I need not caution the members to adhere to this new arrangement with the same fidelity that they did to the old one made with our esteemed Brothers, Day & Taylor. Self interest dictates that we should do so.

## DORMANT GRANGES.

It affords me pleasure to assure you that we have less of these than we had a year ago. Some have been revived. Some consolidated with live Granges. Eight new Granges have been organized during the year. This is a greater number than in any one year within the past five. In our efforts to extend the Order and revive dormant Granges we have been embarrassed by several unavoidable circumstances.

Based upon the recommendation of the last State Grange the Executive Committee placed \$750 subject to my order for the purpose of prosecuting the work. Arrangements were made with our very able Worthy Lecturer to take the field and make a protracted effort to revive and strengthen the Order. We had hoped and expected much from the efforts of our eloquent Brother. But the heavy hand of sickness was laid upon him and for the entire year he has been unable to labor for a cause he loved so well. Circumstances have prevented my responding to very many of the calls made upon me. But by leaving my home at midnight and returning in the small hours of the following night, have been able to reach many accessible points.

I have appointed several special deputies in different localities, who have done good work. On the 14th of April Brother John Holbrook was appointed a General Deputy. I believe his efforts have been crowned with a good degree of success. Brother Thomas Moore has performed efficient service for the Order. Of the amount appropriated \$425 has been expended. What course shall be pursued in regard to this work the ensuing year is for you to determine.

## THE GRANGE VISITOR.

This has become a household word in the Order all over the State, and with a high reputation for candor courage and fidelity outside of it. Fortunate indeed has it been for us that we early established an organ, and still more fortunate that it has been conducted with prudence and wisdom.

The developments of the past year have proved it to have been of great value. Its future will come before you for consideration. Care and wisdom will doubtless guide your action.

## FIRE SUFFERERS.

I desire in this public way to acknowledge the fraternal kindness of members of the Order living in 13 of the States, that prompted them to contribute of their means to relieve the wants of brothers and sisters who suffered by the terrible fires in 1881, and to assure the donors that they are not forgotten and that their generosity is appreciated not only by those assisted but by the Order throughout the State.

## IN CONCLUSION.

Permit me to remind you that our organization grew out of, and is based upon the necessities of husbandry. In our advancing civilization nature or the ingenuity of mankind provides means to supply every great demand. We come to supply a great want. The task that we have assumed is no child's play or holiday exercises.

To accomplish our purposes we must learn to labor, and often to wait patiently for results. We must also learn to sacrifice ease, comfort, and money at times for the general good. We must at all times remember that we live in an age and country where no great results are produced without organization and concert of action, and that if we are to conquer success and command the blessings of earth and of heaven we must place ourselves in position to do so, and that this at times implies the surrender of self and selfish purposes. We must also remember that we are not only to judge ourselves, but to be judged by others more by what we do than by what we profess. The fathers and mothers of the Order have given us foundation principles as pure and perfect as it is possible for human ingenuity to devise. It is for us, and those who shall come after us to build and sustain wisely upon this foundation.

I am rejoiced to know that we are more and more attracting the attention, and enlisting the efforts of the young and ambitious. This is a hopeful sign, for we are repeatedly admonished that the veterans are constantly passing away. Younger members with equal zeal must come to the front and take up the tasks so well begun. To this end the best efforts of all are earnestly invoked.

C. G. LUCE.

## The Olive Branch.

Hon B. C. Harrison, of Alabama, submitted to the National Grange, when near the close of the late session, the following beautiful sentiments that had unanimous approval:

WHEREAS, This Order must derive its strength and support from the practice of the virtues that give it character, and especially as it exemplifies charity that vaunteth not itself, and

WHEREAS, Its membership is gathered from the various portions of the Union, whose people may commingle with cold regard while jealousies exist or evil words are lightly dropped, and

WHEREAS, We would allay all bitterness, and aid in bringing the era of perfect peace by good words and deeds, moved by the spirit of kindness, that will not permit evil speech or act, therefore

Resolved, That when we return to our respective homes, as in our intercourse here: kindness, charity and fraternal regard shall rule our lives, to the end that peace may establish her benignant reign in the hearts of men throughout the broad Union; that in this way only the Order may attain its highest glory and power to bless our race.—Husbandry.

VERY CROOKED—The crookedest of crooked work, and yet that which has grace and elegance in every crook, may be seen in the Noyes Dictionary Holders and Noyes Handy Tables. In them the fact is clearly demonstrated that if the inventor had not made the crooked straight, he has made the straight crooked, and thereby increased its beauty and utility. People in search of holiday presents will appreciate his success. A fine illustrated circular may be had free by addressing L. W. Noyes, 99 West Monroe St., Chicago. The prices have been greatly reduced.



## Youths' Department.

### THE WANDERER'S RETURN.

"Who lies here fainting by the way?  
Is there no rest for that head so gray?  
But turt all wet with dew?  
'Tis almost night and my house is near;  
Come mount to the seat beside me here;  
My wife, I'm sure, has a word of cheer  
And a bite of food for you."

"What though a lodging you cannot buy?  
'Gainst those less lucky in life than I,  
We never shut our door."  
"I thank you, sir, for your offer kind,  
But I cannot rest 'til news I find  
Of the children twain I left behind,  
When I sought the Western shore."

"Why did I leave them? Perhaps he knows,  
Who aside a precious jewel throws  
To seek for worthless dross.  
Mine is a story that's often told;  
My wife had died and my farm was sold,  
And I saw afar the gleam of gold,  
And followed it to my loss."

"They could not write me, they were too young;  
And may be they lie the dead among;  
It makes my eyes grow dim;  
Know you my Nelly, my girl so fair?  
(I lived in that brown house over there;  
My blue-eyed Henry, with curling hair,  
Can you tell me aught of him?)"

"What, Henry Lee? Then I knew your son;  
I honor the father of such a one  
Of soul and face so fair."  
The smile from the old man's visage fled.  
"You knew my Henry, not know, you said,  
O, do not tell me my son is dead,  
For that I could not bear."

"The truth is kinder than any lie,  
And bravely and nobly did he die,  
And on a famous day:  
We heard the calling for volunteers;  
Together, spite of onerous years,  
In spite of our loved ones' prayers and fears,  
We marched for the field away."

"Together we ate, drank, and slept,  
And over our fallen comrades wept,  
(We were but boys, you know);  
And out we sallied from old Norwalk;  
Into Newborn together we broke;  
Together we fought 'mid shot and smoke,  
Till a bullet laid him low."

"For, as we stood on the river banks,  
He suddenly drew me from the ranks,  
And thrust himself before,  
Where a well-aimed rebel bullet sped;  
He shielded me from the fatal lead,  
But it pierced that gallant heart instead,  
And your Henry was no more."

"And over his form fast flowed my tea,  
I could not echo my comrades' cheers,  
Though, 'neath the sunset bars,  
Along the river, whose green banks smile  
Up and down for many a mile,  
Where floated the rebel flag ere while,  
Floated the Union stars."

"But though of a noble son bereft,  
Your Nelly, your daughter, yet is left,  
As fair as fair may be;  
My house is yours for the rest of your life,  
And freed are you from all care and strife,  
For little Nelly is now my wife;  
So, father, come home with me."

A Gleamer.

### True Culture.

True culture cannot be acquired alone by a fine education, a good position in society, or extensive knowledge of foreign countries obtained by travel, but all united, aid us in acquiring it. To become cultured we should not only improve our bodies, but also our minds, to the highest state of perfection. But only too often we see the young lady or gentleman who thinks to be refined is only to possess soft white hands, pretty complexions, and a fine form, enveloped in becoming garments. This is all right and proper, for the body is the home of the soul, and our Maker expects us to beautify it with the abundance of material he has placed at our disposal; but let us look at the mind, which is the innermost chamber where dwelleth the germ of life. Surely we should make an extra effort to beautify the sacred precincts of the home of our future life and eternal happiness. Should we fill our house with beautiful furniture, hang rich and costly pictures upon the gilded walls, and arrange everything with the greatest care, yet have one room, the parlor, destitute of furniture, or, perhaps a few broken chairs, a rickety table containing a few dilapidated books, and some soiled pictures hanging from loose hooks in the smoky walls, people would think we were crazy or destitute of sense, and avoid our society. But how many are doing the same thing with their spiritual house? they cultivate the grace for the outward form, and neglect the mind, from whose source all actions find birth, and upon which we depend for our conversational powers to attract and instruct our associates. Can we expect water when the fountain is dry, or food when the larder is empty? If our friend ask of us bread, shall we give him a stone, or a fish and we give him a serpent? Surely we can do naught else if we have not furnished ourselves with proper material to fill the storehouse of our minds, that out of the abundance we may at any time give to those who ask according to their need. Hence, true culture consists in liberally educated intelligence, combined with innate purity and natural refinement, and is obtained by association with the works of the best authors, and a commingling in the society of educated and refined men and women.

Abigail Adams, wife of the second President of the United States, is an illustrious example of true culture and refinement. Though a woman, she proved in herself how potent an individual may be, in spite of cast or sex, or the restrictions of human law or existence. She never attended school in her life, yet her thoughtful utterances will live when the labored speeches of her scholarly husband are forgotten. She will ever exist in memory as a grand model to all who succeed her. So kind and thoughtful was

she in all her deportment, that the most timid was at once put at ease, and the bashful found confidence to converse without fear.

Dr. Johnson was a highly educated person, and possessed unusual literary ability, yet he lacked culture and refinement.

Thus we find education and travel accessories to, but not culture itself. Culture is that element of mind and heart which gives the possessor ease without prominence; influence without obtrusion; dignity, without stiffness; and gracefulness without an effort. A person of education and culture never seeks prominence, but is ever ready to converse on such themes as will put every one at ease and help the bashful to overcome their timidity. He never watches for opportunities to show his superior knowledge, but when he does speak, to say what he wishes in the best chosen words and elegant phrases. The art of being able to converse with ease and without apparent effort is possessed only by few, though it may be attained by all, by the close application to the study of words, their meaning and etymology, and observation of the way in which they are used by others. Good conversational powers are valued beyond the highest musical ability. Let us all therefore seek to achieve this, for though we may not be able to travel or obtain a polished education, we may possess the true refinement and culture, and should an opportunity occur, though placed in the most humble position in life, we may entertain the most distinguished persons with as much ease as a society belle.

SWEET BRIAR.

Dec. 3, 1882.

### Dancing—From the Dark Side

Aunt Nina:—Is any one allowed the chance of speaking twice? If so I want to come and defend myself against some of the cousins, for they have very evidently misconstrued my letter so that it seems very different from what I intended it should.

I like Fred Spaulding very much and think what he says about intemperance and dancing going hand in hand is no more than the truth, for at any public ball there is sure to be more or less drunkenness and liquor, and oftener more than it is less, and while I am speaking of public balls allow me to say to "Critic" that I know of a case only a few seasons ago where dances were held three times a week at one hall. I did not attend these dances, but my sister did, as did also many of my friends, and this was not in a "large city" either.

Now "Critic" I did not say not go any where but to Grange, for I go to ever so many places besides and I do not go to "kissing parties" either, where people go puffing and chasing around the room and tearing one another's clothes for the sake of a kiss from one they would be degraded to dance with.

I could tell Critic of a case which I know to be a fact, and just such an one as Fred makes mention of, only the victim was an only daughter, the pride and idol of her parents and admired and loved by all her friends. Now she is a degraded outcast from society and the very man who first asked her to dance, and from that hour planned for her ruin, will not now stoop to speak to her. This I know came from dancing.

There is a fascination about dancing, but I cannot see any thing entertaining or refining about kissing parties, nor can I see from what point the cousins argue that all those who do not dance attend these parties.

Fred, S. you have not given us your age. Will you please do so?

"Labor calls; I must obey,  
And come again another day."

PRETTY-BY-NIGHT.

[Although as we have said the subject of dancing has been generally canvassed, yet we print the letter from Pretty-By-Night, because, as she says, she wishes to defend herself. We judge of things from our observations, and Pretty seems 'o have seen the worst side, while others see only the better. We know she thoroughly believes what she says, but we don't think it will change the opinion of those who see no harm in dancing. Please write us again on some other subject.—AUNT NINA.]

### Company Manners.

Good manners do not consist in obedience to any set of rules, and the absolute uselessness of manuals of etiquette in forming even their rudiments is due to the fact that their very essence is adaptability. What we call "company manners" suggests an unpleasant vision of a thin veneer of conventional politeness, through which ignorance and vulgarity are plainly visible. The reason of this, however, is not that there is any innate impurity in one's behavior, but that, unfortunately, the assumption of ceremonious courtesy is with many people so rare an effort that it has all the awkward stiffness of an infrequent and unfamiliar impersonation. The general notion that a perfectly polite person is exactly the same in all companies, is not tenable for a moment, as there are actions which would be the height of ill breeding, in one place, and the very essence of courtesy in another. Indeed the difference between good manners and "company manners" is the one is the natural expression of ordinary courtesy, self-control, and knowledge of the world, while the other is an effort made for some temporary purpose, or to bring one's self into harmony with unusually difficult surroundings. Extra pains taken for this purpose is highly commendable in principle; but those who make the effort rarely are apt to do it awkwardly, and so have brought the endeavor itself into disrepute.

In one of Mrs. Gaskell's most charming

stories, there is an old lady who is a typical member of the ancienne noblesse, aristocratic, refined and fastidious to the extreme point. Her perfect manners are founded on the truest nobility of nature, and it happens in the course of the story that she sees occasion somewhat to relax her fastidious exclusiveness, and to admit, as evening guests, a worthy couple whose birth and breeding are not equal to their merit. On tea being handed around, one of these guests, who has never before partaken of the meal, except when seated at a solid table, is embarrassed by having to hold her cup, and having, further, no plate for bread and butter, she spread a large handkerchief over her lap to catch the falling crumbs. The other, better born if not better bred, visitors giggled among themselves, but Lady Ludlow, the hostess, silenced them by drawing out her own handkerchief and spreading it upon her knee to prevent her guest from discovering that her action is the source of the mirth about her. It is such manners as Lady Ludlow's that Mr. Tennyson means when he calls them "not idle, but the fruit of noble minds," and he has given an example of such when Geraint, the chivalrous knight, saw his fair lady about to lead away and groom his horse. His instinct was, of course, to prevent her, but on her father's explaining the case, we are told that—

Reverencing the custom of the house,  
Geraint, from utter courtesy, forbore.

Now, while it will hardly be denied that the actions of Lady Ludlow and of Prince Geraint were the perfection of courtesy, it would be dangerous to lay down, as an axiom, that drinking tea with a lap protected by an outspread handkerchief, or sitting in a hall while a young lady groomed your horse, could possibly be consistent with conventional politeness. They are instances of company manners, dignified by that tenderness for the feelings of others which is the root of good breeding, and that ready adaptability which is its flower. It is well known that Louise XIV., that martinet in all matters of etiquette, pointed out as the politest man in his dominions, an Englishman, who entered the royal carriage before the king, in obedience to the "Apres vous, Monsieur," of his majesty.

It must be admitted that the company manners assumed by some worthy people, with the best intentions, are little short of insulting to their friends. What is to be done with a hostess who, though she may be the most comfortable motherly soul in every day life, transforms herself into an intolerable bore in society, by her endeavor to talk only of such subjects as she imagines interesting to her guests, without any consideration as to whether she understands them or not? A person of this kind will talk of art to an artist, or literature to an author, foreign countries to a traveler, with the most sublime indifference, and will feel recompensed for the tedium of the task, by the conviction that she has done her duty—an amelioration of her misery which by no means extends to her victim. Then there are good hospitable people who embitter every mouthful swallowed by their guests, with apologies that their fare is not more costly, or better prepared, while at the same time they profess to feel injured that more of it is not eaten than a merely human digestion can assimilate. Almost worse even than these are the old-fashioned entertainers, whose "company manners" consist in never laying down for a second the burden of entertainment who apologize if for a single minute you are not talking, or eating, or looking at "photographs," or in some visible manner "enjoying yourself." All these brings us to the conclusion that ignorance is the chief cause of ill breeding, and we can scarcely look for an improvement in the much censured manners of modern society, while politeness is so little studied in domestic life. When custom ceases to allow the careless rudeness which marks the behavior of brother to sister, the total absence of ceremony between husband and wife, and of respect between child and parent we may hope to find, with the elevation of our daily standard, a quicker perception in discerning, and a more graceful readiness in forestalling the wishes of those whom we desire to please.—Home Journal.

### The Christmas St. Nicholas.

The great holiday number comes laden with its reasonable freight of mirth and good cheer; and chiefest among its special features is a Christmas story, by Louisa M. Alcott, entitled "Grandmother's Pearls."

Other timely features are, first, the bright, colored frontispiece by B. Birch, a new scene, with children, pony, and dogs, and an unmistakable Christmas flavor. Then there is a graphic account of a long dog sled journey on Lake Winnipeg, capably illustrated by Fanny; a Christmas poem of Nora Perry; and a clever short story, "The Christmas Fairies," that is a true story as well. Malcolm Douglas contributes a pathetic little Christmas tale; and two pages are given to the words and music of a simple but tuneful "Christmas Carol."

Besides the foregoing, there is much that is not a whit less attractive just because it does not happen to be more appropriate to Christmas than to any and every season. The beginning of "The Story of the Field of the Cloth of Gold," for instance; a charming tale, weaving in, most delightfully, the principal incidents of the famous meeting of the Kings in the Golden Valley. "Mary and her Garden," a six-page poem, written by Eva L. Ogden, engrossed, and beautifully illustrated by Alfred Brennan, which deals with some little-known adventures of contrary Miss Mary. An amusing "Alphabet of Children," with a jingle and a picture for each letter. A quaint and highly original fairy tale, by Frank R. Stockton, who also contributes another installment of "The Story of Vibeau."

J. T. Trowbridge's serial, "The Tinkham Brothers' Tide-mill," is also continued, with three chapters of accumulating interest.

In addition to all these is an article on whale-hunting in Japan, by William Elliot Griffiths, and "The Discovery of the Mammoth," by C. F. Holder, with a startling picture by James C. Beard.

The entire number, including the "Departments," is copiously and handsomely illustrated by the cleverest designers for children.

SANTA Claus is said to be putting in a large stock of Noyes Dictionary Holders and Noyes Handy Tables among his holiday presents for this year. This is well. No more appropriate and acceptable presents can be made at so small a cost. The prices are greatly reduced. A large illustrated circular will be sent free on application to L. W. Noyes, 99 West Monroe St., Chicago.

### Fighting About Trifles.

What a world of trouble, time, and nerve irritation would be saved, if boys, and men too, would learn to never mind trifling annoyances. Only the other day (says a contemporary) we overheard one boy telling another what a third boy had said about him and urging him to "flick him." "On," said the second boy, "isn't worth mentioning. He knows it ain't so, and I won't stoop to his level by taking any notice of it." We inwardly thought, that's a very wise head on young shoulders. It reminded us of two men, one of whom started on a foot journey of 150 miles or so. Two days later the other man followed on the same road, and on the fourth day overtook the first one. The latter remarked, "this is the worst and slowest road I ever traveled. There is the greatest lot of snarling, barking little dogs I ever saw, and it has taken half my time to drive them off." "Why," said the second man, "I didn't pay any attention to them, but came right along as if they weren't there." Half the time of many boys and men is wasted in fighting trifles. A certain circuit judge was always sure of meeting some cutting or sneering remarks from a self-conceited lawyer when he came to a certain town in his rounds. This was repeated one day at dinner, when a gentleman present said, "Judge, why don't you squelch that fellow?" The judge dropped his knife and fork, and placing his chin upon his hands, and his elbows on the table, remarked, "Up in our town a widow woman has a dog that, whenever the moon shines, goes out upon the steps and barks, and barks away at it all night." Stopping short, he quietly resumed eating. After waiting some time, it was asked, "Well, judge, what of the dog and the moon?" "Oh, the moon kept on shining," he said.

### Extreme Legal Solitude.

A noted black-lettered lawyer of the reign of William III., Serjeant Maynard, left a will purposely worded in obscure terms. His object was to cause litigation, so that the courts might settle certain points which had often vexed him in his practice. The learned lawyer evidently felt that he owed something to his profession, and was willing that his estate should pay the debt.—Youth's Companion.

Gossip is a sort of smoke that comes from the dirty tobacco pipes of those who diffuse it; it proves nothing but the bad taste of the smoker.—George Eliot.

The loveliest faces are to be seen at moonlight, when one sees half with the eye and half with the fancy.—Bovee.

### THE REAPER DEATH.

DAVIS—Died, Oct. 1st, 1882, at her residence in the township of Ogden. JANE DAVIS, after a long and painful illness in the 47th year of her age. Sister DAVIS was a worthy member of Fairfield Grange No. 278. She leaves a kind and affectionate husband, one daughter and two sons to mourn her loss.

JORDAN—Died Oct. 2d, 1882, at his residence in the township of Ogden. EDWARD A. JORDAN in the 65th year of his age. Bro. JORDAN was a worthy member of Fairfield Grange, No. 278, elected as its first Master, followed by a re-election and for several years was its most faithful Lecturer.

GLEASON—For the third time has the angel death invaded Home Grange, No. 129, and taken a worthy member; Brother A. E. GLEASON. Brother GLEASON was a prominent member since the organization of Patrons of Husbandry in Calhoun County, and has filled many places of influence as Lecturer, Secretary, etc. Then, as Worthy Master for three successive years. Resolutions of respect for the deceased and of sympathy with the bereaved family were passed by the Grange, and are there recorded.

MCPHERSON—WHEREAS, It has pleased our Divine Master to take from us Brother L. L. MCPHERSON, a worthy member of Vergennes Grange, therefore

Resolved, That in his death this Grange has lost an earnest, faithful worker, one always prompt to perform any duty assigned him. He was the first to respond to the call for an original essay, and the first to offer resolutions for establishing a library in this Grange, and when the Great Master called he was ready to go.

Resolved, That we extend to the bereaved wife and other sorrowing friends our heartfelt sympathy.

LOWING—WHEREAS, Our brother, MARION LOWING, of Georgetown Grange, has been removed from our midst by the hand of death, therefore be it

Resolved, That we tender to the bereaved parents, brother and sisters of our deceased friend, our heartfelt sympathy in so sore and timely an affliction; and be it further

Resolved, That though with them we mourn his loss in our midst, and fully realize the hopes and ambitions which have been crushed and stricken out by this early call to his Father's house; yet the experience of even the most successful in this struggle for the achievements of man's highest ambitions, has resulted, with few exceptions, in a summing up of unsatisfactory results.

Therefore, Let us hope that our loss has been his gain, and that what has been cut short in his young life here, has but lengthened an eternity of bliss beyond the grave.

TIMMS—Resolutions adopted by Hillsdale County Grange, on the death of DANIEL TIMMS, who died at his home in Moscow, October 27. The Divine Master, the reaper of life's harvest, still continues to gather in His golden sheaves, and among those called to labor in the great Grange above is our worthy Brother, DANIEL TIMMS, a member of Hillsdale Pomona Grange.

WHEREAS, The wife has lost a kind and devoted husband; a community an exemplary citizen, and the Grange a worthy and consistent member, therefore

Resolved, That we unite in expressing our heartfelt sympathy for the bereaved sister in this her great affliction—that our hall and charter be draped in mourning for sixty days, these resolutions be placed on the records of our Grange, a copy be presented to Sister Timms, also to the GRANGE VISITOR and county papers.

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