

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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The Grange Visitor

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Michigan Crop Report, February 1, 1883.

For this report returns have been received from 822 correspondents, representing 645 townships. Five hundred and seventeen of these returns are from 374 townships in the southern four tiers of counties. Horses, cattle, sheep and swine are in healthy, thrifty condition. In answer to the question, "Has wheat during January suffered injury from any cause?" 694 correspondents answer, "No," and 31, or about 1 in 23, answer "Yes." A number of those answering "Yes" express fear that the plant will be smothered by the snow, which in some localities is of great depth; others state that it was injured during the open freezing weather of the early part of January. On the first of February the ground was well covered with snow in all parts of the State, except perhaps in St. Clair, Macomb, Wayne and Monroe counties, where the depth ranged from two to four inches. The price of all grades of wheat was higher on the first day of February than on the first day of January. Reports have been received of the quantity of wheat marketed by farmers during the month of January at 296 elevators and mills. Of these 243 are in the southern four tiers of counties, which is about one-half the whole number of elevators and mills in these counties. The total number of bushels reported marketed is 1,121,926, of which 243,341 bushels were marketed in the first or southern tier of counties; 295,519 bushels in the second tier; 130,241 bushels in the third tier; 270,357 bushels in the fourth tier; and 182,468 bushels in the counties north of the southern four tiers. At 49 elevators and mills, or 17 per cent of the whole number from which reports have been received, there was no wheat marketed during the month. The total number of bushels reported marketed in the six months, August-January, is 7,759,029.

Agricultural Department.

THE FARMERS.

The following verses by Mrs. E. P. S. Bradner of Rockford were read at the farmers' institute at Farmington, January 19.

Why gather we here a farmer band?
What do we seek in this open hall?
Is it power of state to govern a land?
Or power of purpose to disenfranchise
A people, a calling we all love well?
But why should the farmer be in thrall?
Is not his calling the best of all?
From God's own hand his signet came;
No man can better grander claim:
Then why should he be in thrall?
Then why is it humble? Way do ye bow
Ye men of labor who follow the plow?
You, who may under the broad sky stand,
With brow uncovered and outstretched hand,
In presence of Nature and Nature's God,
To bless the Maker who blesses the soil,
Dare never to bow the head or knee
To mortal man whoever he be.
However high in power or state
Manhood and truth alone make great,
Ignorance dims the loftiest brow
And thralldom the mind that owns its power;
Knowledge alone can from its sway
Free and restore their manly dower.
Knowledge makes great! See the man who
knows
The work which his mind is set to do!
No matter how humble, you cannot turn
His thoughts from the task 'till the work
be through.
The merchant needs little of general knowl-
edge;
Little of science suffices for trade;
Only of stocks, of day-books and ledgers
Daily his thoughts and his accounts are
made.
The lawyer lays claim to great stores of learn-
ing,
Yet even the lawyer but little may know
When compared to the needs of the humblest
farmer,
Who must plow and must plant, must reap
and must sow.
For the farmer needs master the many arts:
Should master the sciences, every one:
For the arts and the sciences daily
Into his labors and life must come,
In tilling the soil, in growing the grain,
In plowing and harvest and gathering in,
In dew-drop and sunlight and falling rain,
And in all of wealth that around him spring.
Oh! grand is the field the farmer treads;
(Tien let him grandly walk therein);
And bright is the furrow that follows his plow
When the light of science over it sheds
The halo of beauty that's dawning now.
On minds that are rousing from slumbering
long,
At the call of knowledge, which bids them
awake
And haste to the feast that is spread for all,
Of which young and old may alike partake;
To come to the fountains of bursting light,
Where sparkles in beauty the living truth,
And drink of the waters that banish the night
Of ignorant darkness from age and from
youth.
Oh, rich is the field the farmer treads
When science's fair light illumines the way;
With brow uncovered and bended head
Let him, with reverence, bless the day.
She opens to him the arcania grand,
Where Nature her hidden secrets hold
In sacred trust, till thinking mind
Reveals their light to the student bold.
And paints with brighter lines the rose,
And tins anew each humble flower,
And gilds each tiny thing that grows,
The dew-drop and the falling shower;
And makes a messenger of all
That walks or springs beside his way,
To call his thoughts from drudging toil
And lead him to the coming day.
When side by side in every station
Where strength and might and mind need
be,
Beside the highest in the nation,
As high and strong and grand is he,
Honest and honored, with unshamed brow,
Shall stand the man who follows the plow.

Against Orchard Grass.

BY A. D. P. VAN BUREN.

So much has been said in favor of the grass of late, that I have been trying to find some reliable information, if there was any, on the other side of the question. Orchard grass grows rapidly, sometimes an inch in twelve hours. This is unfavorable to it, as food for stock, as a plant that grows so fast is more difficult to cure. This fact has led me to give the subject some attention, and I found the adage that "a plant that grows in a day dies in a day," true when applied to it. It grows better in the shade, hence its broad and tender leaves and rank stems, are less hardy, and when cut soon blanch out, losing much of their substance; and where the swath lies a few inches thick it will turn black within, and soon begin to rot. It is impossible to cure it as you do herds grass or clover. It must be spread out thin, and dry soon and be gathered into the barn or it will spoil, and even when dry, it has lost much of its nutritious quality in the drying, and is not as good food for cattle as any other of our grasses. Because cattle like to eat it when green does not prove it to

be better when made into hay. In proof of this view I hereby give the following facts from Mr. John McDowell of Washington county, Pa. in a statement published in the New York Tribune. That paper says:

Stirred by recent statements in the Tribune of favorable experience with orchard grass, Mr. McDowell submits the following strongly adverse view, based on a long and expensive trial: "The former owner of the farm of which I have been in possession twenty-eight years, misled by just such puff-balls, had nearly all of his more than 500 acres seeded to this grass, but soon finding it of little value for stock he commenced a war of extermination, which is vigilantly kept up by myself. I dislike to leave it in the fence rows to where it was banished. I know from long observation that sheep will fall away in condition if closely confined to it; cattle and horses will eat it, but, like sheep, soon prefer any other kind of grass. If cut early in the season and cured the same day (which is almost impossible), the hay even then is no better than wheat straw. If cut and left in the swath over night, every heavy bunch, whether it is rained on or not, will stink badly. When such is dried out it will make great bulk, little weight, and, I was about to say, give no nutrition. The growth of orchard grass in our country is very rapid and rank; I will not say luxurious for it is no luxury. It is true it will grow nearly one inch in a night's time out of the cut stubble. A very rapid growth of any kind of grass is unfavorable to fattening stock. One of my neighbors, who owns a larger farm than mine, makes a yearly practice of going through all his fields grubbing out the few scattered bunches that spring up here and there from some stray seed. It always grows in bunches."

The Agriculture of the Future.

That agriculture has made great progress in the past 20 or 30 years in the United States, is undeniable, but there have been two serious obstacles in the way of the progress that should have been attained. The difficulty of bringing new land into cultivation whenever by repeated cropping and wasteful, slovenly culture, the old lands were exhausted, and the want of intelligence and practical education among the great mass of cultivators. Both these obstacles are likely very soon to be removed. As it is, we drop down a log that too soon from 30 to 35 bushels of wheat to the acre to 10 or 12 bushels, and our lands, which when new yielded their 50 to 75 bushels of corn, or 300 or 400 bushels of potatoes to the acre come much too readily to a crop of 25 or 30 of the former and 80 or 90 of the latter.

Even the rich prairie lands of Illinois or the still deeper and richer soil of California speedily ceases to respond liberally to the slovenly cultivation which merely scratches the surfaces and does not return to the soil any of the elements which it has taken from it. Yet, so wide is our territory, so fertile our lands, and so various our climate, that it will be perhaps a half-century before, even with the careless and indifferent tillage of the present time we should find our population trenching upon the boundaries of subsistence. If we will but be wise in time, this need never be, but if we keep on taking the elements of plant food from the soil and returning none of them to it, we shall find with each year a constantly advancing barren desert.

We shall be compelled to draw our food from greater and greater distances, till finally the whole breath of the continent will become desolate like that broad waste which now extends from the Jordan eastward to the Strydaria and Amooarya in central Asia, comprising what were for ages the most fertile lands of the earth.

To avoid such a fate, it is necessary not only to drain, till and manure the soil bountifully, irrigating it where necessary, but to restore the forests as far as possible, especially on the prairies and wide treeless plains of the central basins, should trees be planted by millions, trees of quick growth, and trees which will attain a lofty height, by means of these the rains may be restored to their now parched and desolate lands, will be enabled now, as they did 800 or 1,000 years ago, to sustain a vast and prosperous population. The old wastes will again be inhabited, and the thirsty soil drinking in the rains and dews; will become like Eden for beauty and productivity. Stock raising is likely to be for some

years to come, a favorite occupation with many of our farmers. Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and portions of Arizona, Texas, the Indian Territory, and much of Kansas and Nebraska, as well as the greater part of Oregon, and Washington Territory are well adapted to this pursuit. It is however the most easy form of agriculture and tends so greatly to a half nomadic life and the adventures connected with it, and requires moreover such vast tracts of territory for its successful prosecution, that as the population becomes dense it must gradually diminish in importance.

We are, as a nation, the greatest meat eaters in the world, with the exception perhaps of the half civilized hundreds of the South American pampas, who subsist entirely on animal food. Even our poorest classes have meat once or twice a day, while the peasants and lowest classes of Belgium, France, and Sweden hardly taste meat once in six months. Whether this fondness for a meat diet will continue to prevail is somewhat doubtful. The Chinese, Japanese, and indeed the oriental nations, generally are more abstemious than we are. With most of them, rice with some condiments, is the principal article of diet, though they occasionally eat the flesh of the smaller animals, if able to pay for the luxury. Should they preserve their present habits, the demand for beef, mutton and pork would not keep pace with the increase of our population, and this would be well, for we should not be able to spare farm cultivation the immense tracts which would be required for the rearing of these great herds.

Of minor crops it is impossible to speak with any certainty. Some of them may, and probably well attain to a magnitude which will enable them to rank with the great staples of our present agriculture. Others may fall off to the most insignificant proportions, but as a whole, there can be no reasonable doubt that the agriculture of the future will more than keep pace with the population in quality, quantity and excellence.

MINNIE CORNER.

From Daylight to Dark.

We sometimes claim that a change, a reform, is needed in politics, in education, or temperance, but no reform is more needed than in the working hours of the average farmer. This is one of the reforms needed to make human life pleasant and attractive, yes, to make it desirable and to keep the young men contented on the farm. It is a fact that farmers work too many hours, this is well known, but it is latent knowledge, it does no good and the farmer goes on year after in a rut so deep he can not get out of it. The excuse of hard times, poor and unreliable help or something, keeps him like the sun in an ever constant unswerving incessant, never resting line of labor. The boy on the farm tired of this, the hired help tire of it, and indoors the hard-worked wife and daughters tire of it, yes often die from its effects. The self starved, always hurried life of many of the farmers about us, the listless, dreary, lifeless way so many perform, the 12 or 14 hours, a day's task, are the result of too long continued labor without the needed rest or change.

A lesson can be learned from these cases mentioned. Can not the farmers as well as the mechanic, work on the ten hour system from the day he starts the plow in April, till he starts the mow at haying time, and accomplish just as much or even more than to work all the hours of daylight from April to November. Would he not enjoy himself better to spend a pleasant hour each evening with his family, plan his work better and execute the same amount of business in the ten hours. Would not his life be far happier, his mind blessed, his intellect brighter and his life more worth the living.

Do not the most of our farmers hold the same unswerving line of steadily employing every hour of the day labor until before the season is half over, they find themselves tired out, and their spirits broken down, with no desire to improve their minds, or to enjoy the social life and social privileges at hand. He has no ambition

to read and no time to think, except Sundays. The farmer ought to read in the summer as well as in the winter, and that directly in line with his business as much as possible.

The long tedious hours of the farmer unfit him for passing a happy and successful life. If properly conducted there is no occasion in which a man can be happier, or which tends to make him more mind and more intelligent than farm life. With proper education and honest representation, the farming community can and ought to rise to a higher plane of action in making the laws of both State and Nation regarding agricultural interests.

We make farming too much a mere means of subsistence, and do not add the intellectual, moral and social culture it so richly affords. When farm works means simply labor, we lower agriculture beneath its meaning, but when we give it its full force it means advancement of the whole heart and mind of men. We admire the intelligent honest advancing farmer, but we do not admire that class who degrade labor by the very unnatural way they make a living at the fearful cost of the loss of culture refinement and intellectual advancement to themselves and their families.

When that elevated, but true and not distant plan of reasoning is reached and acknowledged by a larger number of our farmers, that the better the education the better the farmer will be, then we will have farmers represent us as chairmen of commissions and committees in both Nation and State.

WM. CAMPELLE.
Groveland, Mich. February 5, 1883.

Coming Potato—White Elephant.

Bro. J. T. Cobb—I notice in your issue of February 1, an inquiry from a brother of Portland, Oregon, concerning the White Elephant potato. A friend of mine raised this variety the past season and gave me some of them. I never saw or ate nicer potatoes, and shall plant all I can get of them the next season. They are a bountiful yielder, all large or sizeable, solid and cook very dry and nice, and are of excellent flavor.

Aaron Low, of Essex, Mass. in his seed catalogue for 1883, thus describes the "White Elephant." This fine late variety is a cross between the Garnet Chili and White Peachblow. It is of excellent quality, fine flavor, wonderfully productive, of great beauty and a fine keeper. Tubers very large and solid, growing very closely together in the hills. There can be no doubt that this potato is destined to be a valuable acquisition to the farmer.

I have a small quantity of Devonshire tree beans which my brother Patrons can have in small packages by writing to me. These beans yielded the past season at the rate of over 40 bushels per acre with common cultivation. I esteem them as a valuable acquisition to this branch of agriculture. Respectfully,
M. COLLIER.
Springport, February 7, 1883.

Bro. J. T. Cobb—A correspondent from Portland Oregon asks for information relative to the White Elephant potato. I have raised them for two years, from seed sent out by the Patent Office at Washington with that name attached.

They are in shape an oblong potato, of large size, and vary but little in diameter in their whole length. They are of a yellowish white when dug, cut open or cooked they are quite white, no defect in the heart, eyes medium depth, not as fine grained as the beauty of Hebron or snow flake, but pleasant to the taste, a strong grower with abundance of vine; need deep planting and heavy hilling, as the tubers are inclined to form near the surface and become exposed to the sun, which of course spoils them. Vines this last year kept green until the 1st of October; essentially a late potato but a week earlier than Peachblow; cook good when two-thirds grown. They must be good yielders judging by my experience with them. I had one small potato with eight eyes to start with, I cut it in eight pieces made eight hills, I dug a nail keg full, all large ones, we cooked of

these twice, finding them satisfactory, we planted the balance last spring, being about two common pails full of cut seed, we planted between grape trellises, found our mistake very soon, as every third row was shaded entirely as soon as the grape vines leaved out, we dug 16 bushels of very nice potatoes assorted, and nine which were mostly large but badly scalded by the sun. If deep cultivation will remedy this defect I have no doubt of their value.

Fraternally yours,
F. M. HOLLOWAY.
Hillsdale, Mich., Feb. 7, 1882.

J. T. Cobb—I saw in the VISITOR of February 1, a description of a potato called the White Elephant wanted. It is a large light flesh colored late potato, with rather smooth eyes, great beauty, wonderful productiveness, excellent quality, flavor and good shape. The soil was sandy with clay.

I shall have some few bushels to sell, also Jordan Prolific, White Star, Mammoth Pearl, Late Rose and White Russian, oats of the Jordan Prolific. I planted two bushels, dug 48 bushels. They grew in a cluster, I took 16 large cooking potatoes from one hill, I had White Elephants that weighed over two pounds each. We cooked some White Elephants for dinner and found them first best. You can pick out enough in this letter to answer the brother's request as we have given a variety.
A. MAKYES.
Sister Lakes, Mich., Feb. 7, 1883.

Bro. Cobb—I would say in reply to Bro. Johnson's question, which appeared in the VISITOR of February 1, that I have raised the White Elephant potato for the last two years.

It is white with a pink tinge in shape nearly like the Burbank Seedling, of fine form and good proportions, it has few eyes, which are but little below the surface. Either boiled or baked it is dry and mealy, while the flesh is of fine grain and excellent flavor.

It is classed with the late potato ripening about the time of the late Rose, it is a good yielder, and a good keeper, and will do well in any good soil, with proper cultivation. I have a few bushels to spare, price \$2.00 per bushel. WM. WALLER.
Robinson, February 12, 1883.

Bro. Cobb—In answer to Jacob Johnson's inquiry about the variety of potatoes, the White Elephant, I would say it is a long white potato similar to the late Rose, only larger and longer, eyes shallow. It is a seedling of the Garnet Chili fertile eyed with pollen of the White Peachblow and is very productive, I planted ten pounds last spring, and harvested five hundred and seventy pounds, soil black sand and clay mixed. No extra cultivation, and used no fertilizer. They are a fine potato for table use, they are the next best to the Mammoth Pearl. They ripen with the late Rose. Fraternal yours,
R. M. SHAFER.
Buchanan, Mich., Feb. 8, 1883.

Brother Cobb—In answer to Brother Johnson's enquiries about the White Elephant potato. I would say the tubers grow very large and long; color light pink, with white blotches around the eyes, which are quite numerous and slightly depressed; although they grow to an immense size, they are not hollow; are very productive and of good quality, ripen with the late Rose, and do well on most kinds of soil. Would recommend them for field planting. Yours Fraternaly,
HENRY N. WEBB.
DeWitt, Mich., Feb. 5, 1883.

Bro. J. T. Cobb—I see in the VISITOR of February 1, enquiries by Bro. J. Johnson in relation to the White Elephant potato. This superb, late variety is justly popular on account of its great productiveness, excellent flavor, power of resisting disease, and splendid keeping qualities. It cooks well and is of good flavor, eyes slightly depressed, and flesh pure white, tubers large oblong and a little flattened. I planted the White Elephant potato last year on a rich sandy loam, and my yield was at the rate of 560 bushels to the acre. Fraternaly yours,
WILLARD RICHARD.
Jonesville, Feb. 4, 1883

The Grange Visitor

SCHOOLCRAFT, MARCH 1. Single copy, six months, 25. Single copy, one year, 50. Eleven copies, one year, 5 00. To ten trial subscribers for three months we will send the Visitor for \$1 00. Address, J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft, Mich. Sample copies free to any address.

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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 ENTITLED THE PERSON SENDING US THE NAMES AND \$2.50 TO A SPLENDID LITHOGRAPH OF THE STATE CAPITOL OF MICHIGAN, SIZE OF SHEET 22x28 INCHES.

SUPREME COURT JUSTICES.

The Caro Advertiser would like to see ex-State Senator B. W. Huston chosen supreme justice in place of Judge Marston resigned. The list now stands: Judge B. F. Graves, ex-State Senator Charles Upton of Branch, ex-Governor Austin Blair of Jackson, Dan J. Arnold of Allegan, Thomas J. O'Brien of Grand Rapids, ex-State Senator J. C. Patterson of Marshall, and ex-State Senator Huston of Vassar, and several counties to hear from.

This item we clipped from the Lansing Republican. There are some good names in this list, Messrs. Graves, Upton and Blair belong in the first rank. Of Arnold and O'Brien we know less. But from these ex-State Senators we devoutly say "Good Lord deliver us." If we are not mistaken these two legal gentlemen were illustrious members of the Senate Judiciary Committee of the Legislature of 1879, and here is a specimen of their wisdom, and their appreciation of the relative value of the same service performed by professional and non-professional citizens of the State.

A bill "To provide for a commission to revise the statutes for levying and collecting taxes," was introduced, Feb. 15, 1879, by Senator Patterson, and we give the first and fourth sections as showing what a nice and delicate appreciation of the real worth of professional services was entertained by these aspirants for judicial honors. We omit the second and third sections of the bill, as those relate only to the duties to be performed by the committee which were no more or less than expressed in its title.

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR A COMMISSION TO REVISE THE STATUTES FOR LEVYING AND COLLECTING TAXES. SECTION 1. The People of the State of Michigan enact, That the Governor be authorized and he is hereby required, to appoint three competent lawyers and two experienced non-professional men as commissioners to revise and simplify the statutes of the State for levying and collecting taxes.

SEC. 4. The professional members of said commission shall each receive five thousand dollars and all expenses actually paid or incurred in performing the duties herein required, and the non-professional members of said commission shall each receive one thousand dollars and all expenses actually paid or incurred, to be paid out of the State treasury to each commissioner.

on the certificate of the Governor, that said commissioner has performed the duties required of him by this act with an affidavit of actual expenses paid or incurred annexed thereto, containing an itemized statement of the expenses paid or incurred and made by said commissioner.

For a large percentage of the gentlemen engaged in getting a living by a legal practice that "leads to bewilder," we have not the most profound regard; and some legal gentlemen have failed to impress us with an exalted opinion of their philanthropy, who have occupied the bench and drawn their meager salaries with regularity for all these years, and yet have so far ignored the best interests of the people as to remain indifferent to the expensive and ruinous practice under the law of suits involving but trifling amounts being appealed from the lowest to the highest tribunal in the State; We cannot consent without protest that these two astute legal gentlemen shall be exposed to the chance of an election to the high office of Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Michigan.

The Legislators of 1883 have not all fixed their individual standing yet though the gentleman at the head of the alphabetical list in the House has, we see by the number of the bill; early in the session placed himself in the category of legal barnacles alongside of Huston and Patterson. Here is the bill referred to.

A BILL IN RELATION TO THE QUALIFICATION OF JUDGES OF PROBATE.

SECTION 1. The People of the State of Michigan enact, That no person shall hereafter be elected to the office of judge of probate unless he be at the time an attorney and counselor at law of the supreme court. Provided, however, That the above qualifications shall not apply to counties in which there are no such attorneys.

Introduced by Mr. Adams. Lansing, January 27, 1883.

The bill, I am sorry to say, was recommended by the committee on State affairs. This is of a piece with a bill reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee of the Legislature of 1879 relating to the foreclosure of mortgages which named a fee of \$25 as the minimum legal charge for the foreclosure of a mortgage no matter how small the amount; and then coolly provided that no fee should be collectable except the service was rendered by an attorney.

Now this Mr. Adams may be a very good neighbor and quite a decent man in a small way, but he is altogether too narrow for a legislator, and the people who sent him to legislate for the people of the great State of Michigan never took his measure or they would have found some little job nearer home better adapted to his qualifications.

We have yet to learn that lawyers are more careful of the interests of widows and orphans than citizens of other classes; and the ambitious gentleman who so early in the session undertook to capture this plum for the legal profession got a flea in his ear when some gentleman proposed to amend the bill by striking out "the office of judge of probate" and inserting in lieu thereof "any office." Members of the legal profession may be very valuable in a legislative body and no doubt often are. In a recent visit to Lansing we made the acquaintance of several legal gentlemen who, if we are not much mistaken, really desire to work for the best interests of the people of the state. We hope our confidence has not been misplaced.

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Under this head will be found the first of a series of articles upon the cultivation of small fruits by the farmers. The importance of this branch of Horticulture among the farmers as a class has reached such a position in household economy, that no one owning or cultivating a farm large or small can well afford to dispense with them. Either as a luxury or the economy they afford to the health and comfort of the family, and the fact of this importance, a knowledge of which seemed to possess every representative to the meeting of the State Grange of Michigan, at its late session in Lansing, is what we have no doubt led them to adopt a resolution to add a separate department specially devoted to this branch of farm economy, in the GRANGE VISITOR.

In taking this step in the conduct of the VISITOR, the manager places reliance for its success on the members of the Order and other contributors to its columns throughout the State, and expects that the space allotted will be well filled with the best experiences of its cultivators and Patrons, and from the Order especially we have a right to demand their best efforts towards making the department successful.

With the assurances received we have no hesitancy in announcing to the Patrons of the paper, that the department will be filled with the experiences of the best cultivators in the selection of varieties, their management and cultivation, and their practical use. While on our part, we pledge our best efforts and care, and whatever of energy we possess to aid in all these things to our mutual advantage and profit.

INSTITUTE AT GALESBURG.

[Continued from the Visitor of Feb. 15.]

The programme of the evening session of the first day called for the reading of a paper on Practical Physiology, and here an attempt to take notes was a failure, for the reason that the paper from beginning to end was so full of practical suggestions relating to health and habits of young and old, to ventilation and heating of houses, and covered such a wide range that even a synopsis of it would make quite a paper. It should be read more than once to gatherings like this.

The first paper of the second day was by Professor Cook, who left so favorable an impression on his audience the evening before, and the subject "Insecticides." In the use of arsenites for the destruction of insects the professor said people generally used more than is necessary; he thought one part Paris green or London purple to 100 parts water, or plaster, or flour which is still better, is sufficient. Experiments proved these virulent poisons lost their strength by exposure to the air; that without rain in less than ten days the application must be renewed to effectually protect from all that class of insects destroyed by these poisons. To destroy the codling moth in apples use a table-spoonful of poison to two gallons of water, then with a Whitman fountain pump spray the trees a week after the blossoms fall and again a month later and if you have apples they won't be wormy that year if the work is well done, and it is not a very big job either. This treatment won't reach the scab, Jarring the tree repeatedly, sacking and destroying the animal is the only known effectual remedy for this insect. He recommended the use of pyrethrum for destroying house-flies as cheap, harmless and effectual. There is no longer any excuse for being annoyed with mosquitoes and house flies, pyrethrum is such a perfect specific and so harmless that it won't even kill a neighbor's worthless dog. It should be kept bottled, as exposure to the air wastes its strength.

Geo. L. Sheldon, of Chimax, read a paper, "What Shall we do with our Straw?" which called out some very decided opinions, and what was most noticeable was the fact that right here with substantially the same conditions of family, of farm, of stock and general purpose of getting a living and making a little money besides, that the observation and experience of these good farmers of Kalamazoo county had brought to them such varied and widely different conclusions.

The essayist would cut wheat early to secure more pounds of good wheat and a much better quality of straw for feeding purposes; would be sure and get all straw worked down in the yard during the winter, that it might be converted into manure and returned to the land to restore its fertility. Another thought it of so little value for feed that it might better be burned in the field. Another would not insult his horses by offering them wheat straw. Still another thought straw very good if not fed too freely, another believed in it if bran was used with the corn rations every day, another farmer hauled his straw to town and traded it for manure. Several farmers fed straw to all their stock to advantage those keeping sheep very generally agreeing that bright wheat straw fed liberally with a supply of grain was more profitable than hay for either store sheep or those fed for market. But one man a local Methodist minister came forward with the facts of figures for his verdict, which was that with straw and corn he kept his horse 25 per cent cheaper than with hay to which we added the endorsement of our experience and the opinion that not only this 25 per cent is saved but horses are healthier and noticeably less liable to heaves.

President Abbott of the agricultural college gave us an interesting history of the college, its objects, its work, its helps and hindrances, with a hopeful outlook for its future and kindred institutions. He spoke of the rapid development of the agricultural class and of the various means that were contributing to that end. Years ago he said the president of an eastern college declared that five leading lawyers had more influence in the government than all the farmers in the United States. If this were true the Agricultural College was doing what it could to make it untrue. The President is entitled to the thanks of the million men and women of our fraternity for the fine compliment he paid us in saying: "The Grange is the greatest educator in the country, and most wonderful results have followed in its train of influence. I know nothing of its secret work, but its educational results speak volumes in its praise." No better endorsement has ever come from so eminent a source.

A very valuable paper, prepared by Professor Kedzie of the College, was read by his son in the afternoon; subject, Sources of Nitrogen in Plants. We say valuable, not because of the important results obtained in the investigations of the professor so far, but rather on account of the promise afforded by his past experiments of settling by the work of another season a question that has never been satisfactorily settled by scientists.

"The best method to handle clover" was handled by Geo. W. Osborn of Mendon, and at the close of the discussion which followed the same variety of opinions and practices prevailed as in the feeding of straw; but in this matter the contingencies of weather contribute so largely to results that we are quite ready to accept a wide range of practices in the sowing and handling of clover. This discussion very naturally and properly drifted in the direction of experiments at the Agricultural College.

Mr. Glidder of Paw Paw, presented in concise form by preamble and resolution the sense of the farmers present upon the desirability of carefully conducted experiments on the Agricultural College Farm. As they were adopted unanimously by a rising vote we accept this as a strong endorsement of the college.

We give the preamble and resolution as follows: WHEREAS, The value of an agricultural experiment is in the extended knowledge of its results; WHEREAS, Individual experiment is valuable only in the limited circle of its influence, and cannot be of general usefulness;

WHEREAS, The expense attending the operations of an experiment cannot be well afforded by an individual farmer, therefore;

Resolved, That an equitable portion of the public funds should be appropriated or experimental work at our Agricultural College, under the direction of its professors, or of some suitable person appointed for that purpose.

The Secretary was directed to forward a copy to our representatives at Lansing.

At the evening session in the absence of the paper on dairying, a general discussion was had on the subject. Mr. Lawrence of Little Prairie kindly consenting to open up the subject. President DeWitt restrained the gentleman giving the ladies the floor. This opportunity was so well improved that Mr. Lawrence had a chance to tell all he knew on the subject before the ladies were ready to let him take his seat.

The discussion boiled down showed that with different facilities the business pursued by so many different persons is a long way from a formula for universal use. There is, however, general agreement that good food and plenty of it and good water, regularity and quiet in milking, sweetness and cleanliness in all the implements used, with an even temperature, pure salt and careful handling are all essential conditions in the manufacture of good butter.

In this matter there is much to be learned by the farmers who look after the cows as well as the indoor farmers who make the butter. The necessary facilities for gilt edged butter are seldom met with the average farmer and on this account we incline to the opinion that we should encourage cooperative enterprises that will diminish the labors of the housewife and give a better butter product for home use and the market.

In the matter of breeds the friends of the Jerseys seemed to be at the front and hold their own against all comers, not for the amount of milk but for excellence in butter making qualities and for the docility and good keeping qualities of the animals themselves.

An amusing and animated discussion upon the question "How to make our husbands satisfied with two meals a day in winter," closed the work of the institute. The gentlemen were not allowed to have their say on this question, and the longer the ladies talked about it the better satisfied we became that the experiment when tried increased, the labors of house-keeping.

THE EMIGRATION AGENCY OF J. B. ZUDZENSKO.

Just before going to press we received another letter from Mr. Zudzenske. He states that he shall be able to fill but a small part of the orders he has taken. Is doing the very best he can. Is now making an effort to induce a steamship company to prevail on as many emigrants as he deems desirable to answer his orders. He will be able to fill orders later in the season, but as nearly all his orders are limited to April first, there will be general disappointment. He asks me to say in the VISITOR that Mr. Dean, his agent or associate, at Cedar Springs, is authorized "to refund fees in case of death happening to me."

He adds that he will return fees if requested, but hopes that our people will render him such assistance as they can by taking help later in the season.

I can answer this in so far as indoor help has been ordered. The first of any month will be as seasonable for this class as the first of April, and Mr. Zudzenske may keep right along. If he has an installment delivered the first of April the account they will give to the friends left behind them, will set aside all the opposition that he has met, and make smooth sailing for his business after that.

THE "White Elephant" on our first page has certainly got as big a boom as Bro. Johnson can wish. We have another letter of the same tenor received after our first page was made up. These letters not only prove this potato a good one, but that the subscribers to the VISITOR read the paper.

ATTORNEY HILLER'S ARGUMENT ANSWERED.

In the defense of existing statutes and usages set up by our legal friend he has devoted a column to informing our readers how citizens reach the important position of justices of the peace and illustrating their unfitness for the office. In all this he has told some truths not creditable to our civilization; and if all this is worth anything in making out his case we can very easily put in an offset by a recital of cases that have been taken on appeal from one of these "political blatherskites" to the circuit court and the decision of the justice sustained, which I suppose would prove the judge of the circuit court also a "blatherskite."

In the second column we are informed how the whole thing is done in justice courts and then we are treated to a lecture on good behavior after which he sandwiches in a little self-praise and in his closing paragraph makes a couple of very sensible statements, that have nothing to do with making out the case he has undertaken to establish. When we unfolded the huge manuscript of legal cap which contained his defense, we expected to find something of an argument. In due time we read it and sent it to the printer and in the proof sheet we read it again and we think we do Mr. Hiller no injustice when we say that we do not remember reading so much and getting less of argument bearing on the case than in Mr. Hiller's paper. No one will deny that there are stupid justices of the peace. No one will deny that sometimes their decisions are a burlesque on justice. But with this all true, how is it when we get to the circuit court? Is justice and that only dispensed there? Farmer Hiller would have us believe that it is. If so, why are so many cases taken to the supreme court?

In considering this matter, we do not pretend any very great respect for the usages of courts of any grade. We hold and are sustained in the opinion by nine-tenths of the most intelligent, practical business men of the State, that the judicial machine is run more to make business than to dispense justice. Mr. Hiller treats the question as though we had no juries to render decisions in cases tried before justices of the peace, but goes for the poor wretched justices in real earnest.

As a party to a suit can have a jury pass upon the merits of the case when tried before a justice as well as when appealed to the circuit court, we think friend Hiller should not be so hard on these weak officers of the law, and as to the rulings of such "contemptible specimens of humanity," they are quite as likely to have some common sense if not as much technical law as will be had later in the case, when the higher courts are reached.

We are sorry our agricultural lawyer had occasion to complain of the treatment he received in reply to his first article, but are free to say that we don't know how to treat the case on its merits without exposing ourselves to a renewal of this same complaint. Now, to what sort of a tribunal does the gentleman invite his clients when he turns his back on these "contemptible specimens of humanity," and has his \$5 case appealed by his client, who "don't own the Court." Something like this—when public notice has been given according to law, that a term of court will commence on a certain day, a calendar of cases will be found, some of them that have been continued until they are nearly old enough to vote, and a jury of twenty-four men "good and true" has been summoned by the sheriff, and appear on the day designated, and the machinery of justice is apparently all in good working order. His honor on the bench, the clerk in his place ready to earn his money, the sheriff and his deputies on hand to serve any papers that figure up fees, a half dozen of our friend's victims who have already paid more fees than the amount involved in the case, are on hand with their witnesses waiting their turn in the judicial mill, a score or so of educated gentlemen learned in the law and absolutely indispensable to elucidate it and make it fit the case of the fellow whose retainer has been pocketed are within the bar, and it just looks with all this array of books and brains as though these cases of crookedness that the stupid justices had passed upon only to confuse, were going to get straightened out right off and the litigants sent home about their business. But no one is now so verdant as to have any faith in these appearances.

Probably the time was when such appearances meant business, but now it means bread and butter for lawyers. The sheriff makes proclamation that the court is now in session and a case is called. Now commences the real business of the term. On one pretext or another cases are put off for a day or two or for the term with little or no regard to the interests of litigants themselves. Objections are interposed of the most trivial character and argued for hours when the court and bar all know that they are without a particle of real value. Anything is done or left undone that will consume time

or make costs. Witnesses are sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," and every attempt to do so is obstructed by attorneys on one side or the other to the extent of their ingenuity. Men of respectability, integrity and influence are badgered and browbeaten when on the stand by any upstart of a pettifogger with a freedom and impertinence of manner seldom elsewhere seen.

The fact that a far greater proportion of cases are appealed from the circuit to the supreme court than there were thirty or forty years ago and the decisions of the circuit court are often reversed, is opening the eyes of the people to the exceeding uncertainty as well as expensiveness of going to law, and the persistency with which many lawyers hang on to a case when they once get hold of it, and the client is able to pay fees, is perhaps doing more to correct the evils of this cumbrous and expensive system than anything else.

Lawyers themselves are helping to bring about reforms by ignoring those common sense principles which govern business men in their affairs. And they are already beginning to feel the effect of this vicious system. While perhaps there is as much time spent as ever, fewer cases get on the calendar than we had a dozen years ago. With all their shrewdness many of these legal gentlemen cannot understand that the course they are pursuing is gradually "killing the goose that lays the golden egg."

We shall not cover as much space with our illustrative proof, as friend Hiller did; but lest he interpose a square denial of what we have said, we will recite a little bit of history of the circuit court held in our County in February, 1879.

There were 69 cases on the calendar at the commencement of the term. The judge was ready and anxious to be earning his meagre salary. The inevitable "good men and true" were ready in equal sections to serve the County. Of these six were criminal, issues of fact 25, or 31 cases for court and jury. With a bar of nearly forty lawyers, after a diligent search of one day, it was found there was not a case ready for trial. All alike had learned how "not to do it," and the jury having earned mileage and per diem were discharged until the following Monday. The next week a murder case was disposed of with creditable celerity. Then followed three or four cases, where the whole amount in litigation did not equal half the costs, and the court entered upon the trial of a case which had been tried once, and which on this second trial covered about 10 days. All the while the 12 idle jury men were held at the expense of the tax-payers. At last, when this case was disposed of, and one or two others that should never have seen this court had been tried, the jury was discharged. Several parties had been in jail several months waiting trial; a part of them were *nolle prossed* at the close of the term and everything else went over.

It seems pertinent to enquire whether the people who sustain this department of the machinery of government have any rights in the premises or must it remain the high prerogative of every crochety fellow who has a paltry suit, with the aid of an attorney, to occupy the time and use the machinery of a court to the detriment of those having important suits to adjudicate, and at unlimited expense to the people.

As to appeals, we have always held that in no case should an appeal be denied. And the bill which passed the house four years ago and is now in the hands of the senate judiciary committee, provides for a re-trial before another justice, or if the parties prefer each can choose an arbitrator and these may choose a third, or failing to do so, the justice before whom the first trial was had, shall choose a third arbitrator, and this board shall constitute a tribunal before whom the case shall have a re-trial.

An honest effort has been made to provide for a fair trial, the costs not to exceed \$20 in any case, and by making this re-trial final the litigants and the public are protected from friend Hiller and the "likes of him." These gentlemen entertain the opinion that foolish litigants who have a matter of difference of a few dollars,—as a woman hat, that went on appeal from a justice in our town to the circuit court and then to the supreme court, should remain for all time their game and the taxpayers should keep the judicial machine running while they are exhausting their victims; and when we protest, Attorney Hiller, in his name of outraged justice, holds up his hands in amazement and exclaims, "Strange hallucination of the human mind."

We entirely fail to see the "hallucination" of this attempt to introduce a little common sense into this matter of settling differences between citizens where but a small amount is involved. But I suppose this blindness is a normal condition that continues because we never got any retainer that produced that other sort of "hallucination" which insists that a disagreement about a dollar should be judicially settled in the highest court if to get this justice it cost the people \$500 and

ruined both the litigants. We are glad to know there are some lawyers who cordially approve of this protective legislation and of this number we found several in the present Legislature. And we expect this "Legislation will be imbecile enough to pass such a law" in spite of the protests of Attorney Hiller and of those legal parasites who can only see in this measure an attack on their bread and butter.

GAMING IN TRADE.

The business of gambling in grain provisions, cotton and petroleum has attained a magnitude so great that it seems destined to overshadow and control the entire business world. It has invaded all the avenues of trade and has spread the passion for gambling among all classes of people. By means of margins deposited to cover possible losses, vast speculations can be carried on with comparatively small capital, while by selling and buying for future delivery the operator may take either side of the deal, that is, he can make his profit depend on the rise or the fall of the market within a given time, as he may see fit. In every sale for future delivery, one party to the transaction must gain and the other party must lose by any fluctuation in the market at the time the deal is closed. The contract is usually settled, not by purchasing and delivering the property, but by paying the difference in money. Thus the business has every element of the most seductive kind of gambling under the guise of a commercial transaction. Like all gambling, this business is productive of nothing but evil to every community. The capital productions of the whole country, both from farms and mines, are made the foot-balls of the wildest speculation. The prices of the world's food are tossed about at the mercy of reckless dealers who buy and sell without the necessity of handling or owning any of the commodities in which they deal. All the natural fluctuations of prices necessary to legitimate and healthy trade and depending upon the great elements of supply and demand are broken up and thrown into confusion. The amounts bought and sold and transferred are greater than any legitimate commerce could sustain and the whole business is thus transformed into a great and exciting game in which the schemes and plots of the players not only affect themselves but determine and control the market rates by which actual sales are made. In a single week about two months ago the sales of petroleum were reported at 120,000,000 barrels, while it was well known that there were not more than 35,000,000 barrels in existence in the whole world, and it is supposed that not more than one million barrels actually changed hands. The vicious effect upon prices is an injury alike to producer and consumer, and, indeed to all classes, for no legitimate commerce can thrive upon gambling speculations.

The evil however does not stop with capricious and unnatural markets. The mania for taking chances pervades all branches of business. Trust funds are squandered on every hand. In Alabama and Tennessee the state treasuries have been emptied into the vortex of speculation. Treasurer Vincent of Alabama staked the money of his state in a series of wagers on the price of cotton, and lost. Treasurer Polk, of Tennessee, engaged in a wild game in fluctuating stocks, the result of which was as uncertain as the turn of a card. His guesses were mainly wrong and he fled, ruined and disgraced, leaving the state treasury literally empty. The present depression in trade seems to be owing largely to this prevailing mania. The failures have been in many cases due to losses occasioned by trading in futures. What will be the end we cannot foresee. Commerce cannot be degraded into gaming without injury or destroying the material interests of the country. Legislation has been tried in some instances, but as usual it has proven powerless in the face of an evil so widely diffused. We trust, however, that gambling trades will finally be suppressed by law. But the time is not yet at hand.

The creamer and butter cooler manufactured and sold by McCall and Duncan of Schoolcraft, seems to have proved a success. Quite a large number were sold last year and from some who used them we have had many good words. Farmers should no longer attempt to get along without any aids other than tin pans and a dash churn in the management of their dairy business.

A new device for oiling wind mills without being obliged to climb the derrick, is being put upon the market by the Automatic Wind Mill Oiler Co. Farmers who have mills, and more especially those who are thinking of buying should investigate the merits of this oiler before making a contract. A full description can be had by addressing Jacob Bauer, Secretary, Schoolcraft, Mich. We shall have more exact knowledge of the merits of this oiler soon from personal observation of it and will report.

RAILROAD LEGISLATION.

In another column is a Bill now before the legislature of the State looking to radical railroad legislation.

This railroad business has grown from nothing to immense proportions within two score years. It has been unequalled in power for the development of the country and for increasing its wealth. Individuals, communities, States and the Nation have vied with each other in aiding this great enterprise and all of them have contributed freely of their substance to push forward the work.

Common sort of men were of course not the men who seized the opportunity and engaged in this great work; but the shrewdest, sharpest men very naturally rushed to the front and led off in the business. This was all right so far. But the unusual conditions that grew out of this new state of things presented a new and inviting field for genius of the grasping sort, and it has been cultivated with untiring industry, and we are sorry to say, with wonderful forgetfulness of the vast tracts of land conveyed by the National and State governments, of the millions of bonds issued by towns and municipalities, and of the other millions of money contributed by individuals to aid in the construction of the railroads of the country. And what is the situation to-day? The men who are now controlling these vast properties seem disposed to ignore altogether all obligations to the people who directly or indirectly have contributed to their possessions; and not satisfied with this, have by manipulation multiplied the representative value of the property and on these raised figures they have fixed the fares and freights with little or no regard to any rule of right.

The people meanwhile intent on their own affairs, have done little to restrain and keep within bounds by suitable legislation the gigantic corporations that have grown up in the management of the railroad business. But the unsatisfied rapacity and enormous power and influence which these corporations have displayed within the last decade, have at last alarmed the people, and the feeling is very general that some restrictive legislation must be had.

Repudiating the principle always before conceded, that the public never forfeited its right of control over this method of transportation, any more than over the old highway, turnpike or the toll bridge built and owned by a company, these corporations have assumed to fix rates arbitrary and oppressive.

The evident intent of this bill is to correct this state of things. Now when it comes to the details of legislation to secure an object, we are well aware that a familiar acquaintance with all the machinery employed is absolutely necessary. To us what seems necessary is such national legislation applicable to all roads operated in two or more States as shall go to the bottom, and setting aside fictitious values, authorize the collecting of such fare and freight rates as will pay a liberal per cent on the cost of construction, equipment, repairs and expenses taking a term of say ten years or more as a basis.

Until some such legislation is had we are in doubt about making one provision of this bill applicable to inter State roads.

Again is it not impracticable to regulate charges according to distance, class, and weight making the lowest rate for the length of the road, the maximum charge for short distances. As we understand the bill this is its purpose.

It strikes us that while as a theory or proposition it may be logical, it is too long a stretch from the ground now occupied, to indulge a hope of its acceptance. Legislation is needed; was needed before these corporations assumed that these properties were held in their own right, and we shall have a struggle before the people will regain the ground they have lost, by neglecting to secure that protecting legislation which it is the object and purpose of this bill to provide. But whatever is done with this bill, a free discussion of this subject is an order and we hope will result in sound legislation that will be productive great good to the people.

We have an anonymous communication from "A Granger's wife" which we cannot publish as it is a standing rule of every paper not to give place to anonymous articles. And not knowing who we are hitting, we add that we don't quite like the spirit of the article. The charges preferred are to some extent true, but the evils complained of are so overdrawn that we shall never look for any improvement in the situation by administering this kind of medicine.

To Publishers and Editors.

Many Newspapers and Magazines have been established in the United States and Canada within the last two years, the names of which do not appear in any Newspaper Directory or Catalogue. The publishers and editors of such are invited to send copies and a full description of their respective publications to the Editor of Hubbard's Newspaper and Bank Directory of the World, New Haven Conn., U. S. A., that they may be properly catalogued and described in the forthcoming edition of that work for 1883. Editors who kindly give this notice an insertion in their columns will confer a favor upon the Press of America.

Opportunity is rare, and a wise man will never let it go by him.

Senate Bill No. 16.

Introduced by Senator Pennington, of Charlotte, Jan. 15, 1883. Reported by Committee on Railroads, ordered printed and referred to Committee, Jan. 17, 1883. A bill to regulate the management of and to provide for a uniform rate for the transportation of freights upon railroads within this state, and to prevent unjust discriminations against local freights upon such roads.

Sec. 1. The People of the State of Michigan enact, That every railroad company or corporation whose line of road, or any part thereof, is located within this State, shall within 30 days after this act shall take effect, arrange and classify a complete schedule of property, of all kinds and classes, including freight cars loaded and otherwise, and belonging to other companies, usually carried or transported by it, and by it, and shall affix thereto, and opposite each article or class named, the rates respectively at which the same shall be transported between the several stations on its road, and over the entire line thereof, and to all points on railroads operated or controlled by such company or corporation, which rate shall be per one hundred pounds; and shall post up copies of such schedule, and keep the same posted, in at least two conspicuous places in each freight house or depot on the line of its road, or road controlled or operated by it, at which freight is received or discharged; and shall within such time forward to the commissioner of railroads within and for this State at least five copies of such schedule; and shall when any change is made in such rates immediately correct such schedules, so posted, and forward a like number of corrected copies to such commissioner, specifying the time at which such changes shall take effect. Every such company or corporation who violates or permits to be violated any of the provisions of this section shall be subject to a penalty of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars.

Sec. 2. No such company or corporation shall, demand, charge, collect or receive more than a fair and reasonable rate of toll or compensation for the transportation of freight of any description or for the use, or transportation of any railroad car, upon or over its track, or any track or line of railroad under its control, demand, charge, collect or receive, at any point upon its road, or road under its control, a higher rate of toll or compensation, for receiving, handling or delivering freight of the same class and quantity, that it shall at the same time charge, collect or receive for a like service at any other station on such railroad so owned or operated by it.

Sec. 3. No such railroad company or corporation shall demand, charge, collect or receive a greater sum for the transportation of freight of any class or kind to or from any station on the line of its road or roads under its control, in proportion to the distance such freight is transported over such road, than is at the same time actually charged for the transportation of freight of a like class or kind, in the same direction, to or from any other point or station on such road, or over the entire line thereof; and the provisions of this act shall not be avoided by any such company or corporation affixing to such schedule a higher rate than is actually charged and received for the transportation of freight, or of freight transported to any other point or station upon such road, and granting a deduction, drawback or rebate from such amount; but the lowest sum actually received for the transportation of any such freight to or from any other station or point on such road, or over the entire line thereof, shall be taken as a basis for the computation of the amount that may be legally charged for the transportation of such local or way freight in proportion to the distance the same may be transported over such road.

Sec. 4. Every such company or corporation who violates or permits to be violated, and every officer, agent or employee of such company or corporation who violates or knowingly permits to be violated any of the provisions of the two preceding sections of this act, shall forfeit and pay to the aggrieved party a sum equal to double the amount of the overcharge, but in no case less than twenty-five dollars, which amount may be recovered in an action of debt in any court of common jurisdiction by such aggrieved party, and such company, corporation or person shall also for every such unlawful act forfeit and pay a penalty of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars. All penalties incurred under this act may be recovered in the manner provided by law for the recovery of penalties incurred by private persons.

To read without reflecting is like eating without digesting.

The best sort of revenge is not to be like him who did the injury.

The upper story of the thermometer will be unoccupied only a little while longer.

OUR CLUBBING LIST.

Table with columns: Name, Regular Price, With Postage. Includes American Agriculturist, Atlantic Monthly, American Grange Bulletin, etc.

Communications.

Among the Granges.

Brother Cobb:—My time has been so much occupied since commencing my duties as Lecturer of the State Grange, that I have not had the opportunity of rendering an account of my work, to the members of the Order through the VISITOR till now. In future I intend to keep them posted as to my work, and whatever else I may be able to furnish of interest.

At the meeting of the State Grange, a series of meetings were arranged for Lapeer county, by Bros. Bartlett Muir and Bradshaw, commencing on the 8th of January and continuing one week or longer. Accordingly on the morning of the 8th I left Lansing and arrived at Imlay City at about 11 A. M. where I was met by Brother Muir and taken to his home about three miles distant, and in the evening met with the members of Pine Stub Grange No. 448. This Grange has a very comfortable hall and has some hard working and intelligent members, and although the weather was bitter cold we had a good turnout and a good degree of interest manifested. You might perhaps form the idea from the name (Pine Stub), that the top was broken off and the roots gone to decay, but anyone having had experience with pine roots, knows that they were put there to stay. Such I think is the intention of Pine Stub Grange.

On the evening of January 9th, in company with Bro. Muir we started for Dryden, about six miles distant. There had been a series of religious meetings in progress at this place for a number of days past, but they kindly gave up the use of the church that evening to the Grangers, and we had a full meeting and everyone seemed well pleased, and a determination expressed to reorganize or revive Dryden Grange, which has been apparently slumbering for a season. There is a fine country around Dryden and some beautiful farms, and farm buildings, and the people all acknowledge the benefits of the Grange, and judging from the sentiment expressed, Dryden Grange will soon be on its feet again. After this meeting I accompanied Bro. and Sister Bartlett to their home, some two miles west of Dryden. Bro. Bartlett is Worthy Gatekeeper of the State Grange, and it has been a noticeable fact that for the past two years the Sisters would all stop before entering the hall to whisper to him, and no officer of the State Grange is to be envied as much as he without it. Bro. Tooker, the Worthy Steward Still Bro Bartlett seems to enjoy good health, and with a fine family is located on a two hundred acre farm, with a fine house and good outbuildings.

The next day, January 10th, in company with Brother B. we went to Almont, 12 miles distant. There was at one time a strong and active Grange at this place, but by the death of one of its leading members and through other causes it became dormant about two years ago, and has remained so ever since, but a strong effort will be made to reorganize it. Owing to one of those seemingly unavoidable mistakes, the time for meeting got badly mixed and consequently we did not accomplish what we expected or what might have been had there been no misunderstanding.

Jan. 11, in company with Bro. Brown of Dryden Grange, we visited the home of Pine Tree Grange, which is about four miles north of Imlay City, where we arrived just in time for dinner, and, as Bro. Whitney used to say, "we did it ample justice." Pine Tree Grange is alive, and although they have no hall of their own, they meet regularly at the house of one of their members, and this day were entertaining the Pomona Grange of Lapeer county. The time was occupied in the afternoon in electing officers, which was accomplished without any apparent ill-feeling. Bro. Bartlett was re-elected Master, a position he has occupied for a number of years. They are very enthusiastic here in the cause and are pushing with a will. In the evening we had a fine meeting at the church in the neighborhood, after which the officers of the Pomona Grange were installed and the labors of the day being completed, the members dispersed to their several homes taking with them their visiting friends, and thus ended a pleasant and profitable day's work.

Lansing, Feb. 2, 1883.

My last closed with the installation of officers of the Lapeer County Pomona Grange, on January 11th. I will now give you an account of the balance of the work done on this trip. January 12th, in company with Brother and Sister Bradshaw, who by the way were delegates to the late State Grange, we started for their home in the northern part of the County, where the balance of the work was to be done. We passed through some very good country, a portion of which was at one time covered with a heavy pine forest. This soil, unlike most soils upon which pine grows, is splen-

did wheat land, in fact the very best, and is being fast taken up and improved. On our way we passed through the town of Burnside, where the first Grange in the State was organized. Burnside Grange, No. 1, is dormant, or in fact dead beyond the possibility of resurrecting, so the people say. I thought as I passed through that I would willingly give a week's work if I could see No. 1 on its feet again. But Bro. Whitney made two ineffectual attempts, and it would perhaps be useless for me to try.

That evening we held a very good meeting at a school-house near Mr. Bradshaw and some good work was done for the Order in the way of subscriptions for the VISITOR, encouraging words, etc. We have some good earnest Patrons here who never let the chance go by for putting in a blow for the Grange. Among them are Bros. Montgomery, Schells, Seaman and others whose names I cannot remember.

The next day the 13th we held a meeting in the afternoon at a school house west of North Branch about three miles, and although the house was not filled, those who were there were in favor of organizing a Grange and assured us that on the next Monday evening they would be prepared to do so. Accordingly the appointment was made for that evening, and in company with Bro. Bradshaw we started for the town of Deerfield where we were to have a meeting in the evening. The weather was bitter cold and there was not as many out as there would have been had it been more mild, but the people are anxious to have a Grange started here and I think before another year rolls around there will be a strong organization built up at this place, as they see the need, and have just the material for one, with a fine country and a splendid class of inhabitants.

Sunday, the 14th, we passed at the house of a brother-in-law of Mr. Bradshaw, whose name I can't just now remember, but he was a soldier during the war and served under Gen. Custar, and told many a tale of that brave chief and of "Sheridan 20 miles away," which made the time pass very pleasantly.

January 15, visited North Branch, which is a very smart village with eight or ten stores, two hotels, a bank and one large shingle mill, and is much elated over the prospect of a railroad that is now being built through there.

In the evening we met as per appointment to organize a Grange at the Tozier school house, west of North Branch, and finding a sufficient number there, proceeded at once to business. Officers were elected and installed. A Mr. Ball who at one time was a member of a Grange in Canada, was elected Master, Bro. R. M. Michael Secretary, and with a fine set of officers all throughout Flint River Grange came into existence at about 1 o'clock in the morning, and I think with proper treatment will soon be able to march along with its sister Granges in the State.

Having done all for Flint River Grange we could at present, we went home with Bro. Michael, and got one or two hours sleep, and at five o'clock in the morning were on our way to Lapeer to take the cars for home, feeling that we had formed many valuable acquaintances, had done some work for the Order, and that the work was left in good safe hands.

JOHN HOLBROOK, Lansing, Feb. 6th, 1883.

From New York State.

ERROR, Schuyler county New York, February 13, 1883.

Bro. Cobb:—I have not seen a copy of the GRANGE VISITOR since I left Michigan in October last, nor have I written a word for its columns. If any of its readers remember that there is such a man, they may wonder what has become of me. Well I am spending the winter in the grape growing region of Seneca Lake. Just now the grapes are not growing, but last fall there was a good crop gathered and sold at paying prices. I think the vineyard men have faith that they will grow and bear fruit again, as preparations have been made to plant a large number of vines next spring. The soil here is well adapted to fruit growing, and some of it is good for little else, although worth \$100 an acre for that purpose. The climate also is favorable, rarely below zero on the east shore of the lake. This winter when 24 degrees below zero in southern Michigan, the mercury dropped to two below only.

Last week I attended a meeting of the New York State Cane Growers Association at Geneva, which was well attended and much interest manifested. Most of the afternoon session was devoted to remarks by Dr. Collier of Washington, the government chemist, who made many interesting statements. The successes achieved last year in the manufacture of sugar, are encouraging, and it looks as though this industry would become an important factor in the agriculture of the northern States. I met Brother Armstrong at Geneva, and I expect he will give in the Husbandman

a report of the convention's doings, which I believe are also to be published in pamphlet form. One of the Doctor's statements was to the effect that analysis shows the sorghum seed to be composed of precisely the same material as corn, and is equally valuable for feeding purposes. He also stated that in the New Jersey experiment, where 100 acres were grown last year, the seed was sufficient to pay all cost of cultivation.

Anti-monopoly claims much credit for bringing about the unprecedented political revolution in this State last fall, but just what was gained by it is not apparent. We cannot expect much from any party. The partisan who is elected to office is going for his party interest even though the "public be damned," as Vanderbilt said to an interviewer last fall, even farmers are not proof against the corruptions of party. One was elected to the Legislature last fall, from this county who is reported to have spent \$2,700 to secure his election. As his pay as a member is but \$1 500, the question naturally arises, how is he going to make up the difference? Fraternally,

HENRY COLLINS.

Michigan State Horticultural Society.

The State Horticultural Society will hold an institute in conjunction with the Calhoun County Agricultural Society, in the city of Marshall, March 8th and 9th. The institute will open at 2 o'clock, Thursday, and close with an evening session on the 9th. The afternoon session of the second day will be devoted especially to farm topics.

The evening of the first day Mr. E. W. Allis, of Adrian, will give an address on Economic Entomology, illustrated by means of the stereopticon. The second evening Hon. W. K. Gibson, of Jackson, will lecture upon Farm Luxuries.

The following list of topics will be taken up by number, and each subject will be placed before the institute in the form of a short paper, to be followed by discussion:

- 1. What inducements have farmers for increasing their apple orchards?
2. Where and how shall we plant peach orchards?
3. How and why shall we increase the interest of young people in horticulture?
4. Practical methods of fighting injurious insects.
5. Arbor day. What shall be done to increase its popularity and usefulness?
6. How can we increase the yield of potatoes?
7. In what way does it pay to give attention to plants in the house?
8. Our timber. Shall means be taken to preserve it? Influence of forests upon agriculture and horticulture.
9. Sheep. Best breeds for Michigan. The tariff on wool. Sheep and the orchard.
10. Our highways. How best to improve them under varied conditions.
11. The place and work of branch horticultural societies.
12. The importance of breeding good seeds. How can it be done?

It is desirable that all who attend the meeting be prepared to give a bit of experience, or be ready with questions that will draw from the experience of others. A local committee will see that all visitors from abroad are cared for, if notice be sent early to Secretary Garfield at Grand Rapids of their intention to be at the meeting. To those who prefer to go to hotels a reduction from the regular rates will be made. The officers of the County Agricultural Society will make every possible arrangement to ensure a successful meeting. Branch societies as far as practicable we trust will send delegates. A large local attendance is expected, and all are requested to bring in specimens of fruit, vegetables, grains, plants and flowers. The local committee will meet people arriving on the noon trains of the first day. At other times those who attend will please repair to the hall and report at the secretary's desk.

A special feature of this meeting will be the report of our State delegates to the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society in New Orleans the last of February. Purchase round trip tickets on the railroads, as we get no special rates.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Hillsdale Pomona Grange, No. 10, will convene March 7, 1883, the first Wednesday in the month, at Grange Hall, Jonesville, with the following programme:

- Music by the choir;
Select Reading by Sister Waldon Smith;
Essay by Sister Lyda Shepard;
Song by Sister Nora Freeman;
New Industry; Silk Culture by Brother C. R. Coryell;
Farmers' hot beds for early vegetables and flowers. How to make them cheaply and what to grow in them—Bro. Willard Richard;
Co-operation—Bro. F. M. Holloway;
Question—Which is the most commendable in a person, sweet contentment with what ver fortune may bring or an ambition striving for something better;
Singing by the choir.

Yours Fraternally, G. M. GARDNER, JR., Sec. LITCHFIELD, Feb. 12, 1883.

The next quarterly meeting of M. D. P. Grange, No. 21, will be held at Silver Creek Grange hall on the third Tuesday in March. Fourth degree members in good standing are invited to attend. B. L. DEBN, Sec'y. Cleon, Feb. 13, 1883.

Hon. C. G. Luce, Worthy Master of the State Grange, will speak to Wyoming Grange, No. 353, March 20, afternoon and evening. The afternoon meeting will be public. Neighboring Granges are cordially invited to come and share with us the benefits which this opportunity will afford. Those who have heard Bro. Luce always want to hear him again, and those who have not, cannot afford to miss this opportunity. EDWIN A. BURLINGAME, Sec'y.

The blossoms of passion, gay and luxuriant flowers, are brighter and fuller of fragrance, but they beguile us and lead us astray, and their odor is deadly

Communications.

WHAT IS AND IS TO BE.

ORIGINAL.

From our own quiet homes as we look the world o'er,
We see spots of beauty adorn every shore,
Where nature and art have their forces combined
To deck with their splendors the homes of mankind.
But for beauty and splendor we oft look in vain,
Where the sands of the desert sweep over the plain,
Where earth's mighty kingdoms have perished in blood,
And the fox digs his hole where the palace once stood.
For the great car of progress as onward she steers,
Is often turned backward for hundreds of years;
And the fair homes of beauty where genius had birth
By command of a tyrant are swept from the earth.
Mid the bright spots of beauty that are tended with care,
The swamp and the desert abound everywhere;
And the palace of wealth with its pomp and its pride,
And the home of the pauper oft stand side by side.
We've the high and the low, the rich and the poor;
The good and the bad they are seen everywhere,
And while some live in splendor in beauty arrayed,
The rags and the sackcloth for others are made.
We have soldiers all trained their own brothers to kill;
We have hospitals ready the wounded to heal;
Yet we still see some progress in war's dreadful trade,
For we bind up the wounds that our weapons have made.
And while industry honestly bends to her toil
To wring from earth's bosom the fruits of the soil,
Still the crafty and rich will that industry spurn
While they live on the fruits which the toilers have earned.
We have temples of worship with cloud reaching spire,
To point to that Heaven to which all aspire;
In the shade of their domes in a low humble shed,
There virtue is sold for a morsel of bread.
We have stills we have grogshops, they are all close at hand,
Where death and destruction is spread o'er the land;
With our low dens of sin where they play their vile trade;
And our prisons to punish the scoundrels they've made.
We have lots of good lawyers to plead our own cause,
Who care for their fees but not much for the laws;
They will get you in trouble and lead you astray,
And then pick your pockets and send you away.
We have scores of fine doctors from all the learned schools,
Some quacks and some good ones some wise and some fools,
And if they should cure you with powders and pills
You will kill yourself working to pay up the bills.
We have traders their numbers can scarcely be told;
They swarm o'er our land like the locust of old,
With their tricks and their cunning their fraud and deceit
They gain a fair living from those they can cheat.
And the workers still live by their sweat and their toil,
They delve in the mine and they dig up the soil,
They build all the cities, suffer most of the ills,
And when they must settle they pay all the bills.
But afar in the distance of long coming years,
A bright star of hope to our vision appears,
And as the long ages of time roll away
That star will grow brighter by night and by day.
For the world still moves onward, though toil-some and slow,
And dark is the valley through which we must go;
For the demons still swarm through the earth and the air,
And the gods and the demons are feared everywhere.
We must patiently wait for the bright coming day
When the follies of childhood will all pass away,
And the bands that have bound us in days that are gone
No longer be needed for years yet to come.
And the toilers of earth they may learn very soon
No longer to wait for the change of the moon;
That on our own earth all the crops must be grown,
And they reap the harvest by industry sown.
For mankind will yet learn to be not led astray
By heeding the guide boards that point every way;
But do their own thinking nor pamper for years
The paupers who live on our hopes and our fears.
Then we'll have but one church and will sing a new song;
To the church of humanity all will belong.

We will preach our own gospel of love and good will,
And dry up the stream from the worm of the still.
Then the armies that're trained but to take human life,
And the wealth that is wasted in wars deadly strife,
Again will return with their banners all furled,
And the wealth only used for the good of the world.

Then the white dove of peace in all lands shall have birth,
And the olive branch bear to the ends of the earth;
And in one mighty chorus all voices combined
For peace and good will and the bliss of mankind.

July 4, 1882.

—M. Belden.—

Transportation, and the Right of Congress to Regulate the Same.

Address delivered by T. J. West, at a farmers' Institute held at Bainbridge Grange, February 3, 1883, and ordered sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:—In reviewing past history, and tracing the course of events to the present, we are assured that we live in an age of rapid progress in science, industry and commerce. It is plain we have entered on a new era, the most extraordinary and momentous the world has ever seen. It is reserved for us, as intelligent citizens of this republic to erect the grand temple of civilization free from blemish, a model for other Nations to follow. In order to do this, we must acquire an accurate knowledge of, and acquaintance with our government, watch closely the ordinary course of public affairs, promptly and fearlessly correct all defects of administration, regardless of party. If we do this, there is little doubt that the principles set forth in the declaration of our independence, "That all men are created equal, and endowed with certain inalienable rights," will finally enter in spirit, and potential influence into the intimate structure of all governments. Our fathers thought calmly, and deeply, acted wisely, and laid the foundation on the principle of equal human rights.

It is left for us to complete the structure. Are we doing it in a manner that would receive the approval of its patriotic founders. The number present on an occasion like this is evidence of the interest felt, and the desire to become familiar with the details of the work in progress.

The Grange organization is the outgrowth of public sentiment, generated by patriotic convictions that certain serious defects existed, and were increasing in our government. Prominent among the subjects demanding the attention, and scrutiny of the people, is transportation and the laws by which it is governed. The rapid development of agriculture, and manufacturing, resulting from improved machinery, and methods, have within the last fifty years, largely increased the demand for transportation, and the two elements, water and fire have been yoked together to supply motive power. The creator of the universe furnished these elements in abundance, man utilized them, and immense ships freighted with hundreds of tons of merchandise, and thousands of passengers are now propelled across the ocean by steam in one-fourth the time formerly occupied by sailing vessels. The startling signal shriek, and a heavy rumbling as of distant thunder is heard by day, and by night accompanied by dark smoke clouds along the horizon, as the agents fire and water in burnished metal harness haul ponderous trains laden with the rich and varied products of the country, over plain, river, valley, and mountain, from the lakes to the gulf, and from ocean to ocean.

We read of a "day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them." We learn from this, that evil is sometimes present with good. The railroads are an actual necessity to, and the result of enlightened civilization. But Satan (or evil) came with them in the form of exorbitant discriminating charges, he came in the form of huge corporations, seeking to, and to quite an extent controlling Legislation. He came as he did at a certain time on the mountain, with only this difference: instead of offering to give all things, he proposes to receive their public lands included. 43 of these corporations have obtained possession of 196 million acres of public land. Eight million acres more than all the improved lands in the United States. Land sells readily at from two to eight dollars per acre, and at an average price of five dollars per acre amounts to 980 million dollars.

The number of miles of road constructed for this land is 14,341, and at an average cost of \$20,000 per mile amounts to \$286,820,000, leaving a net surplus over cost of roads to the companies of \$693,180,000, yet the corporations own and control the roads. Few roads are built where private subscriptions or donations of public land do not cover the cost. Through lack of appropriate National and State Legislation J. Gould, Vanderbilt, and a few other shrewd men, hold the immense railroad transportation business

in their hands. They are not required to base their tariff on the value of the service rendered, but are permitted to found it on the value of the article transported. Where water transportation is not available to shippers, different companies controlling parallel lines often pool the earnings, thereby avoiding healthful competition. Where competition exists either by water or otherwise, and they are compelled to carry for reasonable, or low rates from such competing points, they charge sufficiently high rates from intermediate points, to assure their annual dividend on watered stock. Through such management they are enabled to abstract yearly millions of wealth, from the products of labor. The estimated value of all the railroads in the United States is three billions, but by the watering of stocks, their books show a valuation of \$6,314,000,000. During 1881, they collected from the people, \$725,325,119, and after paying all expenses of every description, and interest on the capital invested, made a clear profit of \$276,654,119.

As you are aware, the agriculturists furnish 80 per cent of all the commerce, hence it is safe to conclude that the agriculturists paid the railroad companies for transportation in one year, \$221,323,219 more than the service was worth. But these figures represent large amounts, and it is difficult to comprehend them. I will therefore divide it by the number of families. According to the census report, the families in the United States average six persons to the family, and upon this basis, each average family, engaged in farming, paid \$36.00 as their proportion of the whole amount. The number of miles of road in operation in Michigan, is 4,544. The 54 corporations doing business in this State, report for the year 1881, 11,465 miles of track, this includes entire lines, some of which extended into other States. The gross earnings for the year were \$75,195,840, expenses \$50,271,575, net profit \$24,924,270. The special charter roads pay (in lieu of all other taxes) 1/3 of one per cent on paid up stock. The roads built under the general railroad law, pay a specific tax on gross earnings of two per cent, when such earnings do not exceed \$4,000 per mile, and three per cent, when such earnings exceed \$4,000 per mile. A comparison of rates shows that water transportation (even on toll canals) is cheaper than by rail. The auditors of the canal department for the State of New York gives the average rate paid per ton per mile on freight on the Erie canal for a period of 17 years ending 1845, from which it is found that the average rate, including State tolls, was 9 1/4 mills per ton per mile. The average rate paid per ton per mile on the Michigan Central road for a period of 10 years, ending 1875, was 2.11 cents; difference in favor of canal transportation on each ton per mile one cent and 1 9/16 mills, being more than one-half difference in favor of the canal. I believe the government can make no outlay of money more beneficial to the people at large than to judiciously expend it in improving navigation, and I hope the day not far in the future when vessels will pass and re-pass from the Mississippi to the Atlantic across our peninsular State.

Since 1874 average railroad freight rates have gradually decreased in this State from 1 cent 3.7 mills in 1874 to 9.2 mills in 1882 per ton per mile. The deduction, however is from competing points and on through freight, intermediate points receiving but slight benefit. When the average rate paid for all classes of through freight on the Michigan Central road was 1 cent and 1 mill, the charge on local freight 7 to 16 cents per ton per mile when the distance did not exceed 20 miles; from 20 to 50 miles it was 4 cents and 8 mills to 11 cents and 2 mills; from 50 to 100 miles it was from 3 cents and 8 mills to 7 cents and 8 mills.

For the purpose of showing the unreasonable discriminations made by the railroads I will relate a personal experience. A few years since I had occasion to ship wheat from Coloma to Indianapolis, 150 miles. A two-fold discrimination existed against Coloma. First, a local, when compared with Grand Rapids. If I shipped a car containing 400 bushels from Coloma to Indianapolis direct, it cost me \$70. I could ship from Grand Rapids to Indianapolis (76 miles further) for \$23.60. Second, a class discrimination. The regular rates as given by the agent at Coloma to farmers who wished to ship their grain to Grand Rapids was \$3.60 per ton, being \$43.20 for 400 bushels or 12 tons. The superintendent of the road gave to regular dealer special rate of \$2.20 per ton or \$26.40 per car of 12 tons. Local discrimination between Coloma and Grand Rapids \$46.40. Class discrimination between regular dealers and farmers, \$16.80. I therefore shipped to Indianapolis by the way of Grand Rapids, doubling the distance, and saved \$20 per car by the operation. But the ridiculous feature of the transaction was, that the next day after a shipment the same cars pass back through Coloma on the same road, for Indianapolis, by the way of Grand Rapids. They hauled the cars to Grand Rapids, then back through Co-

loma to Indianapolis for \$20 less per car than they would haul them from Coloma to Indianapolis direct. The \$26.40 exacted for uselessly hauling each car to Grand Rapids necessarily reduced the price of wheat at Coloma six and one-half cents per bushel. This is not an uncommon occurrence or isolated case, but is a common, a designedly established practice of the roads, whenever and wherever the opportunity occurs. The farmers should be deeply interested in the question of transportation, for they are doubly affected. The rates charged for transporting farm products are invariably deducted by the purchaser from the prices they would otherwise bring. The merchant adds the freight charges to the price of his goods. The farmer pays the charges for the transportation of his products to market, and then pays the cost of transporting the goods he buys. If he is located at a distance from competing points the railroads rob him in the price of his products and then rob him in the price of the goods he purchases. And yet, farmer have submitted, year after year, to this discrimination against them, hoping against hope, that in some way it would be made right without effort on their part more than to cast their vote for some aspiring legal gentleman or railroad attorney for legislative or executive office. If the farmers generally would examine carefully and thoroughly, without prejudice, the different sides of the questions effecting public interest and rise sufficiently above party ties and associations to firmly condemn what they did not conscientiously approve, and as firmly advocate and uniformly vote for that which they did approve, the irregularities and corruptions in this government would rapidly diminish and public officers and corporations would soon occupy their proper positions as servants instead of arbitrary masters. In the language of the ancient Roman, "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we areanderlings."

The railroad corporations are granted the right of eminent domain. Such right can only be granted for the purpose of securing a public benefit of more than ordinary importance. The corporations in exercising this right assume an obligation to deal fairly and justly by the public, and as the public is composed of members in severalty, the obligation extends alike to each individual. This right enables them to call upon public officers to appoint appraisers of the land upon which they wish to build a road, and by this means they can appropriate your land or mine to their own use without our consent. When the road passing through Coloma was being constructed I happened to be selected as one of three to appraise the damage for right of way through the township of Watervliet. We were required to appraise and report the actual damage to each and every piece of land over which the road was to run. The railroad company received the land (in our judgment) at its actual value, and not at the value the different farmers saw fit to put upon it. Why, then, are not the farmers entitled to receive transportation at its actual value, instead of being compelled to pay three or four times its worth? Can we conceive of any just reason why the Legislature or Congress should not protect the interests of the people as well as the interests of the corporations? Are the farmers who produce the wealth so insignificant that the corporations should be allowed to take their lands at actual present value, without their consent, and then extort unreasonable rates for transporting their products? Should the people be fettered by law and the corporations allowed to love at will? I leave these questions for you to answer. For the purpose of showing conclusively the established principle and practice of railroad managers I quote from the report of A. Fink, general superintendent of the Louisville & Nashville railroad and branches. Mr. Fink said, "The question that greatly controls railroad tariff is, what is the service worth, not what does it cost. The relative value of an article at the place from and to which it is shipped determines the charges for transportation it can bear. An element is here necessarily introduced of a purely commercial character and which requires a knowledge of the value of article in the different markets of the country between which they are to be exchanged, situated often far beyond the limits of any one State. This element must necessarily work constant changes in tariffs, and it would therefore be impossible to predetermine or fix them by legislative action." Mr. Fink's statement shows clearly the necessity of legislative action. That Congress has the constitutional right to regulate inter-State commerce is held by courts of highest authority, and that State Legislatures have jurisdiction over local freightage. Inter-State commerce is the transporting and selling the articles of one State in another State. The constitution of the United States, Section 8, Article 3, grants Congress the power to regulate commerce "among the several States;" hence State laws establishing rules to be received by public carriers for transporting articles

from one State into another are held by the United States courts to be unconstitutional; that such carriers in that respect are national in character, and Congress alone has jurisdiction. The President coincides with this opinion. I quote from his last message: "One of the incidents of the marvelous extension of the railroad system of the country has been the adoption of such measures by the corporations which own or control the roads, as has tended to impair the advantages of healthful competition and make hurtful discriminations in the adjustment of freightage. These inequalities have been corrected in several of the States by appropriate legislation, the effect of which is necessarily restricted to the limits of their own territory. So far as such mischiefs effect States, or between any one of the States and a foreign country, they are the subjects of National concern, and Congress alone can afford relief." A serious difficulty is encountered at this point on this question on account of a diversity of opinion of the court as to where State jurisdiction ceases and National begins. The United States Commissioner of Railroads is inclined to believe Congress may control the whole, and cites a decision by the Supreme Court of Illinois to substantiate such opinion. The right of Congress to regulate the tariff on freight shipped from one State into another does not appear to be questioned, but the preponderance of evidence favors State control over local freightage. The remedy for the discrimination practiced by railroad corporations rests directly with Congress and the Legislatures, and primarily with the people. But the railroad interests are largely represented in Congress and the Legislatures, and millions of wealth can be used in holding the vantage ground. The leading metropolitan political press of both parties is controlled by leading railroad men. We must therefore expect a long and obstinate struggle. Their position is chosen, and fortified by possession, and their camp well guarded; money and press influence are potential factors in controlling Congress and carrying elections. With a people divided by partisan politics the corporations are sure to win. We are passing through a momentous period in our history. The future weal or woe of this republic seems really to depend on the course the common people pursue, and very largely on the agriculturists, as they number more than any other class. If we continue to follow in the old ruts deeply grooved by the wheels of political machinery, few perhaps here and a few there, drawing for a short time to the right or the left in the vain hope of pulling the old worm eaten car (heavily freighted with professional politicians) from the deep ruts; but as election approaches (by force of habit) swing squarely into party line again, nothing can be accomplished. Independence of action, regardless of parties, and concert of action at the polls on these questions appears to be the only safe course to pursue, and the only method by which the rapidly increasing power of corporations can be checked; the people regain their inherent rights, and proper influence in governmental affairs; the only method by which dishonesty and corruption in high places can be banished, the government purified and made (what its noble patriotic founders intended) a crown of glory to enlightened civilization.

The Grange Clock.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:—A short article appeared in the VISITOR, comparing said paper to a clock, and in order to keep the clock running it required the little 50 cents, and when the 50 cents was not forthcoming its patrons would be left without time or compass. Its a good illustration, brother, and I at once looked to the little "tag" which admonished me that I must look around for 50 cents; "15 Feb 83," has a significance, and all the "wordy wisdom" that I could assume would not satisfy an editor to the contrary. Besides, every Patron knows that to let a good clock run down, it makes dinner time unreliable, for a time at last, and no one can afford to let as good a timer as the GRANGE VISITOR stop for no 50 cents, or twice that amount. And 50 cents winds her up for one year. Only think! A good paper one year for 50 cents. Fraternally yours, LEVI WOOD.

Richland, Feb. 13, 1883.
[Brother Wood has our thanks for his clever endorsement, and we shall be greatly obliged to him and every friend of the paper if he will induce some of his neighbors to commence winding up the VISITOR in the way he has done.—E.]

The members of the liquor dealers and brewers' association have been invited by circular to contribute \$5 each to pay the expense of a lobby at Lansing in their interest. Let republican members of the Legislature remember that the last convention pledged itself to the submission of a prohibitory constitutional amendment. The republican party never made a pledge that it did not in fill, and there is no good reason why this pledge should not be held sacred. A great mistake was made in not submitting this question two years ago. More than 100,000 petitioners asked that the question be submitted to the people.—Lansing Republican.

The Liquor Question.

"Twenty-six reasons for prohibition of intoxicating liquors," given in the VISITOR of January 1st. Read that list; Patrons, citizens, voters, everybody read that solemn truth, that appalling fact attested by twenty-six unimpeachable witnesses, true as holy writ. No one dare deny it, and that is not the end of the chapter. Our laws are framed for the protection of the traffic. Whiskey rules us to a great extent by controlling our elections in many instances. That list should have a conspicuous place in every home, in every school, church, hall, or other public building. It should be kept on the desk of every member of our Legislature and in the mind of every voter as he casts his ballot.

I am glad H. B. has opened the discussion of this important matter. In the last VISITOR he says: "Now the question is, how can we go to work to lessen these twenty-six charges and in the good time coming wipe them all out." He thinks prohibition will not do it for he says you can't destroy a man's appetite for strong drink by law. Neither can you destroy a man's appetite or desire to cheat, steal, rob or murder by law. But the realties of the law does to a great extent control the will and actions of the man. Because our laws are not effectual to suppress all crimes shall they be repealed and shall we license or tax men for committing other crimes as well as that of selling whiskey? "Will preaching against its use produce much effect, either on the seller or user? Will lecturing against its use change men's habits to any great extent?" asks our correspondent, "preaching and lecturing against the evils of intemperance have been going on for half a century and yet the manufacture and consumption of liquors have steadily increased." It is true as H. E. says: "The liquor question is one of the most difficult subjects to handle of any evil in existence," etc. And after discussing it from different stand-points and making many good suggestions he leaves the subject by saying, "much more can be said," etc. True, much more can be said and done, but how is it to be done? How can the sale of intoxicating liquors be suppressed?

We complain of high taxes, that that rings and monopolies are robbing and ruling us, and our legislators are riding on free passes and fooling away their time for which we pay them, but all this is insignificant when compared with the liquor question. Some weak-kneed temperance people contend it is no use to attempt to put a stop to the sale of liquor as a beverage. People will have it anyway. Therefore let us tax or license the sale and get what money we can out of it.

I am not a believer in that theory. I do not believe it a good policy to pay five dollars for damage caused by the sale while we only get one dollar as tax money. How long could any business firm continue with such results, but we are doing that kind of business year after year. I believe the sale of intoxicating liquors can be suppressed as effectually as the commission of any other crime.

But is selling liquors a crime? Certainly, one of the blackest kind. It is worse than stealing or robbery. It is murder, slow, perhaps, but sure, as being demonstrated frequently by some drunken man being killed after being made drunk by some whiskey-seller. If robbery is committed or property stolen, it may be recovered or replaced; but if a man is made a drunkard, he is ruined, not only in this world but in the world to come.

But are the dealers in liquor alone responsible for the misery and death caused by the sale and use of intoxicating liquors. Let us see. We say to the seller, through the law, you pay us \$50 and we will permit or authorize you to make all the drunkards you please. You can make our fathers, mothers, sons or daughters (if they are over 21) drunkards. You can rob them of property and health and get them well under way to a drunkard's grave and endless ruin and then you must stop. There our partnership with you ceases. The firm is dissolved and we will punish you if you sell to them any longer. But how will the dealer be able to decide when his customer has arrived at the dividing line, when he is to be classed as a drunkard. Who are habitual drunkards in the meaning of the law? A jury in this vicinity decided that a man must be drunk more than half of the time to come under the meaning of the law. Therefore, no cause of action was the verdict. But does the dealer care whether he sells to drunkards or minors as long as he cannot be arrested. Is it not a fact that our judges usually side with the rum-seller, and does not everybody know that it is almost impossible to convict a saloon-keeper, however conclusive the proof. We see drunken men staggering along our streets. They are thrust into our jail to be cared for at our expense. We see boys and young men frequenting these rum-holes which exist according to law. No effort is made to interfere with their business. Now if the sale and use of liquors is right, all should be permitted to sell or use it.

If wrong no law can make it right. If the people were aware of the amount they pay for the support of this useless waste of money they would speedily apply the remedy.

D. WOODMAN. Paw Paw, Feb. 12, 1883.

What is the Mission of the Grange?

[An essay read before Volinia Grange No. 125 by M. J. Gard, Worthy Master.]

It would seem to me that fifteen years of successful organization and working of the Grange would fully answer the question. But when we are so often confronted with the question when inviting our friends and neighbors to join us: What good will it do me? what good is the Grange doing? I am led to believe that the mission of the Grange is not very well understood by a large number of our people, and the question for our consideration this evening is one of much importance to the Grange, and well worthy our consideration.

I cannot answer the question briefly or more intelligently than to quote an article from the preamble to the constitution of our Order: "The ultimate object of this organization is for mutual instruction and protection; to lighten labor by diffusing a knowledge of its aims and purposes; expand the mind by tracing the beautiful laws the Creator has established in the universe, and to enlarge our views of creative wisdom and power."

This brief answer, it appears to me, should be sufficient to enlist every good man and woman in the work of the Grange. In order to answer the query intelligently, it will be necessary to consider the question financially, intellectually, socially and morally. Does the Grange benefit its members financially? I shall have to answer the question in the affirmative. But the greatest benefits in that line are indirect. I think the financial mission of the Grange has been but imperfectly understood and has caused more disappointment to many persons who joined the Grange with the expectation of buying cheap and selling dear than any other one thing. The object of the Grange is to correct the evils and abuses of combinations and monopolies and save to the people vast amounts of money extorted from them wrongfully, and thus save to them the just rewards of their labor.

Its mission is to meet and fight organized oppression in any and all forms by organized force. It is the only way that I can be done. At the time of the organization of the Grange, all the other trades, professions and industries, were organized, and any one of them was exercising more influence in molding society, and dictating legislation than the whole body of the agriculturists of the country. Manufacturers combined and fixed extortionate prices on their products. Filled the country with well dressed, slick tongued dandies, to inform us of our needs, and instruct us in our duties in regard to buying their organs, sewing machines, lightning rods, and other patent claptrap inventions too numerous to mention. The prices were fixed not at what the machines could be afforded for at fair profit, but what they could be sold for. The price of sewing machines was from \$65 to \$125.00, organs from \$200.00 up to \$500.00 with no concessions. Merchants marked their goods up to as high a per cent as they would bear and sell. Some of them would, in order to secure good customers, make private bargains to sell goods at 25 per cent above cost. Plaster companies formed combinations and put that article up to four dollars per ton at the mills, and it cost us at retail from seven to eight dollars per ton. Sharp unprincipled parasites were as thick as the locusts of Egypt, fleching money from the honest, unsuspecting farmer by misrepresentation and fraud. Farmers were made an easy prey to the ways and means of being fleched of their hard earned money by these shrewd and unprincipled scamps, from the fact that they were unorganized and giving but little or no attention to the ways of the world, but quietly submitted, while their wily foe were setting their nets and weaving their coils about them. They were isolated, alone and single-handed, each one for himself. Society was regulated by other professions and industries, the farmers taking but little interest in public affairs. Legislation was to a great measure shaped for the benefit of other professions and industries, and, in many instances, to the detriment of the farmer. When the farmers desired amendments to the laws or desired new legislation to correct some evil, and petitioned the law-making powers for relief it was generally so limited and local in character it had but little influence and was generally unheeded.

I have now referred briefly to the state of affairs that existed at the time the Grange was first organized, as well as I remember them. The question now, very naturally presents itself, Has the Grange done any missionary work in the way of accomplishing any reforms beneficial to the agricultural classes, in removing or correcting the evils complained of, and has the agricultural class been benefited

through the working of the Grange financially? Let us for a few moments examine its work and see if it has, and learn the manner in which it has been accomplished. Granges were organized, the members discussed business principles and the unfair manner in which manufacturers and other business associations did their business, and resolved that unless they sold their products and merchandise at fair living rates or at such rates as they charged their agents, they would not buy of them; and in some instances formed combinations to manufacture that they could control, and the result was that in a short time the same articles could be purchased for less than two-thirds and in some instances for less than half their former prices. When the merchants saw that the Grangers were united and earnest in their demands for fair dealing; and that unless they could buy their goods at a fair profit they would combine and order their supplies from wholesale houses, they reduced their prices, and were just as ready to make private bargains to sell goods at twelve per cent as they were formerly at 25 per cent. So you see that by being united and demanding just and fair dealing, the demand commanded sufficient respect to accomplish the result and thereby thousands of dollars were saved to the farmers of the State, and the Grange proved a financial blessing.

The Grangers of Michigan were well aware that the Grand Rapids plaster company were charging an unreasonable price for plaster and through the efforts of the Executive Committee of the State Grange a contract was entered into with the Grand Rapids company to furnish plaster in bulk at the mills as cheap as they would furnish it to their agents. But before they furnished any plaster on the contract they notified the committee that they would not furnish plaster on the contract, and formed a combination with plaster companies of other States and put plaster up to four dollars per ton at the mills, and would make no concessions. The committee then arranged with Messrs. Day & Taylor to furnish plaster to Grangers at a price not to exceed two dollars and fifty cents per ton at the mill. The committee pledging their individual credit to assist the firm to start their new enterprise, having sufficient faith that the Grangers would patronize the new firm and sustain it until it should prove a success. In this they were not disappointed. But as soon as the old companies saw the Grangers were really in earnest in the matter, the old firms sounded the alarm of danger and commenced a war of extermination on the new firm by putting down the price of plaster below actual cost of production. But the Grangers were true to their interests and fought the bitter fight to the end. This fight with a rich and powerful monopoly was further evidence of the necessity of organized force to overcome oppression and wrong and demonstrate to the world the advantage and necessity of the Grange. This fight alone saved to the farmers of Michigan hundreds of thousands of dollars. Many farmers outside of the Grange joined our forces in this war for justice and would not buy their plaster of the old company, although they could have got it for less money. The slide-gate royalty swindlers were met by the combined force of the Grange and successfully beaten in the United States courts, and other hundreds of thousands of dollars saved to the farmers of Michigan; and not only to the farmers of Michigan, but all the States and Territories of this Republic were equal sharers in the result of the fight. The last fight in which the Granges have been engaged is with the drive-well royalty collectors, and another swindle of great magnitude has been driven to the wall. Much more might be said in relation to what the Grange have accomplished in their combined efforts to correct the wrongs and abuses growing out of combinations and monopolies to rob the people of their hard-earned money. But I think I have said enough to establish the fact that the Grange has accomplished as much as any reasonable person could expect and has been a financial success.

What it has done for the Grangers it has done for the people at large. Much might be done for the financial benefit of the members by selling the products together and buying together. We could, by a little arrangement, ship our own hogs, cattle, fruit, wool and butter and save some of the commissions and profits of the middle men. We might also buy many things to some advantage in the same way.

Another mission of the Grange is the intellectual development of its members. I consider that the greatest mission of the Grange, or any other organization that has ever existed. Many other societies, such as farmers' clubs, lyceums and the like, have done much good. The Grange is doing more work than any or all other organizations in the development of the intellectual abilities of men and women. Other organizations have been local, and but few, comparatively, have received any benefit, and as a matter of course exerted but little influence when most needed.

The Grange is national and exerts a

powerful influence all over our broad and beautiful land. Any strong and extensive organization is a power. But in order to have that power wielded in the right direction and for good, its members must have a highly developed intellectual and moral training. That the Grange is doing a great and good work in that line is no longer a question. We see the effects wherever people meet together. We see it in the papers and magazines. Only a few years ago the columns of our newspapers were made up of articles written by professional writers, men and women who made writing a business. Farmers, their wives, sons and daughters did not appear in print. Not because they did not possess the ability, but because they lacked the practical training to fit them for such duties. It was supposed that the farmer did not need education, and refinement, and brains, but well developed muscle to fit him for his position. But the teachings of the Grange have changed all these notions. The Grange is educating and elevating the intellectual abilities of farmers and their families and fitting them to occupy that social position in society, that their calling and natural abilities entitle them to. Through the educational influence of the Grange, farmers and their wives are no longer required to take back seats nor fill standing room outside. The old sayings that he is "only a farmer," "nothing but a farmer" is soon to become obsolete.

Farmers, by the intellectual training received in the Grange, are coming to the front, and occupying important places of honor and trust and wielding a healthy influence for good in the affairs of the nation. Another mission of the Grange worthy of our united support is the social feature of the institution. Many consider that feature alone worth all that it costs to sustain it. I think these social meetings of farmers and their families are always attended with good results. By meeting together and talking together we are prepared the better to act together for our mutual benefit and happiness. It is in the social meetings of the Grange where we all should practice manners and politeness so necessary to well regulated society. We will think more and better of each other and ourselves. Our labors in the battle of life will be made easier, more cheerful, and productive of better results. It will make us better neighbors, better citizens and better Patrons.

Now, in conclusion, I will say that we have in the Grange an institution worthy of our best efforts. Let us be regular and prompt in attendance. Let us be zealous and active in its missionary work. Let us be united and strong, sustaining that which is right and good and waging war on all forms of oppression and wrong.

Monopoly Taking the Place of Primogeniture and Entail.

There always have been and always will be in all societies inequalities created by superior enterprise, education and fortune. It has been the peculiar boast of the American citizen that such inequalities in this country have not been created or fostered by law, and that the aristocracy arising therefrom is merely social and not political. All being equal before the law, wealth is the prize of the enterprising and fortunate. It is readily won and as readily lost. In the contest for wealth all the chances have been in favor of the poor man and the poor man's sons who enter the list with average perseverance and genius, and all the chances have been against the wealthy and sons of the wealthy, whose characters would claim no favors from fortune and whose privileges were not peculiarly protected by law. The rule has been that the hoarded wealth of the father has been squandered by his idle and profligate sons, who become poor, and that the industrious and enterprising boys who distribute papers or sell apples or candy in the streets become wealthy. They, in their turn, have aped the exclusiveness of aristocracy, but only while fabled fortune, unaided by law, will permit.

We have, therefore, been accustomed to look upon the social aristocracy of wealth, not with reverence or fear, but wither with contempt, as an evil which varies with the varying fashions of the times.

Now this is being changed. The monopolies which are being fostered by the old parties have peculiar privileges granted them by law. The few are becoming millionaires and the millions are becoming poor. This state of inequality is becoming more and more permanently fixed by law. Our mighty rivers, lakes and bordering oceans in their abounding freedom are still in keeping with the idea upon which our government was founded. In keeping with this idea, too, should be the power of steam and electricity, and our circulating medium.—B. H. Mace, in Bangor Messenger.

Correspondence.

Calhoun County Pomona Grange No. 3.

Our Grange, of which we are justly proud, met at Pennfield Grange hall for our annual meeting. You never saw such people as Calhoun County Grangers are to "go to meeting." The roads were full of snow and drifting all the time. The thermometer marked several degrees below zero. Everyone seemed impressed with the thought that they must go for fear everybody else would stay at home, and the result was everybody was there. The hall at Pennfield reflects great credit upon the Patrons there. It is newly carpeted, beautiful pictures adorn the walls, mottoes and appropriate ornaments also grace the room, an elegant altar cloth showed that hands that love the work of the Order had not been idle. A library of attractive books has lately been added to their hall, so that it is a place of beauty and a joy forever. R. S. Poole was elected Master; Nancy Cameron, Lecturer; C. P. Chichester, Overseer, and Mrs. Perry Mayo, Secretary.

Edward White, who has filled the chair for five years, has done so with great credit to himself, and also to the Order. His rulings and mandates have been parliamentary, gentlemanly and kind, and always with the best interests of the Order at heart. In the three years that we have belonged to the organization he has not been from his post once, as we can remember. It mattered not how long the drive, how bad the roads, or how hard the rain, we could always depend upon our Master. Our membership is now over 100, all thinking, working Patrons, and our influence for good is felt throughout the county. Our officers will be installed at Union Grange hall, Emmett, on Thursday, March 8, at 10 o'clock A. M. Our lecturer is a sister, and a most efficient worker has she been for the Order. She has visited every Grange in the county but one and that she strove to reach. Her report was excellent. She knew just the standing of every Grange in her jurisdiction, and just what each one seemed to need. We thought her so well fitted for the place that we re-elected her.

Yours truly, A. B. C. Sherman Grange, No. 632.

Mr. Editor:—Sherman Grange, No. 732, has a membership of forty-seven. At our last meeting we had a class of three that was instructed in the fourth degree, after which the members sat down to the table and one of those old-fashioned Grange feasts, a good substantial supper, which all seemed to enjoy.

The members of our Grange leave all personal feelings outside the gate; and inside, as brothers and sisters striving for the accomplishment of a great good, all put shoulder to the wheel and push together, remembering the time-honored maxim that "In union there is strength." We have some earnest workers, who fully appreciate the good the Grange is doing for agriculturists generally in organized resistance to the great monopolies of our country; and also in causing the laborer, the bone and sinew of the nation, to be recognized as a power in the land.

I am glad to see the subject of temperance agitated in the VISITOR, and am with the temperance workers heart and hand. I think it ought to be a condition of membership in the Grange that no intoxicating liquors be used as a beverage, because it destroys both body and soul and burdens sober people with thousands of paupers, and causes immense expenditure to prevent crime. Yours fraternally, I. N. CARPENTER. Feb. 12, 1883.

Pennfield Grange, No. 85.

Bro. J. T. Cobb:—Pennfield Grange is having lively times at the commencement of its work for the new year. At our last meeting, February 2d, three candidates presented themselves and received the first degree of our Order. There were also six new names presented for admission, making in all thirteen new names so far this year. Yesterday the meeting of Calhoun County Grange was held at Grange Hall. Although the roads were badly filled and the cold severe, the attendance was some 85 active members. After the general order of business the election of officers was held. Six candidates received the degree of Pomona. The Grange adjourned for four weeks. Fraternally yours, A. W. LEE. Pennfield, Mich., Feb. 9, 1883.

Liquor at State Fair—Resolutions.

At a regular meeting of Adrian Grange, No. 213, the following preamble and resolutions were introduced by Bro. A. H. Briggs, and after discussion were unanimously adopted: WHEREAS, Temperance is one of the fundamental principles of our Order and believing our influence should be cast on the side of temperance and morality, and

WHEREAS, We believe the selling of intoxicating liquors on the grounds of agricultural societies is demoralizing and pernicious; therefore, be it Resolved, That we shall use our best endeavors to induce the officers of the agricultural society of this State to hereafter allow no intoxicating liquors to be sold on their grounds. Resolved, That we ask the State, County and Subordinate Granges, and the people in general, to join with us in bringing about this reform, and that we will wage a relentless warfare on this pernicious practice until it shall be abated. H. S. FISK, Secretary.

Monopoly Must Go.—The Alarm Bells Are Ringing.

Our government is no longer a republic of the people, but an oligarchy of corporations. Our statutes are no longer enacted to carry out the expressed objects of the constitution, but to enable law-created giants to build colossal structures upon the ruins of mankind and individual enterprise. The power of wealth is almost irresistible, and when it once obtains mastery over manhood, its soulless insensibility refuse to yield until iron heel is broken upon the wheel of revolution. Corporations to-day monopolize nearly all the resources of wealth, and what they have not got their hands upon is hardly worth monopolizing. They as effectually monopolize the soil of America as do the laud barons of England the soil of Great Britain, Ireland and Scotland. Five men can meet in Wall street and, by determining what shall be the price of carriage, can fix the price of all farm commodities at the seaboard, and decree just what proportion of the annual crop shall be theirs, and what proportion shall be retained by the producer. The enormous profits which accrue to money and transportation monopolies are simply their annual rentals from the lands of American farmers. Kangle will this year pay a land rent to Wall street barons of \$3,000,000. Every other Western State will pay a proportionate levy.

Six men met at Long Branch and determined how much coal should be taken out of the mines of Pennsylvania and sent to market. To the dictation of those six men the price of a Nation's fuel was left. To day two men determine and fix the price of our artificial light. Thus by monopolizing either the productive or the exchange agencies, States, control the price of our light, our food and our fuel. When these three great elements of health, life and human happiness are at the dictation and mercy, how far are we from an oligarchy? Corporations control not only the agencies and sources of wealth, but National and State Governments, and in many instances our judiciary and courts of justice. It is not that legislators and Judges are more corrupt, but such are the conditions that men are compelled to barter what they have for the means of subsistence. Corporations have now barricaded all the avenues of wealth and bypaths of subsistence, in order to pass and glean a livelihood, men of all classes are compelled to pay such toll as is demanded.

To be elected, National and State officials must swear allegiance to the oligarchy. Men pinched by poverty, with wives and children at home suffering for the comforts of life, are asked to barter their votes to the highest bidder when they will command a better price than their labor. But this cannot always continue. The end must come sooner or later. Manhood continually borne down will at last throw bottom, and when that time shall come the fires which blazed from Pittsburg to Chicago in 1877 will be eclipsed by the volcanic glare of the most gigantic revolution the world ever witnessed.

But, says one, "the substratum of American society is so much better off and more happy than the laboring population of Europe, there is no danger of revolution." Be not deceived. Content is not the result of conditions nor are those sorest oppressed necessarily the first to rise in rebellion against their oppressors.

If ignorance is bliss, knowledge and wisdom may promote misery and discontent. The experience and traditions of popular liberty and equality will never allow the American people to sink to the level of European serfdom. They are jealous of their liberties, conscious of their rights, and brave enough to repel invasion whenever they become satisfied that they are in danger. And that time is at hand. The alarm bells are ringing out from the shops and mines of the East, and the long roll is echoing back from the prairies of the Northwest and the grain fields of the Mississippi and Missouri valleys.

The fet of labor are being firmly planted on the bed-rock of organization, and refusing to sink lower under the oppressor's burden. Labor has raised its strong arm against its taskmaster and sent out the irrevocable decree that "MONOPOLY MUST GO."—Chicago Express.

Display at Marriages Vulgar.

A marriage notice in a New York paper reads: "No cards, no flowers, no presents, and nobody's business." Thank God for one man, at least, who believes that a man's marriage concerns nobody but himself, his wife, his family, and his intimate friends. The display wedding, with its ostentatious list of presents, both pious and profane, from all sorts of people, we trust some day will be obsolete. If there is anything that is nobody's business, save that of the people who have affectionately resolved to be partners in joy and sorrow for life, it is marriage, and we hope the day will come when the list of wedding presents in a newspaper will be as vulgar as the publication of the "descriptive list" of the bride and groom. The fighting weight of the bride as well concerns the public as a newspaper list of the wedding teaspoons and other trumpery.—Marshall Statesman. The Buffalo Courier has dug up statistics to prove that school-teachers seldom marry, ever die, and never resign without including a proviso that they can return if they desire.

PATENTS.

LUCIUS C. WEST, Solicitor of American and Foreign Patents, and Counsellor in Patent Causes. Trade Marks, Copyrights, Assignments, Caveats, and Mechanical Drawings. Circulars free. 16 Portage Street, April. KALAMAZOO, MICH.



The designed purpose of the Grand Rapids (Michigan) Commercial College is to prepare the student for the practical duties of life. Discipline of the mind, then, lies at the base of our scheme of education; and the question to be answered is: How may the greatest degree of mental discipline be obtained? For further particulars please call, or enclose stamp for College Journal. Address, C. G. SWENSBURG, Proprietor, Grand Rapids, 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.

Table listing various supplies and their prices, including 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 Sec'y, with stub, well bound, 50; Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound, 50; Applications for Membership, per 100, 50; Membership Cards, per 100, 25; Withdrawal Cards, per doz., 25; Duplicates, in envelopes, per doz., 25; By-Laws of the State Grange, single copies 10c. per doz., 75; By-Laws, bound, 20; "Glad Echoes," with music, Single copy 1 50; 10 cts. per doz., 10; The National Grange Choir, single copy 4 00; 40 cents per dozen, 4 00; Rituals, single copy, 25; "per doz., 2 40; 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., 6c.; per hundred, 60; American Manual of Parliamentary Law (Morocco 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, SCHOOLS CRAFT, MICH.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILROAD.

DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO. TIME-TABLE—MAY 15, 1882. WESTWARD. Accommodation leaves, A. M. P. M. 4 50 9 00; Evening Express, 1 35 7 55; Pacific Express, 2 47 8 15; Mail, 2 47 8 15; Day Express, 3 12 9 28; Local Passenger, 9 12 10 25.

EASTWARD.

Night Express, A. M. P. M. 2 30 8 50; Accommodation leaves, 6 50 9 00; Evening Express, 1 35 7 55; Mail, 2 47 8 15; Day Express, 3 12 9 28; New York Express, 1 58 8 18; Atlantic Express, 10 25 10 25. New York, Atlantic and Pacific Express daily. Evening Express west and Night Express east daily except Saturdays. All other trains depart except Saturdays. Freight trains carrying passengers out from Kalamazoo as follows: No. 29 (east) at 5:28 P. M., and No. 20 (west) at 7:57.

H. B. LEVYARD, Gen. Manager, Detroit. J. A. GIBBS, General Freight Agent, Chicago. O. W. BROWLIE, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

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

KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE. (Time 15 minutes faster than Kalamazoo.) GOING SOUTH.

Table with columns for Station, NY & CNY & B, Ex & M, and Way Pt. Le. Grand Rapids, 8 00 AM 4 25 PM 9 00 AM; Ar. Allegan, 8 17 " 5 40 " 9 17 " ; Ar. Kalamazoo, 8 30 " 6 00 " 9 30 " ; Ar. Schoolcraft, 10 50 " 7 22 " 11 40 " ; Ar. Three Rivers, 11 18 " 7 52 " 12 45 " ; Ar. White Pigeon, 11 45 " 8 28 " 1 30 " ; Ar. Toledo, 5 35 PM 2 45 AM 4 45 AM; Ar. Cleveland, 10 10 " 7 05 " 9 10 PM; Ar. Buffalo, 3 55 AM 1 10 PM 7 40 "

GOING NORTH.

Table with columns for Station, NY & CNY & B, Ex & M, and Way Pt. Le. Buffalo, 12 45 PM 12 25 AM 5 00 PM; Ar. Cleveland, 12 25 PM 12 25 AM 5 00 PM; Ar. Toledo, 12 01 PM 10 50 " 5 00 PM; Ar. White Pigeon, 6 50 " 3 40 PM 3 45 AM; Ar. Three Rivers, 6 28 " 2 07 " 3 05 AM; Ar. Schoolcraft, 6 58 " 4 34 " 3 10 " ; Ar. Kalamazoo, 7 30 " 5 05 " 1 40 PM; Ar. Allegan, 2 40 " 3 50 " 3 58 " ; Grand Rapids, 10 00 " 7 25 " 6 10 " ; All trains connect at White Pigeon with trains on main line. A. G. AMSEN, Supt. Kalamazoo Division, Kalamazoo.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK R. R.

Corrected Time-Table—November 1, 1882.

TRAINS WESTWARD. Table with columns for Stations, Mail and Express, and Day Express. Le. Port Huron, 6 10 AM 7 40 AM 7 55 PM; Ar. Inlay City, 7 18 " 8 10 " 9 20 PM; " Lapeer, 7 42 " 9 10 " 9 20 PM; " Flint, 8 30 " 9 55 " 10 05 " ; " Durand, 9 10 " 10 27 " 10 35 " ; " Lansing, 10 15 " 11 30 " 11 35 " ; " Charlotte, 10 45 " 12 06 PM 12 10 AM; " Battle Creek, 12 00 PM 1 20 " 1 20 PM; " Vicksburg, 12 28 " 2 07 " 2 05 PM; " Schoolcraft, 1 00 " 2 19 " 2 17 " ; " Cassopolis, 1 55 " 3 08 " 3 10 " ; " South Bend, 2 40 " 3 50 " 3 58 " ; " Valparaiso, 4 27 " 5 25 " 5 10 " ; Ar. Chicago, 6 50 " 7 45 " 8 00 " ; TRAINS EASTWARD. Table with columns for Stations, Mail and Express, and Night Express. Le. Chicago, 5 50 AM 5 15 PM 9 00 PM; " Valparaiso, 11 30 " 7 45 " 11 20 " ; " South Bend, 1 10 PM 9 10 " 1 18 AM; " Cassopolis, 1 55 " 3 53 " 3 53 AM; " Schoolcraft, 2 54 " 10 10 " 3 08 AM; " Vicksburg, 3 10 " 10 50 " 3 20 AM; " Battle Creek, 4 05 " 11 40 " 4 20 AM; " Charlotte, 5 58 " 1 40 " 6 12 PM; " Lansing, 6 53 " 1 40 " 6 12 PM; " Durand, 7 25 " 2 56 " 6 50 PM; " Flint, 8 15 " 3 40 " 6 58 PM; " Lapeer, 8 52 " 4 18 " 9 10 " ; Ar. Port Huron, 10 20 " 6 00 " 10 25 " ; All trains run by Chicago time. All trains call except Sunday. GEO. R. HARVEY, Traffic Manager. S. R. ORLAWAY, General Superintendent. For information as to rates, apply to R. P. Keary, Local Agent, Schoolcraft, Mich.

Ladies' Department.

A PATRON'S LAY.

ORIGINAL.

I love the Grange, its pleasures sweet
Are manifold where'er we meet,
And gladly to each other greet.
United in one common cause,
We're bound by very wholesome laws
To guard us, and preserve from flaws.

We aim to keep the golden rule,
For party lines have not a tool
In this free thinking Grange school.
We do abhor the one man power;
Like best the universal shower,
That blesses all the self same hour.

We hinder no cause that essays
To benefit the many by ways,
Or means, that will the fallen raise.
We bid God speed, and lend a hand
To any good benevolent band,
That helps the poor of our fair land.

We are not a body selfish,
Not yet so extremely selfish
So to deserve the name selfish.
As an Order not dependant,
On a satellite attendant,
Nor much on praises commendant.

Ours is a solid foundation—
The terra firma of the nation;
We're happy in our allotted station.
We hope to hold our very own,
Without a cry or sorry moan;
Our outs will grow, they have been sown.

Seedy may be the outside coat;
But do not think you've found a moat,
Its only a little surface float.
The brightest plumage may be hid;
You can tell nothing by the lid.
It may hide the glossiest "kid."

We hope to keep very humble,
And never expect to crumble,
Though others at us may grumble.

We're not a real brotherhood;
Neither are we a sisterhood;
But both combined for general good.
The better half of our Grange band,
Advise, instruct, but ne'er command;
Together we go hand in hand.

We all believe in equal rights;
Woman may gain the highest heights,
They often speak at meeting's nights.
Can vote and hold office too,
Are treated first as if they knew
As much as their Grange brothers do.

We hope to keep up with the times,
In all things else but sin and crimes,
Have wisdom, sense, and sometimes dimes.
Plan to benefit the race;
Don't believe in falling from grace,
And onward move with rapid pace.

We trust we're in the royal way,
Destined in its ranks to stay;
And thus endeth a Patron's lay.

—Creta Rays.

Hillsdale, February 27, 1883.

Household Economy.

[Read before the Hillsdale Pomona Grange by Sister R. Southworth.]

To know perfectly well how to manage one's own household with that rare tact called economy, is a blessing that naturally comes to but few; while all of us can learn of its various ways and means if we really desire and put forth the effort. We can learn by observation, by reading, by noting and profiting by the failures and success of our neighbors, but best of all can we learn from experience itself.

It is as necessary for the success of a family that the mother should possess this "rare gem" and practice in her realm, as for the father in his business, and through its mutual possession do we see these beautiful homes built up and snug fortunes laid by for the "rainy day," or the old age that comes creeping on so slowly but, alas! how surely.

Economy in every department of the home brings happy hearts, smiling faces, and well-filled purses. It is the foundation of all real success and therefore the foundation of happiness itself. We are all creatures of habit, and should form while young those of order, prudence, and punctuality. Learn to plan our work well from day to day, and see that each day does its work, ever being watchful and careful of the little things.

True economy consists in doing much with little, and we, who have grown gray in the services, can lighten the pathway of our younger sisters, by dropping a word in season: Economy does not consist in starving our kitchen that our parlor may be grandly furnished, or that we may revel in silks and satins. If there can be but one room well furnished by all means let it be our kitchen, where we spend so many many hours, yes, and I may say weary ones too. There are so many conveniences now-a-days, that help to lighten the kitchen work, and by so doing rests the weary limbs and aching head, that it seems the best of economy to possess them, as our own means will allow. The cooking stove of to-day is a luxury indeed if one uses discretion in the purchase thereof. What would our Grandmothers say could they look upon various household utensils, that we are privileged with, still they cared for their numerous family, as well I doubt not, as the best of us.

The making over of an old garment, into the pretty tasteful and stylish new one, you call all this a trifle, perhaps—but is not life itself made up of trifles? and as straws show which way the wind cometh, so does the performance of these trifles make our whole life a success or failure. The

homes of a nation are its strongest forts, and let us look to it, that ours is well fortified against all this motony.

Worried and who is not,
That bears life's burdens faithfully!
Drudge yet a little longer,
When your Sun has set, you will have reached the spot where you may rest.

Your weariness shows just the measure of help you need. The way that's hidden, the point at which your steps must stay, God's care begins. So trust and He will lead.

Ought a Husband to be Made by His Wife?

[Read by Mrs. A. I. Sutton of North Moravia, at the meeting of the Pomona Grange at Adrian, Feb. 8, 1883.]

It is an old adage, and one we often hear repeated, that, "A husband is just what his wife makes him." This is throwing a great responsibility on the wife, and correspondingly relieving many a miserable husband.

Not long since I heard these words uttered by a Patron, and though meant as a compliment to a particular wife, they were discord to my ear. As we look back through the vista of years, we can remember often having heard these words: "That man has a splendid wife, she has just been the making of him," or again, "If that man had a different wife he might have been a far better man." If there be any truth in these words, where is the credit due to our good mother? Or what shall we say in defence of the poor neglected wife of a dissipated husband? Is she to blame that her husband is a total wreck? a slave to a soul and body destroying poison, or that her children suffer shame in consequence thereof? If she were a lady of culture and refinement, undoubtedly, when she made choice of her husband she thought him a model of perfection, one on whom she could rely for her future welfare, her hero of all that was good and grand. Sometimes love is blind, but she failed to see any errors in the accepted suitor. And God pity such wives when they awaken from their love dream to find themselves united for life to sensual substance instead the real manhood—to a man that needs to be remodelled. What a disappointment is in store for that wife! Instead of the life of happiness she had pictured there comes to her one of bitter disappointment, for this making a husband is not done in a day, and many times it is like making a good egg out of a rotten one.

I have seen men that were bad all through and through, with just as good wives as any man need wish to have. Then how is a good wife to make a good husband out of this crude material. Many of them grow gray and die in the attempt. Let me tell you I think this matter of making good husbands rests more with the mother than with the wife. It is they who are to mold the very being and character of those boys in their infancy, they who are to shape their future destiny. Much has been said in our Grange about "our girls." The question has been asked how best to rear, dress, care for and educate them, not only asked, but discussed and answered. But the boy has been scarcely alluded to. Is this because they are not worthy the thought, or is it an oversight? I think it is cause to be espoused just as much as that of our girls. I think they are just as worthy, and there is just as much need of rearing them to a standard of virtue and purity, manliness and integrity. If parents were more careful and resolute about molding the character of their boys and making them suitable companions for the society of girls, there would be less anxiety about the girls, and fewer of them led astray and ruined.

As mothers we must all be sculptors of souls. We can teach our sons the value of a soul, and we can if we will lay a foundation for a true, noble character. One author has said that the one thing needful for the salvation of our country, is strong, healthy mothers, but I will add that strong, healthy fathers are also needed. Are not they to be the guiding star of this great republic? Is the coming young man growing into fitness to associate with the coming young lady. How many a young man goes to the saloon and takes his social glass, (if no more) and puffs away at his cigar in the very face of the young lady he invites to walk or ride with him? Is the man with such habits a fit companion for a refined woman? Are the young ladies satisfied with the outlook? If all young ladies would establish a rule that they would not associate with a young man of vile habits, it would do more toward putting down this vice of intemperance than all the sermons and temperance lectures we have ever had. But we have many young men who are never found at the saloon or with a cigar in their mouth. May their influence be felt to the saving of many other young men, and God hasten the time when it will be unpopular for men to imbibe this health-destroying poison. The youth of our land have glorious privileges, let those who realize this help to raise to a higher position those who are to be the future rulers of our country and the future fathers of our nation.

I have heard mothers say: "Oh how glad I shall be when my boys are grown up so they will be out of my

way!" Your wish rather should be to keep them with you. Better to have them in the way than learning evil elsewhere. Another mother says, "I have not the time to look after my boys." You should take time. It is your imperative duty to know the whereabouts of your boys, and the company they keep. Your time cannot be more profitably employed, and I verily believe God will hold parents accountable for the loss of many youth of this land. You may and should gain their confidence when very young, and see that you never betray this confidence. Teach them to come to you with all their little troubles and sorrows; these troubles though trifles in your sight are mountains to them, and must be leveled and smoothed down by the gentle kindness of their mother, in order to get them to come to you in after life with larger troubles and greater sorrows. Enter into their little sports, even spending a little time now and then in playing with them. If that will keep them at home it will be time well and profitably spent. Some may ask why not say fathers as well as mothers? Because I do not think that fathers usually have the love and patience with these wayward boys that mothers have. I will relate a circumstance that came under my notice several years ago.

I knew a father who went to a sale to see his friends and take a day of recreation. His boy could not go as the team must be kept busy and farm-work go on. He came home, went to the field, was not satisfied with the work of the boy. He asked no explanations but censured the boy, and told him he had not done half the work he might. This, of course, angered the boy, and he said to his father, "If you are not satisfied get some one else to do your work." "Very well," said the father, "you just clear out and I will get some one immediately." The father then came bustling to the house his temper all in a ruffle, telling the mother all about the rebellious son; and wound up by saying, "Now, just let him go, and you need not try to stop him, I guess he will appreciate a home by the time he finds one." Presently the boy came in, quite determined on going he knew not where. But did that mother sit calmly down and let him go? No! She braved the wrath of the father, by pleading, coaxing and begging the son to remain at home. She knew the danger to which he might be exposed. She realized that home was the only bulwark for safety for the son. He finally yielded and said, "For your sake, mother, I will stay and try to put up with father's hasty temper." Not only once, but many times did that mother keep that boy from leaving home and going astray. After many years the father came to rely on that son, and was often telling about "my boy." "I would rather have my boy than any hired man I can find." No one could please him so well as this same son whom he would have banished from home had it not been for the mother. But listen to the boy's story. "I owe all that I am to my mother. It is through her influence that I am an honorable man." And to-day he is an honored member of society, a staff to his mother's declining years, and though he respects the memory of that dead father, still the love of his mother is dearer to him than all else. All fathers are not like this one, far from it. I know that many of them are noble and just, but if all mothers felt their responsibility as they ought there would not be so many of our boys going astray, and fewer husbands to be made over, and many wives relieved of much censure.

We are told that, "just as the twig is bent the tree inclines." You cannot bring up a boy in a hap hazard sort of way; allowing him his own course in all things, and then expect to have an orderly, neat, upright and honorable man, or that ever so good a wife is going to make him a model husband. I will admit that she may in a measure soften down the rough places, for none can come in contact with the pure without themselves becoming somewhat purified.

Sisters may materially aid in making the boys manly and courteous, by being pleasant, kind and courteous to them. And I think these courtesies begin at home; in the family circle is the place to treat each other as you would wish to be treated when away from home. In doing the washing and ironing, do you try to do it just the very best you can or do you slight it thinking it does not matter 'tis only the boys clothing. Let me tell you it does matter, and here is the key to a boy's heart. They know when their linen is in proper shape, and appreciate the work of a sister if it is well done. How would you like a young man come to see you with his shirt bosom half done up, his collar soiled, his cravat awry, and his general appearance that of being thrown together. Would you feel highly honored? Methinks not. Then take special pains to have the wearing apparel of your brothers in proper order. In short make your brothers understand that you think more of them than any other boys in the whole world.

Another instance where I think boys are misused is in the selection and decoration of their rooms. Their room is almost invariably the darkest, smallest and most unpleasant room in the house, looking out upon no scenery except the wood pile or back-yard, with no ornaments whatever, not a picture or a carpet; much as ever it has a bedstead or a chair. Some say it makes no difference about the boy's room, they are in them so little except to sleep. I think they have good reasons for not spending more time in their room. They instinctively feel this difference between their room and that of their sisters. They should have just as good a room and just as nicely furnished as the girls. If they are in their room but little, let the pleasant impression made be such as they shall carry through life with satisfaction. Let there be something attractive and charming that shall tend to draw them back when away from home.

Again, many mothers seem to think the parlor too good a place to entertain their company. Better not have any parlor than to banish the boys. Some mothers do not approve of the boys having company. Here is another error; it is just as essential that the boys interchange visits as that the girls go out to tea or to a quilting. And just as necessary that they feel free to invite a friend to tea or to stay all night and know that he can have free access to any of the best rooms. I tell you, mothers, you greatly err when you so persistently close those doors against the boys. Don't you know you are driving them out of your hearts, and perhaps out of your homes, for if your boys cannot find amusement, recreation, solid, social and free enjoyment at home they will surely seek it elsewhere. And we all know the doors of the saloon stand ajar, and the walls are hung and gilded, and the proprietor stands ready to receive them with a smile and a courtesy.

Another source of annoyance is the fun and laughter of the merry boy. They must be kept quiet, as they distract the nerves of the parents. Better they had less nerves and more common sense than to check the joyous mirth of the boy. Those mothers are wisest who run no risk as to what their sons shall be in the future. If you would have the premium boy and the model husband, fit and true toward that end and you will have boys that will be an honor to you and to themselves, and never neck making over by their wives, but grow to eminence and greatness as they grow in years.

The Farmer's Relation to our Common Schools.
BY A. N. W.

If there is any subject in the broad field of education which should receive the most careful attention, which should be studied, and investigated, by the farmer, it is our common schools. It is in the common schools that most farmers have received instruction. It is here where their children are taught their early lessons in mental discipline and in the development and improvement of the intellectual and moral faculties, and as the home and the common school are the two great aids—the two chief helpers in securing to the child an education, it should not only be a duty but a pleasure for farmers to encourage the improvement of our common schools, to give them watchful care and earnest attention, to constantly strive to raise the standard of both the teacher and the taught to a higher plane of excellence, and to a truer conception of the value of a common school education.

That farmers as a class give the common school little thought and still less attention, outside of the annual school meeting is a lamentable fact, which needs no argument nor long dissertation to prove. A little observation shows this fact to be so common, so well nigh universal that we can scarcely hope for any long continued improvement in our system of education, if the improvement causes the farmer to go deeper into his pocket-book.

The duties of farmers to our common schools are multitudinous and very important, duties which to discharge worthily is to improve the farmer, his neighbor and the nation. Our duties in this respect do not consist simply in hiring the teacher, nor in going to the annual school meeting for the purpose of engaging in a neighborhood quarrel, but in giving the common school all the assistance within our power, and encouraging both the teacher and scholar to constantly aim higher than they now can reach, to understand the value of common school education, to understand that it is free and within the reach of all, and that the common school is the great popular educator, and should receive their voice, vote, influence and liberal assistance. Visit the schools frequently criticize defects and failures mildly and commend that which is good and worthy. If the farmer is a parent he should let the children know by words, deeds and actions, that he is interested in the success of their school.

Never encourage the child in disobedience, nor in doing wrong, because the teacher has made either imaginary or real mistakes, encourage the

teacher, assist him in maintaining order, system and harmony. Let the children know you are the teacher's friend as well as theirs. Use caution about "taking sides" with either party whenever a difficulty arises, but let the child know that you will support the teacher in everything that is right; that obedience to all rules and regulations is a necessity; that gentleness and kindness while playing with their schoolmates is much more manly than quarrelling; that politeness is better and far more noble than coarseness and vulgarity; that honesty with teacher and schoolmates is a necessity; that study is for self improvement, not to improve nor gratify the teacher, necessarily, but that he will be gratified because of the child's improvement.

The common school is truly the farmer's school, and as such, it is worthy of his time, care and attention. It is his duty to see that his children attend regularly, to see whether the teacher is meeting his expectations, and if so let both teacher and scholar know it; but if there is a lack in the teacher be cautious about telling your opinions before the children or around the neighborhood. Better seek to remedy the defect by kindness and personal conversation and encouragement.

Teach the child that it is just as wrong to injure or deface school property, as it is to impair the finest of private property. While anxious that your child should learn rapidly, be willing to answer all questions, and assist in overcoming all difficulties if really necessary, but teach the child to be independent, to rely chiefly on self, and to have hope, patience and perseverance.

Our common schools furnish the foundation of education, and it is the farmer's duty to see that this foundation is solid, good and instructive to the highest degree attainable. To be willing, to pay good teachers, good wages, and to be unwilling to hire poor teachers because they are cheap, for in every case they are too cheap. If there is any avocation in life where the "laborer is worthy of his hire" it is the avocation of a teacher in our common schools. Many farmers who have no children, or whose children are grown to manhood, think the school tax is an unjust burden, and that those who send to school pay the cost. But this class is rapidly getting smaller, for many are realizing that the permanent safety of the government, of property and individual rights depends upon the general diffusion of education.

Farmers should aim to make the common school more perfect, broader in its educational scope, deeper and more thorough in the instruction which it gives. In some respects our common schools, as a class, are worthy of commendation, and in other respects they are very defective; and these defects can be remedied to a great extent by the farmer.

If the farmer would support the teacher in his attempts to have the scholars practice writing essays upon familiar and simple subjects, instead of telling them that "such work is all nonsense," he would see his child's mind become more cultivated, his eye would become brighter and more intelligent, and a much better command of language would be acquired. Many farmers think if the child has a good idea of arithmetic, it is the main object to be sought, but this is an error. A knowledge of mathematics is all right and a necessity, but the farmer should not be satisfied with a common school that allows any one study to be pursued to the exclusion of others. Let the educational work of the common school be broad and comprehensive. Let it include history and language. Let the course of study be a broad one, keeping all parts of the mind at work, and thus no one will be pursued to the injury of others. A correct and good use of language is as necessary to the child as any other part of his common school education. Let the various branches taught in our common schools receive equal encouragement from the farmer. Let the farmer be determined that his child shall know what it learns in the common school, and shall be able and willing to tell it in clear and concise language, and the future generations of farmers will not be considered the "mudsills of society," nor the ignorant class of this land, and will not be speechless upon general topics; but able to express themselves in clear, terse, intelligent and comprehensive language.

The Senate Bill for the Regulation of Freight Rates.

For the Visitor.
Senator Pennington of Charlotte has introduced a bill in the Senate at Lansing with the following title: A Bill to regulate the management of, and provide for a uniform rate for the transportation of freights upon railroads within this State, and to prevent unjust discriminations against local freights upon such roads.

While we recognize the evils of unjust discriminations in rates, we are at the same time apprehensive of even worse difficulties that may arise from rash and unwise legislation. The busi-

ness of railway companies has been built up into a vast and complicated system. It is so intricate in its relations that any effort to remedy existing evils should be based upon extended study of one of the greatest problems of the times. The knowledge and skill of specialists and trained experts should be employed in all legislation upon the subject.

In the first place Mr. Pennington's bill has the weakness which is inherent in all State laws having for their object the regulation of rates; and that is the impossibility of extending the same system of restraints over entire lines of railway. The important lines generally extend through several States and a great part of our transportation is across one or more State boundaries.

Again the effect of the bill would be to regulate rates strictly according to distance, class, and weight. These three elements alone form a very arbitrary and unsatisfactory basis for the determination of freight schedules. It is well known that the cost of transportation over long distances is much less per ton per mile than over short distances. The cost is also affected by the amount of traffic over any given line.

The great objects to be obtained ought to be to make all rates depend strictly upon cost of service as ascertained by experience, and not upon the amount which the traffic will bear; and further to prevent capricious or malicious discriminations among individuals or localities. In estimating the cost of service the profits should be upon unwatered stock, but all of this involves a knowledge of railroading in all its details. We believe that Mr. Pennington's bill is constructed without sufficient consideration, and in some respects unwise. If it were to become a law, its enforcement might be injurious to the true interests of the railway corporations as well as to those commercial interests which depend upon the railways for their existence.

St. Nicholas for March

Has a notable list of contributors. Archibald Forbes, the distinguished war correspondent of the London Daily News, furnishes a vividly interesting story of the Turco Russian war, entitled "Where was Villiers?" which has the additional attraction of being illustrated by the well known battle-painter, W. H. Overend, of the *Illus-trated London News*, himself a personal friend of both Forbes and Villiers. In the "Letter-Box" is a pen-and-ink sketch of Mr. Forbes by Hubert Herkomer, from the portrait of him by that artist.

Rose Terry Cooke contributes a capital story of the Michigan fires of 1881, called "The Wrong Coat." There is a charming poem, "Ben Bruin," by Lucy Larcom and one by Cecilia Thaxter.

Lucretia P. Hale gives us the latest particulars from the Peterkins, and tells how "Mrs Peterkins Faints on the Great Pyramid."

Prof. William Elliot Griffis, the eminent orientalist, writes about Hokusai, a famous Japanese comic artist, and the paper is illustrated by reproductions of some of Hokusai's most popular pictures.

"That Sly Old Woodchuck" is a characteristic American boy story by O. W. Stoddard; and Miss Anna Elchberg, author of "The First Violin," has a delightful tale from the German of Leander.

E. S. Brooks finishes his four-part story of "The Field of the Cloth of Gold." Frank R. Stockton contributes a picturesque and thrilling installment of "The Story of Vitaeu," and J. T. Trowbridge tells how the "Tinkham Brothers" took a firm stand in defense of their "Tide-mill." The frontispiece is an engraving of Greuze's celebrated painting of "The Broken Pitcher."

Besides the foregoing, there are stories, sketches, poems, and pictures by Charles Barnard, Sarah Winter Kellogg, Joel Stacy, Palmer Cox, Reginald B. Birch, H. P. Squire W. L. Sheppard, De Cost Smith, and many others.

The North American Review.

The North American Review for March opens with an article on "Money in Elections," by Henry George, who brings to the discussion of that hackneyed subject a contribution full of originality, freshness and keen insight; he points out with admirable clearness one source of our political ills, and proposes a remedy that seems both eminently practicable and efficient. Robert S. Taylor writes of the "Subjugation of the Mississippi," a work which, in his opinion, and in that of the Mississippi Commission, of which he is a member, can be accomplished only by employing, for the purpose of deepening and straightening the channel, the forces developed by the river itself. Moncure D. Conway contributes a very striking study of Gladstone as a man and statesman, showing how even the more or less sinister moral and intellectual traits of his nature, quite as much as his pre-eminent native force and elevation of character, conspire to make him the foremost Englishman of his time. Hon. George W. Julian's "Railway Influence in the Land Office" is a grave, judicial exposure of the practices which, against the manifest intent of the law and the determinations of the highest courts, have won for corporations millions upon millions of acres of the public domain. Richard A. Proctor writes of the "Pyramid of Cheops." Prof. Wm. G. Sumner of "Protective Taxes and Wages," Elzear Wright of "Some Aspects of Life Insurance," and finally, there is a symposium on "Educational Needs," by Prof. G. Stanley Hall, Prof. Felix Adler, President Thomas Hunter, and Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi. Published at 30 Lafayette Place, New York, and for sale by booksellers generally.

It is not enough to have reason; it is spoilt, it is dishonored, by sustaining a brusque and haughty manner.

