

Communications.

The Liquor Question—Constitutional Amendments.

Will our Legislature adjourn without making provision for submitting a prohibitory amendment to the voters of the state? It will be remembered that two years ago large numbers of our citizens...

But why did so many members of that body vote against submission, did they not virtually say to the electors, you are not capable of deciding this matter?

That somebody which refused to grant the prayer of a hundred thousand of our most respectable citizens, forced amendments upon us, we neither asked for or the public good demanded.

But we are told that while we can and do enforce the law against other transgressors, we cannot against transgressors of a prohibitory law, virtually admitting that a few saloonists and their hangers-on cannot be controlled by a law enacted by the people...

Will this member from the southern district of this (Van Buren) county redeem the pledge he made before election, that if the temperance voters in his vicinity would support him, he would use his influence in favor of submitting the amendment...

D. WOODMAN.

The Farmer for the Farmer.

Bro. Cobb.—You say in the VISITOR of the 15th inst., that the late tariff law reduces the duty on wool 30 per cent. Please inform your numerous readers what the duty on foreign wool was previous to the new law...

Although farming was the first and ever has been the most important calling of the masses, what branches of industry have received as little respect and attention from our law-makers as the class of men engaged in this very important branch of industry?

knowledge by the combination aristocracy and political wire pullers of the country, that is, on the eve of an important election. We are strangely allowed a Commission of Agriculture at Washington, but he must not be a cabinet officer.

Grange by laws tell us not to talk politics or religion in the Grange. Perhaps, under existing circumstances, this may be right. How long must we suffer our grievances and remain dumb and paralyzed, under the present political regime that exists in the land at the present time?

We have looked in vain for relief from the Republican party. Where shall we look next? To the Democratic greenback fusion party? O. no. That would be the height of foolishness.

Why are over two-fifths of all our tax-payers for the support of the present primary school system? Where does the money go? Where is the boasted improvement in our primary schools at the present time?

Texas, Mar. 21, 1883.

Remedy for Circuit Court Evils—A Response.

Mr. Editor.—In your article found in the VISITOR of March first entitled "Attorney Hiller's Argument Answered," you seem to be laboring under a very serious mistake, for you say that, "In the defense of existing statutes," etc.

You seem to forget that you have the affirmative of the issue and that issue clearly defined by the quotation I made from your article published as aforesaid, and that in taking the negative I am simply opposing the position you have taken and that in opposing your views I am at liberty or free to choose any other method of relieving the circuit of the vast number of appeal cases that I may deem best.

As to the amount of argument which was found in my last article, I have nothing to say, except that it has been submitted to the jury who are to pass upon it. You are not the first person whom I have known to say, "It contains very little argument."

You seem to think that but for lawyers there would be but few appeals taken, and that the legal profession are entirely to blame for the vast amount of appeals that are taken to the circuit court.

In reply, allow me to say that lawyers and clients are substantially the same all over the State and the same principles of human nature govern them, and lawyers do not as a rule advise appeals unless they think their clients' rights have been trampled on, pettifoggers may.

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dcx, but am no believer in Paine or Ingersoll and am fully persuaded that Robert G. has made more mistakes than Moses.

And now having told what a mean kind of a man I am, so that in the future the question at issue can be discussed upon its merits without reference to what I am, I have only to say, "Lay on, MacDuff, and cursed be he who first cries, Hold! Enough!"

Respectfully, THOMAS J. HILLER.

March 24, 1883.

Plant Grapes.

J. T. Cobb.—I have many times wondered why more farmers did not have sufficient of the delicious grape for family use. Is it neglect or a lack of the supposed intricate knowledge in their management?

In the first place, do not trust to tree peddlers to sell you some new grand sort, that will ripen by the first of July, and keep until the next April. The most of those chaps know nothing of grapes, or any kind of fruit for that matter, and care as little, only so they get your order and big prices.

In the fall or early spring prune off nearly all the growth made that year, and when the vine starts in the spring rub off all except one or two buds. Drive a stake to each vine, which after it is driven will stand about five feet high.

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IDA A. KEEBER, Sec'y. Palmyra, March 26, 1883.

J. T. Cobb.—Bill No. 16, introduced by Senator Pennington, was brought up and discussed before this Grange at its meeting of March 17, 1883, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Mrs. M. BENJAMIN, Secretary Grange No. 387.

Flushing, March 26, 1883.

Legislative Statistics.

The oldest member of the State senate is John M. Grusel, aged 73; while John W. Hance and Joel W. McMahon have each scored but 34 years in the battle of life.

J. N. S.

The Will of the Voter.

Worthy Secretary J. T. Cobb.—The subject of the few lines inclosed with my subscription for VISITOR may be found in VISITOR of March 1, Page 6, where some one expresses fears that in case the Pennington bill should become a law it would work injustice to corporations.

I am not of that class who are talking anti-monopoly for 364 days in the year and on the 365th vote monopoly, neither have I any charity for that class, I mean what I say and am willing to practice what I preach.

subservient to the will of the master.

Corporations are all creatures of law and should be controlled by law. But at the present time many of them assume to and really do control the Creator. Such corporations are well represented in all legislative bodies, and their interest is generally considered in preference to any other and there is but one way to change this class of legislation and that is by the free and independent use of the ballot.

Respectfully yours, FRANKLYN, Duck Creek, Mar. 20, 1883.

Transportation—Resolutions.

Bro. J. T. Cobb.—At a recent meeting of Glass Creek Grange No. 425, the following preamble and resolutions were read and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, We, members of Glass Creek Grange No. 425, feel that the present practice of railroads of charging all the traffic will bear to be burdensome and detrimental to agriculture, and

WHEREAS, There is a bill pending in the Legislature of the State of Michigan for the regulation of the charges of transportation over the railroads of the State, and

WHEREAS, We believe that if said bill becomes a law it will benefit the working people of the State, therefore,

Resolved: That we, the members of Glass Creek Grange No. 425, unanimously petition the Legislature to take favorable action on the bill, and further,

Resolved: That we ask the representative from our district to use his influence in favor of the bill.

GRANT OTIS, O. A. NEWLAND, T. S. JENKINS, Committee. GRANT OTIS, Sec.

Hastings, March 15.

Bro. J. T. Cobb.—At a regular meeting of Palmyra Grange, No. 212, held March 23, the bill introduced into the Senate by Senator Pennington, to regulate the management of, and to provide for a uniform rate for the transportation of freight upon railroads within this State, etc., was read and discussed by the Grange, the provisions of which were heartily indorsed by some of its members.

The secretary was also instructed to forward to the GRANGE VISITOR, for publication, the action of this Grange in regard to said bill.

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W. M. State Grange. 5. Recess until evening session. 6. Evening session—Conferring of fifth degree. 7. Morning session—open in fourth degree.

Mrs. A. N. Woodruff.

Let the public turn out and hear the address of Hon. C. G. Luce.

WM. J. JONES, Sec. Berrien Springs, Mich., March 19, 1883.

The next regular meeting of Lapeer Co. Pomona Grange No. 29, will be held with Elm Creek Grange No. 666, on April 12th (second Thursday) 1883.

J. W. SCHELL, Sec'y.

A special meeting of St. Joseph County Pomona Grange will be held at the Grange hall in the village of Colon on Thursday, April 5, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M.

SAM'L H. ANGEVINE, Sec'y. Mendon, March 5, 1883.

Hillsdale Pomona Grange No. 10 will convene at Jonesville Grange Hall Wednesday, April 4, 1883. Programme as follows:

1. Music by the choir. 2. Rehearsal by Sister Mattie Dresser. 3. Question. In what way does it pay to give attention to plants in the house? Opened by Sister L. W. Benedict. 4. Reports of experiments in the use of salt on lands. Opened by Bro. E. C. L. Mumford. 5. Song by Sister Mary Gardner. 6. Essay by Sister H. Griswold. 7. Music by the choir. G. M. GARDNER, Jr., Sec'y. Litchfield, March 12, 1883.

RUFUS HATCH, of New York, has at last carried his point and obtained a ten years' lease from Secretary of the Interior Teller, for several parcels of land in the Yellowstone National Park. The terms provide that the lands shall in no case be within one-quarter of a mile of any of the Geysers or Yellowstone Falls, that no mining shall be done or timber removed except as authorized by the Government, that no game, mineral deposit or natural curiosity shall be destroyed, that the objects of interest, and that one large and six smaller hotels shall be built, the plans of which are to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

DETECTING COPPER IN FOOD.—Unscrupulous vendors doubtless do occasionally employ salts of copper to give a fine green color to pickles, but we incline to the opinion that this dangerous form of food adulteration is far less commonly practiced than is generally believed. To detect the presence of copper we need only take one of the suspected pickles, cut it into pieces, then add some ammonia (spirits of hartshorn). If the copper is present, even in very slight traces, the addition of a few drops of ammonia will instantly develop a beautiful deep blue coloration.

NATURE is very fortunate about some things. No matter how shrewd a man may be about other things—falling and paying ten cents on the dollar, and saving enough from the wreck to buy a corner house on the avenue in his wife's name—he must, and there is no possible escape from it, he must, whether he will or no, pay the debt of nature in full.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

The next regular meeting of Oakland County Pomona Grange will be held at Davidsburg Grange hall on Tuesday, April 10, beginning at 10 A. M.

PROGRAMME.

Opening of the Grange. Music by Davidsburg Grange Choir. Salutory.—"Why are we here," by Hiram Andrews. Reports of Subordinate Granges. Music. Dinner. Public meeting at 1:30. Music. Scrap Bag,—read by Mrs. Richmond.

Recitation.—Charles Landon. Music. Subject for discussion, "What stands most in the way of the advancement of the agricultural classes?" Opened by Myron Voorbees.

Essay.—Mrs. Shattuck. Music. "Labor as a blessing," Lecturer of Pomona Grange. Question drawn, open to all. All fourth degree members are invited to attend, and the public generally invited to attend the afternoon meeting.

MRS. D. M. GARNER, Sec.

There will be a special meeting of Allegan Pomona Grange, No. 33, at Rural Grange hall, in Wayland, on April 13, at 10 o'clock A. M. All fourth degree members, in good standing, are invited to attend. D. S. GARDNER, Sec. Otsego, March 22, 1883.

Worthy Master C. G. Luce will speak at the hall of Ganges Grange, No. 389, Ganges, Allegan County, on April 18, at 7 o'clock P. M. To all who are interested in the welfare of the farmer, a cordial invitation is extended. HENRY HAWLEY, Sec.

The next regular meeting of Berrien county Grange, No. 1, will be held at Benton Harbor Grange hall on April 17th and 18th, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M. Tuesday. Programme as follows:

1. Reports of Subordinate Granges. 2. Recess for dinner. 3. Public Installation of officers. 4. Public address by C. G. Luce, W. M. State Grange. 5. Recess until evening session. 6. Evening session—Conferring of fifth degree. 7. Morning session—open in fourth degree. 8. "Political education of the farmer," opened by Hon. T. J. West. 9. "Making clover hay," Z. K. Bishop. 10. "Making butter on the farm," Mrs. A. N. Woodruff.

Let the public turn out and hear the address of Hon. C. G. Luce. WM. J. JONES, Sec. Berrien Springs, Mich., March 19, 1883.

The next regular meeting of Lapeer Co. Pomona Grange No. 29, will be held with Elm Creek Grange No. 666, on April 12th (second Thursday) 1883.

A full attendance is requested, as some important business will come before the meeting, among which will be an agent to receive and ship wool during the coming season. All fourth degree members in good standing are cordially invited to attend. Meeting will be called to order at 1 o'clock sharp.

J. W. SCHELL, Sec'y.

A special meeting of St. Joseph County Pomona Grange will be held at the Grange hall in the village of Colon on Thursday, April 5, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. The Lecturer has arranged a good programme for the occasion and a lively time is expected. All fifth degree members are requested to be present. A cordial invitation is also extended to fourth degree members to be present and take part in the discussions of the afternoon session.

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Communications.

THE OUTCAST'S WARNING.

Almost within the city's sound, A lifeless corpse one day was found Beneath an oak tree, on the ground, One hand outstretched imploringly. And in the hand so icy cold, Was found a paper worn and old Which to the world, a story told, Of strong drink's cruel treachery. "Here underneath this wildwood tree My sinful soul from earth must flee With none to cheer or comfort me! Alone, in all my misery."

lutely necessary for us to unite for our protection. What have we to say about the price of what we have to sell? What have we to say about the price of our labor more than a slave has of his? We take our produce to market, and take just what they please to give. We give for what we wish to buy just what they please to ask. Mere mummies and dummies in each transaction in which they transfer to their own pockets just what per cent they see fit. These corporations which have been established under the protection of laws which they themselves have made or caused to be made by lobbying, bribery, or any other means they found necessary to accomplish their purpose, have complete control of every department of the government. They control every industry. The commerce of the country, its highways of travel and carriage, the money—its volume, making it plenty or scarce at will, and thus enabling them to set such price on everything we produce as best suits them, till we are bound hand and foot. We have done just what they wished us to do, voted for demagogues on one side or the other that they have set up for us, either of which were ready and pledged to do their bidding. Under the laws and privileges extended to them they are piling up wealth by the millions. Where did Vanderbilt and Gould get their immense wealth. They simply appropriated the wealth accumulated by the toil of the laboring millions to themselves, they pass an edict stronger and surer than can the Czar of Russia and make a million by it. Have you and I a good crop, they toll it just what they please and transfer it to their pockets just by a little simple edict, that's all. And what do we say about it? O nothing, only freights have gone up, and consequently wheat has gone down, and perhaps by this little act of theirs, done in a moment, they take every cent of profit our good crop gave us promise of, and we, as laborers, lie weary and worn just where we started, all the profits having been absorbed by these Shylocks. I see here old men and women, comparatively, that have been industrious, prudent and saving, rising early and toiling late, year in and year out, through summer's heat and winter's cold, till your heads show the frosts of many winters and how much have you to show for this life of toil? Don't show me a few dollars and tell me you are out of debt and are rich, and all this, I hope you do not owe any one and are comfortably fixed. But just sit down and count with these lazy drones who are bleeding you. Enter their costly palaces and parlors and see how your wealth has been extorted from you and wonder that under the present state of things communism in all its horrible forms does not hold sway. To such a pass have things come they even deny the right of the laboring classes to enter into an agreement with each other as to what wages they must have, calling such acts conspiracy and arresting them as guilty of crime, denying them the right to set the price upon their own labor.

Why do we have social enjoyments in the Grange that no other institution in this country has ever given us. We have through the Grange made friends and acquaintances in every part of the country, and many of us in different parts of the State that will be of lasting benefit and enjoyment. It is said in plaster alone we have made enough to pay all the Grange ever cost us. We have forever silenced the slide gate swindle and I hope will be able to dispose of the drive well swindlers. I think, however, we ought to have purchased our own plaster beds, as we were abundantly able to have done, for fear that fight must be done over again. We have materially reduced the price of many articles we use by letting dealers know we know what they are worth and showing our ability to supply ourselves, thereby showing our independence and commanding respect. What benefits may we derive from the Grange? This is a broad question, and I answer, nearly everything that would prove a benefit may be accomplished if we work together, for in union there is strength. In the Grange room we ought to learn every question of parliamentary law that will enable us to fill a seat in any legal body in the land. We should learn by instruction drawn from our brothers and sisters the best mode of producing everything grow on the farm; the best mode of preparing our products for market and selling the same. We should learn how to judge, feed, rear and utilize every domestic animal in use among us. We in the Grange ought to stimulate each other to raise better crops, better stock, and to better store our minds with useful knowledge. It ought to stimulate us to lead pure, beautiful and useful lives, so that each can vouch for the integrity and good name of all. Now Brethren, we hold the balance of power in this country, and if we could think alike and act together, we might accomplish much, but if we are never to say a word and hold to no policy nor speak our thoughts or discuss what is best because politics are excluded from the Grange, then we may as well work away sing lullabys and go to sleep, hoping all will be well and let the extortioner have his day and his way, for I tell you unless we unite and work and stand by our principles and each other, our chains are forged and will soon be riveted upon us. All we need do is keep quiet a few more years. I will not mention the causes that are at work to bring this order of things about, but the few comparatively rich men of the country control all. Why were not our petitions heard by our own Legislature when framing our tax law (which our last Governor Jerome so much boasts of) when we asked that all property should be taxed equally. When we asked that the man who holds the mortgage on the farm should pay his just share of the taxes with the man who held the deed. They took good care on the other side that the farmer should pay to the utmost, and when he worked his road tax he must look out and get his receipt or he must pay it again, even the return of his road master that he had so worked would not be a voucher. Why does our Congress withdraw nearly all small bills and all fractional currency when we the people want them and ask for them for our own convenience. Why force on us instead ten cent and five cent pieces (little nuisances) when we ask paper scrip instead? Why will they not accommodate us in these matters? Simply because our bankers, rich men and privileged orders tell them not to. I tell you when we send the right men they will work for our interests; but we need not expect it when we send lawyers, bankers and shysters to make laws for us. Our Grange laws need overhauling and exemplifying, and our National Grange ought to hear us and we ought to ask it. I have belonged to this Grange a year or two and we have initiated 30 or 40 members. I have been here meeting after meeting and this initiation has been going on, taking valuable time that, in my judgment, would have been more profitable doing something else. Had our wise leaders seen fit to allow us to do so we could have given them all the instruction received in a few minutes. Forty or more of us as charter members were initiated in a few minutes and I have yet to learn if they are not as good Patrons as those who have been run through the regular mill. I suppose all the formality of the masons, odd fellows, good templars and all the rest must come into our Order or we would be out of fashion. To learn all our books well so we could dispense with our ritual would require much time and reading them seems much like the plays of children. There are none of us the wiser or better for all this loss of time. Other societies may fool away as much time as they please, but Patrons' time is precious. If I am wrong in this please drop it as coming from a rather weak brother; but if I am right let us labor to have our work shortened that so much time be not spent. Think how many of us have

left our homes for the Grange hall and traveled from one to five miles for what? to spend half a day and do nothing but what might have been done in a very few minutes. We can spend time better talking of beautiful sunshine, beautiful flowers, beautiful nature, ever beautiful and interesting, is ever worth our study and admiration. There are plenty of topics that would be highly interesting and instructive to which we as farmers ought to give our attention. Chemistry, botany, pomology, zoology, entomology, all subjects that closely interest us and our vocation, and on which we ought to be tolerably well posted, are fit subjects for discussion in the Grange. We might to the thorough scholar remind him sometimes of Bro. Gardner's Lime Kiln Club, but still we would learn. And I tell you, brethren, the Grange is an educator. There are new departures in farming operations we ought to become acquainted with, as for instance the new way of keeping food for cattle in silos or pits, which food is called ensilage. Any green crop, as corn, sugar cane, oats, rye, millet, clover, any or all of these are cut (I should think better after the dew is off) and run through a feed cutter or cutting box and put in tight bins or pits, thoroughly tramped or pressed down, and nicely covered with plank or any close cover and heavily weighted with stones or some heavy material where it is left till wanted for use in winter or spring, when, if properly done, it will be found nearly as good as when put there, thus supplying succulent green food much cheaper than roots and in much less space than it can be saved dry. It is health and change to all kinds of stock, even hogs devour it greedily. Cows, sheep and calves are very much benefited by it, as it means health and comfort and change. All these subjects and many more need our joint experience and observation. There is only one subject more I will introduce at this time and that is the religious feature of the Grange. We have our Chaplain, and we invoke the blessing of Almighty God, and brethren, let this not be a solemn mockery. And when we ask our Heavenly Father to bless this Grange and all connected with this Order, may this be a heartfelt prayer, and let a sincere amen pass the lips of each brother and sister in all sincerity. Let our lives be full of acts of love, our days be spent in doing good to those around us, and when the night of death shall overtake us, may we by the Great Master above be gathered home with the good and great of all lands and receive the full reward for all our toil. R. DOUGHERTY. Colon Grange, No. 215. The Outlook Hopeful. Editor Grange Visitor:—In your editorial headed "Will Farmers' Complaint," you seem almost to despair of accomplishing the universally conceded reform in legislative representation demanded by our most intelligent farmers, but you must remember that we are creatures of habit, and having been controlled by partisan lawyers and unscrupulous moneyed politicians for the past century, it will take a long time to fully emancipate the rural voters from their partisan prejudices, and enable them to assert their independence. The Visitor is doing a noble work, be no discouraged, remember that all great reforms move slowly. It took nearly half a century to educate our people up to the point of emancipating the colored slaves from physical bondage, and it may take as long to secure the emancipation of the millions of white political slaves from the control of cunning, corrupt political demagogues. The leaven is working among the masses, continue to sow the good seed and in time it will spring up and produce a magnificent crop. Justice and truth will ultimately prevail if pushed to the front with energy and perseverance, patriotism seems to have become nearly extinct among our leading politicians, and the bitter and disgraceful strife between leading partisans and the different factions of the two great parties for the loaves and fishes, demonstrates the fact that they are destitute of all good, sound political and moral principles and are only held together by the cohesive power of public plunder. Money, not brains or patriotism has secured nearly all the United States Senators who have been elected in the past four or five years, and money instead of brains controls the legislation of that august body. When the people fully comprehend the danger to our free institutions from the corrupt use of money, instead of passing it off as a good joke as they are inclined to do now, they will arise in their majesty and sweep the corrupt money changers from power, who have got control of the temple of liberty, they will also learn in time that free railroad passes are simply bribes which affect legislators, lawyers, judges and courts, and influence the recipients to favor the corporations by way of reciprocity at the expense of the people. No man should vote for a supreme court judge unless the candidate pledges himself

unqualifiedly not to accept a free pass. That court at least should be like Cassar's wife, above suspicion; and no man should vote for the increase of salaries of State officers unless the proposed amendment contained a clause prohibiting any legislator, judge or State officer from accepting a pass under any circumstances while in office. REFORMER. Dowagiac, Mar. 20, 1883. The Educational Needs of the Farmer. [Messrs Wm Brown, E Marsh, J. Beach, Wm. M. Tabor and all other members of the farmer's institute held at Mt. Tabor Grange hall February 10th. Agreeable to your request I herewith present to you for publication the essay I read a said institute, on the subject of "The Educational needs of the Farmer." The reward I ask for this effort in behalf of the farmer, is that the readers of the VISITOR shall read, ponder and then act with that degree of selfishness only which will secure to our class the God given equality which is vouchsafed to us by the constitution of the United States.] Worthy Master, Fellow Farmers, Ladies and Gentlemen:—In obedience to the request of your Secretary, I am with you for the purpose of adding my humble mite to the interesting exercises of this occasion. The subject assigned me is in every respect entitled to the most profound and sagacious consideration of the farmers of this great land, viz., the educational need of the farmer. The thought presented by the subject is of such magnitude, that any attempt to do it simple justice on an occasion of this kind, would seem useless. Like some of the great monopolies of the day, "There's millions in it." Does the farmer have any educational needs, and if so what are they? We number upwards of fifty millions of souls in this nation, and about one-half of the number are engaged in agricultural pursuits. It has been wisely said that a nation cannot have a lasting existence which is one-half free and the other slaves. It might with equal wisdom be said that a nation cannot fully prosper, having one-half its citizens intelligent in pursuit of its calling and the other half more or less ignorant. Intelligence will always assert its power, to the sure detriment of the ignorant, and thereby produce discontent, injustice and inequality. One of the first things the farmer needs to learn is, that the right to equality in this country was patented on the 4th day of July 1776, and enveloped in the hearts of the noble Patrons, whose blood was offered on the altar of human rights. And unlike the law governing patents in these days, the time securing the benefits of this patent has not yet expired, but we are forced to admit that many infringements are in existence, to our special detriment. This fact leads us directly to investigate the cause of these infringements, and whether the causes are in any way traceable to the farmer himself as a class. You will pardon the assertion if too harsh or unwarranted, that the farmer as a class is the most ignorant according to his wealth and opportunities, of any class of citizens composing this republic. First, he is ignorant of himself; Second, he is ignorant to a great extent of his chosen occupation; Third, he is ignorant of the responsibilities as well as privileges of citizenship in this government. Our people have but followed the example of other great nations, and we see no indications at present, of a change in choosing our law makers. When Rome swayed the sceptre of empire, she chose her clergymen to make her laws, hence the great dominance of the church in all her affairs. Why did she thus choose her clergymen for this high purpose? Because they were the best educated class of her citizens. They enacted laws solely for the benefit of Roman Catholicism. They created the priesthood, bishoprics and the great infallible pontiff and demanded the uneducated masses to support them, and place implicit confidence in whatever priestcraft could invent for its own benefit, and enforced these demands by the use of the Inquisition or faggoted stake. The more ignorant the masses were kept the more easily could the domineering element assert its power. Another example, which comes more directly under our own observation, can well be used here to illustrate our position on this subject, viz., that of English landlord government. Who are the chief law makers of England? Landlords and lawyers; just that class of men who are the best educated as a class. The means and opportunities are facilities which they possess under their peculiar laws to gratify their selfish purposes, and think you they will cast them aside and enact laws that would secure intelligence and equality, or even justice between themselves and the tenantry of England and Ireland? The answer, no, comes to us with no mistaken sound amidst the groans of the ignorant and oppressed farmers of those unhappy islands. Need we multiply examples to satisfy us that education assisted by wealth governs in all progressive na-

tions. The history of man furnishes us with this fact throughout all ages. Let us come home to our own beloved land and examine the situation, and see who enact our laws, and in whose interest they are working. The answer readily comes to all of us. Our lawyers govern us. Why? Because they are the best educated class of men in this country. Their calling by its very nature gives them a greater knowledge of men and the relations of the varied business of the country, than can be obtained by any other class of our citizens. Selfishness governs all classes more or less, and is it surprising that lawyers do enact laws that will give their own class a good living. The farmers vote a good cunning lawyer in power, and a corrupt press, and corrupt politicians, and corrupt and soulless monopolies vie with each other in deluding the uneducated and unsophisticated farmer into paying tribute either directly or indirectly to undeserving men and objects. It is useless to extend this picture. You can see its shadow in all directions, then doubt not the existence of the reality in all its hideousness. Our interests are involved in its existence, and it is our duty to adopt means for our protection. In the scale of wealth we overbalance all other classes as well as outnumber all other classes. How then does it happen that as a class we do not wield the balance of power, and secure to ourselves at least justice and equity with other classes? Why are we not more uniformly successful in our calling? Why are we socially on a lower plane than people of other callings? As an answer to these questions, we repeat what we said before, we are ignorant of ourselves, we are to a great extent ignorant of our occupation, and we are ignorant of the responsibilities as well as privileges of citizenship under this government. In support of the first of these assertions, we find that we are ignorant of ourselves as a class. We do not understand our common wants or our common power, wielded through intelligent united action. We do not seem to understand that upon our shoulders hangs the destiny of this nation; that all other classes are dependant upon us to a great extent for what they are and hope to be. We are ignorant of the cause that places us on so low a plane. We do not recognize our opportunities, hence we must suffer oppression, ignominy and unmerited injustice. We are ignorant to a great extent of our occupation. The proof of this exists everywhere. How many here to-day could give an intelligent description of plant life, the elements producing it and the relative amount of each necessary to produce any particular plant? Who can examine a given quantity of soil and determine its composition, as to its elements of plant life, what is necessary to add, if anything, to insure a good crop of wheat or corn? Who understands definitely the physiology of our domestic animals or the causes which produce the best results in rearing a first class animal, such as we would all like to possess. We deem it unnecessary to multiply questions which are so easily suggested, and so few of us able to answer. Suffice it to say that our system of farming is largely composed of traditions and a calculation of probabilities. Of course many farmers are comparatively successful without a definite knowledge of the scientific principles underlying agriculture or horticulture, but we dare say that none can be absolutely so. We are ignorant of the responsibilities as well as privileges of citizenship here. Remember that we have an inheritance in the patent of 1776. Were we educated as a class to our responsibilities and privileges, having the greatest number of voters in our ranks there would be no cry of class legislation especially against us. No, we are not educated in political economy or the science of government, hence we are labelled farmer, and our place is fixed like the little boy, to be seen and kept handy for service but not to be heard. How many of us acknowledge our responsibilities to each other by our actions. Is it not too true that one politician will exercise more influence even among the farmers in manipulating an election than fifty farmers do? Ah! how many of us use the privileges granted to us by our patent to freedom? Are we not fearfully responsible for all the class legislation and monopolies of which we so justly complain? Are we not responsible for the unbalanced condition of society? Are we not responsible for the absence of the keenest and shrewdest intellects from our farms and kitchens? Has it not been rulable to keep the dull boy or girl at home on the farm while the shrewder ones would be sent to school to prepare for the profession of lawyer, doctor, preacher or teacher, and the fathers and mothers labor even to suffering to furnish the necessary means, and withal sweetening their toil with the vain glorious idea that farm labor is degrading to a being blessed with such intelligence. Now how shall we remedy these wrongs and failures? We answer. As a class, there is only one way, and we have abundant example in the course pursued by nearly all classes.

The Grange.

Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters:—I am called upon for an essay without any subject being given me, and I will choose for a subject, "the Grange." Well, what about the Grange? For what is the Grange intended? What do we propose to do in and through the Grange? What benefits have we derived from the Grange? What are our duties as Patrons? These are all questions we ought to be able to answer at least to our satisfaction. I hope every member present will note every objection to what I may say, and criticize it till we arrive at the truth, whether I am right or wrong. The Grange has been characterized by our enemies as a huge monopoly, springing up like other monopolies around us and for the same purpose, viz., self aggrandizement. But not so, it grew out of an absolute necessity. Perhaps there is not a country in the world or a time in earth's history when and where corporations and monopolies entered as a controlling force into not only the politics but the social condition and influence of the people as it does now in this country. There seems to be no limit to their activity or hardly to their number or their objects. Jim Fisk paid the debt of nature, but his successor was as objectionable as he. Vanderbilt died but his son far more than fills the measure of his father, and when he dies a huge corporation whose little finger will be heavier than his loins, will arise on his ashes, and the number of these monopolies is legion. Railroads, telegraph lines, national banks, and combinations taking the oil we use for illuminating our houses as it flows like water from our mother earth free, and so monopolizing it that millions are made from it. The mills that grind our bread, the manufacturers of our tools and the clothes we wear, salt, starch, soda, books, paper, nails, iron coal, everything that we buy, everything we sell, are all under the direction of rings, bulls, bears, boards of trade. One firm claim they made \$6,000,000, off the farmers last year in pork dealing. This state of things makes it abso-

Youths' Department.

KEEP NOTHING FROM MOTHER. They sat at the spinning together. And they spun the fine white thread.

Chat on the Cousins. Good Morning Aunt Nina.—Lay aside my hat and ask me, I thank you, I am out on a mission.

A Cousin's Opinion of Grange Work. Aunt Nina.—I feel most heartily ashamed of myself for my negligence. I have kept putting off writing until now.

Sweet Briar is deep in the mystery of book learning, so much the better. We cannot wait to argue the point but will lay the case before her.

The men who are in Congress have been considerate of the interests of the farmer, and so of course, they have diminished the tariff on wool.

The farmers' wrongs have to a certain extent been righted. But it is only a partial righting. And it will take long years before the objects of our Order will be realized.

the fruit of his brain labor for the past few months. "Charlie," who had the scarlet fever last year, I like your idea of working in your young days so as to have an easy old age.

What will I bring? Oh! I'll bring a May basket for grandpa. When shall we make the raid? The first of May if that will suit the company.

I hope all the cousins have read the address of Worthy Master Woodman before the National Grange at the last session. If not, I advise you to do so.

If the farming class of the United States, do not educate themselves, and their families, rouse themselves from this lethargy.

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away, "one by one," so we must fit ourselves to fill their places, and to do this we must educate our-elves while we have the opportunity.

Berrien County Farmers' Institutes—Suggestions. J. T. Cobb.—It would seem hardly fair for Berrien county to make an attempt to capture the VISITOR.

In the North American Review for April, the scriptural and the legal aspects of Divorce are presented respectively by the Rev. Dr. Theodore D. Woolsey.

How solemnly true it is that the jaws of death are not half so dreadful as the "jaws" of life.

THE REAPER DEATH. PIERCE.—Died January 26, 1883, Brother Dewitt C. Pierce a worthy member of Ravensna Grange, No. 373.

GILL.—Died January 15, 1883, in Virginia, whither he had gone on a visit. Bro. E. K. GILL, aged 26.

WIERBAS. After a long and painful illness the Angel of death has taken from our circle another of our most faithful members.

PRAY.—Died at her home in Windsor, Eaton county February 12, 1883. Sister Essek Pray aged 48 years.

has proved so successful that we recommend it as a wise policy for future use. The assignment of topics is a duty of a delicate character.

Let me make this too long, we close by rendering our thanks for the many kind wishes and words which have been spoken for the Berrien County Farmers' Institutes.

Yours fraternally, EDWARD MARSH Stevensville, Feb. 12, 1883.

My mill is well known by the Side Spouts and being patented March 29, 1870. Improved in 1882 and 1883.

ACME CREAMER and BUTTER COOLER. A combination by which the laborer is relieved from the drudgery of churning.

NOW IS THE TIME. To go west and select from 2,000,000 acres of land which I offer for sale in the west.

PATENTS. LUCIUS C. WEST, Solicitor of American and Foreign Patents, and Counsellor in Patent Causes.

TRY MY New Extra Early Sweet Corn. Three cents per package.

THE MARKETS. Grain and Provisions. New York, March 29.—Flour, steady; prices not much changed.

Chicago, March 29.—Wheat, regular, higher; closed steady; \$1.05 1/2 Mar. \$1.05 1/2 April; \$1.04 1/2 May; \$1.11 1/2 June; \$1.10 1/2 July.

M. H. SMITH'S GRAIN GRADER. And Seed Separator, the Best Fanning Mill in use.

Patented March 29, 1870; Improved in 1882 and 1883. My mill is well known by the Side Spouts and being patented March 29, 1870.

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TRY MY New Extra Early Sweet Corn. Three cents per package.

W. H. CARDNER, THE SEED GROWER OF MOLINE. Is still alive and selling a finer assortment of seeds than ever before at prices to astonish the natives.

INSECT POWDERS and FERTILIZERS. The cheapest and best INSECT EXPELLERS, PALMER'S PLANT and VINE PROTECTOR, and HAMMOND'S SLAG SHOT.

W. H. GARDNER, Moline, Allegan Co., Mich. Evergreen and Ornamental Trees. JAMES A. TAYLOR

Sucker State Strawberry Plants. 50,000. First-class Plants for sale at \$10.00 per thousand; Second class plants at \$8.00 per thousand.

PATENT IMPROVED SPRING-TOOTH HARROW. One of the best Farm Tools ever sold. No breakage of Bed Pieces as we do not Cut Them.

Simplicity and Durability. We use the best of steel (oil tempered), and the best of white oak in the construction of our implements.

Moseley's Cabinet Creamery. Creamery and Refrigerator COMBINED. Sizes for one cow to fifty.

NEBRASKA SEED CORN. To meet the demands of farmers and dealers for reliable seed, we offer in lots to suit a limited quantity of CAREFULLY SELECTED AND THOROUGHLY TESTED SEED CORN.

The Dish Demon.

BY ELEANOR KIRK.

Mrs. Leonard had washed the breakfast, dinner and tea dishes. She had prepared food to fill these dishes, and had swept, dusted, churned and scrubbed. In fact, every housekeeping detail that needed attention was not only done, but done in a splendid way.

"You had better step a little lively," the deacon suggested, wondering why it was that every day that passed found her less and less interested in spiritual things. She was a model housekeeper.

"I've been asleep every time that I've been lately," Mrs. Leonard replied with burning cheeks, and then added, "I suppose I shall do the same thing to-night."

"But you didn't use to do so," said the deacon. "No, I didn't," his wife replied, "but I don't think I'm as strong as I used to be. When night comes I want to go to bed."

"But look here, Mary. You know yourself that you ought to go to meeting." Mrs. Leonard's reply was a somewhat reluctant affirmative.

"You will have to look out for yourself," her husband remarked, sadly, "or you will be tempted beyond your ability to resist."

Mrs. Leonard thought of the supper dishes, and concluded it was quite likely. "It is all wrong, Mary," he went on, "you must see yourself that it is all wrong."

Something was wrong, certainly, but Mrs. Leonard had a dim idea that it was not exactly in the way her husband meant. It was true she was growing fretful and impatient, and duties that had once been pleasant enough were now more than distasteful.

Mrs. Leonard replied, in a voice that trembled pitifully. "I think I know just about how you feel," said Mrs. Shepherd, after a moment's pause.

"Oh, no, you don't," her guest responded, quickly. "No one can imagine how wicked and how wretched I am." "I can," and the minister's wife took her hand in hers, because I've been in the same condition.

"After a while I found myself growing very irritable. The voice of the minister calling me from my sleep in the night would make me positively angry. Now, the best part of me was not angry. I would have sacrificed just as much as ever; but my nerves had got the upper hand, and all I could do was to keep their secret.

"I want to break dishes to-night," Mrs. Leonard sobbed. "I supposed it was as bad as that," Mrs. Shepherd replied. "If it is the first time you have ever felt destructive."

"It was not you, it was your nerves," Mrs. Shepherd responded. "I have discovered that my nerves and I are two distinct individuals. If reason has the helm, then our nerves work in harmony with us but if they are ignored or abused, they run riot with the body and stultify the soul."

"But I don't think my husband will consent to such an arrangement," Mrs. Leonard said to her husband. "Try him," said the hostess, "and I will call upon you in a few days and see how you make out."

"If an editor omits anything he is lazy. If he speaks of things as they are people get angry. If he glosses over or smooths down the rough points, he is bribed. If he calls things by their proper names he is unfit for the position of an editor. If he does not furnish his readers with jokes he is an idiot. If he does he is a rattlehead, lacking stability. If he condemns the wrong he is a good fellow, but lacks discretion. If he lets wrong and injuries go unmentioned, he is a coward. If he exposes a public man he does it to gratify spite, is the tool of a clique, or belongs to the 'outs.' If he indulges in personalities he is a blackguard. If he does not his paper is dull and insipid." - Boston Post.

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

Fifty cents' worth of ALABASTINE will cover 50 square yards of average wall with two coats; and one coat will produce better work than can be done with one coat of any other preparation on the same surface.

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?

Grange Seal Stolen.

Sign of Caution—An Imposition Exposed!

Patrons. Some one unknown to me entered the apartment where the Seal of the Knickerbocker Grange was, and stole impressions of said seal on sheets of writing paper and one E. A. Quarterman has been using said sheets of paper with stolen seal on signing himself "Yours fraternally."

O. K. INGERSOLL. 76 Fulton St. New York, P. M. Knickerbocker Grange.

The State Agricultural College.

This institution is thoroughly equipped, having a large teaching force; also ample facilities for illustration and manipulation including Laboratories, Conservatories, Library, Museum, Classroom Apparatus, also a large and well stocked farm.

EGGS FROM all varieties of Poultry.

Circulars free. Send loc for New Book on Poultry. OAK LANE, Dwight P. O., Mass.

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I take pleasure in presenting your favorable consideration my CASH PRICE LIST of Harness Work—HAND MADE—all of my own manufacture, also to return thanks for the liberal patronage I have received from the different Granges throughout Michigan.

CHAMPION CABINET CREAMERY.

First Premium, Illinois, Michigan and Kansas, 1883. All sizes for dairy or factory use. For convenience of handling, raising the cream quickly and thoroughly, and ease of cleaning, are unsurpassed. Send for circulars and testimonials. Dairy Implement Co., Bellows Falls, Vt.

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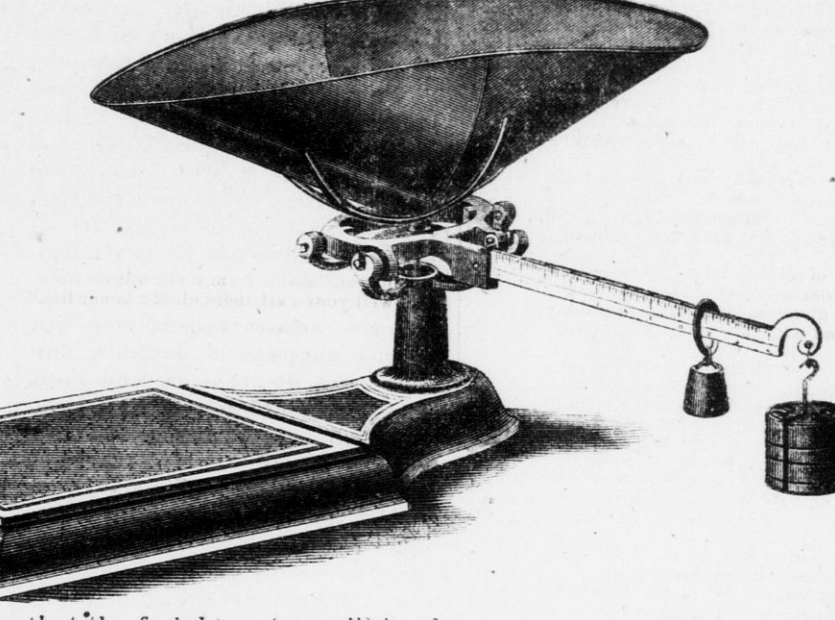
To the Patrons of Michigan.

THE ACCOMPANYING PLATFORM SCALE

represents a fine PLATFORM SCALE that will weigh from one-half of an ounce to 240 pounds. It has a brass beam, steel bearings; size of platform, 9 1/2 x 24 inches, warranted perfectly accurate, and I will sell to Patrons for the very low price of \$4.50.

SEEDS. SEEDS. SEEDS.

Vegetable and field seeds of every kind and variety from the best growers in this country and Europe at wholesale prices to Patrons. If you have not already received my Catalogue for 1888 send for it.



They weigh, boxed, 45 pounds, so that the freight on two will be the same as it would be on one.

Are at their lowest prices. Now lay in your supplies before the reaction comes. All other Groceries, Boots and Shoes, Dry goods, and Clothing I can furnish cheaper than you can buy elsewhere. If you come to Detroit in person to select your goods remember that I can save you five to ten per cent if you will let me make your purchases.

GEORGE W. HILL, Detroit, Mich.

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