

# THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOLUME 9, NO. 24.  
WHOLE NO. 176.

[Printed by Kalamazoo Publishing Co.]  
Publishers of the Daily and Weekly Telegraph.  
Combined monthly circulation of the three papers, 72,500.

SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH., DECEMBER 15, 1883.

{ YOUR SUBSCRIPTION  
WILL EXPIRE WITH THIS.....

Entered at the Post Office at Kalamazoo as Second Class matter.

## The Grange Visitor

(ENLARGED)

Published on the First and Fifteenth of every month,  
**AT 50 CENTS PER ANNUM**  
Eleven Copies for \$5.00.

J. T. COBB, Editor & Manager,

To whom all communications should be addressed, at Schoolcraft, Mich.

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order, or Draft.

This paper is not sent only as ordered and paid for in advance.

### Officers National Grange.

MASTER—J. J. WOODMAN, Paw Paw, Mich.  
OVERSEER—PUT DARDEN, Missisquoi, Vt.  
LECTURER—HENRY ESHAUGH, Missouri.  
STEWARDS—W. SIMS, Kansas.  
ASST. STEWARD—JOHN J. ROSA, Delaware.  
CHAIRMAN—H. O. DERVIES, Maryland.  
TREASURER—F. McDOWELL, New York.  
SECY.—W. M. IRELAND, Washington, D. C.  
GATE-KEEPER—JAS. DRAPER, Mass.  
CHIEF—MRS. J. J. WOODMAN, Michigan.  
POMONA—MRS. PUT DARDEN, Missisquoi.  
FLOBA—MRS. I. W. NICHOLSON, New Jersey.  
LADY ASST. STEWARD—MRS. W. SIMS, Kansas.

### Executive Committee.

D. WYATT AIKEN, South Carolina.  
H. D. BINGHAM, Ohio.  
DR. J. M. BLANTON, Virginia.

### Officers Michigan State Grange.

M.—C. G. LUCE, Gilead.  
O.—A. N. WOODRUFF, Watervliet.  
LEC.—JOHN HOLBROOK, Lansing.  
S.—S. A. TOOKER, Grand Ledge.  
A.—S. A. B. CLARK, Morrice.  
C.—E. R. WILLARD, White Pigeon.  
TREAS.—S. F. BROWN, Schoolcraft.  
SECY.—J. T. COBB, Schoolcraft.  
G. K.—ELIJAH BARTLETT, Dryden.  
CHIEF—MRS. M. T. COLE, Palmyra.  
POMONA—MRS. LYDIA DRAKE, Plainville.  
FLOBA—MRS. D. H. STONE, Morrice.  
L. A. S.—MRS. A. B. CLARK, Morrice.

### Executive Committee.

WM. SATTERLEE, Ch'n., Birmingham.  
H. D. PLATT, Ypsilanti.  
JOHN PORTER, Grand Rapids.  
THOMAS MARS, Berrien County.  
J. Q. A. BURRINGTON, Tuscola.  
THOS. F. MOORE, Adrian.  
J. G. RAMSDELL, Traverse City.  
C. G. LUCE, J. T. COBB, Ex-officio.

### State Business Agent.

THOMAS MASON, Chicago, Ill.  
GEO. W. HILL, Detroit.

### General Deputy.

JOHN HOLBROOK, Lansing.

### Special Lecturers.

Thos. F. Moore, Adrian, Lenawee Co.  
M. L. Stevens, Perry, Shiawassee Co.  
Mrs. S. Steele, Mantou, Wexford Co.  
Andrew Campbell, Ypsilanti, Washtenaw Co.  
J. W. Wing, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Co.

## Price List of Supplies

Kept in the office of the Secretary of the MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE

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

Porcelain Ballot Marbles, per hundred	75
Blank Book, ledger ruled, for Secretary, to keep accounts with members	1 00
Blank Record Books, (Express paid)	1 00
Order Book, containing 100 Orders on the Treasurer, with stub, well bound	50
Receipt Book, containing 100 Receipts from Treasurer to Secretary, with stub, well bound	50
Blank Receipts for dues, per 100, bound	50
Applications for Membership, per 100	50
Secretary's Account Book, (new style)	25
Withdrawal Cards, per doz.	25
Envelopes, 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 15 cts. per doz.	1 80
The National Grange Choir, single copy 40 cents. Per dozen	4 00
Rituals, single copy	25
" " per doz.	2 40
" " for Fifth Degree, for Pomona Granges, per copy	10
Blank "Articles of Association for the Incorporation of Subordinate Granges, with Copy of Charter, all complete	10
Notice to Delinquent Members, per 100	40
Declaration of Purposes, per doz., 5c; per hundred	50
American Manual of Parliamentary Law	50
(Morocco Tuck)	1 00
Digest of Laws and By-Laws	40
Roll Books	15

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

## Agricultural Department.

### THE OAK AND THE VINE.

BY C. W. SERVOSS

An oak, through changeful years,  
Attained a sturdy form.  
In spite of wind and storm,  
And parried off the blows  
Of its united foes,  
Upon its harmless spears.

It braved the summer's heat,  
The winter's blighting frost,  
Till off its leaves were left,  
And yet with a naked breast,  
Maintained a fierce onset,  
With tempest, rain and sleet.

One Spring, upon the ground,  
There crept an humble vine,  
Seeking wherewith to twine,  
Up in the ambient air,  
To clasp its tendrils there,  
And fold its arms around.

It trailed its slender form  
Along the lowly sward,  
Unconscious of reward,  
So near within its grasp,  
Until its fibres clasp  
The hero of the storm.

And then, with modest mien,  
Besought its sturdy friend,  
A helping hand to lend,  
To lift its prostrate form,  
Henceforth in sunshine warm,  
To bathe its leaflets green.

The oak responded—"True,  
But, mutual weal requires  
That one who thus apires  
A faithful part should bear,  
And with its partner share  
Life's joys and conflicts too.

"Then take me to thy side;  
From heat, and cold, and blast  
I'll shelter to the last,  
One, who in time of need,  
Confers a generous deed,"  
The grateful vine replied.

Thence, oak and vine, as one,  
In strength and beauty grew—  
The valiant, and the true!  
One held the stormy field,  
While one, with verdant shield  
Repelled the burning sun.

Let mortals, thus, be wise,  
To share each other's load,  
And words of comfort speak.  
Let every rugged form,  
Inured to heat and storm,  
Assist the fall'n to rise.

Like tree and vine, consort,  
To share each other's load,  
Upon Life's weary road,  
That we may, at the last,  
Our mutual burdens cast  
On Christ, man's last support.

### Improvement of Native Stock.

In man's observation, of what others have done, he is often reminded of what he himself might have done, had he only utilized his own ideas, by putting them into practical shape. And how often do we find that, while we sit, like Micawbers, "waiting for something to turn up," somebody comes along and presents us with the very thing we were waiting to see "turn up" and walks off with all the credit and profit of a successful enterprise. Men talk about a "golden opportunity" as if it were something valuable, ready to spring up by the way, whenever some fortunate man happened to pass along. Instead of waiting for this will-of-the-wisp chance to make a fortune, the determined and resolute man will make his own opportunity, and secure all the golden treasure that may lie concealed in it. He will see where improvement can be made, study over same place to effect it, carry it out, and have, as the result, a new thing that will benefit himself and the community. Take, for instance, the improvement of live stock. There were many people in Durham county, England, that had long thought about improving the common breed of cows then in use among them; but Mr. Bates not only conceived the idea that he could improve the common breed of cattle, in his county, but he went to work and accomplished what he had undertaken; and the result was the noted shorthorns—the best type of beef cattle. Take another instance. A few farmers in the little island of Jersey, took some "scrubs," or common cows, and by careful attention in selecting the best calves and the improvement of these, they produced what is now famous as the Jerseys—the best type of dairy stock. Thus we see what has been done, that both the famous shorthorns and Jerseys were raised from the common cattle in the part of the country where they belonged. Have we not in our own native breeds, in this State; cows that can be developed into Alderneys, Holsteins, Jersey or any other excellent breed of cattle? Out of the blood that flows in the veins of our native stock have come all the

noted breeds. We have only to take the matter in hand in order to do what others have done in this direction. There is a good field of cultivation before us. In what we have said about the improvement of native stock, we do not wish to be understood as saying one word against anybody, buying imported breeds or the best blooded and thorough-bred cattle at home. But we simply say that in the great number of native cattle here at home, there is a fine field for improvement.

### Maple Grove—The Model Dairy Farm of New Hampshire.

From the letter of a friend, now in Vermont, I have selected the following items of interest in regard to the above mentioned farm.

This farm is situated on the top of a mountain near the quaint old village of Walpole. This village is supposed to be the oldest settlement in the state of New Hampshire. The houses are large, two story, double buildings, with beautiful grounds and grand old trees around them. The town hall was built in 1773, and has ample space about it for training ground that was used in the old days to fit the yeomanry for military service. One long street finely shaded, winds its way through the town, while others, seemingly with higher aims, branch out from it and reach up the side of the mountains. The town is a favorite resort for people from Boston, New York and other eastern cities. I do not wonder, continues the writer I have quoted, that old settlers get homesick when they leave these beautiful mountain homes for the monotonous prairies and treeless plains of the west. As Tom Hughes says, "I pity people who weren't born in a vale." Where your hill is always in view, if you choose to turn toward him. There he is forever in the distance, your friend and companion.

I would add, and I pity people who are ever compelled to leave such homes among these green hills. This part of New England grows more beautiful to me every day. The Green mountains are famous in fourth of July orations, in songs and patriotic speeches, where they are praised often by those who have never seen them, and the delightful scenery about the farm-houses scattered along the vales, on the hillsides. But to see and really enjoy them you must be here. As I pass along the streets of this delightful old town, Walpole, I expect to see the Rev. Dr. Bellows, of revolutionary fame, step out from his house, in knee breeches and cue, holding his cocked hat in one hand, ready to salute Madame Kilburn, in hoop and satin petticoat. The descendants of both these families, and I know not how many others, live in the old homes of their ancestors. They have kept them in good repair. The brass knockers still shine on the doors, notwithstanding the modern bell knob is invitingly near. The windows in the old church are the same that were "burnished by the setting sun" in the days of the revolution. It was church and town hall then, answering the sorest needs of the people, on Sunday and week day as well. From the village we drove up, by following the winding road around the mountain some two miles to Maple Grove, the model dairy farm of New Hampshire, and as we reached the beautiful plateau on top, we seemed to have emerged from the eighteenth into the nineteenth century; for all old things were left behind; everything about the farm being the most modern and complete, with a special reference to converting Jersey milk into the sweetest butter you ever saw. The farm lies on the top of the mountain, and consists of some 300 acres mostly under cultivation. The buildings are beautiful. You catch a glimpse of them now and then, on your way up. The house is very old, but has been remodeled, and now stands as a Swiss chalet, in its reddish brown color, trimmed with black and green. The capacious barns are kept so invitingly clean that you would think you were walking into a parlor as you stepped into them.

We were first shown into the dairy, by an intelligent young man who proved to be the butter maker. Mr. Williams, the proprietor, was just driving to town, and was sorry he could not show us around himself. Everything in the dairy is on an extensive and complete scale. From the time the milk of each cow, weighed and brought in, until the quarter pound golden balls, stamped with a big "W," are put into a tin box holding thirty pounds, ready for market, the most exact care and exquisite neatness are exercised. The cows not having come in from the pasture we went to see the pigs. There were 200 in the pens. Breed, imported "White Essex." They ranged from one week to 18 months old; and were getting fat in blissful ignorance that in a few weeks they would be ground into sausages to be sent to Boston and New York. In the meantime the cows came in. We saw them walk into their respective stalls without a word or motion from any one. The herd consists of 60 head of the finest of Jerseys, registered stock; each cow valued high up in the hundreds or thousands. The head of the herd is a splendid animal called Northern Pacific. Mr. Williams sends a carload to Michigan every year. I cannot tell how many yearlings and two-year-olds were gambling in the pastures, like beautiful, graceful fawns. There is a hospital for the sick. A celebrated veterinary doctor from Boston was then attending a sick cow that was valued at 12 hundred dollars. The writer met at Chester, Vermont, Mr. Morris who is an old friend of the Gilkeys of Gull Prairie, and a Mr. Borvan, and old Buckingham, who was well acquainted with the Shaftes of Galesburg and those in California. V. B.

Williams, the proprietor, was just driving to town, and was sorry he could not show us around himself. Everything in the dairy is on an extensive and complete scale. From the time the milk of each cow, weighed and brought in, until the quarter pound golden balls, stamped with a big "W," are put into a tin box holding thirty pounds, ready for market, the most exact care and exquisite neatness are exercised. The cows not having come in from the pasture we went to see the pigs. There were 200 in the pens. Breed, imported "White Essex." They ranged from one week to 18 months old; and were getting fat in blissful ignorance that in a few weeks they would be ground into sausages to be sent to Boston and New York. In the meantime the cows came in. We saw them walk into their respective stalls without a word or motion from any one. The herd consists of 60 head of the finest of Jerseys, registered stock; each cow valued high up in the hundreds or thousands. The head of the herd is a splendid animal called Northern Pacific. Mr. Williams sends a carload to Michigan every year. I cannot tell how many yearlings and two-year-olds were gambling in the pastures, like beautiful, graceful fawns. There is a hospital for the sick. A celebrated veterinary doctor from Boston was then attending a sick cow that was valued at 12 hundred dollars. The writer met at Chester, Vermont, Mr. Morris who is an old friend of the Gilkeys of Gull Prairie, and a Mr. Borvan, and old Buckingham, who was well acquainted with the Shaftes of Galesburg and those in California. V. B.

### The Manufacture and Drainage.

Much is printed and many elaborate essays read at Farmers' Institutes to show the benefits and convince farmers of the necessity of farm drainage. Every leading, progressive farmer is thoroughly posted, and admits every point taken by the advocates of drainage and not a voice is raised upon the other side of the question. The only reason why every farm is not under drained is the cost of doing it. Is it not time therefore to direct to that point more attention, and endeavor to bring about more practical results. Is it not a fact that many efforts at draining with cheap, perishable materials, such as boards, stones, logs, etc., are a waste of means effecting temporary benefits, and a total loss of the whole investment in a few years, in most cases? I believe it is a fact that good tile are the most practical material yet discovered for draining land, and yet they cost, even in the vicinity of factories, too much for general use.

Warring, in his work on draining for profit and health, says, "As a general rule any clay which will make good brick will make tile. There is no reason why tile should cost more to make than brick. A common brick contains clay enough to make four or five 1 1/4 inch tile, and it will require about the same amount of fuel to burn this clay in one form or another."

He also gives cuts and describes cheap hand tile machines, pug mills, etc., showing the feasibility of making them very much cheaper than they are now sold for. We have at our command abundance of material, clay, sand and fuel, to produce the best material for permanent drainage almost without cost. We lack only a little experience as to just the right kind of clay to use, or just the right proportion of sand to mix with the clay. We need to find a manufacturer who can supply the pug mills, dies, tile press etc, on a scale suitable for farm or neighborhood use. Also an able treatise minutely describing the smallest detail in the whole work. Is there not some one who can give reference as to reliability or competency, willing to examine samples of clay and determine what treatment they need and their value for tile, charging a reasonable sum for his services? Perhaps our agricultural college might be induced to help us. What better work could it do? Let me give another quotation from Warring: "Mr. Parker estimated the cost of inch pipes in England at 6s. (\$1.50 per thousand, when made on the estate where they were to be used, by a process, similar to that described herein."

"Brother farmers, let us agitate this subject, and rest not content until the knowledge and conditions are within our grasp whereby we may make our seed time certain and our harvest reliable. C. S. KILLMER, Arenac, Mich.

### An Ice House for Farmers.

The first thing to be done is to select ice that is free from impurities. The late inspection of the ice that was found to have caused the alarming sickness of those who drank the ice water in an Eastern hotel, has proved that freezing impure water does not purify it. Specimens of the ice above mentioned, were found to contain over half the impurities that were in the water before frozen. Hence the only safe way is to find a lake or stream of pure water which when frozen will give you the best quality of ice. For an ice house for farmers we give the following from the *New York Times* as being worthy of attention.

Nearly every season some subscriber of *The Times* asks for information in regard to the construction of ice houses. Without knowing the cost of the materials in a given locality and the substances available for packing the ice, it is difficult to furnish the information desired. The following in regard to the conditions necessary to preserve ice are given in the *Toronto Globe* and are of general application. To construct an ice house properly requires careful attention to a few essentials, but so little expense that every farmer should have one. It may be of the simplest construction and does not require double walls. A simple log house will answer, or inch boards nailed up the outside with scantling. A proper conductor must be used but the ice must not be so close to the outside as to exclude ventilation. The site should not be one where drainage is difficult, and air currents coming in through crevices must be prevented. One of the essentials is a perfect covering on six sides of some good material, such as sawdust, chaff, chopped straw, swamp moss are all good materials for the purpose. The second essential is perfect drainage at the bottom, without the admission of air, and the third a free circulation of air over the top of the upper packing or covering. For the covering which is to go all around ten inches or a foot of sawdust well and evenly packed will answer well. If the soft straw is used double that thickness is required. Oat straw, being soft and pliable is good material, but is better for passing through the straw cutter. Fine clean chaff is also suitable or dry swamp moss or other dry vegetation that will not readily decay. The best soil upon which to build is dry and gravelly, with good natural drainage. On such a site the floor and posts will last much longer than where the ground is soaked. If the drainage is not good ditches should be dug around the sides, and stones or gravel used along the inner side where the posts are set. This material will allow of the ready flowing of the water. The floor should be of boards, planks, or slabs laid on support or sleepers, and with ample drainage below, care being taken, however, not to admit of crevices through the ice. Over this loose floor ten inches of sawdust should be laid but be retained in a closely packed mass. A floor of this description will allow the water flowing from the ice to soak through and make its way out by the small cracks.

In more elaborately constructed ice-houses, where the floor is solid, a drain is hollowed along the middle and discharges by a pipe bent down then up and down to its exit, so as to make a water-trap through which no warm air current can make its way into the building, or the simple expedient is adopted of curving the pipe down into a ditch or cistern. The sides of the ice-house may be of logs, in which case care should be taken to prevent the ice in settling catching on the inside. To prevent this, boards nailed up and down may be used. If a board-in-house is used, scantling should be worked up and down at sufficient distances to prevent bulging, and care must be taken in laying down the packing that the settling does not throw the ice open instead of keeping it together. The thinness of a single board is not to be feared, for the packing, if properly done will not heat perceptibly under the blaze of the hottest sun. Over the packing on the top a roof of brush may be laid. This will give free ventilation, and the rains that fall on it will soon evaporate from the sawdust. It is preferable, however, to build a roof over the ice. So much do necessities vary that it is impossible to state approximately how much ice a family will use. Where ice is easily obtained, so useful and refreshing an article should be furnished in unstinted measure, and the ice-house constructed of sufficient liberal dimensions. In calculating the solid ice contents of any proposed size of ice-house, the large space required for this packing must not be overlooked. If the packing is well done, the shrinkage of the ice will be but slight.

Two steers, named "Ben Butler" and "Bob Ingersoll" exhibited at recent fairs, are said to "perform wonderful tricks." Well, how could they help it, with such names?

### Winter Laying of Fowls.

"Will Brown Leghorn chickens lay eggs in winter?" J. F. referred to Old Poultry for answer.—ED.

Without being expressly enjoined, it would seem hardly proper to repeat a subject which has been laid down, line upon line, thought upon precept.

Yes, J. F., Brown Leghorn chickens or any other chickens will lay in winter if the conditions are supplied. Every hen will not lay because in winter many hens lay only once in two or three days. You may receive from one-quarter to one-half the number of eggs you have fowls. If the poultry house is not heated by artificial means the Asiatics seem the best prepared to withstand cold weather. They are large fat and heavily feathered. With a tight house Leghorns will lay in winter. This leads to the question of poultry houses. It has often been a query why those celery coops would not make good chicken coops. They are built by digging about two feet into the ground, and boarded two feet above ground. Then 12 foot roof boards reach nearly to the ground. Built with roof sloping to the north and south, and on the south slope are the windows. A cheap wood stove regulated to burn chunks will keep the coop warm and dry. At one end is a window for ventilation, at the other is the door, cost about \$25. Hundreds are in use for celery, will any one tell us why they are not practical for fowls as well? House will need whitewashing once a year, and kerosene applied with a brush to the roosts once a month.

As for care they need a dusting place about six feet square, filled with road dust or ashes; gravel must be at hand, also oyster shells or bones, burned or ground. Meat scraps may be obtained from butchers once a week; and after being boiled, this may be used to wet meal or middlings to be fed mornings warm; at night corn or screenings.

Winter laying is done by fowls in their second winter, and by pullets and each class does better if separate. A fowl cannot lay regularly during moulting.

Just about one of us in one hundred and thirty-eight observe all these conditions, but when they are observed we are rewarded with eggs in winter. OLD POULTRY. Grand View Place, Kalamazoo.

S. H. McCORMICK, has had a novel experience with tile. He had an eight-acre field which he under drained at a cost of \$175. The tiles, which were three inch, appeared to do their work all right until last week, when Mr. McCormick going over the field found it covered with water. He commenced taking up the tile to ascertain the trouble, when he found them completely filled with a huge rope formed of small interwoven roots. Pieces of the rope five and six inches in length could be broken off and pulled out, breaking about as easy as old rope. It extended as far as the tile was examined and was uniformly about the size of a man's arm. The problem with Mr. McCormick is how the rope got into the tile. He thinks the roots have grown through the joints of the tile, but the most careful examination has failed to discover a rat in the joints.—*Ingham County News*.

SOME years ago it was not so common to furnish the ration of roots as now, and Dr. Miles was rather a pioneer in this method in the west. He was laughed at and farmers said they could more economically pump water for stock than handle it over so many times in roots for the cattle. The doctor insisted that it was not the water nor the fat in the roots that he was looking at, but the condition of the animals that were fed upon them. It was health and strength of digestive organs he was after and he could secure it in no surer or easier way. We are glad that the doctor has lived to see all the prominent feeders of the country adopt his method.—*Chas. W. Garfield in Grand Rapids Democrat*.

MORE flesh is lost during the first storms of winter and more loss needlessly incurred than in all the year besides. Animals should be put under cover frosty nights and when it rains or snows and be tempted to eat by the best of fodder. A few oats in the bundle, cut before they are quite ripe, fed to sheep live stock at this time, brings the feeder a dollar a bushel. Stock when first taken off from sweet grass will go hungry rather than eat late cut coarse hay that frequently is found at the top of the mow.—*Home and Farm*.

The Grange Visitor

SCHOOLCRAFT, - DECEMBER 15

Single copy, six months... 25
Single copy, one year... 50
Seven 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.
For new subscribers, canvassers are authorized to retain one third of the subscription price to compensate for their work.
Sample copies free to any address.

Find corrected time table of M. C. B. R. and the L. S. & M. S. R. R. on seventh Page.

OUR CLUBBING LIST.

Table with columns: Name, Regular Price, With Patron. Lists various publications like American Farmer, Detroit Free Press, etc.

INDEX TO THIS NUMBER.

Index listing articles such as 'The Oak and the Vine', 'The Grange Visitor for 1884', 'An Open Letter', etc.

Secretary's Department.

J. T. COBB, - SCHOOLCRAFT.

THE GRANGE VISITOR FOR 1884.

As must be the case the GRANGE VISITOR representing the Order in Michigan, received the careful consideration of the Executive Committee and of the Standing Committee on Publication at the late session of the State Grange.

In complying with this instruction of the State Grange we assure our readers that in some things we shall go beyond these instructions and make some decided improvements in the paper.

Beginning at the bottom, we shall have a very much better quality of paper. There has been a falling off within three years. We must and will come back to the old standard of quality.

We shall after the reports, etc., of the State Grange have been given place, discriminate against long articles. Essays of special merit will, of course, sometimes set aside this determination, just as exceptions to all general rules are allowable.

To all good Patrons and friends of the VISITOR which is doing valuable educational work wherever read, we commend the third recommendation. Here is a chance to get pay in promoting the good of the Order.

We shall try and make the VISITOR of January 1st good enough to meet the requirements of the second recommendation. With the inducements offered we shall be disappointed if the VISITOR does not reach 10,000 by the first of March next.

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.

LANSING, Dec. 11, 1883.

The eleventh session of the Michigan State Grange was called to order promptly at ten o'clock. The large hall of the House of Representatives was fairly well filled and the work of the session commenced under favorable auspices.

The trains of Monday had brought considerable numbers and each train on Tuesday added to the number.

Tuesday night found the Hudson house filled to its capacity. After the opening of the Grange and the report of the committee on credentials had been received and adopted, a recess was taken that the Worthy Master might have time to arrange the standing committees.

The afternoon session was opened by Overseer Woodruff who presides with ease and ability. The committees were announced by Worthy Master Luce about four o'clock.

The time was well improved during the afternoon by speech-making for the good of the Order. Several of the sisters participating.

The evening was devoted to the reading of the reports of the officers of the State Grange. The address of the Master and the report of the Secretary being in the hands of the printer in advance appear in this number.

The Overseer, Lecturer, Chaplain, Treasurer and Ceres read reports some or all of which will find their way to these columns in letter numbers.

Bro. A. B. Clark, Assistant Steward apologized for not having a written report to present and surprised the Grange with an impromptu speech which not only proved him a first-class Patron but a gentleman of culture.

Worthy Master Woodman and wife of the National Grange were of the number of visiting members.

The committee on dormant Granges made a very valuable report on this most difficult subject, and readers of the VISITOR will hear more on this subject hereafter. It is important that any cause of decline in the Grange or elsewhere be known before the remedy is given.

The temperance question created almost as much interest as though the meeting had been one of Good Templars instead of Patrons of Husbandry. Among the resolutions adopted was the following:

We regard temperance as one of the essential principles upon which our Order is founded, and while we are constantly admonished to avoid "intemperance in language, work and recreation," we think special efforts should be made to suppress the use of intoxicating liquors.

We regard the practice of licensing the sale of liquors not our fair, especially that of the State Agricultural Society, also pool selling and gambling, as a burning shame, and a disgrace to the civilization of the nineteenth century.

A proposition to change the Grange VISITOR to a weekly called out a long discussion, which showed the interest all Patrons felt in the welfare of their paper. The majority believed that with its present character and price it would best promote the interests of the Order to be continued as at present, and no change was authorized.

The committee on co-operation gave the results of experiments in that direction. Success in such efforts requires careful management and a practical knowledge of business. Regular dealers use every means in their power to thwart co-operative efforts on the part of producers, even selling below cost for a time, or paying more than products are worth to get the trade and secure enormous profits afterward.

On Wednesday evening the fifth degree was conferred upon ninety-five applicants and following this Worthy Master Woodman in a clear, careful, thorough and most satisfactory manner instructed members in the unwritten work.

The election for members of the Executive Committees for two years resulted in re-electing Thomas Mars, Berrien county; Wm. Satterlee, Oakland county; J. G. Ramsdell, Traverse City. On Thursday evening according to custom the session was open to the public.

The afternoon session was opened by Overseer Woodruff who presides with ease and ability. The committees were announced by Worthy Master Luce about four o'clock.

The time was well improved during the afternoon by speech-making for the good of the Order. Several of the sisters participating.

Bro. A. B. Clark, Assistant Steward apologized for not having a written report to present and surprised the Grange with an impromptu speech which not only proved him a first-class Patron but a gentleman of culture.

TO SECRETARIES.

We assume that every Subordinate Grange that is in working order has had its election of officers for 1884.

Please do not forget that it is your duty to send to this office the name of the Master and Secretary, and their post-office address. This is a duty easily performed; and it saves us a great deal of trouble, to have it done promptly, and is every way better.

Don't fail to give this matter prompt attention, and remember that we occasionally get the names of all the officials of a Grange. Please remember we only want the name and post-office of Master and Secretary.

If any reader of the VISITOR knows that the Secretary of his Grange does not take the VISITOR, and therefore will not see this invitation to duty, will such member please send the desired information, with the fact of the Secretary's delinquency, and we will send a specimen copy as a reminder, to such Secretary.

We have several good reports in this number from the National Grange. The one from Worthy Master Luce on our fifth page covering a condensed history of the State Agricultural college furnish a collection of facts that are not new to a few of our people. But to the most of our readers the facts of that report will be in the main new and we trust it will be carefully read by every one who feels an interest in agriculture.

On the first page of this number is a very suggestive and sensible article headed "The Manufacture and Drainage," by C. S. Killmer, of Arenac. We are obliged to this gentleman for his contribution. Hope our readers will hear from him again as he is evidently a practical man.

THE M. B. Church Bedette Co., of Grand Rapids have changed their ad, in this number. We assure our readers that this "Bedette" is a cheap luxury. In many houses it will be found indispensable when once acquainted with it. We know, for we have tried it.

SEND orders for the next number of the VISITOR to be used in canvassing. We shall have an abundant supply to answer any demand.

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO STATE GRANGE.

Worthy Master and Fellow Patrons:—Another year of our work has been added to Grange history in Michigan since from this same platform and with very similar surroundings we presented our tenth annual report to the representatives of the Order here assembled.

Naturally the first question that arises is—has the Order within this year gained or lost numerically—has it gained or lost in confidence and self-reliance—has it gained or lost in real strength and influence—has it gained or lost in financial strength and standing.

We are aware that our official duty does not require us to consider these questions and we shall not make an extended answer, but present the figures which show the business transacted and perhaps make some comparisons.

The falling off in payment of fees and dues of \$497.13 indicates a loss in membership, or an indifference and neglect of duty somewhere. Not unfrequently the want of promptness on the part of Secretaries furnishes an explanation and it is not necessary to conclude that the loss numerically is as great as appearances indicate.

To the second and third questions we make answer, that to-day we believe the Grange in Michigan is as confident, self-reliant, and strong as ever before, and that the figures shown are not to be accepted as an index of the condition of the Order in the State.

Farmers as a class have not been educated to habits of promptness, and it is expecting too much to suppose they will give more attention to the duties and obligations which they assume when they become Patrons than they give to their own business. And how few farmers in all the details of their business show a thorough business education.

Of the last inquiry—has the Grange gained or lost in financial strength and standing we shall show that while the receipts from various sources have been less, expenses have also been less and the balance sheet shows as heretofore at the close of our fiscal year something added to the funds in the hands of the Treasurer of the State Grange.

Table showing receipts for the fiscal year ending Nov. 30 1883. Includes items like 'For fees and dues', 'subscription to GRANGE VISITOR', etc.

Leaving a net balance of \$ 313.09 As the Executive Committee has prepared a detailed statement of disbursements we do not care to particularize except in so far as relates to the GRANGE VISITOR.

A financial exhibit of receipts and expenditures on account of the VISITOR is as follows:

Table showing receipts for the VISITOR for fiscal year 1882. Includes items like 'Subscription for fiscal year 1882', 'Papers sold', etc.

While this showing might be well we are free to say that we are not at all satisfied with it.

As heretofore the editorial management of this paper was again committed to us by the Executive Committee at the last session of the State Grange, and we were authorized to change the measure and add another column to the page if we thought best. We found the cost of such change and enlargement would be but little, and it was made.

It will be remembered that at its last session the State Grange adopted an amended recommendation of the Committee on Publication, "That Pomona or District Granges be requested to appoint some member to canvass their county or district for subscriptions to the paper, and the editor be authorized to furnish them with such facilities as in his judgment will most effectually assist them in the work."

Not waiting for any notification of the appointment of such committees we prepared and had printed a suitable heading to a sheet properly ruled, for the use of these canvassers, or other persons who desired to take subscriptions for the VISITOR. These were sent to every Grange in the State, and were used to a limited extent. The results anticipated have not followed. The scheme looked well, but it was left to die and we think really did more harm than good.

to report a gain to our subscription list until now. This year there has been a falling off. While we have had new subscribers every month in the year yet more old ones have failed to renew and we have suffered a serious loss in numbers. Now, whether this comes from having the paper enlarged or from editorial inefficiency or other cause we are not prepared to say.

In accomplishing this object the lessons taught by experience must be heeded that mistakes may be avoided and successes made available for future work.

There is very general agreement as to the fact that reading influences the reader, and goes a long way with the great mass of the people in forming the opinions which they entertain.

Last year the State Grange appropriated \$1,000 to a lecture fund to be used in the discretion of the Worthy Master. Less than \$250 of this amount was used, and as we understand, for the reason that lecturers were not to be found who could, and would take the field. The people of Michigan are not satisfied and will not turn out to hear a common sort of a talk.

Notwithstanding the falling off in resources as we have shown, the treasury of the State Grange is in better condition than ever before. That the lecture field can, or will be better supplied next year than the past year we see no reason to expect. Under these circumstances it is not advisable to turn our attention to this other method of reaching the public by a judicious circulation of Grange reading matter.

In our last report we called attention to some method of increasing the circulation of the VISITOR by the employment of paid canvassers. We think something may be done in this direction that will not in any event be a serious tax on the receipts for the paper and we again commend this matter to your notice.

This is the year of a general election and the sheets of a partisan press will be scattered broadcast over the country. It will not do for this State Grange to stand idly by and allow the attention of members of the Order and the general public to be so absorbed with the political racket that a general election develops, as to forget that behind all this party din are the active workers for the concentration of capital and the absorption of the rights of the masses of the people.

That this paper has given strength and standing to the Order in this State and materially aided in maintaining the high position which we hold among our sister States of the Union will not be denied. Nor has it been without influence for good outside the gates.

That the plaster business is in good shape—better than ever before. The Alabastine company that took hold of the business a little more than a year ago built a mill and warehouse, opened a plaster bed and brought to the surface a large amount of plaster in a few weeks, and by their uniting energy and free use of capital were able and did supply the Patrons of the State with nearly all that was wanted as fast as orders were received.

The plaster business is in good shape—better than ever before. The Alabastine company that took hold of the business a little more than a year ago built a mill and warehouse, opened a plaster bed and brought to the surface a large amount of plaster in a few weeks, and by their uniting energy and free use of capital were able and did supply the Patrons of the State with nearly all that was wanted as fast as orders were received.

With 15,000 tons of rock under cover there will be no failure on the part of the company to fill every Grange order at once. The combination has resorted to every means in its power to break the existing arrangement between the Alabastine company, and your Executive Committee and have signally failed. It is indeed fortunate that our business relations are with a company that has a regard for its honor and integrity and scorns the offer of a bribe in whatever way it may be presented.

the company to fill every Grange order at once. The combination has resorted to every means in its power to break the existing arrangement between the Alabastine company, and your Executive Committee and have signally failed. It is indeed fortunate that our business relations are with a company that has a regard for its honor and integrity and scorns the offer of a bribe in whatever way it may be presented.

There are no new developments in regard to the driven well suit that have come to my knowledge. The unexpended defense fund remains in our hands as last reported.

The fourth paragraph of Section 6, Article 7 of By-Laws of State Grange requires your Secretary to "keep and publish annually a complete register of the name and number of all Subordinate and Pomona Granges in the State with the name and address of the Master and Secretary of each, and to send a copy to the Secretary of each Subordinate and Pomona Grange on or before the first day of March in each year."

The list is necessary and when written out might be duplicated by the aid of a pentagraph to meet every real want.

We entertain a doubt about this list being of such practical value to the Subordinate and Pomona Granges, as to justify its publication at a cost of nearly \$300 per annum. We invite attention to this matter that this requirement may be abolished if it is deemed advisable.

In concluding this report permit me to add still a little more to what we have already said beyond the scope of a strictly business paper.

While the Order of Patrons of Husbandry has not attracted to and brought within its gates large numbers of intelligent cultivators who should lead their influence and co-operate with us in our efforts to elevate and improve the agricultural class; still he who looks out with enlarged views and takes a careful survey of the situation of the farmer class of twenty years ago, and notes with unprejudiced judgment the improvement which has grown out of the scheme set on foot by the founders of the Order, will see abundant cause of thankfulness for what has been accomplished in that score of years, and will be hopeful for the future of the farmer. The stimulating influences to educate and improve the tillers of the soil are constantly increasing.

We have each year more agricultural papers, more Grange papers, more space in political newspapers and journals devoted to the interests of the farm, more associations of men identified with the various branches of agriculture, more farmers' clubs, more farmers' institutes, more Granges, more agricultural colleges, and more respect for the profession of the farmer by the farmer himself and by all other classes of society.

Nor is this all. To resist the encroachments of corporate monopolies there have been important judicial decisions, and influential city papers of large circulation are more and more ranging themselves on the side of the people, and are raising a warning voice against the threatened dangers of concentrated capital. The people are being educated to see the necessity of attending politically to their own affairs and with really no important issue between the two great political parties the conditions are favorable for continuing to press this matter upon their attention.

We believe the outlook is not unpromising and we shall enter upon the work of another year, whatever that work may be, hopeful of good results.

THE VISITOR AND HUSBANDMAN.

The very liberal offer ordered by the State Grange for new subscribers we expect will add largely to our present list.

Not to be outdone in this matter and to encourage the reading of valuable papers, we make another offer. For one new subscriber to the VISITOR and one new subscriber to the Husbandman for one year, we will send the VISITOR to any old subscriber or other person, on receipt of \$1.50. This will get you the Husbandman, a valuable \$1 paper, for 50 cents.

PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, the official head of the Mormon Church, is preparing an elaborate statement of the political and social attitude of the Latter-day Saints, for the January number of the North American Review.

THE Star Clothing House are out with a liberal offer in a new advertisement. Look it over on our eighth page.

THREE copies of the VISITOR one year for \$1.00. See offer elsewhere.





Communications.

THE SERGEANT'S STORY.

TOLD IN THE GRAVE-YARD OF A FRONTIER MILITARY POST.

I tell you part in this Western wild. As a general thing the dirt's piled in a rather promiscuous sort of way On top of a soldiers' mortal clay: An' a person'd think by that marble shaft, And the flowers a waving above the 'graff,' That a major-general held that tomb— But the corpse down there wore a private's plume.

I remember the day they swore Mead in: He was pale combed, and rather thin; He'd bin what they call a trampin' beat, An' enlisted for want of 'something to eat' It's always the case that a new recruit; Is the butt o' tricks from the old fruit; An' the way the boys tormented the cuss Was real down wicked an' scandalous!

He took it all with a sickly smile, An' said if they'd wait till after awhile, Till he got fed up in some sort o' trim, It mightn't be healthy to fool with him! An' I knew by the look o' that fellow's eye, Fur all he was backward an' kind o' shy, That behind his skeleton sort o' breast, A heart like a lion's found a nest.

One night as the guard at 12 o'clock, Relieved the sentinel over the stock, The corporal seen a kind of a glare From towards the officers' quarters there! The alarm was raised, an' the big gun fired, An' the soldiers more than half-affrighted, Came a rushing out on the barrack ground, With a will an' excited sort of a bound.

The Colonel's headquarters were all afire, An' the flames a mounting higher an' higher, An' what with the yell o' men, an' shrieks Of the officers' wives with their whitish cheeks, An' the roar of the flames an' the devilish light, Illuminat' the dark pitch night, Twar such a sight as I've often thought You could see in hell when it's bilin' hot,

An' then with a wild despairing yell, The Colonel shouted, "My God where's Nell!" His wife responded—"She's in her bed!" Then fell to the ground like a person d'ad! Up through the roof the mad flames roared, An' blinding smoke in a dense mass poured Thro' ev'ry crevice and crack till the cloud Hung above like a death black shroud!

(It mightn't be out of place to state— As kinder accounting for this Mead's fate— That Nell was an angel, ten years old, With a heart as big as a purebred virgin gold An' she had kin of an angel trike, Of readin' an' s'igh like to the sick; An' man's the dainty her hands'd bear To Mead, at times, in the hospital.)

My God twas 'nough to raise the hair On the head of a marble statue! There Stood a crowd of at least two hundred men, None daring to enter that fiery pen— Men that were brave on an Injun trail, Whose courage was never known to fail— But to enter the building was certain death So they stood there staving and holding their breath.

Then all at once with an eager cry, An' a bull dog look in his flashing eye! This Mead rushed up to the wallin' band, An' a paper thrust in the Colonel's hand, "My mother's address," he said, an' then He sorter smiled on the crowd of men, An' just like a flash of lightning shot Thro the door right into the seething pot.

With a yell of horror the crowd looked on Fur they felt with him twas good by John But half a minute after the dash An' upstairs window burst with a crash! And there stood Mead like a smiling saint The gal in his arms in a dead like faint, He yelled for a rope, to lof her down, To terra firma—which means the groun!

sical instruments, and the inhabitants for intellectual and moral standing rank shoulder to shoulder with the dominant's own parashioners. Farmers have time for reading and no class of people are better acquainted with issues between the political parties, religious controversies or literary topics. My next door farmer neighbor takes fifteen papers weekly.

The writer knows something of city life, if Chicago and St. Louis may be called cities, and city people seem compelled to maintain a certain style whether they can afford it or not, while country people live comfortably and independently. There are so many ways of spending money in cities, aping the wealthier circles. The wealth is more evenly distributed in the country, for in cities one-half are enormously wealthy, while the other half live from hand to mouth, and the hand often has a chronic habit of going to the mouth empty.

The healthfulness, beauty, and freedom from competition are points in the farmer's favor, while the press, telephone, and telegraph leave him not far behind his city brother in every other advantage. The farmer's food is pure and comes to him direct from nature's hand. Every dollar the farmer earns makes no man poorer, while every dollar a Gould or a Vanderbilt gains causes some one to groan.

Boys And Farm Work.

Reformer says, he fears Aunt Hattie's article, "How to save the boys," will have a tendency to induce them to leave the farm, become patrons of billiard saloons, pool rooms, beer shops, etc. God forbid I should do such a dreadful thing as that. Now, I have a great regard for the boys, think two or three good, smart boys, with a girl or two to keep them tame and polish them up a bit, are just the nicest things a farmer can raise. And it was due to this great love for them, that induced me to write as I did. I was born and brought up upon a farm, have always lived upon one and expect to die there. Have always thought with all the improved machinery, which is a great help, that it is just plain, routine work, and not always paying either. Machinery enables you to turn off more work within a given length of time without the expense of hiring so many hands, hence it helps the farmer pecuniarily. But I fail to see that he works less hours or has more leisure unless he has a mind to take it. Their working hours in the summer are from half-past four A. M. until seven or eight and sometimes nine P. M. (Heaven pity the boy that has to put in more time.) Fifty years ago the farmer had not the work to do he has now. Why, because he couldn't do it. He had not the facilities to accomplish as much, he worked in a tread-mill, round and round, with little or no machinery to help him and if by close economy he made the ends meet when the year come round he did well. Labor was very cheap, ten or twelve dollars per month was all that could be afforded. True, farming has taken a long stride forward since then, and as machinery has increased so has the work as also have the profits. It is now possible for a man that owns a good farm and manages it judiciously to keep abreast of the times and enjoy all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Now, this is showing up the dark side of farm life perhaps, but we don't anticipate it will cause one boy to leave the farm. They know all about the hard work, you can't deceive them a bit. If they are sensible they will bear in mind the old maxim "There is no excellence without great labor;" and if they expect to succeed anywhere, they will have to be prudent, frugal and industrious, and keep an unlimited stock of integrity. Is it wise to advise all boys to stick to the farm? We think not. There are many boys not adapted to farm life they have a decided inclination for other work. They may have natural mechanical genius, inventors, builders, may be full of trade and enterprise. They ought to leave and go to the city. It is best for them and the country. Some of the noblest, smartest and most reliable men in the nation, those that have attained the highest honors, were the sons of farmers. It doesn't follow then if the boys leave the farm they are going to become patrons of billiard saloons, beer shops, etc. The boys have their rights, respect them. If you want to keep them upon the farm and they are adapted to it make that life a pleasant experience to them and give them a chance to make something. All work and no play or recreation and the meager prospect of a few hundred after the old man's demise, is not an inviting prospect to an ambitious boy. Do away with old fogeyism, leave off growling and grumbling, beautify your homes externally and internally, and be a progressive farmer; show him you are willing to help him and by skillful management, make the work profitable so he may see the remuneration of labor is just as good, all things considered, as the same money invested elsewhere.

and he will love the old farm and be unwilling to leave it. Be lenient and forbearing if he don't have quite as much care and get up quite as early in the morning as you are in the habit of doing. Shakespeare says: "Care keeps his watch in every old man's eye And where care lodges sleep will never lie But when unbused youth with unstarved brain, Doth couch his limbs there golden sleep doth reign."

Report of C. G. Luce, of Michigan on the Agricultural College. [Presented to the National Grange on Second Day of Session.] It affords me pleasure to comply with the requirements of a resolution adopted by this body at its session in 1882, relating to the Agricultural Colleges of the several States. Possibly I failed to comprehend the true intent and purpose of the committee on Education in reporting and the Grange in adopting the resolution, and may go beyond the exact information called for, in presenting some facts in regard to the history, work and progress of the Michigan Agricultural College.

Very early in the history of our State, the question of Agricultural Education was freely discussed by the people and in our legislative halls. This discussion culminated in 1850 in the submission of a provision in the constitution of the State as follows: The Legislature shall encourage the promotion of intellectual, scientific and agricultural improvement, and shall as soon as practicable provide for the establishment of an agricultural school.

In compliance with this provision the Legislature in 1855 passed a bill establishing an Agricultural College at or near Lansing, the capital of the State. At that time the capitol as well as the college was in the woods and surrounded on all sides by dense forest.

This fact added much to its embarrassment in the days of its infancy. From the start it encountered determined opposition. This was strengthened by blunders (some of them unavoidable) in management. It was an innovation upon established customs. It was a pioneer of its kind. Those in charge were compelled to feel their way as they moved along, and we are now more willing to excuse the blunders than we were at the time they were made.

The college was opened in May, 1857, and has from that day to this maintained its independent existence as a separate and distinct Agricultural College. When established it was placed in charge of the State Board of Education. In 1861 it was placed in charge of a Board of Agriculture, created for that purpose. This board consists of six men appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate. The appointments have been almost universally conferred upon those who have been in whole, or in part, engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Everything is taught in the English language. Neither Greek, nor Hebrew, nor Latin, nor French, nor German. Students from our own State, as well as from all the rest of the world, attend free of charge for tuition. Board is paid for at cost by the students. All of them, rich or poor, proud or humble, fat or lean, lazy or industrious, are required to labor on the farm, in the garden, greenhouse or elsewhere else, at least three hours each day for five days in a week. For this work they are paid by the State at the rate of eight cents per hour.

The experience of these twenty years has seemed to demonstrate the fact that this labor quickens rather than dulls the mental energies. And the students that pass out from this college do so with a loyalty to and a respect for labor and the laborer. They start out with more of a set purpose to do something to make a living and are not so much imbued with the idea that the world owes them a living because of their education. The commencement orations are filled with sentiments of respect for the productive industries of the country.

The school year is of nine months duration. The long vacation occurs in the winter. This affords the students an opportunity to teach and secure funds to aid in defraying expenses. The president and professors are required by the Board of Agriculture to hold at least six Farmers' Institutes each year. Of course this is done during the winter vacations.

These institutes are located in different portions of the State. They come at the invitation of Agricultural societies, and County or Subordinate Granges. The proceedings are participated in by the president, professors and the farmers of the vicinity. These Institutes have done much to popularize both college and agricultural education generally. For several years our State Grange has appointed a standing committee upon the Agricultural college with instructions to visit the college when in session, examine, commend, criticize or suggest as in their judgment the case requires. This course has brought the Grange and college into very close and very friendly relations. This has done much to strengthen the college with the public, and to-day it is not claiming too much to say that it rests on as solid a foundation as any of our institutions. It now ranks with any of them in confidence, esteem and usefulness in a State that we believe to be justly proud of its educational and charitable institutions.

The farmers are more and more, each year, taking charge of it. This is true of the people at large on the Board of Agriculture and in the Legislature. More and more they are feeling that it is our college. The whole number of students in attendance during the year 1882 was 216. The average for ten years has been very nearly 200. A large number of these never complete the course. Some of them come in as specialists to study some specific subject. And some commence with the intention of completing the course, but for various reasons fall out by the way. The whole number of graduates in the twenty-three classes has been 272. The smallest graduating class was in 1862 consisting of only five students. The largest was in 1881 and consisted of thirty-three. Of the 272 graduates 103 are farmers, 60 others are engaged in various industrial pursuits; 109 are in the profession or engaged in commercial pursuits. Of course all of the graduates are comparatively young men.

It is too early to take the full measure of their success or want of it. More than 70 of these graduates are on farms in the State of Michigan. I enjoy the personal acquaintance of many and know that they are adding materially to the intellectual forces to be found on the farms. And they are thus adding the tillers of the soil in building upon the only real solid foundation, *Acrobol-dige*. I venture the assertion that fall as many of these students remain on the farms as would have done so if they had not enjoyed the benefit of a collegiate education, and many more than would have done so if they had graduated at our University. While there is still room for improvement as all will admit, yet we do know that our college is doing much to educate the farmers of the State, and we shall hail with delight the day when graduates of the Michigan Agricultural College are to be found on the farms in every neighborhood and township. No one now questions that it was the height of wisdom to maintain it as a distinct agricultural school with its one single department.

Report of Gas Manufacture at the State Public School. The following is the report of the results of the manufacture of gas by the new process for one year, which will be of interest to all who buy light:

STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL, COLDWATER, Sept. 25, '83. To THE BOARD OF CONTROL: Gentlemen: I herewith submit the report of the engineer showing the amount of gas consumed and the cost during the year ending Aug. 30 ult. The report shows the correctness of our estimates that the cost by the new gas works would not exceed about \$200 per annum, the cost before the works were put in being about \$1,000 per annum. The cost of coal and petroleum I know to be correct from my books as treasurer. The new gas works began operations Sept. 1, 1882. The gas is made from crude petroleum of fine quality, by a process somewhat similar to that used in making coal gas. It is a fixed gas and is substantially the same as coal gas in its chemical properties, except as is shown by its giving a whiter light of greater candle power which accounts for less being used during the same time than coal gas. The cost for coal gas for the five years preceding the introduction of the oil gas has been as follows: 1878, \$1,069.70; 1879, \$948.1880, \$988.80; 1881, \$945.90; 1882, \$948.80. As many lights have been burned with no more restrictions than when coal gas was used. The manufacture of gas at the school has been in all respects, for a public institution, eminently successful.

Respectfully yours, C. D. RANDALL, Sec'y and Treas. COLDWATER, Sept. 25, 1883. J. N. FOSTER, SUPER. D. W. SHERWOOD: Herewith please find statement of gas record for fiscal year of 1882-3.

In regard to the success of the gas works I would say, that they are working perfectly. The only repairs put on them during the last year being 10 inches of one-inch wrought iron pipe burned out in the super-heater connection to retort, and the replacing of a single fire brick in lining of the furnace door. I anticipate that the tar will nearly if not quite pay for the repairs in the future. During the past winter no trouble or diminution of light was experienced, although the main gas pipe running from the works to buildings is buried only about two feet below the surface of the ground. From this pipe during the past year I have taken less than one-half pint of drip water. The meter which was gummied so badly from the use of coal gas, as not to register correctly the contents of the gasometer when first set up, now registers according to the cubical capacity of the gasometer. The gas fixtures about the buildings are giving considerably less trouble than formerly by being less obstructed with compensation collecting from them.

All of which is respectfully submitted, E. MANSELL, Chief Engineer. Gas, Steam and Water Works.

The one mode by which thistles are killed is to smother them. When they grow in a corn field and the plow cannot be used, the cultivator and hoe will kill them if used at the first moment they can be seen coming out of the ground. Six or seven battles with them in this way, regularly followed up, will more than "discourage" them. But if they are neglected, and given a week or more to recuperate, the work will be of no use. Digging out is of little use because some pieces of roots will always be left, from which new plants will sprout. Allow them no time to breathe above ground and the jobs is done.

With a sigh of relief the Louisville Courier-Journal informs us that the books to be written by Blaine and Conklin are not to be published at the expense of the government.

Husbands of Sickly Wives Don't be discouraged, ZOA-PHORA has brought health and happiness into many families where other remedies and skillful physicians had failed. It is no cure-all but is especially calculated for those diseases peculiar to women. As a relief and cure for these we believe it has no rival. If before trying it, you wish to know more about it write us for proofs and credentials.

R. PENGELL & CO., Kalamazoo Mich. TRADE-MARKS PATENTS COPY-RIGHTS, DESIGNS, LABELS, RE-ISSUES Sent Description of your Invention. L. BINGHAM, Patent Lawyer and Solicitor, Washington, D. C.

No man should part with his own individuality and become that of another. I have a NEW, RICH, and RARE work never before equalled in attractiveness. It contains over 2000 illustrations, 1100 pages, introduced by Bishop Simpson. Contributions from 40 colleges and specialists. AGENTS WANTED. This grand work is full of original matter. A fortunate one has been expended in its preparation, and there is no such thing as competition on it. \$100 to \$500 a year for a few more first class men. A valuable pamphlet free. The finest prospectus ever made, sent genuine agents for examination. Address: C. G. G. PAINE, Publishers, 93 Griswold St., Detroit, Mich.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILROAD.

Table with 3 columns: Accommodation, Evening Express, Pacific Express, Mail, Day Express, American Express. Rows for WESTWARD and EASTWARD.

New York, Atlantic and Pacific Expresses daily. Evening Express west and Night Express east daily except Saturdays. All other trains daily except Sundays. Freight trains carrying passengers out from Kalamazoo as follows: No. 27 (east) at 6:55 P. M., and No. 29 (west) at 7:37.

GRAND RAPIDS & INDIANA R. R. Passenger Time Table.

Table with 5 columns: STATIONS, NO. 1, NO. 3, NO. 5, NO. 7. Rows for Cincinnati, Richmond, Sturgis, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Cadillac, Travere City, Mackinaw City.

Table with 5 columns: STATIONS, NO. 2, NO. 4, NO. 6, NO. 8. Rows for Mackinaw City, Travere City, Cadillac, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Sturgis, Richmond, Cincinnati.

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

Table with 3 columns: STATIONS, N.Y. & N.Y. & B. Ex., Ex. & M. Ex. Rows for Le. Grand Rapids, Ar. Allegan, Ar. Kalamazoo, Ar. Schoolcraft, Ar. Three Rivers, Ar. White Pigeon, Ar. Toledo, Ar. Cleveland, Ar. Buffalo.

Table with 3 columns: STATIONS, N.Y. & N.Y. & B. Ex., Ex. & M. Ex. Rows for Le. Buffalo, Ar. Cleveland, Ar. Toledo, Ar. White Pigeon, Ar. Three Rivers, Ar. Schoolcraft, Ar. Kalamazoo, Ar. Allegan, Grand Rapids.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK R. R. Corrected Time-Table—December 1, 1883.

Table with 5 columns: STATIONS, No. 1, No. 4, No. 6, No. 8. Rows for Le. Port Huron, Le. Imlay City, Le. Lansing, Le. Flint, Ar. Det. G. W. Div., Le. Det. G. W. Div., Le. Pontiac, Le. Holly, Ar. Durand, Le. Durand, Le. Lansing, Le. Charlotte, Ar. Battle Creek, Le. Battle Creek, Le. Yickabomb, Le. Schoolcraft, Le. Marcellus, Le. Grandopolis, Le. South Bend, Le. Hillwell, Le. Haskelle, Le. Valparaiso, Le. Redensale, Le. C.R.I.&P. Cross, Ar. Chicago.

Table with 5 columns: STATIONS, No. 1, No. 3, No. 5, No. 7. Rows for Le. Chicago, Le. C.R.I.&P. Cross, Le. Redensale, Le. Valparaiso, Le. Haskelle, Le. Hillwell, Le. South Bend, Le. Marcellus, Le. Schoolcraft, Le. Yickabomb, Ar. Battle Creek, Le. Battle Creek, Le. Charlotte, Le. Lansing, Ar. Durand, Le. Durand, Le. Lansing, Le. Charlotte, Ar. Battle Creek, Le. Battle Creek, Le. Yickabomb, Le. Schoolcraft, Le. Marcellus, Le. Grandopolis, Le. South Bend, Le. Hillwell, Le. Haskelle, Le. Valparaiso, Le. Redensale, Le. C.R.I.&P. Cross, Ar. Chicago.

All trains run by central meridian time. No. 3 and 5, 1/2 hr. All other trains daily, except Sunday. \*Trains stop for passengers only when signaled. Pullman Palace cars run through without change between Chicago and Port Huron, Detroit, East Saginaw Bay City, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Buffalo, New York, Toronto, Montreal and Boston. Dining cars on 3 and 6 West of Battle Creek. GEO. B. BERRY, General Manager, Traffic Manager. E. P. KEARNEY, Agent, Schoolcraft Mich.

Ladies Department.

A GREETING TO THE VISITOR.

Thrice welcome friend, to all our country homes
Where busy minds for body's needs must toil
Not for ourselves alone but for all mankind
Depend, in truth, upon the fertile soil;
The farmer's hands alone can furnish bread,
By them alone are all earth's millions fed,
You teach us how to plant and sow the seed,
Kind nature gives us for our future need.

A Visit to the Art Loan

I have been thinking of telling the sisters who read the VISITOR of the treat I have had during the last few months, but for want of time to write it up and partly wanting for others who have better descriptive pens than I possess I have neglected it.

Ladies of fine feeling and cultured taste would not bring forth their precious treasures of the dear departed ones and memories of the past, for the public to gaze upon and for the careless observer, had they not a desire to please others. Did they live for themselves alone? Pictures of various sizes, from one to twenty thousand were placed in the Art-Loan by liberal persons for those who enjoy such things but are not able to own them—surely such generosity ought to claim our admiration. I visited the Art Loan twice, once in September and then again after the time had been extended beyond its limitation. I planned to enter the building as soon as opened in the morning, and before I was tired that I might enjoy it to the fullest extent. There was some thing to please every body. I enjoyed most the Oil paintings water colors black and white and the bric-a-mac. One of the saddest picture which claimed my attention was Margaretta being led to her execution; sadness, innocence and the inevitable all combined in her countenance, the ever present priest near at hand to offer consolation, the sisters

of charity with their peculiar religion garb surround her with saddened yet placid faces. The bevy of school girls preparing for private theatricals, was a true representative of boarding school life. The abandoning of the ship Jeannette in arctic ice is said to be a correct portraiture of the scene and was painted to order for James G. Bennett. The adoration of the shepherds was a picture of strong imagination and would cause the spectator to a feel sort of realizing sense of their emotions and the more one looks at it the longer they will want to look. The crucifixion was so lifelike the prints of the nails in the hands and the blood trickling from the wounds, and the agonized look of the sorrowful countenance caused a shudder and I had no desire for an extended examination of the picture, too terrible a scene for the idle passer by.

In room X I saw two portraits black and white. They were to me hideous pictures and I was about turning away from them when a lady at my side said, those are interesting pictures. They are worked on white crape with human hair. I turned to my catalogue and found they were of interest. One was the head of Sir John Falstaff, the other Richard II. and both worked in crape and human hair as she said. I spent considerable time looking for the picture of Jim Bludsoe the pilot, (873) who stood at the helm of the burning ship and rescued the passengers and brought them safely to shore though he nearly lost his life. I was a little disappointed as I had fancied it would be a large picture showing the burning ship and all the scene as enacted, but it was a small size picture "indicating much in little." It was a strong athletic man with determined and strong will power, written in every lineament of his face.

The working of the muscles and features as it were caused by the heat of the blaze and the picture of intense agony and a look in his eye that said, I will do my duty though I perish in the flames. But I must not loiter here. One comical picture "Hunting the rat" was true to life. The rat was under the cupboard, a little boy trying to poke him out with a stick, two girls on the table, one on a chair. The mother with the broomstick near the door trying to show the boy where to attack the rat, and from the looks of all parties concerned, I should imagine there was some screaming. Girls of the VISITOR did you ever witness such a scene in real life? Now go with me in imagination to the bric-a-mac room and we will look at a piece of earthenware blue and white, a soup tureen and platter used by Aaron Burr. Silver tea caddy and spoon to measure tea 100 years old. Italian chair, inlaid with copper and ivory, the property of Charles Dickens and standing formerly in the hall of Gadwill. Italian settle inlaid with ivory and different colored woods, 100 years old. Carved ivory statuette of an Indian prince riding on an elephant.

The department of real lace had great attractions for me, not that I ever expect to be able to own much of that exquisite article. The pillows on which it is made, the patterns some of them still unfinished, the bobbins, the innumerable pins sticking in the pillows, the gossamer thread resembling closely the spider web so fine and silky in its appearance. This real lace is made by women and girls in dark, damp cellars, requiring months and sometimes years to finish some of the intricate patterns, and the length of the life of these operators is very materially shortened, living so much in the darkness and dampness of cellars. The floors which they work with is managed better this way. There was a small piece of point lace which took a girl two months to make. A baby's cap of two kinds of Italian lace made in the 19th century. Now I can somewhat understand why real lace costs so many dollars per yard and only a few are ever able to wear it. There was a black lace veil made 100 years ago and I saw a case of gold, silver and jeweled lace. Here I am at fault as I cannot describe to you the beauty of the articles. One must see them to appreciate their loveliness.

Still farther on is a silk dress embroidered with silk right from the cocoon. A sable muff carried by Mrs. Hindman in 1823, large enough to make four such muffs as the ladies of now-a-days use. An infant's cap, work of Martha Washington. When the Chicago exposition closed very many beautiful first class pictures were sent to the Art Loan. They were in a good state of preservation and of rare beauty and to say that they were splendid would but faintly express my idea. Again the Art Loan reminds me of the Centennial. So many went enjoyed, saw much that pleased them, but when asked on their return to give an account of what they saw the reply would be "Oh it was nice, splendid. I saw lots of things, well I saw so much that I cannot tell what I did see" and that under the description—pen cannot describe the beauty, loveliness and grandeur of all the sight there was at the Art Loan. I am willing to divide my pleasure and enjoyment with you my sisters but I am not competent to describe very clear

ly and fully such artistic work. I know what pleases me and could you have been with me perhaps our ideas and thoughts would have been somewhat in unison and what I failed to see of the beautiful you could have pointed out. The good, the pleasure, and enjoyment derived from that grand exhibition will be of lasting duration, and a great deal of praise and credit is due to the citizens of Detroit and elsewhere who kindly loaned their gems and costly pictures to benefit others.

The Advantages of Self-Possession.

There is no characteristic of which we are capable that is more frequently commended than self-possession. There is a certain calm feeling of power that always attends self-possession. On the contrary, when we are struggling and hoping for what we desire, we are eager, excited, and in a measure unstrung. When we obtain that for which we have been in pursuit, we become as far as that one thing goes, calm and assured. But the power of self-possession surpasses everything of the kind. To feel quite sure that we truly possess any power or faculty—that we have it under our control and can use it at our pleasure—is a source of great happiness and peace of mind. Those who are fortunate enough to have this sense of self-possession extended over many of their qualities are to be warmly congratulated.

Many persons of great abilities are painfully lacking in self-possession, and are very small powers, and are rarely at a loss. It comes rather through a fair degree of self-knowledge, and a practical exercise of those abilities, great or small, which we do possess. Our own experience shows us this. Most of us are self-possessed in at least one direction, and that we shall find to be the one in which we have had the most constant practice and the greatest opportunities of testing our selves. The mechanic and business man, or artist, or philosopher may be undecided, vacillating, constrained and ill at ease in general society or in political circles, or in a hundred other situations; but in their respective employments or in matters closely connected with them, they at once assume a calm and assured manner that tells of their regained self-possession. The business partner who has charge of a manufactory will sometimes lose all self-possession when obliged to attend to a customer, while the regular salesman will be utterly confounded if left to deal with the operatives. One woman will be cool, dignified and assured in her own home, but timid and quivering in society; another is thoroughly self-possessed in the presence of strangers, but trembles before her own letters, putting it off from day to day, afraid of his own handwriting, or of conversation he is ready, fluent, and self-possessed. Another writes, but without fear or hesitation, but dreads to open his lips in company. An intelligent man of sixty years of age stood one time at meeting for five minutes before a number of waiting people, when all he had occasion to say was "yes." His self-possession held him and had taken with it almost the very power of utterance. Some persons are cool and self-possessed in moments of emergency; when every one else is what to do, and at once take command of the situation. Others, whose knowledge may be no way inferior, lose all control of it in sudden emergencies. Most of the panics that occur in times of fire or accident, and that sacrifice thousands of lives, are due to self-possession, but to utter loss of self-possession by the crowd. Could each individual obtain authority over himself and do what he actually knows to be the best thing, the panic would cease, and the chief danger would be over.

Much of this valuable quality is gained by education in early years and every child should be accustomed to express himself freely and often, both in writing and speaking, and be taught the method of doing both; he should become used to the presence of strangers, and the attention due to them; he should be habituated to changes of scene and environment, and, above all, should be led to his attention upon things outside of himself, so as to save him from that self-consciousness which lies at the root of much painful bashfulness, timidity and nervous apprehensions. Thinking much about self, especially about the impression we have made, or are going to make upon others' tends always to deprive us of self-possession. We grow anxious and perturbed, lose our simplicity and naturalness, and fall into the very blunders that we dread. These frequent failures weaken our courage and makes us shrink more and more from what we ought boldly to approach.

Of course, there is a self-confidence which rushes unbalanced into every scene and feels sure to make a name for itself wherever it is presented. This, however, is very different from the self-possession which comes from a true estimate of our own powers. He who possesses himself in this latter sense will be as careful to abstain from what he is unable to perform as to execute whatever rightly falls to his lot. He will be as modest and unassuming as he is energetic and unflinching, for he will know his limitations as well as he does his powers. The best practical way of securing this self-possession, where we feel its lack, is in continual practice, as we have said, there are certain things which every one should be ready to meet. These none of us should shrink from when they come, but do our best every time, manfully, resolutely, calling to our aid all the reason and good sense that we can command. Each time we force ourselves to this course the task grows easier, and at length we arrive at that condition of calm assurance with regard to our performance of them, which alone gives self-possession.—Columbus (Ga.) Sun

Report of Committee on Co-Operation, 7th Session National Grange.

Worthy Master:—Your committee on Co-operation have had under consideration that part of the Worthy Master's address relating to co-operation, which was referred to them, and give it their hearty approval. It is evident that co-operation was introduced in the Order as soon as its ne-

cessity became apparent. And from that time to the present, efforts have been made to disseminate our large membership to more fully understand its principles, rise and application. But these efforts have generally been directed with a view of encouraging co-operation in business enterprises. The committee are deeply impressed with the importance, and desire to give all encouragement possible to co-operative business associations in the Order, for the purpose of securing necessary supplies, or in disposing of surplus product and in providing for life and property insurance of our members, and in fact any and every legitimate co-operative effort that can in any way be made to contribute to the prosperity and welfare of the Order.

Millions of dollars are saved to members annually by the co-operative associations now in successful operation. And millions more can be saved annually under wise and economic management co-operatively applied upon correct business principles. We therefore call attention to the oft-repeated admonition that, co-operation in business enterprises, means to define co-operative association, as far as possible, within the Order, to unite every effort and influence with sufficient capital for practical use, to strictly adhere to the cash system in buying and selling, to conduct all business upon business principles, managed by honest, capable business managers; to exercise caution and economy in all business transactions; to divide net profits equitably among the operators; in short, strictly follow the Rosedale plan of business co-operation as heretofore recommended by the National Grange. These rules are the safeguards that will hold them sure and steadfast as long as they are strictly adhered to.

But co-operation is not confined to business enterprises alone, it goes beyond and is far reaching in its various forms and diversified application, and we are led to the belief that the true principles of co-operation are not well understood, notwithstanding the repeated consideration of the subject; for were it correctly understood and its power for usefulness more fully comprehended, it would surely be more generally practiced where we desire to accomplish uniform and successful results.

Correct knowledge of the true system of co-operation and loyalty to its principles, and a correct application of its use, whether in the purchasing of supplies, selling surplus product, or in any business enterprise, whether it be for social, intellectual or moral culture, or for a higher elevation in life, or whether it be for the relief from the burdens of injustice we have borne, in these many years, or whether it be to create a deeper interest in Grange meetings, and for greater prosperity in the Order, will lead to positive and satisfactory results. And when not so understood and so employed, will often produce failures and disappointments.

Co-operation is indispensable in our work when good results are the object sought, whether in Subordinate, Pomona, State or National Granges. And the results produced by co-operative efforts in any line of business, depends largely upon the knowledge we have of its general use and application for it is only after we understand it in its true light, that we can unite proper efforts and influence in any special or general direction. A correct understanding of this subject enables the co-operator to dismiss that selfishness that cultivates too much of that individualism that destroys the confidence that should exist in and among co-operators, and among members generally. It teaches that individuality should yield to that higher degree of social culture that feels for the wants of others, and brings us to the realization of the fact that our welfare is largely dependent upon each other, and that life and life's blessings are best enjoyed when all are the recipients of merited rights and rewards. When co-operation is thus properly understood, then will we more fully realize that individually we can accomplish but little in any great work, exert but little influence for good in any direction; but when united upon the true principles of co-operation, then our work, effort, and influence, and even our intelligence becomes united and directed in the same channel at the same time, and for the same purpose. Individual force is consolidated in a co-operative way, and its power for usefulness is increased to such an extent, that doubts are removed and certainties established.

Co-operation is the basis upon which rests the future welfare and the perpetuity of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. It is the foundation, the very corner stone upon which rests the entire structure. There is not a feature named, nor a principle involved in the organization but what can be made a grand success, if we but employ co-operation in its true sense.

Its earliest days to the present, and nowhere have successful results been attained where co-operation has been neglected, and wherever it has been properly applied, success crowned the effort. It is indispensable in organizing a Grange, in holding Grange meetings, in making them interesting and profitable, as well as in business relations. And the only reasonable conclusion why it is not more generally employed, is that it is not sufficiently understood to be appreciated.

At the twelfth annual session of the National Grange, Bro. Blanton from Virginia, submitted a report on co-operation, clearly indicating that its use was essential in all departments of Grange work. And at every session since then, the committee on co-operation embodied in their report the importance of this subject for general use in all work; these reports were adopted with great unanimity, and then sent to the Order at large, and here the matter rested. The committee cannot, in the limited time assigned them, prepare in detail the various methods of co-operation and the best system of teaching it in the Subordinate Granges, but realize the fact, that the welfare of the American farmers, the perpetuity of our Order, and the safety of our free institutions, depend upon co-operation correctly applied to the interest and to the welfare of the whole people. We therefore most respectfully submit the following recommendations:

1st. That the National Grange do its power to disseminate more and clearer light upon this subject for general use in all Grange work.

2d. That Masters of State Granges be requested to employ all reasonable efforts and means at their command to teach and encourage the consideration of this subject in all its bearings, usefulness and advantages for special and general work in the Order.

3d. That Subordinate and Pomona Granges be urged to study the subject of Co-operation in all its ramifications, to the end that its application may be more fully understood and its advantages appreciated and correctly employed.

H. ESHBAUGH, H. O. DEVRIES, A. J. ROSE, Committee.

Report of Committee of the National Grange on Transportation.

Development of material resources by a people occupying vast area and is a true criterion by which to judge the industry, enterprise and intelligence of the people. If the rate of development be slow, one or the other or all the requisites to thrift is lacking or impelled by extraneous force, and that people cannot advance as when industry, enterprise and intelligence have full play and full scope in the order assigned by nature to man, to rather from the earth substance and provision for comfort commensurate with the highest requirement. The labor of a free people where guided by intelligence is the foundation of all material prosperity, the support of government, and in its rewards, supplies the incentive to progress that traces ailments to higher manhood. But when there is interference with the products of labor, directing them to productions that have not aided in their production, the order of nature is disturbed, industry flags, enterprise halts, and intelligence ceases to expand, while just distribution of profits is delayed. Even partial interference discourages production and retarding force is artificial and its pernicious results is directed in palpable injustices.

This production from the soil or mines or forests, were unduly taxed, is depressed, and by an inexorable law becomes at last adapted to the harsh exaction by lessened sensibilities and lessened performance. That is decay and degradation of the population whom it falls. Its preliminary stages are now apparent in our agriculture, not in lessened production, for the virgin soil still continues to allure fresh workers to fresh fields, but in the discontent that drives the best blood from the farms to pursuits where the hand of the oppressor has not fallen so heavily.

Taxes levied by the State are just, where they are adequate to need and imposed with exact equality. When they are much in excess of need or levied unequally, they are not just. They take one or the other character exactly in the same way, when levied by the agents of commerce constituted by the State for public use, and they are none the less taxed when imposed by corporate powers operated for the aggrandizement of persons to whom the State has deputed a prerogative, and granted perpetual existence in apparent violation of the fundamental law to subject estates to the natural order of distribution that none falls when left free in its action. When transportation charges are made as the cost and risk of service require, they are just charges against the products of our industry, and we have no right of protest. But where they are established by caprice or favor and impose excessive rates, we have not only the right of protest, but the imperative duty to compel correction.

The last census returns numbers the people employed in agriculture at 7,670,498 on 4,008,907 farms, valued at 7,167,096,776, and the products of the census \$2,213,492,564.

We have voice in the imposition of taxes only through the legislatures, more than the representation of any other industry, aid in creating. But these legislatures depute to bodies they create, power to levy taxes greater than all we pay for the support of government, more than the whole country pays for public buildings, salaries of officers, naval construction and service, support of the army, postal service, and for every function of government. We number 7,000,000, and through our ballots we may regulate taxes that go to the public coffers, while one hundred or forty or fifty men representing an interest that, with vastly inflated stock, does not reach one half the value of our farms, can extract from them every dollar of profit, and turn it by millions into their private coffers, which, as matters stand, our \$7,000,000 can make no effective protest.

The power thus exercised by a few men to manage corporations created by the State is alarming in its tenor. It empowers the government, for its influences overawes legislative bodies, directs executive appointments, swerves justice from its true purpose, and throttles industry whenever and wherever it may transmit its life current into coin for the aggrandizement of the men who prey upon labor as the ferocious beast drinks the blood of his victim.

It is no answer to the indictment to say that railway transportation charges are, in most cases, much lower than they could be by any other method of carriage except by water. It is not even a sufficient answer to say that a large portion of freights carried over the principal lines is transported at the bare cost of service, with a slight margin of profit added. That such is the fact, we have no doubt, and in that fact is the beginning of inequalities that make our industry precarious in its returns. We know that vast quantities of freight are carried long distances for less than cost, and railway managers who seem thus to benefit certain interests have power to recoup, and they to recoup in charges for other freights carried less distance. In this way they undermine values when and where they please. They can and they do reduce farm values greatly in some localities, while they add elsewhere. They make all commerce unstable by the intervention of rapacious power that places the producer and consumer wide apart or even substitutes for their relation of mutual interest antagonisms that

could not exist but for the discrimination against one or the other, that end in hostilities fatal to general thrift. For all the wrongs so inflicted there may be adequate remedies there where 7,000,000 persons engaged in agriculture so resolve, as they must if the very tenure of their land is to be worth the trading. These millions must invoke the power of the government—their power—to end inequalities.

This may be done through enactments designed to restrain management of transportation companies to the uses for which they were originally intended; first, efficient service to the public under rules established for the protection of every industry service, and second, equitable returns to the investments. These rules may be general at first, leaving to tentative effort the enactment designed to regulate details of management in accordance with the principles that prevail in all proper business transactions.

We are not willing to pass this branch of the subject without specific suggestions regarding rules to regulate railway traffic as follows: We ask for certain specific enactments by the several States, whose principal industry is here represented, each designed to bring under wise and safe control, the corporations that hitherto have made laws for themselves. We enumerate the principles upon which such laws should be founded, as follows:

1st. That railways are public—not private—highways, and their stock representation does not change their public character in such a way as to divest them of any obligations which, by the common law, are recognized as attaching to public or common carriers, and they are therefore subject to legislative control.

2d. As common carriers, they have no right to discriminate in favor of any person or persons, or localities.

3d. That charges should be gaged as nearly as possible by the cost and risk of service, with a fair margin for profit.

4th. Charges should be as nearly permanent as practicable, in order that business may be conducted free from the fluctuations that make values unstable, and whenever changes are made in freight charges they should be formally announced preparatory to their operation, and a sufficient period of time in advance of their operation, to permit full acquaintance with their extent and character.

5th. Corporations that build and equip roads are entitled to liberal returns for their investments so made, but they are still servants of the State, and their acts, edicts and rules subject to supervision by the State, which must be supreme in authority, and whose right it must be to take railway properties, paying fully therefor when the public necessities indicate the wisdom of such conversion.

In recognition of these principles, and to make them effective in the administration of railway service, we ask that the several States enact laws: 1st. To subject railway corporations to rules that govern common carriers, and define their standing as public servants with no rights beyond those conferred in their charters.

2d. To prevent all discriminations in favor of or against individuals or localities.

3d. To make freight and passenger charges uniform and regular, open and public, subject to no changes except such as the exigencies of business may require, and that they be regulated as nearly as possible by the cost and risk of service.

4th. That changes in rates arbitrarily made, may be promptly annulled whenever, by duly constituted authority, they do not have equitable relations to the business upon which they are fixed, and that such action be equivalent to restoration of rates before change.

5th. To impose the penalty of forfeiture of charter upon railway corporations that interfere by profits of money or favors with the freedom of elections, or with the action of legislatures.

6th. To examine, whenever the public necessities require it, the cost of railways and their equipments, together with the cost of management, and to restrict charges for all service to such limits as will afford just profit upon these elements of cost, and to invalidate all stock issues not based on cost of construction and equipment.

These laws, when enacted by the several States, will be restricted in their operation by territorial lines, and will therefore not be wholly effective. It will remain for the general government, acting in the interest of all the people, to devise a common law, and to effect interstate commerce, and we therefore respectfully ask Congress to employ the powers delegated by the states, to make such provision as may be within its province, to render effective such legislation by the States; and for this purpose we believe that roads when operated continuously, should be regarded as single transportation lines, no matter by how many corporations or companies they may be ostensibly directed.

As a last and most efficient safeguard, we look upon the waterways, natural and artificial, as especially deserving of careful protection and development, to the highest efficiency commensurate with the needs of our growing commerce. Their pre-eminence in regulating transportation charges can hardly be over-estimated. The great rivers and lakes are the natural highways of commerce, the cheapest means of extending and controlling traffic that surplus production demands, affording always wholesome competition, and therefore deserving careful attention from the nation to which they are the natural arteries of trade. We ask such appropriations of money from the public treasury as may be necessary to establish their highest efficiency, and to conserve their usefulness for all our people.

POSTAL JOTTINGS.

The Lake Shore railway will sell special holiday tickets to all points on their line at one fare for the round trip beginning Dec. 21st to 25, and good to return to Dec. 31. For New Years week tickets will be sold Dec. 22 to January 1st, and good returning to January 7th, 1884.

Groveland Grange is doing well. The meetings are well attended and the interest good. At the last meeting we had select reading by J. H. Miller, music by Sister Ada Joslin, an essay by Sister Ida Miller. There were some splendid remarks for the good of the Order by the Worthy Lecturer, and others. The meeting then closed and we all prepared for home.

Have you seen the beautiful sunrises during this Indian summer weather? Notwithstanding the favorable weather, the Hessian fly is seriously affecting the wheat. Sorghum syrup has been selling at 65 cents per gallon, but is scarce on account of short crop. Cholera or pneumonia, is among the hogs to some extent. Some use sulphur as a preventive. Wheat is coming in lively at a dollar per bushel. These facts are not refreshing, but I am not merely croaking.

In answer to the inquiry of A. R. Enac concerning the New Home sewing machine, I would say that I purchased a "New Home" five years ago and that it has been in use in our family ever since, being run by a variety of hired girls and that it has always given good satisfaction. It is very light running and, so far shows no perceptible wear. A sister who has used an "original singer" medium or years says she likes our machine much better. A neighbor who has a Remington, says our machine is much easier to work than hers. It is always ready for business and we consider it a splendid machine in every respect.

The open weather is not favorable for wheat which is not strongly rooted. The setting of the sun in the waters of Lake Michigan is most beautiful. The sun sinks into a molten mass of gold, with no distinct line on the horizon dividing the waters from the yellow reflection of the sky. The twilight is prolonged and remarkably brilliant. Can our astronomers explain this strange phenomena? Corn is being shipped from Chicago in car lots, to most of the stations in Berrien county, the most of which is purchased by farmers whose corn crop has failed. A great shortage is reported in the crop of merchantable corn in many of the corn growing States. Bully! where is the great surplus of this crop reported in the commercial papers coming from Stevensville, Mich.

We are glad to see the school question agitated. Keep the matter before the people brethren until the present silly, unjust and expensive system of examination of teachers is expunged from the statute books, it seems to have been adopted mainly for the purpose of increasing the offices and fleecing the people who are taxed for the support of those useless officials in each county. The entire system should be abolished and the district boards permitted to hire who they please. The State Superintendent could if deemed necessary furnish each director with necessary questions and the board would be as competent to obtain answers and ascertain the qualifications of the teacher they wanted as any county board. Under the present highfalutin system some of the best teachers are excluded and some of the most incompetent licensed.

Couvier, the great Naturalist, grades the animal kingdom according to the proportion the brain bears to the spinal cord. Commencing with the crustaceans, bivalvs, mollusks, and other animals that have scarcely any brain at all, these are set down as the lowest form of animal life. Next comes the fish with an average proportion of two to one, then the reptile with a proportion of two and a half to one, then the mammal with four to one. But from the mammal up to the man there is a tremendous leap, being twenty-three to one. The difference between the lowest animal and the highest, is about three and a half, and between the highest animal on earth and man, the difference in proportion, between the volume of brain and the spinal cord is 19, so that I think the poor monkey stands a slim chance to ever be much of a man.

The year's work of the Grange is nearly all behind, as the time is nearly at hand when new officers will be elected, and now it is wise if mistakes have been made this year in putting the wrong man in the wrong place, that we see to it that we, as Patrons, are not guilty of a repetition of the same fault. As we look back we can see if our work has been as well done this

year as last, if our Grange has not prospered as well as we should like, let us ask ourselves (not our brothers and sisters) if we have done all we could to promote a lively interest in its meetings. If we have always been at our post of duty, if we have always responded to the calls for faithful laborers, if our dues are all paid up and we are square on the books, if we have furthered on the claims of the VISITOR and not left all this for some one else to bear. If our Grange is not full of zeal and good works, some one is to blame, and very likely it is not very far from our own selves that the fault lies.

Bro. C. Hebron, says "temperance is blooming." Bro. Cortland Hill deals sledge hammer blows upon the monster intemperance. He wields his broad sword unmercifully and it cuts right and left. That's right Bro. H. "hew to the line." He says "Russia is 100 degrees ahead of this nation on the subject of temperance." What do you say to that, men of Michigan. Shall we not modify our laws, after those of that sense-barbarian nation, or import teachers from there to instruct us how to protect the property and lives of our people. There is a temperance movement all along the line in this country. It is being thoroughly organized for temperance work, and we intend to "fight it out" on the temperance line, until the monster, Whisky is slain. Now let us "up and at once," dare to do right by never voting for any man for any office who favors in any way the abominable liquor traffic. If we will do this the liquor question will soon be solved.

A teacher in one of our country schools recently enquired if any of the boys could give a correct definition to the word, gumption. A tow headed chap started for the blackboard and with a fine piece of crayon chalk solved the question as follows: The letter G, stands in the alphabet as No. 7, U as No. 21, M No. 13, P No. 16, T No. 20, I No. 9, O No. 15, N No. 14, Now add all these numbers together and you have gumption. The teacher told the school that the definition was answered correctly and he had no doubt in his mind but that boy would some day be Master of the State Grange unless he should meet with some blushing widow and leave for parts unknown to his many friends in order to tally one more when the roll was called.

The boy resumed his seat and simply answered "yau dot is so."

During the month of September Hon. George L. Yapple M. C. of 4th district of Michigan, forwarded to my address one sack of Mediterranean wheat, marked, imported wheat from the Agricultural Department, at Washington City. I was requested by the department to sow this wheat and report how it did in this locality. After I opened the sack I found some handsome wheat but there was a large amount of foul seeds of seven different kinds of sufficient quantity to ruin an entire farm. Now if the head of this department is simply kept there to scatter all kinds of foul seed broadcast all over this nation at the expense of the government, it is certainly a fraud that needs to be looked after by all tillers of the soil. This department is run at the same kind of speed that a certain man run a headless rooster into Chicago a couple of years ago. After his arrival there he commenced to shout hi yi, hi yi, 10 cents a sight. But the great Massachusetts doctor at the head of the Agricultural Department presents the farmers with his curiosities free of all expense.

Three Rivers, St. Joseph county, Nov. 23, 1883.

Bro Cobb—I desire to announce through the VISITOR, that hereafter all goods sold at the Grange store Paw Paw, will be sold at ten per cent above cost, to all who patronize it, and once a year a rebate of five per cent will be paid to all Patrons in good standing who trade at the store. Any such member who resides at a distance, who may order goods, or purchase goods in large quantities, will be allowed the rebate at the time of purchase. Blank books will be furnished to all Patrons by Bro. Gilman, who will make entries of all purchases made therein. This change has been made in order to avoid difficulties which grew out of the former five per cent system. Our Grange store is doing a good business. A large stock of goods suited to the wants of the people and especially farmers are kept constantly on hand. And they cost Patrons only five per cent above cost laid down at the store. We have a gentleman of experience and ability for manager and obliging assistants. And this should be the headquarters of Patrons and farmers of this county. The object of this organization is not to make money for the stockholders, but to save it to members of the Order, by supplying them with goods at a trifle above cost. We request all Patrons and others within reach to give this store a trial. Call on Bro. Gilman and we are quite certain you will have no reason to regret it.

CORTLAND HILL

Youth's Department.

THE ROCHESTER ROBIN.

A Rochester robin has built its nest on the main frame of an engine on the New York Central Railroad. The engine runs daily between Rochester and De Witt, but the bird occupies its nest.

A Rochester robin alighted one day On a bar of the wonderful thing That like a swift miles like grain in its way And flies like a bird, though it never takes wing.

And the Rochester robin said to herself, "What a place for a nest, so strong, and so warm As nest as a pin and as shiny as delf, Up out of the danger in out of the storm."

And her mate by the roadside struck up the old say He sang for the apple tree blossoms to dance The girlish white blossoms in pink applique, More fragrant and fair than the lilies of France.

The heart of the engine was cold as a cave, The turn door grim as the grate of a cell, And dumb as the church under Switzerland's d's wave; Like a tulip of gold the glittering bell.

Then the stoker swung wide the furnace's door Stirred up a dull fire and the robins just said, "Summer weather to-day!" Then rumble and played the water's hot pulse in white clouds overhead.

"I am sure it will rain," he sang to his mate, "It thunders and lightning, but works right along The house half done and the season so late— How cloudy it grows!" So he kept up the song.

And the twain fell to work bore timbers of And fibres of wool caught on thistle and thorn, And wrought them all in by the Lords "high-law."

With threads of the lace some maiden had worn. Then clang swung the bell and the warble was hushed. And the crazy sparks flew as if the storm tore

The small consolations aside and asunder, While the engine along the steel parallels rused, The birds watched it all with innocent wonder—"Who ever saw stars in the day time before!"

Then she cried and he said, "the gale it is strong I think the whole world must be blowing away!" She trusting replied, "cannot last very long!" And kept on with her work far sweeter than play.

To and fro far and near their fiery world went, The cup of their loves brimming over with life And the engine stood at the window intent And declared by his engine and honor he would

Be the death of a man big or little, who should In the height or the depth of his gracefulness dare "To meddle or make" with his passengers there.

Ah, brave guests of the foot board, ticketed through All weathers and times till the end of the run, The Lord of the sparrows who is caring for you And the Lord of all realms forever are one.

—Benj. F. Taylor.

An Old, Old Topic.

Aunt Prue and Cousins—I do not know as I possess the right to address you as "Aunts and Cousins." I have read the Youth's Department for nearly three years and when Aunt Prue suggested temperance as a topic for discussion, I felt as if I wanted to do my part towards it. If this ends in that horror to all writers, the waste basket, there will, at least, be no harm done.

Yes, Aunt Prue, temperance is an "old, old topic," also one that will never die. Nobody can do justice to it or as Mrs. Fien said in one of her lectures here: "Friends if I could turn every man into a painter, take the earth for my brush, the waters for my paint and the heavens for my canvass, then, and then only, could I paint the awful horrors of intemperance that begins in the saloons, and ends on the gallows, or in a drunkard's grave." You boys and young men who read this, and if there be any among you who have not tasted that fatal cup, keep away from it, abhor and detest it, work against king alcohol, and work and vote for prohibition. Draw others away from it for it is full of desolation and misery to all who love it, or as the poet says:

"Oh when we swallow down intoxicating drinks, We drink damnation. Naked we stand the sport of mocking friends, Who grin to see our noble natures vanquished Subdued to beasts."

And now girls, when will the time come when you will say "the lips that touch liquor shall never touch mine." The girls of the present day must take up temperance in order to make it successful. A gentleman (not a temperance one then but he is now) once told me that the noblest work of God was a temperance woman, and I believe it to be true. Cousins, when I look back at the wreck of a once happy home, when I think of my father who fills a drunkard's grave, I say down in my heart, that I will work and speak for temperance as long as there is breath in my body. I am only a young girl, and I hope to live to see the day when peace shall reign in this, our beautiful republic, and not king alcohol.

Cousins there is a prohibition train coming over the track of truth, and God is the conductor, who issues his orders through his blessed book. Now how many of you are going to be passengers on this glorious train? For our ticket we will take the total abstinence pledge, with our names signed on the bottom. I am afraid I am saying

too much. Grandpa say something, Park Hamilton come and make a few remarks. ANNABEL. Dexter, Dec. 8th.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

A large portion of the readers of the VISITOR are farmers, many of whom desire a great deal more of farming literature than we are able to give them in our limited space. To accommodate all such we have made an arrangement with the publishers of the American Farmer to club that paper with the VISITOR for \$1.00 a year for both papers, only a slight advance on the price of the Farmer alone. The American Farmer is a large 16 page paper published at Fort Wayne, Ind. Every farmer should avail himself of this magnificent offer.

An Advertising Scheme.

As stated in the Star Clothing House ad. This enterprising Grand Rapids house has adopted a novel scheme to advertise by having a large bag from which all purchasers of \$4 worth of goods or over can get a nice present. The articles range all the way from a handkerchief to a piano, cook stove, cutter, etc. among the more fortunate ones that took four prizes were Mrs. P. Groves from Trent whose husband is a jeweler in Kent City. She got a fine decorated bed room set valued at \$45. The paint-shop foreman of the G. R. Furniture company, drew a silver water pitcher worth \$25. M. H. Robertson of the Michigan Tool Works a handsome lady's gold watch and many others drew articles of less value. Although the weather is bad for the clothing business the large stock, low prices and above attractions draw immense crowds to the Star clothing house. Their long established reputation for square dealing is a guarantee that all can do better there than elsewhere.

For Christmas and New Years.

Special round trip tickets will be sold between all stations on the Chicago & Grand Trunk railway at single fare, good going December 21st to December 25th, inclusive, and to return up to and including December 31st. All coupon agents west of Durand will sell round trip tickets at single fare to Detroit or any point on Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee railway east of Durand. All coupon agents east of Durand will sell round trip tickets at single fare to Grand Rapids or any point on the Grand Trunk railway (including Great Western Division) at single fare, good going same dates as above and returning up to and including January 1st, 1884.

NEW YEARS EXCURSIONS.

Special round-trip tickets will be sold between all stations on the Chicago & Grand Trunk railway at single fare, good going December 28th, to January 1st, inclusive, and to return up to and including January 7th. All coupon agents west of Durand will sell round-trip tickets at single fare to Detroit or any point on Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee railway east of Durand. All coupon agents east of Durand will sell round-trip tickets at single fare to Grand Rapids, or to any point on Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee railway west of Durand, same limit as above. All coupon agents of Chicago & Grand Trunk railway will sell round-trip tickets at single fare to any point on the Grand Trunk railway (including Great Western Division), good going same dates as above and returning up to and including January 1st, 1884. Excursion tickets must be purchased before entering the cars to obtain reduced rates, as full fare will be charged if paid on train.

The economy of the practice of feeding for manure, depends largely upon the kind of stock operated upon. Senator Rich says the difference between a common steer picked up anywhere and a well bred short horn, grade, is the difference between no profit at all, and a nice margin upon the investment. J. S. Woodward, a feeder of stock at Lockport, N. Y. who was in Michigan last week buying sheep said: "I wouldn't buy your ordinary Michigan Merinos at any price for feeding; I can't feed them enough; I want a good grade made by crossing thoroughbred heavy sheep upon your Michigan Merinos."

THE REAPER DEATH.

ROOT—Sister MARY FOOT died at her home in Newton, Calhoun County, Oct. 23th of consumption. She was a charter member of Home Grange No. 1.9 has held many places of trust and was worthy Chaplain at the time of her death. As brothers and sisters in view of the loss we have sustained by the decrease of our friend and associate and the still greater loss sustained by those nearer and dearer to her.

Resolved. That we sincerely tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved husband and family and that we feel incapable of expressing our tenderest regards by words of condolence as words of ours are too tame to express the grief of our own hearts as we submitively bow to the dispensation of a Divine Master.

Resolved. That this testimonial be recorded and also sent to the VISITOR for publication and that our charter be draped for sixty days by the hand of death been removed from our fraternal Band. The subject of this notice, sister STELLA N. STARR, died of typhoid fever, at the home of her parents, Oct. 4 1883 aged 17 years. While the drapery in our own hall and the badge of mourning worn by the members of our grange remind us that sister STELLA will no more in this life meet with us here we express the firm hope that we shall again meet her in the green fields on the evergreen shore where the Divine Master will give freedom from her sorrow and death and will guide to the "Tree of life" and to "Fountains of living waters" thought the great forever.

\$50,000 IN PREMIUMS TO SUBSCRIBERS. This Offer good till March 1st, 1884, only. GRAND CAPITAL PREMIUM OF \$10,000 IN CASH. THE HOUSEHOLD JOURNAL OF NEW YORK. SEND 50 CENTS. LIST OF PRESENTS TO BE AWARDED OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

THE HOUSEHOLD JOURNAL. IN ITS SEVENTH YEAR, and is the most BEAUTIFUL and POPULAR MAGAZINE OF THE DAY. It contains Twenty Large Pages, six of them of the most BEAUTIFUL and POPULAR ENGRAVINGS. It is published weekly, except on Sundays and public holidays. It is published by the HOUSEHOLD JOURNAL CO., 100 N. 3rd St., NEW YORK, N. Y.

The Atlantic Monthly.

The conductors of THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY indicate herewith a few of the noteworthy features for 1884, and need not assure its readers that it will continue, as it has been beyond question, the foremost among American magazines in all features and varieties of literary excellence. MR. CRAWFORD'S SERIAL STORY "A ROMAN SINGER" Will run through the first six numbers of the volume for 1884. This story will attract marked attention by its vigor and freshness. OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES Will write exclusively for THE ATLANTIC during 1884. The mere announcement of frequent contributions by him is more welcome than almost any other announcement could be.

Michigan Central Railroad. DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO. Time Table. Dec. 1st, 1883. Standard time—10th meridian.

South Haven Division. Kalamazoo, Mich. (ex. Sunday) 4.45 P.M. Arives at Kalamazoo 11.55 A.M.

Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad. GOING SOUTH. N.Y. & O.N.Y. & B. Expt. Ex & M. Way Fr.

GOING NORTH. N.Y. & O.N.Y. & B. Expt. Ex & M. Way Fr.

GOING SOUTH. N.Y. & O.N.Y. & B. Expt. Ex & M. Way Fr.

GOING NORTH. N.Y. & O.N.Y. & B. Expt. Ex & M. Way Fr.

FOOLISH WOMEN. Those suffering from complaints arising from their sex, which are daily becoming more dangerous, more firmly seated, yet more neglected to use, or even to learn about. Friend. For proof of its merit, address, R. PENNINGTON & Co., 128 W. Main St., Kalamazoo, Mich.

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 Postage street, KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Order Wedding Invitations of Kalamazoo Publishing Co. PENSIONS for any disability; also to heirs. Send stamps for New Laws. Col. L. BINGHAM, Attorney, Washington, D. C.

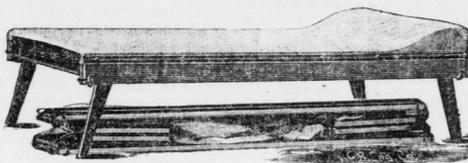
The Perils of the President.

The President and Philip Sheridan were some distance ahead of their party, riding quietly along each on his mule, when suddenly the General remarked, sweeping the horizon with his eye, "I observe smoke. Now I never saw smoke which did not arise from a conflagration of either large or small proportions. You may have observed it yourself. I do not wish to alarm you, my boy, but there is something ahead."

A Veteran Railroad Man.

Mr. Benjamin Hicks, the veteran farmer and railroad man, was found to-day by a reporter of The Grange seated in his well appointed library at his beautiful country home at Great Neck, Long Island. Surrounded by the comfort that wealth can give, and by a loving family, this man whose life has been an eventful one, rising from obscurity and poverty to wealth and influence, is now nearing the close of a well spent life.

M. B. CHURCH "BEDETTE" CO., GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. THE "BEDETTE."



This invention supplies a long-felt want for a cheap portable bed, that can be put away in a small space when not in use, and yet make a roomy, comfortable bed when wanted. Of the many beds that are in the market there is not one, cheap or expensive, on which a comfortable night's rest can be had.

The "BEDETTE" is a Household Necessity, And no family, after once using, would be without it. It is simple in its construction, and not liable to get out of repair. It makes a pretty lounge, a perfect bed, and the price is within the reach of all.

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.

POLAND CHINA STOCK I have at my residence in Porter, Cass Co. THIRTY HEAD OF PURE BLOOD POLAND CHINA PIGS. Eligible to registry in O. P. C. Record.

FENNO & MANNING, Wool Commission Merchants, 117 Federal St., Boston. Consignments Solicited and Cash Advance Made.

Kent Co. Pomona Nurseries, Peach Trees a Specialty. We offer for the Fall trade a good assortment of Fruit Trees, Grasses, Plants, Ornamental Shrubs, and Evergreens at the lowest living rates.

Greenwood Stock Farm. A CHOICE LOT OF PURE BRED POLAND CHINA SWINE For Sale at Reasonable Rates. Pigs in pairs and trios not skin. Breeding Stock recorded in Ohio Poland China Record.

Fish's American Manual of PARLIAMENTARY LAW Is the cheapest and best. The subject is made so plain that every Citizen or Society member should have a copy.

German Horse and Cow POWDERS. This powder has been in use for many years. It is largely used by the farmers of Pennsylvania, and the Patrons of that State have bought over 100,000 pounds through their purchasing agents.

PATENTS MUNN & CO. OF THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, continue to act as Solicitors for Patents, Caveats, Trade Marks, Copyrights, for the United States, Canada, England, France, Germany, etc.

ACME CREAMER and BUTTER COOLER A combination by which all farmers can make Creamery Butter as well as keep it in nice condition until it is marketed.

TEN THOUSAND Farms in Michigan. For sale by the GRAND RAPIDS & INDIANA R. R. CO. Sugar maple the principal timber.

BIG BERRIES! The famous CUTHBERT RED RASPBERRY AND GREGG BLACK CAP RASPBERRY, CRESCENT and BIRD-WELL STRAWBERRY, and other SMALL FRUIT PLANTS.

SEND YOUR ORDERS FOR TAX RECEIPTS Township Records, Highway Commissioners' Records, Township Treasurers' Books, Township Clerks' Books, District Assessors' Books, School District Records, Cemetery Records of Deeds, Cemetery Records of Burials, Kalamazoo Publishing Company.

\$3,000 Worth of Presents Given Away.

We are offering greater inducements than ever to people to buy goods, besides reducing the prices of goods so low that one can't help but buy. We offer a Present to every one purchasing \$4.00 or more from now till March 1st.

FISHER PIANO

- ROSEWOOD CASE, VALUED AT \$6000.00 1 Fine Gold Hunting Case Watch... \$100.00 1 Elegant Sewing Machine... 80.00 1 Silver Plated Tea Set... 75.00 1 Domestic Sewing Machine... 65.00 1 Good Kitchen Stove and Furnishings... 45.00 1 Handsome Bedroom Set (7 pieces)... 45.00 1 Fine Dress Suit... 25.00 1 Satin Lined Overcoat... 18.00 1 Handsome Dressing Gown... 35.00 1 Fine Smoking Jacket... 20.00 1 Smoking Jacket... 12.00 1 Tilting Silver Plated Pitcher and Cup... 25.00 24 Cases Silver Plated Ware... 150.00 100 Silver Plated Napkin Rings... 150.00 12 Silver Plated Butter Dishes... 75.00 12 Nickel Plated Watches... 75.00 20 Fine Silver Plated Castors... 150.00 15 Fine Traveling Bags... 75.00 6 Fine Trunks... 30.00 1 Lady's Gold Hunting Case Watch... 20.00 3 Large Silver Plated Cake Stands... 40.00 36 Knit Jersey Jackets... 70.00 12 Sets Combs and Brushes in handsome cases... 12.00 50 Pair Silk Suspenders... 50.00 2 Pair of Pants to order (made to fit)... 12.50

And 3,000 other Presents, consisting of Neckties, Suspenders, Knives, Underwear, Hats, Caps, etc., making in all over \$3,000. This is no Lottery Scheme of one chance in thousands, but every Purchaser, as stated, gets a Present as soon as he makes the purchase.

STAR CLOTHING HOUSE, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

People who may reside at so great a distance from Grand Rapids that they cannot conveniently come to the city, can avail themselves of the most extensive and varied stock of DRY GOODS AND CARPETINGS of every description to be found in Michigan, simply by writing us.

DRY GOODS AND CARPETINGS

of every description to be found in Michigan, simply by writing us. Samples of nearly all kinds of goods can be sent by mail. All orders strictly attended to, and any goods sent, not satisfactory, can be returned, and the money paid for the same will be refunded.

SPRING & COMPANY, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

The NEW TOOLS we offer this season, together with recent improvements, place the "PLANET" in the front rank of Farm and Garden Implements beyond all competition. SEND NOW, if you are interested in Farming, Gardening or Trucking, for our New Catalogue containing 32 pages of full descriptions of over 40 pieces of tools.

The State Agricultural College, YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN

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. FOUR YEARS are required to complete the course embracing Chemistry, Mathematics, Botany, Zoology, English Languages and Literature, and all other branches of a college course except Foreign Languages. Three hours labor on each working day except Saturdays. Maximum rate paid for labor, eight cents an hour.