

GRANGE VISITOR

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

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Postal Greetings.

FROM IOWA.

A GOOD PATTERN.

Bro. Watts, Master of Little Cedar Grange, Iowa, is at the head of a model Grange family. Himself and wife, one son, four daughters and two sons-in-law are members of the Grange. The Wattses are lately from Michigan. Have you any more such families that wish to emigrate? If you have send them to Iowa.

Some one has said that to be passively pumped into like a bucket is exhilarating to anybody. We think of this passive process often when in a meeting where a program is required. We have seen meetings not necessarily in Granges, where every one impressed us as dependent on some one else to make a sensation or do or say something to cover the allotted time. The impression was quite oppressive, and always is, excepting where there is a spirit of willingness for duty. I consider it the duty of each member of this Grange to write or say something for the good of the Order. Some may say it is the Lecturer's place to have a good program and make the Grange interesting. It is true he is our entertainer and host, but how can he make it interesting if we refuse to do our duty? Now, brothers and sisters, I think it is our duty to take up our burdens and bear them; they are not so heavy as we think. No matter if we do not agree as to our fitness it is a privilege to perform a duty and make an effort to do better the next time; more, it is a duty, and as a duty should not be lightly set aside. We have put our hands to the plow, now let us keep it moving. I think when a part of a program is given to any member of this Grange they ought to prepare for and perform that duty. It is right, and the duty of all members to produce something for the good of the Order. "Can't, never wins, I'll try, wills to win and does." Henderson, Iowa.

MICHIGAN.

YOUR article in the issue of August 1, Farmers and Politics, is right to the point. When any party feels so secure in its position as to overlook the interests of any class, it is time to call a halt. There seems to be a feeling of distrust of each other among farmers, and this feeling is fostered by those whose interests, political and otherwise, would suffer. The great mass of agriculturalists seem ready to confide their interests to the keeping of some glib tongued lawyer profuse in pledges and an adept in making excuses when these pledges are not redeemed. Why not trust one another? Why not in a gale cling to a tree you know to be an oak and that has weathered the storms of a generation. It may be crooked in body and its limbs gnarled; not so graceful as the stately pine, and not so easily broken; but then you know it is what it purports to be. Its exterior is rough but its heart is oak.

Farmers, when parties fail to give us our rights do not forget that we have the remedy in our own hands. It is contained in two words—INDEPENDENT VOTING. Trust one another. Nominate good men irrespective of party. Exact pledges of them if you wish and then see that the pledges are redeemed.

You complain that you have no place in the government, and ask for a law creating a Bureau of Agriculture in charge of a cabinet officer. You can get it at the next general election. Will you do it? You are the rim and spokes of the wheel that turns this government, and you can fill the hub so full of your representatives that anything reasonable will open at your "sesame." Cease your howling about what you want. Reach your hands out with the ballot in them and take it. There is but one way in going through a wilderness if there be no road—make one. F. W. REDFERN, Maple Rapids, Aug. 16, 1886.

"Cut the bread nicely." This was an injunction often given us by mother many years ago, when we first began to arrange the table for meals and assist in the preparing of food; and sometimes we wondered why she was so particular that it should be done in such a precise way. But now when we see bread cut in any manner, thin at one end and a great heel at the other, thrown on to a plate in any shape, we have felt as though we would like to repeat the command, "Cut the bread nicely." A nice way of serving bread is to place a clean, nicely ironed napkin in one of those pretty Japanese bread boats so that one corner may cover the bread when placed in it. It keeps it from drying and is a clean nice way to serve it. Let the slices be cut evenly, of a uniform thickness, and nicely placed one slice above the other, and with good butter and the good bread (no farmer's wife makes poor, you know,) you have a dainty dish fit for a king.

TALMADGE Grange, No. 639, is doing well. Holds meetings regularly that are well attended. Have had additions and the future looks bright to all those who realize that to get good requires some work. We feel and know that success comes of effort in Grange work as well as elsewhere. SCRIBE, Berlin, Aug. 13, 1886.

LENAWEE County Pomona Grange met with Medina Grange to-day. There was a good turnout and we had a very pleasant time. We held an open session in the afternoon. Bro. Jason Woodman delivered an address which pleased everybody present. He talked right to the point on every subject that he took up. In the evening we conferred the fifth degree upon five young ladies. All went home feeling that the day had been well spent. F. A. L., Medina, Mich., 8-11, '86.

the matter should be left for determination to the Grange that entertained the County Grange. The opinion as expressed was clearly in favor of at least one open session. Reports from Subordinate Granges were deferred until after dinner; and a Pomona Grange meeting means not only a good dinner but a good social time in which all participate.

And this is one of the valuable features of the Pomona Grange. It brings people together from all parts of a County; enlarges the circle of our acquaintance, and tends to enlarge our views and broaden out the facilities of all participants in this Grange work. After the dinner recess, reports from the several Granges of the County were made and in the main were very satisfactory and showed the Order advancing in the County.

A most excellent program had been prepared and when called on by the Worthy Lecturer each and all responded with instructive papers showing each writer had given thought and careful study to the subject assigned. At the close of the program the unwritten work was exemplified by Bro. J. J. Woodman in the most satisfactory manner. The next meeting will be held at Lawrence.

CALHOUN County Grange held its first meeting since the harvest time at Union Grange hall on Thursday, Aug. 12. The day though warm was pleasant, and a well filled hall of earnest Patrons assembled for work. It was a day of rare profit and pleasure. We were honored by the presence of Brother and Sister Travers, of Branch County, who added interest to the meeting by their words of encouragement to many of the questions that were up for discussion. A very able program of practical questions had been prepared by our Lecturer, C. C. McDiarmid, and every member was prepared. There are no "please excuse me" in Calhoun County Grange; every one is ready to give expression to his ideas, and our meetings are lively and spirited. The following are some of the questions discussed: Does it pay the farmer to keep bees? What kind of wheat shall we sow? New methods of doing work and new machinery, and the results from the use of the same this season.

Is it practical to keep our prisoners who are confined in our County jail at hard labor? This is a question that materially interests every tax payer and we wish the Granges in the State would discuss the question with a view to the passage of a law by our next Legislature which would enable us to rid our County jails of the lazy occupants that we have who are sent there for petty offenses and who are boarded and warmed at an expense of 40 cents per day each, which the tax-payers pay to support these vagrants in idleness. The question of aiding in the establishing of a free reading room in the city of Battle Creek was also talked up. We are pained to record that amid all the pleasant events of the day our hearts were saddened by the fact that our circle was broken and a chair vacant. The following resolution was presented and adopted: WHEREAS, Our Brother Fiero has suffered bereavement in the loss of his wife, our sister; therefore

Resolved, That we extend to our brother our sympathy in this hour of sorrow, and trust that he may be sustained and comforted, and also assured that he has the sympathy of his brothers and sisters in the Grange. Our next meeting will be at Pennfield Grange hall Sept. 30. MRS. MAYO.

IN the VISITOR of August 15, a great deal is said about the wrongs heaped upon farmers by unjust legislation and political tricksters. Bro. Cobb with all his keen foresight, after showing the many delinquencies of farmers, says, "If this is so, why is it so?" That is a question we want answered. With all due respect to our Worthy Secretary, as I am much older than he, I will presume to answer it. In the first place, farmers very seldom, if ever, call a convention of their own. Political conventions are called by wire pullers and crafty politicians, and the program is made, the platform blocked out, and even the delegates buttonholed before the convention meets. Then the meeting is called to order by a ring leader and the verdant farmer comes in from the country, with his hair full of hay seed and as bashful as a red beet, listens to the plausible words and false promises of the office seeker, and not having sufficient confidence to present his own thoughts, says: "Dat ish right, I votes for you."

Secondly, independent voters are as scarce in our Republic as water snakes on the Rocky Mountains. When a ticket is made up by crafty tricksters we are told that we must support the ticket or lose our vote, and as Patrons and farmers we have not yet acquired sufficient stamium to resist the insult to our manhood. This is the reason why there are 273 lawyers in the halls of Congress and only 12 farmers, and they only as a laughing stock in that august body of tricksters. In our Pomona Grange last week, with a hall well filled with intelligent men, the question was asked, "Is there an independent voter present?" and one man arose, and when he was told what an independent voter was he was mum. But the great mission of the Grange is to inspire its members with confidence in themselves to demand a fair representation by their own members, and when this is accomplished lawyers will be allowed to stay at home and the hardy sons of toil will go up to fill their vacant seats and make better laws for their class. SCRIBE, Cortland Hill, Bengal, Mich., Aug. 28, 1886.

SUPPOSING an item from the Bruce and Armada Grange, No. 657, will not be out of order. I will say that our Worthy Master, John McKay, was 43 years old the 14th of August, and to commemorate the event about 200 of his friends dropped in upon him on that eventful day. The party (or picnic) was a surprise and to say that a good time was had by all would give but a faint idea of the pleasure. The time sped all too quickly and as we departed to our homes we wished that such events might happen oftener. SEC'Y.

LIBERTY Grange, No. 391, is doing well. Most of our members are earnest workers; of course some do not take hold very well. Emerson and Lafayette Grange, No. 521, made us a visit on the 7th and I hope some good was done. There

being four Granges in this county, there is some talk of organizing a Pomona Grange. There are ten charter members in our Grange in good standing. Everybody has been complaining of the dry weather, but we had a fine rain last night and to-day. THE BOY, Gratiot Co.

LITTLE CEDAR GRANGE, No. 1319, at Fonda, Iowa, has been re-organized and has written for supplies for honest work in the future. So the work goes on. Not all are faltering by any means despite the cry of "hard times."

Notices of Meetings.

THE Patrons of Northern Kent will unite in a grand picnic at Camp Lake on Friday, Sept. 3. Hon. J. J. Woodman, Past Master of the National Grange, will deliver an address. Vocal and instrumental music will be provided. Camp Lake is two miles east of Sparta village and has the finest picnic grounds in the northern part of the County. With boats on the lake, good speaking and good music, a grand good time may be expected, and everybody is invited.

THE St. Clair County Pomona Grange will hold its next session with Grove Grange at Fargo on Sept. 15, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. Program: Address of welcome by T. E. Martin; response by J. Anderson. Reports from Subordinate Granges. Song. Dinner in hall. Two P. M., music by Fargo band and march to grove. Paper—What is the cause of the present low prices of farmers' products, by Bros. Newkirk and Quail. Paper by M. F. Carlton. Select reading by Sister A. W. Campfield. Paper—The advantages of society now over 40 years ago, by Sister Gardner. Query—Does it pay farmers' wives to make butter at present prices? Opened by Sister Stoffer, of Fremont Grange. Which has the greatest influence on society—money or character? Bro. James Anderson. All fourth degree members invited. All except 10 o'clock session will be open to the public. Fargo, Aug. 21, 1886.

Obituaries.

FIERO—Died at her home in Bedford, July 26, Mrs. Peter Fiero, a charter member of Bedford Grange No. 65. WHEREAS, It has pleased the Great Master of the universe to remove by death a well beloved sister; therefore Resolved, That in the death of our sister the Order has lost a true and worthy member, the community a social and pleasant friend, and the family a loving wife and mother. Resolved, That we tender the bereaved husband and family our heartfelt sympathy. Resolved, That the charter be draped in mourning for thirty days, a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family and a copy be sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication. COM.

PRATT—Once more has the never relenting hand of Death caused Riley Grange to mourn the loss of one of its members, Bro. Cyrus B. Pratt, who departed this life August 7, 1886. Death hovered o'er our brother dear For many days gone by; But death did never cause him fear— He was prepared to die. So thus his equal now we lack To fill the Chaplain's chair; And still we could not ask him back, For he is happier there. As we gaze upon our charter in its dress of mourning we deeply feel that there is one more vacant seat in our Grange, another home has been robbed of its most priceless treasure, and many friends are left to mourn his loss. We would extend the right hand of fellowship unto our sister in her sore bereavement, and by kind acts bind her more closely to us that she may feel in the Grange she has sisters and brothers noble and true. WHEREAS, It has pleased the Great Master to remove from the scene of his earthly labors our esteemed brother and worthy Chaplain, Cyrus B. Pratt; therefore Resolved, That as a Grange we deeply and sincerely mourn the death of a most worthy brother and friend, and hereby record our high estimation of his character as a citizen and patron. Resolved, That our hall and our charter, which bears Bro. Pratt's name, together with the Chaplain's desk be draped in mourning for the space of 30 days, and a page of our record be set apart as a memorial of him. Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Bro. Pratt, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication. COM.

SLY—WHEREAS, It has pleased the Supreme Master of the universe to remove from our midst our late brother and Past Master, Clark M. Sly; and WHEREAS, It is but just that a fitting recognition of his many virtues should be had; therefore Resolved, By Superior Grange, No. 68, of Michigan Patrons of Husbandry, that while we bow with humble submission to the will of the Most High, we do not the less mourn for our brother who has been taken from us. Resolved, That in the death of Clark M. Sly this Grange laments the loss of a brother who was ever ready to proffer the hand of aid and the voice of sympathy to the needy and distressed of the fraternity, an active member of this society, whose utmost endeavors were exerted for its welfare and prosperity, a friend and companion who was dear to us all. Resolved, That the heartfelt sympathy of this

Grange be extended to his family in their affliction. Resolved, That the charter of this Grange be draped in mourning for 90 days. Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of the Grange, and a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of our deceased brother, and to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication. COM.

NOTT—WHEREAS, By the removal of our aged brother, Wm. J. Nott, whose long and exemplary life had rendered him conspicuous as a christian gentleman, conscientious neighbor and unselfish worker for the best interests of his family and his associates in the Grange; and WHEREAS, The relations of our worthy deceased brother as a charter member of Benton Harbor Grange, and as a charter member first Secretary and long connection with Berrien County Pomona Grange No. 1 has endeared him to the memory of the older members of our organization; and WHEREAS, His virtues, noble precepts and example will always be an incentive toward emulating his kindly and christian deeds; therefore Resolved, That we, the members of Berrien County Pomona Grange No. 1, hereby tender our sincere sympathies to the relatives and friends of our beloved deceased brother; and Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolutions be tendered to the Benton Harbor Palladium and GRANGE VISITOR for publication. COM.

ZAHLTEN—Died at the residence of her parents, Aug. 19, 1886, Miss Mary Zahltien in the 28th year of her age. A sad and impressive memorial service was held on the day following her funeral in the hall of Algona Grange of which she was a cherished member. The enclosed resolutions were offered and seconded by papers read, or remarks made, by Sisters Witham, McArthur, Holman, Schryver, Blackford and Blanchard; and by Worthy Master Holms and Bros. Hale, Blackford, Hahn and Byson. The resolutions were adopted and ordered sent to the VISITOR for publication. WHEREAS, The unwelcome intruder, Death, has, in spite of doors and locks, and without signals or passwords, entered the portals of Algona Grange and removed one of the brightest links in our fraternal chain, in the person of our sister, Mary Zahltien; therefore Resolved, That we fully realize the fact that in the death of Sister Zahltien the Grange has lost one of its best and most faithful and devoted members, one who was "noted for fidelity" in everything pertaining to the good of the Order. Resolved, That we tender to the family of our deceased sister the united and heartfelt sympathy of all the members of our Grange. Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to our deceased sister, our charter be draped in mourning for sixty days, and that a page of our record be devoted to her memory. Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, and an engrossed copy furnished the family. COM.

MCKOWAN—WHEREAS, It has been the will of the Great Author and Ruler of all to remove from our society our much esteemed and beloved sister, Sarah McKowan, of Moscow Grange No. 108. Resolved, That as a Grange we deeply and sincerely mourn the death of a worthy sister and friend and hereby record our high estimation of her character as a matron. Resolved, That we tender to the husband and family of our deceased sister our heartfelt sympathy in this hour of bereavement. Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the bereaved husband, and spread upon the records of this Grange. Resolved, That our hall and charter, which bears the name of Sister McKowan, be draped in mourning for the space of 30 days. COM.

County Fair. Farmers of Kalamazoo County, Patrons of the County Agricultural Society, will you please get your exhibits ready and be on hand to make your entries as early as possible? That you may be fully posted in the matter send for or call at my office in the Court House for premium lists or any information you wish. GEO. E. CURTISS, Sec'y. Kalamazoo, August, 1886.

WE ask all enterprising friends of the VISITOR to aid in getting three months' subscribers. We ought to have several thousand such within thirty days. We mean business at this end of the line and must have your co-operation. Collect a few dimes from farmers who ought to read this paper and send us their names and postoffice addresses.

A BROTHER who sent in the obituary notice of the death of Mrs. Sarah Deuel, of Bradley Grange, printed in last issue Denil, kindly charges up the error to his own crooked chirography and asks in behalf of friends this correction. Printers soon learn that too much care cannot be taken in writing names. Others learn it best by finding some mistake made fast with printers' ink.

KALAMAZOO NATIONAL BANK. Capital \$50,000. Surplus, \$10,000. Southwest cor. Main and Bendic Streets. Directors—Jacob Mitchell, John Den Bleyker, Melancthon D. Woodford, Melville J. Bigelow, J. Wilfred Thompson, George T. Brien, Samuel A. Gibson, Albert S. White, Edwin J. Phelps, E. O. Humphrey, N. Chase. EDWIN J. PHELPS, President; MELVILLE J. BIGELOW, Vice-President; THOMAS S. COBB, Cashier. febr'y

Communications.

From my Diary.

APPRECIATION.

This word, like some others, can not be fully defined by a dictionary. As compared with estimate, it supposes a union of sensibility with judgment, producing a nice and delicate perception. As compared with esteem, it denotes a valuation of things according to their appropriate and distinctive excellence, besides their moral worth. It deals in nice and delicate perceptions, as we say, "Women have a truer appreciation of character than men;" or, as we speak of the difference between two things as something hardly appreciable.

This faculty, for it may be considered one, has been called the "sixth sense." It is the interpreter of the other five senses, for without it they do not pass for their true worth, as it is appreciation that gives to each of them their highest value. It gives to the writer, the painter, the poet and the orator the full inspiration of their theme. Or, we may say, it puts them *en rapport* with their subject. It is this sense that makes the full man, for it is the "open sesame" to all that is good and true and enjoyable in life. A man who fully appreciates a thing gets all the enjoyment or all the good it can afford him, whether it be a scene in nature, a work of art, a poem, or any achievement of man. Thus we can say that appreciation is to the man of thought and observation, "sermons in stones, books in the running brooks, lessons in trees, and good in everything." When Holmes said that "the vulgar know not all the hidden pockets where nature stows away her loveliness," he included in "the vulgar" those who lack appreciation.

Men possess sense in an unequal degree. Some have it in so great a degree that it metes out to them the full value of things and their full measure of enjoyment as they go through life. Thomas Carlyle, though having this sense largely in a certain direction, yet lacked it in so many things that he went through life losing what most people would call the best part of its enjoyment. Emerson said, "Carlyle was a trip-hammer with an æolian attachment." But the æolian part was so often detached from the trip-hammer that the force of the latter governed him through life. This lack of appreciation in Carlyle made him just so far untrustworthy as writer, critic, or historian. A lady asked him one evening if he did not think the heavens looked grand in all their starry splendor. He replied, "Oh, madam, it is a sad sight!"

A lady, who is a constant reader of the Century, thinks "Uncle Remus's Rainy Days," published in that magazine, "the silliest of all trash."

A friend of the writer, who has a full appreciation of most things in life, yet when traveling never enjoys the scenery by the way. The beauties of nature at such times are a blank to her, and we know of a gentleman of culture and varied attainments who once said to us that "he would rather hear a cow bell tinkle than Jenny Lind sing."

Then there are those who seem to impress people wherever they go with their lack of appreciation. They exert a negative influence and often put the one who is talking under restraint especially if the topic does not suit them. They have no humor or the love of it in them, no poetry in their nature and no appreciation of the beauties and treasures of literature. They have appreciation, but it is only for those things in life that contribute to their own interest. Every other feeling is absorbed in the one effort to further their own personal fortunes. A friend of the writer says of such an individual, who is a prominent man in the community where he lives, "I never heard him praise a friend, or express any admiration of an eloquent speech, an able sermon, or a distinguished man, in my life. There is no appreciation in him for any thing outside of his own affairs. I never heard him express admiration for any thing. He is the Peter Bell of my acquaintances."

'A primrose by the river's brim,
A yellow primrose is to him,
And nothing more.'

Bare utility measures and gives value to every thing for him. The strongest terms in which he gives expression to his appreciation of any thing are, "It pays, it is practical."

The critic must have appreciation in order to qualify himself for his task. What value shall we attach to a man's opinion or estimate of a thing when he does not appreciate that thing? At the best such an opinion is of questionable value; and yet how often such opinions on men and their measures are given by those who are not qualified for the task they perform. For instance, take the thousand and one topics of the times discussed by the journalists of the day. Here we have an important measure for the people, which the writer does not appreciate, yet gives his elaborate opinion on it. Here is a biography of a distinguished man, written by one who can not or does not appreciate him; yet the book is written and thousands, who do not know any better, believe it a correct life and a just estimate of the man's character. Take for example Anthony Trollope's *Life of Thackeray*. Here is a writer with no

imagination writing the life of an author whose brilliant imagination and wit won his way to immortal fame in literature. V. B.

Are Farmers as a Class Intelligent?

EDITOR VISITOR:—The moon just rising above the tree-tops attracts my thoughts for a few moments from the subject I propose to discuss in this article, upon which I feel great reluctance to enter and would rather employ the moments in contemplating more agreeable themes. How grand and awe-inspiring the thought of the vast and incomprehensible system of circling worlds and suns and systems, so vast that the Infinite Mind only can measure them. But for all their vastness, we reason there must be some superior power that holds and directs their motions and sustains them eternally. We are also able to trace this power in all that pertains to the physical nature of this earth. There is also another, an invisible world, (and for all we know millions of them), the world of spirit, of intellect. Inexorable law governs this world also and to this fact we may look for the solution of the mysteries of human or inhuman action, remembering that perverted functions or faculties produce monstrosities. If the physical world is wonderful, how much more wonderful is this realm of the soul! Much has been written and many creeds, doctrines and theories have been put forth concerning the spiritual man, but after all, that part of the subject that relates to this life and the effect of the actions of each upon the welfare and happiness of all may claim our attention with a reasonable hope of being able to so direct our efforts as to be of some benefit to ourselves and to the community around us. One would suppose that the farmer being in close contact with nature, with her thousand varied suggestions to excite his wonder and invite him to investigation, would obtain large intellectual development. But this is clearly not the case. He sees the wonders of nature before him every moment but fails to comprehend them. He has no time to spare from the pursuit that leads to the gratification of his wants or needs, or to the discharge of burdens others have placed upon him. His intellectual faculties are slow to act from being so little used. He is the slave of conditions he has no part in creating and makes little effort to change. He allows sophistry to pervert his reason and judgment, and is thus used as a tool of dishonest schemers for their interests and against his own. His stability in maintaining his professed principles is questionable, as those farmers and patrons who have been nominated to office can testify. Again, however willing he himself may be to submit to wrong, he can have no valid excuse, where his actions affect others, as they do in all political and commercial questions. Clearly the standard of intelligence concerning political, legal and commercial questions must be raised or the farmer will ever remain the slave he now is. Mechanics and science have practically abridged the space between the states of the Union and we have one common interest, one common purpose throughout all. The Grange, second only to the Government itself in importance, is at the farmer's service. Great numbers of agricultural journals lend him their aid in every department of his calling, and first and last and above them all is the incomparable STATE GRANGE VISITOR, whose declared purpose is to improve the farmer himself first of all, since he is of more importance than the farm—a just and reasonable position and one that the editor has nobly and ably striven to carry out. What excuse have the farmers of Michigan, of the Union, for the disgraceful position they occupy to-day, mere ciphers in everything but the footing up of election returns, and even there they are found in the wrong place! What man with reasonable intelligence does not blush with shame and humiliation as he stands before the lawyers, the merchants, the capitalists, the intelligence of the Nation, as a representative of the agricultural class? Bro. Kerby assumes I am an enemy because I have tried to arouse them to a sense of their position. The politician's taffy may be the more palatable, but the bread of truth will be the most wholesome. I have no object in all my articles in the VISITOR but to benefit my class. I am myself a farmer and plead guilty to every charge I have brought against them. Years of experience and observation have convinced me of this truth. If my language seems harsh, believe me, I use it for our good. The truth can not be hid. It has long been clear to all but ourselves. This is a delicate subject to treat, and as I have treated it, much more likely to call forth censure than blessings on my head. If I have exceeded the limits of truth and justice, the columns of the VISITOR are free for defence. By the way, I would call the attention of all, and Patrons more especially, to the way the VISITOR is appreciated. I am advised that "hundreds fail to renew without a personal appeal and argument." That tells the whole story. They are looking for something on a level with their comprehension, or they are seeking something that will interest them. They have no taste for the great and vital questions with which the columns of the VISITOR are filled, and this, about the only paper in the

land devoted wholly to their highest interests, is left to beg for subscribers! Of the merits of the VISITOR as conducted, nothing need be said. It commends itself to every reflecting mind. The editor's article, "Farmers and Politics," in August 1st, is sufficient in itself to inspire every farmer in the land with a determination to strike for his rights, to arouse himself from the lethargy of his past life and occupy the position that numbers, value and moral worth entitle him to. Every number is filled with the discussion of questions of great importance to the agriculturist, and yet the numbers of those who profit by its teachings are shamefully few and a "personal appeal" is required to hold the subscribers it has! Brother farmers, we deserve all the contumely and derision cast upon us as a class.

CHAS. S. KILLMER.

Trip to San Jose.

June 27, Sunday morning, went down to San Jose with a Spanish-Mexican party on an excursion. The men were rather taciturn, but the señoratas were sparkling and bright and apparently determined to have all the fun they could extract from the occasion. San Jose is 50 miles southeast of San Francisco and six miles from the south end of San Francisco Bay.

On the road down we pass through several very pleasant towns, San Mateo, Belmont, Redwood City, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto. The country along the route and around these towns possesses rare beauty and richness of soil in its level valley land and undulating foot hills set with live oaks, scattered here and there, giving beauty to the landscape and inviting to their cool shade. The waters of the bay roll gently on one side and the coast range of mountains towers up on the other, whilst ocean drapes the mountain's brow with a veil of fog in heavy, graceful folds, far more delicate than the bridal appendage.

But I must not forget Palo Alto, for here is to be located the largest and one of the most complete Universities of the United States. Senator Stanford has large landed property here which goes to the Institution. He also gives \$20,000,000 and other gratuities. The location is most favorable and for beauty and grandeur of scenery can hardly be excelled. Fortunate will be our grandchildren who shall have the favor of being educated at this Institution.

But now comes my difficult task, to properly describe San Jose, the Santa Clara Valley and its framework—the mountains in which it is set—what I saw and experienced there. On my arrival I proceeded to the beautiful cottage residence of my friend, Capt. C. M. Curtis, which I made headquarters during my stay. He, having a horse and carriage, took me out every day from ten to fifteen miles, over the valley, up the mountains, and through the canyons. San Jose is situated in the midst of the valley and about six miles east and south from the mountains. It is a pleasant town, abounding with shade trees, flowering shrubs and flowers, has many fine residences with well kept yards, looking homelike in the sweet contentment of this favored climate, contains good schools and massive churches without number, has about 40,000 inhabitants and electric lights, and puts on a business air.

Santa Clara, two miles out, but really a part, is a pleasant, quiet, little town, connected by a broad, beautiful driveway, shaded by old trees set here a hundred years ago. On Tuesday morning we all loaded into the wagon and started for Alum Rock Canyon, six miles east across the valley and up the foothills, then down into the gulch to the stream, and up the stream a mile, where we camped for breakfast. We soon had a fire; tea, coffee, etc. were prepared and we had breakfast in first-class order, afterwards wandered up the canyon about a mile, where the stream was two. This canyon is narrow, the sides of the mountain pretty straight up about two thousand feet, the lower part and bottom wooded. At this point, as we could not follow both streams, we had an inclination—there was a woman in the case—to reach that peak, away there 2,000 feet. We started up; toes would slip, but we made progress, and when half way up unexpectedly struck a good road just wide enough for a wagon, running in and out and up the side of the mountain. We followed this road up and still up for three miles and did not seem to get any nearer the top. We met a man with a cart; he said he had been up four miles to see some colts he had pasturing on the mountain. We concluded we should not reach Mount Hamilton that night on that grade, so we turned our steps homeward, stopping frequently to gaze on the varied beauty and grandeur of the scene presented to our view. It was not a picture on the wall, but Nature's wildest, grandest reality. At one point a mountain rivulet came sliding down on the face of a rock twenty feet, nearly perpendicular. We partook of this mountain-distilled beverage and went on our way happy. Passing on down the road, we reached the bottom of the canyon and going up the stream found our party and started for home.

On the foot hills we had a fine view of the valley and bay; reached home about six, congratulating ourselves on the pleasures and joys of the day the trip had afforded.

Around San Jose and especially to the

west and southwest for six or seven miles most of the land is occupied with fruit trees, parties having from five to 200 acres of fruit, consisting largely of cherries, peaches, apricots, prunes, pears and grapes. We enjoyed feasting on apricots and peaches which were just ripening. The cherry, apricot and prune trees were models of beauty and far exceeded my ideal imaginings as to what a perfect tree should be. The growth of these trees is somewhat marvelous, having made this season, now the 5th of July, from three to seven feet of growth on the end of limbs. The French prune is a good grower and bearer, and if properly handled, will be a profitable fruit, its superior quality assuring its acceptance in the market.

On Saturday evening Mrs. Duncan, formerly of Schoolcraft, called and took me over to her place, about five miles southwest, where I remained till the following Tuesday, visiting orchards, fruit men and women, for be it known that many a woman here raises the best and sweetest of fruits, as I may be able to prove to some of you on my return. We drove over to Los Gatos, six miles, which is located on the foot hills at the gorge in the mountains, where the railroad goes over to Santa Cruz and Monterey, by the ocean; drove towards Saratoga, over the foot hills, on which are many pleasant homes surrounded by various kinds of fruit. The grape is a specialty here and does well; some very extensive almond orchards around Los Gatos.

Riding along here, you may see many white cottages perched like an eagle's nest far up amongst the peaks of the mountains, should call it sky land. The 4th, or Monday, the 5th, was celebrated very pleasantly by the gathering at Mrs. Duncan's of a few neighbors, young and of more mature years. All were social, merry and imbued with the spirit of independence. The time went pleasantly by with fruit, ice cream, merry songs and social cheer.

Land appears to us very high here, \$200 to \$300 per acre for the bare land, and with house and fruit the price will be high enough to suit the most fastidious as to elevation.

They were just finishing a large Horticultural Hall in San Jose, 80 by 166 feet; gallery on two sides—a fine place for the exhibition of fruit.

Saturday morning, July 3, met with San Jose Grange; fair attendance. The members are alive with Grange interest there is no lack of ability to push and defend the same; and the ladies, socially and in Heavenly impulses the superior of man, here find a fitting place to co-operate in the interests of humanity and advancement of woman.

This Grange has great possibilities in the material that may be gathered in here to build up a Grange, if a united, determined effort is put forth to accomplish the same.

Tuesday came back to San Jose and on Wednesday morning came up to San Francisco, the point of concentration for all the Pacific coast.

EMMONS BUELL.
San Francisco, Cal., July 6, '86.]

From Maine.

EDITOR VISITOR:—For the past year your valuable paper has been a regular visitor and a very welcome one, and we should hardly know how to get along without it, ever filled as it is with good things and cheering news from brothers and sisters at the West.

At the last session of the National Grange held at Boston it was my pleasure and privilege to attend, and it was an occasion I shall always look back to with pride and pleasure, meeting with so many, as I did, from all parts of our broad land, many whose names had become as familiar to me as household words and I was also favored in securing autographs of a large number of the members, which I shall always hold as valuable mementoes.

The Order in our State seems to be in a prosperous condition, with a good working Grange in nearly all of the large agricultural towns—also a Pomona Grange in every County but one.

Here in the valley of the Kennebec our County Grange is an active organization, numbering some four hundred members, with monthly meetings. At our last meeting in July the question under discussion was, "What branch of fruit growing pays best?" and the sentiment of the discussion was that apple growing was the most profitable fruit culture for Maine farmers. A grand mass meeting and festival will be held at Hayden Lake Aug. 11 and 12, under the auspices of Somerset County Grange, and among the many prominent Patrons invited to take part in the exercises is our Worthy State Lecturer and Past State Master, Hon. D. H. Thing, which already ensures it a success. Possessing great ability, large experience, and practical, good, sound sense, with a deep devotion for the Creator, he has ever been ready with voice and pen to work for the cause he so nobly advocated. Aug. 24-26 the Patrons of the State are to hold a reunion and festival at Old Orchard, a summer resort of world-wide fame, which has the finest beach on the Atlantic coast, a beautiful grove of ample proportions, a camp ground with a large chapel, immense hotels and boarding houses, with hundreds of cottages and tents and every convenience for a long or short stay. Our present Worthy State Master is chief executive of the State, and amidst his

multitude of cares he seems to take a deep interest in the work of the Order. We have a Grange organ, the "Dirigo Rural," Bro. D. M. Hall, editor and proprietor. He is a pioneer in Grange work in our State and faithfully has he stood by the farmers and worked for their interest, making his paper a success in spite of all the opposition he has had to contend with, and the Order in our State is very largely indebted to him for its prosperity. At present the tariff question is being quite ably discussed by different correspondents, and it is interesting reading for those who feel an interest in those grave public questions of so much vital importance to farmers.

We have a Patrons' Co-operative Corporation situated at Portland, which is doing a thriving business and sending out goods to all parts of the State, a Patrons' Aid Society, which has a large number of members but is not so well patronized as it should be, and several counties have established Mutual Fire Insurance Companies, and altogether I think we are prospering fairly well.

I rejoice to see that your Children's Day was so generally observed throughout your State. We have had no such day set apart here.

The Grange is a grand and noble organization and let us all go forward in the good work, carrying its principles into our lives and striving to live up to obligations we have taken, and with Faith, Hope, Charity and Fidelity, we will ever work for the good of our Order, our country and mankind.

MRS. M. C. SCOTT.

Pittston, Maine, Aug. 19.

The Grange and Politics.

[By vote of North Burns Grange the following paper was sent the VISITOR for publication.]

NORTH BURNS, Aug. 10, '86.
It is a fact so transparent that I need not produce any evidence to prove it, that the agricultural industry of the United States does not receive the attention from our Congressmen and State Legislators that it is entitled to. When we consider the magnitude of the agricultural industry above all other industries combined, we should blush for shame that we have so few men of our own occupation to represent us and guard our interests in the halls of legislation. Official statistics tell us that about eighty per cent. of the whole products of the United States are agricultural products, and that about forty-eight per cent. of the whole population of the United States are engaged in agricultural pursuits. When we consider these facts have we not just reason to feel ashamed and chagrined that there are only five men in our National Congress who can be truly called farmers. What is the reason that there are so few farmers in Congress? This is a very pertinent question and should receive all the attention from us that we can bestow upon it.

Is it because there are no farmers in the United States who are competent to discharge the duties of Representatives and Senators? I do not believe it is. There are farmers in the United States and in this State who are capable of discharging the duties of any legislative or administrative office in our National Government with honor to themselves and their country. The true reason is that farmers do not take any interest in nor attend to the primary meetings of the political party to which they belong or affiliate with. It is in the political convention that the trickery and corruption in political parties takes root. Now let us think for a moment and see how political conventions are conducted, and of what two classes of men they are composed. We will start with the township caucus and county convention, and we will take Huron County as an average county for this State. Each township in this county is entitled to five delegates to the county convention; the township caucus is called and they delegate five farmers (or they could if they wanted to) to the county convention, but the shore towns very often send lawyers and merchants. There are 27 townships in the county; 5 times 27 are 135. There might be 135 farmers in our county convention but the lawyers and merchants from the shore towns will probably reduce that number to about one hundred, or about two-thirds of the whole number of delegates, but it is still a farmers' convention. Now, who do these men delegate to go to the State, Congressional, Senatorial, and Judicial conventions? The farmers, as a rule, do not have much to say about who will go, they let the lawyers and merchants do all the nominating and they support some one of their own nominees, and the result is that the leading lawyers, merchants, capitalists and office seekers go to the State and Congressional Conventions, but scarcely ever a farmer. Right here is where farmers "put their foot in it." They send men to their State and Congressional Conventions who have few interests in common with farmers, men who will "feather their own nest" first and ignore the farmers' interests. Now, when these men meet in State Conventions, who do they nominate for Governors, State officers and Congressmen? They nominate millionaires, lawyers, railroad kings, merchants, and manufacturers, but seldom a farmer.

Do such men as these enact laws to benefit and protect a farmer's interests? They do not. Their past history is so "plain that he may read that runs" that they do not. I have no controversy

with lawyers, merchants or capitalists, but it is human nature for man to guard his own interests by "hook or crook," and when merchants, lawyers, capitalists, and monopolists go to Congress they look after their own interests and let farmers "feed on the crumbs which fall from their table." But when election time comes around you will find them "stumping it" through the country shouting in stentorian tones "stick to your party, stick to your party." Who do they say this to? To farmers and laborers. But I, for one, am not going to be whipped into line by that cry again. I have "jumped the fence," and I am now sitting on the top rail, ready to topple over on either side that has a farmer captain, and if there is no farmer leading the ranks in either of the old parties, I will vote the Prohibition ticket.

Patrons and farmers, we are now entering a political campaign. Our county conventions are called; let each one of us do our duty like true soldiers. Let us attend our township caucus and send honest, intelligent men to our county and state conventions; men who will not be afraid to ask for their rights and who will insist on having them; and let them nominate farmers to make laws for farmers. Let them give us a chance to vote once for Cyrus G. Luce, to show them how we will carry him to victory on our shoulders, for we can trust to his leadership; we know that his interests are our interests; we know that he can sympathize with us in our toils and hardships, and that he would spurn any gift, or bribe, to make our burdens heavier. What do men who were reared in ease and luxury know about our trials and hardships in battling with misfortunes, poor crops and poverty? No more do they know how to make laws that will protect farmers' interests. Once more let me urge every good Patron to attend his township caucus and county convention and insist upon getting his rights in them. You will have a two-thirds vote in the convention, and make sure that you have a majority of farmers on each of the delegations, for it is in the conventions that we get beaten on election day.

D. BUCHANAN.

Weather, Grange, Crop and other Notes.

We had a nice rain night before last and yesterday—rained over two inches. Don't we feel good, though? How it will help out our corn, potatoes, and pastures. I mean late potatoes, Early potatoes are nearly or quite ripe, and those not planted early and on good ground are a poor crop. By-the-way, those speculative potatoes I was boasting about were "Green Mountain" potatoes. They look nicely. Some of my late potatoes will be an immense crop if they do not rot. My "Welcome" oats are threshed. They are the finest looking oats and the best crop I ever raised.

Very much of our land needed tiling; some of it does yet. Most of it, however, is pretty well tiled and we are talking right square to the front. You know the Lord said to the young minister, (by the mouth of the poet) "Go blow the gospel trumpet; go blow wherever you go."

A few years since I moved into the woods, and of course supposed I would have to pass for a "clodhopper." It is just possible that the conclusion was nearly correct, for a man living not far from me, at our home and in the presence of several neighbors and myself, used this argument in trying to defeat the laying out of a highway: (I was one of the Highway Commissioners and in favor of the road) "Any one knows that Cole must be a d—d fool or he would never have settled down here in the woods." The road was laid out, however, and has proved a blessing. We, wife and I, have lived to grow out of the woods—out of the stumps, (thanks to Hercules powder)—out of the water, (thanks for muscle and tile)—"Out of the old buildings into the new." We have earned the right to blow our horn and we are going to do it, too. I am going to blow for myself, blow for our Grange, blow for Palmyra, Lenawee County, and Michigan. We are not placed here merely to be "blow-hards," but to work and let our lights shine.

A few days since as I was passing a place three or four miles from here my attention was attracted, (no matter to what—I was out taking notes for the Grange.) I called to the proprietor, who was a few rods away. I hardly knew him at first, though we were formerly well acquainted. He had married and settled out of sight—nearly. He invited me to get out; wanted to show me something. During our walk and talk I found he was badly in debt and terribly discouraged. I tried to cheer him up. A brother Patron coming up he invited our discouraged neighbor to join the Grange. He replied that he was afraid that Patrons were paying more attention and time to the Grange than to religion. Were running around a good deal, spending time and money when they ought to be at home working. It was intended for a center shot and a clincher. I replied that he was pretty plain, and I would return him a few practical pointers free of charge. He got it, too. I finally told him if he would get out of those tall weeds, (about six feet high) into my carriage I would show him one of those neglected farms where the owner at-

tended Grange regularly, went to the County Grange, to the farmers' picnic, attended the county and state fairs, etc. He laughed and said he guessed he wouldn't go, but would look at one of those applications. We gave him two and a pencil. He filled out one for himself and another for his wife. They are going to join the Grange; will probably make good members and get lots of good. No,—he does not take the GRANGE VISITOR, and will not see this; will not be offended if he does. Is a real good-hearted first-rate fellow, but needed shaking up a little. We went a few rods farther and secured two more applicants. Well, after four o'clock P. M., we secured eight applications, wrote up what we saw and learned that day, got supper and were at the Grange before eight o'clock. Who can beat that? "More blowing," did I hear you say? Yes; I don't care what you say, I am going to keep right at it.

M. T. COLE.

Lenawee, Mich.

[This is all right; now we want eight subscribers to the VISITOR from that Grange.—Ed.]

Horticulture.

Science in Horticulture.

[Oration delivered August 8, at the Agricultural College commencement exercises, by T. A. Stanley, of New Britain, Conn.]

Horticulture, strictly defined, means both the art and the science of garden cultivation. It includes pomiculture, the raising of fruits; olericulture, the raising of vegetables; and floriculture, the raising of flowers, trees and ornamental shrubs. It has to do with a greater variety of products than agriculture, or field cultivation; but though of less magnitude, it is of no less importance. The vast annual consumption and exportation of horticultural products, is sufficient proof of the importance of horticulture in the wealth of a nation. To meet the increasing demand for these products, more thought is necessary. Much improvement must be made in the methods of operation, while the many insects and fungoid growths attacking cultivated plants require a thorough knowledge of the development and habits of plant growth, with an equal knowledge of these enemies of vegetation. As an art, horticulture dates back nearly to the beginning of the human race. As a science it is only in its infancy. While almost every other occupation has advanced by the application of scientific principles, horticulture seems to have remained dormant; not, however, because science cannot be applied to it, but because in the past men have been contented with simply reaping that which they have sown. The reasons for certain changes in plant growth have not troubled their minds. The few experiments conducted have been under the supervision of practical gardeners, rather than scientists; of men seeking to increase their immediate profits, rather than of men trying to discover the scientific principles controlling plant growth. Horticulture has been in this stage far too long, and the time has come when this mist that hangs between the minds of men and nature's laws must be swept away. These laws must be discovered; and when they are once known, horticulture may be pushed forward by science and practice to that degree of perfection reached by other industries similarly treated.

Not many years ago pear blight doomed the cultivation of pears to complete failure. The practical horticulturist knew nothing of the nature of the evil, and its only remedy was to make firewood of the trees. The successful researches of Burrell and Arthur showed the nature of the fungus with its methods of growth, and a possible means of contending with the pest. The attack of parasitic fungus upon cultivated plants is now a very common complaint, and contrary to general opinion, this subject is still buried in ignorance.

Why does the red rust attack certain varieties of blackberries and not others? Why does the bean pod fungus attack one variety in preference to others? Is it because one variety has a thicker epidermis; because one is a more vigorous grower and better able to ward off the attack; or is the composition of some plants such as to kill the fungus? Conjecture is easy, but the truth is, nothing is known about it. If satisfactory answers to those questions are found might not plants be developed capable of withstanding all fungus attacks?

What do we know about grafting? This most important art was practiced by the Romans centuries ago, and today our methods are practically the same as theirs were. We know nothing of the laws of plant affinity and hence cannot explain why pear scions will thrive upon quince stocks, while the quince will not thrive upon the pear. We know experimentally that peaches, apricots, nectarines, and cherries will thrive upon the same plum tree, and that the plum cannot be made to grow upon some of these trees; but of any reasons for this, we are entirely ignorant. It is said that an Italian has discovered a method of producing new varieties of roses by budding. This may or may not be true, but certainly, in the hands of the scientific horticulturist, such a phenomenon would be a straw indicating a current, which, if followed

carefully, might lead to valuable results. There is one thing now attracting much attention from scientific horticulturists which should be pushed with the utmost energy—the classification of garden plants. By arduous scientific research botanists have been able so to classify the thousands of species of wild plants as to know them by name and easily recognize them in the open field. There is very little duplication of names. How is it with our garden plants? This year you order from seedsmen a certain variety of tomato; and next year an order for a different variety—the same will appear, only under a new name. Even in the same year you may order from different seedsmen different varieties, all of which will prove to be the same plant under new and elaborate names, and these elaborate names generally increase the price of the seeds. Here then is a field of labor for the keen, observing, scientific gardener, the results of whose work will be valued by the whole country. To eliminate all duplicate names is the object of experiments now being conducted at this college; and it is expected that the seventy-five advertised varieties of tomatoes will shrink to almost thirty. The various state experiment stations are conducting similar experiments with their vegetables expecting that by their merited efforts all garden plants will soon be catalogued with scientific accuracy.

Often while gathering fruits the gardener's attention is attracted by what are called freaks of nature. A Russet apple is found growing on a Rhode Island Greening tree. Black cherries are found on trees that have always borne red cherries. Occasionally potatoes are dug some of which are half white and half purple. These phenomena are known as sprouts or bud variations, and familiar though the facts may be, yet how little is known as to the causes. These sprouts often result in the production of greater improved varieties, and could the natural laws lying at the foundation of these strange phenomena be discovered, they might be applied on a large scale to the production of improved varieties; and the thousands of worthless, haphazard sorts now flooding our markets might disappear. There are many other phenomenal changes in plant growth for which but a faint glimmer of a cause is known. The tall apple trees of the south become, when taken to the north, low bushes. Indian corn in the Gulf States reaches a height of twelve feet, while in Canada it rarely exceeds six. Generally speaking, southern plants are dwarfed when transplanted to northern climates; and since it is known that dwarfing increases fruitfulness the reason for northern vegetation being more productive than that at the south is apparent. There is a change not only in plant growth, but also in the quality of the fruit. By actual experiments it is found that apples, pears and other fruits have a strange flavor when raised in the north than when in the south. Changes of climate are said to cause these changes in plant growth and in the quality of fruit; but what does this broad term "climate" include? This general explanation is not satisfactory; that specific element of climate which produces these changes is what must be ascertained. Plants in the south produce a heavy growth of wood and yield fruits large but few in numbers. In the north they make little growth and yield many but small fruits. Now, by careful experiments, will not that intermediate point be found where the ratio of plant growth to the production of fruit is the most profitable. This being found, fruits and vegetables could be propagated from seeds produced in that particular locality, and subsequent crops would be greatly increased. Many other examples might be given, but these show how great is the ignorance of the laws underlying the ordinary garden operations. They show that there is yet ample room for valuable experiments; and that, though profitable crops may be raised without the knowledge of these laws, much more profitable crops might be raised with these laws thoroughly understood. This is a progressive age, and man can not and will not work with his eyes shut. He will continue to study and investigate until he is master of his calling.

Then let it be understood that the discovery of these underlying laws is to be sought for rather than the direct increase of productions. Years and years of careful scientific investigation are needed. All nature is a puzzle and her science is ever new. No sooner is one problem solved than many others are presented. Her doors are ever open. Through these man may pass, his lamp trimmed, ready for thorough research. Though the task may seem irksome enough, yet how cheerfully may it be undertaken in the assurance that nature places no limit upon the success of well directed labor.

The Old Fashioned Garden.

But the garden from which the whole family may gain the purest delight, in which they will feel the most interest and take the most pride, is the old fashioned one, the fashion of which came with the Puritans from old England and lingers in New England yet. It is that in which year after year fruits and flowers meet and mingle, where spade and hoe and hand weeder give the culture, and rectangular beds and trim pathways abound. Such a garden is fair to see. I have such an one in my mind now, where beds of

sweet marjoram and theme flanked cohorts of onions, stiff and rigid in their green liveries pinked out with white; where the cranberry bean, tenderly cherished because its seed was brought from "old Vermont," flaunted its motly pods above the scarlet poppies whose brilliance shamed them, and tomato plants jostled York and Lancaster roses; where double rows of peas hung blossom banners and plethoric pods over a brush forest, and sweet william and sweeter pinks, and purple columbine and iris mingled in charming confusion. A wandering raspberry bush clutched you; a morning glory vine swung a chime of dewy bells from a sunflower tower and the housewife's pale green hop clusters treasured golden grains of lupulin among the wreaths of foliage that wound among the white pallings. There was room for the grandsire's dwarf pear trees, and for the seedlings from the peach pits the lad planted and tended. No weed seeds ever ripened there, and the land laughed with harvest till a black frost brought desolation. It was a garden of delights, full of surprises; ever new, ever charming.

And such a garden is to the household more than a mere purveyor of food. It feeds our love of beauty by its fair young flowers, its tender greens, its reproductions and renewals. Here is the spring we see how earth's slow pulse thrills under sun, rain and

* * * Every clod feels a stir of might
And climbs to a soul in grass and flowers.

Here we find the æsthetics or horticulture, for here the busy woman, her thoughts intent upon what Owen Meredith calls—

Hour of all hours, most blessed upon earth,
Blessed hour of dinner.

yet pauses among its beauty and fragrance to rest a moment, and feast her eyes; and go back to her kitchen refreshed and strengthened, by the reviving influence of nature. In this ideal garden the observant man takes his microscope and pries into nature's secrets as under the magic glass he counts the petals of the close folded blossom buds, discerns grape clusters within the warm, resinous eider-down blanket tucked about them, and even counts upon the cluster. After all, in spite of all they tell us of its multiplying insects, its laborious culture, its demands on time and muscle, we feel that its continuity is its charm, that the old-fashioned garden is the garden of our dreams, and that the relation of the household to such a garden is that of pleasure and profit.—Mrs. R. F. Johnstone, in Michigan Horticulturist.

History of Horticulture.

The Michigan State Horticultural Society has in preparation, (to appear in the forthcoming volume of its transactions,) a History of Horticulture in Michigan, in which it is the purpose to give an authentic account of the rise and progress of tree, plant and fruit culture in the State, together with the present condition of these interests, and their future prospects.

It is also the purpose to devote a large space to each county, separately considered; giving as full an account as practicable of the origin, rise and present condition of these interests in each, with their adaptation to such pursuits, as indicated by location, soils and climate.

We, therefore, strongly urge that any and all persons possessed of information of this character, or of the facilities for collecting it will lend their efforts to the work of supplying the needful information by responding to the subjoined inquiries, and forwarding the same to the undersigned, at an early date.

1. When, where and by whom was the first settlement made in your county?
2. Was it made for agricultural, lumbering or other purposes?
3. When, where, for what purpose, and by whom were the first fruit trees planted?
4. Have any fruit plantations been made in your county for commercial purposes, and if so by whom?
5. Have fruit plantations generally proved successful, and what is their present condition?
6. Where are the fruits usually marketed, and how transported?
7. Have any nurseries been established in your county, when, and by whom, and are they still in existence?
8. If discontinued, why?
9. Give a full account of any old fruit or other trees, planted prior to the settlement of the county, by French traders or others.
10. Are there any notable plantations or preserved groves of trees, for cemeteries, parks, or other ornamental purposes, whether public or private?
11. Mention, generally, any notable or interesting circumstances, within your knowledge, pertaining to the horticultural history of the State, or any section of the same.

We appeal to all to lend effective aid to this object; and in so doing, to assist in putting the earlier history of their own section into authentic and permanent form.

Any and all persons supplying information in aid of this object will be entitled to receive a copy of the volume containing the proposed history, when published.

Address all communications as early as Oct. 1st to

T. T. LYON, President,
South Haven, Michigan.

Wire-Pulling.

BY LUNA SPRAGUE PECK.

The wires worked well, did you hear them click As over and under they moved so quick? "What were they doing?" Why, haven't you heard
Of the wire-machine which, at a word,
Goes over the ground to set up the wickets,
Clear off the track and station the pickets
In time for the state and county tickets?
Magical wires that we cannot see
Over our heads right royally.
"Who works the wires?" There's no town without
A suitable man, you can pick him out,
Eager for office, unscrupulous, keen,—
He runs the town and county machine.
Then over them all a "boss" we see
Bought up by a railroad ring, may be,
With a throttled press and a golden key,
He fills the state offices one by one,
And the warp and woof of the web is spun.
The canvass is over, then let it rest;
The vanquished mourn and the victors jest.
How many, think you, of the promise made
When striking, perchance, some up-hill grade,
Will be kept, when the heat of the battle is o'er
And the victors safe on the winking shore.
But the saddest sight of all to me
Is this "land of the brave, and home of the free,"
Is the September farce, when freedom men met
With no choice but to spring a trap that is set.
Women and idiots are shut from the polls
By a law of our land, but this truth holds:
They know they're not voting, while man, elate,
Goes forth to the polls, and, sure as fate,
Is naught but a tool for the wire-man's slate.

The Birds.

Think of your woods and orchards without birds!
Of empty nests that cling to boughs and beams
As in an idiot's brain remembered words
Hang empty 'mid the cobwebs of his dreams!
Will bleat of flocks or bellowing of herds
Make up for the lost music, when your teams
Drag home the stinky harvest, and no more
The feathered gleaners follow to your door?

What! would you rather see the incessant stir,
Of insects in the windrows of the hay,
And hear the locust and the grasshopper
Their melancholly hurdy gurdies play?
Is this more pleasant to you than the whir
Of meadow-lark, and her sweet roundelay,
Or twitter of little field-fares, as you take
Your nooning in the shade of brush and brake?

You call them thieves and pillagers; but know
They are the winged wardens of your farms,
Who from the cornfields drive the insidious foe,
And from your harvest keep a hundred harms.
Even the blackest of them all, the crow,
Renders good service as your man-at-arms,
Crushing the beetle in his coat-of-mail,
And crying havoc on the slug and snail.

Think, every morning when the sun peeps
through
The dim, leaf-latticed windows of the grove,
How jubilant the happy birds renew
Their old melodious madrigal of love!
And when you think of this, remember, too,
'Tis always morning somewhere, and above
The awakening continents, from shore to shore,
Somewhere the birds are singing evermore.
—Longfellow.

Why Some People are Poor.

Silver spoons are used to scrape kettles.

Coffee, tea, pepper and spice are left to stand open and lose their strength.

Potatoes in the cellar grow and sprouts are not removed until the potatoes become worthless.

Brooms are never hung up and are soon spoiled.

Nice-handled knives are thrown into hot water.

The flour is sifted in a wasteful manner and the bread pan is left with the dough sticking to it.

Clothes are left on the line to whip to pieces in the wind.

Tubs and barrels are left in the sun to dry and fall apart.

Dried fruits are not taken care of in season and become wormy.

Rags, strings and paper are thrown into the fire.

Pork spoils for want of salt and beef because the brine wants scalding.

Bits of meat, vegetables, and cold pudding are thrown away, when they might be warmed, steamed, and served as good as new.

FUMIGATING HEN HOUSES.—At this season unless extra care is taken to remove droppings, vermin will find their way into hen houses. The best remedy is through fumigation. Take a pan filled with live coals, throw some resin on this and immediately follow with flour of sulphur, at the same time closing every aperture. In an hour's time the vermin will be killed; but the operation should be repeated once or twice after two or three days to destroy vermin that may hatch from eggs whose vitality is not destroyed. Thorough washing of perches, nests and all wood-work with kerosene oil is the best preventive. Fowls that have run where they can roll in the dust all summer, will keep themselves free from vermin until they become broody. When a hen gets in this state she loses care of herself, and may some day be found dead in her nest, killed by the tiny insects that prey upon her. The nest for setting in summer should never be in the hen house, or at least not in the apartment where the fowls roost.

THE Iowa State Grange do not propose to send out lecturers merely to make fine speeches and build up a reputation for oratory, but to do missionary work among the people; to reach the farmers in a plain common-sense way and make them feel that each lecturer is one of them, with a common cause, interest and purpose. A number of dormant Granges have recently been reorganized in that State.

ARTICLES of association of the Detroit Butterine and Oleomargarine Manufacturing Company have been filed. Capital stock, \$30,000 paid in. G. L. Sampson, G. W. Alexander and G. H. Paine are the incorporators. This is painful news for butter-makers.

The Grange Visitor.

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J. T. COBB, Editor and Manager, SCHOOLCRAFT, MICH.

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Remittances may be made to us in postage stamps, or by postal note, money order, or registered letter. If you receive copies of the paper beyond your time of subscription it is our loss not yours. We aim to send every number of the paper for the time paid for, then strike out the name if not renewed. Renewals made promptly are a matter of much convenience, and we respectfully solicit such that no numbers be lost to you.

Advise this office at once of a change in your address, or if numbers fail to reach you.

Sixteen Months for 50 Cents.

We send this copy of the VISITOR to a large number of persons whose names we find on our mailing books—persons who once read the VISITOR but who from some cause have not renewed their subscription. We invite their attention to the contents of this number and to a renewal of their subscription. As an inducement we offer to send this paper three months in clubs of five or more to any office for ten cents each. Or better still, we will send the VISITOR from date of receiving subscription the remainder of this year and all of next year for the regular yearly price of fifty cents.

THE Executive Committee of the State Grange of Michigan established the GRANGE VISITOR in April, 1875 and committed its management to our hands. Established to promote the Good of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, we have endeavored to keep it within the wise restrictions provided by the Constitution of the Order in the discussion of partisan politics. Satisfactory evidence of our compliance with this restrictive condition was furnished last week by a brother who has taken the VISITOR all these years. He said he had never yet found out the political preferences of its editor and we had the satisfaction of informing him that we did not have to fetter our sympathies or our convictions to run a neutral paper. To this we now add we believe more in men—true men, who have the courage of their convictions than we do in professions and platforms.

THERE are farmers of ability in this country—men who have succeeded not only as farmers but who have shown themselves shrewd, capable business men whenever and wherever they have taken hold of any business enterprise outside of that of farming, and Mr. Luce is one of the number. He is still living on the same farm where as a young man he turned the first furrow on land that never knew the plow before. He has continued to cultivate that land, and the additional acres that successful farming enabled him to buy, for all these years from early manhood until now, except when engaged in some public business that required his temporary absence. Few men of his ability in this State, or out of it, have proved their devotion to the farmer and agricultural improvement in the field and on the platform as has Farmer Luce.

All business affairs, whether of a public or private nature have been managed with the same successful results that have marked his farm life.

Cyrus G. Luce is a man of broad views, pronounced opinions, and acknowledged ability wherever known and that means in scores of the rural districts of Michigan.

While not offensively aggressive in any body of men of which he is a component part, his natural qualities of leadership have always brought him to the front. He stands to-day before the people of Michigan as a capable representative of the agricultural class, nominated for the important office of Governor, and we believe not wholly dependent on the political party that nominated him for that support, which we trust will in this year of grace 1886 give us a farmer Governor of rare executive ability.

This is the farmers' opportunity—the

farmers' campaign, and the conditions not only all favor but demand the election of the farmer candidate. No duty is now more obligatory on the farmers of this state than that of doing some earnest work to secure the election of their candidate. Failing in this the farmers of this state confess their willingness to occupy an inferior place in all the affairs of government. We can not believe Michigan farmers will bring in such a verdict against themselves next November.

Farmers and Politics.

We let politics severely alone this season until August 1. We then reminded farmers in a two-column article that by their failure to look after the agricultural interests of the country as affected by legislation, they were called upon to pay more than their fair share of the burdens of taxation. By their chronic indifference they were mainly without representation from their own class in the legislative bodies of the country. We hoped by a presentation of some of these obvious truths to stimulate some of our readers to greater activity, not in the line of partisan work, but toward such independent action with a definite purpose as would tend to make the influence of the farmer class felt in every department of government.

We charged up to the farmers themselves the footing of a balance sheet, that proved their dereliction to the manifest duty they have long owed the class to which they belong—a class large in numbers and large in the possession of taxable property, with little representation in legislative bodies. What farmer can look at that record of representation in Congress of 12 farmers and 273 lawyers and say that he has been faithful to himself and his fellow farmers. Now, we ask our readers to step out for a moment from the confidence of party affiliation and association into the condition of farmer citizens, or citizen farmers, and ask themselves how farmers owning the same number of acres of land in the same school district, each with one wife and the same number of children, all white—the same distance to mill and to meeting, and having, so far as science, philosophy or religion can show, the same financial interests to protect and subserve, will persist in ignoring their fellow farmers, and keep up from year to year a running fight with each other in the field of politics the outcome of which is to turn over their own interests into the hands and heads of a lot of professional gentlemen who have an established reputation for taking good care of themselves first, last and all the time. No one can or will claim that we have overstated the case, and we think no sensible one of the victims of this mismanagement will undertake to say that in thus working against each other the farmers of the country have wisely promoted their interest as individuals or as a class. In the article referred to we urged farmers to attend the primary meetings of the parties to which they belonged, and act with the definite purpose of taking care of the interests of the agricultural class. Since then the primary meetings and the county and state conventions of the several political parties have been held and the result of their action is before us.

Whatever effort was made by our farmer friends of the Democratic or Greenback parties to secure recognition in their conventions we do not know, but the presence of large numbers of representative farmers in the Republican Convention at Grand Rapids and the nomination of one of the most capable representative men of his class is satisfactory evidence that in the primaries and county conventions of that party there was a determined effort on the part of farmers to vindicate their right to recognition.

Two years ago in the Republican State Convention the farmers made a gallant fight but were overpowered by the politicians of the party. This year those same politicians were only conspicuous by their absence.

The nomination of Cyrus G. Luce for Governor is the triumph of the farmers of the State over the politicians. This evidence of awakened interest and of determined work by our farmers is the more gratifying to us that it is in accord with the persistent appeals made by the VISITOR to the farmers of the State to come to the front and take care of the interests of the farmer class in every department of the government. At no time have we asked for a farmers' party, and we want none. But we have asked and urged farmers to stand up for the farmer, his rights, his profession, his interests, and cease to be the convenient and useful tool of the lawyer politician.

From what we have said no one has a right to infer that we desire farmers to combine and drive all lawyers from legislative bodies or from prominent official positions. By no means. But we do insist that farmers should compel them to be less pretentious in their claims. A mild and polite invitation to stand back and ask for no more than their fair share of official positions won't do. The compulsory ballot is our only remedy and it should be intelligently used in caucus in convention and at the polls on election day. Farmers of

Michigan, this is your fight for recognition. By your independent action you can make it a grand success and prove to yourselves and the world that Michigan farmers have taken a forward step, creditable alike to themselves and their profession.

A Picnic.

The patrons of St. Joseph County are regular and worthy of imitation in one thing. They have a rousing good picnic in Bro. Langley's beautiful grove on the banks of the St. Joseph river every August. This fact we don't get second-handed. Let business be what it may we don't let it have more importance than this annual picnic. As it is but sixteen miles away we always manage to get there, nor do we mean to desist until from sufficient cause we must. The location is a good one, the grove perfect and its owner such a devoted Patron that he would let everybody drive through his best cornfield to get there if necessary and not grumble a word.

There has always been a good stand, good music, good speaking, and this year the good reputation of this annual picnic was well maintained by the presence of about 4,000 people.

After the abundant and excellent dinner, which is part and parcel of a farmers' picnic, and the usual invocation and music, Bro. Jason Woodman, of Paw Paw, came to the front and talked for three-quarters of an hour, and he talked well. He urged the importance of the younger class of farmers seizing upon the educational opportunities afforded by the Grange for personal improvements, spicing his speech with anecdotes and holding the attention of all within hearing to the last. Bro. Woodman is a rising young man, and is both able and willing to do good service in the field of Grange work. Our lecture field is poorly supplied with young men who take kindly to platform efforts to advance the cause of agriculture. We are very glad to be able to say a good word for Bro. Woodman. He should be encouraged to work both for his own improvement, and for the good of the order.

Bro. Brown followed with a speech of characteristic earnestness and power; but from indisposition did not hold out as long as the audience would gladly have listened.

These picnics are enjoyable and profitable occasions, affording such excellent social opportunity for young and old. Here all come together from farm and village on a common level for recreation and real enjoyment. The improvement and culture of the last twenty years has effaced the line of distinction between town and country people, and as Bro. Woodman said of the crowd before him, "you cannot tell from appearance which is which."

Nothing occurred to mar the general enjoyment, and we think all went home at a seasonable hour resolved to come again next year.

Standard Goods.

Three words in the report made by Mrs. Mayo, of a late meeting of Calhoun County Grange attracted our attention. Those words gave character and standing to that Grange worthy of imitation. Our reporter says "there are no 'please excuse me's' in Calhoun County Grange." With a good program as such a live Grange will always have the educational character of the Order and its value to farmers is proved at every meeting. And yet there are farmers in every neighborhood who are self-reliant and always assume that they can get along and take care of their own affairs without belonging to any society. Of course these farmers can get along, and so do men and women get along through the world with little or no education. But is that an argument against common schools? The Grange is a school for old and young without a compulsory school law behind it to compel attendance. Where the scholars never say "please excuse me," the school will give the best return on the investment of any to which farmers are asked to contribute. The members of a prosperous, healthy Grange don't learn to say those mournful, ominous words, "please excuse me."

We do not attempt to disguise the fact that we are well pleased with the work of the Republican Convention in so far as the head of the ticket is concerned, and this pleasure comes of our knowledge of the representative character of the candidate and of his ability and adaptation to the work of the office, the duties of which he is so admirably calculated to discharge. His familiarity with business affairs, both public and private, his untiring industry and established character for integrity makes the farmers' candidate acceptable with all classes who know him and who desire a safe, economical and intelligent administration of the business affairs of the State.

We believe there are friends of the VISITOR who will not feel it a hardship to send us a dollar and ten names for three months. Let us hear from such. Don't overlook this mild invitation to do something for the Good of the Order and the farmer as well.

THE FAIRS of this country have become an immense business.

All agree that they have proved important aids in the development of agriculture. That some barnacles should grow to them was to be expected. Some of them have already come under the ban of popular disapproval and been forced to retire. We have a distinct recollection of attending a State Fair at Jackson not many years ago, and we well remember with what indignation some good people criticised the management for its easy-going blindness to the continued and persistent violation of a certain rule of the society which permitted the sale of beer only. In January, 1884, the rule was amended. Of the gentlemen who were decided in their opposition in allowing the beer nuisance to remain a shield to protect the sale of poor whisky Mr. Chamberlain, now President of the State Association, was in line with the President, Philo Parsons, of Detroit, and other gentlemen who clearly saw that the society could no longer safely carry the odium of permitting the sale of liquor on its grounds during the progress of the State Fair. Men of ability we find get in a rut, resist innovation and fail to see and refuse to accept, until they must, the onward march of our civilization in the direction of moral reform. Of that executive committee of the State Agricultural Society a considerable number were of this class and only consented to such amendment of the rule prohibiting the use of the beer screen when members of their own body became witnesses in the case. But the rule was amended and has been fairly well enforced. Under the Presidency of Mr. Chamberlain temperance people need have no fear of any relaxation of its enforcement this year at Jackson.

"SPOT CASH" in the Detroit Evening Journal of a late date has, without knowing it, declared in an argumentative article for the general adoption of a fundamental Grange principle. He would "discountenance the credit system" by the most radical means. He charges the hard times to a system of credit that is everywhere wanting in that element of safety, which should belong to business transactions, and after painting a "ghastly picture of the miseries that follow in the train of general—almost universal—credit, calls for agitation not only by the press, but on the rostrum; in public debate; on the lecture platform; in the schools, and; in fact, everywhere, as is the great cause of temperance. Let the manufacturers and wholesale dealers set the example by refusing to sell on any other terms. Let societies be formed by men who will come to the front and take an oath—if necessary—to abolish this growing evil, the baneful effects of which are seen in the haggard and distorted countenances of thousands who are to-day crowding the jails, the penitentiaries, the asylums, or, worse than all, the suicide's grave. Let us awake then, I say; let us look well to our interests, and a brighter day will dawn; a glorious day of rejoicing, when

Man will meet his brother man, On kind intentions bent, And say—what now not many can— "I owe no man a cent!"

SPOT CASH.

Important Notice!

The following Granges are delinquent in the payment of their dues and reports: For quarters ending March 31 and June 30, 1886—18, 73, 83, 159, 163, 167, 168, 185, 194, 200, 223, 228, 230, 248, 292, 298, 304, 338, 361, 389, 406, 476, 479, 523, 574.

For quarter ending June 30, 1886—28, 39, 88, 127, 141, 158, 162, 171, 174, 180, 182, 186, 191, 219, 236, 238, 245, 251, 252, 259, 260, 267, 268, 271, 275, 277, 291, 315, 316, 318, 333, 335, 336, 342, 358, 360, 362, 377, 399, 399, 403, 421, 427, 431, 437, 440, 441, 456, 470, 487, 503, 509, 513, 563, 564, 568, 582, 620, 622, 624, 643, 644, 645, 650, 652.

In our next issue (Sept. 15) we shall publish a list of Granges entitled to representation in the State Grange. No Grange not having made a report for quarter ending March 31, 1886, and all previous quarters, will be entitled to a place on such a list. Please attend to this at once.

A LITTLE bit of an "ad" over the name of A. F. Wixson, Detroit, too small to attract much notice, may be of real value to farmers' wives who don't live next door to a tin shop. All sorts of tinware is liable to surprise the housekeeper with a leak, and this Detroit advertiser offers the facilities for a prompt cure that can be applied with little trouble by an unskilled workman. It has been tried at our house with satisfactory results.

We know the VISITOR has lots of friends. We know this can be best proved by doing some good work to increase its circulation under our very liberal offers. For the "Good of the Order" take hold of this work and if some of you should put a few dimes into this business in behalf of your friends and neighbors we don't believe you will live long enough to be sorry for it. Good work will surely bring returns.

THE pioneers of the several counties of this state are called upon by the President of the State Horticultural Society, T. T. Lyon, of South Haven, for information that no other class of people can give. The years come and go, and with our busy, bustling life we are apt to lose sight of incidents with which we were familiar that belong to the first half of this century, that had at the time of their occurrence no special value more than other passing events of that day. To rescue facts now of historic value, that relate to the earliest tree planting and fruit culture in the several sections of our state, is the laudable object undertaken by the State Horticultural Society. All pioneers should read the appeal of President Lyon printed on our second page, and immediately set about looking up what facts they can recall. Talk with each other about this matter, and before the 1st of October send their stories to President Lyon. Don't wait for the other fellow; if you do he is so likely to wait for you, that the desired information may not reach President Lyon at all.

J. T. COBB—I was requested by the Grange to ask you to give a receipt for canning green corn and beans in the VISITOR. Fraternally Yours, JUSTUS N. GUTHRIE, Sec'y.

On receipt of this letter we invited a Patron living near a canning establishment to furnish the desired information. Too late for the last issue he replied that the process at that factory was not public property and he could not get hold of it. By the time an answer to this inquiry can reach our readers through the next VISITOR the information will be of little use for this year. But let us have it—it may be of value another year.

THE Thirty-Eighth Annual Fair of the State Agricultural Society of Michigan will be opened on its grounds at Jackson on Monday Sept. 13, and continue through the week.

By the kindness of our friend Wm Chamberlain, President of the society, we are favored with a card of admission and hope to give our readers some items of interest that we may gather. It is safe to say in advance that horse trot notes will be omitted. We are not posted in the language of the turf, and for a long time have believed that department of an Agricultural Fair has received too much attention.

THE paper of our Patron friend, D. Buchanan, printed on the third page, was not received in time for the last issue of the VISITOR. While too late for his advice to be heeded in so far as nominations for the more important offices for the campaign of 1886, yet in it we see a straw, admonitory to the managing politician. The farmer must be recognized, and it is safe to say that whatever his qualifications he will not prove more inefficient than very many from other professions who have been found willing to serve the people for glory and pay.

FROM Geo. W. Hill, of Detroit, we have a sample of East India White Winter Wheat.

Mr. Hill has long advertised in the VISITOR and we have always found him reliable. The sample of wheat received is very fine and is worthy a trial by any farmer who has care well developed in his business qualifications as well as enterprise. See Mr. Hill's advertisement.

A Criminal Act.

Within find money for the GRANGE VISITOR one year. I have been without it for two or three months waiting for some one else to get it for me until I got so nervous thinking it criminal for any Patron to try and live without it that I made up my mind to attend to my own business and send for it myself. Fraternally Yours, GEO. CAMPBELL.

So writes a Patron. If there were more members of the Grange of his stamp the cause would leap to its highest ambitions.

Secretaries, Take Notice.

FULL representation from your county depends largely on the discharge of your duty. We must have reports and payments of dues to entitle to representation and your Grange and the Granges of the country depend on you. Do not by negligence disappoint your friends.

We appeal to our friends to send the VISITOR for three months into the families of farmers all over Michigan.

Friends of the Order, on you we rely to do this work. Will you do it, and begin at once?

A NOTICE of the Kalamazoo County Fair has been sent us by its Secretary for publication. We shall cheerfully give space to notices of any other fairs that are to be held this season in Michigan.

We lost a fine patch of strawberries last winter by neglecting to mulch it. A light coat of straw or coarse manure, applied any time before February, would have saved it.

THE Treasurer of Texas State Grange reports that there are six thousand five hundred dollars in the treasury.

Communications.

From a Graduate's Standpoint.

Standing under the sylvan branches inhaling the crisp lake breath of Chautauqua itself, I almost doubt the wisdom of my course in sending you an article relating to the C. L. S. C. before I had tasted the inspiration at its fountain head. But having never been here at that writing may add weight to my advice for the chances are that now having come here, enthusiasm for my cause would appear to have captured my balance of reason. When enroute for this queen of summer resorts I was half inclined to forego the trip because of the heat, saying to myself, "I can get it all in the papers and save myself the weariness;" but a "providential" rain persuaded me to go on. As you who have been there know and you who will go may learn, there is a something about Chautauqua that cannot be gotten in newspapers, nor yet from the lips of friends. What that something is I cannot tell you. No one can.

"Soul to soul can never teach,
What unto itself was taught."
As one of Pansy's story boys says, "It's in the atmosphere."

The gracefully spread arches of "God's first temples" bend benignly over the city man has built so rapidly beneath them. The varied moods of the lake seem to acquiesce in the innovation, and amid all the multitudes that annually tread her shores nowhere else can be found so much of uniform kindness and charity linked with the profoundest learning, gayest repartee and keenest wit. When thousands from every part of this country and many from other lands are flocking to this Mecca of love, wisdom and logic, and letters about it are common in the local press, I will confine myself to the relation it bears to a member of the C. L. S. C. only.

Not that this is all there is of the Chautauqua "idea." On the contrary, the founders possessed more energy than could possibly be turned into one channel, and a score or more of beneficent streams are flowing from their institution. The spirit of them all is cosmopolitan, charitable, lofty. Wisdom, they say, without love is luminous but cold. Love without knowledge is warm but dark. United wisdom and charity make a golden mean vastly more serviceable to mankind than either extreme. High Christianized intellect or deeply intellectual Christianity, which are one and the same, is the silver cord that binds Chautauqua to its untold successes.

Among these achievements the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle holds no unimportant place. It has 74,000 registered members. Yesterday among the crowds on the grounds it was exceptional to meet any one not wearing a badge of some one of the nine classes. But yesterday was our own day. We were all here,—4,000 of the class of '86,—to graduate and receive our diplomas. To be sure, only six hundred and seventy-eight hands were stretched out to accept the parchment but the spirit of the absent was present. We felt it. It was impressive, almost expressive.

It was a sight never to be forgotten. Picture (if you only could!) the groves, the Italian sunshine in skies and friendly faces, the "Golden Gate," through which none but graduates pass, a hundred tiny girls strew flowers in path of the long procession, four abreast, that passes between the classic columns into the Hall of Philosophy while the choir greets the graduates with

"Sing peans over the past.

All things, all things are yours."

Then followed the brief recognition service, a solemn moment to the tired struggling soul that had buffeted rebuff and obstacles innumerable that it might enjoy the honor of graduating. It is the first time many and many a one has felt the thrill peculiar to a graduate. What if it was no classic course, and did not "finish" the sciences and arts and ologies? That mother would have done all that if she could. She has done all conscience would permit time for from other duties. She has sacrificed, and contrived mayhap, of her means and time to do this. She perhaps has scrimped herself, that she may be in Chautauqua at this time, to mingle with her classmates and hear the "I congratulate you," from men numbered among the world's wisest.

"Does it pay?" comes again to my thoughts as I look into these eager, flushed faces and upon the profuse decorations and other welcoming signs and I think of the other folks at home who doubt, hesitate and delay on the question. I wish I could tell you of the letters read, of the stories told of what has been done by some of these very people. I wish you could have seen a sunny faced "sweet girl graduate"—of 82 summers—trip up onto the platform at one of our class meetings and have laughed with us in our pride, when her white curls were set a bobbing by the heartiness with which she waved her handkerchief in response to our "salute." Then you should have seen her in her pretty graduating dress, sitting at the "Golden Gate" waiting till it opened, another lady, 86 years old is a member of the class but was not able to be present. It can not be long ere another gate, of purest gold and grand, will swing backward to these dear old ladies

and they will change their lavender robes for spotless white. Think you not that day will hold more of joy for them because they have passed the gateway of faith on this side?

No one supposes the diploma, the congratulations, the salutes of fellow students, nor any of the graduation honors are the real goal of the C. L. S. C. Were it so, the heart of the enterprise would be gone. It is rather the increased habit of self thinking, profitable employment of time, influence upon homes and communities and the extended capacity for being of use.

GRACE.

Chautauqua N. Y. Aug. 19, 1886.

Politics and the Agricultural Interests.

Will the American people be wise and learn from the experience of the past? As the father gives good instruction to his children and warns them of the temptations and sins that lie along their future path, so does the historian point out to succeeding nations the mistakes, wrongs and fatal errors committed by the people who preceded them. This Government can surely take a lesson from ancient Rome whose people were so devoted to agriculture that their most illustrious commanders were often called from the plow. And not only commanders but chief magistrates as well. For in Cincinnati we have a fine illustration of the influence of agriculture on the Roman people, as the foundation of their government was not only laid upon agriculture as a basis, but the superstructure that was reared upon it was firm and enduring till the Roman people forsook the cultivation of the globe for mere conquest and national aggrandizement. And what was the result of her great error? Why, in her national distress she called upon Cincinnatus who was the embodiment of the wisdom and strength of her great agricultural interests. She made him dictator and he soon delivered his country from her great national peril. He taught her by precept and example what to do. Twice did this wise and great man serve his country and became her deliverer from foreign foes. Surely experience should have taught Rome how to preserve her government. During her early days, when to be a good husbandman was accounted the highest praise, and when whoever neglected his ground or cultivated it improperly was liable to animadversion of the censors; during those days Rome flourished and her people were happy and prosperous. Then her Senators commonly resided in the country and cultivated the ground with their own hands. It was when the love of agriculture predominated with the people and the Government, that Rome was at her best, was safest and most powerful. Now is not our Government not only unwise, but is it not committing a fatal mistake in neglecting the great interest of American agriculture. This is a fatal mistake; all other great interests are fully represented in our Government councils. "The great American agricultural industries," which, as Senator Beck says, "give employment to more than half the workers for wages whose welfare is held up (properly so) as the highest aim of legislation, and whose products constitute at least 80 per cent. of our exports, and are not even ranked among the industries of the country over which Congress is asked or expected to throw its protecting arm." Now this we say is the fatal mistake. It is, as John Randolph would have said, "the poison under the wing of the constitution." These great agricultural industries are really the strong protecting arm about the Government. But by neglect it will soon begin to lose that power. And woe betide our country when this great interest becomes paralyzed by the Government's encouraging and fostering other and less important interests to the final disparagement of this. Our Congressmen would seem to be advocates of all other national industries but that of agriculture. Are they waiting for this industry to be presented to them by special lobbyists with the accustomed fees for their advocacy? How well and eloquently these members of Congress can talk to their constituents before election on the great and permanent interests of agriculture. One would think to hear some of them talk that their enthusiasm on this theme would hold till they got into Congress and manifest itself there in a speech on presenting some measure for the benefit of the great farming interests of the land. But it does not. Pledges to farmers, if any are given, are soon forgotten in the national halls of legislation, where other measures and interests that derive their value and importance from agriculture receive all their time and attention. Now most of the great monopolies and moneyed interests usurp the attention of Congress.

It is to the country that we are to look for a correction of this evil. It is this evil that is affecting the great body politic; and when this Government goes down it will go down monopoly-end foremost. But we need not despair while the reading, intelligent farmer does his full duty. For it is the vote of the toiling millions that make our Presidents and law-makers. Let our farmers inform themselves concerning all the measures that will promote the best in-

terests of the country; let them vote only for men who will sustain such interests, and we shall have a much needed reform.

A. D. V. B.

Cass County Wheat Growth.

The twelfth annual wheat meeting of the Volinia Farmers' Club is a matter of history. Pursuant to a call by Secretary Rogers it convened at the town hall on Saturday, August 14. It was attended by a good number of interested farmers of this and adjoining townships, besides several from Van Buren county. Prof. A. J. Cook, of the Agricultural College, was advertised to be present and talk to the audience on insects injurious to the wheat plant. The meeting was called to order and an animated discussion as to the merits of the various varieties of wheat in cultivation and time of sowing so as to best avoid the ravages of the Hessian fly was in progress when Bro. Gard drove up with Prof. Cook, he having been delayed by the late arrival of the train. A brief time was occupied by the professor in arranging cuts of the insects. He began his lecture by giving a minute description of the Hessian fly, of the manner in which its eggs are deposited on the young wheat, their hatching, the larva working its way down into the enfolding sheath of the plant, and states, what was new to most or all of his audience, that the larva subsists by absorption and not by eating the juices of the plant.

Several other insect depredators were shown up in a very entertaining manner but none of which proves so destructive as the Hessian fly. Therefore, the latter received the professor's special attention, and as a means for lessening or preventing its ravages he recommended preparing the ground in the best manner and enriching it so as to furnish food for the insects and for a crop. Besides, he claimed, that would be a more effective and better way than late sowing, as it is only occasionally we are visited by the fly; and the risk from late sowing, with a weaker growth to stand the winter and unfavorable weather in spring make it more subject to late ripening and shrinking from rust.

The professor's lecture was listened to with attention and apparent approval, except his recommendation to sow wheat at the usual time when the fly is about expected. Several members stoutly combated his position as being the rankest heresy. They claimed that by waiting until about the 20th of Sept. before sowing, experience has proved to be the best safeguard and generally a complete antidote.

For twelve years this Club has held annual wheat meetings of this kind, and always with a fair attendance, and with interesting discussions; and although the profits of wheat growing are infinitesimally small our farmers still cling to the wheat crop, not knowing what else to turn their hands to, and hoping that a change to better prices will warrant them in keeping along in the good old way of their fathers.

The September Century will contain a paper on Liszt, which, while it has been for some months in preparation, happens to appear at a time when it will be read with unusual interest. It is an account of a summer with Liszt at Weimar, written by one of his pupils, Mr. A. M. Bagby, and is full of interesting anecdotes and reminiscences. The accompanying illustrations include a frontispiece portrait of Liszt and a full-page picture of "The Master," seated at the piano, both engraved by Johnston.

A NEW and harmless mania is the pine-needle craze. Ladies who take vacations among the pine woods of the Eastern States, make a point of bringing home enough pine needles for a pillow, having faith in the healthful and healing properties of the balsam which they contain. One pillow will last from vacation to vacation. There are many sweet herbs that would make more wholesome pillows than musty feathers.

SINCE it is well known that impure water produces fevers, dysentery and other fatal diseases in mankind, it is a fair inference that bad water is not good for farm animals, especially for dairy cows. Bad water will make bad and unwholesome milk. A cow ought not to drink water that is not palatable and wholesome for her owner.

A TENNESSEE farmer makes an application of one handful of ground sulphur and the same of salt to about a peck of ashes, mixed together thoroughly, then applied to the collars of the apple trees that were badly affected by the borer. He says the remedy killed the worms and saved the trees.

TILE IN ILLINOIS.—Statistics of the Illinois Agricultural Department show that more than 15,000 miles of tile drain were laid in that state in 1884, and that nearly 40,000 miles have been laid since 1880.

WE have had the best results from manure hauled directly from the stable on the snow or frozen ground, and scattered very thinly and evenly on the growing wheat.

The agricultural editor of the Peoria Transcript is of the opinion that the society of hogs is preferable to that of an alleged man half full of sour cider.

A Chat With Henry George—He Thinks the Irish Land Question the Land Question of the Whole World.

The masterly address of Michael Davitt to the assembled Irish societies at Chicago last Saturday has aroused the enthusiasm of Henry George, the scholar and political economist. To his mind Davitt is the greatest leader in the Irish cause. Mr. Davitt, like Mr. George, advocates the nationalization of the land. Mr. George believes that the recent elections in England will have the effect of uniting the democracies of the two nations, and that the day of triumph for Ireland is near at hand. He also believes that the land bill was the bugbear which frightened the English and brought about the defeat of the home-rule measure. All the Irish people had to do now was to preserve their equanimity and continue the good fight. Coercion might be tried by a Tory government to test their fortitude, but it would fail as signally under Salisbury's administration as it had under Gladstone's.

"Davitt," said Mr. George to a reporter for The New York World, "is entirely right in his position. The policy for which he has contended has at last prevailed, and the mass of the English people are in a temper to learn to do justice to Ireland. Mr. Gladstone's change of front was perhaps too sudden to carry the first election, but it must be remembered that all the opposition to him did not come from those who objected the Irish home rule. Many Englishmen who have been in favor all along of conceding to Ireland the fullest measure of home rule found fatal objections to the details of his proposed bill, and many others opposed him because they considered the land-purchase bill a part of his scheme."

"What really is the objection in England to the land-purchase bill?"

"On the part of Englishmen, who believe as Mr. Davitt and I do, that the land is the common property of the nation, there is an inflexible objection to any proposal to buy out the land-lords. They look upon the Irish land-purchase bill as setting above precedent that the people should be compelled to pay for what is rightfully their own. To buy out the Irish landlords would be to establish a claim upon the English, Scotch, and Welsh landlords to be bought out when their time comes. And on the part of those who have now gone thus far there is a very natural disposition to make the English nation responsible for a large sum of money to pension off a body of men whose greed and tyranny have kept the two peoples in hot water. Nothing can be better calculated to throw into strong light the essential injustice and absurdity of private property in land than the proposition to buy out the landlords in a body. When a man goes to buy a piece of land he does not do so without asking by what title it is held, and when the proposition is made that a people should buy the land of the land of the country from some of their own members it is but natural that the question of title should come up and that men should ask by what right one class can claim to hold as their own individual property the land of the country. Mr. Gladstone will now doubtless abandon his land-purchase scheme, and this will bring to his side many of those who opposed him in the last election, while the irresistible growth of radical opinion on the land question will tend steadily to strengthen the most radical party."

"What will be the tendency in Ireland on the land question?"

"More and more to the position that the land of Ireland belongs of natural right to the whole Irish people, and should be treated as the common property of the nation, all land-owners being merely tenants. The day, I believe, has long gone by when any scheme of peasant proprietary could even give a halt to the Irish land movement. If the English people were willing to buy out the Irish landlords and leave the land question to be settled by an Irish parliament, I don't think the Irish would much care, but it is certain that the bulk of people will never consent to buy out the landlords at their own cost, nor to deem the Irish land question satisfactory settled when the possessions of the present proprietors had been divided among a larger number of smaller proprietors."

"Mr. George, would you explain the difference between landholding in America and in Ireland? Many sympathizers of Irish landlords upon this side of the water ask why the landlords in Ireland have not the same right to possess property as those upon this side of the Atlantic."

"There is no difference between landholding in Ireland and landholding in America. The landlord in America is even freer to evict a tenant than a landlord in Ireland, and the system is fully as bad here as there, the only difference being that our population is not as dense as that of Ireland, and we do not realize its effects as clearly, but I know of no part of Ireland where the absurdity and injustice of treating land as the private property of individuals can be seen more clearly than in this very city of New York. There is no part of the world where people are packed more closely together and larger sums are pocketed by non-producers as a tribute from labor for the use of natural opportunities, to which one citizen has manifestly as good a right as another. We, too, have our absentee landlords, our rack rents, and our evictions, and here, too, we may see in chronic poverty and growing pauperism the inevitable results of allowing some people to claim as their own what nature has provided for the use of all. It is not only the sympathizers with English landlords who think the landlords of Ireland have as good a right to what they are pleased to call their property as have the landlords of America. I certainly hold that view, and I hardly think the Irish landlords would count me as one of their sympathizers."

"But was not the property of Ireland acquired by conquest while that of America was gained by peaceful means?"

"That makes no difference. Whether my great-great-grandfather was forcibly made a slave or whether he voluntarily accepted slavery for himself and his descendants make no difference to me and

can not affect the title of any man who claims a right to the produce of my labor without giving me anything in return. The right of a man to himself is an inalienable right inherent to man, and can no more be void by purchase or grant than it can by conquest, and this right involves the right of every man to a foothold in the world. The inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness involves an inalienable right to an equal share in the natural elements necessary to the maintenance of life. The true doctrine is that declared by Thomas Jefferson: that the land of the country belongs in usufruct to the whole people of that country, and that our generation can have no right to grant or deed away the birthright of future generations. Every child that is born in this city of New York comes into the world with the equal permission of the Creator, and equally entitled to all that nature has provided for the enjoyment and sustenance of man. Yet under our system some of the children born here acquire, by virtue of their birth, the legal right to more land than they can by any possibility use, while the great majority have no legal rights whatever in the land of their birth, and are forced to buy permission to live in this world from those who are legally the owners of this part of the planet. This is the foundation and the beginning of that monstrous injustice in the distribution of wealth which is producing on one side the millionaire and on the other the pauper. The Irish land question is simply the land question of the whole civilized world."

"Do Messrs. Davitt, Parnell, and the other Irish leaders hold such extreme views as you do upon the land question?"

"Davitt, I think, does, and so do numbers of other influential men, among whom may be mentioned Dr. Nulty, bishop of Meath, and such men as Patrick Ford in this country. So, too, do some of the Irish members of parliament, but Mr. Parnell, who is himself an Irish landlord, and the leading members of his parliamentary staff do not. They represent the political aspirations of the Irish people, but Davitt represents as well the social aspirations, Parnell and his coadjutors must, however, either drift along with the current or finally be overwhelmed by it. The moment the political side of the Irish question is settled the movement for the nationalization of the land will flame up, not in Ireland alone, but in Great Britain as well."

"Don't you think that fear of the realization of such a scheme will frighten away from Mr. Gladstone's support the British middle classes and others besides the nobility who believe in the rights of property and defer the day of home rule for Ireland?"

"That is precisely the difficulty which now makes those classes loth to accede to any settlement of the Irish question that would conform to the wishes of the Irish people. The real fear they have is as to what would become of the Irish landlords; not so much that they have any sentimental regard for the Irish landlords, but that they know that the overthrow of Irish landlordism would be but a prelude to the overthrow of British landlordism."

Mr. George was sanguine that the time was not far distant—in fact, within the next generation—when these great truths would be fully established. A century and a quarter ago people doubted that monarchical form of government would disappear from France; that the greatest republic of ancient or modern times would spring from the western Atlantic, and that slavery would meet its doom. But all these events happened, and he had not the slightest doubt that the land question would be solved in the near future.—Chicago Times.

Rector Meadows is a noted mountaineer, says The Nashville American. He is blind. A reporter saw him yesterday at the Chattanooga depot a few minutes after the Chattanooga train had pulled in. Meadows lives in Warren County near McMinnville, and is 27 years old. A few years ago he accidentally stuck a knife in his left eye. Severe inflammation set in, which was extended to the other eye, and the loss of the sight of the one was soon followed by that of the other. It would seem that this double calamity would have rendered it impossible for him to travel alone with safety, but such was not the case. He had become so intimate with the country surrounding his home that he was able, even after his affliction to go from one place to another with comparative ease and safety. He always carries a long hickory stick, and with that as his only companion he roams the hills and valleys of his native county with as much ease as other people. He frequently acts as a messenger from Smart Station, a small point on McMinnville branch, to Nicholson Springs, a distance of three miles, and never has sustained a fall. He is a musician of more than ordinary ability, and is employed during the summer months in the bank at Nicholson Springs. His room is in a remote place, to reach which he has to pass through several corridors and ascend two flights of stairs. He walks straight to his apartment without any attendant, and never has made a mistake in entrance. He files into the dining-hall as if perfectly at home, and threads his way to his accustomed seat with as much ease as any guest. His gait is steady, without that halting motion so usual to the blind. He has a watch without a crystal, and by passing his fingers over the dial can tell the time as accurately as any man. His senses of touch and smell are wonderfully acute. He never forgets a voice, and can select that of a person whom he has only once met from a crowd as readily as were he able to use his eyes. If conducted but once to any given point he can easily return to it alone. He says that he counts his steps, and can calculate his bearings in that way. He is light-hearted fellow who takes life just as it is without a murmur. He is unmarried, but has a sweetheart.

THE Leather Reporter has an article headed "How to Take the Hide Off a Calf." The best way to take the hide off a calf is to lead the calf into politics or bucket-shop.

Ladies' Department.

Grandmother's Bible.

"So you've brought me this costly Bible,
With its covers so grand and gay;
You thought I must need a new one
On my eighty-first birthday you say;
Yes, mine is a worn-out volume,
Grown ragged and yellow with age,
With finger-prints thick on the margin;
But there's never a missing page."

"And the finger-prints call back my wee ones
Just learning a verse to repeat;
And again, in the twilight, their faces
Look up to me, eagerly sweet.
It has pencil-marks pointed in silence
To words I have hid in my heart;
And the lessons so hard in the learning,
Once learned can never depart."

"There's the verse your grandfather spoke of
The very night that he died;
'When I shall wake in His likeness
I, too, shall be satisfied.'
And here inside the old cover
Is a date; it is faded and dim,
For I wrote it the day the good pastor
Baptised me—I've an old woman's whim."

"That beside the pearl-gates he is waiting,
And when by-and-by I shall go,
Then he will lead me into that kingdom,
As into this one below.
And under that date, little Mary,
Write another one when I die;
Then keep both Bibles and read them;
God bless you, child, why should you cry?"

"Your gift is a beauty, my dearie,
With its wonderful clasps of gold.
Put it carefully into that drawer;
I shall keep it till death; but the old—
Just leave it close by the table,
And then you may bring me a light,
And I'll read a sweet psalm from its pages
To think of, if wakeful to night."
—Hattie A. Cooley in London Christian.

Social and Intellectual Privileges of Farmers' Wives Thirty Years Ago.

BY MRS. LOTTIE M. WARNER, PAW PAW.

Thirty years in the future assumes a grandeur in the imagination widely in contrast with the same number of years of retrospect, and when we go back in memory over that length of time in the past we find ourselves only a beginner in the practical experience of the wives of farmers thirty years ago, and we shall have to rely on history more than personal experience for the few thoughts we may give on this subject assigned us by our Worthy Lecturer.

The social and intellectual privileges of all are so closely united that we must pay due attention to the opportunities for literary attainments to get a basis for the consideration of the subject in question, for without such attainments one must take a low rank socially and intellectually.

The farmer's wife of thirty years ago was but the girl of forty years ago, more or less. The district school afforded the only opportunity for the education of the girls that were to be the wives of farmers thirty years ago, only in exceptional cases. It is true there were a few female seminaries at that date but they were limited as to their course of studies and very few girls that became the wives of farmers were privileged to enter their halls.

A simple knowledge of some of the rudiments of branches taught in the district school, was all that was requisite for the education of girls to fit them for the duties of a farmer's wife. The thought of a girl taking a classical course of education thirty or forty years ago was considered absurd, and an idea of their admission to the professions or lecture platform, to say nothing of the pulpit, was looked upon as a caprice of some erratic brain.

The industrial rights of women, such as admission to colleges, occupations, professions, and eligibility to office, together with the right of suffrage, had not met with any recognition or favor adequate to provide any method of independent support for them, and they were taught from babyhood to abandon self and lean on others, until they became the stupendous parasite of the human world, with no object in life save to become the wife of some man to whom they could look for support. Other acquirements were looked upon as more essential in those days, and the girl who could not band her spinning wheel and produce thirty knots of warp, or forty knots of filling for the weaver's loom in a day must take a secondary place as the coming farmer's wife. In short she must be competent to be milk and dairy maid, cook, laundress, seamstress, nurse, governess, besides doing the work for manufacturing flannels for full-cloth and family wear, picking up wood for fires, together with a host of incidental duties unnamed that would occupy her time from early morn until the late hours of night, and many times without assistance.

Thirty years ago to be a wife signified ownership of mind and body by the husband, and while the relation was regarded as making the man and woman one, the man was the one. The world was under the domination of man inspired by the utterances of St. Paul, as found recorded in his first letter to the Corinthians, where in speaking of man he declares "he is the glory and image of God; but the woman is the glory of man." He also enjoins on the women to "keep silence in the churches;" "and if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home, for it is not permitted unto them to speak." Also in his first letter to Timothy where he says, "I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands without wrath and doubting." And again he says: "Let the woman learn in si-

lence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." It might be interesting to digress from the subject in question and take a view of the social and intellectual status of man in those primitive days when Paul regarded him as the sole preceptor of woman, but we forbear and leave our brothers and sisters to form their own conclusions as to the social and intellectual privileges of wives under the influence of such a sentiment, which was prevalent thirty years ago.

With the results emanating from the influence of such teachings combined with the domestic responsibilities devolving on farmers' wives of thirty years ago, they could not for want of time and culture take rank socially with the more intelligent and refined. Physical force was regarded as a better requisite for the farmer's wife than fine intuitions, and the strength of love and beauty in woman was crushed by its power until many a delicate organization yielded its spirit in silence, hiding its secret in the unknown, only to be entitled as among the Providences of God.

Thirty years ago the fact that there were masculine and feminine forces in plant life that must have equal conditions to propagate the best of their kind, had not dawned on the minds of the masses, and the same was true of the human kind. But as the more subtle elements in nature are becoming better understood, we come to see that woman is not "lesser man" as Tennyson says, but that she is what man is not, and has been an unknown factor in the world of genius. Her intellectual faculties have been undeveloped and she has been the grown up baby of the world for ages, and but for her reproductive functions and her household services to man, she might as well have never grown up at all. She has been such a crude mass of possibilities that man, being coarser and so entirely different, could form no conception of them. Man could not have developed his wife if he had tried, for development is growth, and it is the law of nature that every soul must grow for itself. Woman is the counterpart of man—"his other half," made up of contrasting, not similar, faculties, yet finer than he. Woman's genius had not taken shape in action thirty years ago, which was good reason for her subordinate position. She was unconscious of her inherent strength, or the possibilities of its unfoldment. Now "the gates are all ajar" and the world is waiting for woman's effort. Man has nearly reached a point beyond which he can not go until his other half, which represents the love side of the dual human soul, shall take her place beside him. The woman's era is at our very doors. At the present time, both in this country and in foreign lands, universities and colleges are opening their doors for the entrance of woman. The system of co-education has been tried and found to be highly successful. The President of our own University of Michigan says: "Women graduates are doing their full part in winning a reputation for Michigan's University, and are justifying the wisdom of the Regents, who opened to them the opportunities for a thorough classical training." The N. Y. Sun, of Nov. 1, 1884, says: "The best legal newspaper in the United States is edited by a woman. And at the bar, the most difficult of all professions and the one most foreign to the feminine characteristics, a number of earnest and well-trained women are earning respect and winning success. Women are admitted to practice in most of the States, and now at last, Congress has voted to admit them to practice before the Supreme Court. This last achievement deserves notice, not because many women will be directly affected by it, but as an indication of the wonderful change in the status and acquirements of the sex in this country. It is the striking of the clock that marks the progress of a social evolution of the most important character and one which will lead to vast and beneficial results hereafter."

Thirty years ago we had no order of the "Patrons of Husbandry" to assist in the elevation of woman from the position occupied by her then. The Order now recognizes her as the equal of man, both socially and intellectually, and everywhere good men are removing the obstacles that would hinder her advancement. Women are becoming conscious of their own faculties, and as rapidly as they do so, and prepare for individual action, the world will be preparing to demand that action.

The bar of the law that denies full citizenship to woman will, ere long, yield to the agitation of thought of the leading men and women of the nation. Then, in the language of the poet:

"Let agitation come, who cares?
We need a flood; the filth of years hath gathered on;
And he who cannot stand alone, had best be gone."

And while this agitation tends to bring rapid changes in the social and intellectual condition of the farmers' wives of to-day as compared with those of thirty years ago, we cannot express ourselves better than by giving voice to the sentiment of Mrs. Wilms, of Chicago, in her paper entitled the "Woman's World," where she says: "I hardly know what to think of the minor chords in life's great orchestra. They are be-

coming more inaudible every year. There is the clash and clangor, the rush and roar, of the louder notes that quite drown the minor ones.

Is this Darwin's survival of the fittest? It is the survival of the strongest, but the strongest is not the fittest now when the day is in the transit from animal to divine. And by this living truth I know that before the lapse of many years Beauty shall become Duty and rescue her own, modulating all tones to the harmony of her perfect life."

Health and Amusement.

Fruit.

We have been highly favored this year in Michigan with an abundance of fruit. Every orchard is laden with apples. The berry crop, both wild and cultivated, was immense. From the peach belt there is but one estimate—never a larger crop. And really it is a bountiful supply all over the State. Now will we use this wisely and well, or will we really abuse this blessing? Will we fill our cellars with the juice of the apple made into cider (which is fit only for vinegar) to pervert the appetite, to foster a love of the accursed stuff that always stingeth like an adder? Brothers and sisters, please don't do it—for your own sakes, and the sake of your children, and for others' children, don't do it. Do not manufacture it. In most of our farm homes is employed the farm laborer. Some may have a natural or an acquired taste for drink. If you have the cider in your cellars and do not let them have it, if they want it, they will think you are niggardly and stingy. If you let them have it, it is but the little lighting of a small flame that may destroy both body and soul. And let me urge you again as those who profess to deal only justly with our brother man, as those who profess to wish to foster only the good and the right, can you do this evil and sin not? And also as to the health, is it fit to take into our systems that which will inflame, burn and destroy? We do not believe that there is a single person who ever was benefitted, but rather really made worse by taking cider, fermented cider, into the stomach.

The great mass of farmers' wives cry out against their burden of work. Now I believe it to be our duty to simplify the domestic duties as much as possible. I believe it is right and healthful to carry just as much of the brightness and beauty of the summer into our winters, to so take care of this bountiful supply of luscious fruit as to have a plenty all winter. Now let us preserve it for our own families as well as for company. The comfort and well-being of our own should be of quite as much consideration as our friends. A nice dish of canned fruit for breakfast for the child who has a delicate appetite may really be just what its system craves. A well supplied fruit basket for every day through the winter may save a doctor's bill. Shall we not serve it fresh on our table instead of the inevitable pie that takes time, toil and lard? No ripe, fresh fruit will hurt any one, but of its healthful qualities there can be no doubt. Let us use this blessing of fruit well and not pervert it.

MRS. MAYO.

Bay View Assembly—The Finest Summer Resort in the Northwest—Its Brilliant Programs.

BAY VIEW, Aug. 19, '86.

Three months ago the first number of the Bay View Assembly Herald came out telling about the advantages and brilliant programs at Bay View. The question was quickly settled—I was going to Bay View! With maps and guide I found the place. It was just above the bustling city of Petoskey, at the head of Little Traverse Bay, and reached by the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railway. In eight weeks I was off, arriving with the throng of resorters and tourists which has since been continually coming. For three weeks I have been charmed by the superb scenery, renewed in body and soul by the invigorating climate and lake breezes, while indulging in one continual round of delightful recreation and feasting upon the rich programs. Bay View is certainly the loveliest resort in the Northwest. It is now in its eleventh year, and the first in full Assembly work. I must confess my surprise at finding here a summer city in the woods, with a resident population of nearly 1500, besides half as many more in hotel and boarding houses. There are over 150 cottages, fine public buildings, a pretty railway station, substantial dock, hotel, post-office, telegraph and telephone stations, provision stores, parks, lighted streets, peal of bells, and a splendid water works system. It is a universal remark that this is the most enjoyable and successful season this popular resort has ever had. Almost everyone in Michigan has been here, and I am told not more than two people were left in some cities.

THE ASSEMBLY IDEA.

A new class has this year commenced coming. Large numbers of representative and progressive people, and the best young people are here—among them forty or more students from Albion College, and that joyous company, the Chorus Society from Flint. One of the college fraternities of national extent has just secured ample grounds here which it will adorn, and upon which it will build a beautiful hall. The change and boom are largely accounted for by

the inauguration of the Assembly with its many attractive innovations, under the superintendency of Mr. John M. Hall, of Flint. The assembly idea is certainly the popular one, and Bay View has boomed and been crowded, while other resorts with no other attractions than a summer outing, have been depleted. The assembly is a summer school of various departments, supplemented by lectures, concerts, devotional and conference meetings, sermons, readings, and various entertainments of a lighter character, of acknowledged excellence. The plan of combining these things with the recreative delights of a summer resort is most excellent, and one is sure to carry home besides an invigorated body a stimulus which becomes an inspiration for a whole year. Here one may learn improved methods from able and experienced workers and for almost every hour in the day for two weeks, listen to music, wit, wisdom and eloquence of the highest order. What rare privileges we have had may be inferred from the names of eminent orators and musical talent we have listened to daily.

OUR ENTERTAINERS.

Among lecturers have been Mr. C. E. Bolton with his famous illuminated tours, Wallace Bruce, Pres. Alexander Martin, Sophie W. Knight, Jahu Dewitt Miller, Prof. Samuel Dickie, Mrs. Edna Chaffee Noble, Pres. C. H. Payne, Mrs. Sarah K. Bolton, Pres. L. R. Fiske and others; among readers have been Miss Fannie J. Mason and Mrs. Noble, while in music we have had the Kalophon Quartet, Chorus Society of over thirty voices from Flint, Misses Mattie C. and Hattie Reynolds violinists; Petoskey Cornet Band, Miss Edith Barton, pianist; Miss Hattie M. Rood, soprano soloist and whistler, and the Assembly Chorus of over one hundred voices under direction of Prof. E. E. Stephens. Here is one of the daily programs which indicates the fullness and variety of every day's program throughout the season.

SATURDAY, JULY 24.

8:30 a. m.—Devotional meeting. Rev. L. P. Davis. (Chapel.) Children's Chorus Miss Bertha Ward. (Children's Pavilion.)

9:00 a. m.—Fifth session Ministerial Union. Topic—What should be done to reach the masses, Rev. J. W. Reed.

10:00 a. m.—Assembly Chorus rehearsal. Prof. E. E. Stephens.

11:00 a. m.—Lecture, Rev. Jahu Dewitt Miller. Subject—Our Country's Possibilities and Perils.

2:00 p. m.—Grand Concert under direction of Prof. E. E. Stephens; Miss Fannie J. Mason, in readings; Miss Mattie C. and Hattie Reynolds, violinists, assisting.

3:00 p. m.—Fourth Session Sunday School Normal Class, J. H. Pilcher, Esq. Topics—The English Bible; Organization of the Sabbath School.

4:00 p. m.—Cooking School: Broiling—Mrs. Sophie W. Knight.

5:00 p. m.—C. L. S. C. Round Table, John M. Hall. Lecture by Sarah K. Bolton. Subject—Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe. Sunday School Teachers' Meeting.

7:00 p. m.—Lecture by Horace Hitchcock, Esq., of Detroit. Subject—The Graded Sunday School; how accomplished; the results.

8:00 p. m.—Lecture by Mr. Wallace Bruce, of New York. Subject—Landmarks of Scott.

Commencement Sunday and Recognition Day were all red letter days and the impressive services, strong sermons, stirring addresses and music and splendid decorations in honor of the fifteen graduates and the large representation of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, were exceedingly interesting. The Michigan Chautauquans are enthusiastic over the organization of the Assembly and their round table meetings at 5 o'clock every afternoon were always delightful occasions.

PRACTICAL EDUCATION.

The department work has exceeded as did everything else, all anticipations. Mrs. Sophie W. Knight has been teaching daily with practical illustrations, large and enthusiastic audiences in the Cooking School, while Prof. H. A. Mills in the Art School has been teaching another useful, personal accomplishment to a large class, using charcoal as a medium and frequently going with the class upon sketching expeditions. The Sunday School Normal class had a good instructor in Mr. J. H. Pilcher and was quite well attended, and Mrs. Edna Chaffee Noble successfully laid the foundation of a school in elocution. The morning devotional meetings, conducted by Rev. L. P. Davis and others, were enjoyed by everybody and the ministerial Union meetings in charge of Pres. L. R. Fiske, were useful by reason of the timely subjects of christian work practically considered in able papers vigorously discussed. Perhaps the most enjoyable and useful adjunct to the Assembly has been the musical department, Prof. E. E. Stephens, director. Seventy-five singers were present at the first rehearsal, the number soon advancing to one hundred and twenty-five. Miss Edith Barton, an accomplished accompanist, presided at the piano and this department besides giving four grand concerts adorned the daily program with the finest music. Miss Bertha Ward has had large success with a children's chorus which made remarkable progress and closed its work with a concert which everybody praised. In no direction has the management

succeeded better than in the selection of talent for program and department work. Each person was equal to the place, all worked together with the best and pleased everybody. It is expected all will return next year to do even better work, and make the Assembly a still larger success. A splendid beginning has been made, the Assembly more than paid all its expenses, and the future is auspicious. A Michigan Department of the C. L. S. C., the best state department in existence, has been organized by Mr. Hall, as a part of his Assembly plans, and he has begun the publication of a wide-awake and vigorous paper, The Bay View Herald, in the interest of this department and the Assembly.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS.

Little or no space is left to write of the other attractions of Bay View, the purity of the air, equitable climate, cool temperature, wholesome social pleasures, and unnumbered recreations. One may rest, dress and do as his sweet will pleases, and find at this opulent resort enough of the best to satisfy every desire and taste. The instituting of the assembly this year, was a trial innovation, but so successful that, yielding to the universal desire, the trustees of the place have made it a permanent feature and at one of their closing sessions agreed to pay half the expenses of building a Chautauqua Hall, and tendered the free use of the grounds and buildings, cared for, to Bay View Assembly, which is hereafter to be a separate organization. Mr. Hall was commissioned to select the Advisory Board and officers of the Assembly for the ensuing year, but thereafter they will be chosen at an annual meeting at Bay View at the cottage owners and Chautauqua readers present being the electors. The Assembly is to have an undenominational bases, the officers to be selected from the Protestant evangelical denomination. It will make its own plans, manage its own affairs and pay its own bills. Nothing more far-reaching in consequences nor more decisive in the fortunes of this fair resort has ever been planned. Bay View proudly takes her place in the family of summer assemblies. She sends greetings to all christian peoples inviting them to come and receive of the rich bounty she has to bestow and cooperate in the management. The annual camp meeting which has been held here from the beginning of the resort will continue and reversing the order of this season, will in the future, precede the Assembly one week, the latter continuing two weeks.

A far-seeing man said to me, a few days ago, that he confidently predicted in five years Bay View would be the largest and finest summer resort in the West. It certainly has the beginnings of the best of everything. I used to think it was so far away that I could never spend a season here out of the savings of a modest income. But now I have discovered my error, for Bay View is but six to eleven hours' distance from Central and Southern Michigan, and with half-fare tickets sold by nearly all the railroads, the distance becomes an inconsiderable factor. I am fully persuaded that people of Michigan, Ohio and Indiana can go nowhere else and obtain as cheaply and quickly so many advantages and so much of a stimulating change, for which we all take vacation, as at Bay View. Already one vast railway system leads up here, and in a few months another will have its track to the grounds. The great Grand Rapids and Indiana Railway, leaving Cincinnati, makes a slight curve, passing through Southern Ohio, Eastern Indiana, and Western Michigan, coming straight up to Bay View. It brings tribute from the South, and crosses all the great East and West lines in Michigan. The Michigan Central will soon bring the Southeast and Eastern Michigan into direct communication, via its Mackinaw division and a connecting line.

Any person of good character may become a member of the association upon the payment of \$10. He then becomes a part owner of the grounds, may select without additional cost any unimproved lot, have a voice in the management and half-fare rates for himself and family as often as they shall desire to go to Bay View during the season. The high social and moral character of the place will continue to attract annually thousands who find serious objections to the average watering place with its expensive living and dissipation. Fifty memberships have been taken this year, about twenty-five cottages have been built, besides large public improvements made.

C. L. S. C.

It is said that the Order in Texas has increased beyond anything known in a single State. In different portions of the State there are over one hundred and twenty-five co-operative stores and in Galveston a wholesale co-operative association which sells about four hundred thousand dollars worth of goods per annum.

A violent form of hog cholera is raging near Hillsborough, Ill., many farmers having lost all their swine. The loss in one township will reach \$1,000. Various remedies have been tried, but they have so far failed to check the progress of the malady.

KEEP your best lambs on the farm, no matter what the butcher may offer for them.

Cost of Crops.

If—as is undoubtedly the case in many instances—one farmer produces corn or wheat at from ten to fifty per cent. less than his neighbor, it is easy to see that one will prosper and the other fail in his business. I adopted the rule several years ago of keeping an account with my leading crops (wheat, corn and potatoes), and was strongly impressed with the fact that the cost per bushel as the yield decreased per acre increased. There are some factors of cost that cannot be changed materially; for example, interest on the money invested in the land, seed and the ordinary operations of plowing and planting; and these will be about the same whether we raise ten or thirty bushels of wheat to the acre, or twenty-five or seventy-five bushels of corn. Now, if we take ten dollars an acre as the smallest sum that will pay ground rent, seed and labor, for growing a crop of corn or wheat up to the time of harvest, it will be seen that at the lowest yields named the farmer must receive one dollar a bushel for wheat and forty cents for corn to get barely paid for his work and investment, and then look to the straw and cornstalks to pay him for harvesting the crops. If—as during the last year—the average prices of these crops are from fifteen to twenty-five per cent. below what I have named, then life becomes a struggle with debt to the farmer who produces the minimum crops. The most carefully prepared statistics taken by both national and state authority show that the corn crop of the United States averages but little above thirty bushels per acre, and the wheat above twelve bushels.

Conceding these figures to be nearly accurate, and remembering that a large per cent. of our farmers produce on an average from fifty to one hundred per cent. above them, we are forced to the conclusion that an equally large per cent. grow crops below these averages, and find no profit whatever in their business, but merely subsist by practicing an economy that is almost niggardly. Now I believe it possible on many farms to reduce the cost of production of all products to some degree, and some of them so much as one-half, and will try to show how I think it can be done. The first thing I should say to many farmers would be: Reduce the area and under cultivation. It is the besetting sin among our Western farmers to cultivate too much land; 1,000 bushels of corn from twenty acres must, of necessity cost less than the same growth on thirty acres of the same farm; and the farmer who can raise 500 bushels of wheat on twenty acres will realize a good profit, while his neighbor who sows from thirty-five to fifty acres to get the same amount will run behind. Now these highest averages that I have named are easily within reach of most farmers, and can be excelled by many. I do not say that the farmer who has been growing poor crops can at once change his system so as to increase them to this extent; but I do believe there are few farms where the average yields are now at the minimum on which they could not be increased fifty per cent. in less than ten years. One hopeful feature of this plan of farming a smaller area and farming it more thoroughly is that it is one which must improve the land, while the plan of keeping the larger part of the farm under the plow necessarily exhausts it.

I have tried, during thirty years, the plan of keeping up the soil by buying manure at the village, and also by the purchase of commercial fertilizers, but some years ago abandoned them both as too expensive, and determined that the farm must be self-perpetuating to the extent of producing its own fertilizers; and I have been greatly pleased with the result. Now the system of farming which reduces the area under cultivation enables one to do this in two ways: first—and the cheapest and best—by growing crops which fertilize; and, second, by raising stock to consume the straw, hay and grain, and give a large amount of manure. Under the system which I practice on my little farm of ninety acres, we grow from ten to twenty acres of clover every year, which is neither cut nor pastured, but allowed to make all the growth it will from harvest until cold weather, and then is plowed down. It usually makes a growth equal to that in the following June on fields that are pastured closely in the autumn, as it is the almost universal practice of farmers in this locality, and after a careful comparison of its effect upon the soil, I estimate its fertilizing value to average about \$12 per acre, by which I mean that it is worth to the crops as much as a dressing of manure would be which would cost me \$12 if bought and drawn from the village two miles distant. Lest this article become too long, I will condense into a sentence the means by which we are to increase our yields, and thus reduce the cost of production: 1. Decrease the area under cultivation. 2. Follow a rotation which will put all the land in clover once in two or three years. 3. Keep good stock to consume the crops grown. 4. Make the preparation of seed bed and the cultivation of all crops thorough.—Waldo F. Brown, in "N. Y. Tribune."

Negro Minstrelsy.

The origin of negro minstrelsy has been so often discussed and recurs so frequently that the writer need make no apology in referring to some of his reminiscences connected with the burnt-cork fraternity. This department of theatricals dates as far back as 1799, though the first minstrel company was not organized till 1843. The earliest instance of the introduction of negro characters on the stage occurred in Boston, Dec. 30, 1799. Russell's Boston Gazette of that date contained an advertisement of the entire performance, as given at the Federal Street theater at the time. The first piece was "Oronoko; or, the Royal Slave." At the end of the second act there is a song of "The Gay Negro Boy," in character, and this was given by Mr. Graupner, a member of the old Federal Street company. The famous pantomime of "Gil Blas" had been introduced that Christmas week, and although the house was hung with mourning at that time on account of the death of Washington, such was the applause given to the song of "The Negro Boy" that he had to bring in his little bench

and sing his story over and over, again and again.

The chord of popular sympathy had been struck for a lonely and enslaved race. The next popular negro song was called "The Battle of Plattsburg." Dramatic history tells us that this was originally sung by an actor, vulgarly known as "Pig Pie Herbert," at a theater in Albany in 1815. This song made such a decided hit that the enthusiasm of the audience became uncontrollable. From that moment it was a popular favorite. It had a long and successful season, and was the chief attraction at this theater and elsewhere. There was another noted individual of the day, one George Nichols, a clown in western circuses, who became very popular in that section of the country. He lived after Herbert. The following are a few of the other names represented among the pioneers of the burnt-cork comedians and vocalists. Robert Furrill, who, it is said, was the original "Zip Coon;" Sam Tattall, who sang a song called "The Back Side of Albany," in 1823; Barney Burrs, in songs called "My Long Tail Blue" and "Such a Getting Upstairs;" Bill Keller, Esam Dickson, Tom Blackley, Leicester, John Smith, George Washington Dixon, etc. In those days negro acts were occasionally performed on horseback in circuses, as well as on the stage. In this way, between unbounded admiration on the part of managers, this kind of performance struggled along here and there until the late T. D. Rice, the acknowledged father and founder of the Ethiopian comedy, came to the front. He at once filled the bill and the theaters, too, wherever he appeared, and sustained his success for thirty years afterward. A brief sketch of this renowned negro comedian may not be uninteresting.

T. D. Rice was born in the city of New York May 20, 1808. At an early age he learned the trade of a carver, joined a dramatic association, and went to Kentucky under the management of N. M. Ludlow, a well-known western actor and manager. While a member of this company he displayed considerable talent as an imitator of the negroes in their peculiarities and eccentricities, and was at length announced to make his first appearance in a negro character in the city of Louisville. Prior to this, however, he had played both in New York and in the west many low comedy parts with success, but not until he commenced his negro singing and burlesque operatic performances was he considered of sufficient note to render his name attractive. In the fall of the year 1832 he made his Ethiopian debut at the Old Bowery theater, New York, in the character of "Jim Crow." This character, both on account of its novelty and the excellence of its representation, attained a popularity unequalled by anything of the kind before or since. Rice during that season is said to have brought more money into the Bowery treasury than any other American performer during the same period of time. After a most successful career in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and other cities, he visited England in 1836 and performed with great applause at the Surrey (London), as also in Dublin and Cork, creating a furor unprecedented even in the annals of the British stage, and almost literally driving for a time from the boards such favorites as Macready, the Woods and other distinguished performers. While in England he married a Miss Gladstone, the eldest daughter of a former manager of the Surrey theater. He soon after returned to his native country, appearing at Wallack's National theater, corner of Chatham and Leonard streets, New York, Oct. 17, 1837, in his specialty, the "Virginia Minstrel." For many years subsequently Mr. Rice was eagerly sought after by the managers, and played as a "star" in nearly every theatre in the union. His popularity, however, waned in his later days, though he appeared, eliciting much applause, as late as 1854. Stricken finally with paralysis, his death occurred after a season of prolonged suffering, in the city of his birth, Sept. 19, 1860, at the age of 52.

Mr. Alfred Bunn, in his "Stage, Both Before and Behind the Curtain," published in 1840, referring to Mr. Rice, says: "His success has been obtained by his prudent adhesion to the personation of one class character—a path, be it remembered, altogether untrodden. He has chosen for his motto: 'It is better to be great in a little thing than little in a great thing,' and he has triumphantly acted up to the axiom."

The first organized band of negro minstrels made their appearance at the Chatham theater, New York city, Feb. 17, 1843—Charles T. White in The New York World.

THE CONDUCTOR'S JAW DROPPED.—One of those smart Alexanders who travel on cheek and the inability of the public to change \$20 bills for a glass of soda or four tobies got on a Penn avenue car the other day and tendered the aforesaid \$20 for his fare. Of course the conductor could not change it, and so he got his ride free. This was repeated until the conductor got tired of it, and after the fourth or fifth time of its repetition he determined to get even with the fellow. By visiting the toll-houses and by other means unknown, the manipulator of the bell-punch managed to scrape up \$19 95 in pennies. Placing these in a little bucket he quietly awaited the appearance of his victim, having posted the driver and some other intimate friends who happened to be on board. When the unsuspecting young man with the plecthoric pocket book put in an appearance and promptly produced the "20" with many apologies the conductor pocketed the bill and produced his little bucket, and amid the grins of the spectators presented it to his customer. The young man looked pretty cheap, and after feeling the heft of the bucket, thoughtfully got off the car and disappeared around a corner. Then the conductor took the bill from his pocket and proceeded to fold it up nicely, so that it would fit into a convenient corner of his pocket-book. Something in the appearance of the bill caught his eye, and as he examined it a little closer, his jaw dropped about a foot. The bill was of the genus denominated by the sporting fraternity as "queer." The young man had also been laying for the conductor.—Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette.

L. S. & M. S. R. R. KALAMAZOO DIVISION TIME TABLE. Standard time—10th meridian. GOING SOUTH. N.Y. & C. N.Y. & E. Express. Ex & M. Way Ft. Lv Grand Rapids..... 7:45 AM 5:00 PM 5:00 AM Ar Allegan..... 9:02 " 6:10 " 9:07 " Ar Kalamazoo..... 10:05 " 7:10 " 12:05 PM Ar Schoolcraft..... 10:42 " 7:44 " 2:00 " Ar Three Rivers..... 11:12 " 8:12 " 2:55 " Ar White Pigeon..... 11:40 " 8:40 " 4:30 " Ar Toledo..... 5:10 PM 2:30 AM 6:30 AM Ar Cleveland..... 9:40 " 8:25 " " Ar Buffalo..... 3:30 AM 2:45 PM " "

GOING NORTH. N.Y. & C. N.Y. & E. Express. Ex & M. Way Ft. Lv Buffalo..... 11:55 AM 11:55 AM " Ar Cleveland..... 6:40 PM 6:30 " " Ar Toledo..... 11:15 " 10:40 " 8:30 PM Ar White Pigeon..... 5:20 AM 3:25 PM 8:15 AM Ar Three Rivers..... 5:50 " 3:53 " 9:45 " Ar Schoolcraft..... 6:20 " 4:23 " 11:45 " Ar Kalamazoo..... 6:50 " 5:00 " 1:35 PM Ar Allegan..... 7:55 " 6:10 " 3:05 " Grand Rapids..... 9:07 " 7:25 " 6:58 " "

All trains connect at White Pigeon with trains on main line. M. E. WATKINS, Supt. Kalamazoo Division, Kalamazoo.

Detroit, Mackinaw & Marquette R. R. "The Mackinaw Short Line."

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WEST. TIME TABLE. EAST. READ DOWN. Taking Effect Dec. 23, '85. READ UP. 6:05 p. m. Lv..... Detroit..... Ar 10:45 a. m. 6:50 a. m. St. Ignace..... 8:30 p. m. 8:52 " Newberry..... 6:14 " 8:59 " Dollarville..... 6:14 " 9:40 " Seney..... 5:15 " 11:00 a. m. Munising..... 3:58 " 11:31 " Au Train..... 2:25 " 12:40 " Marquette..... 2:15 " 1:40 " Negaunee..... 3:00 p. m. 1:55 " Ishpeming..... 12:58 " 5:30 " Houghton..... 9:20 " 6:35 " Ar..... Calumet..... Lv 8:15 " "

Express Trains daily the year round make close connections with trains from Canada and the East, to all Lake Superior points. Night express with sleeper leaves St. Ignace 10:30 p. m. arrives at Marquette 7 a. m. Leaves Marquette 9:30 p. m. arrives at St. Ignace 6 a. m.

A. WATSON, Gen'l Superintendent, Marquette, Mich. E. W. ALLEN, Ticket Ag't, Marquette, Mich.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILROAD.

DEPARTURE OF TRAINS FROM KALAMAZOO. TIME TABLE—MAY 18, 1884. Standard time—10th meridian.

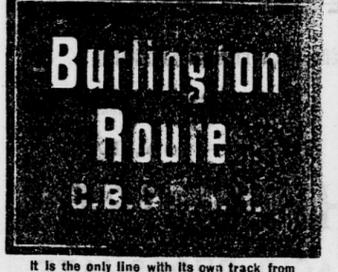
WESTWARD. A. M. P. M. Kalamazoo Accommodation leaves..... 4:45 9:40 Kalamazoo Express arrives..... 1:00 9:40 Evening Express..... 1:00 9:40 Mail Express..... 3:27 11:38 Day Express..... 1:38 1:45

EASTWARD. A. M. P. M. Night Express..... 3:15 10:00 Kalamazoo Accommodation leaves..... 6:45 10:00 Kalamazoo Express arrives..... 10:00 12:03 Day Express..... 1:45 1:45 New York Express..... 8:10 8:10 Atlantic Express..... 1:00 1:00

New York, Atlantic and Pacific Expresses daily. Evening Express west and Night Express east daily except Saturdays. All other trains daily except Sundays. Freight trains carrying passengers out from Kalamazoo as follows: No. 29 (east) at 5:10 p. m. and No. 30 (west) at 8:10, bring passengers from east at 12:45, p. m.

H. B. LEVARD, Gen. Manager, Detroit. J. A. GRIBB, General Freight Agent, Chicago. O. W. RUGGLES, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

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Under Contract with the Executive Committees of the Pennsylvania and New York State Granges and recognized by the State Granges of Ohio, New Jersey and Delaware to furnish Granges with all kinds of Groceries. We carry a large and complete stock of all Groceries, Sugars, Syrups, Molasses, Coffees, Teas, Spices, etc. We fill all orders from Patrons when the order is under Seal of Grange and signed by the Master and Secretary of the Grange, and upon receipt of goods and found satisfactory payment to be made within 30 days from date of bills. We are now filling Orders from Patrons in Michigan as the through rates from Philadelphia are very reasonable, as the railroads are cutting through rates. A trial order from Granges in Michigan will convince them that they can Purchase Groceries to advantage in Philadelphia. If you desire information in regard to prices on any goods in our line of business or freight rates do not hesitate to write us, as we endeavor to answer all inquiries promptly and satisfactorily. We will mail free upon request our Complete Price List of Groceries, giving the wholesale prices of all Goods in the Grocery Line.

THORNTON BARNES, Wholesale Grocer and Grange Selling Agent, 241 North Water Street, Philadelphia, Penn. mar15yi

THE GUIDE.

We issue the Buyers' Guide in March and September of each year. It is now a book of 304 pages, 8x11 inches in size, 28,576 square inches of information for the consumers. It describes, illustrates and gives the prices of nearly all the necessaries and luxuries in daily use by all classes of people, and is sent free to any address upon receipt of 10 cents to pay the cost of carriage. We charge nothing for the book. All of the goods quoted in the Guide we carry in stock, which enables us to make shipments promptly and as ordered. We are the original Grange Supply House organized in 1872 to supply the consumer direct at wholesale prices, in quantities to suit the purchaser. We are the only house in existence who make this their exclusive business, and no other house in the world carries as great a variety of goods as ourselves. Visitors are invited to call and verify our statement.

Send for the Guide and see what it contains. If it is not worth 10 cents, let us know, and we will refund the amount paid without question.

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., 227 & 229 Wabash Ave., (Near Exposition Building) CHICAGO, ILL.

CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY TIME TABLE, JUNE 26, 1886.

TRAINS WESTWARD—CENTRAL MERIDIAN TIME. No. 18, Express. No. 4, Express. No. 6, Express. Port Huron, Lv..... 7:05 A. M. 7:55 P. M. Chicago, Lv..... 8:05 A. M. 3:25 P. M. 8:15 P. M. Lapeer..... 8:31 " 9:24 " Valparaiso..... 10:30 " 5:32 " 10:29 " Flint..... 9:06 " 10:10 " South Bend..... 12:00 " 6:52 " 12:01 A. M. Durand..... 9:35 " 10:48 " Cassopolis..... 12:47 P. M. 7:29 " 12:43 " Lansing..... 10:30 " 11:50 " Marcellus..... 1:16 " " 1:07 " Charlotte..... 11:00 P. M. 12:25 A. M. Schoolcraft..... 1:35 " 8:06 " 1:27 " Battle Creek, Ar..... A. M. 11:45 " 1:20 " Vicksburg..... 1:58 " 8:15 " 1:43 " Lv..... 8:50 12:05 " 2:25 " Battle Creek, Ar..... 2:45 " 8:55 " 2:34 " Lv..... 3:45 " 9:00 " 3:35 " Vicksburg..... 4:42 " 9:43 " 3:35 " Schoolcraft..... 5:55 " 10:14 " 4:00 " Marcellus..... 7:05 " 11:08 " 5:00 " Durand..... 7:55 " 11:37 " 5:40 " Lansing..... 8:42 " 12:07 A. M. 6:15 " Flint..... 9:30 " 1:16 " 7:35 " Valparaiso..... 4:05 P. M. 6:30 " Port Huron..... 10:30 " 1:16 " 7:35 "

Way Freight carrying passengers going East, 3:30 P. M.; going west, 10:05 A. M. *Stop for passengers on signal only. Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 run daily. Tickets sold and baggage checked to all parts of Canada and United States.

For through rates and time apply to G. M. WATSON, Local Agent, Schoolcraft; W. E. DAVIS, Assistant Gen'l Passenger Agent, Chicago; W. J. SPICER, General Manager, Detroit.

GROCERIES!

It will be interesting to every Farmer in the vicinity of Grand Rapids to learn that the

Wholesale Grocery House OF ARTHUR MEIGS & CO.

Have Opened a Mammoth Retail Department,

and are selling all goods at much LOWER PRICES than any other dealers. SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS will be given large purchasers. OUR STOCK IS LARGE, and embraces everything in the line of Groceries and Provisions. When in town don't fail to call on us.

ARTHUR MEIGS & CO.

Retail Department, 77 and 79 South Division Street., GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. dec85yr

BUSINESS AGENT MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE.

THOMAS MASON, General Commission Merchant,

161 South Water St., Chicago, Respectfully Solicits Consignments of

Fruits, Vegetables, Butter, Eggs, Grass Seed, Raw Furs, Hides, Pelts, Tallow, &c.

BONDED AGENT of the N. Y. Produce Exchange Association, Chartered Feb. 13, 1878.

All Orders Receive Proper Attention.

Papers read at the Farmers Union Picnic in Aigansee.

OUR TIMES.

We must regard the age in which we live as the most remarkable in the history of the world. The best and keenest scrutinizers of the times are completely nonplussed as to a proper name to apply; so rapid and startling are the changes that there is no longer any fixed science in the methods and form of art. We scarcely wait for one invention to cool before it is tossed into the great crucible in which all things are tested, when suddenly new and more beautiful shapes and radiant colors are developed. The solid ores and heat-resisting gems are found by our new blasts soluble as wax. Well may the miser tremble for his coins lest by some rare device they are proved to be counterfeit or are converted into vapor and spirited away. Think and move—there is no other motto. We are measured by what we undertake, not what we accomplish. Motives are greater things than results. To determine upon attainments is frequently attainment itself. Thus earnest resolution has often seemed to favor of Omnipotence. If we wait to deliberate we miss the opportunity. Every man's life lies within the present. Time past is spent and done with only as we turn and view the pictures we have hung about the walls of our hearts; the future is uncertain. We sleep and wake scarcely knowing whether the starry heavens have not shifted attitude. We are like rapid travelers and our lives are made up of incidents as various as though we were on swift revolving wheels. Not only our domestic utensils, but our grain mills, plows, and all the thousand and one patents registered at Washington change with the fashions. The spirits of law, logic, philosophy and religion, all shift their phases suddenly and mechanically. We have passed the time when we can stop to count our tracks in the sand. On our broad republican soil we are all kings. Man goes to his coronation whether he will or not. He puts his crown on his head or under his feet as he honors or dishonors his manhood. Socially we may all be divided into two classes, the men that look down on others and those that look down on themselves. Either class find life full of lessons. The simplest is generally the hardest to remember, one of which is, one's self-satisfaction is an untaxed kind of property which is very unpleasant to find depreciated. The hardest rock is made of the softest mud. One can be corrected and perfected only by one's self. Moral governments must not be applied from without but must spring from within. He who thinks every man a rogue is very certain to see one when he views himself. We can not be too careful about shortening the beautiful veil of mist covering manhood or about too hastily drawing it away. The longer the morning dew remains hanging in the blossoms of flowers the more beautiful the day. Never were men so necessary one to another as now. When our wants are rapidly multiplying and we are all becoming measurably equal, there must be kindness, trust and faith or nobody will be properly served or well treated. In this strange transition the unjust distinctions of caste and color are swept unregretted away into the oblivious tide. How softened the once haughty tone that made common men tremble. Will you please? takes the place of Go and do! The peril that stalked up dark and grim before unwilling obedience has dwindled to a sand hill over which little boys fly kites and chase butterflies. No intellect so dim but lights up ever and anon with a consciousness that he has more than a tread mill existence in this world's moving tableau. He can not live and walk with wise men, among flowers as it were, continually without perceiving his own worth and beauty. In times past wise conferences were held aloof from diggers and delvers. The images of grace and beauty, whether of art or nature, were carefully walled in from vulgar eyes. Now the garden plot is wider spread and the gates are open. The aromatic odors climb up in their airy way and pervade the common atmosphere. The roll of the curtain requires too many hands and eyes to keep the secret of good things enough for all any longer pent up. Even those that were termed servants, slaves, clowns and clodhoppers bear the real or honorary titles of men. Sad change to those that wish it different, but great joy to the freed millions that were bowed down, who made little or no complaint. We have the elements now at our will, the wind or sea cannot stay us; the mountains melt and whirl at our command; our feet are planted in high places; our hands are springs of steel; our breath is steam; our brain lightning. If we fail to make the elements servants as they have made us slaves, it will not be from want of guiding reins and whips and spurs. In the grand economy of nature there is a supply for every need, and no want of either. The hand, head or heart should go unsatisfied; to properly utilize the world's products challenges the best efforts of the human race. The strong man will not be put on a low diet; nor will any man have his sphere of thought circumscribed by high walls; he will give his ideas scope even if his inventions move from the patent office at Washington to the woodpile; but what he loses the world with its hands full of chisels, screws and hammers must inevitably gain. The age is practical notwithstanding it changes colors like a prism. It consults the interest of man, or rather man consulting himself, looks after his own interest. What is to be the climax in the fast moving and ascending scale puzzles keener eyes than those that watch the starry heavens for new planets, with our earth subdued, its mountains cast down and waste places lifted up; there is only left the law of love to be enforced to link hearth to hearth, hamlet to hamlet, nation to nation, when the Eden of Nature will be restored, and man in the sunshine of the world's new spring shall walk triumphantly, like some holy thing. It has been said man was made in the image of God; he possesses the power of thought, the genius to unfold from the vast domain of nature those things which are essential to his comfort, happiness and progression. Through him God works, if not to build worlds, to develop them to a de-

gree of perfection which the human eye hath not seen nor ear heard; neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive. Let us, therefore, in the feeble comprehension which we have of our high destiny and our relation to the infinite, lift up our heads in confidence and gladly pursue the work that is before us as collaborators with God, fully realizing that while we live and have our being in Him, we are essential to Him, and that without the co-operation of all things the sublime oratorio of creation could not give forth the perfection of its music. Standing thus, let us put forth all our energies to scale loftier heights and reach more grand and sublime eminences, and learn well the simple lesson that in blessing others we bless ourselves.

MRS. I. BAILEY.

THOUGHT.

Pitiable and lamentable indeed thought would be a life governed by feeling unaided by thought. Truly, thought should be the Siamese twin sister of all the principles of nature which make or break our lives. It may be, probably is true, that in cases of great emergency, where action must be instant, that we are governed by instinct, but what after all is that but instant thought? The weightier problems of life often require protracted thought; were we to decide instantly, as in cases of emergency, we doubtless would often make sad mistakes. God never does for us what we can do for ourselves, and we should be ashamed to ask it. If our hearts are in harmony with our creator and His laws, then will our thoughts be in tune also, and lead in due time to safe conclusions. Those who are actuated by impulse, acting upon the first fancy that enters their heads, may correspond to the servant we read of in the good book, who was given one talent and hid it in the earth. Extreme thought upon one subject alone does not make the most useful man. The bird that sings the sweetest is not the one which has no care or thought bestowed upon it, but sweet sounds. It would starve to death on music alone. God nor man never made a clock with but one wheel, and when man attempts to pick to pieces God's machinery and put it together with but one wheel, he will be like Sam Jones who, when he had put together the clock he had taken apart, had enough wheels left to make another clock. Thought should be the balance wheel of life. Too many men and women are extremists, and forget there is always a grand mean between the two extremes. Because our dear ones have souls to save, we need not forget they have bodies to clothe, stomachs to feed and minds to educate. We sometimes meet people who seem to forget everything but their outer garments, starving the soul and stinging the stomach for clothes. Others care but little about their apparel if they can only eat of picnic dinners the year around. A few forget body and stomach as much as possible, and exert every energy to care for the soul. Is either class commendable? I have heard good men pray—Lord close my ears and eyes to all but Thee. No doubt they meant right, but suppose our Savior had prayed thus and His prayer had been answered! How many dead would He have raised to life? How many deaf and dumb and blind and lame and sick and sorrowful would He have healed and comforted? He whose heart is most alive to God, will have eyes and ears and heart and hand most open to mankind. Both by precept and example we are taught to be thoughtful and loving to all. It is a fact I believe that "more evil is wrought by want of thought, than by want of heart." In our hurry and worry of life we catch at one idea—a good one—and attempt to live upon it. Bread is the staff of life, but let us live upon bread alone for a year even, and our reward will be the scurvy. Thought is the antidote for such mistakes. The student at school who never has thoughts of his own, may learn and repeat the rules parrot like, but will never know how to apply them, and will be like him referred to in the Arabic proverb. "He who knows not, and knows not that he knows not, is a fool; shun him." To study and thought, and then he may be like him "who knows, and knows that he knows." "I didn't think" is a child's excuse. Let it not be ours. What has led to discoveries both terrestrial and celestial but thought? What has made this earth to yield her fruits which we see around us today but thought put in action. In order to think we must have something to think about, and we have only to search out after it to have it. How many here can tell just where and how and when each article of food upon their tables every day, was cultivated and raised? How many ever thought whether Pine apples grow upon pine trees, or like a cabbage plant in the ground? Shall we not be held responsible, if at the end of life we are asked, if we cared for our brothers around us and in foreign lands who were in need, if we helped support the cause of temperance, and many other good works, and we reply, we did not know about these things or think about them. May we not be asked, where were your papers and books that laid all around you unread, that would have told you about it all? Perhaps one thing alone required but a moment's thought—when God commands—think I will.

MRS. O. C. NASH.



MANILLA ROOFING ESTABLISHED 1866. Takes the lead, does not corrode like tin or iron, nor decay like shingles or tar compositions, easy to apply, strong and durable at half the cost of tin. Is also a SUBSTITUTE for PLASTER at Half the Cost. CARPENTERS and RIGGS of same, double the wear of oil cloths. Catalogues and samples free. W. H. FAY & CO., CAMDEN, N. J.

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PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

(Corrected by Thornton Barnes, Wholesale Grocer and Orange Selling Agent, No. 231 North Water St., Philadelphia, Pa.) PHILADELPHIA, August 21, 1886.

Table listing market prices for PURE SUGARS, including Cut Loaf per lb, Pulverized per lb, Standard Granulated per lb, etc.

Table listing market prices for SYRUP AND MOLASSES—In Barrels, including Sugar drips pure sugar per gallon, Amber drips pure sugar per gallon, etc.

Table listing market prices for COFFEES—GREEN AND ROASTED, including Fancy Rio per lb, Green Rio extra choice per lb, etc.

Table listing market prices for TEAS, including Imperial per lb, Young Hyson per lb, Oolong per lb, etc.

Table listing market prices for FOREIGN DRIED FRUITS, including Raisins, New Muscatells, Old Muscatells, etc.

Table listing market prices for WHOLE SPICES, including Black Pepper per lb, White Pepper per lb, Ginger, etc.

Table listing market prices for PURE GROUND SPICES, including Pure Pepper, black, per lb, African Cayenne, per lb, etc.

Table listing market prices for GROCERS' SUNDRIES, including Sal Soda, 112 lb kegs, per lb, Flour sulphur, per lb, etc.

Table listing market prices for various goods including Corn starch, Starbush, Grain bags, etc.

Table listing market prices for various goods including Baking powder, Rice, etc.

For Dyspepsia

Mental and Physical Exhaustion, Nervousness, Weakened Energy, Indigestion, Etc.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE

A liquid preparation of the phosphates and phosphoric acid. Recommended by physicians. It makes a delicious drink. Invigorating and strengthening. Pamphlet free. For sale by all dealers.

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Beware of Imitations. July 15/1

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A farm of 160 acres, five miles from Howard City, Mich., twenty-five acres cleared and fenced; plenty of buildings in fair condition; soil clay and gravelly loam with clay subsoil; watered by fine springs and by Little Muskegon river. Also, adjoining the above, two 80 acre tracts of good unimproved land which will be sold singly or together. All these lands lay upon a main highway, the titles are perfect, and I will sell them cheap and on easy terms. I will exchange a portion of them for a small improved farm in Central or Southern Mich. For further particulars, prices, etc., call on or address

W. S. DOVE, Howard City, Mich.

20 New Style Chrome Plated Name Cards, 100 Goss Aushon, 100c. Acme Card Factory, Cincinnati, O.

Money to Loan.

There has been placed in my hands money to loan in sums of five hundred dollars or more, to be secured on good improved farms. J. W. OSBORN, Attorney at Law, No. 121 South Burdick St. Kalamazoo, Aug. 9, 1886. Aug 15/1

\$14 Try One, \$14 The Leading Music House.

A better Harness than you can buy for \$20. A FLAT STRAP SINGLE HARNESS, Full Nickel, or Davis Rubber Trimming, Best Oak Stock, for \$14.

FOR 30 DAYS

I will fill all orders received under seal of the Grange, and may be returned if not satisfactory.

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Poland China Swine a Specialty. Breeders Stock recorded in Ohio P. C. Record. Correspondence and inspection invited. B. G. BUELL, LITTLE PRAIRIE RONDE, Cass Co., Mich.

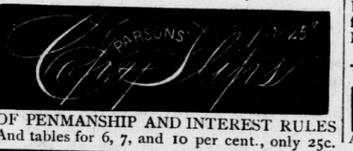
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This powder has been in use many years. It is largely used by the farmers of Pennsylvania, and the Patrons of that State have purchased over 100,000 pounds through their purchasing agents. Its composition is our secret. The recipe is on every box and 5-pound package. It is made by Dr. Oberholtzer's Sons & Co., Phoenixville, Pa. It helps to digest and assimilate the food. Horses will do more work with less food while using it. Cows will give more milk and be in better condition. It keeps poultry healthy and increases the production of eggs. It is also of great value to them while molting. It is sold at the lowest possible wholesale prices by R. E. JAMES, Kalamazoo; GEO. W. HILL & CO., 80 Woodbridge St., Detroit; THOS. MASON, 181 Water St., Chicago, Ill.; and ALBERT STEGEMAN, Allegan. Put up in 60-lb. boxes (loose). Price EIGHT CENTS per lb., 30-lb. boxes of 6 1/2-lb. packages, TEN CENTS per lb.

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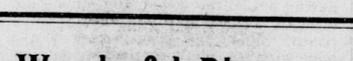
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One Bar of Ingersoll's New Discovery Soap does a Wash with one hour's light labor. This is a saving of eight hour's hard labor. A Box contains thirty-six Bars, thus saving thirty days of grinding labor. It is estimated that the wear on clothes by using the old alkali soaps amounts to one hundred dollars a year, all of which is saved by using Ingersoll's soap. It is elegant for the toilet.

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