

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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

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A. C. GLIDDEN, Editor,
PAW PAW, MICH.

Farmers' Association Meeting.

The June meeting of this society was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Breck, in the village of Paw Paw, on Thursday, the 4th inst. With one exception, every family belonging to the association was represented. The members began to arrive soon after ten o'clock, and some time before the dinner hour all were convened in the spacious parlors, enjoying the social hour for which the early arrival is set apart.

The call to order after dinner has a special feature, which may be new to kindred clubs. The secretary calls the roll and as the names of members are announced, the individual rises and repeats a short sentiment, and may amplify it *ad libitum*. For example: "Thoreau has said: If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost. There is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them."

"This association was once a castle in the imagination of some person, and remained a castle until the foundation of organization was placed under it. Some are castle builders and some are foundation layers. A suggestion, or the conception of a model—both are castles until the foundation of a practical test is put under them."

A very pleasant and profitable half-hour is spent in this exercise, and it furnishes the occasion for some witticisms, or the expression of a noble sentiment, and cannot become monotonous from the fact the theme must be selected and studied before the arrival, and usually follows the bent of original thinking.

The program is printed and distributed among the members some time before the meeting, so that the themes are familiar and can be studied also as a preparation for the discussion which follows each topic.

Mrs. J. J. Woodman's paper was first on the program, entitled "To the Golden West and Return; a Reminiscence," and recounted the scenes and some of the social features of the trip to California on the occasion of the last meeting of the National Grange. The paper is promised for the VISITOR'S columns, and we refrain from giving even a brief synopsis.

"Henry George's Theory of Land Taxation" was discussed in a paper by A. H. Smith and followed by brief speeches from the members. Jason Woodman said the doctrine was not pleasing to farmers, for it was a subversion of the principle of free homes for a free people. Mr. George sees an evil and would suppress it by such an overturning as would culminate in greater evils still—Governmental ownership of the land and tenant farmers. A. C. Glidden said it was a species of socialism for which the improvident were clamoring, and looked to the equal distribution of the wealth of the country among all classes. He considered it wholly visionary—a scheme that would

work no good to those who advocated it even, for riches were more relative than real, and the effects of a division of the property could be only transitory—the improvident would always be poor and the economical would thrive.

James Bale said: "Born as we are, with different temperaments and desires, it would be impossible to level things up; it was not worthy of our consideration."

G. E. Breck: "Mr. George makes a strong argument for his side of the controversy, but it is intimated that what gives potency to his belief is the fact that he has been so many times kicked out of tenement houses for failure to pay his rent, that he is soured over the importunity of landlords, and is kicking back out of resentment. So many people want their share of what they see about them without the effort required to accumulate. According to Mr. George's theory the land would be taxed so high that the government would be obliged to take it, and the people become vassals to it. This, Mr. George thinks, would give every person an equal chance to rent the land, and he says, would stimulate industry."

T. R. Harrison: "The theory is confiscation of land, pure and simple. It makes every man a landless pauper. Socialism was laughed at once, but Chicago has cause to tremble at its inroads. Nihilism was once a theory from the brain of an author. With the increase of population in the cities the question will become a serious one. Land is valueless except for its products. Take away personal interest in land and it will run down and fail. If land is taxed according to its productiveness, why not tax the productive value of business, or talents, or skill? This is not a question to be ignored or laughed at. We shall have to meet and confront it in the near future."

Mrs. N. H. Bangs: "Every owner of a home is a better citizen from that fact, and better men and women come mainly from freeholders." Mrs. Bangs said it was no excuse for a gentleman to set up the plea that they were not informed upon the subject. They should study the topics and become informed.

J. J. Woodman: "This is a subject that demands our serious consideration. I have seen buildings blackened and ruined by the rage of communists, and the same principles exist here. They say that earth, air and water are God's free gifts to man, and they belong equally to the human family. The theory that the most ignorant lout has an equal right to my farm, or Mr. Breck's residence, is more rhetoric than logic. If land is God's free gift, it must be when it is in a state of nature, before labor and money have been spent upon it to make it of value to produce bread for mankind. The idea of such a scheme as Mr. George advocates becoming the universal rule, is preposterous. Farmers should study the theory and be prepared to successfully combat the wild notions so common in the densely populated communities."

SANDY FARMS AND SANDY FARMERS.

This topic was considered in a paper by Jason Woodman, and the drift of the argument, after defining what he meant by "sandy farms," was to the effect that the farmer who had to exercise the most thought and experimentation upon his farm to produce paying crops, grew neces-

sarily into a more vigorous intellect, and became a man of wider agricultural knowledge than the man who was not driven to the exercise of his talents to produce paying crops on a richer soil. In his travels over the state he thought he could trace a sequence to his theory, and thought the principle would apply so generally as to prove the correctness of his conclusions.

D. Woodman thought the results from farming operations hinged more upon the make-up of the man than upon his surroundings. The old saying, "has he got any sand?" was the important question toward estimating results.

G. E. Breck said a man's work was what made his mind, largely, and the more continuously he thinks the stronger man he makes. It is generally conceded that a sandy loam is the best for practical farm purposes.

T. R. Harrison: The question has assumed a psychological character. There is a question of metaphysics here from which to draw a lesson. It is true that necessity is the mother of invention. Men on sandy farms must be aggressive to succeed. There are grades of these lands, and on some of the poorer there is not much show for intellectual activity. The savages were all alike on different soils. The lands do not make the man, unless he desires to make something of himself.

Mrs. N. H. Bangs: Soil, with climate, have a great deal to do with people who live in a country. What is it that makes the difference between the people of the North and the South? They are a different people in energy and spirit. It is not all in the character inherited by them. There is an influence, born of environment, which tells on the habits of a people. The character of the men who landed on Plymouth Rock was largely made by their surroundings.

E. P. Mills believed it was in the man after all. Farms of equal fertility produce according to the energy employed upon them.

B. G. Buell: Hereditary influence has a great deal to do with the matter. The fertile spots in Southern Michigan were selected by men from the Southern States. The lighter and less desirable lands were left to be settled by more enterprising men from the East. The same want of enterprise is still exhibited on these earlier settled portions. Your eastern men have been stimulated by competition and rivalry, and have made out of the naturally poorer lands excellent farms and fine homes.

The exercises closed with a recitation by Mrs. E. P. Mills, and an invitation to meet with Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Morton on the first Thursday of September next.

Will Low Prices Prevail Indefinitely?

In a recent article entitled, "The Trouble with the Farmer," the Chicago Tribune uses the following language:

"Since the depressed prices which the farmer now gets are likely to prevail for an indefinite time, it may well be asked what can be done to improve his situation."

Permit me to say that for those who look at it in the right direction, an abundance of data can be found to show that such prices and the present depressed condi-

tions will not "continue indefinitely." It is easy to show that the present depression in agricultural and other interests is the result of enormously increased production, but I have never seen a definite statement of the ratio of production to population and the measure of the excess of such production which can be measured or expressed in definite terms. Given the correctness of the data furnished of the land employed in growing staple crops, it is by no means difficult to determine the duration of the existing state of agricultural depression.

Assuming that there had been no material over-production of rye, oats, barley, buckwheat, potatoes and tobacco up to 1887, we can easily measure the quantity of land necessary to produce so much of these staples as well as hay and cotton, as is needed at home and provide so much tobacco as other people look to us for. With wheat, nearly all estimates, including the Department of Agriculture's, place the domestic consumption—for all uses—at 5.66 bushels per capita which, with an average yield per acre, is equal to forty-seven one-hundredths of an acre. Of corn it is shown that the product has, during the fourteen years ending with 1888, averaged 29.75 bushels per capita, and calling the exports of corn and meal equal to one bushel per capita, the home requirement is found to be 28.75 bushels per capita which, with an average yield, is equal to one and fifteen one-hundredths per capita. Taking the acreage of staples other than corn and wheat prior to 1888, as representing the normal requirements for such staples, it is found, (on the basis of average annual yields per acre) we require the following amount of land to supply the population and permit the usual proportion of meats, tobacco and cotton to go abroad.

Acreage per capita in corn.....	1.15
" " wheat.....	0.47
" " oats.....	0.43
" " hay.....	0.63
" " cotton.....	0.31
" " rye, barley, potatoes, buckwheat and tobacco.....	0.16
Total acreage per capita.....	3.15

This shows that to provide so much of all the staples as are required at home and so much meat, tobacco and cotton as there is sale for abroad at good prices, it is necessary to use 3.15 acres for each unit of population, and we may safely assume that when the acreage does not exceed this amount, prices will be remunerative and the farmer prosperous. We may at the present standard of living, call 3.15 acres the normal requirement of the American people. Eliminating the proportion required to furnish the meat, cotton and tobacco exported, the requirements for home consumption would be an even three acres per capita.

Having ascertained what are the acreage requirements of our people, is it not easy to determine whether it is or is not cultivated acres in excess of requirements that causes the "trouble with the farmer" and in case such is found to be the cause, when and how a healthy balance will be restored?

In the quinquennial period, ending with the year 1874, the annual additions to the cultivated area in staple crops averaged 3,307,000 acres, the per capita quota of cultivated land being 2.65 acres, farm products high in price, and the farmer not in trouble.

During the five years ending

with 1879, the acres in staple crops show an annual average increase of no less than 9,525,710 acres and prices fell materially. In the semi-decade ending in 1884, the annual average additions to the acreage in staple crops fell to 6,841,000, but still being altogether out of proportion to the increase in population, prices continued to fall and the per capita quota of cultivated land reaching 3.51 acres.

In the next five-year period, ending in 1889, annual average additions to the cultivated acreage are found to have been less than 3,200,000 acres, showing the near exhaustion of the arable areas, and would have materially enhanced prices but for the enormous surplus of cultivated acres brought into use during the ten years ending in 1884.

In 1884, after assigning 3.15 acres of cultivated land to each unit of population, there remained no less than 20,249,000 acres, the products of which must be forced upon foreign markets. Of this surplus acreage, 13,300,000 acres were employed in growing wheat, to be marketed in competition with the products of the cheap labor of Russia and India, and the remainder in growing a surplus of corn to press upon domestic markets with ever increasing weight.

Owing to the fact that population has increased, since 1884, in much greater ratio than cultivated acres, this surplus of more than 20,000,000 acres then existing, has been reduced nearly one-half and will wholly disappear in three, or at most four years, and with the disappearance of this surplus of cultivated acres, will end forever the existing depression of agricultural interests. Such will be the limit of this state of affairs which does not seem to be indefinite either in cause or duration.

But for the enormous corn crop of 1888 and 1889 and the large wheat crop of 1889 we should ere this have felt relief from the reduction in the surplus acreage, but such relief is coming and many a discouraged farmer will pluck up courage and work hopefully when he can see the end of these troubles in plain view and realize that we have already traveled more than half the distance from the enormous surplus of 1884, and that instead of exporting a great surplus of cereals to glut foreign markets we are altogether likely to import wheat long before the end of the century.—C. Wood Davis, in Country Gentleman.

The Northern Summer Resorts of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Dakota, not forgetting the famous Excelsior springs of Missouri, are more attractive during the present season than ever before.

An illustrated Guide Book, descriptive of a hundred or more of the choicest spots of creation on the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R'y, will be sent free upon application to A. V. H. CARPENTER, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, Ill., or to HARRY MERCER, Mich., Passenger Agent, Chi. Mil. & St. P. R'y. 90 Griswold St. Detroit Mich. 14

If everybody believed every thing that he heard about everybody else, how infinitely much better every man would think himself than every one of his neighbors.—Puck.

Dipping Candles Long Ago.

When time for candle dipping came
The smooth and slender rods were brought.
The yellow tallow melted well
In kettles and in boilers caught;
And then we young folks would sit down
And dip the long, white candle wicks
Into the mess, and laugh to see
The candles growing on our sticks.
And mother, with her loving smile
Would tell us characters were built,
For weal or woe, by dipping oft
In wisdom's fount of sin and guilt;
And that if we would have our lives
Give forth a pure and healthy glow,
We must be vigilant to shun
Companionship with vice below.
Sometimes the neighbors would come in
And we would have a "dipping bee"
With stalwart boys and rosy girls,
All bubbling o'er with health and glee.
'Twas there my youthful heart began
To struggle in love's mighty grip;
'Twas there that Cupid bent his bow
And shot me with a tallow dip.
All for a pair of roguish eyes,
And ruby lips and cheeks of rose,
I grew too thin for any use
Except to scare away the crows.
Of course I had a rival, and
He was a tall, lank, cheeky chap,
Who like a half-closed jack-knife bowed,
And straightened upward with a snap.
'Twas at another "dipping-bee,"
That when the candles were all made,
'Now, Susie, what shall we do next?"
My rival asked the pretty made.
Her answer filled my heart with joy,
And eke his cup with bitter dregs:
Said she, "I guess 'twould do no harm
To make a 'bee' and dip your legs!"
That settled him, and I took heart,
And thenceforth ever bolder grew,
Until in matrimonial sweets
The parson gently dipped us two;
And ever since our love serene
Has burned, undimmed by jealous doubt,
And will until death comes at last,
And snuffs us two old lovers out.
—William Edward Penny.

Farming the Best Business.

All men cannot be farmers, any more than all can be mechanics, professional men or merchants. A diversity of trades and occupations is essential to the highest degree of civilization and success in life. But this does not alter the fact that some vocations are more conducive to health, happiness and freedom from great risks and excitements than others.

The writer has known at least half a dozen intelligent farmers who understood their business well and were prosperous, but, desirous of doing better, or obtaining easier work, sold their farms and moved into town. Not one of them bettered his condition. Every one of them, with a single exception, who engaged in business failed, losing every cent they were worth.

It is a general complaint that most farmers' sons quit the farm because they wish to find some business that is less laborious, more profitable or more genteel than the occupation of their fathers. This is to be regretted, because there is no business in the world that is capable of furnishing so much true happiness, and is so favorable for the moral and intellectual development of the whole man as farming. In saying this, the writer can speak from personal experience, having been a sawyer in a saw mill, a miller in a grist mill, a clerk in a store, a surveyor in the woods and a farmer on the farm. He thinks he has earned the right to speak understandingly and give advice to the young. It may be said that "a Jack at all trades is good for nothing at any," and that the writer did not follow any business long enough to find out all the pleasure and the profit there was in it. He learned his trades as well as the generality of men who follow them for life, and he followed each one of them long enough to find out that he did not like any of them so well as farming.

Tending a saw mill is very laborious and confining. There is constantly some heavy lifting to be done, and if the mill is run day and night (as is often the case) and the sawyer is obliged to tend half the day and half the night, it is very wearing on the constitution. There is the everlasting noise which keeps the nerves in a tremor; there are the numerous little break-downs that require immediate attention and repair, whether night or day—boxes getting loose, wedges working out, burs unscrewing, saws getting out of order soon after they have been filed and set, by coming in contact with an ugly knot, etc. In this respect a grist mill is still worse, as there is so much more gearing in operation and so many more things to get out of repair—mill stones glaze, spouts stop up, elevators choke,

belts slip or break, bearings get hot, bush gets loose, and a hundred other things happen to distract the mind and try the patience of the miller. And these annoyances are sure to take place when they are the least expected or when he is in the greatest hurry, and when several customers are at the mill door calling to be waited upon.

The clerk in the store is the servant of the merchant and the slave of his customers, many of whom act as if they had no regard for his feelings and no care for the unnecessary labor they make him in calling for articles which they never intend to buy. His employer expects him to be constantly on his feet, whether there is work to do or not; to make himself pleasant and agreeable to all his customers, though some of them may be unmannerly in their conduct and unreasonable in their demands. He is expected to spring with the greatest celerity to wait on them, to praise the goods, whether they are of good quality or not, to throw down bales of cloth and prints which they want to look at but have no intention of buying, to smile at their silly jokes and thank them for a ten-cent trade. If credit is given to some at the store, in the owner's absence the clerk is frequently at a loss to decide whether a particular customer who desires credit should be given it. If he refuses, he knows the customer will be offended and lost; if he trusts him, his employer may be dissatisfied and find fault. The store is not so mealy and dusty as the grist mill, and the clerk can wear good clothes, which he is expected to have; it is not so noisy, confusing and laborious as the saw mill; but store-keeping is a tiresome, confining, in-doors employment, away from the bright sunshine, the green fields and the sweet flowers.

Surveying I rather liked, especially surveying in the grand old woods of Pennsylvania. It is a work that will not bear hurry. It requires diligence, exactness, pains-taking; it demands the use of the intellectual faculties and the exercise of skill and mathematical knowledge. It is, moreover, a healthful employment, but the great objection to it is, that in the East it does not furnish a regular employment, and must be followed in connection with some other business or it will cultivate a habit of idleness and afford a precarious livelihood.

Farming is more desirable than other occupations, because it affords the farmer constant opportunities to behold the wonders of nature, with which he is so closely connected, and the pleasure of assisting it to surround his home with objects of beauty and utility. He holds daily fellowship with the woods, the fields, the orchard, the garden, the fruits and the flowers. He cannot help feeling happy in helping to produce the abundant food crops from the earth, without which it could not support half its present population, and famine would cause a struggle among its inhabitants to wrest from each other the scanty means of existence. Farming is a peaceful, quiet occupation, free from the heavy risks, great excitement and temptations incident to speculation and trade in the great cities, where colossal fortunes are frequently made in a few years by fortunate hits, and afterwards lost in an hour. We hear of the Stewarts and the Wannamakers, merchant princes, who became immensely rich, but we hear no mention of the great multitude of unfortunates who launched their ships in the sea of commerce, and after buffeting the waves and adverse currents of trade for many weary years to keep their barks from the breakers, and their heads above water, have at last gone to the bottom. We hear of the Goulds, Fisks and Vanderbilts, who made hundreds of millions by dealing in stocks, but we never hear of the thousands of other operators from whom they won the money; nor much about the Drews, Littles and Ralstons, who, after having amassed many millions in stock speculations, risked it again and lost it all in the great maelstrom of Wall street, where they found it.

The mind does not love to be

constantly employed in the same channel of thought; the body tires quickly when only a certain set of muscles are called into action. From spring till winter the farmer has an agreeable change of employment that rests the mind and invigorates the body. Plowing, sowing, planting, cultivating, haying, harvesting, digging the roots and gathering in the fruits, supply a pleasant routine of work, which cannot be found in any other calling. Farming is an out-door occupation, favorable to good health, furnishes a good appetite, gives sound sleep and pure, fresh air, uncontaminated by sewer gas, effluvia from wharves, or the stench from fish-markets and cesspools. If farmers have but little money, they supply so many of their own wants from their farms that not much is required. If they have no money lent that is drawing interest, they have what amounts to the same thing—their crops are growing while they sleep.

When the money panics sweep over the land and thousands of bankers and merchants are ruined, the farmer stands secure, because he has not put his trust in bank stocks and railroad bonds, but in a bountiful nature for support.

The farmer has many hours, if he will improve them, when, by reading and reflection, he can store his mind with useful knowledge and make himself competent to fulfill the highest duties of citizenship to which he may be called.—J. W. INGHAM in *Farmers' Review*

The Future of Wheat Growing.

Wheat as an element in American farm industries is second to corn, and its successful culture and profitable marketing is, in many sections, an accurate measure of the prosperity of the farmer. This may, under existing conditions, be a misfortune, but it is a fact, nevertheless, that we must take cognizance of, and one which, by the low prices obtaining since early in the eighties, has made itself felt by the great mass of farmers in many a wheat growing district.

Before an attempt is made to forecast the future of wheat culture, it will be well to see what prices were received for this product during the eighth decade and contrast such prices with those now obtaining.

The reports of the Department of Agriculture show that in the farmers' home markets the prices—in five year averages—of wheat from 1870 to 1874 was \$1.11 per bushel; from 1875 to 1879, inclusive, it was \$1, while in the first half of the ninth decade it had fallen to 90 cents and again falling during the last five years to 75 cents per bushel. This reduction of one-third in the returns from this great staple enables us to understand the want of prosperity which has been the lot of so many farmers, as wheat is the one crop upon which they rely for a supply of cash.

That wheat growing is thus unprofitable is primarily due to the too rapid opening of an immense number of new and most productive farms in the trans-Mississippi region, aided by the advent of India upon the boards as one of the great wheat exporting powers of the world, helped on somewhat by largely increased production in Russia; but these causes having spent their motion, if not their force, and population in Europe and America having so increased as to absorb these simultaneous and abnormal additions to the available supply, it is not unreasonable to look for a reaction and a return to remunerative if not very high prices.

Since 1880 the increase in the wheat acreage of the United States and India has not exceeded two per cent., that of Europe three per cent., while the population of Great Britain and Continental Europe is estimated to have increased 23,000,000 and that of the United States 15,000,000. The European consuming yearly 4 bushels per capita and the American $5\frac{1}{2}$ bushels necessitated an increase in the yearly supply during the past decade, of 177,000,000 bushels, and the population continuing to increase in the same ratio the

wheat supply must receive yearly additions of 19,000,000 bushels, of which 10,000,000 bushels will be added to the amount consumed in the United States.

The increase in the wheat product of the exporting nations is certainly now not more than 8,000,000 bushels per annum, and this disproportionate increase in production and in the consuming element cannot but result in a very great advance in prices at an early day, as no material increase in American wheat acreage is likely to obtain except under the stimulation which would attend a great advance in price, as the new area that can now be devoted to this crop is now quite limited, but with prices high enough we can, and doubtless should, convert a portion of the surplus corn-fields to wheat growing.

It may be objected that this is looking too far forward, and it may be more satisfactory to take a look at the coming crop, and the prospect for remunerative prices therefor as well as the crops of a future more remote.

There can be no doubt that the severe weather prevailing after February 26th, with alternate freezing and thawing, seriously injured the growing wheat in the more southern districts as well as in the lake States and those of the Missouri valley. Some estimates place the probable reduction of the coming crop from this cause at 100,000,000 bushels, yet if it is one-half of this amount it will have a decided effect not only upon the price for the coming crop as well as for such wheat as may now remain in the granaries, but will still further deplete reserves which are unusually low throughout the world.

In very many American winter-wheat districts the grain is scarce, as is evidenced by the fact that millers are thus early resorting to the large markets for current milling supplies. On the Pacific coast destructive floods have washed out much of the wheat sown, and, in many fertile valley districts, hopelessly delayed seeding to such an extent that the out-turn is likely to be reduced anywhere from 25 to 40 per cent. This is as true of Oregon as of California, one Oregon correspondent stating that even the soil has been washed off from many valley farms.

Such is the situation in America, while in India the crop just harvested is reported to be less than two-thirds of an average, and in Australia the prevalence of rust has given disappointing returns.

The *Liverpool Corn Trade News* sums up the situation thus:

"The condition of the wheat trade appears to us as decidedly critical; stocks in Europe, excepting perhaps in France, are rapidly diminishing, and there is no prospect of their being immediately replenished. As we have already shown, the importing countries are taking wheat at the rate of over 320,000,000 bushels per annum without apparently adding to their reserves, whereas it is quite plain the exporting countries have not more than 270,000,000 to spare even if we credit America with 120,000,000 bushels, Russia and Roumania with 88,000,000 bushels and India with 28,000,000, all of which are liberal estimates.

"These are certainly liberal estimates, as American exports, during the past five years, have averaged annually but 117,825,000 bushels, of which 20,000,000 bushels have yearly gone to countries outside of Europe; hence there can be no question that the estimate of possible American exports is excessive by at least 20,000,000 bushels, as is that from India to the extent of 4,000,000 or more. The requirements of the European importing countries being correctly stated, there is an apparent deficit of some 74,000,000 bushels, which can only be made good by reducing the normal reserves of all countries to the lowest possible point, and only high prices will bring out these reserves. With such an exhaustion of reserves the new crop year will open with granaries swept clean, and with a product which now promises to be below the average of recent years in the greater part of the world's

wheat area, and fully justifying the recent utterances of H. Kaines Jackson (than whom there has been no better authority since the death of James Caird) in a late issue of *Dornbusch*, wherein he predicts 'that the nineties will see much higher prices for wheat than the past decade,' and then asks 'which of the wheat growing countries are producing more than ten years ago?' and says, 'India is of the new great powers of wheat supply, but has not advanced as a source of supply in late years, nor have the world's wheat reserves increased, while on the other side is greatly diminished production in the United Kingdom and increased consumption, America, at home, eating 65,000,000 bushels more, the United Kingdom calling for 33,000,000 bushels more; France, 16,000,000 to 20,000,000 bushels more, while continental buyers, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Switzerland, Portugal, &c., together form a great wheat buying power that scarcely existed ten years ago.'"

If such is the situation, is it not most desirable that the American farmer should know what are the requirements of the world for this staple, and the sources and extent of the supply? Will not such knowledge enable him to adapt his acreage of various crops to such requirements, and will it not help to dispel the existing depression and hard times if we can, for a few years, profitably use the surplus corn fields in growing bread for Europe?

Should the approaching shortage in the world's wheat supply enable us so to employ profitably a part of the acres now devoted to growing an unmanageable surplus of corn, it would tend directly to advance the price of corn, meats and all other farm products, and hasten the coming of the happy day when the food requirements of the people will enable us to employ all acres of fair fertility profitably. The practical exhaustion of the arable lands of the United States will, in a very few years, place us where we need not look abroad for a market, at high prices, for any part of our grain.—C. Wood Davis, in *Country Gentleman*.

LISBON, May 26, 1890.

ED. VISITOR:

Having never seen any mention in your paper of Lisbon Grange No. 313, I purpose to let the brothers and sisters of the Order know that we are busy. We have no drones in our hive; all who unite with us soon learn that there is work for them to do and that they are expected to do it.

When we commenced this year our Master gave us this motto: "Punctuality and Progress," with the understanding that we were to live up to its teachings. The result has been that in the last quarter we have had twenty-four new names entered on our roll book and twelve old members reinstated.

At our last meeting our hall was nearly full, all ready to respond, when their names were called, with a select article, recitation, song or speech. One of our honorary members gave us a German song, and, although we could not understand the words, it was a rare treat to hear an old gentleman (he was over seventy) sing with the gusto of a youth of seventeen, and then see his bow and smile of thanks at the liberal applause which greeted his song.

Our next meeting terminates a long and spirited contest—the losing side to furnish strawberries for a festival, to be held the third Saturday in June.

If this is not consigned to the waste basket, I may come again.

MRS. H. J. AUSTIN,
Sec'y Lisbon Grange.

The most valuable books are not invariably approached with pleasure. On the exterior they may be rough, like the bark of the cinnamon tree, but there is an intense sweetness and aromatic flavor within. Too many people, beginning with trashy literature, which requires no thought, acquire a positive distaste for the solid and serious. Far better to begin with what is really valuable, as this will require much less time and effort than to read up through quagmires of trash.

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A. C. GLIDDEN, Editor and Manager,
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Wool and Sheep.

There seems to be a holding back—a sort of waiting feeling exhibited by wool-buyers, which is quite unusual. This conservatism is probably born of former losses, when rivalry among buyers had carried prices too high, especially on that class of wool which sorts out as "unmerchantable" or "heavy" when it reaches Boston.

Michigan wool ought to bring as high a price as last year, and probably will. A good deal will be purchased in the first market below its value, but when the markets are fairly opened in the state, and buyers get their orders and limitations, wool will sell for from 28 to 35 cents for washed, and from 19 to 24 for unwashed. Farmers ought to know the value of their wool without prejudice, and then demand what it is worth. Long staple, clean, white wool is worth five cents more per pound than ordinary short clothing wool; but the buyer likes to get it for the average price, to help him out on some shabby lots for which he has paid too much money.

The clip of the state will not run very much short of that of last year. In the spring of 1889 there were 518,918 less sheep in the state than in 1884. There was a loss last year of 104,995, as compared with the year previous, which was 640,469 pounds of wool less than in 1888. The decrease will not be so great this year, on account of the boom in sheep last fall and the desire among farmers to increase their stock of sheep to winter over. Many who had gone out of sheep in the depression since 1884, again purchased small flocks, and there will probably be a gradual increase from this time on, should the price of wool and mutton again promise remunerative values.

No better commentary on the effect of low prices for farm products can be made than is exhibited by this reduction in the number of sheep in the state in a period of five years. It has caused a shrinkage of not less than 3½ million pounds of wool, and produced a shortage in farm receipts which the business world already feels in slow markets for manufactured products.

Since writing the above, the official figures have been received, which show the decrease, in pounds, of wool from last year to be 242,211.

Clover Hay.

Clover, well grown and cured, makes the best winter forage; but between the growing grass and well-cured hay there are many vicissitudes, any one of

which may injure the quality. Clover that has made a quick, strong growth in damp, cloudy weather, lacks in those qualities which make it palatable and nutritious for stock food. It needs to ripen up and perfect itself in the sun, with dry weather from blossoming time on to maturity. When two-thirds of the bloom has turned brown, then is the safest and most economical time to cut clover. When that period arrives, the mower should be put in, with no reference to the weather. Begin in the afternoon, as clover has much less water in the stem then than in the morning and will cure much faster, and requires less time than if cut when the dew is still on and all the water in the plant that has been pumped up during the night. The sun will take out the moisture much faster while the grass is standing than when cut still wet with dew or rain.

Clover needs less drying than many suppose. It should never be so dry as to break up in handling. Use all the sunshine to cure, then rush it into the barn before the dew falls. Clover that is considered too damp to place in the mow is frequently pitched on a scaffold where it can dry out. This is the very poorest place possible to put it; better dump it in the bottom of the mow and pack it down hard. Fermentation is akin to fire, and must have air to start it. The scaffold allows the air free passage through and around it, which sets fermentation to work at once and ruins the hay, as every farmer knows who has once tried it. Make the barn tight and keep the doors shut; pack the hay in the mow well; tread down, and quite damp clover will come out bright and free from mold.

The Agricultural department in the college at Lansing is in a very flourishing condition. Sixty acres of corn and forty acres of oats have been put in this spring, besides some small fields of ensilage corn. The experimental plats are all surveyed, and permanent stakes, made from three feet lengths of gas pipe, are being driven at the corners. We shall have something to say in future regarding the experimentation planned for this part of college work, when the enterprise is fairly under way. There is no complaint that students dodge the labor on the farm; on the contrary, there is an enthusiasm about it never before experienced at the college. The fact that all but two of the senior class have elected to take agriculture in the closing term—an optional study for this term—proves that this department is kept well to the front in the estimation of students. Six of the graduating class for this year come from the Mechanical Department, which is a part of the labor system of the college, and does not require of its students the agricultural studies expected from them in the other departments.

The stock of all kinds is looking exceptionally fine. The change from close pens to open fields, in the direction of natural inclinations, shows up in more vigorous growth, and greater freedom from disease.

An hour with Prof. Taft among such prosy things as potatoes and other garden products, will prove that there are a lot of things that boys can better learn here than to wait for the uncertain practice one gets on a farm.

Boys graduating at the college now will learn the best and most economical way of doing things, from the harnessing of a team to

the origination of a new variety by cross-fertilization. Every step of progress has a practical illustration attending it. Practice goes hand in hand with theory, and both combine to perfect the education.

We attended an evening session of the Legislative reunion at Lansing last week, where set speeches and five-minute talks were on the program. The roll-call of the last session of the House and Senate showed 32 of the former and 13 of the latter present. An effort to get these members to their feet proved quite abortive. Wm. Ball, President of the Senate, and Speaker Diekema, acquitted themselves very creditably, but call after call for volunteer speeches failed to get the members to the front where they could be seen and heard. We were not aware that excessive modesty was induced by a term at the capital, and are not willing to believe that the ability to talk is lacking in our members, but an ordinary jury panel would have thrown to the surface more glib tongues out of the same number than appeared here. There was either an unfortunate train of circumstances that kept the speakers, whose names appeared upon the program, away, or the school for dodging pupils had many trained pupils in attendance.

The funny man of the Detroit Tribune used up one minute of his five very satisfactorily, but the opinion as to how he managed the other four, the audience was divided upon.

President Gower of the Reform School, and his class of singers from that institution, deserved all the applause and encores they received.

We were obliged to return before the meeting of the State Pioneers, which was a source of regret, as we believe a report of it would have been very acceptable to readers of the VISITOR.

Thos. Cross, of Bangor, Mich., writes us that he has entered into a business arrangement with George Warren, of La Ferte, France, to purchase a large stock of horses for his breeding farm, near Bangor, and that he will soon cross the ocean to receive and bring back the animals. Mr. Cross has also associated with him in business, Anson Goss, a neighboring farmer with abundant means, so that on his return the stock will not only be sold low, but ample time will be given on payments, so that none who wish to purchase need delay for want of ready money. "Quick sales and small profits" is the motto of this firm, and readers of the VISITOR may be assured that honorable dealing may be relied upon. Look for an announcement of "Stock Horses for Sale," after the safe arrival of this importation.

For many years, in this vicinity, the outlook for a prosperous season has not equalled the middle of June of the present year. Wheat and clover, both the young seeding and the growing hay crop, are magnificent. Corn is a good stand, is growing finely, and has been worked well and many fields are receiving the second cultivation. The rainfall is above the average, but not excessive; the sunshine brings out a daily growth of plants that is marvelous. The setting of apples is not maintaining the promise of blossoming time, but enough probably will remain to supply all reasonable demands for this fruit. If prices improve, as hoped, South-western Michigan

will dress up a good deal during the next year, and farmers will change the form of their greeting.

If any of our readers have an extra report of the proceedings of the State Grange for 1885, a favor will be conferred by sending it to Prof. W. J. Beal, Agriculture College. The Professor has lent his copy to some one, and desires to keep the file complete. The Secretary cannot supply the missing link.

There is great activity in Grange circles all along the line. Revivals are reported among almost dormant Granges, and a desire pervades all classes of farmers to get into harness and to be doing something where their influence can be felt.

A Farmer Candidate.

The opposition to farmer candidates in this state take the absurd position that unless a man is actually doing daily manual labor on his farm he is not a farmer. In order to entitle him to this honor, he must be able to show fresh callouses on his hands and to exhibit the very latest and most fashionable shade of tan on his face. If, in addition to his farm, he engages in any other business, or if he hires men to do the work of the farm while he looks after its business details and maintains a general oversight, if he devotes a part of his time to any office to which he may have been elected, then he ceases to be a farmer.

Thus Gov. Luce, by virtue of his being a governor is, according to this putting of it, no longer a farmer, and Mr. Rich, being a railroad commissioner, has stepped down and out from the agricultural ranks and enrolled himself with the enemies of "the horny-handed sons of toil."

In other words, in the same breath that the farmers are urged to nominate and elect a genuine farmer to office, they are warned that his nomination and election will defarmerize him and make him a foe to the people who class him as a friend. The paradox is only equaled by the conundrum: "When is a sailor not a sailor?" "When he is a board."

No one talks so absurdly of any other profession or occupation. A merchant or manufacturer does not cease to be one because he is elected to an office. If all the lawyers elected to office ceased by that very process to be lawyers, the active law mill at the university could not supply the demand made by these vacancies.

The reason why no such nonsense is played off upon other classes is not very complimentary to the farmers. The merchants, lawyers, or manufacturers to whom such stuff was addressed would simply laugh at it. But it is supposed, for some reason, that the farmers can be fooled with the nonsense, and so they are told by those who ought to know better that electing one of their number to office takes him out of the farmer class; that the farmer candidate is only an "annual" or a "biennial," not a "perennial," and that the farmer candidate must be taken fresh from the plow or the mowing machine every time, or the farmers will no longer have a representative in office.

This is "bosh," and the farmers themselves undoubtedly take it for what it is worth and resent the low estimate which those who feed it to them thereby put upon their intelligence.—*Det. Journal.*

An Important Issue.

There ought to be an issue brought conspicuously into our coming legislative campaigns this fall. Every candidate who will not pledge himself to vote for legislation that shall provide that the state shall publish its own school books should be elected to stay at home. The school book publishers, in conjunction with some of the teachers and superintendents of our schools, have managed for a long time to place a very unjust burden upon parents. Our school books have always cost too much. But the publishers have been dissatisfied even with the extortion that they

have habitually practiced. They were not making enough money to suit them; and for some time they have been endeavoring to organize a trust. At last they have succeeded and are now occupying the amiable position of polite highwaymen, with their pistol at the head of every parent, while they say: Give up your money. Of course these literary robbers are saying that school books will be cheaper; and they will for a time. In the organization of the average trust, there are some who do not get onto it, either from choice or compulsion. It is the first purpose of a trust to crush these outsiders, and with the consolidated capital behind a trust, this is not difficult to do. Consequently prices go down temporarily. But as soon as all competition is crushed out, up go the prices, and then the people pay the fiddler while the trust people dance. This will be the result in these cases.

In the meantime, however, let every state legislature provide for the state publishing its own books.—*Western Rural.*

The Nebraska Farmers.

The Farmers' Alliance movement is becoming quite as important in Nebraska as in Kansas. Just at the present time the movement seems more certain to produce important political results in the former state. The withdrawal of the proclamation calling an extra session of legislature by Governor Thayer has thrown the whole matter of the complaints of the farmers against corporations and mortgage fiends over to the next campaign, when the issues will be fought out at the ballot box.

As the case now stands in Nebraska, it promises to be a clean-cut fight between the farmers and the corporations. Partisan politics will be largely lost sight of. There will be chaos among politicians. There will be undoubtedly three tickets in the field for State officers—Alliance, Democratic and Republican; but the real contest will be for members of the legislature. On whatever ticket candidates may be placed, they will have to define their position on legislation affecting the railroad and other corporations, and be elected or defeated as they may favor the one side or the other. National issues will cut no figure in the contest, and for the legislature the farmers will vote for the men who are pledged to stand by them, regardless of what party they belong to. Corporation and anti-corporation will be the issue.

The Nebraska movement is receiving great assistance through the power and eloquence of ex-Senator Van Wyck. His recent address at Grand Island is one of the most effective pleas in behalf of the people ever made in the West, and recalls the efforts of the ex-senator in his earlier days in New York, when he was one of the organizers of the Republican party. In his late address Mr. Van Wyck reviews the growth of corporate power, year by year rendering the Republican party more subservient to its influence, until it has become the enemy of the people and dangerous to human rights. He said there was but one course to pursue, and that was to break away from parties and party lines, and march shoulder to shoulder to the ballot box, voting for men pledged to redress the wrongs of the people. The farmers' movement in Kansas-Nebraska will be watched with interest. It is the beginning of a contest which may extend over the whole West, and lead to important changes in parties and party lines. In the blindness of partisanship, the people have allowed themselves to be bound hand and foot, and they are now struggling to shake off the shackles which have become oppressive.—*Rocky Mountain News.*

Farms are worth, say \$30 to \$40 per acre. They will be worth 10 to 20 per cent less with the bar open. Your boys will deteriorate, and there is no percentage to reckon moral loss. Your hired men will feel the blight in three months' time. Grant that you are individually safe—and not all of you will be—the loss to your families, to your help, to your neighbors will be beyond estimate.—*Neb Farmer.*

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CANE MILLS

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The Apple Tree.

I saw an aged apple tree in May. When all the air was shimmering with mist Of tender leaves, and pearl, and amethyst...

Jacob Harding and I.

Jacob Harding and I were old neighbors and playmates, brought up on adjoining farms, where our friendship was first cemented by our spreading elder-flowers to dry together...

We all know more or less the experience of returning to scenes of childhood, grown unfamiliar, and it was with a somewhat dazed feeling that I clambered down from my seat beside the driver...

The following day it rained, and I was persuaded to stay by the fire, but Jacob and his two "hands" took themselves off directly after the cakes and molasses were finished...

"What pleasant times you and your husband must have together in winter!" I observed, as the currant-tarts went into the oven...

He has a good deal more leisure then, I suppose?" I continued, inquiringly.

"Oh, Mr. Harding ins't ever what you might call leisurely; last winter he hauled wood down to the charcoal kiln; the winter before he filled the creamery ice-house; next year--well, I don't know, but it's always something."

"And does he keep a man in the winter too?" "A boy, we had last year, to help with the chores. He went to school part of the time."

Here Mrs. Harding's pitcher ran dry, and she descended to some subterranean region with a skimmer and returned with a pan of sweet milk. I noticed that she panted a little as she reached the top of the stairs.

"Mr. Harding ought to try the deep-setting system with his milk," I observed, not unwilling to air my information a little. "it saves so much work in the house."

"Yes, but we're saving up now to get a threshing machine" (that "we" struck me as very pathetic); "then Jacob is going to build a silo, and after that may-be he will."

"Yes, and after that perhaps you can't shake off that cough so easily," though I to myself. I was alarmed now, and remembered that the wood was not seasoned, that the table she worked at was that used by Jacob's mother (who was five feet nine inches), that the drain was so situated as to necessitate innumerable steps in the disposing of water...

"Aren't you going to meeting this morning, Lizzie?" asked Jacob the next day (which was Sunday), looking at his wife across the breakfast table.

"Well, not this time, I guess, dear," answered Lizzie. "You and Miss Stephens had better go."

"It's three weeks since you've been," muttered Jacob, "but just as you say--I'll take you out for a turn this afternoon if you like." But in the afternoon Lizzie thought that "old Bess had better have a good rest," and solaced herself with a town story paper and a nap.

"Jacob," I began insinuatingly that evening, "I see one matter here that needs attention. You won't mind an old friend's speaking plainly?"

"Certainly not," said Jacob pleasantly. "Go right ahead." "One can't be too careful, and I've seen the same thing on so many farms," I remarked.

"Anything wrong with the live-stock? I always tell Liz it takes a woman's eye to see that sort of thing," observed Jacob. At the same time he wrinkled his eyebrows up in a puzzled way.

"No, it's something that's being neglected indoors, and perhaps you'll think it belongs to your wife's department," I ventured more boldly.

Mrs. Harding is very particular; she's always been careful and saving. I can't think there's anything wasted there," declared Jacob emphatically.

"Oh, Jacob, she's careful of everything else, but how about herself? Isn't she wasting her own strength and vitality? Does she keep up her good spirits and interest in life?" And then I went on to suggest that with the care of a young child it was too much for a woman to have to board two or three men; that a creamer could be taken in charge by the master as well as the mistress; that green wood was infinitely exasperating, and that Jacob and his "hand man," under Lizzie's direction, could in two or three days effect revolutions in the kitchen that would save miles of walking and tons of lifting in the course of a year...

"But I don't think it's so much that," I went on. "I mean the hard work--and Lizzie is so ambitious and energetic that I don't wonder you haven't thought of her overdoing. But the life of farmers' wives is so monotonous. You men get out and go to town or to mill and meet others and gain new impressions, and you have your farmers' clubs, and your political meetings, and you don't realize how the women

stagnate! And it's that lack of variety that makes them old at forty, or fills the insane asylums. I often think what a pity it is that a farmer's wife shouldn't raise fruit, or take care of the bees or the poultry, and earn enough to hire some one to help her in-doors. And Mrs. Harding, now, she used to be so fond of music. Why couldn't she buy an organ on the installment plan, and give lessons to the Blatchford youngsters to pay for it? That wouldn't be rest exactly, but it would be a change and diversion, and I'll wager 'twould do her good."

"I prefer that my wife shouldn't work to earn money," replied Jacob, stiffly.

"Yes, I've heard twenty men say the same thing, but it didn't occur to them that their wives had a right to a voice in the affair. And then these long lonely winters--why shouldn't she get up a club, too, to meet once a week and read about or discuss art or history, or one of these new books of popular science perhaps--it doesn't matter much what?"

"Oh, Lizzie hasn't lived in Boston; she doesn't care about those things," remarked Jacob, slyly.

"And then I suppose there's some sort of a circulating library here, isn't there? If I were you I wouldn't work so hard in the winter that I couldn't enjoy reading a good book aloud in the evening. Yes, you smile, because they say that that's every woman's ideal--to sew while her husband reads to her! But we can't be young but once, Jacob, and it's little comfort to be thrifty and lay by money if we're losing our health and our capacity to enjoy it meanwhile."

I had to say good-by the next morning, and I was surprised when a rosy-faced little girl came in after breakfast to say that the master had sent her to amuse the baby while Mrs. Harding drove the young lady over to the station. I was surprised, I say, but I feel sure that Lizzie was more so!--Dora Read Goodale, in Country Gentleman.

Men and their Hobbies.

A statement made by a wise man is that "Every honest man has a hobby." The man in question did not use these precise words, but they amount to the same in substance.

A man who is always tinkering around, making something or another in a mechanical line, is never found spending his leisure hours in a gin mill or saloon. The young man whose hobby is study, will be found at his books as soon as his day's work is done and supper is swallowed.

The chap who has "music on the brain," will be scraping or puffing his instrument early and late, until his friends almost wish he would quit his hobby and relate himself to the rum shop.

Many young men ride a mechanical hobby, and are often making experimental machines, and making "young" steam engines. To such men, electricity possesses a most enticing field. There is no end to the directions in which thought may be profitably turned in connection with electricity. Well developed as it is, electricity is as yet an almost unknown thing, which will require lifetimes of study to reduce to the full understanding of all. Electricity is the future power of the world, as it has always been its life, although unknown and uncomprehended for ages.

That a young man will waste hours and days of life in doing worse than nothing, when he has such a field before him, is scarcely to be comprehended, but it is a disgraceful fact. Let the young men awake to the idea that the advance of the world depends upon them personally; that the years to come may be better or worse, as they choose to study or to be idle, and it seems as though they would quit beer drinking, dice shaking, and card shuffling instantly, to avail themselves of the privileges before them.

A man may be about what he makes himself now a-days, and if he chooses to become a sot, the way is open, if he chooses to become a power in the land, he can do so by going to work in that direction and keeping at it.--Scientific American.

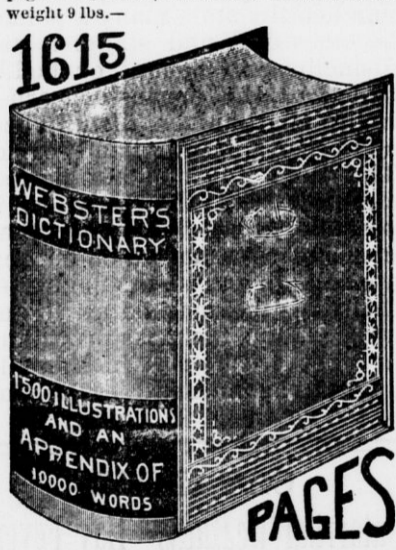
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Communications.

Notes from the County Council at Trowbridge.

ALLEGAN, June 9th, 1890. ED. VISITOR:

As advertised in the GRANGE VISITOR, of May 15th, the Allegan County Council met with Trowbridge at their hall, June 3d and as anticipated, a very pleasant and profitable meeting it was.

One of those happy occasions which occur quite frequently in Superior Grange, took place in our midst Thursday May 29th. Brother and Sister Quackenbush were among what may be called the pioneer members of our Grange.

Poor health and advanced age are reasons commonly given for leaving the farm; its cares and labors are thought too heavy for feeble folk.

Whoever expends on his farm home the thought, care, labor and expense necessary to make it a fit abode for the American freeman in this nineteenth century, will leave it with regret, if compelled to leave.

deeply affected. They could only utter their heartfelt thanks for the tokens of remembrance and esteem. Several of the Sisters and Brothers followed with appropriate remarks.

Legal Impertinence.

The following indignant protest by a writer in the New York Ledger against an abuse too long tolerated in our courts of justice(?) will receive many a hearty indorsement:

Honest witnesses anxious to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, do not receive from the bench the protection to which they are entitled.

Why should a respectable citizen be brought into court to be made butt for the stale wit and libelous innuendoes of so-called professional gentlemen?

Rural Ties.

Poor health and advanced age are reasons commonly given for leaving the farm; its cares and labors are thought too heavy for feeble folk.

Whoever expends on his farm home the thought, care, labor and expense necessary to make it a fit abode for the American freeman in this nineteenth century, will leave it with regret, if compelled to leave.

Notices of Meetings.

The next quarterly meeting of the Manistee District Pomona Grange No. 21, will be held at Cleon Grange Hall, the 24th and 25th of June, commencing at 2 p. m.

The next regular meeting of Oakland Co. Pomona Grange will be held in Farmington Grange Hall, on Tuesday, July 1st. All fourth degree members are invited.

Obituaries.

Since it has pleased the Loving Father to call the wife and daughter of Bro. A. C. Glidden "up higher," and knowing the void that must be felt by the brother in this double affliction, the members of Ronald Grange No. 192, Ionia county, Mich., desire to express their earnest and heartfelt sympathy for a worthy brother.

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Great Master of the Universe to remove from among us, by death, our esteemed brother, William H. Ball.

WHEREAS, Brother Ball was, at the time of his death, a member in good standing of our Branch Co. Pomona Grange, also of Butler Subordinate Grange No. 88; therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of our worthy brother we have lost a good member, and the community in which he lived a faithful friend.

Resolved, That as a token of respect to Bro. Ball, a memorial page in our record book be devoted to his memory; that a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, and to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

WHEREAS, The hand of Death has again entered our ranks and removed from our order (Sunfield Grange No. 260) our beloved brother, John Bosworth. He was one that all could grasp his hand and call him brother with the greatest of sincerity.

Resolved, That in memory of our beloved brother, a memorial page be set apart for him in our minutes, and that a copy of these resolutions be presented to our much respected sister, Mary A. Bosworth, and also that they be printed in the GRANGE VISITOR.

It is with profound grief that Crawford Banner Grange No. 673, is called upon, for the first time, to mourn the loss of one of its members.

Resolved, That, in token of our sympathy with the family and our regard for him, these resolutions be spread upon our Grange record, and our charter be draped in mourning sixty days, and a copy be sent to the bereaved widow, and also to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

MRS. W. O. BRADFORD, MRS. W. C. JOHNSON, MR. W. C. JOHNSON, Committee.

Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for thirty days, and that this preamble and resolution be spread upon our Grange record and a copy sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for thirty days, and that this preamble and resolution be spread upon our Grange record and a copy sent to the GRANGE VISITOR for publication.

Very many people do not keep the skin active and healthy as they ought; the fear of catching cold leads them to neglect to maintain perfect cleanliness of the body, and as the functions of the skin are impaired, the work of throwing out waste material, which rightfully belongs to it, falls upon the internal organs.

CATARRH, Catarrhal Deafness--Hay Fever. A NEW HOME TREATMENT. Sufferers are not generally aware that these diseases are contagious, or that they are due to the presence of living parasites in the lining membrane of the nose and eustachian tubes.

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A correct map of the north west will show that the Northern Pacific Railroad traverses the central portion of Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana and Washington for a distance of nearly 2,000 miles.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

Officers National Grange, Officers Michigan State Grange, Executive Committee, General Deputies, Committee on Woman's Work in the Grange, Michigan Grange Stores, G. R. & I. RAIL ROAD.

G. R. & I. RAIL ROAD. June 16, 1889. Central Standard Time. GOING SOUTH, GOING NORTH.

C. & G. T. RAILWAY. Jan. 19, 1890. Central Meridian Time. TRAINS WESTWARD, TRAINS EASTWARD.

Way Freight, carrying passengers west, 10.00 a. m. East, 3.55 p. m. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 run daily. Tickets sold and baggage checked to all parts of Canada and the United States.