

THE GRANGE VISITOR

"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.

A Handful of Earth.

Here is a problem, a wonder for all to see.
Look at this marvelous thing I hold in my hand:
This is a magic surprising, a mystery
Strange as a miracle, harder to understand.

What is it? Only a handful of earth; to your touch
A dry rough powder you trample beneath your feet.
Dark and lifeless; but think for a moment, how much
It hides and holds that is beautiful, bitter or sweet.

Think of the glory of color! The red of the rose,
Green of the myriad leaves and the fields of grass,
Yellow and bright as the sun where the daffodil blows,
Purple where violets nod as the breezes pass.

Think of the manifold form of the oak and the vine,
Nut, and fruit, and cluster, and ears of corn;
Of the anchored water-lily, a thing divine,
Unfolding its dazzling snow to the kiss of morn.

Think of the delicate perfume borne on the gale,
Of the golden willow catkin's odor of spring,
Of the breath of the rich narcissus waxen pale,
Of the sweet pea's flight of flowers, of the nettle's sting.

Strange that this lifeless thing gives vine, flower, tree,
Color and shape and character, fragrance, too,
That the timber that builds the house, the ship for the sea,
Out of this powder its strength and its toughness drew!

That the cocoa among the palms should suck its milk
From this dry dust, white dates from the self-same soil
Summon their sweet rich fruit, that our shining silk
The mulberry leaves should yield to the worm's slow toil.

How should the poppy steal sleep from the very source
That grants to the grape-vine juice that can madden or cheer?
How does the weed find food for its fabric coarse
Where the lilies proud their blossoms pure appear?

Who shall compass or fathom God's thought profound?
We can but praise, for we may not understand;
But there's no more beautiful riddle the whole world round
Than is hid in this heap of dust I hold in my hand.

—Youth's Companion.

Good Years and Bad Years.

In the year 1890 the United States raised only about seven-tenths as much corn as it did in 1889, and less than five-sixths as much wheat. Were the farmers who raised and sold this crop the poorer for the decrease in the amount produced? Assuredly not—notice that we do not say all farmers, but only those who raised this grain—for it is estimated by the Department of Agriculture that the smaller crop of corn and wheat of the year 1890 will turn out to have been worth one hundred and fifty thousand dollars more than the large crop of 1889.

This is an interesting example of the working of the law of supply and demand. It has been repeatedly and truly said that the increase in the amount of money which the farmers received for their grain was not merely in spite of the reduction in the amount raised, but on account of it.

The crop of corn in 1889 had been the largest in nine years. It amounted to more than two thousand one hundred millions of bushels, and for this crop the farmers received an average of twenty-eight cents a bushel—the lowest average price in nine years. The corn crop of last year, on

the other hand—less than fifteen hundred million bushels—was actually the smallest for nine years, notwithstanding the many thousands of new farms that have been opened; and it is not surprising that the average price of corn should have risen to its highest figure in nine years—a little more than fifty cents a bushel.

It may appear from this that a great drought, or some other condition which makes farmers' crops small, is a blessing rather than a calamity; but it should be remembered that the picture has another side.

The "blessing in disguise" was, as we have already hinted, only a blessing to those agriculturists who succeeded in growing a crop, and had more than enough corn for sale to compensate them for the decrease in their products. Many thousands had none to sell, and many thousands had to purchase corn or sell their stock, losing the profit which they hoped to gain from feeding the stock.

Moreover, on account of the scarcity and high price of corn, millions of half fattened swine, which the farmers could not afford to feed, were sent to market, causing a low price of pork, and a loss in that direction even to many farmers who succeeded in raising a surplus of corn. The consumers of beef have also obtained a poorer quality than usual.

Nor, though a smaller aggregate crop may be worth more than a larger one, is it to be supposed that it is of advantage to a farmer to raise less corn or wheat than the acres he devotes to either of those crops can be made to produce.

If there is abundance, and the farmer raises a thousand bushels of wheat for which he can get only sixty cents a bushel, it is more to his advantage to have a thousand bushels to sell than it is to have only five hundred.

On the other hand, if crops are very poor, it is perfectly evident that the more wheat the farmer can raise the better off he is. It is not scarcity on his own farm that helps the farmer, but scarcity on other people's farms.

Of course in a year of light crops the number of those who suffer is vastly larger than of those who gain. For scarcity means high prices to all consumers, diminished railroad receipts, a smaller quantity for export and exchange with foreign commodities, and a generally reduced surplus of savings. It is, therefore, a disaster to all except the particular persons who raise a surplus which they can sell at a high price.

It is a practice of producers of grain, sometimes not fully taken into account, to keep back as much of their crop as possible for the period when prices are best. In March, 1891, more than one-third of even the small corn crop of the year before was still on hand, and more than one-fourth of the wheat crop was still in the farmers' granaries. These proportions are considerably larger in years of abundant crops.

Meantime, whether crops are large or small, the quantity used for food steadily rises. Of the small wheat crop of 1890, more was actually consumed in the country than of the large crop of 1889; and for it the consumers paid an average price—to the farmer at his farm—of about eighty-four cents a bushel, as against about seventy cents for the crop of 1889.

The average inhabitant of the

United States consumes four and two-thirds bushels of wheat per year; and in most of the Northern States the consumption is about five bushels per head.—Youth's Companion.

Agriculture in the Common Schools.

As nearly all of our great industries now have their special training schools wherein new recruits may be drilled for the great battle of life, it is but natural that the farmer, who represents the greatest industry of this country, should feel that want of wider provision in this direction which is so often voiced in the farmers' institute, the Grange, and the Alliance. As the professional teacher is loth to introduce into the school room anything of untested value as a disciplinary study, and the farmer can see but little use for the teaching of anything that has not a direct utilitarian value, there exists a contest between the teacher and the layman as to relative importance of studies already in the curriculum and those proposed. The teacher insists that agriculture is not disciplinary in character, and hence not a proper subject for the school room; and besides there has never been an available text-book upon this subject written. The farmer values discipline less highly than utility, and says the only way to get a text-book in agriculture is simply to write one. But in this are not both wrong? When the teacher realizes fully that agriculture, as an art, comprehends all those operations and processes by which the resources of the soil are made useful to man through the animal and vegetable kingdoms, and that very many of the natural and physical sciences are not only contributory to it, but that vast provinces of these great divisions of natural knowledge are entirely comprised within it, he will no longer think of this subject as lacking in disciplinary value. And when the farmer has these facts fully in mind, will he not admit that a text-book upon this subject that would have any value at all, would cost more labor than the writing of a first reader, and would be far beyond the comprehension of a vast majority of those who make up our school census?

The trade-school idea cannot be adopted in the teaching of agriculture. The object of such a school is to turn out those who have technical skill which shall be developed in a high degree. In a training for agriculture, it is scientific knowledge that is needed to supplement and make effective in after life the home-gained technical skill.

Though lacking a suitable text-book, much may be done towards the accomplishment of the ends sought by both the teacher and the farmer by the teaching of the easily understood first principles of what may be called the observation sciences. Discipline and utility are both found here. Elaborate instruction in the natural and physical sciences implies the use of expensive apparatus and laboratories far beyond the average of school districts, but these are available later on through the public and private grants for the establishment of the various agricultural schools of the country.

The boy in the district school can learn something of the nature and composition of soils and plant foods. He can study the plant

itself, and learn something of its habits of growth, and of how to supply missing food elements by proper manuring. He can gain valuable knowledge of the insect friends and foes which surround him, and of how to foster the one and fight the other. The proper care and management of live-stock, and something of their commoner ailments and the proper remedies, may be learned here, as can also a knowledge of weeds and how to eradicate them. Tillage, drainage, and rotation of crops can be learned about to advantage in the district school, as can the elements of physiology and hygiene, and all of these have a better right here than a large share of the puzzles which are fed to our children under the name of arithmetic.—I. D. Graham, in Farmer's Friend.

Another View.

ED. VISITOR: In the VISITOR of April 15 was published a paper by A. W. Haydon, entitled, "The Farmer and the University. The sentiments of the writer on the benefits of higher education are just and well presented. Our university is, indisputably, one of the best institutions in the Union for furnishing such education.

But the question is, are the people of the state under obligations to tax themselves to give to the youth anything more than primary school education? I think they are not. It is the duty and the interest of the state to educate all the youth, in order that they may become intelligent and moral citizens, prepared to discharge rightly their duties in their various relations to the state. It is not a deed of benevolence, to help people get a living, but a thing for the safety of the commonwealth. As primary school education is sufficient for this end, it is not a duty to bestow the higher education on aspiring youth, for their enjoyment, or, perhaps, to enable them to gain a better livelihood, and, perchance, accumulate wealth in some profession. It is no more a duty than it is the duty of the superintendents of the poor, in clothing paupers, to dress them in broadcloth and silk. The writer of the essay adduces several cases of poor boys and girls that have been educated at the university, who became eminent as benefactors to the world. It is quite possible that some indigent youth have received high culture there who became distinguished rogues. Colleges do turn out some such geniuses; and an educated villain is the worst of all evil doers. How do honest taxpayers feel about bestowing the charity of great learning to produce such characters? And our friend thinks it noble generosity to give free tuition to boys and girls from outside the state. It may be so, but it is poor justice to the taxpayer, and these are too hard times to allow of people being so brilliantly generous.

Moreover, prayers are offered and sermons are preached by some of the professors in the university. In this way religious doctrines are taught to some extent. But all of the taxpayers do not believe in these doctrines. There are among them Jews, infidels, agnostics, atheists. They can justly object to being taxed to help pay men for propagating a religion which they do not approve. And it is, besides, the policy of the state not to give support to any religion. No, let every poor boy or girl that pants

for the university education, pay for it. It will do them the more good. Thousands have done this and risen to high positions of usefulness. G. A. MORGAN, Kellogg, Mich.

Farmers in Politics.

It is tiresome and disgusting to a person who can see both sides to a question to see and hear the statement so often made, that the farmers are to blame for their present condition. In the first place, farmers are not so simple and narrow minded as this statement indicates that they are supposed to be. They are citizens of this Republic as well as farmers, and they consider and discuss and realize the importance of other subjects than those which relate directly to their own pockets. They have more of the disposition of our ancestors, and are more willing to give others an equal chance than any other class of people. There is no class of men that is all on one side of any great question of public policy, and it is no more strange that farmers should be divided than it is that there should be men of different parties engaged in any other business. And it is just as absurd to talk about what farmers might do if they were united as to talk about any other impossibility. It would depend wholly upon what they were united on, which side of the great question they all favored. The natural and unavoidable differences in men's understandings and the manner in which questions are presented to their minds would keep them divided and the men whom they trust and honor with their confidence keep them divided for selfish purposes. It would be just as reasonable and more nearly true to say that horses and oxen have more power than their masters, and therefore are not obliged to work.

The farmers have been voting for the best interest of the nation, as they severally understand it, and if they have been misled it is not their fault. If they had been totally depraved and working wholly for their own class interests, as some other classes do, they might now have had the honor(?) of being smart enough to win their ends and of crippling all other industries. But having been both lenient and loyal those who have imposed upon them now turn around and call them foolish for permitting such things to be done, and in that way throw all the blame on their victims. At a farmers' institute held in Wayne county, N. Y. last month, one man read a paper, in which he said he had been told that there were not five farmers in any one township who could do business. He did not say he knew it, nor that he had taken any measures to learn the truth of it. He said he had been told so, and he evidently accepted the statement. And that man was invited to read a paper to enlighten farmers. Some such men get into the Boards of Agriculture in several States, and farmers are more to blame for quietly listening to their insults without resentment, than anything else connected with the case. As matters stand now, the evils inflicted upon the farmers by other classes are so apparent that the justice of their demands will be more readily recognized, and it will be more easy to fix the blame where it belongs than when these burdens were first imposed.—Farmers Friend.

Progressive Farming.

Hon. Wm. Ball's paper before the Farmers' Institute at Anna Arbor.

The question of paramount interest among the farmers of the country to-day is, not so much how to grow good crops of grain or how to breed and raise good cattle, sheep, horses, swine, etc., as to devise some means by which they may receive a fair equivalent for them in the markets of the country in the form of money. Various theories and ideas on this subject are being promulgated by numerous doctors on political economy, which are as greatly at variance with each other as new-born theories are apt to be. The successful physician before prescribing for his patient will carefully diagnose the case, and after having satisfied himself what is the matter, will prescribe proper and suitable remedies. A large number of patients who come under doctors' care are there from fancied ills and disorders. The skilled physician will soon discover the real from the fancied illness of his numerous patients and prescribe accordingly. In a similar manner should the doctors on political economy proceed in discovering the real from the fancied troubles in this

AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION

and great care should be observed in all directions lest the remedies be worse than the disease.

In undertaking to evolve any theory which will accomplish what is desired in the way of better prices and a greater demand for farm commodities, there are many things to be considered. First, have we, as farmers, carefully considered and formed any satisfactory opinion as to the kinds and qualities of agricultural products needed in the markets of the world? Are we cognizant of the fact that agriculture is undergoing a revolution in nearly all of its departments; that the rapid settlement of the vast tracts of fertile, cheap lands of the west has transferred a large amount of the growing of grains and stock to those localities, and that the more eastern portions of the country no longer have a monopoly on these productions? Such are the facts, and the farmers of Michigan and other central states must understand them and be guided by the logic of passing events. With all the details in the production of grains, wool, stock, etc., understood, the fact still remains that farm produce is low, and what shall be done to enhance prices to a paying basis is the question of the hour. Among the numerous reasons given for this state of affairs, and upon which much stress is laid, is the lack of sufficient circulating medium. To this real or supposed deficiency in money is attributed largely the cause of low prices for farm produce by a large number of people, and as a remedy they demand an inflation in the currency, in the form of greenbacks, silver certificates, free coinage of silver, or in other forms of government notes, even to the amount of fifty dollars per capita for every man, woman and child in the country. Good business judgment would halt, before adopting so visionary a scheme, at least long enough to calculate the indebtedness it would entail upon the government. In individual transactions the creditor wishes to know whether the debtor or maker of a note has the ability to pay at the time the note or obligation matures before he will advance money on them. I have noted that government securities in the money markets of the world are largely influenced as to value according to the financial condition of the government offering them for sale. The greater the outstanding amount of indebtedness against an individual the less his promises to pay are worth. So it must be with any government that adopts such a scheme as the one under consideration. I am not entirely satisfied that there is so great a lack of circulating medium in the country as some people claim. There are times when some avaricious speculator or a number of them wish to make a corner on the grain markets and buy largely and hold the product that money

may be scarce, but that is the abuse of a privilege and not in the honest, legitimate way of doing business. I hardly think there is a farmer in this audience that has any trouble in getting all the money for his products that they would bring. I have never seen the time when I had produce to sell that was wanted but there was money enough to pay for it at its market value, which is and always must be largely controlled by the laws of supply and demand. If the experience of other farmers has been like mine, and what has been said to be true, we must seek some other cause for the existing depression and suggest different remedies. It costs a certain amount in labor, land and material to produce a bushel of wheat, and it is quite important that the farmer should receive for it when taken to market what it is worth for manufacturing purposes at the place of manufacture. He should not be confronted with the fact that down in Detroit or elsewhere there is a combination of men who make laws governing

THE INSPECTION OF WHEAT

to suit their speculative purposes without regard to the good of the producer. But such is the fact, and by the methods pursued the farmer who is careful to offer no wheat in the market except it be in first-class condition as to quality and cleanliness, does not receive what his wheat is worth, while the farmer who is not careful in regard to the quality of his grain receives a price comparatively greater, a premium upon poorer methods in farming and inferior quality of grain, and thus poor and good wheat is mixed together with other wheat of doubtful quality and a grade made and price established in conformity to the desires of the gentlemen who control the inspection, and the farmer who furnishes the different parts in this mixture is left entirely in the dark as to the real value of his part of the contribution. The difference that the farmer received for his good wheat from what he should have received had it been properly classed went to line the pockets of the men who live largely upon what rightfully belonged to the producer. This part of agricultural depression can be remedied by proper legislation in the form of state inspection, and every farmer in Michigan should demand of the member of the legislature from his district that he should be instrumental in passing such a law that shall place this matter of inspection of wheat and other grains under some form of adequate state inspection.

In connection with this matter of inspection, which I believe is injurious to the interests of the farmer, is what is styled the

DETROIT BOARD OF TRADE.

It is an institution either legal or illegal, which controls the price of wheat after it has passed through the inspection process by a sympathetic organization, if not a part and parcel of the same concern. By its manipulation and operations, the grains raised by the farmers of the State are sold and resold times without number, without any actual delivery of the grain sold. The farmer no longer endeavors to find out what his wheat is worth for actual manufacture and consumption, but takes what he can get when he is compelled to sell, and the price is entirely controlled by the stock jobbers and gamblers who manage and control this concern of doubtful utility and legality. The Louisiana lottery business has at last been largely curtailed by government interposition, and I fail to see but little difference in many of its features, as both are really games of hazard, and injurious to the good business interests of the country. This and similar boards of trade are composed of a large number of men who live sumptuously, sustain expensive buildings and expensive equipments, and pay high salaries to employees, live and thrive out of the profits, a large portion of which belong to the producers of the grain thus gambled over. This, also, is a matter that the farmers of the State should investigate, and if found as stated

above, the assistance of the State should be invoked and asked to control by law or else eradicate the unmitigated evil.

Such efforts would be more practical and more in line of safe procedure than the scheme of inflating a currency, which would enable these organizations to still further oppress the producer.

These two monopolies are not needed for the good of the communities of business legitimately performed, and if suffered to exist they should be placed under legal restraint and control. If so placed, and their power to do harm be greatly lessened, quite a large margin of profits wrongfully wrested from the producer by these concerns would revert to the parties to whom it rightfully belongs.

Various schemes are on foot all over the country to aid in the general depression of agriculture. Among them, besides the inflation scheme proper, is the one demanded by political economy doctors as feasible and full of promise. It is the one known as the

TWO PER CENT LOAN SCHEME, introduced into the United States senate by Senator Leland Stanford, of California, which is that the government of the United States loan money to farmers upon real estate, payable at the option of the borrowers any time before the expiration of twenty years from the time of the loan, at an interest annually of two per cent. Aside from the grave doubts as to the policy of the government becoming a loan association, there are several peculiarities connected with this scheme which need attending to. One is that the demand comes from a class of farmers who individually and collectively have condemned what is known as

CLASS LEGISLATION.

During the past few years, there has been a strong feeling forming in the minds of farmers generally that too much legislation has been in the interests of moneyed monopoly. It has been severely condemned by honest people and political demagogues alike. Many of the same men individually and in an organized capacity are now asking for special class legislation for the benefit of a class. Another is, that its champion should be one of the wealthiest millionaires in the country. When was ever a plan so ridiculous? The champion of the so-called oppressed being one of the very men whom they claim has been largely instrumental in bringing about the state of affairs now existing, and which has largely augmented his accumulations; president of one of the great railroads of the country; a large beneficiary of the government in the form of millions of acres of valuable public domain in the form of agricultural lands. He! the champion of a measure to help out of difficulty the men whom he has by his vast monetary power placed in this unfortunate condition. Was ever a thing more absurd? The scheme is not a tenable one, for a large number who would avail themselves of its benefits, if any there might be, would be deprived of any help on account of not owning a sufficient amount of real estate or farming lands to enable them to become debtors to the government. It would be class legislation with a vengeance.

Without stopping to discuss what might or might not ensue, if such a scheme should be enacted into a law, I am happy to say that for the present at least it will not become a law. The committee on finance in the senate reported adversely the bill for said purpose. Embodied in the report is the following language: "The bill appears to be intended to supply a paper legal tender currency by permitting any owners of land to give a lien upon the same to the United States government for which the mortgagees are to receive legal tender paper currency and be charged two per cent interest. The measure is of unlimited magnitude."

The report contends that land owners for the larger part (the only class to be benefited) are

too prudent to cover their homesteads with mortgages, and even the young men starting in life borrowing capital, do not intend to remain in debt twenty years. But the low rate of interest offered to land owners might inspire improvident habits and extravagant speculations in a mass of people not free from such temptations.

The report says that the bill indorses the principles put forth more than a century ago by the notorious John Law. Experience has shown that whenever such reckless experiments intended to secure cheap money have been tried they have ended in commercial crisis, bankruptcy and national disaster.

What is true and has been in all other branches of business in their past history will be true in agricultural operations in the future. The

SHARP COMPETITION

in all other enterprises is at the door of the farmer's business, and he is wise who gives heed to the fact and prepares himself to meet it successfully. Some well-devised, well-studied and carefully matured plan of procedure should be made by every farmer, and faithfully and persistently followed throughout the whole year. The wastes attending the barnyard, the waste of good food in sufficient quantities to poor scrub stock must cease. Less numbers, but more pounds and of a better quality must be bred and fed. Better quarters, better care and attention to the peculiar wants of different animals fed must be given if a profit is made in feeding and rearing any kind of farm stock. Better wool and more to the carcass must be grown. Better judgment in breeding must be used and more care in raising lambs. Nothing should be wasted or lost for want of care and thought. Less number of acres should be planted or sown, but by better tillage, a better condition of the soil tilled with better judgment used, more will be raised on the less number of acres used. More land can be used for pasturing, more cattle, horses, sheep and swine can be kept and the fertility of the land increased. Leaks in the waste of the farmer's time in winter generally should cease. Less expense should be indulged in to gratify the growing foolish and injurious habits of using tobacco, beer, etc. Less time should be spent in town and more given to thought and labor on the farm in winter to help on the work of the summer. More reading and study should be given by farmers to the business they are engaged in. The cost of the stock raised or the grain grown should be known as well as the amount received in the way of proceeds either by increase or sales made, in order to determine the profit or loss.

Better care of tools should be given by proper housing and cleaning. Habits of economy should be encouraged, and children taught that self dependence is necessary if success is reached. Habits of industry should be insisted upon, and every child old enough should be required to do manual labor in proportion to its age and physical ability.

NO HEALTHY DRONES

should be allowed in any well regulated household upon the farm. Educate the children as their capabilities will warrant. Give them the same chances that are offered to any other children if of proper character. Make home pleasant and attractive. Plenty of good reading matter should abound. Make no more debts than are necessary. Let us live as we are able, not to imitate some one else, and prosperity will again dawn upon the farmer, and his business well managed will emerge from under the cloud and occupy its old place as one of profit as well as pleasure.

Why the Horse Died.

If you had read the "Treatise on the Horse," you could have saved his life. Ignorance has cost you the price of the horse. Buy the book and know how. Sent for 10 cents. Stamps or silver. Pioneer Buggy Company, Columbus, O..

Grange Discussion and Education.

The position of the Grange is being better understood than ever before, and conservative farmers and men of other occupations acknowledge its value as an instrument for benefitting the agricultural classes. Farmers have needs that should be attended to, but so long as they themselves fail to look out for their own interests no one else will do it for them, hence, the need of organization. Again, the farmers are not all agreed as to what is best for them, and they can only come to an understanding by discussions and consideration. In a well-regulated organization, such as the Grange, the farmer can discuss the relation of politics to agriculture, not from a partisan, but from a business stand-point. Such discussions not only enlighten the parties concerned, but show that all questions have more than one side. That conservatism has been the result is shown by the very general change of views as to the necessity for reform in the tariff. The Grange has shown that such a discussion can be carried on without engendering bad blood or ill feeling, and by its instrumentality the education of the farmer on this and other issues is steadily progressing. It, however, does not advance radical means or absurd impossibilities, but goes on, quietly and steadily, trying to reach its goal in ameliorating the wrongs and oppressions that have been placed upon the farmers by class legislation, in the interest of wealth and monopoly. Let every conservative farmer in America join this grand organization, and aid in its great educational and material work.—National Farm and Fireside.

Specialties Overdone.

A good deal of nonsense is written on both sides of the "general purpose" question. Any farmer ought to have some specialty which receives the lion's share of his attention, and he should feed, breed, plant, or sow with some distinct purpose in mind, and with some one aim and desire over-topping all others. If he tries to be a jack-at-all-trades relating to farming, the chances are that he will be good at none. If he keeps a few common cows and a few ordinary hens, raises some average quality vegetables, a little medium corn, and a few No. 2 apples, he will always probably, claim that farming doesn't pay. But, on the other hand, the specialty business may be carried too far. We have known farmers who so magnified their dairy and so bent every energy to raising crops for the cows, that the wife never had a kitchen garden from which to furnish her table in the summer, and the family never tasted a strawberry or grape, while a few scraggling forty-niners furnished an apology for all the apples there were on the place.—New England Farmer.

What is Money For?

Possession of wealth does not necessitate the misuse of wealth. It is having no industrial ambition, no desire to make wealth serve mankind, a narrow, selfish purpose in wealth that makes the trouble. Opulence is well, but passion is ill. Sloth and venality kill. Slavery slaughtered ancient life at its fountain head. The dude is the danger point of modern society. We take care of Jay Gould developing industrial enterprises; but the crop of dudes that misuse wealth that they never earned, reproduce Roman luxury. The responsibility of rich men for not turning their boys out into the world to shift for themselves is a large one. The mistaken course of rich men in devolving their wealth where it will spoil those on whom it is bestowed is what is upsetting social order more than anything else.—Lewiston Journal.

HAMILTON, Mich., April 10. ED. VISITOR.—Our Peerless machines have come and we are delighted with them. The machines and attachments are just what we desired. Think they are rightly named Peerless.

MRS. H. RANDOLPH.

PATRON'S PAINT WORKS.

MANUFACTURER OF
INGERSOLL'S LIQUID RUBBER PAINT.
 Ten Thousand P. of H. and Farmers testify they are best and Cheapest.
 WRITE US AND SAVE MONEY.

Cheap, Indestructible Paints for
 BARNs and OUTBUILDINGS.
 Beautiful Sample Color Cards and Book of
 Instructions—FREE.
 We Guarantee Satisfaction.

OFFICE: 243 Plymouth St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

As You Go Through Life.

Don't look for the flaws as you go through life;
 And even when you find them.
 It is wise and kind to be somewhat blind
 And look for the virtues behind them.
 For the cloudiest night has a hint of light
 Somewhere in its shadows hiding;
 It is better by far to hunt for a star,
 Than the spots on the sun abiding.

The current of life runs ever away
 To the bosom of God's great ocean.
 Don't set your force 'gainst the river's course
 And think to alter its motion.
 Don't waste a curse on the universe—
 Remember, it lived before you;
 Don't butt at the storm with your puny form—
 But bend and let it go 'er you.

The world will never adjust itself
 To suit your whims to the letter.
 Some things must go wrong your whole life long.
 And the sooner you know it the better.
 It is folly to fight with the infinite,
 And go under at last in the wrestle.
 The wisest man shapes into God's plan
 As water shapes into a vessel.
 —Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Money Again.

In a discussion of this kind it would be well for us to keep in view a few of the facts upon which the system of the world's exchange is built:

1. Deeper than all statute laws are the eternal and necessary laws of the universe. (a) such as a measure of value—as money—must itself possess value, the same as a measure of length must itself possess length; (b) the material used as money must be desirable to mankind, and must be universally desirable; (c) and that abundance of money is not a certain index to prosperity, but may on the contrary indicate merely a stagnation in the country's business; (d) and finally, that a farmer doesn't need a dollar in money for every dollar's worth of property he may own any more than he needs a half-bushel measure for every half-bushel of grain he has in his granaries.

2. Any sudden changes in business relations, such as tariff tinkering or currency inflation, is always prejudicial to the industrial interests of the country. The immediate granting of the Farmers' Alliance (Omaha) platform requests by the government would disarrange the country's business and prosperity in a way and in a degree never before experienced in human history, and to claim that unmixed good would come out of the wreck of financial systems would be to guess wildly, and would resemble too closely the wisdom of the physician who proposed to turn a child's scarlet fever into fits—because, forsooth, he could cure fits.

3. Our own government's promise to pay money to the holder thereof is by law made a legal tender and circulates as money on a par with the gold and silver money, because the people believe in the government's ability to pay the thing promised—the real dollar in value, and of which the paper is but the representative.

In the last thirty years our country has been treated to an abundance of experiments in the way of an inflated, cheap currency—gold at a ruinous premium, and all kinds of valuable property high, everything desirable but the government's legal tender notes; and in the way of an irresponsible wildcat system of state and private banking, when a man was uneasy and couldn't sleep well because he had plenty of money, and also had a suspicion that it wasn't worth anything, that "banks broke"—promises not worth anything, purchasing power a minus quantity. With these experiences within easy remembrance of many farmers it is well for us to remember gratefully the wisdom of statesmanship that has insured us the use of a safe, convenient, flexible and in all respects a desirable system of national supervision of the circulating medium.

4. In view of these facts, although there may be wrongs to be righted and reforms to be made, I believe it will be the part of wisdom for farmers and others to go slowly in order to do wisely and well the work that needs the doing; and in doing this work to

labor in the line of the fixed and well-known laws of exchange, of supply and demand, of production and consumption; and thus working it will be found that the end in view will be sooner attained, just as it is easier to cut a smooth even ditch and regulate the flowing of water down hill than to regulate it into flowing up hill.

But grant for a moment that we must have more money—lots of it. There is one very safe and reasonably sure way, and that is to have something valuable to sell—whether it be wheat, or beef, or corn, or potatoes, or labor of hand or brain, only be sure that it is valuable in the world's work, and we will come in for our share of the world's pay.

Let us remember, then, while we feed the hungry intellects of our brother farmers by writing wise articles on currency, to also feed the milk cows and pigs, that we also manure the back fields and the near-by fields of our farms, in order that they also produce a bountiful harvest. —GEO. G. MEGRAIL, in Stockman & Farmer.

National Grange, P of H.

The National Grange, at its recent session held in the city of Atlanta, Georgia, provided that for the current year the Secretary of the National Grange should pay to each legally appointed Organizing Deputy the sum of \$5.00 for each new Grange organized by him, upon the receipt of the official papers and application for charter, accompanied by the constitutional fee of \$15.00; and \$2.00 for each dormant Grange reorganized with not less than twenty members. The order in case of new Granges is explicit and requires no further explanation. Dormant Granges, referred to in the above order, are of two classes, viz:

1st. Those whose charters have been suspended by the Master of the State Grange as provided by law; and, 2d. Those that have formally surrendered their charters through the Secretary of the State Grange to the National Grange. Where the Charter of a Grange has been "revoked" for cause, it is not classed as Dormant, but extinct, and cannot therefore, be reorganized except by order of the National Grange, which alone has authority to "issue, revoke, and restore charters."

Dormant Granges may be reorganized under such regulations as the State Granges may provide, in harmony with National Grange laws, and the charters of those of the first class can be restored by the Master of the State Grange; but those of the second class, after reorganization and the election of officers, must apply through the Secretary of the State Grange to the Secretary of the National Grange for the restoration of their charters. Where charters are lost, duplicate charters will be issued. Organizing Deputies should, therefore, apply to the Secretary of the State Grange for information regarding the condition of Dormant Granges to be reorganized; and State Masters should suspend the Charters of all Subordinate Granges which have, under State Grange regulations and National Grange laws, forfeited their Charters and ceased to work; for not until that is done can reorganization be effected. As the work of reorganizing Dormant Granges is done mainly under State Grange regulations, it is not deemed advisable to give any definite instructions to be strictly followed by Deputies in the work, but the following National Grange law should be strictly followed, and the brief suggestions which follow may not be out of place:

"Dormant Granges may be reorganized by the Master of the State Grange, or by a duly authorized Deputy; when less than thirteen of the members desire to do so, by admitting members residing within the jur-

isdiction of such Dormant Grange, who have become unaffiliated by reason of the surrender, suspension or revocation of the Charter of their Grange, or by neglect to pay dues after removing from the jurisdiction of their Grange. The organizing officer may also admit new members as a part of such reorganized Grange, upon the payment of full initiatory fees. Such new members shall be obligated and instructed in the same manner as at the organization of a new Grange."

In reorganizing a Grange, first enroll the names of the old members who desire to resume their standing in the Order, and the names of the other persons present who have been members elsewhere and now desire to join the reorganized Grange. From each of these, whether male or female, collect such fee as the State Grange may require. Persons who were formerly connected with the Order are not reobligated when received into a reorganized Grange. In receiving new members when reorganizing a Grange, enroll their names after those of the old members, collect the legal initiatory fee, and obligate them as in organizing a new Grange. Then proceed to the election and installation of officers, instruction in the unwritten work. The fees received at the reorganization, after deducting the State Grange Deputy's fee go into the treasury of the reorganized Grange. Communicate the A. W. to the Worthy Master, and have him impart it to the members. Immediately after reorganizing a Grange, fill out the blank which the Secretary of the State Grange issues for that purpose, and send it to him by mail. When a Dormant Grange has been reorganized as above provided, the Secretary of the State Grange should report that fact to the Secretary of the National Grange, with the name and address of the Organizing Deputy. Upon receipt of such notice, officially signed and sealed, the Secretary of the National Grange will forward to such Deputy the fee above specified.

Sir Charles Tupper, before sailing for Europe, completed an article on the Canadian political situation, which will appear in the May number of the North American Review. The title of the article is "The Wiman Conspiracy Unmasked."

I thank Heaven every summer's day of my life that my life was humbly cast within the hearing of romping brooks, and beneath the shadow of oaks, and away from all the tramp and bustle of the world, into which fortune has led me in these latter years of my life. I delight to steal away for days and weeks together, and bathe my spirit in the freedom of the old woods, and to grow young again lying upon the brook side, and counting the white clouds that sail along the sky, softly and tranquilly even as holy memories go stealing over the vault of life. —Donald Mitchell.

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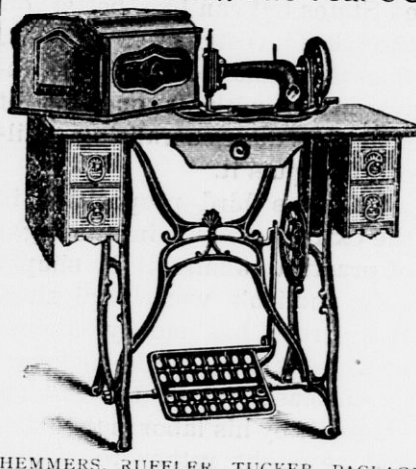
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The Deceitfulness of Figures.

It is to be regretted that any species of Grange literature should be sent out, bearing a semi-official endorsement, so manifestly one-sided and unfair, as a portion of that emanating from the Lecture Bureau of the National Grange. Here is a sample just received in a leaflet circular for publication in the VISITOR:

Statistics covering a number of years show that all the money invested in farms, factories and mines combined with all the labor also invested only earns an average profit of about three per cent. a year; while it is well known that money invested as money in banks, on mortgages, in bonds, etc., earns from five to twenty per cent. per annum, and that, too, without one bit of labor on the part of the owner or loaner of the money. But say the average earnings of money—as money—is six per cent., even then it earns twice as much as money combined with labor, and invested in farms, factories, mines, etc., and therefore money by itself has an immense advantage over productive industry.

Now this statement which falls so glibly from the tongue or pen, taken as it reads, conveys a very false impression. It is intended to create jealousy between people in the country and other classes who have more money than the average of farmers and to incite to communistic ideas and a spirit of antagonism against a very worthy class of citizens, who are able to live without labor—a condition every one of these malcontents is striving to attain. It says that a man with small capital, who labors, ought to live as well as persons with large capital without labor.

The contrast in the two first sentences of the above extract are entirely misleading and untrue. The statement is evidently directed to farmers, but it is an insult to their intelligence, to expect them to believe it or to be influenced by it. Let us suppose the average value of farms and their appurtenances to be \$5000. The "three per cent." per year profit alluded to is of course above the living of the family which comes off it, but of which no account is ever made, for it would be nonsense to say that a family can subsist upon \$150, which is the three per cent. assumed in the statement. Let any farmer sell his farm and invest his \$5000 in "bank stock" or "bonds" or "mortgages" and receive the average of "five to twenty per cent." which would

be 12½ per cent., and the magnificent living assumed for the bondholder must be paid out of the \$600 received. Schooling for the children, clothing, living for the family, house rent, livery hire, fuel—all must be paid out of a 12½ per cent. income on 5000. There isn't a farmer in the United States but can live better on the \$5000 investment in a farm, than the banker on a \$10,000 investment "without one bit of labor," as our generalizing philosopher puts it.

Take the third proposition in the extract quoted; in the light of practical affairs it is simply silly, and isn't worth analyzing. If a person has money enough to support him, without labor, in nine cases out of ten he has earned it by his labor in the past, and we ought rather to rejoice that he is now able to enjoy a respite from physical exertion which is the aspiration and laudable desire of every toiler. What practical good can come from circulating such antitheses. It only breeds a desire for a change of places and that cannot be accomplished without revolution or highway robbery. Those who have a faculty for accumulating wealth, will constantly seek out and secure the soft places. This is the spur which prompts to endeavor.

An effort to create a public sentiment which will divide the people into classes, separated by the distinction of wealth, is unpatriotic at least and treads the border land of communism. The Grange must stand in an atmosphere above such grovelling sentiments. We cannot admit these to our columns, even though we are taunted with selling out to bankers and not daring to give both sides a hearing. The VISITOR is on the side of the farmers' best interest as we see it. Our intercourse with them is of such a character that we ought to understand the trend of sentiment and we should be derelict to duty did we not reflect it though the columns of their paper. A few may criticize our course and be offended, but we shall trust to events to vindicate the position we take. A present notoriety is dearly bought which already has in it the ferment of decay. We urge upon farmers everywhere, and upon every question, to do their own thinking and not be swayed by clamor nor by the representations of demagogues, who trifle with their intelligence. Juggling with figures is the agitators strongest weapon. They are usually very staid characters, but they can be made to lie. It is always safe to distrust a rank statement and to ask for a specific application. We need to turn the light of an electric lamp on some of the statements going the rounds of the papers, under this, generalizing with figures will fade.

The Changed Outlook.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men;" it has its ebb and flow; there is also a pendulous swinging of business from slack to flush times; in the seasons, from arid or untimely conditions of climate to fruitful and propitious years. There seems to have been a combination of all these adverse circumstances leagued against agriculture for several years. Callow philosophers everywhere have diagnosed the difficulty, each, having his unfailing remedy for some especial disease, which was unlike that described by his fellow seer. It may now be truthfully said that the conditions were natural ones against which no wisdom of legislation, or the foreknowledge

of statesmanship could have provided against. Agitators having howled themselves hoarse and bruised their fists fighting, like Don Quixote against what was supposed to be some giant spirit of evil but which, like the fable, has turned out to be only a wind mill, propelled by natural forces.

The tide seems now to have turned toward an era of prosperity. This favorable condition has been foreshadowed for more than a year. The VISITOR has constantly advised the farmers of its approach, as its regular readers will affirm. It has not entered the lists fighting imaginary foes—has nothing to take back or unsay—it has tried to be the exponent of conservative Grange ideas, striving for the attainable. The Grange flourishes in prosperity while other orders of farmers' organizations thrive in troublous times. On the rising wave of prosperity the Grange will be the flag ship of the squadron. The evidences of a return to prosperous times are emphasized in the sale of every product of the farm. Financiers of national fame pre-empt a prosperous year in every line of business, and they base their predictions largely on the outlook agriculturally. The spring has opened auspiciously for both fruits and grains. A study of the "Market Review and Indications" in this number, prepared by E. A. Wildey, shows the direction of prices for farm animals. Wool is the only farm product that is not stimulated by this universal energy. The opening of the market will doubtless see a change. While everything else is advancing, wool will be a good thing to hold if satisfactory prices are not offered.

The advice of the VISITOR is to take in every legitimate dollar and pay every legitimate debt and thus be fortified against another "evil day."

There is a sort of prophesy in the very air that the season will be a prosperous one for farmers. Twenty-five cents is climbing over the dollar to assert itself beside it as the price of wheat. Fruit buds are bursting with eagerness to announce the advent of fruit. The very grass feels the suppressed energy in the soil and has made a vigorous growth. Tradesmen in the towns are reflecting and repeating the encouraging omens, as they slap the farmer on the shoulder in a kind of which-may-remind-you way, in anticipation of a harvest of trade later on. Temperature, sunshine and rainfall have each come in normal measure to announce their interest in the general prosperity. These last are God's promises which never fail.

We call especial attention to our offer of the "Wolverine" buggy on last page of this issue. We believe this buggy will give entire satisfaction to the purchaser. No one will question the testimonials presented. The VISITOR isn't sold out to bankers nor to buggy makers. Its reputation is above deceit and snide deals. If any of our readers need a vehicle, from a two-seated surry to a road cart, we can furnish it cheaper than your dealer dare sell it. Send the money direct to the VISITOR for wagons priced in the advertisement and ask for prices for any other carriage you may need. Every subscriber is a member of this "Commercial Union", so send on your orders.

We hope our readers are aware that a dollar bill will come as

safely in a letter as fifty cents in stamps. Remembering this will enable you to send your neighbor's name along with your own for renewal. It is quite a reasonable assumption that the friend who has been borrowing your VISITOR will consider it a favor to have you forward his half dollar along with your own for a year's subscription. Ask him when he comes for this copy. The children may not "cry for it," but grown up people like the VISITOR. Do you know any one who don't?

Market Review and Indications.

During the past two weeks the up grade of prices of all kinds of live stock has been maintained with the exception of hogs; this class of stock shows a depreciation in values ranging from 10 to 30 cents per hundred in the past ten days.

The following quotations from the Daily Register will show the range of prices in Buffalo at the dates named:

CATTLE QUOTATIONS.		April 24th.	
1,350 to 1,500.....	\$5.55@5.50	\$5.00@5.20	
1,250 to 1,350.....	\$4.90@5.25	\$5.00@5.50	
1,050 to 1,200.....	\$4.50@4.70	\$5.25@5.50	
Feeders.....	\$3.50@3.50	\$3.90@4.10	
Stockers.....	\$2.50@3.15	\$3.10@3.75	
HOG QUOTATIONS.		April 24th.	
Yorkers, 180 to 200 lbs.....	\$5.10@5.15	\$5.10@5.20	
120 to 140 lbs.....	\$4.90@5.05	\$5.00@5.10	
Med wt, 200 to 225 lbs.....	\$5.20@5.25	\$5.25@5.30	
Heavy wt, 250 to 300 lbs.....	\$5.25@5.30	\$5.25@5.35	
350 to 400 lbs.....	\$5.25@5.30	not quoted	
Pigs, 110 to 130 lbs.....	\$4.00@4.25	\$4.60@4.70	
SHEEP QUOTATIONS.		April 24th.	
West. sheep, 110 to 120 lbs.....	\$5.60@5.60	\$5.50@5.75	
" 95 to 110 lbs.....	\$5.35@5.50	\$6.00@6.40	
" 80 to 90 lbs.....	\$4.80@5.25	\$5.50@5.85	
Clip, sheep com. to best.....	\$4.00@5.25	\$4.00@5.25	
WESTERN LAMBS.		April 24th.	
85 lbs. and upwards.....	\$6.65@6.75	\$7.35@7.75	
75 to 85 lbs.....	\$6.25@6.50	\$7.00@7.25	
65 to 75 lbs.....	\$5.75@6.00	\$6.25@6.50	
Clipped, com. to best.....	\$4.75@5.50	\$5.10@5.40	

These quotations show a market advance on all shipments except in hogs and clipped sheep. While clipped sheep show no increase, wool sheep have advanced 60 to 90 per cent.

Clipped sheep are apt to be "bad killers" in cold weather, as the meat looks unnatural when the live animal has been exposed to severe cold; but the weather for the greater part of the past month has been delightful, so we must look elsewhere for the blame. The wool market is reported as being bare of all desirable wools, and the wide difference in advancement in values may be due to this fact.

There has been a great falling off in the number of cattle bought for export. The home demand has absorbed the greater share of good cattle at the principal markets and the price of space on the ocean steamers has fallen from \$20.00 to \$5.00 per head, and going a-begging at that, says the Drovers' Journal.

I see nothing in the near future to lower prices.

ED. A. WILDEY.

Grange Contests.

NOVI, Mich., April 20.—ED. VISITOR: Contests among members of the Granges have been carried on in a great variety of ways, and in every instance so far as we are aware, to the benefit of the order. It has brought out much of the latent or diffident talent among the membership, and through its rallying influence accomplished many an object which never would have been undertaken but for its help. We are glad to see it going on, constantly varied to relieve it of any monotony and adapted to many varied circumstances and the accomplishment of still greater good.

We offer a plan of contests among Granges which is being inaugurated by some of the Pomona, and we are sure that if it is zealously worked out it will accomplish much good in furnishing the means for work in which all can take part, and should cement and strengthen this connecting link between the subordinate and state Granges, and develop the Pomona in the work for which it was designed.

Worthy Lecturers, here is a field for you. Now don't be afraid of a bit of earnest work. Patrons join the general rally all along our lines.

PLAN OF CONTESTS.

The Pomona Grange will offer a prize (banner or emblem) whatever they choose, to be competed for by the subordinate Granges in their jurisdiction, and

to be won in accordance with rules and schedule of credits adopted by the Pomona. Let the prize be awarded to the winning Grange at the first quarterly meeting of the Pomona, and be held by that Grange, unless won from them by a subsequent meeting, and to be finally awarded to, and kept as the property of, the Grange which shall win it in the aggregate contest of the year.

Let the Pomona require each subordinate Grange to be represented at its meetings by four delegates to be duly elected for each quarter, and furnished with credentials properly. Let these delegates report to the Pomona the work and condition of their Grange and present resolutions or other matters sent from the subordinate Granges, and carry back a report of the Pomona meeting; the Pomona promptly provide a prize, adopt a schedule of credits and furnish each Grange with all necessary instructions.

Put the matter in charge of the Lecturer or some other suitable person, to keep a record of the work and decide the awards as umpire.

Carefully make your schedule as equitable to the small as the large Granges, and to those distant as to those near the places of meeting. Be careful that this work is so carried on that it shall assist rather than hinder the work of the Pomona meeting, and not occupy the time of its program.

A schedule may be something like this:

Delegates, each 25,	100
Re-instating delinquents of Pomona, each,	100
Applications for Pomona degree, each,	200
Each member initiated in subordinate Grange,	100
Lectures of national or state officers or deputies not residents of the county,	100
Yearly subscriptions to the VISITOR,	50
Articles published in the VISITOR other than notices,	50
Organization of Juvenile Granges,	200
Deductions may be entered—	
If no delegates attend,	100
If quarterly report is not made to State Grange,	100
Sincerely yours,	100
A. J. CROSBY, JR.	

Flushing Grange No. 387 is just closing up a contest which has done the members some good. There has been a lively interest taken in the work on both sides. The number of points will be counted and the result declared at our next regular meeting; and then what a feast we will have, all provided for by the side making the least number of points. We have had four applications for membership and two reinstated, and others are knocking at the door, and we do not give the answer so familiar years ago in the negro ballad, "Stop dat knocking, stop dat knocking, can you neber stop dat knocking at de doah?" But we invite them right in and try to make them feel at home in the Grange. We sent for and received two carloads of plaster this spring from the Western Plaster Agency, and are well satisfied with the result. Every Grange desiring to use plaster ought to patronize the plaster agency of Grand Rapids, as I believe them to be perfectly reliable.

On the 18th inst. I drove ten miles through the mud to the south part of Clayton township and organized a Grange with 22 charter members, and everything looks favorable for a strong Grange to be built up in that neighborhood. There seems to be a kindly feeling here among the agriculturists towards the Grange. I shall try and organize two more Granges in this county during the summer.

Now, Mr. Editor, I only intended when I commenced this to send the order for the VISITORS, and if this is not all assigned to the waste basket (except the money) I may have the courage to write more at some other time.

JOHN PASSMORE, Sec.

Doctors may differ in opinion as to the cause of that languor and fatigue so prevalent in the spring; but all agree as to what is the best remedy for it, namely, Ayer's Sarsaparilla; it makes the weak strong, and effectually removes that tired feeling.

Peach Culture.

For the Grange Visitor.

Pomology was the first vocation of mankind. Adam dressed and kept the trees in the garden of Eden for a pastime before Eve was given him. Had this pleasant task been assigned to her as her birthright, it would probably have been sufficient to have kept her from the tempter that yet finds something for idle hands to do. Be that as it may, women of the present day are awakened to the fact that much of the work connected with fruit growing is no more arduous than many domestic duties, besides giving them a part in the life-giving sunshine and pure air. So I pray you grant me absolution from unwomanly sin, when I say I love the work and reckon among the pleasant hours of life those intervals in household cares which I have given to this alluring occupation. Yet it seems presumptuous with my limited experience to attempt an outline of the methods and principles to be followed in so intricate a business as peach culture. I feel my inability to do it with credit to myself or satisfaction to others, so I bid you remember that the sifting of most any pile of chaff will reveal many grains of wheat. The peach, though a naturalized American, is of oriental origin. We are indebted to Persia for this popular fruit; but, in its native wilds, it did not possess the high degree of excellence with which we are familiar in this country. Under cultivation it has attained an artistic blending of the most exquisite colors, a delicate perfume and a delicious flavor, which enables it to compete with all other fruits and bear off the palm. But unfortunately it is tender in tree and bud, and subject to destructive insects and deadly diseases which makes its cultivation, except in favored latitudes, fraught with so many discouragements that the chance of reaping a reward for time and money expended, looks about equal to drawing a prize in a lottery. In times past the culture of the peach assumed wide dimensions in this country, and was very successful, no tree yielding more promptly or richer returns to the grower. The disappearance of the forest, or some other unknown cause, has effected climatic changes which now confine its profitable production to a very limited area. The lower peninsula of Michigan offers more inducements to the commercial peach grower than any territory of like extent this side of the Pacific slope. This supremacy is due to the genial influence of the waters with which it is nearly surrounded. In winter the cold winds approach from a westerly direction, and are so warmed in passing over lake Michigan that a comparative uniform temperature is maintained in a diminishing degree across the state. Therefore, with a mean temperature lower than in states south of it, the extremes are much less, and the danger to the peach is from these extremes. The treacherous warmth of a few winter days swells the buds, then a fall to zero follows and the summer's harvest is dead. There is nothing in human reach to prevent this, as the peach, owing doubtless to its oriental origin, will allow its sap to rise on slighter provocation than other fruit.

There would seem to be a need, then, even in this favored region, to secure for the peach orchard every advantage to be gained from location, soil, culture and selection of varieties. Perfect air drainage is now considered the great desideratum, and planters agree as to the advantage of rolling land. A low temperature without wind will deviate many degrees from hill-top to valley. Therefore, in planting a commercial orchard secure an exposed elevation. A right start in this direction will give a basis for a reasonable hope of pecuniary success. The soil should be naturally dry or thoroughly drained, for an excess of moisture is fatal to the peach. Its fertility should be sufficient to produce an average grain crop. A sandy loam is preferable, but the peach will adapt itself to almost any composition of soil and

thrive if it is made rich and dry enough.

As soon as spring is established deeply plow the ground and drag before setting the trees. Obtain them from the nearest nursery that has what you want. You have no need of an agent. Select the chief part of your trees from those kinds that have the endorsement of successful peach growers in your vicinity. Seek varieties that will make a succession of ripening from earliest to latest that will ripen in ordinary years. A plat should be reserved to test promising varieties, and those found satisfactory adopted. A square plat will be found more convenient than long rows of kinds, and twenty feet apart the best distance. Seek medium sized, well ripened trees with good roots, and protect from wind and sun while out of their native soil. Trim to whips and cut back broken roots to soundness. The hole should be dug and the tree placed in it with its largest roots towards the quarter from which come the prevailing winds. The tree should be held in place, its roots spread out and some surface soil well worked in among them. Add a little water, fill the hole and stamp well to firm the ground around the tree, which should stand the same depth as before transplanting. When the trees are set the real work begins. Plant corn the first and second years and keep clean. Corn will shade and shield the young trees from high wind and burning sun, and if left uncut will give winter protection as well. Afterwards give the trees the ground, plowing shallow each year and cultivating to keep down weeds and the surface mellow, but discontinue by August 1st, to give the trees time to ripen. Manure should be applied adequate to the wants of corn and trees, but an excess avoided, as a rampant growth is not desirable. Barnyard manure produces weeds, but contains nearly all the constituents of plant food. Potash seems to be an element that contributes to vigor in the peach and wood ashes to furnish it in its most acceptable form. The first year watch the growth and check any malformation of top, but do not trim. The second year trim uniformly to the height you have determined to form your top. High and low each has its advocates and advantages. It will be found necessary to shorten limbs to an inturning bud on northeast side to counteract effect of prevailing winds. Cut out superfluous branches and form a well-balanced top. Dip the knife after trimming each tree in carbolic acid, and keep the hands oiled to prevent burning them.

When you have your trees growing finely your conflict with the various enemies they will encounter must be constant and untiring. The peach borer is the most fatal insect foe the peach tree has to contend with. A moth resembling a wasp deposits its eggs under the bark near the foot of the tree, and the larva feeds upon the new wood, destroying the tree. I have found the larva in trees from nursery, and they should be looked for when trimming them for setting. Examine in June and August for the excremental gum that exudes from the wound and always denotes his deadly presence. Give no quarters, but follow the path he has made until you find and dispatch him with a slim blade, cutting the tree as little as possible.

But all combined forces of destruction encountered in peach culture are trivial compared with the havoc wrought by the infectious deadly malady called yellows. It has defied the most searching investigation for cause or cure. It assails the strong and the weak, and no bar is yet found to withstand its encroachments. Avoidance of infection is the only safeguard, and when the willow twigs or the premature ripening fruit manifest its fatal presence, do not await the coming of the commissioner in his yearly round before you act, but remove it root and branch before the ripened fungus has spread its fine dust like spores, and doomed your orchard. The disease is sometimes lurking in the neglected, broken-down trees of fence corners and out of the

way places, and will get in its insidious work if not looked after.

It is to be desired that greater rather than less attention be given this healthful fruit. The limited area in which it can be produced, the great and growing markets, warrant all who have suitable grounds to engage in its culture. All the difficulties and hindrances enumerated should not deter farmers attempting to grow enough of this delicious fruit for home use. When they attempt to regale themselves and friends on peaches and cream, and receive their scant measure of stale, unripe, worthless fruit from the fruit stand, and note the thinness of their pocket-books after the purchase, how they do try to make themselves believe they do not care for peaches anyway.

Farmers, the fat of the land is ours to enjoy, so every one should plant and care for trees enough so that in the propitious years when dame nature yields an abundant fruitage, our share of it will be an unlimited quantity of the largest, ripest, sweetest peaches that will grow, and let the family indulge without stint or count or thought of cost, though it comes but once in a lifetime.

FRANCES M. BUSKIRK.

Farmer Jones' Injustice.

ED. VISITOR: If one should hint to the average farmer that he was unjust to his better half he would feel inclined to punch the head of the accuser or indignantly deny it. Let's see if we can convince him—if he is willing to be convinced.

Here is Farmer Jones (that is not personal) who has a good farm well stocked, and all the latest machinery to help him do the work quickly and easily. The farm (like a good many others) has a mortgage on it to stimulate Jones' industry, and he has to be pretty industrious to pay his interest and the notes he gave for that new binder and cultivator. However, he is hoping the McKinley bill will make things easier for him next year, and we hope he will not be disappointed.

Well, let's wait and see. Jones has to figure pretty close to get all his small debts paid up this fall and have enough left to live through the winter, and the new washing machine and wringer that his wife wanted must wait for better times. Women are always wanting something, but his mother used a tub and washboard and he guesses his wife can, too, until he can afford a machine.

Then the cistern pump that hasn't worked for several months needs a new valve, but it is so easy to let it go until some rainy day (when Jones has business in town to attend to, or some matter to talk over with a neighbor, and the pump is forgotten) and the women folks continue to draw water from the lower regions with that primitive pump, a cord and pail, with a brick tied on as a sinker.

But Farmer Jones is not unjust to the fair girl he promised to love and cherish. Oh, no.

When he bought that \$150 wind mill to pump water for his stock did he not run pipes into the house to supply the drinking water for the family? Oh, certainly, and did not the tank and pipes leak for a year and make more work than it would have been to pump by hand, and rot the woodwork, doing damage enough to pay for the fixing several times over?

Mrs. J. has wanted that machine and wringer for several years, but it has not been convenient to pay out the few dollars they would cost, so she still wears out an old fashioned machine made of zinc and human knuckles.

Some one will say, But didn't Jones get a new binder and cultivator the past season? Why, yes, but he needed them. His old reaper cut pretty well tis true, and the walking cultivator was considered something extra a few years ago, but the new one has the latest improvements and is a riding cultivator.

Jones is one of the progressive farmers. You wouldn't have him use tools that are old and out of date would you? It doesn't pay;

the best tools do the work quickly and easily, so it pays to use them. Would you have him go back to the use of the grain cradle or sickle to secure his wheat?

"But the wash—" oh, never mind that, women spend too much time drumming on the piano (alas, Mrs. J. has forgotten how to evoke sweet strains from what was the joy of her girlhood) and reading novels—there are none in the house to read. Farmer Jones isn't unjust, he is certain of it. He loves his wife, and—well, he loves himself, too.

* * * *

From what has been said of Farmer Jones the readers may think he is all bad; by no means. He's a very common sort of a character, can be found in most communities, and sometimes he is quite numerous in one locality.

No, he is not all bad; but he is most always thoughtless. As long as he gets his dinner well cooked and his linen well laundered he doesn't stop to inquire how the thing is done. No matter if Mrs. J. did have to burn wet or green wood, and waste time as well as temper to get up the toothsome meal he so much enjoyed. He don't stop to ask questions as long as matters do not interfere with his plans.

I am inclined to think Mrs. J. would be doing genuine missionary work if she would refuse to cook or wash until she had the proper tools for the work.

"No sensible man should expect 'bricks without straw.'"

He would be justified in considering any man crazy who should suggest that he return to the ways of his fathers and cut his grain with a cradle, thresh it by flail and clean it by utilizing the winds of heaven when they blew strong enough.

Certainly he could not make farming pay to return to the methods of a past generation, and compete with all the improved labor saving machinery of to-day.

No one wants him to do that. What is wanted is fair play, an equal distribution of favors. If it does not pay to use tools of a past generation on the farm, how can he by any Christian figuring make it all right to still cling to them in the house, and compel his wife to drudge day after day, week after week, through long years, just as his mother did.

If he does not do so why should his wife still bear the useless burden of a past generation? Is it because invention in household conveniences has not kept pace with those in other departments? By no means. There are a great many labor saving contrivances to lighten the toil of the overburdened wife and mother and costing but a fraction of what some of the tools used on the farm do, but not purchased, because the too patient wife does not demand what she has the right to.

This subject of woman's rights is an interesting one for the man who will soberly consider it. If improved machinery will save labor on the farm, so it will in the house, and if he is a Christian and cares for the vows he made at the altar he will take interest in making the labor of his wife as light as possible.

A farmer's wife under the most favorable circumstances has work enough to do and it should be lightened as much as possible.

There are things in this world of more value than dollars and cents—or more land. If Farmer Jones will take notice of things and people a little closer he will discover that Mrs. J. is growing old faster than he, and that she has to work a good many hours more than he out of the twenty-four, which may account for the gray hairs that begin to sprinkle the dark tresses of his partner. Farmer Jones had better take notice before it is too late.

Eaton Rapids. A. L.

Special Report from Grange No. 613

Livingston Co., Mich. April 3, 1891. Brother Patrons:—I have had an acquaintance with O. W. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paint for the last 15 years. I used it on my farm dwelling 12 years ago, and it has outlasted any paint I have ever used.

G. I. SARGENT.
See adv. Patrons' Paint Works.

WHITE OAK, Mich., April 27. ED. VISITOR: As we do not often see anything in the VISITOR from White Oak Grange No. 241, I will say a few words for fear some may think we are not alive, but, nevertheless, we are and booming.

Our Grange is taking in new members at nearly every meeting and the majority are young people.

We have just finished a play, which added a nice sum to our treasury. It being a success, a second attempt is being made for another.

We have at present seventy-four members in good standing, and still our numbers are increasing. All seem to be working for the advancement and interest of the order.

We have recently made a great improvement to our hall by raising the ceiling and purchasing enough chairs to seat the members. A fourth degree supper will be given at our next meeting. Yours, J. S. P.

Van Buren County Pomona Grange No. 13, P. of H., will hold its next meeting at Decatur, Thursday, May 21, 1891, with the following program:

10 a. m.—Report of subordinate Granges and miscellaneous business.

Paper—Mrs. Wm. Deming, of Arlington.

12 n.—Picnic dinner.

1:30—Recitation, Miss Hattie Dillenbeck, Lawrence.

Paper—"Army Life," Edson Woodman, Paw Paw.

Recitation—Mrs. Perry Mayo, Battle Creek.

Paper—"The Blighting Hand of the Foreigner," Oscar McGowan, Hamilton.

7:30 p. m.—Open session.

Lecture by Mrs. Perry Mayo, Battle Creek.

Music will be interspersed and other papers and recitations given if the time is not otherwise filled. Mrs. J. M. Fisk, Lecturer.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Dec. 8, 1890.—ED. VISITOR:—The question of price for land plaster is so often brought before us, and as it has been claimed that \$3.00 a ton is too high, for the coming season we will give the following a trial. The price of land plaster in car lots will be \$2.50 per ton, f. o. b. at mills, and for all land plaster shipped out and paid for by March 1st, 1891, a discount of ten per cent. will be allowed, \$2.25 per ton.

WESTERN PLASTER AGENCY.

To strengthen the hair, thicken the growth, stop its blanching and falling out, and where it is gray to restore the youthful color, use Hall's Hair Renewer.

A Cheeky Swindler.

The Curtis Publishing Co., of Philadelphia, Pa., publishers of the Ladies' Home Journal, have been much annoyed by a fraud whose real name is Stockwell or Wellstock, but who travels under many aliases, and who signs himself, "The Journal Publishing Co."

This man, who claims to be one of the C. P. Co. agents, has been collecting money in this vicinity, representing that the same would be forwarded for subscriptions. Quite a number of persons have been victimized and the Curtis Pub. Co. would be glad to do anything in their power to secure the arrest and conviction of the imposter. This is not the first offense of Stockwell, for he was recently released from prison in Auburn, N. Y., where in last December, he was convicted of a similar crime, in connection with the same Co.

FOR SCROFULA

scrofulous humor
in the blood,
ulcers, catarrh, and
consumption,
use

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

The most
economical,
safe, speedy, and
effective of all
blood-purifiers.

Has Cured Others
will cure you.

Ladies' Department.

Spring's Children.

Some one shakes the door, That is March, don't mind!

Some one sends a smile Through the window pane, Yet a cloud, the while,

Some one drops a rose On the window ledge, Through the open door,

Mind the Threads.

Swift the weaver throws the shuttle, Back and forward, to and fro;

Are they clearly seen and perfect, So that he who runs may read?

Are the colors bright and lasting, Then we know the dyes are true;

Know the threads were only seeming, Feigning to be grand and pure.

Do not blame the silent weaver, Weaving what the shuttle holds;

Hear the warning—worth repeating— Of a poet truly wise;

Life's the weaver all unconscious, Sitting silent by the loom,

Threads that fade, or bud and bloom.

Thoughts Suggested by Mrs. A. H. Smith's Article in April 1st Visitor.

A language keeps pace with the nation that uses it, marks its rise and decade well, and there is such a thing as loyalty to our mother tongue.

Speech, more than reason, distinguishes the human from the brute creation. The more we think and study the wonderful power of words, the more we shall understand the relation between our words and our inner, truer selves;

There is a tendency, almost a fashion now, of employing words disproportionate to the occasion, particularly in the expression of our feelings, and when there comes a time calling for earnest words of deep import we find ourselves taken at a disadvantage, our vocabulary is exhausted.

Language is the true history of the people. Suppose all other record to have been lost, we might seek out the history of the Saxon and Norman race by their language.

Coleridge has said that "An

intense study of the Bible will keep any writer from being vulgar in point of style," and I think we all find that the reading of well written books and the listening to fluent speakers helps us to a very great extent.

It is in a nation's poetry that its language will be found in its highest perfection. It is the poets who have best revealed the hidden harmony in our short Saxon-English words.

It is said that our word "tongue" should be translated "the ornament of iniquity." We should be careful of our words for they are the index to our true selves. They have been called "The wings of the soul."

Mrs. A. M. BANGS, Paw Paw.

Making the Sabbath Happy.

We know a household in which the Sabbath is hardly over before the little ones begin the inquiry, "Mamma, when will it be Sabbath again?" To these children the Sabbath is the "red-letter" day of the week, looked forward to, and backward to, every other day; and this because on the Sabbath they have their father at home all day.

This should be the day of days in every household. Six days must the bread and butter be earned, and the bread and butter be prepared, the raiment taken thought of and the raiment stitched. Six days must the fathers and sons and daughters and little children go abroad to their work and to their lessons.

But then comes the seventh day, the beautiful Sabbath, in which business may be set aside, the lessons dismissed, husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters, reunited. Let this day be consecrated to all that is highest and best in our natures, to thanksgiving and aspiration, and to the development in the home of those spiritual graces which make our homes heavenly places.

Growing Old.

Regarded from a worldly standpoint there is nothing beautiful in old age. Gray hairs and failing sight are not welcome substitutes for vigorous locks and keen vision. Wrinkles are not as attractive as dimples; the slow, laboring step may have dignity, but who would willingly take it in exchange for the agile, elastic tread of youth?

But there are pleasures impossible to youth and inseparable from old age. We forget that we are growing old and lay our feebleness and weariness to indigestion and ague; we are learning the fullness of life unawares—we live again in our children and our children's children, and through the tired heart, weary with carrying the great secrets

of life, runs a sweet, sure hope of rest by and by. This is something we never wanted when we were young, but now we have borne the heat and burden of the day, and are weary with our great knowledge, not that which comes from books, but the learning of life, the cares, experience, loves and joys, and the frequent blighting disappointments, the bitter draught in a cup that else would be too sweet.

"Would you be young again? So would not I. Life's dark stream forded o'er Almost at rest on shore Say, would you plunge once more With home so nigh?"

The same characteristics which distinguished us in youth may not pertain to our old age. Time mellows some natures, smooths out asperities of character, humbles and subdues, making age lovable. It embitters others, and makes them ungracious and self-sufficient, harsh and fault-finding.

"Thanks for the years whose rapid flight My somber muse too sadly sings, Thanks for the gleam of golden light That tints the darkness of their wings. The light that beams from out the sky, The heavenly mansions to unfold, Where all are blest and none may sigh, 'I'm growing old.'"

Papering A Room.—How One Woman Cuts and Pastes.

I have hung paper many years and the first thing that I do is to make the size or paste. Many use starch but I use flour as it is very much cheaper and is just as good. Stir a cup of flour smoothly in a little water, let it just boil, then take off the stove and cool. Trim the paper on the right side edge, then measure the length or height of the room and notch the figure. Cut up in lengths; one roll usually makes six lengths for country houses.

Don't try to paper close to the top of the room as the border will cover the edge. The corners are the hardest to do well. I always spread paste with a white-wash brush, it holds paste so well and does the work so quickly. A long board is also needed the length and a little wider than the paper if possible. I always do my own painting as it costs so much to hire everything done.

Food for the Farmers' Table.

The fact is more and more recognized that the intellectual and moral excellence of a person depends to a great extent upon the physical health. A sound mind in a sound body is nature's rule. What a sense of responsibility it gives the wife and mother who realizes that the highest possibilities of achievement of husband and sons depend upon the correct adjustment of mental, moral and physical conditions, and that over the latter, and hence over all, she largely has control.

It is said that a majority of the most successful men of our country have been reared upon farms. If this is true, in spite of the unscientific cooking of our mothers

and grandmothers, many of whom had never thought of any connection between philosophy and feeding, what possibilities may not the future have in store for us and our sons with THE LIGHT OF MODERN SCIENCE THROWN UPON US

and our moulding boards and soup kettles. Let us not be too fast, however, to condemn the old way, for many a mother, though utterly ignorant of hygienic laws has, by her intuitive good sense aided by her experience, habitually prepared food for her family as palatable and nourishing as that prepared by any of the new methods.

It is often a most perplexing state of things for the farmer's wife who is denied the advantages of the cooking school and the demonstration of scientific methods and is too remote from a market to have any resources but those of the farm. With her it is not a question of what is the best food material for building up and maintaining the power of muscle and nerve and brain, but what that comes within her reach will best serve that purpose; and for the best ways of combining and preparing this material she must depend upon her reading, her experience and her judgment.

In the first place the farmer's wife has a right—too often unacknowledged by him—to all the food resources of the farm. She should have a variety of meats furnished. Pork is, and probably will continue, the farmer's staple meat, notwithstanding all that has been said against it. Many who condemn its use do not consider the fact that the vigorous out-door life of the farmer will permit him to eat, especially in winter, an amount of pork that would make the man of sedentary habits a dyspeptic in a month; however, it should not be, especially in summer, their main animal food, and need not be. A farmer can fatten veal, beef and mutton, and in almost any community, by exchanging with his neighbors, can have fresh meat a large part of each week. In an ice-house, which every farmer should have, meat will keep from two to three weeks, and be better at last than when first killed. Then the farmer's wife should have a good vegetable garden, with plenty of fruit, especially small fruit. This is often a most difficult thing to accomplish, for the average farmer does not see the necessity of it, and thinks he has not the time to attend to such small matters; but he should have. In most families the wife—with all her cares—aided by the children, will willingly assist in caring for the growing fruit and vegetables; but the ground must be prepared for her, and masculine help is necessary. On this point, my sisters, be firm. Use reason, persuasion, insistence, if necessary, but do not yield UNTIL YOU HAVE THE VEGETABLE GARDEN PLANTED.

and a piece of well-prepared ground set with, at least, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries and currants, to say nothing of having apples, pears, grapes, cherries and plums that should be a part of the product of every farm. It seems strange that many farmers who enjoy and appreciate good, wholesome living, will yet give so grudgingly the time and help necessary to furnish it. It is generally due to his education and early habits, if he was brought up upon an old-fashioned farm; but every farmer should have sufficient respect for his wife's rights, and sufficient confidence in her judgment to provide those things because she thinks it is necessary, even if he does not.

She should also have good bread stuffs, and with these resources at her command, every farmer's wife should set before her family good, palatable, nourishing food in fair variety, throughout the year, and her husband and sons will continue to be of the "brain and brawn" of the nation.—Grange Homes.

Potted Meats.

The potting of meats and fish is an art in which English housewives eminently excel. Devilled ham and tongue put up in this way are peculiarly delicious. Little earthen or stoneware jars with straight sides are best adapted

to this purpose, as the potted meat may be slipped out in perfect cylindrical form from such a jar and cut up in slices for luncheon or supper. Potted meat must be pounded to a paste in all cases, and packed very firmly in the jar with as little gravy or butter as it is possible to use and manipulate it. "The more the meat is pounded," says an old English authority on this subject, "the better it will be."

In order to prepare a ham in this way boil it till it is thoroughly done. Separate the fat from the lean. Chop the lean fine, putting in about a quarter of a pound of fat with every pound of chopped meat. Pound the meat and fat to a paste in a mortar, season it with a quarter of a saltspoonful of cayenne pepper to every pound of paste and mix it thoroughly for a plain potted ham. If you wish the ham devilled prepare a seasoning powder in the proportions of a teaspoonful of dry mustard, half a teaspoonful composed of equal parts of mace and cloves, half saltspoonful of nutmeg, half a saltspoonful of cayenne, the same amount of white pepper and a teaspoonful of sugar. Mix all these ingredients thoroughly when dry and add this quantity to a quart of chopped ham. Pound the meat to a paste with the seasoning. Taste it to see if it is properly seasoned, as there is a difference in the seasoning powers of spices and condiments purchased at different times. If the ham seems properly seasoned pack it firmly in the earthen jars, covering them closely. If nothing else is at hand a stiff paste of flour and water cut so as to fit closely over the mouth of each of the jars will do very well for this purpose. Set the jars containing the potted meats in a pan of boiling water and put the pan in the oven and let the meat cook in this way for one hour. Then remove the jars; let them cool with the covers on, and when perfectly cool cover them with melted butter to the depth of a quarter of an inch. English housewives often use clarified butter for this purpose. This is obtained by melting butter in a saucepan and heating it till any remnant of buttermilk in it rises to the top, when it should be skimmed off. The clear butter is then poured off through a fine sieve, care being taken not to disturb any sediment that is at the bottom. Tie a close bladder cover over the jars of meat or paste them up, and they will keep for months. It may be that this potted ham would "keep in any climate and any length of time," but it would be safer to test the recipe perfectly in view of the purpose which T. M. M., who asked for this rule, has in mind. We do not think there is any large manufacturer of potted and devilled meats in this country, though there are a number of establishments where canned meats are put up in tin.

Tongue is cooked and prepared exactly like the ham for potting, except that in place of the fat of the ham two tablespoonfuls of butter are added to every pound of chopped meat and salt to the taste. Plain potted tongue is exceedingly nice cut in slices for sandwiches. These meats all need to be packed very firmly. They must be quite cold and a very keen-edged knife must be used when they are sliced. The cake of butter on top of a potted meat is first removed when the meat is taken out of the jar and may be used for basting meats, frying omelets or potatoes, or almost any meat cooking, or for cream or other meat or fish sauces. We have never seen ham fat tried out and used over the top of potted ham, but probably it could be used with perfect success in place of butter. In extensive potting operations this would be a considerable item of saving. The only use of the butter on the potted meat is to exclude the air. Country housekeepers seal up their pans of sausage meat in this same way which they do not intend for immediate use, covering them with lard and keeping them in a very cold place.—N. Y. Tribune.

Let us be careful to take just ways to compass just things, that they may last in their benefits to us.—William Penn.

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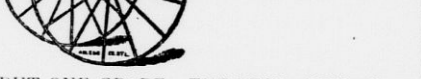
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Write for catalogue and prices. Mention this paper

G. R. & I. RAIL ROAD.

Feb. 1, 1891.—Central Standard Time.

Table showing train schedules for GOING NORTH and GOING SOUTH, listing stations and times.

Nos. 5 and 6 daily between Grand Rapids and Cincinnati.

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No. 97, going north, leaves at Kalamazoo 7 10 p.m.

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A Public School Idyl.

Ram it in, cram it in— Children's heads are hollow: Slam it in, jam it in— Still there's more to follow; Hygiene and History, Astronomic mystery, Algebra, Histology, Latin, Etymology, Botany, Geometry, Greek and Trigonometry— Ram it in, cram it in— Children's heads are hollow:

Rap it in, tap it in— What are teachers paid fo? Bang it in, slap it in— What are children made for? Ancient Archaeology, Aryan Philology, Prosody, Zoology, Physics, Clinicology, Calculus and Mathematics, Rhetoric and Hydrostatics— Hoax it in, coax it in— Children's heads are hollow:

Rub it in, clu v it in— All there is in learning; Punch it in, crunch it in— Quench their childish yearning For the field and grassy nook, Meadow green and rippling brook; Drive such wicked thoughts afar, Teach the children that they are But machines to cram it in, Bang it in, slam it in— That their heads are hollow.

Scold it in, mold it in— All they can swallow; Fald it in, mold it in. Still there's more to follow! Faces pinched and sad and pale, Tell the same undying tale— Tell of moments robbed from sleep, Meals untasted, studies deep, Those who've passed the furnace through Withaching bow will tell to you How the teacher crammed it in, Rammed it in, jammed it in, Crunched it in, punched it in, Rubbed it in, clubbed it in, Pressed it in and caressed it in, When their heads were hollow. —Courier-Journal.

Advice to a Young Man.

So you were a little too pert, and spoke without thinking, did you, my son? And you got picked ap quite suddenly on your statement, eh? Oh, well, that's all right; that happens to older men than you every day. I have noticed that you have a very positive way of filing a decision where other men state an opinion, and you frequently make a positive assertion where other men merely express a belief. But never mind; you are young. You will know less as you grow older. "Don't I mean you will know more?" Heaven forbid, my boy. No, indeed; I mean that you will know less. You will never know more than you do: never. If you live to be 10,000 years old, you will never again know as much as you do now. No hoary-headed sage, whose long and studious years were spent in reading men and books, ever knew as much as a boy of your age. A girl of fifteen knows about as much, but then she gets over it sooner and more easily. "Does it cause a pang, then, to get rid of early knowledge?" Ah, my boy, it does. Pulling eye teeth and molars will seem like pleasant recreation alongside of shredding off great solid slabs and layers of wisdom and knowledge that now press upon you like geological strata. "But how are you to get rid of all this superincumbent wisdom?" Oh, easily enough, my boy; just keep on airing it; that's the best way. It won't stand constant use, and it disintegrates rapidly on exposure to air.—Burdette, in the Brooklyn Eagle.

Theory and Practice.

There is a disposition among some farmers to decry experiments and speak of them as theoretical farming, yet these same farmers will "plant in the moon." One is a theory conducted upon accepted scientific methods, seeking after truth—a result to prove the correctness of the theory; the other is a theory based upon superstition with not a particle of truth to sustain it. The "moon" farmer is nothing but a theorist, and without a reason for anything he does. The scientific farmer is a practical farmer and can give a reason for his successes and failures. Failures are as instructive as successes, and worth as much to the practical farmer. Farmers want truth; and a theory that will establish the truth is good. If we want to prolong life we must know what will impair our health. So in order to produce profitable crops we must know what will not produce them.—Agricultural Journal.

Keep a Record.

Are you going to keep an account of this year's business, or will you go it hap-hazard as usual, not knowing whether you are making or losing? We have had this subject called very forcibly to mind in preparing this number. Not one in ten of the farmers we have asked for information had kept books enough so he could give any fair idea of whether he had made or lost money any given year. In fact, it was next to impossible to find one who could give a business-like statement of any crop. Not because they were not smart enough, but because of careless habits they had no data to make a statement from. When a man has to keep a mortgage, like a thermometer, to know whether he has made anything, (if it gets smaller, he gains, if he loses it gets bigger,) he isn't doing business farming.—Western Farmer and Stockman.

The Secret of Happiness.

The most common error among men and women is that of looking for happiness somewhere outside of useful work. It has never yet been found in that way, and never will be while the world stands; and the sooner this truth is learned the better for every one. If you doubt the proposition, glance around among your friends and acquaintance, and select those who appear to have the most enjoyment in life. Are they the idlers and pleasure-seekers, or the earnest workers? We know what your answer will be.

Of all miserable human beings it has been our fortune, or misfortune, to know, they were the most wretched who had retired from useful employment in order to enjoy themselves. Why, the slave at his enforced labor, or the hungry toiler for bread, were supremely happy in comparison. Earnestly would we press upon young minds the truth we have stated. It lies at the foundation of all well-doing and well-being. It gives tranquility and pleasure to the youth just stepping across the threshold of rational life, as well as to the man whose years are beginning to rest upon his stooping shoulders. Be ever engaged in useful work, if you would be happy. This is the great secret.—Arthur's Magazine.

Sleep and Bed-Clothes.

The question is one which a physician is very frequently asked. In quite a proportion of cases, the query might be answered by saying: "Because you sleep under too many or too heavy bed-covers." An excessive amount of heat during sleep occasions nervousness and wakefulness, through exciting the heart's action, and thus causing congestion of the brain. Of course it is important that the feet and limbs should be warm, but the amount of covering should never be so great as to induce perspiration. Old-fashioned, heavy cotton quilts are not to be recommended. Woolen blankets are the only really wholesome material for use as bed-covers, and nothing further is needed except a thin counterpane to protect the bedding from dust.—Good Health.

Olive Thorne Miller, in a paper in the April Atlantic, called "From My Widow," tells about her "Bird Study."

She says:— The best place I have found for spying upon the habits of birds is behind a blind. If one can command a window with outside blinds, looking upon a spot attractive to the feathered world, he will be sure, sooner or later, to see every bird of the vicinity. If he will keep the blinds closed and look only through the opened slats, he will witness more of their unconstrained free ways than can possibly be seen by a person within their sight, though he assume the attitude and the stolidity of a wooden figure. Says our nature-poet, Emerson:

"You often thread the woods in vain To see what singer piped the strain. Seek not, and the little eremite Flies forth and gayly sings in sight."

And the bird student can testify to the truth of the verse.

Many times, after having spent the morning in wandering about in the bird haunts of a neighborhood, I have returned to my room to write up my note-book, and I have seen more of birds and bird life in an hour from my window than during the whole morning's stroll.

Sister Rose Gertrude has written another article for the Ladies' Home Journal for June, on "What It Is to Be a Leper," in which she gives a clear glimpse of leper life in Molokai; how the disease is contracted; how it is treated and cured, and how the lepers live in their exile.

Are you a hired man? Well, you are as good as the man who hires you, if you choose to be. Perhaps you are better. Be a man always; do your duty faithfully, and if there are children about be very careful as to what you do and say before them.—Western Rural.

One of the finest and most enjoyable entertainments ever held at Capital Grange, where good entertainments are by no means uncommon, was given on Saturday evening, April 18, by Miss Pearl Bank, a member of the Grange, and daughter of A. D. Bank, the master of the Grange. Excepting only a few pieces of music, the entertainment consisted entirely of reading, or rather recitations, by Miss Bank, who had just returned from New York City, where for several months she has been pursuing a course of study in reading and physical culture under the tutorage of that accomplished and successful teacher, Miss Ida Benfey. Miss Bank's selections for the occasion were: "The secrets of the heart," by Austin Dobson; "The ballad a la mode," Austin Dobson; "Kentucky courtship," "His majesty the king," Rudyard Kipling; "The pilot's story," W. D. Howells; and "Louisiana," Frances Hodgson Burnett.

Miss Bank was greeted with a full house. When she came upon the platform the gifted young lady was received with enthusiastic applause, and no higher compliment can be paid her than the simple statement of fact that from the beginning of the first selection, "The secrets of the heart," to the close of the last one, "Louisiana," a period of more than one hour, she held the rapt attention of the entire audience. A good portion of the time while rendering the last selection, which was very long and would have been exceedingly trying to a young speaker not thoroughly disciplined, she was listened to with almost breathless silence.

This was Miss Bank's first appearance before a miscellaneous audience, yet her success was complete. Her mastery of her selections is perfect, not only in the matter of memorizing the words, but in evidently clear comprehension of the subject matter. This was shown in the modulation of the voice, the wonderful changes in facial expression, and the easy, natural, and effective gestures. She made her auditors feel that she was expressing her own rather than another's thought.

Miss Bank intends very soon to enter the field as a teacher of reading and physical culture. Those who had the pleasure of listening to her on Saturday night anticipate for her eminent success.

C. G. Lansing, April 23d, 1891.

Mr. Bok, editor of The Ladies' Home Journal, recently gave some interesting figures relative to manuscripts received by his magazine for 1890. Mr. Bok says that he received at his office 15,205 manuscripts. Of these 2,280 were poems; 1,746 stories and 11,179 miscellaneous articles. Of the poems, 66 were accepted; of the stories, only 21, and of the articles 410, of which latter, however, over 300 were solicited articles. Thus, it will be seen that of the entire 15,000 manuscripts only 497 were accepted; a trifle over three per cent. Deducting from this the 300 accepted articles written at the editor's solicitation, the net percentage of unsolicited manuscripts accepted is brought down to 197, or a little more than one per cent. Statistics such as these show how much utter trash is being written, and the number of persons writing who ought to employ their time at something else and better.

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We warn readers to give no heed to anything—truss, dress, belts, bands, slippers, brushes, batteries, or what not—claiming to cure, heal, help, or otherwise benefit, on account of "electric," "magnetic," or "galvanic" feature of operation. — Judd Farmer.

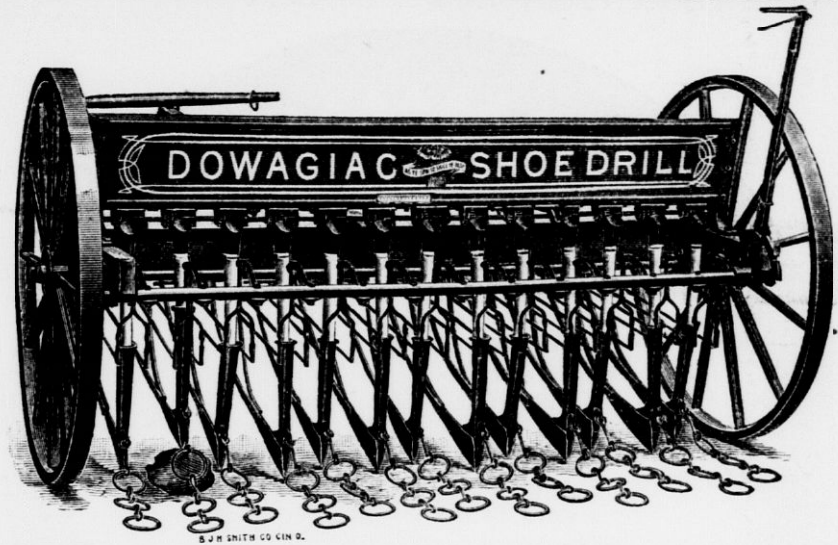
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FOR LADIES ONLY. I will send any Secret, that cost me \$5.00, & a Rubber Shield for 30 cents. MRS. J. A. KISSMAN & CO., 20 River St., CHICAGO, ILL.

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The Most Simple, Practical and Effective Drill,
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In the market. It does not clog; it does not turn up sods; it does put the grain in at even depths on all soils, and it pleases everybody.

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The demand for a good side-spring buggy has been gradually growing for several years, and there have been several new springs put on the market in consequence. The most of these have proved failures, the construction being such that there was no chance for the side-spring to lengthen when loaded, hence the motion was short and sharp, or the gear was thrown out of "track." In the "Wolverine" these objections are avoided. There are four springs which are put together in such manner that each is allowed full play without straining any part of the gear. It has a wrought iron fifth wheel, clip kingbolt, and a double reach. Every buggy should have a well braced reach to make it keep in "track."

The GRANGE VISITOR has made arrangements with the manufacturer, Arthur Wood, of Grand Rapids, to sell to subscribers to this paper the above buggy at a price within the reach of every farmer who needs a buggy. We have examined every part of the works, and stake the reputation of the VISITOR on the good qualities of every job. A two-horse two-seated wagon with three springs, just right to take the family to church, for \$55.00.

Hear what those say who have used them:

After using one two years, Dr. H. H. Power, of Saranac, writes as follows: "There is nothing to compare with the 'Wolverine' for ease, comfort and durability."
COLDWATER, Mich., April 24th, 1891—Some years ago I purchased two single buggies of Arthur Wood, of Grand Rapids, and found them to be strong and durable. They have been in use eight or ten years, and have proved to be satisfactory in all respects. CYRUS G. LUCE.
PAW PAW, May 1st, 1891—In 1875 I purchased an open buggy of Arthur Wood. It has been in constant use since and promises several years service. I have now ordered one of the Wolverine top buggies on the reputation they sustain for excellence, workmanship and durability. J. C. GOULD.

Send the money to the editor of this paper, and the buggy will be sent direct from the factory.

A SUMMER SCHOOL

For those who wish to prepare for teaching or take Business or Short Hand course, will open JULY 6, at

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TEACHERS' COURSE \$1.00 per WEEK.
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Premiums: A subscriber to a Single Share receives free one 5 qt. machine at \$6.05; to Two Shares either one 1 qt. machine at \$11.00, or sides the Shares, each a \$10.00, full paid and unassessable.

Terms: \$6.00 to be sent with application, and the remaining \$4.00 within three months, for each share subscribed. The premium machines and a receipt for the money will be sent to each subscriber after the first payment of \$6.00 per share is received, and the regular Certificate of Shares issued upon receipt of the balance, which must be paid within three months to be valid. It must be evident to all that we give full value for the first payment, in sending the premium machines, and that the full shares can be obtained for about \$4.00 each, after the subscriber has had ample time to become convinced of the excellent merits of the machine and the investment.

The investment will pay a dividend of at least 25 per cent.
The money received for the shares will not be used for experimenting purposes, but strictly as working capital, since the manufacture of the machines is fully established. We are sole owners of the patents of Mr. F. A. Frank, who will be General Manager of the Company; and are also the owners, patentees and sole manufacturers of the celebrated "HERO" machine, the best machine for Emulsion, Powder Mixing, Perfumes, Pomade, Extracts, Komyss, etc. These machines received the highest awards at the World's Exposition at Paris, and are in use by the leading Druggists, Apothecaries, Perfumers, etc., of New York City.

Many thousands of Frank's American Wonder Machines have been sold, and are in constant use, as well throughout this country, as in Europe, Brazil, South America, Australia, etc., all giving entire satisfaction under any and every climate, as can be proved by thousands of testimonials received from customers. Subscribers will be allotted their shares, in the order that their subscriptions are received, until stock is exhausted; then those to whom we cannot issue any shares, shall have the privilege of taking a machine at 25 per cent discount from list price, or otherwise have money refunded. Address, inclosing 2c. stamp, for purchase of machine, or subscription to shares, or for circulars.

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AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Feb. 25th, 1891.
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Sir—The specimen of tankage you sent me for analysis has been analyzed with the following percentage results:

ANALYSIS.	
Organic Nitrogen as Ammonia.....	4.96
Phosphoric Acid (P. 2. O. 5).....	5.97
Equivalent to Bone Phosphate.....	13.02
	R. C. KEDZIE.

Farmers and Fruit Growers, give us a trial. Honest goods give satisfactory results.
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