

# GRANGE VISITOR

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

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## EQUALIZE THE BENEFITS.

### Comparative Productive Power of Money Invested in Farming and Manufacturing.

S. B. MCCracken.

I was greatly interested in reading the able article by S. S. Bailey in the VISITOR of December 1st, on the subject of highway legislation. It is not my purpose to follow out the line of his argument farther than to bring out more clearly one thought that it suggested, or rather to suggest an additional argument in favor of government aid in building highways.

The pivotal thought that I have in mind has reference to the relative producing value of money as invested in farming and manufacturing. By the application of machinery in manufactures, a given amount of capital will multiply its producing capacity say tenfold. In other words, a machine costing \$1,000, handled by a single operator, will turn out as much of a given commodity as could be turned out by ten operatives in the same length of time working by hand. So that the producing capacity of a given sum invested in manufactures is increased relatively in this ratio over what it was before the adaptation of machinery to the same class of work.

How is it with money invested in farming? Take any given ten acres of land costing \$100 per acre, and how much more can the farmer get out of it than he could fifty years ago? If it would produce then an average of 20 bushels of wheat to the acre, by what magical process can it be made now to produce 200 bushels to the acre? And yet it ought to do just that thing in order to equalize the productive capacity of the farmer's capital with that of the manufacturer. And yet, as a matter of fact, an acre of land will produce no more of wheat or any other crop with the same tillage than it would fifty years ago. The application of farm machinery has reduced to some extent the labor of tillage and gathering, but the gain is very small compared with the percentage of gain which machinery gives the manufacturer. Besides, there is no one article of farm machinery that can be used beyond a few weeks in the year, while the machinery of the manufacturer is run the year round. In making these comparisons, railroads, for obvious reasons, should be classed with manufactures.

To this great disparity in the productive power of money as employed by the two classes of industries, may we not justly attribute the enormous aggregations of wealth in the cities and the comparative impoverishment of the farming interest? If this conclusion be a justifiable one, it certainly affords a strong reason why the common wealth of the country should contribute to the building of the common roads of the country.

But the thought leads us beyond the mere matter of road making. If I have stated the tendency or the law rightly, its operation must ultimately be to greatly reduce the value of farm lands, and their absorption by large proprietors. This last result will establish a co-relation between the farming and other industries, and thereby tend to an equalization of benefits or profits, because the several interests will be more or less controlled by a common proprietary, as in the case of the railway, telegraph, coal and oil combines. The small farmer of today may a few years hence find himself where the local manufacturer of the departing generation now is. As the latter is now but a wage worker for the manufacturer

barons, so may the former become but a wage worker for the agricultural barons.

New social and economic problems confront the best thinkers of this age. Where the solution is to be found is not very clear. How are we to secure a more equal distribution of the proceeds of labor, whether urban or rural? How are the benefits arising from modern industrial methods to be equalized? Certainly to require the more dense and wealthy communities to share the burden of improving the common highways would be but a step in a path the limit of which is lost in the dim distance.

Mr. Bailey very pungently says that "the day has come when the State should begin to square an everlasting debt with the farmer."

In a lecture which I wrote some time ago, in referring to the relations of the farming communities to the cities, I said: "The chasm between farm and city life needs to be bridged." How is it to be done?

Detroit.

## EDUCATION, THE CENTRAL IDEA OF THE GRANGE.

J. H. BRIGHAM.

It was the purpose of the "Founders of our Order" to make it a social, educational and fraternal society, composed of farmers, their wives, sons and daughters, and although the attention of the Order has been directed to the need of reform in the management of public affairs, and to agencies for bettering the financial condition of farmers, the original purpose has never been abandoned but rather widened so as to embody all forms of education needed by those who are engaged in tilling the soil. From time to time in the official publication of the Order, the importance of a more thorough education of farmers has been discussed and at the tenth annual session a committee was appointed to consider the subject and report upon it, and from that time to the present, the committee on education has been one of the most important standing committees at each session of the National Grange, and so far as I can learn, each State Grange has a committee for the same purpose. And year by year the impression is gaining ground that the real, all important work of the Grange is to educate and elevate the farming class of our country. The results of our efforts no man can measure. Mr. O. H. Kelly in his investigations when considering the subject of organizing the farmers, reported that very few farmers subscribed for agricultural journals and very few libraries were found in farmer's homes. The Grange has revolutionized these conditions and wherever it has secured a foothold the farmer's center table is loaded with journals, magazines, etc., and a library is considered one of the "necessaries of life." Farmers have learned to read, discuss, and think and when called upon to address intelligent audiences they acquit themselves with credit. The Grange has taught the farmers to take a livelier interest in the public schools, and a marked improvement in the same is the result. Attention has also been directed to those institutions which receive the land grant fund of the general government for the establishment and maintenance of colleges where the leading branches taught should pertain to agriculture and the mechanic arts. And many of these institutions have been brought into line and are doing good work. Others are feeling the influences of our efforts as an order and realize that there is trouble in store for them if they fail to keep

faith with those who have not received the benefits intended by that beneficent act of the government. There is in fact no important feature of our work which is not educational in a great degree. Such an institution can hardly be permitted to languish, much less die, and I predict that it will go on and on, carefully considering each step, conservative but untiring, until agriculture as a calling shall be respected and honored by the most enlightened of all our citizens.

## REMINISCENCES.

E. BIDDLEMAN.

In the month of January, 1866 President Andrew Johnson sent O. H. Kelly on a tour through the Southern States to report on the condition of the agricultural and mineral resources. After an extended tour in the South but in the whole land there were evils which all acknowledged but for which no remedy had as yet been found.

The farmers were scattered divided in opinion, seemingly indifferent to their condition and to Mr. Kelly it seemed that the only way of relief was to organize them and to try and get them to concentrate their efforts to improve the situation of affairs.

To this end he enlisted Wm Saunders, Wm. M. Ireland, John R. Thompson, Rev. Dr. John Trimble, and Rev. A. B. Grosh, and after much discussion and many suggestions, on the 5th day of Aug. Messrs. Kelly and Ireland compiled the first degree of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and on the 12th of Aug. Mr. Saunders left Washington on business for the Dept. of Agr. He took with him the first degree of the Order and was successful in starting the work and on the 4th of Dec. the National Grange was organized at Mr. Saunderson's house in Washington, electing Wm Saunders Master and O. H. Kelly Secretary.

Soon after a subordinate Grange was organized in Washington with 60 members.

The first dispensation by the National Grange was for a Grange in Harrisburg, Penn., next Fredonia, N. Y., next, Columbus, Ohio, next Chicago, Ill.

Early the next year Mr. Kelly left for Minnesota, which was his home, for the purpose of organizing Subordinate Granges.

In one month he organized 6 in Minnesota and the growth spread rapidly.

At first farmers were very shy. They were not accustomed to secret societies, but when its objects were explained and the benefits which they expected to gain, they very quickly grasped the idea and the Order grew very rapidly. I have no report of the number until Oct. 4, 1873, when the whole number of Granges then in active operation was 6914. Of this Number, Ill., 652, Ind., 421, Ia., 1811, Kan., 577, Minn., 353, Missouri, 672, Neb., 327, Wis. 209—5228 showing that in the states mentioned farmers were alive to the necessity of organization and united action. At this date there were 81 Granges in Mich., I am unable to give the exact date of the organization of the Mich. State Grange. But in the month of June, one morning picking up the Detroit Post and Tribune I saw an account of the election as Master of Mich. State Grange the day before S. F. Brown, and Sec. Bro. Cobb. I immediately wrote to Sec. Cobb saying "tell me of this Grange movement. I have read occasional notices of its rapid growth in Iowa and that through its workings and

influence the millenium for farmers was promised—let me know something of its work, its objects, and how we are to proceed to share in its benefits."

Sec. Cobb wrote me that really he could hardly answer my questions; he was very new in the business. He sent me three or four very small leaflets, which to me were very unsatisfactory as they really gave but little information. There was in operation at that time several farmer clubs at which the more progressive farmers were comparing notes and trying to devise means for the improvement of our situation and I remember one of the clubs in an adjoining town was in the latter part of Sept. to discuss the subject of co-operation.

A goodly number of farmers met on this occasion, compared notes as to crop prospects and when the president called the meeting to order he said the gentleman who was expected to open the discussion for some reason had failed to put in his appearance and he called on me to open the discussion. I replied, I had thought much on the subject but could give no definite remedy. But I had in my pocket a letter received that day from a man who wished me to make an appointment for him to lecture in regard to the benefits to be derived from the new farmers' organization called the Grange and said I had read something of its work in Iowa and had once written to Sec. Cobb, but got no satisfaction. After quite a talk and quite a bit of cold water thrown on the matter it was agreed to call a meeting to be held in the court house on the first Monday night in Oct., as then the board of Supervisors of Branch Co. would be in session and the information would be more widely disseminated. The meeting was well advertised and I started to meet the lecturer who had written me he would be at Quincy on the arrival of the 2:30 train on the Saturday before, as he was going to an adjoining town to speak on Saturday eve. I was at Quincy on the arrival of the train looking for Mr. King, a man I never had seen nor even had a description of; but I saw a badge with a sheaf of wheat and plow, and at a venture called him King, and found I had guessed right. On Monday night the court house was well filled, and Mr. King gave a talk, devoting his whole time to the middleman, who according to his account was getting for his services very much more than the manufacturer and enumerating among other things, lumber wagons, price to farmers \$100 to \$110, the manufacturers price \$50 to \$55. Reapers \$150 to \$175, \$75 to \$80, Sugar which retailed at 8 to 10 cents cost at wholesale 4 to 5, and so on through the chapter. Mr. King only touched on the financial benefits and drew it so strong he rather overdid the business and did not leave as good an impression as he might, but some few of us thought it worth trying and by dint of hard labor Bro. J. D. W. Fisk, who still is one of the special deputies for Mich., and myself, prevailed on just enough to get together on Thanksgiving night at Brother Clark Williams' house and organized Coldwater Grange No. 137, which is now I believe one of the live Granges of Michigan. In that Grange, while we went in for the benefits of co-operation in making our purchases for our families' supplies in a limited way, we made a greater effort to improve ourselves in a social and educational way and once a month came a literary treat, and our excellent Grange feasts, often making them public meetings. Our Grange grew and at the end of 3 years we had 100 members, and at that time there were 20 Granges

in Branch County with memberships from 70 to 180 members.

The first annual meeting for the State Grange of Michigan was in Kalamazoo and the P. M. and wife, W. M. and wife and Sec. and wife of each Grange were the representatives and entitled to seats, per diem and mileage, and they all were there. Kalamazoo's hotel arrangements were greatly strained to accommodate the gathering. No very important matters were submitted for action, as at that time all were feeling their way like men in the dark.

Another year rolled by, we were in Grand Rapids at the second annual session of the State Grange. There were present between 600 and 700 delegates. The Executive Committee of the State Grange had been during the fall trying to make arrangements with the land plaster syndicate whereby they would recognize the right of farmers to buy car lots as cheap as dealers could and supposed the arrangement was completed and satisfactory and only to be ratified by the Grange. But they repudiated their agreement at the last hour, and the result was the purchase and equipment of a plaster mill by the executive committee of the State Grange, and a resolution was unanimously adopted not to use a pound of plaster manufactured by the combination, and the resolution was so honestly carried in to effect, that although they put plaster from 50c to \$1.00 below the price the Grange will buy, and farmers without the Grange stood by us. I was that season in charge of a small Grange supply grocery stock and a plaster house, and we put out five tons to their one that season. The result was they weakened, their combination was broken, and plaster was sold to all alike. This victory was one which did more to encourage combined effort and help farmers than anything which to that time had occurred.

I believe it could not be estimated, the benefit the Grange has been in a pecuniary way to the farmers. But great as that benefit has been, it is not to be compared to the social and educational benefits and I will hazard the assertion there is no class of people in our own most favored State who are today better qualified to fill the proud place of citizens in all that term means than are the farmers.

Lansing.

## POLITICAL SCIENCE.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—I desire to call the attention of your readers, embracing some of the ablest thinkers of the State, to the organization of the Political Science Association of Michigan. The object of this society being the study of economic, financial and social questions. Among its members are found such men as Judges Cooley, Cahill Champlin; Bishop Gillespie, Rev. Washington Gardner. The press of the State is represented by W. E. Quinby of the Detroit Free Press, Perry F. Powers of the Cadillac News and Express. Numerous college men, including such men as Pres. Angell, ex-Superintendent Fitch, Profs. Adams, Taylor, Cooley, Butts, Col. J. B. Rogers, Austin, et al. Bankers are represented by Hinchmen of Detroit, Osband of Lansing. There should be members from the Grange, mingling the best talent of our State together; it could not fail to produce good results. The next meeting of the society will be in Ann Arbor, Feb. 21 or 22. The question of State banks of issue will probably be discussed. Can we not have some of the talent that appears on the floor of the Grange in this association?

JAS. N. McBRIDE, Treas.

Field and Stock.

BEEF CATTLE FOR MICHIGAN.

Read before the Breeders of Improved Live Stock at Lansing, Dec. 20, 1892, by Hon. Edwin Phelps of Pontiac.

The subject assigned me is a very important one in that it affects the pockets of all farmers who are either producers or consumers and all are affected either one way or the other and many are both breeders and consumers. The original scrub was the all-purpose animal of the early days of this country and in fact of the old countries from the earliest history up to within a comparatively recent date, and while the best the world afforded was very poor as compared with the improved breeds of today, and in fact were much inferior to the so-called scrub of the present, but were not perfect by any means. Then comes the scrub of the present time which all unite in denouncing as unworthy a civilized community; this breed, if it can be called a breed, being the result of all sorts of crosses and all sorts of care and in most cases no care at all, being allowed to subsist as best it may; often upon scanty herbage in summer and in the colder portions of our country the straw stack for food and the lee side of a wire fence for shelter. This breed does not furnish the very best of beef, even after the most painstaking efforts in fattening.

There are, at present, several so-called beef breeds—the Shorthorns, the Long horns and the no horns—each having established a more or less wide reputation as beef producers.

In the most fertile and level portions, in what is known as the corn belt, where grain is abundant and pastures are rich, there the Shorthorns have an excellent reputation and in many places are prime favorites but will not bear neglect.

In the rougher or mountainous sections of our land they do not prove as satisfactory; having in those parts to travel farther and over more rugged ways to gather the scanty herbage, they do not thrive.

For the rougher parts and also the milder portion as well as the great ranges of the west and southwest the Long horns and the no horns are very popular and profitable, being natural grazers, active and hardy, with plenty of endurance to buffet storms and often to go far for their supply of food and water, they thrive much better than their heavier and more sluggish relations, making good returns for the outlay expended. Another thing, their hardy nature enables them better to ward off disease.

Regarding the relative merits of different breeds, I recall a reply made to arguments in favor of a certain popular breed in which the speaker tried to prove that they were superior to some and equal to any as beef producers. My friend explained that he had a Dutchman at home that could eat all the good beef on any animal of the breed named at one sitting; I concluded either the first speaker had greatly overrated the breed he advocated or my friend's Dutchman had a wonderful capacity for packing beef. I often wondered if his capacity was often tested and if he is still alive.

I now come to my favorite breed, one that is a favorite breed always and everywhere, not very numerous as yet, but slowly gaining in popularity all over the land, a breed that always pays, both in the purse and in satisfaction to the owner and all who see them, an inspiration to the boys, a help to better efforts to properly care for their comfort, tending to make better men in community, an object lesson that is never forgotten even if sometimes not practiced, I mean fat cattle. We have Short-horn cattle, Hereford cattle, Devon cattle, Polled cattle, but all too few fat cattle. We often find scrub Short-horns, scrub Herefords, scrub Devons and so on through the list. How few fat animals but are attractive and do not elicit praise from all beholders.

With regard to the several breeds as now known and recognized as pure bred there is not in my opinion (formed by many years' breeding and somewhat extended observation) the marked difference their advocates claim, there being excellent individuals in all breeds as well as many unprofitable and unsightly ones. I am reminded of a

remark of a friend of mine, a noted Short-horn breeder of our county, who said, if sitting at a friend's stable, an especially nice bit of beef was placed before him, he did not dare ask what breed the animal was from which it was cut for fear it was of some other breed than his favorite, and if the meat was not tender and juicy he did not care to ask for fear it was Short-horn beef. I think all candid observers will admit that good animals may be found in all the beef breeds.

The lessons taught by the "fat stock shows" prove beyond question that no one breed can be relied upon to furnish the first prize animals. It has sometimes occurred that cross-bred or grade animals have carried off the prizes in competition with the best animals of the several pure breeds. In the economy of production, no one breed can claim superiority, as has been proven by many experiments made by painstaking educators, not only at our own experiment station but at many other stations, as also individual feeders. The prejudice of older breeders is being rapidly overcome; as in religious matters the best is being sought, without regard to creed or name. Thus we find all admire and seek my favorite breed, the fat animal.

In order that all may possess this favorite breed it is not necessary to go to some noted breeder or importer and pay exorbitant prices for foundation stock with which to start a herd; all have the foundation on their own premises and may by proper care and attention soon attain to that perfection so much desired: an example that came under my observation will show how easy it is to accomplish. A man having three cows that dropped each a calf at nearly the same time decided to grow the calves for beef, and at the end of a year sold them for \$50 each to a local butcher—no great price, perhaps, when we know they weighed 1,000 lbs. each, but the profit was very satisfactory when we consider that no great amount was invested in the breeding, only constant, liberal, and careful attention to their comfort.

Another example, showing the profit of skillful handling: Two neighbors attended a public sale of pure bred stock, each with a grade bull calf; one sold for \$100, while the other brought \$30, both equally well bred, only care made the difference in value. And so we see no one has a monopoly of the breed, all that is necessary is liberal and intelligent handling. Do not understand me as disparaging the efforts made to improve the quality of beef cattle by breeders and importers in the past by line breeding and judicious crossing—it has accomplished a grand result, but we are dealing with the present.

A brief description may not be out of place of this useful animal. Its head is shapely; its eye kindly and bright; neck well set, on shapely shoulders; shoulder blades well covered; back straight and broad well sprung ribs, kept in proper form by well-filled bellies; hips well set on, but not too prominent; flanks well let down, giving a symmetrical form that is found in nearly all well-fed animals; coat glossy, hide mellow and agreeable to the touch; legs short, bone firm,—all uniting to form a model animal that when killed and properly prepared for use will gratify the feeder in purse and palate. In conclusion I would say never lose the calf form and it will be fit for the block at any age; never stint the animal and profit will surely follow.

THE FUTURE OF WOOL.

EDWARD A. GREENE.

It is impossible to predict the future of wool, as legislation on that subject is entirely problematical. The President-elect, five years ago, issued a special message in favor of free wool. Whether he has the same views now or not, it is impossible to tell, or whether Congress will put wool on the free list. In the first place, the government needs the revenue and that may be made an excuse for retaining the duty and then there will be a strong Democratic pressure to have the duty retained on account of its protective character. If there is no change in the duty, prices will probably remain the same as they are now. I do not anticipate an increase on account of the enormous

increase in the clip of the world. In four years it amounted to 500,000,000 pounds, principally in South America and Australia, where lands equal to the best Michigan lands are practically free. It is said, however, that these countries have about reached their maximum, and in Australia the lands are being cut up into farms, not very rapidly, but still it is an entering wedge against practically free pasturage, and it seems that in a few years wool will be higher all over the world than it is now.

Of course our growers will receive the advance, and if the duty is retained they will receive exactly the amount of the duty above the foreign grower. With free wool, all classes of American wool will decline to the foreign wool values. The duty on Merino wool is 11 cents per pound, and it is claimed that the decline will be 11 cents per pound, but this is not the basis to take it upon. It will be governed by the value of scoured foreign wools and in some instances the decline will not be as great as 11 cents per pound, and in others the decline will be the full amount of the duty. Cape of Good Hope wool running in quality fully equal to a Michigan X clothing can be bought scoured in London for 28 cents. A Michigan X clothing fleece washed is worth now in an eastern market 25 cents, only three cents less than for scoured wool in London of the same quality. An X delaine is worth here about 31 cents and a scoured wool fully equal in quality can be bought for 36 cents in London. English blood wools comparing with the Shropshires can be bought in England at about 28 cents per pound scoured. The same character of Michigan wool is selling here unwashed for 26 cents. A northern African wool, not very long in staple, but one that can be used for a substitute for a medium grade of Michigan clothing wool, can be bought in London at 18 cents per pound scoured. The United States uses about 1/4 of the clip of the world and raises about 1/3 the clip, therefore you can see that the claim which has been made that foreign wools would advance to the level of our prices has very little foundation. There will probably be some advance but not a very great one. I think that the chance to equalize the English and American markets would be an advance of 1/4 of the difference in price abroad and a decline of about 1/3 of the present difference here.

There is no reason why foreign wool should be admitted free excepting on account of the lesser cost, as there is no desirable wool raised in any part of the world that cannot be duplicated here. Our country has every variety of climate, soil and food. All that would have to be done would be to adapt such sheep to a certain section as is best fitted for them. I think that Michigan is better adapted to such sheep as a cross breed between a Merino and English down. It would produce a desirable wool, and other portions of the United States can produce just as desirable a full blood Merino as is raised in any part of the world, and at the same time these portions might not do as well in cross breeds as Michigan.

Philadelphia,

ESSENTIALS TO GOOD FARMING.

E. O. LADD.

(Read at Traverse Institute.)

It has been my purpose in preparing this paper to notice some of the things which thought and experience have led me to consider essential to successful farming in the Grand Traverse region.

It is true I think of many of us that our practice does not accord with our judgment of what is the best course to pursue. We are prevented by circumstances from carrying out plans which we believe would result in the greatest profit, hence it is important to consider what changes we can make so as to have our practice in harmony with our best judgment.

I have asked myself the question, "What is good farming?" and give the answer under four heads: 1st, Raising good crops. 2d, Raising them so as to yield a profit to the farmer. 3d, At the same time keeping up the fertility of the soil. 4th, So conducting the business that it will be a pleasant as well as a profitable occupation.

It seems to me that nothing that

does not fulfill all these conditions can be called good farming.

The selection of the farm is a matter of first importance to one about to engage in farming. No system of management can compensate for a lack of natural fertility, but nearness to market, good roads, etc., must also be considered.

A proper rotation and diversity of crop are necessary to keep up the fertility of the soil and to give steady employment to men and teams; still I believe it is better to have some one leading crop as a specialty, which receives more attention than the others, and from which the farmer obtains his chief income. This system has sometimes been called a mixed specialty.

On the Peninsula fruit growing is the most profitable specialty we can engage in, but I believe the best results in fruit growing can be obtained only by combining it with a system of general farming. Only in this way can we keep up the fertility of our orchards and raise fruit of the best quality.

Fruit and potatoes are two of the leading specialties in the Grand Traverse region, but in my opinion they do not go well together. Both are exhaustive on the soil and both potatoes and apples need harvesting at the same time. Those who have a good apple orchard, it seems to me, would do better to plant more corn, the product to be fed out to stock on the farm.

Don't try to cultivate too much land. I believe that one of the greatest drawbacks to successful farming is the desire for large farms. The man who tries to cultivate 160 acres of land, with the means needed to cultivate only half that amount, must work to a great disadvantage. He would do better to sell half the land, even though he does not get all he considers it worth, and concentrate his energies on the remainder. The experience of all business men goes to prove that he who starts on a small scale and gradually grows up with his business is the most sure of ultimate success. I have noticed in the business of farming that those who begin with small farms are often able after a few years to buy out their more unfortunate neighbors who began farming with limited means on too large a scale.

In buying seeds, live stock or fruit trees I believe there are many who do not realize that the best is always the cheapest. It costs about as much to raise a poor animal or a poor tree as a good one, and there is never so much profit in it. But many of us have made mistakes in the past, and find our farms supplied with poor stock and poor trees. What shall we do? Don't try to make too radical changes at once, but commence at once a line of improvement. Grade up the stock. If you have fruit trees of unprofitable sorts top graft them if they are worth it, if not replace them with young, thrifty trees.

There are several other things which, though not a part of farming proper, are equally as essential to the success of the business and to the welfare of the farmer and his family.

A complete record of transactions is considered indispensable in any occupation which is ordinarily called a business; but the farmer who keeps any account with his various crops so as to know with certainty what it costs to produce them is the exception and not the rule. As a crop correspondent I was called upon for a series of five years to report to the Secretary of State the actual cost of producing the various crops of the farm. The object was to find the average cost of producing a bushel of wheat, or of oats, and so on with other crops. In order to make this report I had to keep an account with each crop and have continued the practice ever since. I have done some very poor farming that did not pay, but I have never raised a crop that was planted on good soil and properly taken care of, that did not show a balance of profit, even in the poorest years.

Another important essential to success in farming is an education. I know there are some who think that education is of little use on the farm. But I do not refer simply to the education of the schools. A farmer must have enough learning to know how to do business correctly. He must also have learned how to perform the mechanical part of farm work as a carpenter learns his trade. After this is acquired, other things being

equal, the man who has the best general education will make the best farmer. Without this no amount of education will bring success. Farming is a business in which practical experience counts for so much that we are often apt to underrate the advantages of higher education. We do not realize how much we are indebted to the researches of scientific men for the measure of success we enjoy.

The last essential I shall mention is that the farmer must take pride in his work. He should strive to be a good farmer for the pleasure as well as for the profit he can get out of it.

No one can ever succeed in any enterprise who does not look beyond the mere money there is in it. The true teacher enters heart and soul into his work for the good of his pupils; and the amount of his salary has nothing to do with the character of his teaching.

The farmer should remember that his farm is his home, and that his business is a part of his existence. It is largely his business that makes him what he is as a man and a citizen. The influence surrounding the farmer's home also goes a good ways toward molding the life and character of his family. The farm furnishes most of the children who become eminent in other professions. He is not the most truly successful farmer who amasses the greatest fortune, but rather he who succeeds in making the ideal home, which is the foundation of national prosperity and the best aid in the development of noble character in that most important of all the farmer's crops—boys and girls.

THE SELECTION OF A HORSE.

The Michigan Experiment Station has sent out an advance bulletin from the Veterinary department, with a view of obtaining the opinions of horsemen as to a scale of points for judging of the external conformations of the horse. The bulletin states:

The further we go with the investigation, the more we are struck with the close attention that is given to the external conformation of other animals (dogs, cattle, sheep and swine) by the compilers of herd books and others, while the conformation of the horse is largely left to the haphazard fancy of the observer; in view of this it has been thought advisable to incorporate a scale of points (in a future bulletin on the subject) for the different classes of horses which are on the market for sale, or in the show-ring for exhibition. Any scales of points that have been brought under our notice have hardly covered as much ground as we think necessary, and while we feel that those we have drawn up are far from perfect, yet they furnish more food for thought than any we have seen.

In order that the admirers of the individual classes may express their views upon certain points of excellence, this advance bulletin is projected with scales of points arranged in accordance with the ideas of the writer, at the same time with the request that those who are interested in the production of better horses, or in aiding beginners in the work of selection, will make such alterations or additions as to them may seem proper, and by so doing they will assist in the formation of a scale of points which, coming from many who are intimately concerned, may be looked upon in the future as authority.

Every one interested in horses should send for this bulletin, if he has not already obtained it. Address the Secretary, Agricultural College, Mich., for bulletin 89.

ALUMINI GRANGE 585.

The officers of Alumini Grange were installed on Jan. 7th by Bro. M. W. Scott of Hesperia Grange. Bro. Scott gave us an interesting and instructive address concerning the work and influence of the Order in the past and its objects for the future.

Our retiring Master, who is his own successor, delivered his valedictory and inaugural address in one, by reviewing briefly the work of the past year and inciting hope for the future of our Grange.

Our Secretary reports 63 members in good standing. Each family in the Grange was supplied with the GRANGE VISITOR last year, and we think we had "value received," and we expect to have every family have it to read again this year.

We co-operated last year to the extent of a car load each of salt and plaster. Our Grange is engaged in a yearly contest in which we exhibit for points products of the farm, garden, fancy work, handiwork of brothers and sisters, bouquets, etc., and at the close of the contest year defeated side treats to a general feast.

Officers are M. Thompson, W. M.; H. W. Crawford, W. L.; F. F. Johnson, W. S.

H. W. CRAWFORD, Lecturer.

# PATRONS' PAINT WORKS

PATRONS' PAINT WORKS have sold Ingersoll Paint to the Order P. of H. since its organization. House Paints and Cheap Paints for Barns and Out-buildings, 10,000 Farmers testify to their merits. Grange Halls, Churches, School Houses, Dwellings, all over the land, some of them painted 15 years ago, still looking well, prove them the most durable.

MICHIGAN PATRONS "Buy Direct from Factory" at full Wholesale Prices and save all Middlemen's Profits.  
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Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints  
Indestructible Cottage and Barn Paints  
Sample Color Cards, "Confidential" Grange Discounts, Est in ites and full particulars MAILED FREE. Write at once.

## Postal Jottings.

**WILLIAMSTON GRANGE, NO. 115,**  
elected James E. Webb, Worthy Master; Mrs. Hattie M. Webb, Worthy Lecturer; N. Ira Winslow, Secretary.

**BATH, NO. 659,**  
installed as officers: Master, B. Stampf; Lecturer Mrs. L. Lindsey; Secretary, Mrs. B. Stampf.

**MOLINE, NO. 248,**  
held its annual election Saturday evening, Dec. 31. The officers elected were as follows: Master, James H. Tanner; Lecturer, Mrs. Judith Gilbert; Secretary, Arthur Gilbert. 248 is looking hopefully forward to a prosperous year.

**BENGAL GRANGE, NO. 225.**  
We are having good meetings every Saturday evening and taking in new members and many of the old ones are coming back, and we are in hopes of a larger membership than we have had for some time.

**SPRINGPORT GRANGE, NO. 45.**  
The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Worthy Master, James A. Courtright; Lecturer, Louisa S. Hess; Secretary, B. A. Joy; 42 members were reported in good standing at close of last year.

**NEWBERG CENTRE GRANGE, NO. 668,**  
organized only 19 months ago, is doing good work. We number 51 members, have good attendance, and are having excellent literary work this winter, the result of a contest which closes with our next meeting. We have just initiated a class of seven and have more to follow.

**FREMONT GRANGE, NO. 494,**  
installed Bro. E. E. Giddings as Worthy Master; Bro. Dan Mallory, Worthy Lecturer; Sister Belle White, Secretary. Meetings held every two weeks in the afternoon. Retiring Master Bro. E. C. Tinney has served us two years. Subject for discussion, "Benefits of the Grange."

**BERLIN CENTER GRANGE, NO. 272,**  
installed as Master, Anon Otis; Lecturer, Mrs. J. E. Morrison; Secretary, J. S. Locke. We are engaged in a contest. The leaders select a subject for the literary work, and all recitations, essays or selections not relating to the subject will count but half as much as those that do. Our Grange is in a flourishing condition.

**BARNARD GRANGE, NO. 689,**  
is in a prosperous condition, with 65 members in good standing and taking in more. Our literary program is interesting, the young people taking an active part. It consists of music, reading, recitations, dialogues, essays, discussions, etc. We are the only Grange in Charlevoix county. Our Worthy Master went as delegate to the State Grange.

**FRATERNAL GRANGE, NO. 406,**  
held its annual meeting January 14, 1893. The following named officers were elected, and at once installed by installing officer N. Adams. Master, Major Geo. W. Woodward; Lecturer, D. E. McClure; Secretary, Wm. Barry. The dinner served was a feast of fat things which the brothers and sisters much enjoyed. Question for discussion at next meeting, "How to make home pleasant indoors, especially in the winter season?"

**FLUSHING, NO. 387,**  
installed officers at its last meeting as follows: B. Turner, Worthy Master; A. Cole, Overseer; Wm. Mutton, Secretary. John Passmore was recommended as deputy for Genesee county. Our Representative, J. C. Knight, was present and installed our officers and after speeches from the Worthy Master and others all sat down to well spread tables and enjoyed a bountiful repast. The members of Flushing Grange are not carried away with the idea of a road department; the present law is good enough if the overseer will do his duty. There has been a great improvement in the roads in this county since the road grader has been in use.

**WHEATLAND GRANGE, NO. 273,**  
called to order after a business session by Worthy Master Oaks, who introduced Bro. Hutchins of Hanover, our State representative from this district, who with his assistants Bro. Nokes and Lady Assistant Steward Matie Hawley, proceeded with the installation of the new officers. The new Master being seated, a speech from the retiring Master was called for, to which he pleasantly responded, after which the remaining officers were installed. Bro. Myers favored us with pleasing music on his accordion. We had an old-fashioned "cheese and crackers" lunch from the Grange. After intermission Bro. Hutchins gave us an account of the proceedings of the State Grange, which was attentively listened to. He thought our Grange the liveliest he ever attended.

**WEST HANDY, NO. 61**  
met Jan. 5, in regular session to install officers. Brother Fred Dean of Brighton had been invited to perform this duty and about 5 o'clock in the afternoon he came, although it was a cold stormy day, but being well protected with wraps and rugs he said he did not mind the ride of 22 miles very much, and knowing the good cause for which he was coming helped perhaps to keep him warm. Brother Dean went over the unwritten work in a manner that showed he understood it thoroughly. He also gave a most excellent report from the

State Grange that plainly told all who heard him that he did not go to Lansing as a delegate to see the sights, but to fill his mind so as to be able to give those who could not go some idea of what the State Grange is trying to do for us. He also spoke a good word for THE GRANGE VISITOR. Brighton Grange is to be congratulated upon having Brother Dean as a member. A committee upon Woman's Work was also appointed by the Master.

**CEDAR GRANGE, NO. 235.**  
Cedar Grange is once more busy and thriving; her officers are ever alive to the needs and necessities of an interesting and profitable Grange. Although not ranking among the largest in membership we can boast, if boasting is allowable; if not, we were encouraged during the year just ended by the addition of twelve new and young members, who add greatly to the life and spirit of a useful Grange as is shown by the spicy and entertaining recitations and readings, the interesting and valuable productions in the form of original papers and essays.

In our last program was a paper read on the "Care of Horses," in which the close association of this particular animal with the progress of civilization, his importance in the many enterprises, especially agriculture, the affection he at times evinces for his master under care and kind treatment; these phases, together with the kind of food and manner of feeding, were ably handled by the brother, after which was an animated discussion of the subject generally. Believing in being alive to the importance of current events of historical moment our Lecturer is now giving the subject of Columbus and the World's Fair a prominent part in our programs. Our officers are Chas. Mollette, Master; J. E. Foote, Lecturer; W. A. Sturgis, Secretary.

## BRANCH POMONA.

Thursday, January 12th, was a severely cold day, but not cold enough to keep a large number of Branch county Patrons from attending the annual meeting of Pomona Grange held at Coldwater Grange hall that day. Every Grange in the county was represented and the reports gave evidence of good working Granges. A motion to hold a county banner contest was passed, and the committee instructed to prepare a scale of points and make all necessary arrangements, and report at the next meeting, which will be at Girard Grange hall, Thursday, Feb. 9th. Bro. J. T. Studley of Union Grange was chosen county Deputy.

Bro. Ira A. Martin, Pomona's delegate to the State Grange, gave an interesting account of the proceedings of the last annual session of that body. Election of officers passed off quietly resulting in the choice of Bro. A. L. Smith of Girard Grange as Master and sister I. A. Martin of Batavia Grange as Secretary. The officers were installed by Bro. C. G. Luce. Surely Branch County Pomona Grange is alive and awake, ready to take up any work that will be for the "Good of the Order" or that will be of any benefit to mankind in general.

The following is the report of the retiring Secretary, published by request of the Grange.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF BRANCH COUNTY POMONA GRANGE—Again we assemble at our annual meeting; again we turn our eyes backward over the year that is now numbered with the things of the past. What do we see? A picture presents itself to our view, and, as we pause a moment, it seems to grow under our gaze. We see brothers and sisters, both old and young, hastening through the frosty air, to the warmth and cheer offered by the good patrons of Girard. In quick succession comes the hospitality and hearty greeting of Butler friends, where shelter from the March winds is found for all. Then the eye catches a glimpse of a seemingly submerged continent, but a closer view discloses a Grange hall and a windmill. There is a legend about this mill. It is said that at one time the country was covered with water, making it impossible for the unfortunate farmers to find the fields wherein they wished to raise crops. Finally one brainy Patron of Husbandry devised a plan that proved efficient. He ascended this windmill and, with the aid of a long pole, located the lost fields. Printed upon this scene in large letters are the words, "In Union there is Strength." Again the scene changes, and we see a little band of earnest Patrons at

Quincy, giving the hand a hearty shake and making each to feel that he is as welcome as the flowers in May. Following this comes a view in August, this is a dinner scene. Pomona has traveled a long distance and now finds rest and refreshment around the table so well supplied by Sherwood's loyal Patrons. Then we see, in a raw October wind, multitudes of true Patrons going from all directions to the happy home of Batavia Grange. We see the circle around the stove grow larger and larger until the hall is filled. The next is a November scene. The whole earth seems shrouded in tears so sorrowful is the day that the Master's chair is vacant and the tin-box is not seen on the Secretary's table, still our eye detects a few faithful ones dodging about between the drops of rain. We feel that they truly deserve a pension or medal or something. But there seems to be a balm in Gilead that cheers and strengthens, and, judging from the smiling faces, no sympathy is needed.

This is what we see as we look over the year, but this is not all, we have only looked upon the pleasant scenes. But there has been the dark hour; the hour when our hearts were filled with sorrow. It is when we lose by death one of our beloved members, that we feel and realize how strong our ties of friendship are, as we meet from time to time, and so sadly miss brother Barnes, for he was so often with us, still we can truly say,

"O Brother! Not in vain,  
Thy life so calm and true."

As regards the condition of Pomona Grange as an organization we think we are safe in saying that it is sound.

Its finances are in good condition and it has a membership of 70.

There has been but one fifth degree meeting during the year, which is a falling off from the year previous. The meetings, eight in number, have been well attended. Through the efforts of Pomona Grange, Bro. J. J. Woodman was secured to give three lectures in the county. The two days he was in the county however, were the most stormy and disagreeable of any that could have been selected, which of course materially affected the attendance and results of such lectures.

Although the Worthy Lecturer has not been at home and therefore was unable to attend many of the meetings during the year, he has arranged programs that have been carried out as well as possible.

Taking all in all, Branch County Pomona Grange has many things for which to be thankful and not a few things of which to be proud. Some new line of work should be adopted, that the activity may be kept up and increased if possible. It is by constant effort that we attain that higher manhood and womanhood for which we are striving.

Respectfully submitted,  
CARRIE L. FISKE.

## HILLSDALE.

The January meeting of Hillsdale Pomona for installation of officers was held on the 5th at the G. A. R. hall, city of Hillsdale.

The officers elect, as reported, were duly installed by Brother Haughey after his installation as Worthy Master.

Reports from Subordinate Granges were, on the whole, encouraging. A finance committee was elected consisting of Bros. C. Perrin, P. E. Rowe and W. Kirby.

An invitation was extended to Lenawee County Grange to hold two day's joint meeting with Hillsdale Pomona in August next. Bro. A. Edwards was appointed a committee to secure a place for such meeting and to make all necessary arrangements.

Sister Electa Nokes was recommended for assistant district deputy lecturer.

The next meeting of Pomona will be held with Wheatland Grange on the 22d of February next.

WM. KIRBY.

## \$45 SEWING MACHINE FOR \$15

HIGH ARM MACHINE \$2.00 EXTRA.

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We have made such arrangements as enable us to offer the Chicago

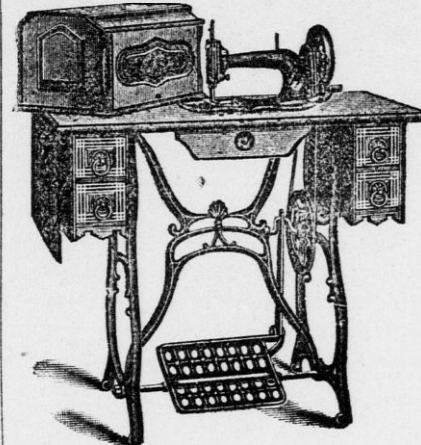
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The Chicago Singer Machine has a very important improvement in a Loose Balance Wheel, so constructed as to permit winding bobbins without removing the work from the machine.

EACH MACHINE IS FURNISHED WITH THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENTS:



HEMMERS, RUFFLER, TUCKER, PACKAGE OF NEEDLES, CHECK SPRING, THROAT PLATE, WRENCH, THREAD CUTTER, BINDER, BOBBINS, SCREW DRIVER, GAUGE, GAUGE SCREW, OIL-CAN, filled with OIL, and INSTRUCTION BOOK.

The driving wheel on this machine is admitted to be the simplest, easiest running and most convenient of any. The machine is self-threading, made of the best material, with the wearing parts hardened, and is finished in a superior style. It has veneered cover, drop-leaf table, 4 end drawers, and center swing drawer. The manufacturers warrant every machine for 5 years.

They say: "Any machine not satisfactory to a subscriber, we will allow returned and will refund the money."  
Price including one year's subscription, \$15. Sent by freight, receiver to pay charges. Give name of freight station if different from post-office address.

This Machine will be sent for \$10.00 Cash and 10 New Subscriptions to the VISITOR at 50 cents each.

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## Companion Organ

as a premium to those who will secure us new subscribers.

Here is What the Manufacturers Say for it:

There can be no better organ made for its size than our Companion No. 2. The action is easy, responds quickly to the touch, and is in all respects as fine quality as the actions in our larger organs. The bellows is capacious, pumps easily, and a child can supply wind to the reeds without difficulty. The reeds are of the best quality, strong, rich, perfectly tuned, and of sufficient volume to lead a number of voices. It contains the swell.

It is made with strong, handsome lamp-stands, with ornamented ends and front. The cases are made in dark hard wood, finished in oil and hand-rubbed.

Each organ has the same WARRANT FOR EIGHT YEARS as is given with our large instruments. In all our experience as organ manufacturers we have never produced an organ of equal capacity and price that gives us more satisfaction than this new Companion No. 2.

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E. P. CARPENTER CO.:

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Teachers desiring to advance in grade, and others to become teachers, attend the Normal Dept. of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Business College. For particulars, address A. S. PARISH.

## THE GRANGE VISITOR

Published on the 1st and 15th of every month.

Kenyon L. Butterfield, Editor and Manager,  
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Second Class Matter.

## Our Offers.

I. For one new name for one year we  
will send a copy of *Black Beauty*.II. To any one sending in 5 new sub-  
scribers for one year we will send the Vis-  
itor one year free.III. To any one sending in 15 new sub-  
scribers for one year, we will send the set  
of Eliot's works.IV. To any one sending 30 new sub-  
scribers for one year we will send Dicken's  
complete works.V. To any one sending 30 new subscri-  
bers for one year and \$5.00 we will send a  
Webster or Worcester Dictionary. Or we  
will send the same for 60 new names.VI. For 60 new subscribers for one year  
and \$10.00 we will send the Companion  
organ. Or we will send it for 120 new  
subscribers for one year.

Do not send stamps.

Send in your names as fast as you get  
them, with the money, stating what pre-  
mium you are working for.

Begin now.

## A DOUBLE HEADER.

Miss Annie Jewett of Maple  
Rapids, has secured both Dickens  
and Eliot as premiums. Mrs.  
Hinds of Stanton, has secured the  
organ. This shows what some peo-  
ple can do.

## YOU WILL NOTICE

that we have omitted the cuts de-  
scribing a portion of our premi-  
ums, on page 5. We were forced  
to do this because our increased  
advertising made this necessary.  
The premiums continue just the  
same however, and we shall be  
glad to fill orders at any time. But  
we felt that we were, perhaps, en-  
croaching upon the space due our  
readers.

## NEWS NOTES.

We have revived the column of  
"News Notes" but in a little differ-  
ent form. Instead of merely men-  
tioning current events, we shall try  
to give the status of leading topics to  
date, occasionally with comments;  
so that the notes will be semi-ed-  
itorial in character. We think that  
this will better suit our readers and  
will be of more value for our  
columns.

## LECTURER'S DEPARTMENT.

Geo. Austin Bowen, Master of  
the Connecticut State Grange, in a  
letter requesting extras of the last  
issue, takes occasion to say, "I de-  
sire it for the capital "Hints to  
Lecturers," which is one of the  
best things we have seen lately.  
I wish that every Lecturer in the  
union could read it." Lecturers  
will do well to thoroughly read and  
think over the articles in both the  
last and the current issues, under  
the Lecturer's Department.

## PARTISAN MALIGNITY.

"After his retirement from the  
office to which another had been  
elected, Mr. Hayes returned to his  
home in Fremont, where he con-  
tinued until his death in the peace-  
ful pursuit of raising chickens."—  
N. Y. Sun.This was written after Mr. Hayes'  
death. Has it come to this, that  
the vultures of partisan politics  
are not content to annoy the living,  
but must hover with their black  
wings and evil eyes at the grave-  
side?

## EQUALIZE THE BENEFITS.

All our Readers will be interest-  
ed in the article on page one, with  
the above caption.A second article on the same sub-  
ject will appear in the next number  
of the VISITOR, showing by statis-  
tics taken from the census reports  
the large profits from manufactur-  
ing and the small profits (or wantof profit) from farming. The  
author, Mr. S. B. McCracken, of  
Detroit, is well known as an expert  
in his line. He would be pleased  
to lecture before Granges, etc., on  
some of these topics, and is open  
to calls for the same.

## TO SECRETARIES.

We want to ask once more of you,  
will you not see that the members  
of your Grange are "after" new  
subscribers. We are glad to say  
that the new names are coming  
rapidly, and yet there are hundreds  
of Patrons, to say nothing of those  
not members of the Order, who  
ought to have the VISITOR in their  
homes. We can secure these if  
our friends will still help us. *Can  
not your Grange get one or two  
new names each week from now  
to April 1st?*

## OUR BOTANY ARTICLE.

Mr. Dewey, whose contribution  
will be found on page seven, should  
be known to all Michigan farmers,  
because of his labors for agricult-  
ure and because he received his  
education at the Michigan Agricul-  
ture College. He remained after  
graduation, assisting in botanical  
work. He went to Washington in  
1890, and has since given particular  
attention to the study of grasses.  
His work has been of so high an  
order that it is bringing him rep-  
utation.The modest reference to the work  
done by him in Dakota in inves-  
tigating the Russian thistle this  
last fall, is of a piece with his  
character.

## AN EXPLANATION.

There were a large number of  
subscriptions which expired with  
the issue of Jan. 1, among whom  
were a great many Grange members.  
We knew that these would renew  
and did not wish to deprive them of  
even one issue. So we did not cut  
out any of those whose time was  
out Jan. 1. However we cannot  
longer carry those who have not  
renewed, and all such will have  
their names taken from the list at  
once. Of course we can't distin-  
guish between those who "are  
going" to renew and those who do  
not care to renew.If you don't want the paper any  
longer, don't be afraid to read  
this issue—it won't cost you any-  
thing.

## F. H. R. C.

As has been mentioned in these  
columns, the Agricultural College  
has had in preparation circulars  
descriptive of the F. H. R. C.—  
Farm Home Reading Circle—of  
Michigan. Those circulars are now  
ready for distribution and can be  
had by sending a card toL. A. CLINTON,  
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,  
MICH.who is secretary of the Circle? The  
pamphlet gives complete informa-  
tion, and even if you can not take  
up the reading, send for the circular  
that you may know what the course  
is like.We want to say just a word to  
our readers in regard to this course.  
It is not a new idea, but is modeled  
on a plan that has proved success-  
ful. The subjects are varied; you  
can find almost any line you want.  
There is no expense except for  
books, and they are all standard;  
besides the price is on an average  
of one third below what you can  
buy them for anywhere else.This course will be especially  
valuable for younger farmers. By  
taking one "course," or part of one,  
each winter until all are read, you  
will have acquired a varied and  
fairly complete knowledge. You  
can go on indefinitely in any course.  
There is material enough that can  
be added from year to year so that  
you can have abundant reading for  
40 years to come.A word of advice. Take one  
course, buy one book; read thatbook thoroughly, completely, two  
or three times, until you know the  
book. This won't be fun, but your  
next book will be mastered much  
easier. Yes there's the word,  
Mastery! Don't slide through a  
book half asleep, master every idea  
in it, and make up your mind as to  
the value of each idea. Take the  
line of work that suits you best  
and stick to it "if it takes all sum-  
mer" and winter. After you have  
read a book thoroughly and there  
are questions to ask, send them in  
to the secretary and he will have  
them answered.Farmers.—Young farmers of  
Michigan,—here is your opportuni-  
ty. Here is a lever which if you use  
wisely will enable you to move the  
world. Will you grasp it with the  
strength of men who have a purpose  
in life, and who intend to do all in  
their power to elevate their calling?

## ARE WE REVIVING?

A letter from a gentleman, not a  
Patron, but a subscriber of the  
VISITOR, and a resident in a rich  
farming country, says: "I am not  
a member of the Grange. We have  
no Grange here. I wish however that  
there were one, I should be glad to  
join." Patrons of Michigan, there  
are many, many, just such commu-  
nities in this State where there  
ought to be a Grange. The field  
is white unto harvest—where are  
the laborers? All we need is a lit-  
tle work, a little patience, a little  
push. The Grange is ready to  
march forward. The farmers are  
ready for the Grange to come to  
them. Shall we remain idle, halt-  
ing, when success, progress, power  
are before us?

## ROADS AND BICYCLES.

The bicycle men—manufacturers  
and riders—want good roads. They  
are hard at work too to secure good  
roads, and probably they will con-  
tinue to agitate the matter until  
some results appear. Apparently  
many farmers have come to think  
that because these men are favoring  
good roads, they, the farmers, must  
therefore antagonize the whole idea.  
They seem to fear that the bicyclists  
are plotting some dread scheme to  
foist upon the unsuspecting ruralist.  
This is not true of all farmers, but  
of a good many. Now there are  
several things for farmers and es-  
pecially for the Grange to think of.(1) *A road on which a bicyclist  
can not travel with a fair degree  
of ease and speed is not an econ-  
omical road for the farmer to  
maintain.* Whether the obstructions  
be mud, or sand, or heavy dust or  
ruts, neither loads nor carriages  
can be drawn to advantage, if the  
way is so poor that a bicyclist has  
to perspire and dismount and—not  
swear—but—(?). If you  
don't believe it, try it. If horses  
could speak they would confirm  
this, every word of it.(2) *About half the money exp-  
ended for roads is wasted.* Are  
we going to stop the leak? If Mr.  
Bailey's figures are correct, and we  
have not heard them disputed,  
Michigan wastes annually over  
one million dollars that should go  
for roads. We can't afford this.  
The first measure should be to rem-  
edy this extravagance.(3) *We need pay no attention  
to the bicyclists.* They are trying  
to show the need of better roads;  
we recognize that already. We do  
not need to fear that a road depart-  
ment will be established—not with  
the U. S. treasury in its present  
condition. We don't need to fear  
that some mysterious power is going  
to build a lot of stone roads in our  
town and then make us pay for  
them. What we do need to remem-  
ber is this—that there is a necessity  
existing for better roads. Our busi-  
ness is to see that we appreciate  
the situation and then apply the  
remedy without reference to what  
the bicycle men want.

## DEATH'S HARVEST.

It is rarely that even a semi-  
monthly paper has to chronicle in  
one issue the death of so many  
prominent men as have passed  
away recently.Ben Butler—the erratic, he of  
"contraband" and New Orleans  
fame. The universal verdict seems  
to be summed thus: Of strong per-  
sonality and vigorous will; a cor-  
dial lover and a deep hater; able,  
but vacillating; energetic, but lack-  
ing purpose; prominent politically,  
but rarely successful. Rough and  
rugged, he attracted as only such  
men can attract. With less pec-  
uliar manifestations of his ideas,  
with more of singleness of aim,  
with more of nobility of purpose,  
his hold upon the ballots of the  
people might have elevated him to  
high and continued public service.Senator Kenna of West Virginia  
was one of the younger members  
of the body. He seems to have  
been a man of learning and cult-  
ure and to have possessed qualities  
of true statesmanship. Although  
he was not known familiarly by  
name by the great mass of people,  
among his confreres he seems to  
have gained a position of great con-  
fidence, respect and esteem.Rutherford B. Hayes,—with the  
exception of Grover Cleveland the  
last of the ex-presidents. In some  
respects he was the ideal of Ameri-  
can citizenship. His home life was  
notably sweet and pure; his honors  
were high and unsought; his pub-  
lic life was stainless; his retirement  
was noble in its dignity and works.  
He was unfortunate in being made  
the subject of virulent partisan at-  
tacks, which are unparalleled in  
our recent history for venom and  
injustice. Through it all he re-  
tained his manhood. It was said  
that he was weak. He may not  
have possessed qualities that have  
marked many of our public men;  
but he was not weak. He surround-  
ed himself with able men, and his  
administration, considering the cir-  
cumstances surrounding it, was able  
and strong. After his retirement  
he devoted himself to reformative  
and charitable work. Even here  
the malevolence of political enemies  
followed him but never to his hurt.  
When the verdict of history is  
passed upon Rutherford B. Hayes  
and his work, all their integrity and  
strength and manliness and nobil-  
ity will be written, and the malig-  
nity and hatred and prejudice will  
be obliterated.Associate Justice Lamar was a  
Confederate soldier. He believed  
in his cause but lost. His advanc-  
ment to the Supreme bench was a  
recognition of the fact that section-  
alism, if not dead, must die. His  
career was marked by ability and  
honor.Phillips Brooks' name had be-  
come one of the most honored and  
loved of any in our country. His  
personality seems to have been  
magnetic and by his rapid, simple,  
direct oratory he swayed the multi-  
tudes who listened to him. By  
many he was regarded as America's  
most eloquent pulpit orator. He  
will be ranked, not only among our  
great preachers and our great think-  
ers, but among our great men.James G. Blaine. It is not neces-  
sary to devote space to a eulogy  
upon James G. Blaine. Without  
regard to party, men admired. All  
know his history. All appreciate  
his position. It were a waste of  
words to attempt to inform or en-  
lighten upon these. Suffice to say  
that the romantic, almost tragic  
career is closed, and historians can  
now prepare to write the story of a  
life at once unique and powerful.

## FORWARD MARCH!

The new year in Grange work is  
well commenced.The watch words should be with  
every Grange and every member,  
Advance! and Excelsior! New  
hopes and new efforts in behalf of  
the Order. The Grange is intended  
to unite the farmers of our country  
in one great and grand brotherhood.  
Not a few, not a small portion of  
them, but practically all of them.  
To increase our influence and use-  
fulness let us increase our numbers,  
let this be the great work before  
us the coming year. Let every  
Grange resolve itself into a com-  
mittee of the whole upon the ques-  
tion of recruiting for the ranks.  
Let every member, young and old,  
present to neighbors and associates  
the benefits and opportunities of-  
fered and gained by association  
with you. Explain that the Grange  
is not what it should be without  
them and their help. That it is  
what numbers and intelligent guid-  
ance make it. Remember that the  
future of the Grange depends upon  
the young people of today. Invite  
them especially, to become mem-  
bers and workers with you. They  
never fail to become interested if  
given a chance and are the life of  
a Grange that gives them encour-  
agement.The new lecture system is now  
well on the way in several counties.  
County Deputies, with full power  
to organize and reorganize are now  
appointed in about thirty counties  
and fully twenty more will be ap-  
pointed during the next two weeks.  
All have promised to work faith-  
fully for the upbuilding of the  
Order.Members of the Grange every-  
where should give all the assistance  
and encouragement possible. When  
you have notice of the State Lec-  
turer coming your way, do all pos-  
sible to have the meeting count for  
your Grange. Establish a plan of  
campaign that will do work after  
the Lecturer is gone, so that the  
most possible good may come from  
the visit. If all put their shoulder  
to the wheel and lift together, it  
will be a year to be long remem-  
bered in our history for its great  
progress.The following is a list of Deput-  
ies and assistant Lecturers:

## COUNTY DEPUTIES.

R. H. Taylor.....Shelby, Oceana County  
Wm. B. Langley.....Centerville, St. Joseph County  
A. D. Bank.....Lansing, Eaton County  
F. W. Havens.....Fitchburg, Ingham County  
Geo. H. Lester.....Crystal, Montcalm County  
J. W. Ennert.....St. Johns, Clinton County  
E. W. Allis.....Adrian, Lenawee County  
Geo. Bowser.....Dowling, Barry County  
T. P. Rodgers.....Ravenna, Muskegon County  
Mrs. E. D. Nokes.....Wheatland, Hillsdale County  
J. A. Courtright.....Duck Lake, Jackson County  
James D. Studley.....Union City, Branch County  
W. W. Garter.....Ashland, Newaygo County  
Mary A. Mayo.....Battle Creek, Calhoun County  
Robert Dockery.....Rockford, Kent County  
James Greasen.....Kalkaska, Kalkaska County  
E. O. Ladd.....Old Mission, Grand Traverse County  
R. V. Clark.....Buchanan, Berrien County  
John Passmore.....Flushing, Genesee County  
Hiram Bradshaw.....North Branch, Lapeer County  
Robert Alward.....Hudsonville, Ottawa County  
Hellen A. Fiske.....Lawrence, Van Buren County  
D. H. English.....Chandler, Ionia County  
Wm. Clark.....Charlevoix, Charlevoix County  
N. K. Potter.....Bancroft, Shiawassee CountyThe following assignment of  
counties for Lecture work has been  
made. Others will soon be added  
to the list.Jason Woodman—St. Joseph, Barry, Eaton, Ingham  
Mrs. Mary A. Mayo—Calhoun, Branch, Hillsdale,  
Hon. Thos. Mars—Genesee, Lapeer, Oakland,  
State Lecturer A. J. Crosby—Ottawa, Muskegon,  
Oceana, Newaygo.  
A. D. Bank—Clinton, Montcalm, Kent, Ionia.Other Lecturers are soon expect-  
ed to take the field. Read the  
VISITOR for news from the work.  
You are interested.

GEO. B. HORTON.

## A WARNING.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN THROUGH  
THE VISITOR—This is the time of  
the year for agents of all kinds to  
put in their work, and I warn all  
to look out for the butter factory  
agent from Chicago; look well in  
the contract before you sign it,  
and never sign it till you have  
a contract from those that take  
stock, pledging 400 cows to start  
with. If there is any Patrons on  
whom the factory racket is being  
worked ask questions through  
the VISITOR and I will answer from  
experience.

H. D. PLATT.

The contest between large and  
small farms, between landlordism  
and a peasant condition is surely  
coming. It will be fortunate in-  
deed for us if we can take the  
middle ground and can ever pos-  
sess a body of farmers of moderate  
means and of independent charcter.An electric road is building from  
Chicago to St. Louis, over which  
passengers will be carried at a rate  
of 100 miles an hour.

**The Lecture Field.**

Lecturers of Pomona and Subordinate Granges will confer a favor by sending their P. O. addresses to me, that I may be able to send them direct when desired.  
*Tpsilanti, Mich.*  
A. J. CROSBY, JR.

**A Visit.**

A. J. Crosby Jr., State Lecturer, will make a tour of lecture work through the counties of Ottawa, Muskegon, Oceana and Newaygo, in the order given, commencing February 6th. The County Deputies are putting forth every effort, aided by the membership, to make it a campaign of success, and others are to follow as fast as we can get to them.

**Grange Work.**

There is no community in which the imaginative working minds may not suggest subjects for consideration and thought, either on the plan of debating the question pro and con, thus schooling the participants in the excellent drill of parliamentary rules and practices while they are communicating the lessons no less to those who listen and observe, and at the same time so mold and temper their own ways and manners as to be pleasing and attractive, subduing and controlling their zeal and feelings from the effects of impassionate and undue excitement, which ever wins the approbation and esteem of associates by courtesy and kindness, especially in cases when decisions or rulings are against you. Very many times the very best lessons and the entire influence as an educator is lost to the Grange by not carefully following those conventional forms which are the accepted guides of meetings, these innovations being allowed to relieve the presiding officer from the duty of disciplining, or from timidity because the offender is so old or that it was only accidental. No persons with the intelligence fitting them to take a part in such exercises will hesitate in the least to correct an error or who would not feel better pleased at having illustrated a lesson upon some point by being corrected and cheerfully conforming than to leave the floor with the knowledge that they had evaded a rule with impunity and made an exhibition of their ignorance or willfulness to be copied by others as precedent, and thus thwart the good intended and perhaps much of the pleasure sought. What is it to go through a debate or contest? Is it not to work in the strictest conformity to certain necessary plans and methods and to the best of our ability, and accomplish all the points of gain possible, that they may be counted in making one of two aggregates, one of which must of necessity be in minority in order that any satisfaction should come of the result and which yields only the sweetest enjoyment when defeated as well as winning parties take their parts gracefully and with more vigor and increased strength stand ready for the next.

In this work we shall have the powerful aid of the Master, the Lecturer, the Deputies, and all the officers of the State Grange. I feel constrained to anticipate that the Superintendent of Public Instruction will gladly welcome us as laborers in this field and may deem our mission of sufficient importance to furnish blanks upon which we may make full reports to his office and to the State Grange.

MARY SHERWOOD HINDS.  
Chairman Committee on Woman's Work Michigan State Grange.

**ENDYMION.**

The rising moon has hid the stars,  
Her level rays, like golden bars,  
Lie on the landscape green,  
With shadows brown between.  
And silver white the river gleams,  
As if Diana, in her dreams,  
Had dropt her silver bow  
Upon the meadows low.  
On such a tranquil night as this,  
She woke Endymion with a kiss,  
When, sleeping in the grove,  
He dreamed not of her love.  
Like Dian's kiss unasked, unthought,  
Love gives itself, but is not bought;  
Nor voice, nor sound betrays  
Its deep, impassioned gaze.  
It comes,—the beautiful, the free,  
The crown of all humanity;—  
In silence and alone,  
To seek the elected one.  
It lifts the boughs, whose shadows deep  
Are Life's oblivion, the soul's sleep,  
And kisses the closed eyes  
Of him, who slumbering lies.  
O weary hearts! O slumbering eyes!  
O drooping souls, whose destinies  
Are fraught with fear and pain,  
Ye shall be loved again!  
No one is so accursed by fate,  
No one so utterly desolate,  
But some heart, though unknown,  
Responds unto his own.  
Responds,—as if with unseen wings,  
An angel touched its quivering strings;—  
"Where hast thou stayed so long?"  
—Longfellow.

**NEWS NOTES.**

**WORLD'S FAIR OPENING.**  
A strong pressure is being brought to bear upon Congress for the opening of the World's fair on Sunday. Hundreds of petitions have been handed in favoring the repeal of the bill. The chances seem to be however, that this will not be done. The fact that the Fair has got the money appropriated by the bill will militate against repealing the Sunday closing clause.

**THE ANTI-OPTION BILL.**  
The anti-option bill has stood in the way of Senate legislation ever since the holidays, being put off from week to week. The chances seem to favor its passage.

**THE QUARANTINE BILL.**  
The bill that passed the House last week provides that "All vessels clearing for the United States obtain from the consul or

vice consul at the port of departure a bill of health. The President is authorized to detail a medical officer to serve in the office of the consulate at any foreign port for the purpose of furnishing information and giving the bills of health. The marine hospital service shall co-operate with state and municipal boards of health in the enforcement of the rules of such boards, and the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury to prevent the introduction of contagious and infectious diseases into the United States from foreign countries and from one state into another, but nothing shall be construed to warrant a federal official in relaxing state rules."

**IN ENGLAND.**  
Gladstone has returned from a vacation on the continent, during which it is said the cabinet has formulated the Home Rule bill to be presented. There are reports that Gladstone is unwell, but they do not seem to be well founded.  
A little diversion is caused by the fact that the young Khedive of Egypt dismissed a prime minister that was favorable to England, and appointed an enemy of Great Britain. But he reversed his decision on peremptory orders from the British minister. There does not seem to be a very lively prospect of serious trouble.  
The English government desires to protect its interests in the Suez canal and virtually permanently occupies the country.

**THE FRENCH CRISIS.**  
The French government has apparently passed a successful crisis. The cabinet under M. Ribot has been given a vote of confidence on two occasions, and as yet none of its members bears the taint of corruption in connection with the Panama scandal. The enemies of the Republic can not unite and the government is safe.

**THE LEGISLATURE.**  
Little has been done by the legislature, because little could be done. A number of important measures have been introduced, some of them partisan, some of general interest and value. Few bills have been printed, so that it is impossible to get the chief phases of the important measures. Bills are in  
To make pay of legislators \$500.  
To repeal Mortgage Tax law.  
To revive the old oil test.  
To reduce street car fare to 3 cents.  
To repeal the Miner law.  
To elect legislators for 4 years.  
To reappportion the congressional districts.  
To tax legacies and inheritances.  
To elect U. S. Senators by people.  
To repeal law on crop report.

Geo. S. Singer, Cardington, Ohio, advertises in another column his Incubator. Mr. Singer is a practical poultry man, having a brood of five thousand chickens, and has been unusually successful in raising all sorts of poultry with his own incubator. He now offers this to the public at a very low rate.



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## Ladies' Department.

## PENSACOLA.

Pensacola, Fla., was our stopping point in the South, while on a recent business trip, and in describing our visit will speak of it first. This city has the age that seems so strange to one so used to the rapid growing cities in the North. The bay and its natural advantages seems to give the city the promise of a future, far in advance of any Southern coast town. The bay is large enough to float the navies of the world. As a shipping point Mobile and New Orleans must take second places. Ft. Pickens stands at the east entrance to the harbor and old Barancas at the west to guard the approaches, while between the city and the forts is the navy yard now nearly dismantled and unused. Ft. Pickens was one of the f-w places held by the Federal government on the Gulf coast during the war. The other forts and Pensacola were taken by the confederates. Ft. Barancas, as the name indicates, is of Spanish origin and this place has been in turn occupied by the Spanish, the French, the forces of the U. S., those of the Confederates and again by the U. S. At an old stockade gate two Minie balls were extracted from the frame after much cutting. These bullets are vicious, tearing a big hole wherever they strike. Mr. M. said that men who faced those missiles richly deserved the pension of their government. Some other conversation followed, which was strictly partisan. The old fort is abandoned and on the ground where once the Spanish Dons trod there pastures the more or less belligerent goat browsing the Bermuda grass and a peculiar variety of thorns of which Mr. M. brought home a sample for Professor Hicks to examine. Old pattern guns are stored in the fort and cannon balls lie around in great abundance. The present defenses on this side of the bay have been moved farther up toward the city. It has cost millions of dollars to construct the navy yard with its immense granite wharves and docks. It is said the L. & N. Ry. Co. are figuring on the purchase of the navy yard and will erect immense elevators there and make this the point where grain and meats will be exported, the other end of the line looking toward Kansas City as the terminus in the West.

Twenty-six cents a hundred is now the freight rate on grains from Kansas City to New Orleans and the same rate can be made to Pensacola which is in many ways advantageous. Pensacola is one of the great lumber markets of the world. The South American ports are at its doors when once on shipboard and the same is true of Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. The lumber demanded from these great cities must eventually come from the pine forests of the South. Such lumber operators as D. A. Blodgett, R. G. Peters and many others from Michigan have anticipated this condition and are owners of yellow pine. The wharves and bay are well occupied with sailing vessels after cargoes of lumber which shipmasters like as a cargo because it can be fastened tight in the hold.

A Norwegian shipmaster with whom I conversed had a cargo of five hundred and twenty-six thousand feet bound for Buenos Ayres. All the dock laborers are negroes who all day handle the lumber or timber as the case may be, keeping time in a rhythmic movement to their singing, up high on to the skids is accompanied by high notes then down goes the voice with the logs. Whatever vices and shortcomings the negro may have, profanity cannot be reckoned unto him. Whatever the solution of the negro problem may be, deportation need never be considered. The industrial life of the South depends upon the negro labor. Cuffed, kicked, abused, cheated, the negro does the work, and the South can not get along without him.

The fishing business is of some importance in Pensacola. A smack came in from the banks on the Gulf and unloaded a cargo of "snappers" and occasionally some other variety, probably "anti-snappers;" these great red fellows would weigh from 10 to 30 lbs., and as they were dumped on the floor of the packing house, one man pitched up fish after fish on a table with a pitch

fork while another took the heads off with a hatchet. Oysters are very plentiful in the bay and anyone can pick them up on the beach and make a fair meal. All the draying is done on two-wheeled drays with one-half the load apparently on the mule's back. The cracker white comes in with an ox or a cow attached to one of these carts with a few bags of charcoal and bundles of lighters. These latter are split pieces of "dead head" pine containing quantities of turpentine. Lighters are softer and cheaper than kerosene oil and afford no temptation for the oil can in building a fire when a stock is provided. The number of unemployed negroes one meets is astonishing. How they live would be a question here in the North. But eliminate the two items of expense in Michigan, fuel and clothing, and make the diet consist of bacon and cornmeal, it will be seen that less labor will be required to meet the exigencies of demand. McGoffy's reader used to have the couplet "Man wants but little here below nor wants that little long." I never so appreciated the statement before and am of the opinion that the observation was made in the south. However, there is capacity among the negroes; the postoffice employes were colored men and as courteous and efficient as any body of postal employes I ever knew. Concerning political rights, nobody in the south pretends that the negroes are accorded any. A chatty barber while shaving me said that if any colored man attempted to go to the polls he was jostled and shoved back and when he insisted on his rights, some disorder would prevail, then a policeman or a constable would arrest him for disturbing the peace and after spending the day of election and the night following in the lock-up, he would be brought up and fined \$10.00 for disturbing the peace. A more determined effort would result in a sentence to the turpentine orchards or phosphate mines, there being no state prison in the northern sense of the term. A poll tax receipt is essential to the exercise of the franchise and these receipts are bought up for goods during the year, and the voter is disfranchised. Florida, as well as some other states, has a way of voting especially arranged for the disfranchisement of the negro. For every office to be voted for there is a separate ballot box, and from time to time the positions of the boxes are changed. The ballots are much like the printed slips used in conventions or caucuses. With this arrangement and from twenty-five to thirty offices to be voted for, from President to coroner, it is little wonder that many ballots find their way into the wrong box and are thrown out. In one county in Florida there were less than six hundred votes and still a majority of seventeen hundred was returned. An intelligent capitalist owning thousands of acres in the state, a native born citizen and an adherent of the dominant party, Col. Graham of Tallahassee, was my informant. This gentleman regretted the demoralizing effects of perjury involved in such returns of election.

The Sullivan Co., at Pensacola, represent millions of dollars accumulated in the pine lumber business, owning their own wharf and having a perpetual rate with the L. & N. Ry. in hauling logs, this rate being near actual cost. This company buy anything in the way of timber, and are among the largest dealers in the south. A visit to Pensacola without a visit to their wharves would be incomplete.

A Confederate monument occupies a site near one of the old Spanish forts. One side of the shaft is dedicated to Jefferson Davis, the only man without a country, yet loved by thirty million people. The remaining sides are dedicated respectively to the Confederate Secretary of the Navy, Stephen W. Mallory, to a Col. Ellsworth Perry, and to the Confederate dead in general. At the base of this monument a ratification meeting was announced in the daily papers on the evening on which we left Pensacola for Milton, Santa Rosa Co. Pensacola is a town of wealth made from the lumber business much like Saginaw or Grand Rapids, and some fine residences are built now in the new part of the city. Bittersweet oranges, value-

less except for ornaments, and palms make elegant yards. The turpentine and rosin business is just in its infancy near Pensacola. Norfolk, Wilmington and Savannah were formerly the headquarters for naval store operators, but the business is moving south, and Florida pine is now being boxed for turpentine. The operators contract with a negro for cutting a crop of boxes. 1,050 trees make a crop, a box is simply a long scar hewed in the tree with a deep notch at the base to catch the pitch which begins to run in December and continues for several months. Three years is the longest that trees can be operated with profit, lumbering operations must immediately follow or fire will destroy the trees which have been worked. The turpentine business pays a handsome profit and is no loss to the timber when lumbering follows at once.

J. N. McBRIDE.

Burton.

## HAS THE CHURCH IMPROVED SINCE 1876?

Read at Eaton Rapids Grange.

A thorough knowledge of church history since 1876 is needed in the discussion of this subject, but only a few memoirs and impressions can be recalled that relate to the church of our forefathers. This will leave ample room for supplementary talk, which, it is hoped, will prove more instructive than the leading article. The first thought in connection with the church of the eighteenth century is, how uncomfortable those old time Christians were in their enjoyment of religion, to use a paradox. In fact, if they had really enjoyed religious duties, they would have doubted the sincerity of the motive, and the light-hearted or thoughtless one who could indulge in a hearty laugh on the Sabbath day would have been a subject for censure, as "levity" was a sin to be subdued by watchfulness and prayer. The severity of the service proved their devotion, everything tending to material comfort being shut out of their lives for at least one day in the week. Cold churches, uncomfortable seats, tedious exercises, followed by a cold dinner, helped to "crucify the flesh" and make them sufficiently meek to be able to walk "circumspectly" through the coming week. If the parson's sing-song tone, or the "tenthly," induced a fit of drowsiness, the offender was quickly roused by a blow from a stick.

It is probable that these customs were somewhat modified before the year '76, but at that time and for many years thereafter, Christians could be recognized by their devout manners and plain attire. Many of the admirers of puritan plainness regret that the church member of today and her unregenerate sister dress so nearly alike, and while it does seem in good taste that the church suit should not be a "perfect conundrum" or the bonnet so "awfully sweet" as to monopolize the interest of the meeting, there can be no reason why a little taste in dress is not as commendable as the love for flowers, or an attractive home. It is supposed that the question "Has the church improved?" is to be considered in its truest sense. Is it nearer to comprehending the divine plan and meaning? So we are not to contrast the modern church and pulpit orator with the unpretentious house of worship and its consequential dominion so common in the last century. Certain it is there have been many faithful and earnest workers all along the line, or else we would not be so conscious of the progressive tendency. We find much to admire among those earlier Christians, but it is surely an improvement upon their rigid formality that we are learning "A cheerful heart doeth good like a medicine," and that a long face and sanctimonious manner are not necessary to the formation of Christian character. We are also learning to be more charitable toward the short-comings of others, that it avails us nothing to pray "Forgive us our debts," and fail to forgive our debtors; that it is wiser to observe the golden rule than to exact and expect everyone to conform to our ideas of right.

Of course there are exceptions to this severe type of Christians, noble souls, filled with the charity that "never faileth," who were considered by those "sound of faith" to be possessed of weak sympathies

instead of a spark of the divine nature.

Perhaps the worship of song would be in no way related to the subject, but it has much to do with the full enjoyment of church service, and it is a question with some if the modern choir is an improvement upon the old time congregational singing. We are counseled to "sing with the spirit and with the understanding also," that is the only true way in which singing can become part of our worship; but it has been thought advisable to introduce a little more "understanding" even if there is less of the "spirit." An anecdote we have read lately will serve to show the difficulty of first utilizing a church choir.

In Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on Thanksgiving day, 1762, the picked singers took their places for the first time in that church, much against the pastor's wishes. After singing the Psalm which had been given out to a "new fangled tune" the minister leaned over the pulpit and with both arms extended said earnestly, "Now let the people of God sing." The singing-seat, as it was called, was quickly vacated, and the congregation did the singing for more than a century afterwards.

And then the musical instruments!

Those dear old saints would scarcely enjoy one of Talmage's best if they were obliged to listen to the voluntary, when it would seem to the unprejudiced that the sweet strains would only remind us of the need of a higher worship. Not the least apparent among the many changes is the fact that less importance is given to belief, and more to real worth, less time wasted in denominational differences, and more cultivation of the spirit that "all men are brethren."

A Christian act is recognized in the church and out of it, and people of different creeds have discovered that we worship the same Father. There is much yet to do, and to undo, but it seems evident that progression is written as plainly through the pages of history as in art, science or literature.

MRS. E. J. ROGERS.

## IDEAS FOR LITTLE PEOPLE.

"Dear me, what shall I do? I am so tired of playing in the house," said Ralph, as he stood watching the snow quietly coming down outside the window.

"Come here and see my tall block house," said little May to her brother.

"I don't want to." May slipped to his side and soon exclaimed: "Oh, mamma, such pretty snowflakes, great big ones, little round ones, and ever so many shapes; do come and see them!"

As the three heads were pressed against the pane looking at the beautiful touches of the Master's hand, mamma told the story of

"Some little drops of water  
Whose home was in the sea,  
To go upon a journey  
Once happened to agree.

A cloud they had for carriage,  
They drove a playful breeze,  
And over town and country  
They rode along at ease.

But oh, there were so many,  
At last the carriage broke,  
And to the ground came tumbling,  
These frightened little folk.

And through the moss and grasses  
They were compelled to roam,  
Until a brooklet found them  
And carried them all home."

She explained how this time the little drops found such cold air during their tumble, that they were frozen and came floating to the ground.

At a suggestion, Ralph was soon drawing the varied forms on his slate, while May made "dry snowflakes" with her scissors and paper. The window became a favored place, that new ones might be found and thus the hours passed quickly and happily.

Night came, bringing with it the usual story time.

The little boy drew his mother's head down with both arms and whispered, "Please tell us a snowy story."

She told how the air has its face washed by the gently descending snow, as it falls on rough places, covering all alike, or as Mr. Wind catches it and blows it into beautifully curved drifts; how God protects the trees, plants, and tiny seeds with this warm, white wrap; and by the melting in the spring, how the ground is loosened, and the lakes and rivers filled with fresh water.

The next morning was bright

and sunny, and the children eagerly went out to play, but to return asking, "What makes the snow creek? Why don't it pack this morning? When will it have crust so we can walk on it? Why don't the water in the hail freeze into snow instead of ice?"

Dear, busy, but loving mothers, store these passing days with valuable lessons.

You are in the country and do not have a kindergarten to which you may send your little ones this cold winter, but you can bring a kindergarten to them. Excite an interest in surrounding objects, weave it into your daily conversation, answer all questions thoughtfully. These young philosophers ask such as need a wise man to answer. If you can't do it be honest about it, and then find how to do it.

Many children have enjoyed reciting the following lines with motions, and I hope you may find pleasure therein.

Can we not find better thoughts for their memories than Mother Goose Rhymes?

"Little white feathers,  
Filling the air,  
Little white feathers,  
How came ye there? [1]  
We came from the cloud-birds  
Sailing so high, [2]  
They're shaking their white wings  
Up in the sky. [3]  
Little white feathers,  
How swift ye go, [4]  
Little white feathers,  
I love you so. [5]  
We're swift because  
We have work to do,  
Now hold up your face,  
And we'll kiss you true. [6]

[1] Point to the snow.

[2] Hands pass slowly over the head.

[3] Shake up-rised wrists.

[4] Press palms together and pass quickly in front of face.

[5] Hands crossed on shoulders.

[6] Sound of a kiss.

F. C. B.

## FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.

If a cut bleeds badly, hold it in the smoke of sugar sprinkled on live coals.

Cheese will keep moist a long time, if wrapped in a cloth wet in vinegar.

Eggs that have been frozen will thaw and be as nice as ever, if put in warm water and kept warm.

A good cold cream is made by taking thick sweet cream and boiling it slowly until it is a dark brown and oil can be poured from it. Pour off the oil and add a little arnica and stir while cooling. This is a better cream for the toilet than any that can be purchased.

Baking powder can be made at home very cheaply and as good as "The Royal" by using six ounces tartaric acid, one-half of a package of soda, "Arm and Hammer" brand, and one quart of flour. Sift several times, and keep in covered cans.

Wafers—One teacup of granulated sugar, one-half cup of butter rubbed together, one beaten egg, two tablespoonfuls of sour cream, one teaspoonful of soda, one teaspoonful of vanilla or lemon extract, or the grated rind and juice of one lemon. Roll thin and cut small, bake in a moderately hot oven until they begin to brown. A little grated cocoanut sprinkled over the dough just before they are cut out and rolled in a little is a great improvement.

A genuine English plum pudding—A pint bowl full of suet chopped fine, the same of brown sugar, beat two eggs in the same bowl and fill up with milk, the same bowl full of seeded raisins, one teaspoonful of salt, a little nutmeg and citron sliced thin. Stir as stiff as possible, turn into a scalded cloth, tie tight and boil six hours. This is enough for twelve people, a coffee cup is about the right proportion for a small family. The pudding must be put into boiling water and kept at that point until it is taken out; something should be placed in the bottom of the kettle to keep the pudding away from it or it will burn; serve with sauce.

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College and Station.

THE FARMER AND BOTANY.

What the Botanical Division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture is doing for the Farmer.

L. H. DEWEY.

There is a general popular impression that a botanist is a sort of crank who squints with one eye through a microscope with rusty, dried weeds, and pretends to see in them points of vast interest to the scientist, but which ordinary mortals cannot understand and which certainly can have no value for the practical farmer.

Let us see how the botanist aids the farmer. The science of botany is the basis of horticulture, of floriculture and to a considerable extent of general agriculture. If, as the proverb goes, "All flesh is grass," then that science which has to do with the raising of grass must be important to the farmer.

All the work pertaining to grasses and other wild flowering plants comes to this division of Botany. The division of Vegetable Pathology deals with all fungi, such as rusts, smuts, mildews, blights, etc.

Field agents are sent out each year during the collecting season to secure specimens from certain regions. The specimens are pressed and sent to the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., together with notes describing the locality, soil, climate and other general conditions of environment and the abundance of each species.

ted by Congress for botanical work has been expended in experimenting with fodder plants for the south. The work has been done in connection with the "Hatch" experiment stations there.

The United States grass and forage experiment station at Garden City, Kansas, has already solved several knotty questions in agriculture without irrigation west of the 100th meridian. Hungarian Brome grass (Bromus inermis), has been introduced through that station and is now regarded as the most valuable grass for cultivation on the high plains from Indian Territory to Manitoba.

Special investigations are sometimes made when weeds get beyond the control of the farmers or when action by the general government seems necessary. During the past year an investigation was made in the case of the Russian thistle (Salsola Kali), in Minnesota and the two Dakotas.

The information concerning the growth of useful plants, and the destruction of troublesome weeds is distributed free to all farmers who are interested enough to ask for it.

Nearly every year a large number of named specimens are sent to the different agricultural colleges and experiment stations. These specimens are used by the station botanists as aids in determining other plants.

During the past half-dozen years several pamphlets devoted to different phases of botanical work have been issued by the Department of Agriculture. For the practical farmer the most important of these are "Agricultural Grasses and Forage Plants" and "Grasses for the South."

The national herbarium now contains over 300,000 specimens and this number is increasing at the rate of about 10,000 specimens each year. Farmers sometimes express doubts as to the value of this large collection of dried weeds and grasses.

It may be noticed that a large share of the attention of the Botanical division has been devoted to the arid regions of the west and

to the south. There are many reasons for this. These regions were practically new fields to the botanist and needed special study to obtain information concerning the conditions there. The forage plants in common use elsewhere were generally failures there.

Dr. W. J. Beal, at the Agricultural College, and other local botanists in the State are well acquainted with the conditions of plant growth and are ready to unravel any knotty botanical problem that may trouble the farmers in that region.

Washington, D. C.

FRUIT REPORTS.

Bulletin 88 of the Agricultural College is the fruit report of Pres. Lyon, of results of experiments at the South Haven sub-station. He gives the desirable varieties as follows:

STRAWBERRIES.

List for a Family Plantation. Alpha, Beder Wood, Cumberland, Parker Earle, Gandy.

For Market.

Crescent, Enhance, Bubach, Parker Earle, Warfield.

RASPBERRIES.

List of Suitable Varieties for a Family Garden.

Red and yellow varieties—Hansell, Herstine (requires winter protection), Cuthbert, Golden Queen.

Black Caps—Palmer, Hilborn, with Earhart for autumn crop of fruit, and Shaffer or Muskingum for canning.

Market Varieties.

Red—Marlboro, Cuthbert. Caps—Palmer, Gregg (or Nemaha) and Shaffer, for canning.

GRAPES.

For a family vineyard; with succession, the following will afford both variety and high quality. If not so many are wanted, a selection can be made.

Early Victor, Winchell, Worden, Lady Delaware, Diamond, Brighton, Ulster, Jefferson. For a market vineyard with succession, Moore, Early Worden, Concord, Niagara, and at the south or in favorable localities, Isabella or Catawba.

THE QUALITY OF CHEESE.

The richness of cheese depends very much upon the amount of butter fat which it contains. Cheese may be made from clear cream, from whole milk, from unskimmed milk to which cream has been added, from partly skimmed milk, from milk completely skimmed, or from buttermilk.

Straight skim cheese, however, is partly unsalable, and the general practice in using skimmed milk is to introduce "neutral" or highly refined lard to take the place of the fat removed in the cream. Such cheese properly made can be sold at about 10 to 13 per cent below the figures which full milk cheese brings.

The curdling agent acts only upon the casein and not upon the fat particles, which are imbedded in the curd, thus adding only to the flavor and richness of the cheese. To the casein alone is due the consistency of the cheese. A full cream cheese, therefore, has not the firmness and consistency of a whole milk cheese.

Some men are so accustomed to complain that a laugh scarcely has time to sprout before it is nipped in the bud.

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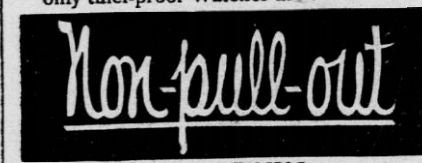
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Notices of Meetings.

VAN BUREN COUNTY POMONA GRANGE will hold its next session with Bangor Grange, February 23, 1893, at their hall in Bangor, Mich. A fifth degree session will be held in the evening. Mrs. M. BUSKIRK, Sec.

THE MAGAZINES.

Very seldom have we seen a better number of any magazine than that which the editor of the Atlantic Monthly puts before us for the month of February. It has just enough of the various kinds of articles to give it variety, and yet the traditions of the Atlantic are not violated in any one department.

Among other splendid contributions to the current Lippincott's "Josiah Allen's Wife" supplies a short story, "Josiah's Alarm," and Francis Wilson a sketch, "The First-Born of the Orchard."

An important article entitled, "How to Revise the Tariff," has been written for the February number of the North American Review by Hon. W. M. Springer, whose position as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives gives him the right to speak authoritatively.

Admirers and enemies of Mr. Blaine will alike be interested in the very full article which appears in the February Cosmopolitan reviewing his characteristics as a man and statesman. A number of fine portraits are printed with the article.

The February Arena is unusually strong. Its contents are varied and alive with vital thoughts. Among the Social and Economic problems discussed are "Proportional Representation," by W. D. McCrackan, A. M., author of "The Rise of the Swiss Republic," "Compulsory National Arbitration," by Rabbi Solomon Schindler, "The Power and Value of Money," by Rev. M. J. Savage, and "Women Wage-Earners," by Helen Campbell. Liberal Theology and Psychical Research are also well represented in this issue.

Marion Crawford is evidently utilizing his social opportunities during his present American visit for a study of American women, and in the next issue of the Ladies Home Journal he will give the results of his observations and describe "The American Woman" as she appears to him after an absence of ten years; in what respects she has changed, and whether she has improved in her dress, manners and tendencies.

CAN NOT BE EXCELLED.

Eradford Co. Pa., Jan. 16, 1893. DEAR SIR—Having used the Ingersoll Paints, especially those for Roofing purposes, manufactured in Brooklyn, N. Y. I will say they are the best and most durable of any on the market, and can not be excelled. In a short time will send you another order for a barrel. Recommending that all users of paint try your goods with which I am sure they will be more than pleased. I am, Most truly yours, S. J. KEITH. (See adv. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints—Ed.)

A PRESENT.

By arrangement with Mr. R. M. Kellogg of Ionia, the well known fruit culturist, to any one of our subscribers who will send him their names, there will be presented a copy of his work on "Strawberries." Every one who has a strawberry bed should take advantage of this offer.

Elegant Chromo covers encase the 80-page fruit catalogue just issued by Green's Nursery Co., Rochester, N. Y. It is prepared by C. A. Green, editor of Green's Fruit Grower. It is a guide to fruit and flower culture. A copy of both catalogue and paper will be sent free to all readers of this paper who apply for it by postal card.

WHAT SCHOOL SHALL I ATTEND?

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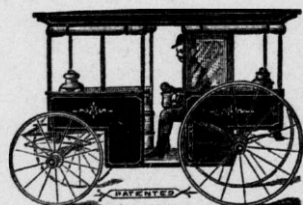
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