

THE VISITOR

Library Agri'l College

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

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WHOLE NO. 418.

ROAD MAKING.

WM. APPLETON.

We all agree with the Hibernian "that the roads were just bad enough and can't be no wusser."

But you have published already papers containing excellent advice both theoretical and practical on improving our country roads that it seems hopeless to expect to say anything new, and an attempt to rehash at this time may seem superfluous, but the tremendous importance of the matter to every one, especially to those whose homes are far from market and society, is a partial excuse for coming in and threshing the old straw over, if perchance we get an idea or attract some person's attention.

We have been told the thing of first importance was good grade. Water as the worst enemy of roads must be disposed of quickly; high, narrow road beds won't do if holes are allowed to remain by the side to soak under, they soon rut and destroy the beaten track.

Now about the course of the road. We all want our roads straight, if it is possible. If we can have them, even at great deal more cost, to run on section lines between farms as at present, all right, it is better for convenience of owners of fields for fencing, etc., and more than all we are accustomed to straight roads. So far so good. But don't let us go over a sharp hill of sand or clay, and have that hill to spend our whole work on year after year world without end, and have no time to work elsewhere, and have a dangerous gully on one or both sides of the track on this precious hill. Oh how costly it is. Let us remember it is no further round an ox bow lying down than over it standing up, and lots easier traveling, and who ever saw a bad road on a side hill? Swamps are not generally as bad, they can easily be drained, if not, let us go round; but we prefer to go straight for obvious reasons if it don't cost too much, always keeping in mind that the measure of a load on a journey is the steepest hill or the worst place.

About staking out our grade. Let us set stakes every fifty feet, it costs scarcely anything to set a stake, and the cut or fill made around each stake at once before disturbance will expedite work greatly, avoid mistakes, and save much sighting, always a costly and uncertain method. Do it well and that is the last of it.

There is a notion abroad much too general, that a narrow road bed is more apt to be a dry one, so we find difficulty on some roads in passing a load of hay; this is a nuisance. The road bed should be from twenty to twenty-six feet wide, according to the travel. From ten to sixteen feet of gravel is in most cases enough for country roads, but no one should be crowded into the gutter.

About top dressing. There is more good gravel waiting to be used than is generally supposed if we will hunt for it, and some way must be provided for getting it by right of eminent domain. We must have it, and we can afford to pay for it. It is the cheapest, and in most places the only road material we have, but there is a little in knowing how to use gravel, as it varies so much in kind and quality. The most plentiful in a loose drift, sandy gravel. This is very good for clay or loamy soils, and if the travel is only ordinary, it is all right to put on without screening. A light coat first and let it get solid and amalgamated with the clay, then put on another coat; take out large stones, and if the travel is heavy by all

means screen it. Lay it up in good form (eight inch center raise to a twenty foot road bed. After a few months this will need a light coat of finer to fill depressions and keep it breasting enough to turn water. This will need but little after repairs for years, but if a small hole shows, just fill it and no more; Don't make a hole into a hump, and then two holes, and start an uneven road while trying to mend it. Man is mortal, and so are his works, and "a stitch in time." A good road may be spoiled by unskillful botch repairing.

In districts where the travel is light (and by the by here are often the most charming homes), a very good road can be obtained, smooth and clean, by an admixture of clay and sand judiciously mixed according to strength of each; applied if the soil be sandy a coat of clay first, and vice versa. I have seen excellent roads made thus, particularly if original soil is sand. A loose sand is a hard road, but treat it with clay, it is all right; if possible put some gravel on top to stand wear, but without gravel they are greatly benefited.

We have heard a great deal about the good roads in Europe. Well there are some glorious roads in Europe and there are some of their by lanes at some seasons as impassable as anything we have here. These green lanes, bosky dells, that poets love to rave about, once seen in winter, would put us in countenance about our roads and we should live on good terms with ourselves ever after. One minute's time with English roads. Those grandly magnificent roads, built on the site of the old Roman roads where practicable, and leading from one town to another, were built as toll roads, and a fee, graded according to team and vehicle, is exacted there the same as here, except that by law the broad tire is exempt from tolls. True enough they are good roads but are not fair samples of the ordinary highways. These highways are managed by the commissioners of highways elected at parish meetings by the taxpayers in each parish. A unit of government both ecclesiastical and civil, and for the latter corresponds to our townships, and when it is proposed to grade and improve a muddy lane and make a good highway, there is the tug for and against, as the candidate is known to favor or oppose. Human nature is the same everywhere, but it seems they do better in some things in their system. Of course much of the tax is preparing and hauling the large amount of gravel used, and it is desirable that the farmer shall be privileged during the winter and early spring to use their own men and teams to draw out the gravel. With this in view, as soon as labor is scarce in the fall, the unemployed laborers are put into the gravel pit to uncover, dig, screen and pile up in heaps one yard high, and each heap containing as many cubic yards as the commissioners shall have decided to be each man's share, due regard being had to the length of the haul. A small farmer draws a small pile of gravel, and a larger farmer more gravel, but not so much in proportion if the haul is longer. Every man's pile is subject to the inspection of every other man. Each farmer loads and draws his own pile, the dump being taken care of by one of the commissioner's own men. This works very well. There is no incentive to loiter or trifle. As this is all task work no oversight is necessary except in a general way. One measurement answers every purpose, pit owner, digger and hauler. The

screenings find a ready sale to

private persons for garden walks. They also make the cast up foot walk on one side of all roads which makes walking such a pleasure. While the above method of road tax may not be entirely free from objections, and Brown may think his task harder than Jones, I have never heard loud murmurs. I think if there was no way to allow taxpayers to put in some slack time, they from all burdens come would allow their good roads to go to decay, so they get along with as few officials as possible and their labor is gratuitous. But while the heavy work of preparing and hauling is done at a slack time of year, there is more or less labor done at all seasons; without continuous labor roads cannot be kept up. Of course where there is much travel an accumulation of foreign substance is always taking place, making mud in wet weather and dust at other times. A vast proportion of this obnoxious stuff is fertilizer, this in moist weather is scraped by tools for the purpose, each way from the center into heaps, when it becomes the perquisites of the adjoining property owner, and it is his duty to remove it within a specified time; I think three days. This goes into the compost heap. No trouble is found by default of removal; all are too glad to get it. This is the top dressing for their rich meadow lands, and this is too much to expect here quite yet, but we shall get there in time, both for profit and cleanliness. I dare not go on in detail a great lot about road making. As a people we have much to learn in that branch of economy, which we shall get by experience. We are surely improving. How common it is to hear some one telling how to do, when the poor fellow never even saw a good road. The generation just going off the active stage were too busy chopping, clearing, fencing, draining, working early and late, these were to them the all important things. Nobly have they done their work, and let us have a little patience and not get a road fad. Let us make haste slowly. Good roads are too necessary now to be neglected. They will force themselves. They must be had. They will do much to check the mad scramble for town life and all its accompanying evils.

Place rural life in the very front, noblest as it is, the oldest of all occupations. Make by easy travel, social intercourse of the best attainable, that children may grow to revere those pleasant homes in the country, where nature smiles, and man appears at his best, looks his full height rejoicing in a heaven born liberty.

How often have I paused on every charm,
The sheltered lot, the cultivated farm,
The never failing brook, the busy mill,
The decent church, that topt the neighboring hill,
The hawthorn bush, with seats beneath the shade
For talking age and whispering lovers made.
—Deserted Village.

A word about our present system. It is bad, it is old, and belongs to other times, it could never have been good, but let us hope that our Solons will thoroughly digest a new plan, a better plan, not too top heavy and cumbersome, not a swarm of officials to eat up the substance of the people and perhaps not benefit our roads. We still expect the people to rule, and elect their own officers. And if they elect a Republican, Democrat, Populist man as the qualification to manage affairs, we shall be disappointed if we expect much. Rather let us drop every other consideration but his fitness for the very important trust. Let us have progressive, intelligent men, of independent spirit, who love justice as the apple of the eye. Such a one may as well be called commissioner

as any other name. "A rose by any other name will smell as sweet."

ROAD LAWS AND ROADS OF OHIO.

F. M. DAVISSON.

The road laws of Ohio while they are not perfect are probably the best of any of the western states. The object of making a law for any kind of public improvement which is conducive to the health, wealth, convenience and prosperity of the citizens of any state should not be constructed in such a way as to make the enterprise as difficult as possible by throwing every obstruction that can be thought of in its way, but submit it on a fair, square basis so that the friends for the improvement can know exactly what they have to comply with, without having first to submit their case to the courts before they can proceed further. In this respect what is known as the two mill assessment law in Ohio has had its defects tolerably well settled both by legislation and by decisions of the courts, but the place to remedy these evils is in constructing the laws by the legislature. The writer remembers well when this law was first constructed in this state, and when a petition was presented to the commissioners for the improvement of any road, that the first thing to do was to employ some competent attorney to engineer the petition and see that no mistakes were made in the commissioner's court and vice versa by those who were opposed to the improvement. But today an attorney seldom ever gets a fee out of a road improvement unless it be by some defect outside of the general course of procedure, in the case of a question of title to certain properties where they are not held in fee. The writer once had an occasion to survey a road in which a number of undivided estates were involved also tracts of lands held in trust. When the case came for hearing in the commissioner's court they decided in favor of the improvement, there being only two majority.

The premise laid down by the commissioners was as an undivided estate is entitled to but one vote that if a majority of the heirs who were entitled to sign the petition would sign it they would count it in favor of the improvement, but if a majority would not sign it the vote was counted against the improvement. The estates held in trust where the party holding the trust signed the petition, it was counted in the affirmative and vice versa. Suit was brought on both grounds even after the commissioners had ordered the road advertised and sold, and the contractor had begun work, when the commissioners and contractor were enjoined until the case was settled.

The parties had two trials in the common pleas court, in which the judge showed his hand squarely against the improvement, and he made the premises that as an undivided estate was entitled to but one vote under the law, that either all of the heirs must be in favor of the improvement or all against it, in order that the estate could have a vote.

He spoiled his premises by counting every estate in which all of the heirs did not sign the petition against the improvement, and by so doing defeated the enterprise.

The case was carried to what was then known as the district court of the State of Ohio, who reversed the decision of the court below, but who did not exactly confirm the decision of the commissioner's court, only this far, that in case of an undivided estate

any heir was entitled to represent the interest which he or she held in said estate, either for or against said improvement, providing they are residents of the county through which the improvement passes, only that the entire estate shall have but one vote. Neither court changing the commissioner's decision in regard to estates held in trust.

This decision confirmed the improvement, but it was carried to the supreme court, where the decision of the district court was confirmed.

The writer always advocated the final decision in this case to the county commissioners, but they thought it a mistake to divide any vote; but it is the only common-sense view that can be taken of the case—that any person is entitled to represent their separate interests in any property they may hold, whether it entitles them to one-tenth or one-half of one vote, in any improvement. The writer cites this special case to show how easy the legislature, in constructing its laws, can avoid having an improvement blocked for years, as was done in the above case, the principal petitioner only living long enough to know that the improvement would be made.

This road crossed some very valuable level lands, and some rough country at one end, all of which was a clay and loam soil.

To give you an idea of the appreciation of a majority of the people of our country in regard to good roads, a gentleman was going to buy a farm in the vicinity of the above road for his daughter. After the road had been ordered by the commissioners, but when it got into the courts, he said that he would not purchase at all, as he would not buy a farm for one of his children where there was not a good road and no prospect of one soon; where he could not visit them at any time of the year without wading deep mud during the wet seasons, as such soil, in the early spring and late fall, when wet, usually gets very soft.

A number of contingencies were thrown in the way of the re-letting of this road: 1st, the original contractor had moved out of the country; 2d, bad blood, engendered by long litigation; 3d, and most important, a cross road was improved and the gravel estimated for the first road was taken for the improvement of about four miles of the second, which caused the first road to sell for \$500 per mile more the second sale than the first, on account of the haul. Today those very people would not be set back in the mud for twice the cost of their road, and now say that if they had known that such a road was going to be built as was, that it should have never gone into the court, besides saving the extra cost. The value of a farm in any community depends as much upon its proximity to a good road as upon the quality of its soil. A good road apparently shortens the distance to market. You can market your products at any season of the year, and do it with satisfaction to yourself and team. A good road will also stimulate other enterprises. When a man finds that he can have a good road, he concludes that he can put up buildings to conform with the public improvement he has paid for in front of them, and by so doing makes his road attractive to the pleasure-seeker who will often drive his way. It further stimulates him to better underdrain and improve the quality of his soil, which aids him on the highway to prosperity.

West Manchester, O.

Field and Stock.

HOURS OF LABOR ON THE FARM.

EUGENE DAVENPORT.

You ask my opinion on the above topic. It is this. The ten hour system is criticised for the farm as being too much of a luxury. I practice it both for humanity and economy, and if warranted in putting anything ahead of humanity would mention economy first.

We rise at five. The team is fed, groomed and harnessed for work at 6:30. Dinner 11:30-1:00. Stop at 6:00 and take tea at 6:30, finishing the care of team afterwards. This provides for a full day up to the capacity of both men and teams. There is a point when additional hours mean a sacrifice of energy, and that point is at or near the ten hour limit.

We feed less than two-thirds the grain that we fed under the "all day and five o'clock supper system," and our teams do more work. There are no long rests and no drilled out men or teams. Both are ready for a full day every twenty-four hours.

Under this plan horses eat both hay and grain at night, and are fresh for the morning. Work a horse till dark day after day and he will bolt his grain and go to sleep, leaving his hay until morning. Our teams never sweat in the stable—a sure indication of weakness.

Men feel more fresh and body and mind are in better balance and more active condition—a most valuable consideration. Many a case of apparent and acted heedlessness among men is due to their being weakened and dulled by long hours of drilling labor.

Many a fraud has been worked upon the farmer only because said farmer was in low physical and mental condition from too long hours. He was no match for the rogue who, had and always has a good nights rest with few or no business cares, fresh for each day's conquest with everything to gain and nothing to lose.

Under exhausting labor the mental powers suffer before the physical. The first symptom of weariness is a slight loss of mental quickness and keenness of ideas. It is not that the farmer is more gullible from being a farmer. It is that he injures himself, his men and his animals by long hours only because his home and his business are at the same spot. Other men close the office and the business, and go home. The farmer's home is invaded by his business till it not only takes his every thought but the very marrow of his bones, till labor becomes drudgery and he curses his business and his home.

There is more in farming now than labor only. There is much of that. There is also business that calls for keenness of perception, there is a life to live and a home to enjoy, all needing a certain physical and mental elasticity.

Woodland.

NOTES.

EMIL BAUR.

Some years ago I had the pleasure of visiting with the late Hon. George Sutton, whom I admired as a true type of American character of the good old school, and a first class farmer. He had a very fine lot of winter apples with hardly any insect marks. Upon inquiring in regard to this pomological success he replied that he occasionally sowed peas in the orchard. When the pods were filled, he turned his hogs in, which harvested the crop of peas and wind fall apples, and were sold at once in the autumn.

Friend John Narry of Superior, a superior farmer indeed, thinks that seed peas, which he sows annually, come very high. He intends giving the Jerusalem Artichoke a trial, needing no seed after started, for 40 years. However, he is somewhat afraid that he will never be able to exterminate them. His hogs, if turned into the field will make tabula rasa with the tubers. When once established he will never grow weary of this fat and milk producing plant, which is a tuber in the ground and a sunflower above the ground. When dry in the fall, these sunflower stalks will delight his sheep and cows, while the tubers will be enjoyed by man and beast. The tubers left in the

ground during winter, will come out of the ground as sweet and fresh as Venus came out of the sea foam.

The Aprill brothers of Scio, who are wide awake farmers, not only in April, but all the year round, have started this *Hellanthus Tuberosus*. I am sure they will make it a success.

Had the Russian autocrat raised artichokes instead of Cossacks, his subjects would not be cursed with a famine, which is now as bad as last year.

Ann Arbor.

FRUIT NOTES.

W. H. PAYNE.

Farmers and fruit growers, are you ready for the spring? Have you made all your plans for the summer? If not begin now, for a well arranged plan of work will save time and allow you to complete each item of work in the best manner. Plan each day's work, then keep ahead of the work, and do not let the work drive or worry you, and above all things do not attempt too much. Remember there are rainy days when you cannot work out of doors and this is just the time to look after the tools. Put them in order, and do many of the little odd jobs that you have not had time to attend to. Study also to improve all your methods, and begin the season by keeping a debit and credit account with everything you raise. Use business methods to ascertain if each project pays or is running you in debt. And be sure to take at least one paper devoted to your particular interests. Have you an unprofitable acre, wet land that a little ditching now will make productive; or have you more acres in cultivation than you can properly fertilize and fit for profitable crops? If so drop a part or seed to grass. There is no luck about farming, but it requires a great deal of good sense and judgment. The failure or success depend mostly on well devised plans judiciously carried out; for if work is done in proper season, and well done, you may confidently look for best results.

At this season, fruit culture demands constant attention nor must it be neglected. Wet feet are as fatal to all kinds of fruit as to the grower, and a little work with spade and hoe to let the water run off, will save many vines as well as trees. Of course you have early in the spring trimmed your grapes, cutting back to two buds, for trimming now they would suffer in vitality by bleeding. But how is it with the currants and gooseberries, are they thinned out to four or five good stalks, cutting out the old worn out stalks and bringing in one or more new ones for renewal? See also that the top is not too dense, but open to the sun and air; that no grass is growing around the roots, and that they are properly mulched and manured, for both are gross feeders and give back only what they receive in care and nutriment; and coolness and moisture are essential to fine small fruits. Then there is the raspberry and blackberry. Have you taken out the old canes to give room for new growth? A hooked knife on a three foot handle is just the thing for this business. If you have removed the old canes, and properly mulched the ground, they will do well until it is necessary to pinch off the ends as you do the grapes to prevent too rampant growth. And your strawberries—if the straw and litter are raked off between the rows they will need no further care until you have taken off the crop, when they should be cultivated between the rows, never before, if you want the best results. Then the apple, pear, plum and peach trees need trimming if it has not already been done. Apples do better trimmed in the fall, say November, and all large limbs should be removed long before the sap starts. Trim up from the ground so that a horse can get under to plow, then down from the top so that the sun and air can enter freely and give rosy cheeked fruit. Colorless fruit grows in dense shade. All dead and broken limbs should be removed and burned. And don't forget to spread a few loads of manure around the trees and bushes and they will respond joyfully with their fruits. Feed your plants if you expect them to feed you, for you could as soon expect milk from

a starved cow as fruit from a starved tree or vine. When the weather and soil get a little warmer examine around the trunks of fruit trees just below the ground, for grubs; if any are there they are girdling the tree. You can see their work by their chips. Remove them with a knife. In fact it is well to look over the trees and bushes frequently for insect pests. "Eternal vigilance is the price of good fruit" and the worm on the currant and gooseberry needs to be checked at the start with a solution of hellebore or some other poison, the same as the beetle on the potato vine, or you have nothing. And if you do not have all these comforts of life, ripe fruits in succession, to eat with your daily bread earned by the sweat of your brow, can you give any good reason why you don't have them, when it costs so little to procure a few of each? And now is just the time to get them.

South Haven.

FRUIT THE YEAR AROUND.

How to have fruit the year round is possible and many of them fresh. The strawberry will soon be here to gratify the taste and please the eye. Next the raspberry, followed by the gooseberry, the currant and blackberry, which may be had by all with little labor. Next will follow the early apple and its mate the pear and soon the grape. Now by care and forethought the season of the pear and the grape may be prolonged and how. First the pear should be carefully gathered soon as its seeds are colored, placed in a cool dark room, and I would carefully wrap choice specimens in manilla or parchment paper to the better exclude light and air; this will prolong their season: Second, the grape may be kept to mid winter if the fruit is carefully cut from the vine soon as fully ripe and when dry. Dew or rain will cause the fruit to heat and would gather fruit when dry and place in cool dry room for a few days, then wrap each cluster in manilla paper being careful to remove any berries that are bruised and imperfect; after wrapping, place in baskets and hang them from the ceiling of a cool dry room. I have thus kept the grape until March, and I believe they may be kept longer if the appetite were not so great.

With proper care the apple may be kept until apples grow again, if fruit is gathered soon as ripe and stored in a cool and dry shed for a few weeks, then assorted and only perfect apples put in crates or shallow boxes and stored in as cool a room as possible without danger of frost. And it is well to examine occasionally to remove any that show decay.

Fresh fruits are healthful but at this writing canned fruit is not objected to, and all varieties may be prepared in their season. Our tables may not be without fruit a day in the year. Plant the tree and vine and care for it and you may eat and be happy, is the experience of the writer and a horticulturist.

THE VALUE OF MILK TESTING IN THE FARM DAIRY.

Continued from last issue.

UTENSILS.

Along with the improved dairy utensils for separating the fat from the milk there should be used the dairy thermometer, Babcock milk tester, scales and pencil. These are as necessary in the well ordered dairy as are the milk cans and churn.

No man can tell just what it costs to feed a cow for a year without keeping a record. It costs just as much to feed a poor cow as a good one. Every cent received for the finished product, over the cost of production, is a clear gain. It does not pay to keep and feed a cow that is deficient in butter fat. Every practical farmer knows that there are plenty of such cows. We have disposed of two such animals, during the last two years, whose chief endowment consisted in the faculty of "eating off their heads."

The question may be asked: "What is a good butter cow, according to the tests made by our leading dairymen? And is it necessary to procure thoroughbred stock of a high grade to secure most profitable results?"

"A good cow is a good cow, all

the world over, be she what breed she may." This has been found to be true for ages past. Of course each breeder and dairyman has his own favorite breed. The Jersey seems to be the ideal cow for butter making in many parts of the country. The Guernsey and Alderney are not far behind. All three breeds emanated from the Channel Islands, in the English Channel, and bear some resemblance to each other in many points.

The Guernsey is somewhat larger and coarser than the Jersey, but is claimed to be just as valuable a butter producer.

THE BUTTER BEEEDS.

Many and frequent tests have been made of all breeds during the past two years. It is interesting to note these tests as reported by the agricultural experiment stations, and the leading dairy papers. These tests have shown, in many cases, that some of our common, native cows or "scrubs" (as some call them), and the grade Jerseys are very valuable butter producers. In many instances the grade Jersey has proved to be superior to her thoroughbred sister. Taking the country through, there may be found in nearly every herd of native stock, one or more good butter cows. Such a cow, giving 25 pounds of milk per day, for ten months in the year, and testing 4.6 per cent butter fat, is a very valuable "scrub." I would not trade her for some thoroughbred, registered, Jersey scrub, with a pedigree one yard long. This cow, testing 4.6 per cent fat, would yield 175 pounds of milk per week. In ten months this would amount to 7,000 pounds. Under any method of creaming and churning, in which not more than 0.3 per cent butter fat is lost, this cow would yield 1.29 pounds of butter per day, or 9.03 pounds per week. This is a good average for any cow. At this rate she would yield 361 pounds of butter in ten months, which sold at 20 cents per pound, would amount to \$72.20. The skim milk, at our creameries, is rated at from 12 cents to 15 cents per 100 pounds. The skim milk from this cow, at 12 cents per 100 pounds would be worth about \$8.00 to feed calves, pigs and poultry. This is an item that should partially console our farmers who live too far from Battle Creek to sell their milk at the door. The receipts from this cow's butter and skim milk would amount to \$80.20 at this rate. Ten such cows, fed on a well balanced ration, would go far toward restoring and increasing the fertility of our partially impoverished farms.

The scales and milk tester are absolutely necessary to discover such cows and to hold them up to their full capacity. They must be selected from the thousands of cows that are so industriously at work in the "head eating" business.

If their owners' heads could be frequently tested, it would undoubtedly, result in weeding out many of our "scrub" dairymen. A few thoroughbred dairymen in every county would, eventually, improve the stock of dairymen.

BREED THE BEST.

The first and most important thing to do after weeding out the poor butter cows, is to breed the best animals you have to a thoroughbred sire, having a high test butter pedigree. If your bank account is very small, and your pocket book very thin, this is the best way to do. By raising all the heifer calves, and continuing the weeding process, you will, in a few years, secure a fine herd of butter cows.

The next thing is to secure a balanced ration for a generous and economical butter production. Here the scales and tester come into play again. We have the long continued experience of some of our noted feeders and experimenters to refer to. This is a great aid. No need of following the same ground they have toiled over at great expense. Our experiment stations have given us a large fund of valuable information in this line. The leading dairymen of the country give their experience through the agricultural and dairy papers.

I have found from an experiment on one fairly good butter cow, continued during the last four months, that a well balanced ration will do all that is claimed by our leading dairymen and scientific feeders.

I bought a cow last October that was nearly fresh. She gave from 25 to 30 pounds of milk per day,

and tested 4.2 per cent butter fat. Her calf had been allowed at her side a portion of the time for nearly two weeks. No grain whatever had been given her and she was on short pasture. Soon after I brought her home she began to shrink in her flow of milk. I feared this from her treatment, and, as I was told she had been in the habit of shrinking during former years. Before I could prevent it she reduced her milk yield to 17 pounds per day. I changed her ration and began weighing and testing her milk. From the tests I found she was very slowly improving in weight of milk and butter fat.

To be continued.

MICHIGAN STOCK BREEDERS.

All those who wish to purchase pure-bred stock of any description, will find it to their advantage to correspond with some of the following well-known breeders.

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Oakland Poultry Yards.

Eggs for hatching per 13, Banded Plymouth Rocks, Rose Comb White, and Single Comb Brown Leghorns, \$1.00 to \$1.50, White Wyandottes and Light Brahmans, \$1.50, Mammoth Bronze Turkeys, \$2.00 per six.
My yards are all headed by high-scoring males, hens and pullets score 90 to 95. My stock has won premiums at all the principal shows in Michigan.
JAMES MILLER, Jr., Beddow, Mich.

FOR SALE.

Three young Jersey Bulls, ranging in age from four months to one year old. All eligible to registry in A. J. C. C. registry. Also a registered Cheshire Boar.

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QUINCY, MICH

COLBY STOCK FARM.

Rambouillet Sheep, Galloway Cattle, and Percheron Horses. All stock pure bred and registered. Two Percheron Stallions for sale at a bargain. Spring Rye for Seed.

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M. H. WALWORTH

HILLSDALE, MICH

BREEDER OF

ESSEX, VICTORIA AND SUFFOLK SWINE

OF THE BEST

Also American Merino Sheep of choice quality

SHROPSHIRE HALL STOCK FARM

Has now on sale Twenty Registered Shearling Ewes. Also Thirty Unregistered Shearling Ewes, twenty-five in lamb to Lord Uffington. Price on the thirty head, \$10 each. Large importation to arrive about June 1.

L. S. DUNHAM, Prop
Concord, Mich.

SHROPSHIRE FOR '93

Imported, Registered and Unregistered
References: ex-Gov. Winans and C. S. Gregory,
Banker, Dexter, Mich.

Choice Yearling Ram and Ewe Lambs for sale Terms reasonable. We pay half of freight or express.
VALENTINE BROS.,
P. O. DEXTER, MICH.

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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 241-243 Plymouth-st., Brooklyn

Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints
 Indestructible Cottage and Barn Paints
 Sample Color Cards, "Confidential" Grange Discounts, Est mates and full particulars MAILED FREE. Write at once.

Postal Jottings.

BUTLER GRANGE NO. 88.

is still alive and growing. We are in the Branch county contest for a banner and have filled the stated program so far, and will initiate 13 members at our next meeting. There seems to be a falling off in the membership of the Alliance here and a general feeling in favor of the Grange prevails.

M. L. E.

PENFIELD GRANGE NO. 85.

again sends greeting to all members of Patrons of Husbandry. Our meetings are held regularly, sickness among us causes them to be small numerically. We hold our own in interest of the cause.

The cyclone of the 12th inst. stirred us up considerably. After nearly demolishing Bro. F. B. Garrett's new barn, which is about a mile west of the hall, it passed over, causing some little damage until it struck the Grange hall sheds. The south wing was laid flat while the other was nearly wrecked from its foundations. A "bee" last Friday, partially repaired damages. It will take still another to complete it.

AUNT JANE.

MONTCALM GRANGE NO. 318.

is not dead, neither is it dying, but holds its own, and has 70 paying members. Meetings are held every alternate Saturday. We have lately finished a contest which was both interesting and instructive. One of the leaders objected to having new members count; thought they might not be permanent and would leave after the contest ended; but we gained three new ones and reinstated one, and all young people whom I think will remain with us.

WHEATLAND GRANGE NO. 273

held its regular meeting April 14, with a fair attendance. In the business session a committee of three was appointed to make a selection of books in the reading course and report at the next meeting. Instead of the Lecturer's usual program the unwritten work was exemplified by the Worthy Master and the Worthy Lecturer, after which a report of the last County Grange meeting was given by different members who were present.

ALICE PEASE.

I think I will tell through the VISITOR how free mail delivery helps us in the country around Hillsdale. We still have to pay 80 cents a year box rent (when the boxes are more help to the postmaster than any one else), and a drop letter now costs us 2 cents instead of 1 cent as formerly. Now I propose we have free delivery in the country or have government furnish a clerk to read letters and papers for them in the city, so all they will have to do will be to sit and cross their legs and smoke.

R. E. PERRY.

CALHOUN COUNTY GRANGE

Met May 4, with Home Grange. Worthy Master Talmage in a pleasing manner gave the Patrons a hearty welcome. Bro. Simons responded to the young man's address in behalf of the Grange.

A fine dinner was served by the ladies of Home Grange. The first question was that of opening the World's Fair on Sunday. The Grange was in favor of its being open on Sunday but that the machinery should be stopped.

Mrs. Wm. Simons read a paper, "Personal characteristics of the four first Presidents of the United States. The article was well prepared. It carried us back to "ye olden time," so we could fairly see the four men that were at the head of the nation long ago.

Miss Lily Adams then entertained the Grange with a fine recitation.

"Recollections of Whittier," was given by Mrs. C. C. Poorman, showing many beautiful things in the life of the truly American poet.

Dialogue by Grace Fry and Harold Blanchard was very amusing.

Mrs. Mayo gave some very interesting facts on "How the Bible was given to the World." Going through with the different translations and how they have been preserved.

"Ought Immigration to be Restricted?" Was discussed at quite a length.

Recitation, Master Elbert Lewis. One of the young lady members read a paper, "Is it to the average Farmer's Advantage to keep a dog?" It was thought that it did not pay the farmer to keep the average dog, but a well bred, well trained collie, shepherd or spaniel, had an important place on the farm.

The next meeting will be held the second Thursday in June, and it is hoped that Prof. Davenport can be secured to give his lecture "Impressions of Brazil."

N. A. M.

HUSTLING IN SPARTA.

On the 28th day of February, when Deputy A. D. Bank visited Sparta Grange a revival movement was inaugurated and Brother Bank was invited to confer third and fourth degrees upon a class of twenty-five the third Saturday in April. He accepted the invitation stating that he would not break the engagement if the class exceeded that number. On April 10th notice was sent him that twenty-seven second degree members were in waiting. The meeting was called at ten a. m. with full attendance and proved a very enjoyable day. Worthy Master K. J. Brown of Alpine Grange was present and at the close of the meeting drove with Brother Bank to Alpine Grange hall where a class of nine were taught that "Our associations in life are the fields in which we reap," and that "It is in the home that we enjoy the fruits of the fields of the farm and the fields of life."

D. A. M.

BATAVIA.

Batavia Grange has not been reported in your paper very recently and I am sure its proceedings will interest all Patrons.

We held a very interesting and profitable contest during the winter, the ladies against the gentlemen, the latter winning.

April 8 we held an anniversary and also served the supper due the gentlemen, and conferred degrees, besides rendering a good literary program, which latter will count on the banner contest which Branch county has entered into.

We are putting forth every effort to win the banner and we have yet to chronicle the fact that one of our members has refused to do what our Lecturer has asked of them, as we all agreed we would do all he required. The ladies have had one discussion all by themselves, and it was the first time any one of the four ever debated or took part in a discussion.

Although our numbers are small, yet through the efforts of our lecturer (who by the way is a hustler) the interest is steadily increasing and we are adding to our numbers. We held a social April 19 for the benefit of one of our members who had recently joined and had taken the janitor work to do. He met with an accident which disables him and will incur quite a doctor's bill.

Our regular meetings are held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month.

We think the VISITOR is improving all the time and we shall soon make another effort to secure more subscribers. I wish all Granges would report often as I always read about every one mentioned as well as everything else in the VISITOR.

MRS. J. F. BUTTON.

ON TO VICTORY.

DOUGLAS GRANGE NO. 850.

is holding its own, and is in a flourishing and prosperous condition.

Our Grange was organized in 1882, on the 12th day of April, with nineteen charter members, eight of whom are in good standing at present date. One hundred and fifty-nine members have been initiated in our Grange since it was organized, out of whom about eighty-five members are in good standing at present time. At our last meeting, April 22, we initiated 12 new members, four sisters and eight brothers. The field work was administered to the brothers, which caused a good deal of interest and enjoyment.

We are looking forward for a good and instructive time at next Pomona Grange meeting which occurs in our hall some time in June. We wish to extend an invitation to all members of Patrons of Husbandry to meet with us and help make it one of the best meetings we have ever held and we anticipate much good will be derived therefrom.

The sisters of our Grange have formed themselves into an organization to be known as the "Grange Aid Society" and have held several meetings, which occur monthly. They are making a new carpet for our hall and will decorate the walls and make several good improvements.

We have purchased a new organ recently which adorns our hall very much, and is very useful when initiating.

Most every member in our Grange takes the VISITOR and pronounces it to be one of the best papers published for advancing the interests of the farming class.

We are surely marching on to victory.

GEORGE PORTER,
 Lecturer.

AN ALL NIGHT SESSION.

Montcalm County Pomona Grange No. 24 met with Crystal Grange on April 6, and not seeing any report from that Grange in the VISITOR, I wish to say that Montcalm County Pomona is a flourishing Grange of three hundred members and a goodly number of them were present at this meeting. A sumptuous dinner was furnished for all by Crystal Grange. The Grange was called to order by Worthy Master, G. F. Fillmore. Address of welcome by Hon. George H. Lester, responded to by Sister James Taylor. Subordinate Granges reported all flourishing and taking in new members.

The question of marketing wool was thoroughly discussed, and the barbarous custom of driving sheep two or three miles and when almost overcome with heat plunging them into the cold stream of water, or in other words the practice of washing sheep was strongly denounced by Hon. H. H. Hinds and Hon. George H. Lester and hosts of others.

The mortgage tax law was thoroughly discussed, and a resolution passed asking our senators and representatives in the legislature not to repeal the present law, but amend the same similar to the California tax law.

Sister Mary Sherwood Hinds, chairman of the State committee on Woman's Work in the Grange made some splendid remarks on the benefits of their work. A special committee reported resolutions of condolence on sister Rosmond Brown, wife of Hon. A. B. Brown.

Much important and profitable work was done and many subjects discussed in the afternoon. Our county deputy made a report; he had reorganized one Grange and was about to organize one more. A grand supper was given at the hall by the good sisters of Crystal Grange who are well skilled in feeding Grangers. An open meeting in the evening consisting of literary exercises, instrumental and vocal music which lasted until 10:30 o'clock, and the Grange opened in the fifth degree, and a class of twenty four was instructed in the beautiful lessons of that degree, and had the chief of the weather bureau been within reach, we felt like conferring all of the degrees in our power as an inducement to stop the rain that we might repair to our homes, but such was not to be, and about seventy or more spent the remainder of the night in the hall, and I must say a lively time it was.

Our next meeting will be with Douglass Grange on Thursday nearest the full moon in June.

B. B. CRAWFORD,
 Lecturer.

TO MY CORRESPONDENT.

—And am, as ever,
 Yours Affec.
 Of course you are—but why, my heart,
 Abbreviate the sweetest part?
 "Affectionately" I've no doubt,
 But write it all—or leave it out.
 Why does "Affec." my anger move?
 Because it seems to limit love.
 Why snap so ruthlessly in two,
 When all I fondly hoped, my due?
 Poor love, advancing at your beck,
 Recoils, chilled by "Yours Affec."
 When not so fatally defined
 One always hopes there's more behind.
 So sign "Affectionately" mine,
 Or, dearest, write and make no sign!

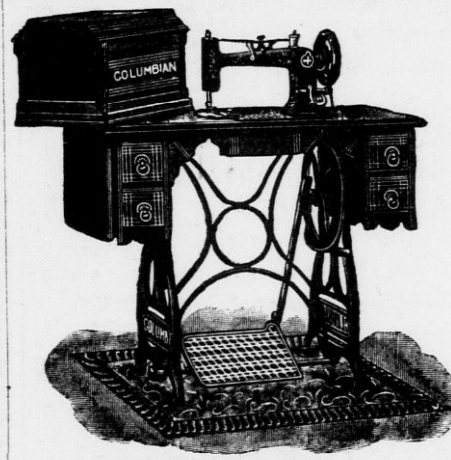
—M. M., in May Ladies' Home Journal.

Our New Offer

THIS WILL INTEREST YOU

IF YOU ARE THINKING OF BUYING

A Sewing Machine



Although we have sold a good many of the machines we have been offering and though they have given satisfaction, we believe that we are making a still better offer.

FOR
\$21.00

WE WILL SEND A MACHINE WELL NAMED
THE COLUMBIAN

The Columbian is a strictly high grade sewing machine with all modern improvements. Superior mechanism, graceful design, hand-some finish, light running and noiseless. In fact, all the desirable features contained in other well-known modern style machines are found in the "Columbian." Improved and simplified by the best mechanical talent until it stands the peer of all other sewing machines on the market.

FULLY WARRANTED FOR TEN YEARS.

As additional evidence of the general superiority and wearing qualities of the "Columbian," it is warranted for ten years. The "Columbian" will out-wear any two of the highest priced sewing machines in the world.

All wearing parts are case-hardened steel possessing great durability, and by the turning of a screw all lost motion can be taken up. All parts are fitted so accurately that these machines are assembled by competent men before leaving the factory.

Extra attachments in a velvet lined case, sent free with each machine: 1 Tucker, 1 Ruffler with shirring plate, 1 Hemmer Set (4 widths) and Binder, 1 Braider (Foot and Slide), 1 Thread Cutter.

Each machine is supplied with the following additional accessories: 1 Hemmer and Feller (one piece) 10 Needles, 6 Bobbins, 1 Screw-Driver, Oil Can filled with oil, Cloth Gauge and Thumb Screw, and a Book of Instructions. The Book of Instructions is profusely illustrated, and answers the purpose of a competent teacher.

The Balance-Wheel and many of the fine parts are nickel-plated, with other parts finely enameled and ornamented, giving it a rich appearance.

The improved automatic bobbin winder is so simple that a child can easily operate it—winding the thread automatically on the bobbin as evenly and regularly as the thread on a spool. This valuable attachment renders possible a perfect control of the shuttle tension, and all annoyance resulting from shuttle thread breaking while the machine is in motion, which is common to many machines, is entirely obviated.

The driving-wheel on this machine is admitted to be the simplest, easiest running and most convenient of any. The machine is self-threading, has the very best tension, and is 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 and finished in oak or walnut woodwork.

Price including one year's subscription, \$21. Sent by freight, charges prepaid. Give name of freight station if different from postoffice address.

We prepay the freight.
 The Machine is shipped subject to your approval, and if not entirely satisfactory will be returned

AT OUR EXPENSE

Could Anything be Fairer?

IT IS WARRANTED FOR TEN YEARS.

Address, with the money, GRANGE VISITOR, LANSING, MICH.

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3 TON \$35. Other sizes proportionately low
 ON TRIAL-FREIGHT PAID-WARRANTED
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 J. C. GOULD, Agt., Paw Paw, Mich.



3 TON \$35. Other sizes proportionately low
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For temperance people—a health-giving drink for the masses.
Hires' Root Beer

Not a harmful ingredient in its make-up. Nothing but the purest extracts of carefully selected herbs, roots, barks and berries.

A 25 cent package makes Five Gallons of a Delicious, Strengthening, Effervescent Beverage.

Be sure and get Hires'

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any of the following papers and magazines? If so you can make money by sending to us, thus getting the VISITOR for nothing in some cases, and in some instances you can get a first-class magazine and the VISITOR for less than the price of the magazine. Send cash with order.

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" Young People.....	2.00	2.00
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MISCELLANEOUS.

Detroit Free Press, weekly	1.00	1.20
Detroit Tribune.....	1.00	1.00
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The Congregationalist..... (Lansing).....	1.50	1.50
The Moderator.....	1.50	1.50
New York Tribune.....	1.00	1.00

THE GRANGE VISITOR

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Entered at the Postoffice at Lansing, Mich., as Second Class Matter.

ANOTHER GOOD LIST.

Mrs. H. L. Dayton, Secretary Rollin Grange No. 383, sends us a list of 38 full year subscriptions. Secretary, go thou and do likewise!

WOMAN'S WORK.

Miss O. J. Carpenter has secured the articles for the present issue of the woman's work department. We hope there will be a very free discussion of these topics by the ladies of the Grange. Write the VISITOR your ideas.

A WOMAN'S VICTORY.

The National Republican League last week adopted resolutions favoring woman suffrage. Of course this is not binding upon the party, but it is extremely significant. Women who believe in their right of suffrage will be encouraged and inspired by this action.

SOUVENIR COINS.

We have a few of the World's Fair silver souvenir coins which we will furnish while they last to anyone who will send us a dollar. This is the price they all sell for, and they will soon be worth more than that. These coins are genuine. We have but a few left and those wishing to purchase should send at once.

TRADING DOLLARS FOR FAME.

In several counties in the State bright agents are canvassing for histories of the county and asking farmers to pay from ten to one hundred dollars for a "write up," a photograph or both. And some farmers are doing it, in many cases where they can not afford it. We wonder if the same men who are gulled into this business ever "kick" on high taxes, wonder if they want good roads or better schools and are willing to help pay for them.

SILVER AND WHEAT.

We have in this issue an article from Judge J. G. Ramsdell of Traverse City, on this subject. It is written in answer to an article published some time since in the *Grange Bulletin*, from the pen of Mortimer Whitehead. Judge Ramsdell has been circuit judge in his district many years, is chairman of the executive committee of the Michigan State Grange, and is known as an acute thinker on economic topics. This article represents the position of the Grange of Michigan on the silver question.

URGENT HELP NEEDED.

Patrons, the prospects are that the bill creating a dairy and food commissioner will not pass this session unless its friends are very alert. We, as Patrons, want this bill to pass. Will you not sit down at once and write your representative that you want him to vote for this bill? This is important, and it is necessary that you be prompt if you get what you want.

Again, there seems little prospect of the "California clause" being inserted in the tax bill. If you want that to be done write at once to your member or to Hon. A. E. Willey, House of Representatives, Lansing.

If you have any influence, if you believe in these measures, act!

A SERIOUS CASE.

The *State Republican* of Lansing, quotes entire our editorial of May 1, on the bank affair in that city, and endeavors to answer our questions. Our position was at that time largely one of inquiry. We stated the law, suggested that it had been broken and urged investigation. We made no specific charges then and we have desired merely to discover if there were violation and where the fault is, because the question is one of State importance. The remarks of the *Republican*, however, lead us to speak of several important points that are involved.

The *Republican* admits that our reading of the law was correct, but states that the VISITOR was "decidedly wrong when it intimates that \$175,000 were loaned to one individual." We did not intend to intimate that \$175,000 were loaned one individual. We did say that one individual had, as the *Republican* itself says, become practically responsible for the whole amount.

Now, the point of law involved is this—and we beg to correct the *Republican* in its interpretation of the law—"that the liabilities of a company or firm include the liabilities of the several members thereof." If Mr. A belong to the firm of A and B, and the firm have loaned from a bank to the legal amount, A as an individual can not loan further from the same bank. But it is held by some and we understand it is so ruled by the Commissioner, that this phase of the law does not apply to corporations. In other words this same A may hold the bulk of stock in the Eureka Plow Co.—a corporation—and they may have borrowed their legal amount from a bank, but that would not prohibit A from borrowing as an individual, nor A and B from borrowing as a firm, with the same limitations as noted before. The *Republican's* explanation is, therefore incorrect.

And here a word more as to the effect of this interpretation regarding corporations. In the first place there is a question in the minds of some as to the propriety of such interpretation. In the second place if the ruling is correct it uncovers a weakness in the law. Law is for protection against wrong doing and injustice. But under this law, as interpreted, could not one man or set of men by forming corporations instead of firms and trespassing on the kindness or carelessness of directors deliberately and legally (?) ruin a bank? Indeed there might easily be a conspiracy for the deliberate robbing of depositors. Is not the whole spirit of the law nullified by such a reading? A man need not loan the money and yet he becomes responsible for the debt, as in the case at issue. Cannot the law be of more protection here than it is under this understanding of it?

But the *Republican* intimates that there has been no violation of the law. Again referring to the statement published in the *Detroit Tribune* April 28, we find that of the \$175,000 of the so called Barnes paper, \$100,000 approximately is against O. M. and O. F. Barnes. Here then is one violation if they are a firm, if not, there is one violation to the amount of at least \$30,000, or two, averaging \$15,000 each. Also paper against the Lansing Lumber Co. of \$44,000, another violation of \$9,000. What will the *Republican* say to these two and possibly three distinct violations? If the *Republican* can show mitigating facts we shall be glad to listen.

But basing the case on the official figures as made public, the law has been broken, and this fact will come out officially in due time we believe.

THE WORLD'S WHITE CITY.

It was a wonderful opening, literally full of wonders. No one mind can span the breadth of meaning of that first of May. For the day, the world pivoted at Jackson Park. American and Spanish, Japanese and Chinese, Greek and German, Italian and Indian, Eskimo and English, Mohammedan and Mexican, French, Turk and Russian met on the world's fair ground. And fair, indeed, was the spectacle, and marvelous as it was fair, to eyes that saw it for the first and were unfitted to the immensity of measurement and gala lavishness of adornment that have been used.

It was holiday in the city. Thousands of Chicago's workmen, who have carried to such rapid success the prodigious plans of Fair Commissioners, were among the 400,000 visitors at the opening and mingled in that motly multitude that so good-naturedly tramped through the mire of unfinished streets and walks on that memorable day. I stood, in the course of the afternoon, at what seemed to me a focus point of the grounds and of the hour. It was beside the arm of the lagoon from one end of which rises the gilded statue of Republic, backed by the white columns of the peristyle and the blue of the lake beyond; at the other end the McMonie's fountain poured its rippling flood into the basin, while across it skimmed the gay gondolas of blue and silver, scarlet and gold, mahogany and white, the electric launches and canoes, none seeming scarcely less of life than the flocks of gray and white gulls and ducks that added their graceful, sweeping curves to the scene. The sight itself once seen, will not be forgotten. Following up from the water by degrees of statue studded wall, plats of lawn and broad walks, on every side rise the white columns, the sculptured cornices and details of the buildings. Well might the gondolier in the basin below fancy himself in storied Venice for all he sees before him. Well may we Americans, innocent of travel, forget but that the picture books we've dreamed over, have turned to life and we stand amid the architectural marvels of the old world.

But listen! There comes a deafening, swelling hurrah sweeping along, a very billow of sound, up from before the administration building, beating against the broad sides of the huge manufacturer's building and back across the lagoon it wells up among the stately arches of agricultural hall. After all and best of all we are not transported; it is an American sky and an American flag over all.

But this letter is not to detail the incidents of the formal opening. That the papers fully did at the time. Rather, it is to give a few conclusions reached at the close of the first week of the fair. It is plain, to begin with the best time to come, that those who expect to visit the exposition but once will be disappointed if they make that one visit in May. For, although there are enough exhibits now in position to profitably spend a life time upon, still only a fraction of them all are complete and while enough buildings are open to tire a professional pedestrian in a tour of them, many others yet wear the "no admittance" badge across their doorways. Besides, though the chief magistrate pressed the electrical button on May first, the grounds still await dame nature's touch upon an even more magical button. Lawns, water fonts, wooded islands, potted plants and choice shrubs need a few weeks of sunshine to bring the grounds out in happiest relief.

Every item of information the prospective visitor can obtain regarding the fair is essential in forming any sort of an idea of the enormity of the work that has been done to transform a low lake shore into the present pretentious city. A visit to it means months in days, years in weeks, the whole world seen in miniature, its people of all climes met and studied in one land. A trip to Chicago this summer to a boy or girl who will take

pains to inform him or herself on what is seen will be equal to a year's schooling, beyond a doubt. Let them consult the *Youth's Companion* fair number, read "A Dream City" in the *Harper Magazine* for May, for a better understanding of the architectural features, and otherwise study the many fair numbers and articles of reliable periodicals. The daily *Inter Ocean* for May 3, contained a good map of the grounds and every Wednesday publishes a colored supplement devoted to the fair, valuable to intending visitors.

I am not writing to advertise the fair—the "Windy City" needs no help in that line—but am conscientiously saying it is an educational privilege of a life time. The well organized forces for the comfort, health and protection of visitors and the general demand that every form of extortion be put down will, very soon, probably leave small room for complaint even to the chronic grumbler. One can reach the grounds from the city's business centre for five cents or for ten cents and avoid a crowd. Transportation is varied and ample by boat, special trains, elevated road, street cars or by trolley. The latter if you aspire to turn even Chicagoan's heads.

Michigan friends who plan to come should if possible include arrangements by which they can take lunch to the grounds. It will save time and patience and, so far, the restaurant charges are said to be exorbitant; but the newspapers are on the war path and it may not last. The Wolverines' home is a delightful place to lunch and rest in. It is by no means the most pretentious or fantastic of the State buildings in outer appearance or inner furnishings, but it is homelike and spacious and the open wood grates have been patronized and complimented by visitors from other states. The free seat, check and toilet rooms are luxuries unannounced by those who have decided the fair is a wholesale extortionist.

Those who dread the South Side noise and crowds will soon be able to reach the grounds from the North Side quickly and pleasantly by boat, or, now, in three-quarters of an hour by rail. This leaves all the day for sight seeing the ordinary flesh can endure.

The general feeling here is that railroad rates to the city will be greatly reduced before the fair closes. All the fair is open for fifty cents. Numerous extras have a special charge, just as "side shows" at State and county fairs do.

Finally, you may not be a dress reformist but you will surely wish for a curtailed skirt while in Chicago. One day's dose of such yellow slush as we had opening day would cure the most obstinate case, I opine. To offset this, let the feminine soul dwell on the thought of the World's Fair without tobacco smoke! The delight of it! Faults may be found but there is much to be praised.

JENNIE BUELL.

Chicago, May 10, 1893.

MORTGAGE TAXATION.

TO THE EDITOR—Is there not a fallacy at the bottom of this whole theory of mortgage taxation?

Does the holder of the mortgage have any ownership in the land? Has he any power of control over it?

To illustrate: A makes two loans of \$1,000 each; the first loan is made to B, who gives his note, to pay \$1,000 in one year with interest. To secure this he procures his friend X to sign his note with him as surety, and this security is satisfactory to A.

The second loan is made to C, who prefers to give a mortgage upon his land to secure the payment of \$1,000 in one year, with interest. When the notes fall due they are both paid.

What interest has A then in the land of C, on which he held a mortgage?

Why then should A pay taxes on the \$1,000 loaned to C, any more than he should pay taxes on the \$1,000 loaned to B?

What reason can be assigned why a mortgage upon real estate, held merely as security for a personal debt, should pay taxes, which does not apply equally to a mortgage upon personal estate, given as security for the payment of a debt?

Our laws have always provided that all moneys and all "credits" were subject to taxation.

If "all moneys and all credits" are taxed, and if the mortgage be taxed also, A would be taxed \$1,000 on his "credit" on the loan to B, and \$1,000 on his "credit" on his loan to C, and also \$1,000 on the mortgage. This would be double taxation.

In the effort to secure taxation upon that portion of the "credits" where the security is of record the mortgage law was passed.

Would it not be wiser to take steps to make the taxing of "credits" effective and wipe out the mortgage tax law entirely?

W. L. WEBBER.

Saginaw, May 8, 1893.

A SHROPSHIRE TRIP.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—I shall start about the first of June for England for my '93 importation of yearling Shropshires, and shall hope to be home and have them ready for distribution by the first day of August. I have set September 21 as the date for holding my fourth annual auction sale, this being the Thursday before the opening of the sheep exhibit at Chicago. I shall hope to have present at that time Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, president of the English society, and some of the other noted English breeders. We shall keep open house that day and will be glad to see our friends.

Parties wishing to place orders for sheep before I start for England should do so at once as the time is short.

Yours truly,

GEO. E. BRECK.

KENT.

A special meeting of Kent Pomona Grange, No. 18, was held at Cannonsburg, April 26. The forenoon session was occupied with the regular business of the order.

The day was cold and windy but about forty heartily enjoyed the afternoon session which was open to the public. The Worthy Lecturer being absent Sister S. E. Moffit filled that office and the following program was carried out:

Song by the choir.

Discussion, "Our common school system," opened by Bro. Thomas, of Cannonsburg, who thought the common school system of Michigan as near perfect as that of any of the U. S., he favored the present free system, a ten months term of school and a uniformity of text books throughout the state, believing it would reduce the price of same. Others favored the present free system, and still others were strongly in favor of the township system, citing the approval of it in northern Indiana as an example.

Recitation, by Cornelia Moffit. Discussion on "Woman's Opportunities in the Grange," was opened by Mrs. Moffit.

Recitations, by Mertie Preston and Mesdames E. Keech, Rolf and F. Howard.

Discussion, "The farmer's Duty to his organization," was opened by Bro. S. C. Peterson and J. W. Hartwell, who thought it was his duty to attend the meetings; work for it; take the paper which is published especially in the interests of his order, as the Patrons of husbandry to take the GRANGE VISITOR, and let him do telling work as well as discussion on legislative topics.

Song by the choir.

Recitation by Mrs. Moffit.

The W. O. suggested that each Grange devote one meeting to allowing each member to work their way out and in the Grange.

The next regular meeting will be held in the court house at Grand Rapids, June 28.

SECRETARY.

A WONDERFUL PAPER.

The World's Fair number of *The Youth's Companion* just received, is in every way a magnificent issue, a worthy contribution to the Columbian year and the greatest Fair the world has ever seen. It gives a full description of the different departments of the Fair, also important directions showing how to see the Fair and what to see each day. Its illustrations are superb, no less than thirteen full pages devoted to photographic views of those unequalled buildings which make up the "White City."

Single numbers may be obtained by sending ten cents to *The Youth's Companion*, Boston, Mass., or of any newsdealer.

As William bent over her fair face he whispered: "Darling, if I should ask you in French if I might kiss you, what would you answer?" She summoning her scanty knowledge of French, replied: "Billet doux."—*Tid Bits*.

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.

FLORA'S DAY.

To the Committee on Woman's Work in the Grange:

In accordance with the request of the chairman of the national committee on woman's work that I should offer a few suggestions and a program to serve as a guide for the celebration of Flora's Day in the Grange, the following is respectfully submitted:

Who does not rejoice to see the new year's first blade of grass? And, who so selfish or unfeeling, that he does not exclaim with joy, "this is the first flower of the season?" From time beyond the record all people have adored the flower realm. Savage, civilized, male or female, all respect Flora. As one of the famed goddesses, Flora had her multiplied admirers; and to this day we respect and love the one who loves the floral garden.

It is one of the noble missions of the order of Patrons of Husbandry to stimulate a love for the floral world. It is a world within itself. "To develop a higher and better manhood and womanhood" is one great aim of the Grange and there is no more successful and charming way of doing this than by an intelligent study of the forms, beauty, fragrance and use of Flora's kingdom. She comes to you, if a fruit-grower, with a pretty peach, orange, cherry, apricot, apple or pear blossom. If you are a dairyman or a maid there are the jolly "Johnny-jump-up," the buttercup, the wild rose, the dainty daisy and the hundred and one other charmers for your love and reflection. If you are a gardener, flower or vegetable, surely you have a small share of your heaven here on earth. For who can mingle constantly with the flower world and not be refined and purified? Who can commune with fuschias, lilies, forget-me-nots, chrysanthemums, geraniums, carnations, pansies and the queen of the flowers, the rose, and not be inspired with a love for Flora? But a love for flowers is innate. It is a part of the perfect person's daily make up. No words can add to the love you have for the rose. No paragraph can tell its tale of love so well known to the boys and girls—yes, old boys and girls too—so well as the rose itself. It would then seem proper and right that an order and a membership that come in such close contact with flowers should set apart one day in each year to the study of Flora's lessons. There is no occasion so solemn or so joyous that Flora's offerings are not welcome. There is no day in the year when and no household in all all this fair land where flowers are not welcome.

The committee on woman's work of the National Grange have thought it for the good of the order to request each subordinate grange in the United States, in view of the fact that all love flowers, to set aside the regular meeting in June, 1893, as "Flora's Day." They would recommend that it be made a public meeting (in the afternoon or evening) as soon as the secret business of the regular meeting is finished. That Flora of each Grange should have charge of the meeting and that a program suitable arranged should be prepared. As a guide and not to be followed when any better program can be prepared, or, when local conditions are not favorable the following is submitted:

1. Song—"America."
2. Reading—A poem (by H. W. Longfellow, America's own poet) subject, "Flowers."
3. Preparing a bouquet, each one donating, to have a short verse about the flower, or grass or leaf given.
4. An original essay not to exceed five or seven minutes in length, subject, "The Grange as Seen Through Flowers," by Flora of the Grange.
5. Grange Song.
6. Short address by the Worthy Master of the Grange, followed by taking up a collection for the Grange Temple fund.
7. Social meeting for the good of the order and securing applications for membership.

Fraternally,

MRS. E. W. DAVIS,
Member of national committee on woman's work.
Santa Rosa, Cal., April 16, 1893.

WORLD'S FAIR.

EDITOR VISITOR—I am preparing for an Exhibit of Photographs of some of our Michigan farm residences and live stock buildings for

the World's Fair. The cards should be of uniform size, 18 inches high and 22 inches in length, and the pictures may be as large as the artist can take on the card and leave a suitable margin. The name of the owner, township, county and state, should be plainly printed under the picture, together with such special business mention as may be desired. Where the residence and live stock buildings are so situated that they cannot be taken in one view, they may be on separate cards. Will those having good buildings kindly donate photographs of their premises for such an exhibit? I can use them if sent any time within a month.

I hope to secure enough to make a creditable exhibit and show to the World, in miniature, samples of our beautiful Michigan rural homes and well arranged, capacious and imposing live stock and breeding establishments. I have received a good collection of fine views and want about fifty more to complete the exhibit. Send by express to Michigan Department Agricultural Building, World's Fair Chicago.

J. J. WOODMAN,
Sup't. of Mich. Agri. Exhibit.

HILLSDALE POMONA.

Held its May meeting at the city in the G. A. R. hall. Reports from subordinate granges prove too good. On the whole an advance co-operative buying revived in some and the reading course taken up in others.

Worthy Lecturer Sister Nokes was appointed a committee to secure a speaker and music for our union meeting in August next.

AFTERNOON.

Time given to worthy lecturer. Sister Alice Peas—Recitation, good.

Sister Bush—A paper, good. Sent to the VISITOR.

QUESTION BOX.

Of what benefit financially will the world's fair be to farmers?

W. Kirby—"It will be a benefit in many ways, the same as our county and state fairs only on a vastly more extended scale. It will diffuse a general knowledge of agriculture, stimulate a more extensive trade, increase immigration which will increase the price of real estate and foreigners will bring with them and introduce their more careful and painstaking modes of agriculture which will increase our productions."

Bro. Strait—"The brother has given us a good excuse for that great humbug. It is a good place for us to go to get rid of our money and get the cholera. If we go and stay long enough to get any benefit our children will go bare-foot. It is doubtful if we are benefited at all financially."

Brother Evins—"The government has been trying to stop immigration and if many more come and increase our production, we will probably get 40 cents for wheat instead of 60. We raise more now than we can sell."

Sister Phillips—"It will be a terrible time and a terrible place, instructive but not beneficial financially."

Will the paying out of our \$100,000,000 reserve damage our government credit?

Bro. Edwards—"I have seen it reported that when the administration leaves Washington the finances are all right but when they return there is trouble again."

Bro. Phillips—"Look out for politics."

W. Kirby—"In order to be well informed we will have to read both sides. It beats all what a pile of truth the old party papers do tell when they talk about each other. It ought not to injure our credit, the government ought not to be obliged to draw on its reserve, there are millions of gold locked up in the banks. Wall street and the great banking institutions are trying to compel the government to issue bonds for their own aggrandizement."

Should we patronize the race course?

Bro. Strait—"No, most emphatically no. It is the worst species of gambling. Worse than card playing, worse than the Louisiana lottery, and in respectability but a little ahead of the Spanish bull fighting. It is detrimental financially, morally and religiously."

Bro. Mumford—"I endorse all the brother has said. That it is so prominent a feature of our fair is due to the indifference of good people. The premium on fast

horses is increasing every year while that on other stock is stationary."

Sister Bowditch—"Farmers have the power and should suppress it."

Bro. Raney—"To the people it is attractive, but is detrimental to ourselves and our children, and is a curse."

W. Kirby—"It has a strong hold on the people and the craze is growing, and it has become a serious question what the end will be. It is running out our serviceable horses, while all our other stock has been wonderfully improved. It is cruel and dangerous and tends to moral and financial ruin."

Bro. Phillips—"Fast horses are a good thing. We can get there now sooner than we used to and if bred larger would be all right."

Sister Phillips—"I like fast horses, but am opposed to racing."

Bro. Raney—"If the race was excluded from our fair, the attendance would not be near so great nor our receipts so large, but in the end would be no detriment to agriculture or the fair."

Sister Nokes—"Resolved, That it is the sentiment of this Grange that horse racing is a great evil and should be discontinued in general and not permitted at our county and State fairs."

Carried unanimously.

W. KIRBY.

SILVER AND WHEAT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GRANGE VISITOR—I have been requested to reply through the columns of the VISITOR to an article published in the *Grange Bulletin* some time ago entitled "Silver and Wheat." In that article Mr. Mortimer Whitehead, Worthy Lecturer of the National Grange, assumes to speak for and in the name of the entire Grange of the United States, demanding the free and unlimited coinage of silver in the ratio of sixteen of silver to one of gold.

That Mr. Whitehead has a perfect right to his individual opinion upon this and all other questions, and to express them whenever and wherever he can get a hearing, no fair minded person will deny. But when he takes advantage of his exalted position in the Grange, and assumes to speak in the name and by the authority of the Grange, he assumes a prerogative that does not belong to that high office.

POSITION OF THE GRANGE.

Mr. Whitehead knows that a large minority of the Grange are opposed to the free and unlimited coinage of silver, especially that kind of free coinage which Mr. Whitehead advocates, viz.: the right of any owner of silver bullion or foreign silver coin to deposit the same at any subtreasury of the United States, and receive therefor one dollar and twenty-nine cents in legal tender treasury notes for every ounce of such bullion or coin so deposited.

Mr. Whitehead also knows that the Michigan State Grange has in four successive sessions, recorded its unanimous verdict against free coinage in any form, of either gold or silver; holding that if the process of coinage and the government stamp gives the metal any additional value the people whose labor and credit give it the added value are entitled to the benefit. That the government should own the raw material from which its legal tender money is made, and having assumed to prescribe the kind of money with which the judgments and decrees of its courts shall be satisfied and to monopolize its issue it is bound to furnish sufficient of such money to the people to satisfy the demands which its fiat creates. He also knows that the officers of the National Grange are about equally divided on the subject, yet he assumes to speak for the entire Order.

It is true that at a session of the National Grange held in California some years ago, and before this question had been thoroughly discussed by the press, the congress and the people, the Grange passed by a small majority of its voting members a resolution favoring the free and unlimited coinage of silver. How much the right royal reception tendered to the Grange by the bonanza mine owners of California and Nevada, and the general environment during the session, had to do with that vote can only be conjectured. But no matter whether it had any effect or not Mr. Whitehead has no more right to quote that vote as an expression of the present opinion of the Grange, than I would have to quote the sermons of Jonathan Edwards on infant damnation as the present opinion of the orthodox church.

I, therefore, as an individual member of the Grange, most earnestly protest against the use of the good name of the Order for the sole benefit of the silver owners and producers, and against the best interests of the farmer, the laborer, and the poor.

MR. WHITEHEAD'S ARGUMENTS.

I will now examine briefly the reasoning of Mr. Whitehead:

First, He assumes that free coinage would increase the money circulation and therefore raise the price of wheat. To Mr. Whitehead that may seem a self evident proposition; to me, it appears as a demonstrable fallacy. How it would increase it he does not state, and in his assumption he ignores the experience which this country has had since the Bland law took effect. He must be aware that the government under both Arthur and Cleveland, although the mints were coining two million dollars a month, were unable to get more than about one silver dollar per capita into circulation. Every dollar above that was returned to the treasury as fast as issued. To satisfy the wants of the people silver certificates were issued; these were acceptable to the people for a while, and the silver dollars were retained in the treasury as the money of ultimate redemption. But these certificates lacked the essential ele-

ment of debt-paying money—they were not a legal tender. The people insisted upon having more money and better money. Foremost among these was the Michigan State Grange. By a unanimous vote that Grange memorialized congress to purchase the entire output of our gold and silver mines not required for use in the arts, and make these metals the basis for a legal tender paper currency to be issued in payment. Congress in the passage of the Sherman silver law substantially complied with that request so far as the silver product extends, by purchasing the entire yield of the silver mines of the United States at its commercial value and issuing in payment thereof legal tender treasury notes; thus adding fifty odd millions annually to our legal tender circulation. How does Mr. Whitehead propose to increase the circulation of silver by free coinage when its entire value is put in circulation now? There is but one way, and that is by paying out for it more than the market price. Instead of paying 85 cents an ounce, the market price, he would have the government pay 129 cents an ounce, the coinage value. If it is necessary for the government to issue twenty-five millions more than the commercial value of the silver product, why donate it to the silver owners?

IT HELPS MINE OWNERS.

They are rich already—poor men are not mine owners. Would it not be better to put it into some public improvements which would cheapen transportation and thus benefit the whole people whose credit is thus used? Mr. Whitehead assumes also that such increase in circulation would raise the price of wheat in the United States. Is not Mr. Whitehead aware that the price of wheat like that of every other product depends upon the ratio of supply to demand; and that, with all world wide transportable products like wheat and cotton it is the ratio of the world's supply to the world's demand that fixes the price? If the supply is shortened the price rises, and if increased the price falls. It is the stomach that makes the demand for bread. Does Mr. Whitehead propose by donating this entire \$25,000,000 a year to the mine owners to increase the size or the number of stomachs and thus create a hungry demand for more bread? Does he expect by this donation to shorten the crops and thus lessen the supply? It must do one or the other or it cannot raise the price. The idea that increasing the circulation in the United States will increase the price of bread or any other necessary article of food is the veriest nonsense.

THE LAW OF PRICE.

In 1876 the circulation per capita was \$16.12 and the lowest price of wheat in Chicago that year was \$1.01 and the highest price \$1.76 1/2. Today the circulation is over \$24 per capita and the price of wheat in Chicago is but 76 cents. Here is a case where with one-third less circulation per capita wheat was more than double the price. If Mr. Whitehead will study the markets, or some good work on political economy, he will find that supply and demand alone determine the exchangeable value of all commodities, money included. If the supply is shortened the price rises in a definite ratio unless the demand is also shortened. If the supply is increased the price falls in the same ratio unless the demand increases, and that without any regard to the relation which gold and silver bear to each other. The relation of gold and silver to each other may determine the relative quantity of each which a bushel of wheat will buy but it cannot determine the exchangeable value of wheat for other products.

THE CIRCULATION OF MONEY.

The idea that the free and unlimited exchange of silver bullion for treasury notes at 129 cents per ounce will increase the circulation of money in this country, is as fallacious as the idea that it would increase the price of wheat.

It is estimated by the United States Treasury department that there is now about \$600,000,000 in gold in the United States. While this gold is not to any great extent in actual circulation, it is used as bank and treasury reserves in place of legal tender paper money now in circulation, and which would have to be withdrawn when gold became too valuable in international exchange to be used as bank reserves. As the conditions are now under the Sherman silver law, the entire product of our silver mines is put in circulation at its exchangeable value, in the form of treasury notes. These treasury notes being based on the exchangeable value of silver are at par with gold, and so long as they are kept so, gold will continue to be held as a reserve fund in the banks instead of legal tender notes; thus leaving such notes to continue in circulation. But as soon as an ounce of silver which is now worth but 85 cents in legal tender treasury notes is made exchangeable at the United States treasury for 129 cents in such treasury notes, then gold will raise to a premium equal to the difference between the purchasing power of 23.22 grains of gold, the amount contained in a coined gold dollar, and 371 1/4 grains of silver, the amount contained in a coined silver dollar, which is now 44 cents. With such a premium on gold, or in fact with a small fraction of it, the national banks could no longer afford to hold it as a redemption fund for their notes, nor could the state banks or private banks afford to hold gold as a reserve fund to meet depositors' checks in an emergency, and consequently the \$600,000,000 now held as a reserve would be withdrawn, and would have to be replaced by legal tender treasury notes and greenbacks which are now in circulation. Thus instead of increasing the circulation to the extent of the difference between the market value and the coin value of the silver product which is about \$25,000,000, the course which Mr. Whitehead advocates would decrease it to the extent of the difference between the amount of gold now held as reserves and the \$25,000,000 which he proposed to donate to mining corporations. Such a contraction of the currency would be ruinous to every debtor and to every industry.

The demonetization of silver in 1873, of which Mr. Whitehead complains so much, was but a drop compared with the ocean of distress that would flow from Mr. Whitehead's remedy for the wrong then inflicted.

A RIDICULOUS PROPOSAL.

In the light of these inevitable results,

can Mr. Whitehead or any one else tell me why the people of the United States, who now buy the entire output of our mines at 85 cents an ounce in treasury notes, should obligate themselves by law to take the same output at \$1.29 an ounce in treasury notes, and thus donate to the silver mining corporations 44 cents for every ounce of silver they may mine; not only that, but obligate themselves by law to take all the silver of the world that may be offered, and which can now be bought for 85 cents an ounce, and pay \$1.29 cents an ounce for it; would any body but a—lunatic think of doing such a thing in private business? Would Mr. Whitehead give his note for \$1.29 for a horse that was offered to him by the owner for \$85 on the same terms? If not, and he is honest, why does he in the name of the Grange ask the people to do business on such a crazy plan.

The value of gold and silver as a medium of exchange depends each as much upon the world's supply and the world's demand as does the exchangeable value of any other world wide transportable product; and for one world wide to undertake by law to force a higher value upon either than the law of demand and supply give them, is to throw the whole burden of maintaining this artificial value upon the people of that country, at least to the extent of its commercial relations with the rest of the world. This to me seems so self evident that argument I deem unnecessary.

SILVER AND WHEAT

was Mr. Whitehead's theme. Today an ounce of silver, or the treasury note received for it, will buy a bushel and one-tenth of wheat. If Mr. Whitehead's law could take effect today, an ounce of silver or the treasury note received for it, would buy a bushel and nine-tenths. Who would be benefited the owner of the wheat or the owner of the silver? Even a Whitehead ought to be able to guess that conundrum.

Which would gain by such a law, the farmer whose bushel is reduced one-third in its power to buy silver or the mining corporation whose ounce of silver is increased one-third in its purchasing power? It is easy enough to see in whose interest Mr. Whitehead is working, and that the value of his service to them is greatly enhanced by using the good name of the Grange. Finding fault and ranting about the demonetizing of silver by this and other countries is "threshing old straw." Very few defend that action now, and nearly all regret that both silver and gold are not equally credited, at the ratio then existing, as money by all nations. Mr. Whitehead confounds the debtors and creditors of 1873 with the debtors and creditors of 1893, and would punish the innocent creditor of '93 to avenge the wronged debtor of '73, if his free coinage business would work as great an inflation of the currency as he claims to believe.

MR. WHITEHEAD'S MULES.

Having concluded my argument I will now notice Mr. Whitehead's mules. Mr. Whitehead illustrates his article with an amusing comparison; and he seems to be so pleased with it that he inserts it in many paragraphs, always in parentheses, explaining that horses mean gold and mules mean silver. He compares the demonetization of silver by congress in 1873, with a farmer who, having all the work that all his teams both of horses and mules could possibly do, should dispose of his mules and leave the horses to do all the work. He assumes by the use of this comparison that the same condition of things continues. Now let us see about this mule business. Uncle Sam at that time had but very few mules on his farm (8,000,000 is all the silver dollars that had ever been coined in the mint up to 1873). Mules had become very unfashionable among his neighbor farmers, and so Uncle Sam thought he would rather let what few he had run wild than be out of fashion. But he soon saw the folly of letting them run wild. He needed more help and mules were getting plenty and dog cheap. So in '78 he began buying—bought more in six months than he had ever owned before in all his life—and ordered his foreman Chester A. Arthur to send them out on the farm to work. Arthur did so, but word soon came back that the mules were balky and would not work. Arthur advised Uncle Sam to stop buying; but he said you must make them work and kept right on buying. Arthur failed and Uncle Sam discharged him and hired Grover Cleveland, who had gained something of a reputation as a leader of mules up in New York. Grover took the reins, mounted the supply wagon and cracked the whip; not a mule stirred; not one in ten winked an ear. Grover ordered Daniel Manning to punch them with a goad and make them go—then the kicking commenced, and Dan got mad, wrote a long report to his Uncle Samuel, telling him that no power on earth could make those mules go, and advised him to kill every—mule he had on the farm and quit buying. But U. S. was obstinate and mules were cheap and plenty, so he kept buying until the government stables were full and more stables had to be built, and all the time the farm was running behind for want of cultivation. Then an idea struck the old gentleman and he said, "by gosh, I'll just chattel mortgage every dum'd mule on the place for traction engines (paper money), and set them to work and see what they will do." Then the dirt began to fly, and business began to hum on the farm. Those engines worked so much better than mules, and accomplished so much more, that under the advice of the Michigan State Grange, Uncle Samuel ordered all the mules in the country bought up and chattel mortgaged at their full value for traction engines, and he is still buying and mortgaging. So that Mr. Whitehead can see that while the mules are quietly dozing in the government stables, they are still at work by proxy in the form of legal tender treasury notes.

The silver dollars lie idle in the vaults but their souls are marching on. Silver is doing a greater work as money in the United States than it ever did before it was demonetized. The mules though seemingly idle are all at work.

Qui facit per alium facit per se.

J. G. RAMSDALL.

Traverse City, May 2, 1893.

The farmer should take as much care of the manure heap as he would of his cattle.
—W. B. Page.

Woman's Work.

CENTENNIAL ODE MAY 1, 1893.

With grateful hearts on bended knee
A world convenses today,
To pay their homage, Lord, to Thee,
And own Thy gracious sway.

Four hundred years of shade and light,
Of mingled joy and sorrow,
Thou'st lit our pathway through the night,
And brightened every morrow.

We thank Thee for thy guiding hand,
That led o'er ocean's wave,
Columbus and the "Pilgrim Band,"
A continent to save.

Today we reap the seed they sowed
In this wild virgin soil;
We dwell where Indians once abode,
The purchase of our toil.

Where wigwams and the wild beast's lair
In forest's depths were found;
There happy homes and cities fair,
And fields of grain abound.

May coming years grow brighter still
In wisdom, virtue, love—
Till all below shall do Thy will
As it is done above.

—I. COLLIER.

Battle Creek.

SUMMER WORK—HOW LIGHTENED.

OLIVIA J. CARPENTER.

The above subject is sufficient in itself to cause a farmer's wife to feel like "fleeing from the wrath to come." And yet summer after summer finds her comparatively happy and contented. To shake off some of its burdens and yet leave naught undone that will add to the comfort and pleasure, to say naught of the prosperity of the household is a difficult task, yet difficult as it is, many women make excellent progress each succeeding year in their efforts to accomplish it.

The brothers tell us often women do many useless things, or at least unnecessary, and in this respect I believe they are too often correct.

One of the best and most successful of housekeepers says that "head work" is what women need to use to solve this problem. Begin in the early spring, says one, wash and put in order everything that needs to be laundered and is to be used in the household or by the members of the family when warm weather comes. And when the trying ordeal of house cleaning must be borne it will not be so much of a monster, and when finally in this work, don't do useless and foolish things. To illustrate, do not wrench out the windows or carry water and wash; take instead a bottle of polish. Mrs. S. J. Shaw, of Charlotte Grange, will supply you and you can accomplish the task easily, and without any disorder. The first to clean should be the cellar, then closets and store rooms. Take the furniture from a room clean, touching up marred places in the wood work with paint and varnish, place in order before another is begun. Having "put your house in order" and all things being ready only the daily tasks await your coming and may be lightened in many ways. One lady in our grange says she can face a regiment of hungry men without a tremor if only she is supplied with good bread. And can entertain threshers if she has fifteen minutes notice. And this sister enjoys the distinction of being an excellent cook.

Another lady tells us to prepare the potatoes and such other vegetables as are desired for the day in the cool of the preceding evening. She says take a rocking chair to a pleasant place, pare sufficient potatoes for three meals, slicing one-third, place in a stone jar in cellar with plenty of cold water in which is a little salt. Cook for dinner twice the quantity needed and while your oven is heated place in it a dish of the slices and prepare for scalloped potatoes, let them bake as is convenient and you have a delicious dish for supper to serve with cold meats. Warm the remaining ones left from dinner for next morning's breakfast.

Do not fuss too much; it makes a family of children selfish and exacting and gives them the opinion that mother is only fit to cook. Use fruit placed on the table in its natural state. What looks more tempting than a nice plate of ripe apples on a breakfast table? Use grapes, pears, melons, peaches, instead of pie and pudding. Why will we spoil such delicious food by folding it up in flour and lard? Lastly, help some one else along life's way by purchasing conveniences, such as carpet sweeper, ironing board, etc. And above all acquire the habit of remembering how many articles must be brought from the cellar or carried to the

garret and take all in one trip. And if we shall learn to observe the instruction to use "head work" we shall accomplish the summer's work and have hours each week to give to those best of friends, good books.

Dimondale.

LABOR SAVING IN THE FARMER'S KITCHEN.

MRS. A. GUNNISON.

Owing to the arduous labor required in the farmer's kitchen, with its many routine duties devolving upon the housewife no subject should she give more careful study and consideration than labor saving plans and methods to lighten her daily tasks. It is here that the greater part of her life and strength is spent. This article is not designed to aid those farmer's wives who have money enough at their command to purchase labor saving machinery necessary. So many of these devices have been offered to the public that one who is able to purchase will find her labor much lightened thereby. Every farmer's wife who is in fair circumstances should insist upon a supply of labor saving devices. With a great majority of farmer's wives these conditions are lacking and the money earned must go to pay the mortgage and build shelter for stock, thus nothing is left for this purpose. Two of the most convenient helps to lighten kitchen labor is easy access to wood and water, this will lengthen the life of every farmer's wife who is her own servant. Few can expect to possess all the labor saving inventions that are put upon the market yet some are necessary in every regulated household. Every housekeeper to lighten her labor should possess a washing machine, clothes wringer, a barrel churn, an egg beater and many more might be added to the list. I do not feel that I am a judge upon this subject for I was a fresh recruit when I entered the ranks but experience has taught me much in this line. One of the first and best lessons I learned was the necessity of system in my work to lighten the burden and so plan that too much work must not be crowded in the space of one day to unfit us physically for the next day's labor. "Six days shalt thou labor and on the seventh rest." In order to fulfill this command the division of labor must be planned in the six days to gain that needed rest which a wiser one has enjoined upon us. Few housewives get the full measure of this rest owing to the multitudinous demands upon their time. In regard to washing I have, through ill health, reached the solution of this problem by utilizing the help of my better half as a motor power, but when farm work commenced this theory entirely exploded, like many others where you depend upon the help of man.

BRIGHTNESS AND BEAUTY IN THE FARMERS' KITCHEN.

ANN M. BRIGHAM.

Spring, with its well washed bright surface and dazzling robes of green, again sits enthroned among us, and every good housewife becomes permeated with the thought of beautifying and adorning her home, and her busy brain strays from attic to cellar planning this and changing that until in her mind's eye she becomes an artist, almost a magician, such wonderful changes she will make everywhere; in parlor, sitting room, all shall be renovated and beautified. But what about the kitchen; that little room at the rear of the house, for are not most of our farmer's kitchens little dwarfed rooms at the present time, in lieu of which they should be large and airy? It is here, if in humble circumstances, the wife and mother, must devote most of her time; for her work is one ceaseless round. It is here the meals must be prepared, the baking, washing, ironing, canning and churning are done, and children cared for, and many other things too numerous to mention; their name is legion! It is written, that in days gone by the Romans' kitchens were marble paved, and furnished with pictures and statuary. And while this would be ideal, we might have them large, bright and cheerful. Let the walls and ceiling be tinted with some light favorite hue, let restful pictures hang here and there to glad-

den the tired and weary spirit of the toiler, let it be supplied with every convenience, and the best and brightest of utensils. It is better than to have the loved wife and mother getting weary and worn, growing old with toil and burdens which can well be avoided by supplying things to lighten her labor. There should also be an easy chair or two, so if she find a few spare moments she may seek its sheltered arms for her well earned rest. May creeping vines curtain the windows in summer to shut out the scorching rays of sunshine, and the view be clothed with sweet-scented flowers filling the room with their aroma. Let us remember that everything of beauty elevates and brightens the home. It has long been acknowledged that the home is woman's kingdom, and is not the kitchen the most central point in every farmer's home?

"The beautiful: What is it?
O thou art darkly ignorant: Be sure
'Tis no long, weary road its form to visit;
For thou canst make it smile beside thy door;
Ay, love it; 'tis a sister that will bless,
And teach thee patience when the heart is lonely.
The angels love it, for they wear its dress;
And thou art made a little lower only:
Then love the Beautiful!"

PRACTICAL WAYS OF WORKING IN A FARMER'S KITCHEN.

After trying for several years to discover a "Practical way to avoid working in a farmer's kitchen," at least on the 10 to 14 hour system, one would be likely to consider it from two standpoints—to do, and not to do. As no thrifty housewife is content to let "dirt and disorder reign supreme" and the husbandmen are not willing to "live without cooks," there is much to do in the average farmer's kitchen.

Rules to be practical would have to come in "individual sets," suited to the demands and environments of each home, but some ways of working and saving work can be utilized by all. A few of these will be mentioned, hoping they may be of use to some young or inexperienced housekeeper. Order seems quite as necessary in the kitchen as in any other part of the house, for work is more easily and rapidly done when everything is in its place and ready for use. Much heavy washing can be saved by using shields for pillows, which can be made from the sides of old sheets, and tidies for the head of comforts and quilts, made of wash goods, two yards torn in half lengthwise being enough for two. Run on the right side and coarsely hem the other that they may be removed easily.

White or bright ones are pretty for nice comforts, featherstitched with cotton of a contrasting color.

Better use part of the clothes unironed than be too saving of clean ones, and if Tuesday p. m., finds you tired, with ironing undone, take a book or work-basket and a clear conscience to some cozy corner and commence again tomorrow.

While getting dinner your busy days (or any other day) do not "imprison your luscious fruit in a paste of grease and flour" but substitute plain pudding, fresh or canned fruit, and you will not be the only one to profit by it. The dishes though are likely to be passed the second time.

If wood or coal is used in summer careful planning will save comfort and dollars. Often the "fireworks" might be ended for the day by 10 o'clock yet have a warm dinner when fresh cooked potatoes were not wanted. Baked puddings, beans, peas, cabbage or greens, brown bread, chicken pie, soups, etc., are improved by "waiting," in the oven or covered on the stove. A lamp stove is convenient in preparing warm drinks and getting supper.

In putting down pork and lard partly fry the lean pieces and pack the same as ham. Season while frying. Bake the refuse pieces, pouring the clear lard over the scraps, which saves the cleansing process. Add lye of the right strength, stir daily and an extra quality of soap is easily made.

As most housekeepers are inventive in their own line of work should appreciate an exchange of "Practical ways."

E. J. R.

DINNERS IN THE FARM HOUSE.

It is my opinion that farmers' wives are too much inclined to bake up large quantities of pastry such as doughnuts, cookies, etc., and then place each on the table every meal, but I object to this practice.

It is not good taste, besides one gets tired of seeing the same kinds on the table day after day, and no one has an appetite for it, hence much of it is wasted. It seems to me that when farmers' wives have the best and freshest of everything to use there is no excuse for stale food on the table. There are so many ways of preparing eggs; do not think you must always boil or fry them. If you will butter a tin, break in the eggs, add a little sweet cream, salt and pepper, and then bake, you will find them delicious. Scramble eggs in this way, place a lump of butter in a frying pan, when hot break in eggs, season with salt and pepper when the white sets, stirring well with a fork. For tea, omelets are easily made and very palatable. I would suggest more puddings and less pie. Will enclose some of the receipts I use. We think they are more wholesome than so much pie and are as easily made. If I were to have pie, however, I would make it fresh in the morning. It does not take long in the morning to make a pie for dinner and a cake for tea, and then they are fresh and tempting.

Do not neglect to have a garden, with a fence secure from "neighbors' chickens." Plant it in rows so you can cultivate with a horse, and it will prove a delight and joy forever to the farmer's wife, who is obliged to plan for meals for a family. Berries and fruits of all kinds should have a place in the farmer's garden, and the farmer will be surprised how easily he can attend to them. I know how the farmer's work crowds him, but let me whisper a secret, "Habit is everything."

MRS. S. J. C.

Charlotte.

A MAN'S IDEAS.

EDITOR VISITOR—A letter came a few days ago, saying I would be expected to give a few masculine thoughts on the subject of woman's work in the farm house for the summer, and my mind naturally goes to a kitchen, which ought to be large, airy and clean. As a man I consider a dirty kitchen abominable. The floor should be a spotless white, the windows clean and hung with snowy curtains; and these can be secured by frequent cleaning. Then the stove should be polished like a mirror. Tables and sinks clean and dry. A woman who understands her business will never have dirty dishes standing around to call in flies. It only requires a few minutes each morning to pick up and put in proper places many things that give a disorderly appearance to a house. The meals are of first importance, for upon them depends health and comfort. A woman should leave nothing undone in this part of the work that will be pleasing to the family, and many a divorce would be left out of the records if women would study to present favorite dishes oftener. I look with suspicion upon the present tendency of women to drift into other lines of work, and the inclination to wish to belong to societies and clubs, and so seek to lessen household labor and cares. I also deplore the popular cry for more conveniences in house work. Our mothers and grandmothers raised large families, kept house well, spun, wove, and attended to all the milk product, and never talked about their social, intellectual or political needs, and it is my opinion that they were happier than women are now.

In conclusion I will say that in my judgment the summer work in the farm house does not need to be lightened, if our wives will content themselves to follow the advice of Miles Standish, "If you want a thing well done do it yourself."

A BROTHER.

SOMETHING TO EAT.

GRAHAM PUDDING.

One-half cup molasses, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of butter, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sweet milk, $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of Graham flour, 1 even teaspoonful of soda, 1 egg, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of raisins, spice and salt to taste. Steam 2 hours, eat with sauce.

PUDDING SAUCE.

To 1 tablespoonful of butter take 2 of sugar, 1 of flour or cornstarch; beat well together. To this add 1 pint of boiling water, flavor as desired. Grape or currant jelly stir-

red in while hot is nice. Some use a little vinegar instead.

QUEEN OF PUDDINGS.

One quart of milk, 1 pint of bread crumbs, yolks of 4 eggs, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of sugar, grated rind of 1 lemon, bake; when done spread with a layer of jelly, or preserves. Beat the whites of the eggs, add $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of sugar and the juice of 1 lemon; spread over the top and return to the oven to brown. Use sauce or not, also omit the jelly and it is nice.

PUFF PUDDING.

Stir 1 pint of flour, 2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder, a little salt. Stir soft with sweet milk. Place in steamer well greased cups; put in a little butter, then strawberries or cover with batter; steam 20 minutes. Makes 8 cups.

THE APPLICATION OF AN IDEA.

Already the papers published in our large cities are beginning to address the country people on the subject of outings for poor children and tired out working girls; girls who spend eleven and a half months in store, shop and factory and to whom fresh air, sunshine, flowers, fruit and plenty of good wholesome food are not common every day affairs.

We have wondered if some of the matrons in the Grange homes of Michigan could not be induced to open their hearts and homes to some of these needy ones, and give them a rest of two weeks that they may gain health and strength and be reinvigorated for the struggle for existence which is their battle in life.

But the thought comes at once, "right in the middle of the summer, during all the heat and when we seem to have all we can possibly do?" Yes dear sisters just then. There is hardly a farm home in Michigan but that could for two weeks shelter one of these tired, struggling souls; hardly a farmer's table but that could furnish another plate. And if at the end of two weeks you could see that color had come to the cheek, health and strength to the body, and could hear them each day count with sadness one less that they could stay, you would feel the blessing of giving.

Here we think woman's work comes in. But where shall we get the poor children and the tired girls? You need not go to Chicago or New York for them. The cities in our own State can furnish all you want. We are sure that the philanthropic ladies in your own neighboring city know of plenty of working girls who would be only too glad to accept of your hospitality.

There should be a mutual understanding. The girl should be strong enough to wait upon herself—take care of her own room and entertain herself—and you would expect to give her her board for the sake of giving her a rest and recreation.

M. A. MAYO.

IN MEMORIAM.

Olive Grange No. 358, has lost one of its young members, Edward Huglet, who died recently in Illinois.

Girard Grange No. 136, mourns the death of Sister Lottie Dean. Sister Dean leaves a husband and family. Appropriate resolutions were passed.

Waverly Grange No. 36, misses from its ranks one of its strongest workers, Brother John Adriance. Though he had been a Patron but three years he was one of the most earnest and loyal.

Brother Frederick Ulrich, of Fargo, St. Clair Co. died May 5. He was a leading member of Grove Grange No. 528.

Montcalm Grange No. 318, has suffered the loss of one of its old members, Brother Daniel S. Smith. Bro. Smith was 82 years old and had been one of the strong men of the Grange.

The following lines are a tribute to Sister Elfra Baley, member of Fruit Ridge Grange, who has been called home.

We laid her away
In the cold silent grave,
Where the flowers bloom in springtime
And the willow trees wave,
Where all nature seems chanting
A funeral strain,
And the birds echo softly
A solemn refrain.

We laid her away,
She sleeps in the tomb;
Life's frail barque has anchored,
The voyage is done,
Her soul gently wafted
To that haven of rest,
Where pain cannot enter,
Nor sorrow molest.

We laid her away,
We shall see her no more,
Till we cross the dark river
To that beautiful shore;
Where they beckon us onward
From earth's troubled goal,
To the land that's immortal,
The "home of the soul."

J. W. A.

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Revised List of Grange Supplies

- Kept in the office of Sec'y of the Michigan State Grange. And sent out post-paid on receipt of Cash Order, over the Seal of a Subordinate Grange, and the signature of its Master or Secretary.

College and Station.

POTATOES.

H. P. GLADDEN.

III.

Hills vs. Drills.

On this point I will state, briefly, that the experiments conducted at this station and at experiment stations in other states, show that better results are obtained from planting in drills. Few of the large and successful potato growers plant in hills and cultivate both ways.

AMOUNT OF SEED TO USE.

As to the amount of seed to use to give the best results, there is some difference of opinion. Much depends upon the condition of the soil, its fertility, etc. If the soil is made very rich, with a large amount of manure, a small piece of tuber may make a plant strong enough to produce a good crop of potatoes.

The practice of one of the most successful potato growers is to plant one-eye pieces, fifteen inches apart in rich soil. A large number of experiments in all sections of the country have been tried to find out the amount of seed to use for the best net return.

For a full discussion of this point address the Secretary of the College, and ask for bulletin No. 93. It will be sent free.

POTATO SCAB.

This disease causes considerable injury to the potato crop. A simple remedy, easily tried, has proved very successful. Select tubers free from the disease, and soak them one and one-half hours in a solution made by dissolving two ounces of corrosive sublimate (bichloride of mercury) in fifteen gallons of water.

THREE BAD INSECTS.

WIRE WORMS.

Wire worms are the larvæ or grubs of snapping or click beetles, and breed especially in low, damp, cold soils, feeding on the roots of grass and probably other herbaceous plants. They probably require a little over three years to develop from the egg to the adult.

and keep them diverted from the later plants.

WHITE GRUBS.

White grubs are the offspring of the May beetles or June bugs. While the wire worms develop to adults in summer and live over winter in that stage, the white grubs pass the winter either as grubs or pupa and develop to adults in spring, otherwise the life history of the two is much the same.

CRANE FLIES.

Crane flies are known also as gallinippers, and many term them cut worm flies, though they have no connection with cut worms. There are a number of species of them, some of which are one and others two brooded each year.

CAPONES AND CAPONIZING.

A bulletin has been issued by the Rhode Island station on this subject. The summary of experiments and notes thereon will no doubt be of interest to Michigan poultry raisers.

Caponizing was easily learned and successfully performed by following book directions, but more quickly and satisfactorily by witnessing the operation.

Birds apparently suffered but little pain from the operation and the per cent of loss was small.

Birds thus changed grew larger in frame, matured later, became quiet and contented, did not crow or fight and their flesh remained soft and tender.

Those weighing two pounds or less were most easily and safely caponized, but the larger birds, provided they had not commenced to crow and their combs had not developed, the more quickly they recovered.

The only birds that died under the operation were those that had developed combs.

The old Chinese tools, when their use was understood, were found most satisfactory of all.

Of the Brahma Cochin cross, it was seven months before the capons equalled the uncastrated birds in weight, and they did not average one pound heavier in ten months.

The Langshan rooster, although weighing but one-sixth of a pound more than the Langshan capon at the commencement of the experiment kept ahead in weight for seven months.

The Plymouth Rock capon equalled the roosters in weight in less than two months and gained on them the rest of the season but did not average more than three-quarters of a pound heavier at any time.

The Indian Game capons were five months in catching up with the roosters, and were not a quarter of a pound heavier eight months after the operation.

The Brahma Cochins gained the least during the first year, but made the largest and heaviest birds at eighteen months.

The Langshan was less affected by the operation, but was larger at the time it was performed.

The Plymouth Rocks recovered less rapidly, but they were operated upon when the weather was warmer, fifteen days later than the Langshan.

Indian Games and their crosses were harder to do and should be taken when younger.

These experiments show less gain in weight as the result of caponizing than we were led to

expect by published accounts. The tender flesh and the ability to quickly take on fat seemed to be the only gain of importance.

During the exhibition of the R. I. Poultry Association, the ten Brahma Cochin capons and the five Plymouth Rock capons gained, while the roosters of each lot lost in weight. The Plymouth Rock capons made the greater gain, while the Plymouth Rock roosters also showed the greater loss.

The plan of spraying the wound immediately after the operation with an antiseptic solution, requires further study to get definite results.

By the use of a physician's head mirror, we were able to operate quite satisfactorily by lamp light.

Those wishing to produce only a limited number of capons will find it more profitable to secure the services of an expert, if one can be found within a reasonable distance, than to buy instruments and attempt the work themselves.

Had the roosters and capons been yarded separately instead of being allowed to run at liberty, it is possible that there would have been a difference. The roosters were naturally more active and might have secured more food, although a generous amount was regularly given. On the other hand, preventing the roosters running about, by confinement in yards, might have increased their weight and made the difference still less.

Writers on caponizing compare the price of capons at maturity with the price of roosters at maturity.

To be sure, if the cockerels are to be kept until they must be sold as old fowls, meanwhile fighting and running their flesh off, it would certainly pay well to caponize and keep them until nearly a year old; but they ignore the fact that early cockerels weighing five to six pounds, when they are soft and tender, will bring as much or more per pound than a nine or twelve pound capon that has been kept twice as long.

SOJA BEAN.

[Hatch Experiment Station, Massachusetts.]

These beans have attracted much attention during the last few years, chiefly as a fodder crop; but most of those put upon our markets have been late varieties which will not mature here. The seeds of the varieties we have were originally imported from northern Japan, and all have matured here for the last four years. We consider them worthy of trial either as fodder crops to feed green or for the silo, or as grain crops. The seeds are the richest known natural vegetable substance. We have had them ground and have fed the meal with satisfactory results to cows in milk. It appears to be fully equal in feeding for milk to cotton seed meal; and has given a milk richer in butter than that substance. Several parties report success in feeding to poultry, for which it is thought they may prove valuable as they are nearly as rich as meat.

They have been fed raw in some instances and in others have been boiled. The beans roasted and ground make an excellent substitute for coffee; and some seedsmen are advertising them under the name of the "American Coffee Berry."

For fodder we especially recommend the varieties which we call "Medium Green" and "Medium Black." For seed we recommend "Early White." These beans should be sown rather thinly in rows two and a half feet apart. About six plants to one foot of row are enough; and it will require only about one peck of seed for an acre. Plant at the same time as other beans.

Mrs. Fitts—"You write such short letters when you are away. I don't see why you couldn't write me nice long ones, as you did when we were engaged. Mr. Fitts—"Honestly, my dear, I didn't suppose you would have any time to read them. In the days when we were engaged you had no housework to do."

GRAND RAPIDS and Indiana Railroad

Jan'y. 29, 1893.—Central Standard Time.

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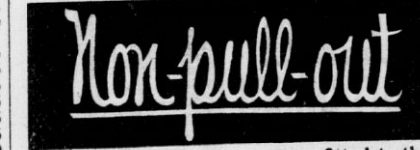
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Notices of Meetings.

ST. JO. POMONA.

St. Jo. County Pomona No. 4, will hold its next session at the hall of Centerville Grange first Thursday in June. All members are requested to be present.

MRS. HENRY COOK, Secretary.

LENAWEE POMONA.

The next meeting of the Lenawee Co. Pomona Grange will be held June 1, 1893, with Morenci Grange. Business meeting in the forenoon. In the afternoon Mrs. Mayo, who is so well known in this county will give one of her popular and instructive lectures. Brother Thomas Moore of Madison, is also expected to talk on our state finances. The afternoon session will be public and a general invitation is extended.

P. H. DOWLING, Lecturer.

VAN BUREN COUNTY POMONA GRANGE

will hold its quarterly meeting at Waverly Grange hall May 25, 1893. Following is the program:

10:30 o'clock A. M., business and reports, 12 o'clock Dinner.

1:30 o'clock P. M., Music. Recitation.

Paper, Mrs. A. H. Smith, "Fruit as a Food."

Essay, "Man's Best Friend," Mrs. A. Jennings.

Paper, "Future Lines in Farming," H. O. Sheldon.

Discussion, "How shall we make old apple orchards pay?"

"How shall farmers meet the increased demands of labor?"

Music and recitations as usual. EVENING SESSION.

An entertainment by the young people of the Grange. All Patrons invited.

C. E. ROBINSON, Lecturer.

NEWS NOTES.

THE GERMAN ARMY BILL.

The emperor wishes to increase the appropriations for the army. He is opposed however by the popular feeling and his prime minister has resigned because of defeat over the measure. It looks as if William would try to coerce the people into submission. It is evident that something of a crisis is at hand in Germany.

HOME RULE.

Gladstone has defeated his opponents at every turn, and although it was predicted that he could not hold together the scant majority he possessed at opening of Parliament, he has not only done that in a wonderful manner, but he has even increased it. The spectacle of the "Grand Old Man" thus leading one of the grandest battles for liberty ever fought, and leading what must be for him the last assault, is inspiring to every lover of freedom.

HO, YE OFFICE SEEKER!

President Cleveland has refused to see any more applicants for office. Forthwith the hungry gang have taken to the offices of the members of the cabinet and they may have to issue similar orders. When will this reign of the spoils cease?

WORLD'S FAIR DISORDER.

No one can get a good view of the Fair before June 1 or 15. It is as yet a mass of disorder. No one's fault in particular, but it's so big. The opening was of great interest and was attended by immense numbers.

POET LAUREATE.

Gladstone has tendered the position to John Ruskin. It is considered as a fine tribute to the genius and work of Ruskin, rather than as a recognition of his poetical abilities. He has never posed as a poet.

FROM NATIONAL MASTER.

Delta, Ohio, April 20, 1893.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY:

I am receiving many letters from the members of the Grange throughout the country; all of which speak of increasing interest in the Order among the farmers. I am always glad to hear directly from members of Subordinate Granges, and all letters to which I can properly respond, will be cheerfully and promptly answered. Some of these letters, however, contain questions which should be answered first by the Master of the Subordinate Grange, then if not satisfied an appeal can be taken to the State Master, and if desirable, from his decision to the Master of the National Grange, whose decision is final.

I must protect the Masters of State and Subordinate Granges, and aid in maintaining the dignity of the responsible position which they hold; and I cannot in justice to them answer questions pertaining to the law or the U. W., coming from their members, unless they come up through the regular channel. Any other course would result in confusion and conflicting decisions, and some Master might be placed in a very uncomfortable position, by a member having in his possession a letter from a higher authority, which would conflict with the decision of said Master.

The Master's position is a responsible one. Let all aim to make it one of dignity and honor. Some of the letters come from Lecturers who seem to be in doubt regarding their duties in relation to the unwritten work of the Order. The

language of the installation charge is no doubt responsible for this doubt, and should be expunged. The Lecturer has no authority to exemplify the U. W., or give instruction therein, unless invited to do so by the presiding Master. When so invited he should be prepared to comply. Under no other circumstances should he assume responsibilities which belong to the Master.

All queries addressed to the Lecturer in regard to the U. W., or the law, should be by him referred to the Master of the State or Subordinate Grange from which they come. A strict observance of this course will occasionally save some Grange from unpleasant controversy. I have tried to make this plain, at the earnest request of some of our State Lecturers, who desire to avoid assuming powers which law and usage do not give them. The work of the Lecturer in his legitimate sphere, is just as important as that of the Master; and he should receive the earnest support and encouragement of every well wisher of the Order. All officers should feel that the success of the Grange depends largely upon their efficiency, and each should strive to become familiar with the duties of the office in which he has been installed. This will stimulate the members to put forth their best efforts, and the Grange will become a power for good.

I hope that especial efforts will be made by the officers of the Grange, to encourage and help those who may be in need of it. Intelligent co-operation will do more for the farmer than any State or National legislation which we are likely to obtain.

I am glad to be able to say in conclusion, that at no time since I have been connected with the Order has my faith in it been so strong. We shall not be led into any entangling alliances; we shall not endorse any doubtful schemes, nor become the pliant tool of designing politicians of any party. Inscribed upon our banners will be found absolute freedom for the individual, on religious or political questions, and fraternal unity on all questions which pertain exclusively to our Order. Under this banner we will move onward and upward; and secure for agriculture all her rights.

"For Right is Right, since God is God, And Right the day must win; To doubt, would be disloyalty, To falter would be sin."

Fraternally submitted, J. H. BRIGHAM, Master of National Grange P. of H.

MICHIGAN CROP REPORT.

The outlook for wheat on May 1 was not as promising as one month earlier. It is now estimated that five per cent of the acreage sowed will be plowed up because winter killed or otherwise destroyed. The average condition in the southern counties is 73 per cent, in the central 79 per cent and in the northern 83 per cent of vitality and growth of average years. Compared with April 1, the decline in the southern counties is 8 per cent, in the central 12 per cent and in the northern 10 per cent. This decline, however, is due to the fact that the extent of injury could be better estimated May 1 than on April 1, rather than to actual damage to the crop during April. The weather during April was cool and wet, and neither wheat nor grass made the growth usual in this month.

The average condition of wheat May 1, 1892, was, in the southern counties, 84, and in the central 81, and the crop in the State that year was 24,141,000 bushels. The average condition May 1, 1891, was, in the southern counties, 104, and in the central 99, and the yield in the State that year was 28,039,000 bushels. The average yield per acre in 1892 was 15 bushels, and in 1891 18 1/2 bushels.

In their general remarks correspondents in the southern counties almost without exception report wheat in bad condition. The fields are spotted, large areas being killed out by ice, wind and water. Insects, also, have done much damage.

The total number of bushels of wheat reported marketed by farmers in April is 811,348. Of this amount 185,576 bushels were marketed in the first or southern tier of counties, 144,583 bushels in the second tier, 161,798 bushels in the third tier, 246,663 bushels in the fourth tier, 49,933 bushels in the fifth and sixth tiers and 22,795 bushels in the northern counties. At 35 elevators and mills from which reports have been received there was no wheat marketed during the month.

The total number of bushels of wheat reported marketed in the nine months, August-April, is 12,341,618, which is 1,030,834 bushels less than reported marketed in the same months last year.

The average conditions of clover meadows and pastures is 89 in the State and in each section of the State. This is fully 10 per cent better than one year ago. The average condition in 1891 was 100 in the southern counties and 99 in the central.

Nothing has yet occurred to injure fruit buds, and the outlook is favorable for nearly a full average crop.

JOHN W. JOCHIM, Sec'y of State.

If you are going to the World's fair look up our advertiser for accommodations. Mrs. Blount is a Michigan Patron and will be glad to entertain Michigan Patrons. Write her for terms.

The Cosmopolitan scores a success in producing in its May number, almost simultaneously with the daily papers, an elaborate description of Professor Gray's marvellous invention, the Telautograph, which reproduces the handwriting or the work of the artist, simultaneously, thousands of miles distant from the place where the artist or writer is sitting. Mr. Howell's purpose in "The Traveler from Altruria," is month by month, becoming more evident, and is now receiving wide attention at the hands of the critics all over the world.

Harness.

You will notice on page 5 the advertisement of the Hand Made Harness Co., Stanton, Mich. They are reliable people, and refer to Hon. H. H. Hinds, of Stanton, member of executive committee of State Grange. Write to them.

A GLIMPSE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

The passenger entering Chicago from the east by any of the MICHIGAN CENTRAL trains will observe, after passing Kensington and Grand Crossing, that the tracks are gradually elevated until, from a point of view some twenty feet above the level, he sees to the right an assemblage of domes, towers and spires rising above the trees between the railroad and Lake Michigan. These are some of the colossal and magnificent palaces of the World's Columbian Exposition, far surpassing, not only in number and magnitude, but in beauty and artistic harmony of design, any assemblage of buildings that the world has ever before seen.

First to be noticed and directly in front of the railway station where the MICHIGAN CENTRAL trains will enter the Exposition, rises grandly the four square pavilions of the Administration building, crowned by its great dome, 260 feet above the ground, — "almost as lofty as that of St. Paul's in London," says Mrs. Van Rensselaer, "and almost as graceful in outline as that of the Florentine Cathedral." In front of it stands the magnificent bronze fountain by MacMonnies, facing the great basin in the center of the great court, upon which front the Agricultural building and Machinery Hall on the south, and the palaces of Mines and Mining, Electricity, and of Manufactures and the Liberal Arts on the north. The domes and towers of these buildings may be seen in the distance, and particularly the great arched roof of the last named building, the largest in the world. It covers an area of more than thirty acres—three times that of the largest building of the great Paris Exposition of 1889.

As the train approaches more closely to the grounds, the Transportation building is clearly seen to the left of the Administration building. It covers, with its annexes, fourteen and a half acres of ground, and its massive arched doorway, elaborately decorated and known as the "Golden Portal," is one of the most striking external features of the Exposition.

Next to the left is the Horticultural Building, a thousand feet in length, and with a central pavilion, under the glass dome of which is grouped the finest known collection of bamboos, tree-ferns and palms.

Northward, and still nearer to the train, is the Woman's building, a chaste and noble structure, first of all to be completed, and the architect, artists and decorators of which were all women. It will be filled with the fruits of the genius, skill and labor of the women of all nations.

Crossing the Midway Plaisance, which connects Jackson Park on the east with Washington Park on the west, and in which are located a section of Paris, a street of Cairo, Irish, German, Austrian and Turkish villages, a Dutch East Indian settlement, ice, sliding and spiral electric railways, and numerous other interesting features, of some of which the traveler may get a glimpse as he dashes by. On the right, grouped at the north end of Jackson Park, are the various State and Foreign buildings of diversified architecture and representing an expenditure of millions of dollars.

No passing glimpse of the World's Fair, however, nor the most detailed and glowing description that can be penned, can give any idea of its surpassing size and extent, the splendid harmony of its design, or of its rich artistic sculpture and decorative features. Nothing but frequent visits and careful observation can do it. But while every passing traveler will surely resolve upon this, he will also surely be thankful that he is journeying upon the MICHIGAN CENTRAL, the only Eastern line that gives him such a passing view, or that takes him directly by and in full view of Niagara Falls, the great natural wonder of the world.

COMPLETE MANHOOD AND HOW TO ATTAIN IT. At last a medical work that tells the causes, describes the effects, points the remedy. This is scientifically the most valuable, artistically the most beautiful, medical book that has appeared for years; 96 pages, every page bearing a half-tone illustration in tint. Some of the subjects treated are Nervous Debility, Impotency, Sterility, Development, Varicocele, The Husband, Those Intending Marriage, etc. Every man who would know the Grand Truths, the Plain Facts, the Old Secrets and New Discoveries of Medical Science as applied to Married Life, who would atone for past follies and avoid future pitfalls, should write for this WONDERFUL LITTLE BOOK. It will be sent free, under seal, while the edition lasts. If convenient enclose ten cents to pay postage alone. Address the publishers, ERIE MEDICAL CO., BUFFALO, N. Y.

18 YEARS ON A HOUSE.

Armstrong Co., Pa., March 21, '93. MR. EDITOR: DEAR SIR—A neighbor of mine, Mr. Templeton, painted his house with Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints 18 years ago, and they have lasted and looked well till this year when the building was repainted with the same brand. This is a sure and satisfactory demonstration of the quality and durability of the paints, both to him and all who intend painting. Respectfully yours, H. B. SCHALL, (See Adv. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints.—Ed.)

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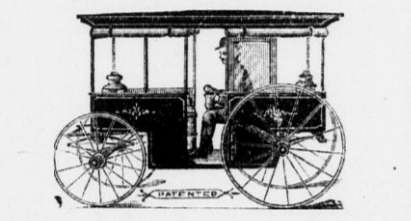
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