

# GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XX, NO. 1.

LANSING, MICHIGAN, JANUARY 3, 1895.

WHOLE NO. 457.

## DECLARATION OF PURPOSES

Of the Patrons of Husbandry. Adopted by the National Grange at its Seventh Annual Session Held at St. Louis, February, 1874.

### PREAMBLE.

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this declaration of purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry:

### GENERAL OBJECTS.

1. United by the strong and faithful tie of agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our order, our country and mankind.

2. We heartily endorse the motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

### SPECIFIC OBJECTS.

3. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects:

To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits; to foster mutual understanding and co-operation; to maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor, to hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To condense the bushel and more on hoof and in fleece; less in lint and more in warp and wool. To systematize our work, and calculate intelligently on probabilities. To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy.

We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and, in general, acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good will, vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social and material advancement.

### BUSINESS RELATIONS.

4. For our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers, into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits.

We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous, keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action, that "Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity."

We shall therefore advocate for every state the increase in every practical way of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers and consumers, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our fixed purpose "to open out the channels in nature's great arteries, that the life-blood of commerce may flow freely."

We are not enemies of railroads navigable and irrigating canals, or of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes.

In our noble order there is no communism, no agrarianism.

We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people, and to the profit of their just profits. We are enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest, and exorbitant per cent profits in trade.

They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear a proper proportion to the profit of producers. We desire only self-protection, and the protection of every true interest of our land by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade and legitimate profits.

### EDUCATION.

We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves, and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home be taught in their courses of study.

### THE GRANGE NOT PARTISAN.

5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange—national, state or subordinate—is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor discuss any matter in the nature of a party.

Yet the principles we teach underlie a true politics, all true statesmanship, and properly carried out will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country, for we seek the greatest good to the greatest number.

We always bear in mind that no one, by becoming a Patron of Industry, gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country.

On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption and trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust; and to have carried out the principle which should characterize every Patron, that

THE OFFICE SHOULD SEEK THE MAN, AND NOT THE MAN THE OFFICE.

We acknowledge the broad principle, that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by difference of opinion," while "the fault lies in bitterness of controversy."

We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness; protection for the weak; restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens, and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of an American Republic.

We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes, we shall recognize no north, no south, no east, no west.

It is reserved by every Patron, as the right of a freeman, to affiliate with any party that will best carry out his principles.

### OUTSIDE CO-OPERATION.

6. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution, we cannot admit all to our ranks.

Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men, or artisans or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes.

But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial co-operation to assist in our efforts toward reform, that we may eventu-

ally remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromises, and earnest co-operation, as an omen of our future success.

### CONCLUSION.

7. It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our order.

Imploring the continued assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time, to return by our united efforts to the wisdom, justice, fraternity and political purity of our forefathers.

### THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The following is an abstract of the message of Governor Rich:

Financial legislation. On November 1, 1893, Michigan had an empty treasury. This was due to the failure of the previous legislature to levy sufficient taxes. To meet the deficiency the railroads were offered a six per cent discount from taxes the amount of their taxes. About \$200,000 was obtained in this way. It is recommended that power be given the state to borrow money in cases of necessity similar to the above, or in case a state institution is destroyed by fire, when the legislature is not in session.

Railroad taxation. The old special charters for railroads should be abrogated if possible, so that all roads may be placed upon the same basis so far as taxation and supervision and other legislation is concerned.

University of Michigan. This institution has a very high rank. It was a wise move to provide the one-sixth mill tax, thus placing the institution on a proper and substantial foundation.

The agricultural college and state normal school. These institutions will require the usual appropriations. They are worthy of the generous support they have enjoyed in the past.

Mining school. This is an important and valuable institution. Necessarily it is costly to the state. It seems to me that students from Michigan should contribute something for their own support, and that students from other states and countries should pay tuition.

Asylums for the insane. Dr. Edwards, of Michigan asylum, recently makes some recommendations before the joint asylum boards, that I endorse. The normal increase in number of insane patients in the state is about 165 per year. At present there is not room enough in the established asylums for a six months' increase. Hence money should be appropriated for furnishing the cottages at Traverse City, the new asylum at Newberry, and the home for feeble minded at Lapeer.

State prisons. The cost of maintaining the prisons is still a heavy burden on the tax payers of the state. The total cost of keeping the 1,306 prisoners, which was the average number for the past two years, was \$644,358.30. The cost over and above earnings was \$210,841.12. The expense at Ionia was greatly in excess of the cost at the other prisons. Affairs there are being thoroughly investigated to ascertain the cause of this state of affairs.

This brings up the question of contract labor. Experience proves that the men must have work, and that business conducted on state account has been financially disastrous. No warden can manage a dozen or twenty lines of business. The only way contract labor can seriously injure free labor is by putting the products on the market at a less value. This, statistics show, is not the case. The law concerning the appointment of warden should be changed so as to allow of his removal for plain incompetency. There should be a law enacted which would make it practicable to carry out the provision of the

constitution providing for reprieves and commutations.

The state reformatory and charitable institutions will need the usual appropriations. They are all doing efficient work.

The dairy and food commissioner has not had sufficient funds to carry on his work. Much information has been gathered. This is a very important question.

Factory inspection. Over 400 factories have been inspected under this act, and many improvements have thereupon been made in machinery, fire escapes, etc. No doubt the beneficent effects of this work could be extended.

Removal of state officers. It became my unpleasant duty to remove the secretary of state, state treasurer and commissioner of the state land office, for gross neglect of duty. Criminal proceedings arose out of the discovery of the frauds of 1893 and 1891, and the expense has been borne by Ingham county. I recommend that the legislature provide for paying these expenses, in whole or in part.

Salaries. The secretary of state, state treasurer, commissioner of the state land office, superintendent of public instruction, and attorney general, receive too meagre salaries. They should be given enough compensation to allow them to remain at the capital and perform personally the duties devolving upon them rather than leaving the work to deputies. I believe that when the people understand the situation thoroughly they will readily vote increased salaries.

Official bonds. The secretary of state now handles a considerable amount of money. I believe he and his deputy should be required to give bonds. The same is true of the custodian of fees from notaries public, the clerk of the board of state auditors, and the superintendent of grounds and buildings. I believe they should be made such, and should be required to give bonds.

Supreme court. The act of the last legislature requiring the justices of the supreme court to live in Lansing, has resulted in clearing up the cases then before the court. If further relief is needed it seems to me the most practicable plan would be to limit the cases which may be appealed to the supreme court, under some proper safeguard.

Farmers' institutes. The following resolution, which was unanimously adopted at the last meeting of the State Grange, meets the views of a very large majority of the farmers throughout the state, and is heartily recommended for your consideration:

"We advocate that the state appropriate annually the sum of \$5,000, or such amount as will be sufficient to hold a two day institute in every county in the state where the agricultural interests are sufficiently important to demand it. We believe the success of the institute is greatest where local interest is the greatest. We therefore suggest that the law require the formation of county institute societies, under whose auspices the institute shall be held, and which shall provide local speakers to occupy about one-half the time of the institute, and for local institutes."

State horticultural society. This society has done valuable work, and its needs should receive careful attention.

The Chickamauga and Antietam commissions have done their work as required. It is not yet completed.

Labor strikes. The recent strikes in our state show that the militia may be depended upon in cases of emergency. The Michigan national guard and naval brigade are in good order.

Organizations of labor. This question is very pertinent. What can be done to prevent these strikes? Labor organizations have done much in educating and aiding each other in time of need. Arbitration, compulsory or voluntary, is proposed as a remedy for the existing evils, but neither of these seems to meet the requirements. There is now ample legal machinery for voluntary arbitration. Compulsory arbitration will only be establishing another court or courts. Under existing circumstances it would seem wise and just to provide for the organizations of corporations of labor, with as much power and no greater liability than is imposed on corpo-

Continued on page 5.

## Field and Stock.

## MICHIGAN AS A DAIRY STATE.

E. N. BATES.

Much has been written in our agricultural journals about Michigan as a fruit growing state, a wheat growing state, and a wool producing state; but since wheat has declined to forty-five cents per bushel, and wool to ten cents per pound, the tillers of the soil are beginning to look around to see whether there may not be some other branch of farming in which they can engage that will remunerate them better than to continue in such business.

## MARKETS.

First, then, let us consider the question under discussion from the standpoint of location. Our proximity to good markets is one thing very much in our favor. With Detroit, Grand Rapids, the Saginaws, and hosts of smaller cities right in our very midst, the larger part of the product of the Michigan dairies can be best disposed of within the limits of our own state, and our direct and fast transportation lines crossing the state in every direction furnish the best facilities for getting our surplus off. There is a constantly increasing sentiment among the people of the cities that they must have their butter delivered to them fresh from the churn, and without intervention of the common groceryman or other persons, and while the aroma of a pure article is plainly observable.

## RESOURCES.

Our natural resources are also among the best. Michigan pastures can be made to produce the best grasses, and our springs and lakes furnish sweet and wholesome drink for the herds.

There are certain conditions surrounding a new country which are not favorable to the business of dairying, such as allowing the cows to graze on varied herbage, weeds and plants having peculiar and pungent flavor, which always makes trouble for the producer; but these conditions are fast disappearing before our fenced fields, permanent pastures, and a knowledge of the fact that the cow cannot accomplish the impossible feat of producing pleasing flavors, in paying quantities, from rank, promiscuous, unselected herbage or stunted rations.

## DAIRYING A BUSINESS.

Another important feature which we think is necessary to the proper development of dairy interests is, that it must be recognized by our farmers as a business, not as an incident of farming, and we see all around us evidences that they are doing this now. There are qualities demanded in the individual as well as in the soil, climate, etc.

A man may be able to drive a yoke of oxen with a goad stick to perform more work than they would naturally perform, or maybe he might get more eggs by spending his surplus time chasing a flock of hens around the premises, but not so with the cows.

Patience and perseverance are two of the prime qualities necessary for success here, and these we have, in fact after looking the ground all over I am convinced we have all the requirements demanded.

## THE PROSPECT.

With Canada on the east and Wisconsin on the west, both of which are acknowledged leaders in this industry; with a dairy school at the Agricultural College already in shape to help us, with a state organization that only needs the co-operation of the dairymen to make it a power for good; with a dairy commissioner to fight our legal battles for us; with the splendid example already before us in Lenawee county and other districts, who shall say that Michigan may not be noted for its dairy production as well as its fruits, fine cattle, and forest and mine products?

The Michigan dairyman's association will meet in old Lenawee county February 5, 1895, and there will be on exhibition products of the dairy and implements of most modern and approved make to assist the manufacturer in turning out, in all its exquisite beauty, this most sensitive and healthy of all the productions of the farm. Our Lenawee county meeting is sure to be a huge success.

Moline.

## WINTER CARE OF SHEEP.

HERBERT W. MUMFORD.

We are led to offer a few suggestions on this subject, for on every hand the prevailing opinion among farmers seems to be that the sheep will not pay anyway under present conditions, and therefore they conclude they cannot afford to give them good care. I am willing to stand corrected if I am in error, but my logic has always been, the smaller the margin of possible profit with any farming operation or live stock management, the more necessary it is to bestow our most careful study and painstaking devotion to every detail which might affect the final profit or loss, which is sure to follow our every movement. Yet when we say it is imperative to give the

sheep good care if we would hope to secure even a moderate profit, we do not instruct anyone. In other words, "good care" is a very variable and indefinite term, since what one man would deem good care, another would deem extravagant or wasteful, while still another would declare he was practically starving his sheep.

It is a frequent occurrence that while some men are liberal with grain and hay, they apparently overlook and neglect those physical conditions which are at all times necessary to successful management of sheep.

The flock should be made comfortable night and day. It is quite a common mistake for farmers to shut the sheep up close in a warm, tight barn during the night, and then suddenly turn them out into the severe cold atmosphere. We are careful not to expose our own bodies to such treatment. Will it not pay to be a little more careful about the sheep? When the sheep have a moderate growth of fleece upon their body, they can without injury stand severe cold, while if exposed in a wet storm it often takes several days for them to fully recover from its effects. From a few seasons' trial we find that breeding ewes should be allowed considerable range for exercise. The advantage of a variety of fodders and grains seem to be more useful in winter in feeding sheep than with almost any other farm animals. We have had no experience with silage as a succulent food for sheep in winter, but we are prepared to say that with each year's experience we are becoming more and more confident of the economical value of roots as a food for sheep in winter.

Moscow.

## FRIENDLY POINTS TO PEACH GROWERS.

THOS. A. BURKIN.

Perhaps more than one tree buyer has been swindled by the tree peddler, or even by the firm that grows trees, from whom he has bought. If they are peach trees and prove seedlings or varieties you don't like, do not get discouraged and grub them out, for you cannot afford the loss of your time, ground, and money; but go to work and top-bud them the last of August to the 15th of September. Put one bud in each limb, or enough to form a perfect head. If you do not know how to bud employ someone who does. It is very simple to make a peach bud live, even with an unexperienced budder. First get a small sharp pocket knife, cut your bud stick, trim the leaves, commence to cut your bud one inch below the point of the bud, and cut the bud itself with a sharp knife, inserting the knife between the bud and the stick the wood must be removed from the bud before being inserted into the tree, the limb to be budded not more than two to three inches from the body of the tree. The bud must be firmly tied, pressing the bark down on the bud so as to make it unite with the inner wood of the tree. The tie can be made with twine, raffia or strong rags.

The tie must be removed from ten to twelve days after the tree is budded, and the next spring the limb must be cut off just above the bud. If they are big trees some of the old wood should be left on the first year. For if all was cut it would make the flow of sap too great for the bud and perhaps kill it. What limbs that are left can be top-worked the next year and you will get a perfect shaped head and a well formed tree. After the limbs are cut back to the bud in spring sprouts start to grow. They must be rubbed off so that all the sap is forced into the bud. If well cared for they will bear peaches the second year. Planters caught with worthless trees by this method can convert them into first-class varieties. If not done the same trees would surely find the brush pile.

Agricultural College.

## WIDE TIRES FOR WAGONS.

WM. GODSMARK.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—When I see a man digging up the roads, by hauling a heavy load on a narrow truck wagon, I feel much as the inveterate swearer did when the boys, hoping to provoke him to his best efforts along the line of profanity, removed the end board from his wagon box when he was hauling a load of cider apples up hill. When the old man reached the top and saw his apples distributed all the way down the hill, he surprised the boys by simply removing his hat and saying: "Boys, there is no use, I can't do justice to the occasion."

The road question seems to be growing in interest in this section. The problem how to get good roads and keep them in repair is surely a hard one to solve. In my opinion, if some plan could be settled upon that would result in the wide tire wagons taking the place of the narrow ones now in use for hauling heavy loads, a long stride would be made towards the end desired. A large majority of the farmers with whom I have talked agree that if all would use the wide tire, the roads that are good could be kept in repair with a small outlay of work, and those that are poor would be even bettered by their use. The

rest of them would be glad if a law was passed that would result in the annihilation of the narrow tire wagon for hauling loads.

## FAVORABLE TO WIDE TIRES.

So far as I have been able to get an expression from the farmers and business men, the plan to levy a money tax on each narrow tire wagon used for hauling loads, is with favor. All money received from this source, of course, would be used to improve the highway.

Such a law certainly would be just and fair, for it would simply force those who injure the roads in the manner referred to, to make good the damage done by them. I have had an experience in road making the past summer, which, in my mind, settled the question most decidedly in favor of the wide tire. With our district tax and some donations, we were able to grade and lay about one-half mile of very sandy road. All but two who assisted in hauling the clay used the wide tire. We commenced dumping the clay at a point on the road nearest the pit, so it was necessary to draw the loads over the newly made road.

What I wish to make clear is found in

## THE INJURY BY NARROW TIRES.

The fact that this newly made road would be nicely packed and put in good shape for use, by a few of the loads on the wide tire wagons being drawn over it, but would be pretty thoroughly dug up by the two loads drawn on the narrow tire. It is a fact that this piece of road would have been kept in good condition all summer and fall with a small outlay of work, could the narrow tire wagons been kept off from it. With their use it has been almost impossible to keep it in shape.

Often we would hear the remark, "What is the use of working to get the roads in shape as long as the narrow tire is in use?" Surely they have a very discouraging influence over the hopes of getting good roads. The law allowing one-fourth on the tax to those who use the wide tire has seemed to do but little good. Had that law been amended by increasing the tax of those who continued to use the narrow tire by one-fourth, and that to be paid in money, I think it would have been more effective.

I am so glad that you have taken up the fight for better roads. I wish I was able to help you in some practical way.

Bedford.

## HE FAVORS INSTITUTES.

## EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR:

Having been asked to express my views to the benefits of farmers' institutes, I do so feeling that farmers and those who have given the matter thought will surely agree with me that time and money spent to enlighten the farmer by means of institutes is of the greatest possible benefit.

To make them more successful, longer institutes should be held, say four days instead of two. To do this a liberal appropriation of say ten thousand dollars should be made to carry forward this work. Each county should be organized with president, secretary and executive committee of say four live active members. If this plan is followed out, help may be secured, from the Agricultural College or elsewhere, thus getting together the most active men that can be obtained, who are full of information. By all means, fellow farmers, let us push the institutes.

Very respectfully,

SILAS MOODY.

Forest Hill.

## TRIBULATIONS OF A NURSERYMAN.

R. M. KELLOGG.

We had a large delivery of nursery stock in our little city the other day, and we took a stand on the outside to watch the operation. The agent seemed to be a careful man, and had taken the trees out of the boxes and quickly heeled them in so the roots were exposed as little as possible.

The parties who were to receive and pay for them soon began to arrive on foot, in buggies and wagons. Sometimes the purchaser was there in person; others sent the wife, and sometimes the boy came. The bills were ready, and soon the agent was jumping about lively to get each party their bundles, and they were quickly dumped into the wagon or carried off in the hands. Some threw a little straw over the roots; others had a blanket thrown loosely over them, but not one in the whole lot had made proper provision to keep the roots from the bright sunshine and drying winds.

## CARELESSNESS.

Two hours later, many of the bundles were laying unprotected in the wagon on the street, while their owners were doing their trading or enjoying the political harangues and neighborhood gossip on the sidewalk, and nearly all started homeward merely bunching the straw upon them more closely. It might be interesting to have followed them clear through to their final disposition. It is safe to say some remained in the wagon till next day; others were thrown on the ground with a little loose dirt put on the

roots, where they remained for days and often weeks till other work was disposed of; the ground plowed and fitted or small holes dug in the grass of the old orchard where they were to take the place of other trees which had died out from the same neglect. Depend upon it, half the stock cannot survive such treatment, and next year that poor agent will be savagely dealt with and held responsible for every failure. People seem to have an idea that a tree never is injured or never, never can be killed after it leaves the nurseryman; at least their treatment of them seems based on that idea. It is the easiest thing in the world to tell whether a tree is dead or the roots lifeless when delivered. Cut into them and if the bark is fresh and reasonably moist and bright to the wood, and then properly imbedded in moist earth, it is sure to live, but every moment that it is exposed and left in a drying wind, the chances are multiplied against it.

The roots of a tree injured by exposure are always shriveled and dry; and the center devoid of sap. Examine them carefully before receiving them and see to it that the injury is not done to them afterwards. If they are supplied with wet straw, and closely wrapped with an old blanket or oilcloth to exclude currents of air, they can be carried any distance safely. When the tree is dormant, its blood (sap) circulates whether its roots are in or out of the ground and only needs moisture to live on like a hibernating animal. As long as there is fat on the ribs, air to breathe and sleep, the bear flourishes, but when active life returns, food must be forthcoming or it will quickly perish.

## ROOTS MUST NOT BE EXPOSED.

When the roots of a plant or tree become very dry, the sap becomes waxy and fills the grain in the wood like a varnish, so that the impediment remains to such an extent that I doubt if it ever regains the same vigor of the tree in which a thrifty growth has always been maintained. The removal from the nursery to the final home is the critical time in the history of the tree. That there are nurserymen by the hundred who grow trees to sell cheap, conducting their business as downright swindlers, cannot be denied; but it is equally true that a large majority of nurserymen are conscientious and solicitous for the fullest success of all the stock sent out, and look carefully to the best interest of their customers. They know how to handle stock and would not permit such gross carelessness, and in nine times out of ten an investigation will show the failures arise from the carelessness or slovenliness of planters.

Tonia.

## ARTICHOKES.

J. H. VAN NESS, JR.

Farmers as a general thing know very little about the artichoke. And perhaps some may think that I am coloring this article by saying that I believe that in a few years the artichoke will, to a great extent, take the place of corn; and I will in this article prove my point.

Four years ago I purchased one peck of seed, and from the seed raised nearly 75 bushels of fine artichokes. I commenced feeding to my young shoats, and was surprised to see them grow and do so well. I was so well pleased that I fed them all they could eat, and in a very short time they were ready for the finishing process, which was a few bushels of corn. My pigs did so well that I began to feed to my milk cows, and in a short time noticed an increase in quantity of milk, and also in general health and looks. I began then to think that the artichoke was good for everything, and began to feed to my horses, which would eat them in preference to grain. In a little while they began to look sleek and feel good, and thus I was convinced as to the worth of the artichoke.

## CULTURE.

Cut seed one eye on a piece, plant one or two pieces in a hill, fourteen or eighteen inches apart, in rows three feet apart, cultivate as you would corn. As freezing does not hurt them they can be left very late or all winter, or turn hogs in and let them do the digging. I generally dig as you would potatoes and place in a cellar where I can feed all winter to my stock. Occasionally I am asked, How do you get rid of the seed which is left in the ground? My answer is, they do not bother me. This year I grew potatoes on my artichoke ground. Of course they made their appearance, but the plowing and cultivating of the potatoes soon put a stop to the career of the artichoke. Artichokes are profitable, because three bushels will plant an acre, and if it is good corn ground well tilled, you will get from 600 to 1,000 bushels, which will fatten from 40 to 60 hogs, with a few bushels of corn to put on the finish.

## MARKET.

As yet there is no demand, only as seed. I have sold to a great many of my neighbors and have sent some out of the state, and all who have tried them intend to make the artichoke a general crop; and why not? Newaygo.



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OUR WORK.

The following has been approved by the State Grange as a fair statement of the objects the Grange of Michigan has in view, and the special lines along which it proposes to work. We hope every Grange in the state will work earnestly in all these departments, so that by a more united effort we shall rapidly increase our numbers, extend our influence, and attain more and more completely those ends which we seek.

OUR OBJECT

is the Organization of the Farmers for their own Improvement Financially, Socially, Mentally, Morally.

We believe that this improvement can in large measure be brought about:

1. (a.) By wider individual study and general discussion of the business side of farming and home keeping.
- (b.) By co-operation for financial advantage.
2. (a.) By frequent social gatherings, and the mingling together of farmers with farmers, and of farmers with people of other occupations.
- (b.) By striving for a purer manhood, a nobler womanhood, and a universal brotherhood.
3. (a.) By studying and promoting the improvement of our district schools.
- (b.) By patronizing and aiding the Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations in their legitimate work of scientific investigation, practical experiment, and education for rural pursuits.
- (c.) By maintaining and attending farmers' institutes; reading in the Reading Circle; establishing and using circulating libraries; buying more and better magazines and papers for the home.
4. (a.) By diffusing a knowledge of our civil institutions and teaching the high duties of citizenship.
- (b.) By demanding the enforcement of existing statutes, and by discussing, advocating, and trying to secure such other state and national laws as shall tend to the general justice, progress, and morality.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Hereafter please direct all subscriptions, advertising, and other business, to GRANGE VISITOR, Charlotte, Mich.; and direct all matter intended for publication to K. L. Butterfield, Lansing, Mich.

A NEW YEAR FOR THE VISITOR.

There has been a slight change in the printing and business management of the VISITOR, beginning with the next issue. This change involves no change in the value of the paper except to better it in every way. Advertisers may rest assured that every courtesy will be extended to them, and the circulation will be continuously extended. Subscribers will be treated to even a better variety of mental food in these columns, and our efforts will be to serve it in even a better condition. We ask for the same support from Patrons, believing that the VISITOR has a wide sphere of influence to cultivate. We shall keep our readers informed as to legislative doings, and shall endeavor to support those measures that are for the people's interests, and to oppose those that are for the people's harm. We invite your co-operation, and that of your neighbors, in this good work.

A FEW REQUESTS.

We want to make a few requests of members of the Grange. We should like to ask lecturers to send brief notes of discussions of interesting topics—just what you can get on a postal card. Tell us what subjects you discuss. It will help other lecturers. We should like to ask each Grange in the state to send in frequent items of news for our postal jottings. You like to read these jottings—why not help make them more interesting? We hope that a VISITOR social will be held in every Grange in the state during the next two months. We hope that every Grange in the state will send the VISITOR to every family in their Grange. We hope that every Grange will secure at least ten subscriptions from people outside the Order.

We should like to ask that Patrons will give prompt heed to our requests for articles or answers to questions. Not infrequently we have to wait weeks for a reply to an important letter. It is not quite fair to expect us to make the pages of the paper lively and entertaining, when we do not get responses to our questions. We hope that whenever we ask Patrons to write for us, that they will not refuse. We want to hear from many of you, briefly and to the point. Please don't send in long articles, no matter how good, unless you are perfectly willing to have them cut down. Our columns are too crowded.

We must all work together for the good of the Order.

THE PUBLICATION OF THE VISITOR.

At the recent meeting of the State Grange Geo. B. Horton and Cyrus G. Luce were appointed with instructions to make such provisions for the continued publication of the GRANGE VISITOR as should seem to them best. The committee so appointed have given the subject careful attention. The contract under which it has been published for two years, both with editors and publishers, has expired. The hard times, which so painfully affect farmers and others, has struck the VISITOR. And through necessity, if not choice, some changes must be made. For twenty years it has been published by the State Grange. It has labored bravely and diligently in fighting, not only the battles of the order, but of farmers everywhere. By its courage and fidelity it has endeared itself to the live, zealous, active members of the order. And because of this appeals have come to the committee from many active and hopeful members, to arrange for its continued publication under Grange control if possible. To all of these we have listened attentively. We have also given careful thought to the business side of the question. The Michigan State Grange is now, and has been during all its active life, through careful management, in good financial condition. Although the prices of products are low, and the closest economy must be observed, we cannot afford to deplete our treasury to the point of embarrassment. So with an earnest desire to serve the order, and to preserve the VISITOR, we have made an arrangement that we hope will prove satisfactory and profitable to all. Without here entering into the details of the contracts made, it is proper to say that the business and editorial work will be done for a much less sum than has been paid annually for the last two years. It will be published at Charlotte, Michigan, by Perry & McGrath. They will have the entire charge of the business department of the VISITOR. Subscriptions and all other communications relating to the business connected with the GRANGE VISITOR should be addressed to them. They are publishers of experience and business skill. It will be published semi-monthly as heretofore. There will be no material change made in the price of the paper.

K. L. Butterfield will continue to be its editor. From all sides have come appeals to retain him in this position. It is universally conceded that in the past he has done well, but now he will be relieved from the business cares, and we have every reason to believe that he will do even better than he has done. All communications for the paper and other letters relating to the editorial work should be addressed to him at Lansing. For the next five months the legislature will be in session. Brother Butterfield has proved himself to be a keen and just observer of men and their action. He is a close and careful investigator, and important matters will appear in the columns of the VISITOR that will not be found elsewhere. And these things will be of equal interest to farmers, who are outside of the order. The VISITOR must have more subscribers if it lives. Each Grange in the state ought to add ten names to its subscription list. Will you not all try to do as well or better than this? Write for it, work for it, and all will be well.

GEO. B. HORTON,  
C. G. LUCE.

CONCENTRATE AND CO-OPERATE.

Follow Well-Laid Plans With Active Work—  
The State Grange Has Set The Pace—  
Will the Pomona and Subordinate Granges Sustain It?

One of the most earnest, practical and harmonious meetings ever held by the State Grange of Michigan closed its four days of work at Lansing on the evening of December 14, 1894. The intelligent and business like manner in which all its deliberations were conducted speaks volumes for the good results that have come from the year of education given in the Grange halls that are found here and there over our state. To get the full benefit of the Lansing meeting and utilize it for the supporting of the Order at large we must now follow closely and thoroughly with persistent work along the same lines indicated and endorsed by our representatives at the State Grange. The delegates to that body have an important mission to perform in transmitting to the membership throughout the state that enthusiasm which will cause renewed energy in all local organizations. They should lead in stimulating a sentiment in favor of the work laid out by the State Grange, which is calculated to assist in conducting Grange meetings more systematically and usefully, to help in the work of reviving the dormant and establishing new Granges, and for the increasing of the membership and influence for good of all existing Granges. And further the delegates should be active in explaining to all members and all farmers the necessity of a united stand for the proposed legislation authorized by the State Grange, and in behalf of which the executive committee of the State Grange

will try and secure favorable action by the incoming legislature.

MEASURES ENDORSED.

The most important bills which will probably be presented are:

1. To authorize the appointment, by the Governor of the state, of a tax statistician, whose duty it shall be to collect and compile data relative to the existence and true value, as near as can be ascertained, of all property of the state, both private and corporate, which data is now very largely unknown and unpublished. This, with the idea in view of bringing such facts to light as will enable the securing of a more equitable equalization before the state board of 1896 and to assist the legislature of 1897 in forming and enacting a more just general tax law.
2. A bill to amend the pure food laws to the end that they may better carry out the original designs of such legislation.
3. A bill appropriating a reasonable amount of money for holding farmers' institutes in various parts of the state.
4. A bill authorizing the formation of a State Grange farmers' mutual fire insurance association.
5. A bill to amend the present tax law, making it mandatory for supervisors to exact a statement under oath from all persons, of their property for taxation purposes.

The State Grange is expensive to our organization, and all its efforts are lost if the membership fail to unitedly support the plans and measures adopted. Let every Grange hall in the state be a place of activity during the year in carrying out the progressive work now commenced.

WHO FOR COUNTY DEPUTIES?

The State Grange must have an active, competent deputy for its agent for Grange work in every county. They should be appointed at once so that lecture work can commence. I believe it to be for the best interests of the Order that all those county deputies who are familiar with the work and who have been active and efficient be retained. We want to bring the full working force of the Grange in every county into active use for the winter and spring months for an increase in membership and number of Granges. An active, willing worker for deputy is the first essential. I urge counties to make known their choice at the earliest possible opportunity.

TO BOOM YOUR GRANGE.

Elect those to office who will appreciate the honor sufficiently to attend every meeting, and who will rise above little differences and unselfishly work with others for the success of every meeting.

Make complete arrangements for lectures, and let the officers and have the services conducted that the importance of each position will be thoroughly impressed upon each officer elect.

The master should, as soon as he is installed into office, announce the executive, finance and charity committees, and instruct them in their duties as written in the by-laws of the Grange.

Grange success depends upon each member having specific duties to perform. To this end I recommend that every Grange in the state do now, at the beginning of this year, elect or order the appointment of the following:

1. A chorister, who will promise to attend every meeting and be prepared to lead the singing.
2. An organist, who will co-operate with the chorister in his or her efforts to enliven every meeting with music and songs.
3. A librarian, who will, under such rules and regulations as the Grange may direct, have charge of all publications in the possession of the Grange, and who will encourage and lead in providing ways and means for the increase of books in the library, and encourage more reading on the part of the members. I recommend that all Grange librarians correspond with the state librarian at Lansing, Mrs. Mary Spencer, regarding the small libraries of good books she is preparing to send out upon application of twenty-five persons in any part of the state, by the recipients paying transportation expenses.
4. A curator, whose duty it will be to encourage the collection and loan to the Grange for a general collection of specimens in botany, entomology, minerals and geology, taxidermy, conchology, Indian relics, etc., and to keep them systematically arranged in such cases as he will encourage the Grange to provide.
5. A kitchen committee of sisters, who will have the care of the Grange kitchen with all dishes and paraphernalia used for suppers and feasts, and who will use their influence to have the Grange provide from time to time the necessary articles for such use.
6. A social and entertainment committee, composed of ten or fifteen young members if possible, who will see that public socials and entertainments are held at least monthly through the year for a source of revenue to the Grange, and from funds so raised use enough to send the GRANGE VISITOR to every family represented in the Grange.
7. A committee on woman's work to act as an auxiliary to the state committee.

SUGGESTIONS.

Recognize the young members in all parts of your work.

Designate certain meetings two or four weeks ahead to be known as application meetings, previous to which meeting each and every member will act as a committee of one to solicit applications for membership from neighbors and associates, and all member vie with each other in an effort (for a prize, if the Grange so arrange) to present the largest number at this designated meeting.

Each Grange should not neglect to appoint a correspondent to the GRANGE VISITOR, who will send in short paragraphs giving main features of every Grange meeting for the benefit of others.

Also every Grange can do much towards popularizing its work in a community by giving out to the local papers a judiciously prepared summary of the discussions and educational work of the Grange.

There is not a Grange in Michigan running so low in interest but that it can be built up in membership and good works if those now in charge will resolve, agree, go to work, and stick to it. Success will as surely crown such efforts as the sun is sure to shine. Outside assistance is only a small aid, success depends upon the members of each local organization. Each Grange is a sure index of the degree of union and effort displayed by the members thereof. "There is no excellence without labor," and in Grange work the most is accomplished by attending all meetings, and when there take part in all proceedings. Be earnest and persistent, yet considerate and charitable, and every Grange in the land will flourish.

COUNTY SYSTEM OF LECTURE WORK.

Last, but not least, be always ready to unite with other Granges in your county in securing a lecture at your own Grange home, for the benefit of all your own members, many of whom would not go to the opposite side of the county to hear a Grange speech, but would attend at their own hall. The county system now in practice is the cheapest, most practical and truly beneficial system yet adopted. It costs each Grange the very small fee of \$2.50, and all the rest of the cost of the system is borne by the State Grange.

COUNTY DEPUTIES HOLD OVER.

County deputies now holding commissions will continue to act unless, and until, changes are authorized, so that any counties desiring lecture courses can instruct their deputies to secure speakers and arrange for dates as soon as is desired.

Lecturers are ready to take the field as soon as systematic details are arranged. All of those faithful Patrons whose voices have been heard in so many parts of our state have consented to report for active duties in the field, also some new faces will be presented to Grange audiences this year. Make arrangements early and report to me. A strong pull altogether will make the year 1895 prominent in Grange progress.

GEO. B. HORTON

TO UNITED STATES SENATORS.

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to submit, for your careful consideration, the following report and resolutions, from the Committee on Agriculture of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, adopted in its twenty-eighth annual session, held in Springfield, Illinois, November 14 to November 22, 1894.

I am, faithfully yours,  
JOHN TRIMBLE,  
Secretary.

Brother Aaron Jones, Chairman, read the following report, from the Committee on Agriculture, which was adopted:

Worthy Master:

Your Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the resolutions appended hereto, offered by Bro. C. H. Knott, Worthy Master of West Virginia State Grange, have considered the same, and concur in the resolutions, and recommend their adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

AARON JONES, Chairman.  
Resolved, That the National Grange, in its twenty-eighth annual session, at Springfield, Illinois, urge upon the United States Senate, the importance to agriculture of promptly passing the Hatch Anti-Option bill, which has passed the House of Representatives, and is now before the Senate.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to each senator by the secretary of this body, as soon as possible after Congress assembles.

The difference between a robber and a Napoleon of finance, says the *Texas Farm and Ranch*, is the former simply loot some passing train, and the latter steals the right of way, road-bed, rolling stock, and franchises.

\$100 REWARD, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of Testimonials.  
Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.  
Sold by Druggists, 75c.

F. H. R. C.

PRETTY GOOD TESTIMONY.

The other day we chanced to fall in with Mr. J. H. Brown, associate editor of the *Michigan Farmer*. We knew that Mr. Brown had expressed himself as very favorably inclined toward the Farm Home Reading Circle, and in the course of the conversation the following talk occurred:

"Mr. Brown, I understand you are quite enthusiastic about this course and its value to the farmer and his family. What do you think about it?"

"It is one of the best arrangements I have yet seen. I tell you these 'home readings' are a wonderful power for good. They were primarily intended for those farmers who had no opportunity to secure a liberal education in their youth, who, although having always lived on the farm, felt that they were deficient in knowledge of many things that directly concerned their vocation. In fact, they realized they had a very limited knowledge of science as applied to practical agriculture.

"Such has been my position. Deafness precluded my securing even a complete common school education. I made a great effort to pursue a special course of study at our State Agricultural College. After a single term's work, I came home discouraged. The Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle had been organized a short time before. I sent for circulars, secured some of the books and began reading."

"How did you manage to find time for reading?"

"This was what bothered me at first. I finally settled on reading forty minutes each day, during five days in the week. Many times I started to retire at night, tired out; and yet I soon found out I could sit up forty minutes longer—and did, many times.

"I soon learned to systematize my time. Not a moment was wasted in sitting around the village grocery or otherwise fooling away precious moments. I never left the house without putting something in my pocket to read or study when at leisure. Whenever I had to wait, even for a minute or two, I had something to read.

"I followed the four years' course of reading in the C. L. S. C. and 'graduated.' The diploma given me personally by Hon. Lewis Miller, president of the C. L. S. C., was prized just as much as though it was a regular college sheepskin.

"I was one of the first readers to take up the Farm Home Reading Circle course of study. It is just what our farmers need. No one can read carefully a single book in the course without feeling amply repaid for the time spent. The books are sold at a low price, to readers only.

"When possible, it will be a splendid thing for our various farm organizations to take up this course as a 'circle.' More interest will be aroused, and the enjoyment in asking questions on what we have read, the quizzes, etc., will tend to more thoroughly impress upon our minds the topics and subject matter of each meeting and program."

"How did you secure so many books for your library?"

"Some of my whisky and tobacco money secured these. I mean, by this statement, that some of the money that some other boys usually spend for tobacco and whisky, I used to purchase many of these books. I now have about 450 volumes. Some were secured by canvassing for other books until I had money enough to purchase what I wanted."

"What do you think of the interest in the F. H. R. C.?"

"It is growing rapidly, and many letters have reached me this winter asking some question regarding the books, required reading, etc. Prof. Mumford is doing all he can to advance the work in his department. He is a very efficient secretary, and takes a great interest in the circle. We are fortunate in having so good an official and co-worker. The college faculty and the State Board of Agriculture builded even better than they knew when they arranged this course for the intelligent and progressive Michigan farmer and his family."

MICHIGAN STATE ASSOCIATION OF FARMERS' CLUBS.

Highland, Mich., Dec. 24, 1894.

The annual meeting of the Michigan State Association of Farmers' Clubs will be held at the Capitol building, in the city of Lansing, on February 5 and 6, 1895.

An excellent program is being prepared, extended notice of which will be published later. At this meeting the entire constitution and by-laws of the association will be subject to amendments.

A. C. BIRD, Secretary.

CO-OPERATIVE TRADE UNION.

Fruit Ridge, Mich., Dec. 24, 1894.

The first annual meeting of the Co-operative Trade Union of the Patrons of Husbandry will convene at Hotel Imperial, Chicago, at 10 a. m., Tuesday, January 8,

1895, for the purpose of making the temporary organization permanent, and to enact the essential rules and regulations, and to commence at once the proposed work of making trade contracts for the benefit of the states represented in the union. Each of the middle and western states are invited and urged to send a delegate.

Faternally,  
G. R. KEILL, President,  
Waverly, Mo.

GEO. B. HORTON, Secretary,  
Fruit Ridge, Mich.

A DEEP QUESTION.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—I have been much interested in the articles on taxation in the VISITOR. I, too, have read and studied the subject considerably, and find it a deep and important question.

The author takes the same view in his articles that I have always taken, that many, I might say nearly all, of the supervisors really perjure themselves, either because of their own perverted reasoning, or in response to the popular demand in their localities.

What the state's rights question was in the nation, the illegal taxation is in the townships. And the wonder to me is that men of otherwise unsullied character may be so warped as to defy the law in making assessments in the manner that they do.

It seems to be the general practice in northern Michigan to assess property at one-third of its cash value, instead of its full cash value as required by law. One county I heard of in which the supervisors agree to assess at 60 per cent of the cash value, and even assess money and other such property at the same rate. Not only is this a direct and flagrant violation of the law, but it lessens the selling chances of any given piece of property.

AN INSTANCE.

The author speaks of the practice of assessing the property of non-residents higher than that of residents. Bad as it is, it is a common practice. Take for instance, two pieces of farming land on opposite sides of the road, each containing 80 acres. The soil and surface, as well as improvements, being equal in each; all else being equal, should they not be valued for assessment the same? And what shall we say of the supervisor who says one piece shall be assessed at a certain valuation because the owner lives on it, and the other shall be assessed one or two hundred dollars more because the owner lives in another town or county? Suppose that two pieces were situated as described, each worth \$1,500. The most common method would be to assess the property belonging to the non-resident at one-third \$1,500 or \$500; and that of the resident at one-third of \$1,200, or \$400. Thus the resident pays but four dollars while the non-resident pays five dollars on property of equal value. But the adherents of this system say that if the non-resident does not like it he can appear next year before the board of review and swear down his valuation.

He goes before the board, and is calmly asked if his place is not worth \$500, or whatever sum it is assessed at. Of course he cannot truthfully say no, so the only way for him to do is to pay his tax under protest and appeal to the courts. It is not that his valuation is too high, but that it is proportionately so.

Another point is, if a man has \$3,000 in cash, all but \$200 of it must be taxed, not as being one-third of \$3,000, but in full; while if he buys a farm for \$2,000 of it, and lays the rest out in improvements the chances are he will be assessed about \$800 to \$1,000.

All this is the outgrowth of a morbid sentiment of the people, for which the law is in no wise responsible. But one law at least needs some further legislation.

ONE CHANGE NEEDED.

There is a law allowing a supervisor to exempt the property of people who "in his opinion are not able to contribute to the public expense." The law in the first place is open to grave abuse and should be made explicit. There should be a limit to the amount of property so exempt, say not more than 40 acres of land or the usual \$200 in money notes or other personal property. I know one case in which a man who had 160 acres of good land and a large quantity of salable timber exempted because his health was poor, although he had sons almost grown. In another case an old man who had some \$400 in money and notes and whose income was greater than his expenses was entirely exempted. In fact I do not believe that property should be exempted at all, but if a person is unable to pay the burden should be borne by the entire township.

Usually more than 50 per cent of the taxes are for school purposes. Suppose a school district is assessed at \$10,000 and a piece of property valued at \$500 is exempted, the entire school tax must be spread on the remaining \$9,500, making considerable difference in the rate while \$500 out of a township is not felt so much. Besides the exemption is made by a township officer, who may not be a resident of the district and thus not feel the difference. Thus the consequent increase in the rate of the dis-

trict is a kind of taxation without representation.

In the article of October 18 Mr. Wright speaks about the pension exemption. I may be wrong but it looks to me as if the meaning of that clause was to prevent the taxation of an anticipated pension. The language of the law is "pensions receivable" not pensions received from the United States. For instance, A has accumulated \$500 of money from pensions received but has no other property. He also receives a pension of \$12 per month or \$144 per year. The \$144 would be "pensions receivable" and would not be taxed, but the \$500 would be treated as personal property or pensions received and after deducting \$200 personal exemption, would be assessed for \$300.

E. H. ALLYN.

Traverse City.

THE GRANGE VISITOR AND EDUCATION.

There is no more potent educator in the state than an enthusiastic, progressive Grange. The organ of the Grange is the GRANGE VISITOR. This intelligently edited paper is the mainspring of strength to Grangerism. What a blessing it would be if this paper could be a visitor to every farm home, to every country school in Michigan. In the life of the Grange political parties have come and gone, societies have flourished and died. The Grange is the best friend the farm, home, and school has, if we will make it so. What is it that kills the farmer, the farmer's wife? What is it that sends the country boys and girls to the city to look up entertainment? Isolation. In education the social factor stands higher than subjects of learning, than methods of teaching, than the teacher himself. Why? Because it is the reflected light of character upon character. The farmers are not a class, but they are the bone and sinew of our great American family. Isolation means rust, decay, death. The mingling, fusing, and blending give personal power, and make the public school a tremendous force for the upbuilding of democracy. Therefore we should keep in the midst of life, and not isolate ourselves. "Character grows in the stream of the world's life."

The Grange calls the farmer, his wife and children, from their isolation. It teaches them wisdom, develops their powers.

The VISITOR is the declaration of independence of the farmers. It is the medium whereby an exchange of thought and method can be had. It is the best medium through which woman can speak to her sisters in home and society. It is the best medium whereby teachers, if they will use it, can reach the people who must be warmed into a broad and more generous sympathy for their best friend, the common school.

What say you brother, sister commissioners to getting the VISITOR into the hands of your teachers, the homes of your patrons?

D. E. McCLURE.

MORE FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

EDITOR GRANGE VISITOR—This being the proper season of the year, it might be well to speak something of the farmers' institute. This is becoming one of the best, if not the very best means to educate the farmer. It is to the farmer the same that the teachers' institute is to the teacher; and judging by the interest taken at such gatherings, they are taking advantage of the opportunity to get all the benefit that is possible for them to get.

But one thing I regret is, that this state is away behind much newer and poorer states in this work. Considering the importance of agriculture in this state, it is the poorest provided for by legislation of any industry we have.

Even the mining industry has its mining school, carried on at a great expense to the state. We have the agricultural college, but that does not touch direct as the institute does. What we want are more institutes conducted by able instructors, sent out at the expense of the state. There should be one held in every county in the state where agriculture is of any importance, and all the better counties should have two.

Now, I am going to offer a resolution to our farmers' institute this coming winter, asking our state senator and representative to use their influence in procuring an annual appropriation of \$10,000, for the maintenance of institutes in this state; other states have such an appropriation, and why not we? This is the reason that we are behind. I would like such a resolution introduced at every institute, and each legislator furnished with a copy. And then let every reader send a postal card to his legislator, requesting the passage of such an act, and by the time they have received a couple of hundred thousand of these cards they will begin to think we want something. You must remember they will not pass such a law without asking for it.

I. N. COWDREY.

Ithaca.

Renew your Subscription.

THE NEW ERA.

Some time ago we mentioned a book with the above named title and said we should take occasion to quote from it later. In it the author, Dr. Josiah Strong, deals with present problems of the social and industrial world with a view to finding their solution. He has much to say of the general unrest and discontent everywhere felt, but particularly among artisans and farmers.

He writes: "Democracy necessitates popular education, and popular education multiplies popular wants. If the many have the same wants as the few, they will demand the same means of gratifying those wants. To give the poor the same wants as the rich is to create an inevitable demand for substantial equality of condition and to stimulate discontent until such equality is secured." "We may have social revolution, we must have social evolution. Social systems are never invented, they are evolved, they grow out of what has preceded. The social changes which are sure to come will doubtless be great, but they will be natural—the effect of causes long antecedent; hence the importance of comprehending as far as possible, existing conditions and tendencies."

He sees in our country the nation that has profited by the errors and progress of the past nations and predicts for it a grand future if the right course is taken soon. Now is a crucial time, out of which shall grow "the new era." "Anglo-Saxons, far better than any other race, have solved the problem of uniting individualism with organization;" but, he goes on to say, this organization is still selfish, it has not yet been touched by the spirit of the golden rule, that must, finally, be resorted to before the full benefits of the blessings of brotherhood are accomplished.

Two chapters that are of special interest to us and might be read with profit by all our readers, are on "Popular Discontent" and the "The Problem of the Country." In the first he says: "The causes which have produced the discontent of the farmers—the changed methods of production, the great increase of agricultural products, the existence of mortgages, and the exactions of railways and middlemen—all are likely to continue for some time to come.

No doubt the condition of the farmer and of the workman will improve in the future, but as improvement of condition has been accompanied by increasing discontent during the past century, we cannot infer that future improvement, under the existing organization of society, will allay the discontent."

Country people have the problem to meet of the depopulation of rural districts. As a result, roads deteriorate and residents are moved farther and farther away from towns; decrease in population and poor roads mean depreciated property, multiplied mortgages, more sheriff's sales and everything on the downward grade; weakened churches and impaired schools follow. Undesirable immigration and gradual degeneration are apt to ensue. This is not true in all rural localities, but so prevalent is it, and backed by such unquestionable statistics, that our author writes: "We must expect the steady deterioration of our rural population, unless effective preventive measures are devised. How to devise such measures is the problem of the country."

Continued from page 1.

rations of capital. Create them as a body corporate, which may make contracts and enforce them and be empowered in turn to sue and be sued.

Geological survey. This should receive the attention of the legislature, as should the state pioneer society.

Election laws. I am in favor of an amendment to the law providing for counting the vote at intervals during the day.

The municipal commission will report to you the results of their labors. This is a matter of great importance. I believe a constitutional amendment should be submitted restraining the legislature from hereafter enacting special municipal charters.

Building and loan associations should be subjected to some state supervision.

Conclusion. You are charged with vast responsibilities. You are to legislate for two and a quarter million of people, with as great a variety of interest as any equal number of people in the world.

You are to provide for institutions which have cost the state more than ten million dollars, and the maintenance of which costs a vast amount every year. Every institution, every interest, and every class of our people demand careful consideration at your hands. The same rule in expenditures should govern you that governs expenditures in private business affairs. What is worth doing at all is worth doing well. The more promptly and thoroughly your work is done, the more hearty will be the welcome and approval of your constituents.

JOHN T. RICH.



lowing resolution which by unanimous vote was declared to be the voice of the Madison Grange on the immigration question.

RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That a consular inquiry be made at the home of the immigrant, and that all criminals, paupers, or undesirable immigrants be rigidly excluded. That a property qualification of one hundred dollars be required, and that these laws be passed as soon as congress can reasonably do so.

EMILY GANDER.

NOTES.

I wonder how many of the farmers of the state have the experiment station bulletins. They are of inestimable value, and every progressive farmer who expects to "keep up with the procession" should read them regularly as they are issued.

Michigan, in its early days, was noted for its great extent of swamp lands. The immense number of acres of tamarack swamp was then considered almost worthless, except for the timber, which was of no especial value. What a change has come. Now these swamps, cleared and drained, are becoming the garden lands of the state. They will in years to come, when the increased population of our cities creates a demand for market gardening, be the most valuable part of our farms.

THE LOW LANDS.

When these low lands are well drained, the porous nature of the soil soon carries off all surplus rainfall; and it takes a very dry season indeed to wither vegetation where water stands only a few feet below the surface. While the uplands during the unprecedented drouth of the past summer were parched and dusty, vegetation on these low grounds was green and luxuriant.

Of course all crops will not succeed equally well on these swamp lands, hence the value of the recent bulletin in regard to the management of such soils, and the crops best suited them.

During the past season our best crops of onions and potatoes were grown on muck lands, where they gave excellent yields, while those planted on lighter soils, did not produce half a crop.

Our farmers are only just beginning to understand the value of their swamp lands, and their suitability for certain crops. With the increasing number of canning factories, and the ever-growing demand for canned fruits and vegetables there is opening to the enterprising farmer a new industry that has heretofore been monopolized by the market gardener near the large cities. Many of our farmers would find it more profitable to raise onions, tomatoes, cabbage or potatoes on their low grounds, than to devote all their energies to wheat, corn, beans, etc.

GOOD FRUIT.

More fruit could be raised on the uplands. Good fruit will not be apt to glut the market. The people want the best. He who sets out to supply their wants will find it profitable. It's the wormy, scabby, small half ripened fruit that don't pay, and becomes a drug in the market. It costs more to produce a bushel of first class fruit than one of inferior quality, but it sells best and gives a larger profit to the producer.

The growing popularity of the short term dairy class at the agricultural college is encouraging. The young men who are anxious to inform themselves on this important branch, are to be our successful farmers of the future. Dairy farming is both pleasant and profitable. Instead of the rush and overwork in summer, and slack in winter, it gives steady employment the year round without rush or stagnation.

The open and pleasant weather of late November and early December gave opportunity to the forehanded farmer for many things that are usually put off till spring, thus giving the good manager a chance to get his work along and be ready for early crops as soon as the season permits. A well planned campaign, with careful attention to details is half the battle.

APOLLOS LONG.

Eaton Rapids.

Jagwell.—What makes that hen in your back yard cackle so loud? Wigway.—Oh, they've just laid a corner-stone across the street, and she's trying to make the neighbors think she did it.—Philadelphia Record.

A TALK WITH THE BOYS.

The Gazette has asked me for a short talk with the boys; and I have decided to talk with them on the use of leisure. The subject may not seem to be a very important one, and yet I regard it as important enough very often to explain the secret of the man who succeeds, as well as that of the man who fails. A man is successful not so much because he works harder or works longer than the man who fails as because when he begins his work he knows what to do and how to do it. This all important knowledge is generally acquired during the moments that are often spoken of as times of leisure.

LEISURE.

In every vocation there is a considerable part of every year, perhaps even of every day, during which a man or a boy seems to have little or nothing to do. At such times there is some temptation to linger about places of resort. Farmers' boys are apt to while away a good deal of time without accomplishing any very definite result; but occasionally there is one who prizes these leisure moments, turns them all to his own advantage, and in the end secures his reward. It is in this way that he becomes so perfectly familiar with even the minutest details of the industry with which he is connected as to give him a prominence that is speedily recognized. In this manner also he advances into the less frequented paths of knowledge and broadens his intelligence in a variety of ways. He thus obtains that habit of intellectual enterprise which makes him dissatisfied with knowing less than everything about every object with which he has to deal. It is this kind of intellectual enterprise which has given the so-called self-made men their prominence in the world.

THE USE OF LEISURE.

The farmers' boys have long evenings at home. These evenings are very often passed with no advantage in the way of self-improvement; but a boy's chance of success in life depends very largely upon his economical use of his winter evenings. It is of the utmost importance that he should acquire an enthusiastic interest in some worthy object. If he is to be a farmer he should learn all he can in a systematic way in regard to the several branches of farming. This can be done partly through the newspapers, but still more systematically and satisfactorily through the books that have recently been written on the various interests of agriculture. How plants grow, what chemical changes take place in the soil, just what it is that makes clover so valuable a fertilizer, just what particular soils need in order to keep up and even increase their fertility, the part played by nitrogen and carbon and other ingredients—these are all subjects entirely within the comprehension of every enterprising boy. Then there are a thousand questions in regard to the breeding and feeding of animals. A hundred subjects will suggest themselves to any boy who is determined to know all he can of whatever comes before him.

HARD WORK.

By an industrious use of his leisure every one of these subjects and a score of others may be completely mastered by any intelligent farmer's boy before he is twenty-one. Go without a hat, if it is necessary, in order to buy the best book. The outside of the head is of far less importance than the inside. Every boy should make up his mind that success never comes by chance. In more than ninety-nine cases out of a hundred great success is reached only in the way I have pointed out. It is first of all by a determination to do something and be somebody, and then by a will strong enough to take possession of every leisure moment to fit one's self for accomplishing what is desired.

LACK OF INTEREST.

In the farmers' institutes I have often been distressed to see how few farmers' boys seem to have any interest in the subjects there discussed. Whether a boy is to be a farmer or not, so long as he is on a farm he ought to be interested in every means of the highest

success, and he ought to seize every opportunity to increase his intelligence on every subject that comes within his reach. There is no success for the man who dawdles. If a young man is really ambitious and determined to succeed he ought to make up his mind to know as much as anybody knows of everything he has to deal with. The young man who starts out with such a determination will be sure of success, for he will be fitted for every emergency. He is the man whom everybody will want and everybody will care for.—Pres. Charles Kendall Adams in *Breeders' Gazette*.

PLUTOCRACY.

(Read at Windsor Grange by Brother C. S. Torrey.)

By the courtesy of our worthy lecturer I have been assigned the subject of "Plutocracy," which I define to be a government of the rich, by the rich and for the rich, and am requested to give some thoughts that have occurred to me by reading, study and observation, on its influence upon us as a people. In ancient times, as history informs us, mankind was divided into tribes or families, the chief or patriarch of which claimed for the tribe or family all the lands over which they roamed; and each member was bound to obey their commands. In course of time these chiefs claimed as their own the lands of their tribe, and claiming to be divinely authorized to rule over those who had hitherto willingly yielded them obedience, they assumed titles of nobility corresponding to the extent of country and numbers of the people subject to them, and claimed the absolute right to dispose of the persons and property within their domains as they pleased. Occasionally a people, under the leadership of some bold, clear-headed man who ventured to dispute the divine right to govern of these self-styled kings, would overthrow their aristocratic rulers and organize a republic or government of the people, by the people, and for the people, which they styled a democracy. Selfish, ambitious and unscrupulous men would soon secure place, and by superior craft succeed in getting control of the wealth of their country and eventually by force reduce to subjection all within their borders, and following the examples of their former rulers, proclaim themselves chosen of the Deity to rule over their fellow men. Such is in brief the history of nation after nation that has flourished for a brief period, fallen into decay, and finally disappeared to be remembered only in history, and their people robbed of all that rendered life worth living for became an easy prey to their more powerful neighbors.

THE VOICE OF FREEDOM.

From the earliest periods of which history gives us any knowledge there has been a constant struggle of the common people against the rich and powerful for a fair share of the necessities and comforts of life, and there is not a right which the industrial classes of the world enjoy today that has not been wrung from their oppressors by force. Less than five hundred years ago there was not a laboring man nor woman on the face of the earth who were not bought and sold with the land they lived on and were held to be the personal property of their rulers as much as cattle and sheep. Within the last fifty years nearly one hundred millions of people who have been held in slavery generation after generation for hundreds, yea thousands of years, have been set free. The aristocrats of the old world were amazed at the declaration of our forefathers a little over a hundred years ago, that "All men are created equal, are endowed by their Creator with the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," and have not to this day ceased to wage an unrelenting opposition to those declarations.

A PRESENT DANGER.

Should we then dismiss from our minds all fears that *we ourselves, our nation*, might ever be reduced to the condition from which these peoples, have been so recently freed? Within the memory of the most of you here present special legislation has built up thousands of millionaires in our country, and

as its inevitable consequence has reduced to poverty a thousand men for each and every millionaire thus built up. Under the dictation of great corporations, composed largely of foreign aristocrats, our government is today engaged in bonding our people, in what the landholders fondly hope will be a perpetual bondage. Twenty years ago one of our great parties enacted laws under which today another is putting into operation the original design to confer upon these giant corporations the unlimited power to control the market value of every product of American industry. To the thoughtful student of history, we have already entered upon, and are now rapidly moving along the same road that leads to serfdom for the masses of the people, that has been followed by scores of nations that have preceded us. The repeated declarations of eminent leaders in these efforts, that wealth *must* and *shall* control, and if necessary for its purposes, the right of suffrage shall be restricted to those possessing great wealth, should arouse every lover of equal and exact justice, in our country to the danger that confronts us, and let us hope that rising above all partisan prejudice, they will, ere it is too late, stop all further movements in that direction and place impossible limits on the concentration of wealth, in the hands of individuals and corporations, and effectually arrest all efforts to build up an aristocracy of wealth in our country. The memorable warning of our noble martyred president, Lincoln, against the encroachments of concentrated wealth should cause every voter to carefully consider the consequences of his political action, and he should ever bear in mind that maxim handed down to us by our revolutionary fathers that "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

VISITOR QUESTIONS DISCUSSED.

By Alumni Grange.

EDITOR VISITOR: At the last two meetings of our Grange the liquor question was discussed at some length, and with a good deal of feeling. It appears to be the opinion of our Grange that the present license law of Michigan is not suppressing, or even controlling this business in a satisfactory manner, and that there might be some other way of handling this great public nuisance. While many seem to think that prohibition is the one thing desirable, nearly all admit that they want a prohibitory law with more prohibition in it than most such laws appear to have. It was suggested that to let the state become the agent that supplied the "personal liberty man" his drink, as is done in South Carolina, was better than our system of license; for then the liquor would be at least pure. It was thought by some that the enfranchisement of woman would go a long way toward settling this question in favor of morality and better order.

Brother Utter suggested low license, and that the business of selling be confined to bare rooms, with the scantiest of furniture; and that card playing, billiards, and other games of amusement be entirely prohibited in buildings where liquors are sold. It was further suggested that if the custom of treating could be eliminated from the business, it would greatly reduce the consumption of liquors and certainly reduce the profits of the vendors. There are also those who believe that education is the main factor in solving this question, and so long as many of the leading men in public life frequent and patronize these places, so long will this business be looked upon as reputable. Public sentiment in any community very nearly makes the law for that locality.

H. W. CRAWFORD.

ORDERING AGAIN.

Livingston Co., Mich., May 8, 1894.

MR. O. W. INGERSOLL: DEAR SIR—Having used fifteen gallons of your Paint three years ago, and it giving the best of satisfaction as regards durability and color lasting qualities I have concluded to order again, and I know that every one after their first trial of your paints will do the same as I have done (order again).

Yours truly,

F. A. BARTON.

[See Adv. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints.—Ed.]

THE "BALTIMORE PLAN" OF CURRENCY REFORM.

The Baltimore plan proposes to amend the national bank act so as no longer to require government bonds as security for circulation, but provides a safety fund instead; to allow banks to issue circulation to 50 per cent of their paid-up, unimpaired capital, and, in an emergency, 75 per cent. All notes of failed banks are to be redeemed by the government, as under the present law. A guarantee, or safety fund, equal to 5 per cent of the outstanding circulation, is to be accumulated and maintained by gradual taxation upon such circulation. From this fund the government is to redeem notes of failed banks. The government also retains a prior lien upon the assets of failed banks, including stockholders' liability, as now provided by law, in order to replenish this safety fund and protect itself against possible loss. Practically, the only change is to substitute a guarantee fund for government bonds as security, the other changes being incidental. The details are open to discussion and improvement, but I believe the principles to be right.

Just such a law as the one proposed by the Baltimore bankers is now in successful operation in the Dominion of Canada, except that the Canadian law allows circulation to the par of unimpaired capital, and the government assumes no responsibility for the redemption of failed banks' notes beyond the application of the 5 per cent fund. The law has proved eminently successful and satisfactory in Canada. In the light of these facts no one can dispute the safety of the plan.—A. H. Hepburn in the *December Forum*.

REAR CALVES ONLY FROM THE BEST COWS.

Where a number of cows are milked it will always be noticed that some one is the best of the lot as to the amount of milk produced, or the length of profitable flow, or perhaps in production of butter. A farmer can probably point out the best cow in the herd, but if he were asked to point out her descendants among the young stock, they might be found few and far below in appearance what might be expected from the dam, or grand dam. Further inquiry might bring out the information that no male was kept for service on the farm. Also that no good sire could be procured, or that it was too far, or the service fee was too high where a desirable sire was kept. This is a short-sighted policy, and one which the progressive farmer will avoid. Don't use the nearest scrub when time is pressing, but keep a male in your own barn, selected especially to supply the kind of animals you want to have and such as you can take pride in showing your friends. The best way is to patronize the best sires within reach, and go with cash in hand.

All calves from the poorest cows should be killed at once and may be fed out to fowls. Unless you have a surplus of milk and cannot make a good use of it in some other way do not grow up veal calves. Where milk will sell for a fair price the calf will soon eat its head off. Better sell it to the hens for eggs and chicks.—F. E. Emery, *Agriculturist*, N. C. Experiment Station.

AGE IMPROVES IT.

The *Youth's Companion* is soon to enter upon its sixty-ninth year of publication, and as one says who has been a constant reader of its columns for more than thirty years, "It has steadily improved each year." Its articles cover the whole field of life and experience furnishing a vast amount of valuable and entertaining reading of a character not found elsewhere, and of so great a variety that *The Companion* interests alike each member of the family.

The Prospectus for the volume of 1895 announces an unusual array of attractions; fourteen serial stories, a wealth of short stories, anecdotes, humorous sketches, adventures, science and home articles, timely editorials on all important questions, and more than two hundred original poems of the highest class.

Full Prospectus and specimen copies sent free on application. New subscribers who send \$1.75 now will receive the paper free to January 1, 1895, and one year from that date. It comes every week. Finely illustrated.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, Boston, Mass.

Clara.—Jack intends to have everything his own way when we are married. Clara's Mamma.—Then why do you marry him? Clara.—To relieve his mind of a false impression.

Notices of Meetings.

BERRIEN POMONA.

Berrien county Pomona Grange will hold its annual meeting at Berrien Centre Grange hall, the second Tuesday and Wednesday, of January, 1895, opening at 10:30 a. m.

KENT POMONA.

The next session of Kent county Grange will be held with Rockford Grange on Wednesday, January 9, 10 a. m.

WESTERN POMONA.

The annual meeting of Western Pomona Grange will meet with Ottawa Grange at Herrington, on the fourth Thursday and Friday of January, for election of officers.

Program. The future of this Grange, what shall it be? Mrs. Price. How can we best interest outside farmers in the Grange and increase our membership? Mansoor Smith.

MRS. E. A. GILLET.

ALLEGAN POMONA.

The Pomona Grange of Allegan county will hold its annual meeting with Rural Grange, Wayland, January 17, 1895.

BARRY COUNTY GRANGE.

Special meeting of the Barry county Pomona Grange will be with Prairieville Grange on Friday, January 11, 1895, for the installation of officers and such other business as may come before the meeting.

Singing by Prairieville Grange choir. Address of welcome, Master Prairieville Grange, Response Brother R. C. Norton of Orangeville Grange. Singing by the Grange. Installation of officers of county Grange. Report of delegate from State Grange.

GRANGE GATHERINGS.

TUNE—"My Little Boat"—Grange Melodist, page 40.

O Brothers, labor well today, As patrons of the soil; The lord of harvest will repay The sons of honest toil.

MAGAZINE NOTICES.

Professor Albert Bushnell Hart, of Harvard, has written for the January number of The Forum a very thoughtful and timely article entitled "Are Our Moral Standards Shifting?"

W. D. McCracken, A. M., one of the ablest of contemporary writers upon the principles and institutions of representative government, and the author of several valuable works on the development, history and workings of the Swiss Democracy, contributes a thoughtful and forcible paper to the January Arena on "Politics as a Career."

years to come without any dire or final catastrophe. As a game, politics in this country could not well be improved.

NEW YORK TRIBUNE.

The enormous circulation of the THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE, now the largest of any political weekly in the United States, undoubtedly did much to influence the country in the late campaign.

A CALENDAR WORTH HAVING.

Almost everyone has use for a calendar, and, by the same token, they ought to have one that is of some use. A calendar that you have to study or "see" has little excuse for existence.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Lowell district council, at a meeting held in South Boston Grange hall, December 8, 1894, and I was instructed to send them to you for publication in the GRANGE VISITOR.

Grange News.

Correspondents, and all Patrons indeed, are requested to send us postal cards giving some news jotting—anything of interest to you. It will interest others. Please also send short answers to some or all of the following questions.

- 1. How is your Grange prospering? 2. Have you any young people? 3. What do outsiders think of your Grange and its work? 4. What difficulties do you meet? 5. What are your prospects? 6. What is most needed in Grange work in your vicinity? 7. In what way are your members most benefited by belonging to the Grange?

OBITUARY.

White Oak Grange mourns the loss by death of their sister, Martha Felton. Appropriate resolutions were passed.

Connecticut State Grange meets January 8-10, 1895.

The GRANGE VISITOR is made special at the next meeting of Liberty Grange, No. 391. We all endorse the letter of D. Woodman in last VISITOR.

The question on immigration was discussed at the last meeting of Montcalm Grange, and all agreed that immigration in a certain sense should be restricted and a resolution offered recommending that the law prohibiting pauper immigration be strictly enforced.

Clinton County Pomona met with Olive Grange Dec. 19. The day was fine and a large number was in attendance.

De Witt Grange, No. 459, elected the following officers for 1895: Master, Mrs. Estella Dills; Lecturer, Mrs. C. L. Pearce; Secretary, Jerome Dills.

Mt. Tabor Grange has partially discussed the liquor traffic subject and laid it on the lecturer's table until after the installation of the new officers.

establishment of a canning and pickling factory at Buchanan. We ask the co-operation of all farmers in the vicinity of Buchanan in this enterprise; also to the right man who understands the business we ask that he investigate the opportunities offered for engaging in the business.

KENT POMONA.

Kent county Grange held their annual meeting in Grand Rapids, on December 19. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

- Master, Brother W. T. Adams. Overseer, Brother Jas. Martin. Lecturer, Sister M. P. Adams. Steward, Brother E. R. Keech. Asst. Steward, Brother Thos. Whittall. Chaplain, Brother M. Foster. Treasurer, Brother A. T. Dean. Secretary, Sister M. L. Preston. Gate keeper, Brother John Preston. Pomona, Sister A. Peterson. Flora, Sister E. E. Muffit. Ceres, Sister A. L. Denise. Lady Asst. Steward, Sister E. Whittall.

Members of the executive committee elected were Bro. H. C. Hogadone and J. W. Brass.

Brother and Sister Preston, delegates to the State Grange, gave a report of that meeting.

Brother Robert Dockery will install the officers at the next meeting, which will be held at Rockford, on Jan. 9, 1895.

Bowen Center Grange is not dead by any means. At our last meeting but one, we had a potato special, some very fine specimens were exhibited and we had a very instructive meeting.

At our last meeting we had corn for a topic. Most of the brothers brought their favorite variety, but some had their corn selected but at the eleventh hour forgot to bring it.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Lowell district council, at a meeting held in South Boston Grange hall, December 8, 1894, and I was instructed to send them to you for publication in the GRANGE VISITOR.

Resolved, That it is the sentiment of the Lowell district council that equal suffrage should be given to women, and we petition the State Grange to bring this matter before the next legislature.

Resolved, That the Lowell district council is in favor of petitioning our legislature at its next session, to submit to popular vote a state constitutional amendment prohibiting the manufacture, importation, and sale of intoxicating liquors, except for medicinal and scientific purposes.

The following were elected officers: Worthy Master, E. Hancock; Overseer, A. Clark; Secretary, D. H. English; Lecturer, Miss Lizzie Hughson; Treasurer, Wesley Johnson; Chaplain, G. H. Godfrey. Next meeting to be held at South Lowell Grange hall Saturday, Jan. 5, 1895. D. H. ENGLISH, Sec'y.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

As the long winter is now on, and some of the Granges are devising ways and means to spend the evenings pleasantly and profitably, I thought a suggestion of an amusement would be acceptable.

Danby Grange, No. 185, has just closed a very successful contest of four months' duration. During the time there have been 47 essays read, besides numerous recitations, speeches, and songs.

I have read in the VISITOR that a good Granger never gets wet, no matter how hard it rains, and I have made up my mind that they never get sleepy, for on December 27 Lanby Grange was 21 years old, and notwithstanding we were all out late the night before, the hall was crowded on the evening of the 27th.

The following were elected for the ensuing year and a motion carried that we extend an invitation to Brother D. S. Waldron of Iowa, to act as our installing officer at our next regular meeting, January 9. At the close of the meeting a feast was served, provided by the defeated side in the contest, which lasted until the wee sma' hours of the night.

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consisting of three coats of paint for the walls and new matting for the floor.

The last contest held in Danby Grange was the means of sending the VISITOR to several new homes.

MRS. AMELIA PEAKE, CLARKSTON.

Independence Grange No. 245, of Clarkston, Mich., will hold an oyster supper and banquet at their next regular meeting January 5, 1895, on the occasion of installation of officers.

The Clarkston Grange is flourishing. Some twelve or more new members have been initiated during the past six months, and many more under conviction.

A large per cent of our membership are young people and they are as lively a lot as any one would care to see in a Grange. Every member of our Grange takes the GRANGE VISITOR. At our last regular meeting it was decided by a vote of the Grange to present each member's family the VISITOR for three months.

Fond Mother.—Yes, sir; I have a little fellow who is only ten, and yet he writes beautiful poetry. Old Editor.—Well, there's some hope for them when you catch 'em young. You can whip it out of 'em easier then.—Omaha Bee.

THE Atlantic Monthly FOR 1895

Will contain a new Serial, to run through twelve numbers, entitled

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Studies in Great Literature. New Figures in Literature and Art.

International Papers. A series of articles treating of existing relations and historical passages between the United States and other countries.

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Political and Industrial Questions. Treating with special knowledge and impartiality topics of commanding interest in American political and industrial life.

Education. Special regard will be paid to this subject in its varied forms.

An Announcement of Importance. During 1895 Dr. John Fiske will furnish a series of historical papers entitled

Virginia and Her Neighbors. TERMS: \$4.00 a year in advance, postage free; 55 cents a number. With new life-size portrait of Whittier, Lowell, Hawthorne, Emerson, Longfellow, Bryant, or Holmes, \$5.00; each additional portrait, \$1.00.

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At the Mich. State Fair, 1894, we took seven first premiums, two second and one third premium. This includes sweepstakes for best boar any age and best sow any age. When we started in Durco Jersey Sires, we bought the best sires we could find and we believe we can please you should you decide to buy a "red hog." We are sold out of males fit for service but are offering a choice lot of young gets sired by the

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