

GRANGE VISITOR

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

VOL. XX. NO. 14.

CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN, JULY 18, 1895.

WHOLE NO. 470.

Memories of Early Michigan.

HON. ENOS GOODRICH.

I

While the busy world is engaged upon the schemes of the future, the mind of the aged reverts to the memory of the past. Sixty years ago, one bright day in September, 1835, two young men clad in homespun, with calloused hands and sunburned visages, walked across a plank from the dock at Buffalo to the deck of a staunch Lake Erie steamboat. Their destiny was the far off territory of Michigan. They were charged with the responsible duty of seeking out a home for a numerous family, of which they constituted a part. No railroad then extended as far west as the Great Lakes. A line, which afterward became the New York Central, extended from Albany to Attica, a point 35 miles east of Buffalo. It was owned and controlled by six different railroad companies, and when, soon after it was extended to Buffalo, the passenger over it had to change cars seven times, and pay his fare and change baggage as often, in traveling from Lake Erie to the Hudson. But even this was considered a great improvement upon the Erie canal packets, which just ten years earlier had supplanted the stage coaches, which in the days of my boyhood filed along the old Buffalo road. Well, as the third day neared its close our voyagers stepped gladly from the steamboat onto a dock of Detroit, a frontier city containing not far from three thousand inhabitants. They were of all shades of color, from the fair haired Caucasian to the blackest sons of Africa. But the Frenchmen, with all shades of Kaffian blood intermingled, seemed to be in the greatest numbers. There was an occasional stage between Detroit and Pontiac, by way of Royal Oak and Birmingham, or Piety Hill, as it was then called. But our voyagers were good pedestrians, and, glad to get rid of the stifling greasy air of the steamboat, struck boldly out along the low sunken road, where Woodward avenue now stretches its miles of buildings toward Pontiac, passing which we, (for the pilgrims were Moses and Enos Goodrich,) pushed forward along the Saginaw road, which the general government had opened to a point somewhere in Genesee county, near Flint river. As we moved onward we frequently met men returning from their explorations to the frontier, and as we all seemed weary enough to sit down on a log or a mossy bank and rest, we sought information, which they seemed as anxious to impart as we were to receive. They told us of a country about Davison's Mill where good government land could be found in abundance.

A FORTUNATE LOCATION.

Our first night in what is now the town of Atlas, then in Lapeer county, but since transferred to Genesee, was spent at the house of Ezra K. Parshall on the Thread creek, which is sometimes dignified by the title of river, though at this point it could be spanned by a 12 foot fence rail. This quiet little stream was in the hills of Groveland, and winds its way northerly and northwesterly, intersecting Flint river within the present limits of the city of Flint. The Kearsley, another beautiful stream which rises in springs near Clarkston, also passes northwesterly through Atlas, nearly parallel and two or three miles east of the Thread. The space between these streams embraces some of the finest land in the county of Genesee, and was at the time nearly all subject to entry at government price. The Davison's and half a dozen pioneer settlers had plunged into the dense heavy timber in the north part of the township under the belief that those beautiful plains to the south, with their hard and poplar thickets, and their thousands of acres of balm and wild flowers, were worthless land, because they did not grow big trees. But their mistake was our good fortune, and we bought twelve hundred acres, between and on both sides of these two streams, and surrounding the site of the present village of Goodrich, now becoming celebrated as the site of the most extensive creamery of the state, but at the time it was the greatest deer park and wolf haunt I have ever found in my travels. Not a night passed

but the woods rang far and near with the hideous howlings of different gangs of wolves replying to each other. These chiefly inhabited the timber lands, while on the plains the wild deer feasted and gambled in pairs and dozens, seemingly as tranquil as sheep in a pasture. But more than thirty years ago the wild deer and wolf became extinct, and their haunts are tread by cows for the creamery, and flocks of choice Merino sheep which produce 15 cent wool for Stone & Steward's woolen mills at Flint, or the Titus factory at Columbiaville.

THE RAISING.

It was near the close of September when we invaded a tamarack swamp and commenced cutting logs to build a house which was to constitute the future home of the Goodrich family. Being expert axmen, a trade we had learned in the wilds of western New York, we were very soon ready for the raising. The country far and near was raked for men, a large portion of whom came from the town of Grand Blanc, or Grumlaw, as it was then called, some traveling six or eight miles to get there, for no excuse was allowed to prevent attendance at the raising of a new settler. To "carry up" the corners of a log house required an experienced man, and the Hon. Paul G. Davison "carried up" one corner, and Moses Goodrich another—but who were the other two is beyond my recollection. A small grove of pine then stood on the high point of ground on the right bank of the Kearsley, and directly south from where the Goodrich creamery now stands, and to this we repaired and manufactured the shingles for the new house, for we were both accomplished shingle weavers—having learned the trade on the borders of old Tonawanda swamp. Boards for the roof and loose floors were obtained from Davison's sawmill, and by borrowing a few carpenter's tools our handiwork soon formulated a water-proof roof. We had visited some old York State neighbors in Washtenaw county before building the house, and now we indulged in several days of bee hunting, and cut the brush from several acres of land. The wild flowers remained untouched by frost till far into November, furnishing a rich repast for the wild bees, whose stores we found well treasured in those trees we had the good fortune to capture.

HOME AGAIN.

Time passed almost imperceptibly—for we were both ardent lovers of nature, and we found her here in all her nature loveliness. November at last began to howl around us, and admonish of the near approach of winter. Another diligent walk of something more than a day's time took us to the little dingy City of the Straits, and then on Jefferson avenue we met to our surprise three York State neighbors who had traveled all the way through Canada on horseback, in quest of Michigan homes. Well, of course they must have a pilot, and it fell to my lot to return to the Neshingauk plains and assist them in selecting their lands. By the time this was accomplished and we had all returned to Detroit, where they bought their lands of Old Major Jonathan Kearsley, the weather began to put on wintry airs, and a six days' passage on the crazy old steamer William Penn, including a tramp of 45 miles through snow and mud from Dunkirk landed me in Buffalo, on Nov. 20, 1835, and that night a neighbor's sleigh landed me at my old Erie county home. Not long, however, was it to be our home, for the foundations of our Michigan home were now securely laid, and my next article will give some account of our pioneer struggles in this land of the then far west.

Fostoria.

"The Lubin Proposition"—Continued.

Unfortunately the idea of home consumption of our present surplus agricultural staples, by fostering home manufactures through protection, must be abandoned as of no practical value whatever.

Apart from many other valid objections, it is only necessary to point to the fact that we buy about \$800,000,000 worth of commodities from the world every year. We must pay for them promptly when due.

What shall we pay with; shall it be with gold or silver? Where would we get it from. Even if we had all the precious metal in the world we would have nothing left in about ten years. No; nations do not pay in bullion, excepting only those who are bankrupt, and are forced to.

Nations simply exchange commodities, and only give bullion whenever the balance of trade demands it. Now, as long as we buy of foreign nations such things as tea, coffee, spices, medicines, tropical fruits, raw material, or manufactures we must pay for them, and besides these we must not overlook interest on foreign debts. If we cannot pay in bullion we must pay in commodities. Now, the question is, what kind of commodities? Clearly those which will be accepted by the foreign countries, just the same as we buy of them, only those that we most want.

Will the foreign nations accept our highly protected manufactures? Will France buy our millinery, England our hardware or textiles, or Austria our miscellaneous manufactures? No; they will do nothing of the kind.

Our protective system renders our manufactures so high as to render their export in payment for their import impracticable. To illustrate: In 1893 the total value of imports entered for home consumption was \$844,454,583 and the total exports of domestic merchandise was \$831,030,785, divided as follows: Mining, \$2,020,026; forest, \$28,127,113; manufactures, \$158,023,118; fisheries, \$5,541,378; miscellaneous, \$3,936,164, leaving a remainder of agricultural staples of \$615,382,986, or 74.05 per cent of the whole.

It is thus clear that as long as we import we must export, and as the nations do not want our protected manufactures, we must pay, as we have been paying them, in agricultural staples, and as soon as we do we must have a surplus, and when we sell this surplus we can get no more for it than can the producers in the cheapest labor countries in the world, or, in other words, the Liverpool price, and just as soon as we accept this price for the necessary surplus we must accept this same price for the greater portion used for home consumption, and from which is first deducted the cost for transportation from the place of production to Liverpool.

Our friend the protectionist is forced to admit this, but he seeks to escape from the difficulty by claiming that while the surplus is sold at these world's free-trade Liverpool prices that the much greater quantity remaining for home consumption, and which is bought by the protected at the higher prices which protection affords, gives to the producer of agricultural staples that just protection average which he is entitled to. He further believes that this average can be increased in proportion as protection on manufactures is increased.

"For," says he, "protection will increase the factories, hence an increase in the number of employees at higher wages. These factories in close proximity to the farms will so increase the price of that greater portion of agricultural products used for home consumption as to raise the average home price." Thus he hopes to render to the producer of agricultural staples that just measure of indirect enhancement of prices for his product which manufacture receives by the tariff. He claims further that these staples are protected—are as much protected by the tariff as manufactures are.

Unfortunately, however, the claims of the protectionist are without any foundation whatever. For, in the first place, as soon as there is a surplus and it is offered in the open market, it will bring no higher price than the surplus of the cheapest labor country in the world; and as soon as this price is accepted for the surplus this same price, and no more can be obtained for that greater portion sold for home consumption.

There is no distinction whatever between the export and home buyer. Both buy at the same price—at the Liverpool price. Hence we have as a result that the farmer receives for his entire crop of agricultural staples the world's free-trade Liverpool price, less cost of transportation from the place of production to Liverpool, and this, whether the product actually goes to Liver-

pool or is consumed by the highly protected factory hand, even though the factory be within ten feet of the farm.

Of what value, therefore, is the protected factory in close proximity to the place of production of agricultural staples as long as there is a surplus of these products for export? None at all.

Further, of what good is a protective tariff on agricultural staples in order to enhance their prices in this country as long as there is a surplus for export? Of no value whatever, for a protective tariff can not enhance the home price of an export as it can of an import.

Let us now summarize the workings of this system, and we shall soon discover the inequality existing between manufactures and staple agricultural, and how far these inequalities are caused by legislation.

Some protectionists claim that the duties on import manufactures is paid by the foreign manufacturers.

This is so plainly and palpably false that there is no necessity to prove it so. What foreign manufacturer can afford to sell his goods at from 25 to 60 per cent cheaper to us than he is willing to sell them in his own country? The fact is that every penny of the duty is paid by the consumer.

Nor is this all, for in addition to the duty there are the profits of the importer, jobber, and retailer to be added.

Take a \$50 duty, for instance, and add these profits thereon, and we have the following:

Duty \$50, 15 per cent for the importer's profit will increase the \$50 to \$57.50; now add 20 per cent for the jobber's profit to the \$57.50, and we have \$69; now add the retailer's profit to the \$69, and we have a total of \$86.25, as the real duty or tax, and it is this duty, this tax, which the consumer pays, and not the Government levy of \$50. Now there is not a single penny here paid out which is for the goods proper. The \$50 duty, which becomes \$86.25, and which is paid for by the consumer, has in reality nothing to do with the world's free-trade price of the goods. If there were no duty there would be no \$86.25 to pay. The national legislature, through its law-making power has, by its fiat, created an artificial enhancement of \$86.25.

Government, therefore, has done an act which causes an artificial enhancement on imports. And for what purpose? Was it for necessary revenue for Government expenses? No; for it could for that purpose raise revenue on coffee, tea, and on other imports which it permits free entry. The high duty placed on certain articles of imports is for the purpose of protecting home manufactures against the importation of foreign manufactures at lower prices.

Now, as all consumers pay these enhanced prices, and as all the people are consumers, there can therefore be no cause for complaint, for by this means all the people are justly taxed to support the Government. So it seems, but unfortunately this is not true. In reality all of this protective tax, this enhancement and profit thereon on imports, together with the enhanced prices on home manufactures, is paid by the producers of agricultural staples, for they alone are compelled to sell their products at home and abroad at the world's free-trade Liverpool prices, less the cost of transportation from the place of production to Liverpool, coming into direct competition with the cheapest labor countries of the world, and are further compelled to pay for labor and necessities at the highest prices in the world. Being the only great body of producers in our country to do this, they are the only ones who actually pay for all the enhancement caused by the operation of the tariff, and in addition to this they pay all profits thereon and all the expenses for carrying out the protective system.

All others are amply compensated for high prices by a still higher price for their labor, skill, talent, time, interest, manufactures, commodities, or rent. Thus indirectly, through the protective system, they help themselves through their votes in obtaining this higher compensation, compelling thereby the unprotected producer of agricultural staples to foot the costs of this one-sided and unjust protective system.

Continued in next issue.

Field and Stock.

Potato Bugs.

I. N. COWDREY.

This has been the worst season for potato bugs, I think, that I ever experienced. They seemed to come up with the potatoes, and have been with them ever since. The old bugs did much damage to the young potato, by keeping it eaten off, and it was a hard struggle for it to get a start of the bug. I believe if I had kept the old bugs picked off, the vines would have been a third larger than they are. This I have never done as yet, never being troubled so much before by the old ones. However, I think I shall look to it in the future. The young bugs hatched out very unevenly this spring, some hills have a lot of large ones, while the other hills were entirely free from them, making it bad about sprinkling. I like to have them pretty generally hatched out before sprinkling, but this was out of the question this year. So I expect to have to go over them again in a few days.

I am using this year, a knapsack sprinkler which will sprinkle two rows at a time, making it possible for one man to go over, in a very thorough manner, four or five acres in a day. It takes about 50 gallons of water to the acre. This is a fast way, but after all it is no easy job, and by the time one goes over four acres, he feels as if he has had enough for one day.

I usually go over the patch and gather the bugs in pans, until they get pretty well hatched out. Myself and two boys went over three acres yesterday in two hours, and got nearly all that hatched out, besides catching thousands of old ones. This can be done very easily when the vines are small, but when they become large it is best to use poison. I use an old tin sap pan to catch them in, by nailing a handle on one side long enough so you can stand up straight, and then give each hill a stroke with the pan in such a way that the bugs will tumble in. You can take two rows at a time and move along quite briskly, only striking those hills that require it. In a short time you will become so expert that you can clean a hill almost entirely of them. Sometimes you will make a miss hit and knock a few off on the ground, but no matter about that, for you can go over them so rapidly, that if you go over them again in a day or two you will catch them. A few times over them in this way so keeps them in check that little harm will be done by them.

I keep a deep tin pail at one end to empty the bugs in, and then pour hot water on them. This tin pail is about 8 inches in diameter and 16 inches high. It needs no cover, for they can't get out. There is one satisfaction about this way of gathering bugs—they immediately cease doing business. You also avoid the suspense of a rain washing the poison off. You will be astonished at the number of old bugs you catch. I think if this method of catching bugs were put into practice during the earlier stages of potato growth, there would be less trouble with bugs.

The young vines would grow much faster, and would soon get so large that they would not harm them so much. It is the weaker ones that have to suffer. In my patch, this year, lots of the vines were entirely stripped of their leaves, making it necessary to put out new leaves, thereby making them weak, and they easily fall a prey to the bug.

Itasca.

The Farm Dairy.

T. A. JOHNSON.

A few years experience in dairying as a farm speciality has convinced me that few sources of revenue from the farm yield so generous returns for the investment and labor as the well managed farm dairy. I am aware that a majority of the readers of the Visitor will disagree with me. Very many farmers will assert that keeping cows more than to supply the family needs, doesn't pay. I attribute this conviction largely to the uncertain, slipshod manner in which the dairy is conducted. Those who keep but four or five cows generally make the product up at home, and sell the surplus at the village stores. Those who keep more than that number generally sell the cream to a neighboring creamery. In the first case the farmer seldom knows what the surplus is. The latter receiving monthly payments knows something more on that point, but generally wishes he didn't. The returns in either case are not generally satisfactory. But dairying for profits requires knowledge of the business, facilities and conditions for conducting it, and care in its management—the simple conditions of success in any business.

THE HERD.

The first and most important factor is the profit-producing herd. This secured, success is easy; without it, success is impossible. It is a fact that many cows do not, and cannot be made to pay for their keeping. Outside of localities where dairy-

ing is extensively engaged in, very few farmers have given attention in breeding to produce the dairy strain, and comparatively few have adopted dairy breeds. The ideal cow with many of "our best farmers" is a large, well formed cow, disposed to take on flesh and look sleek, that will raise a good calf and give a good flow of milk—the "general purpose" cow. Perhaps for general purposes such a cow is the proper thing, but for profit in the dairy herd she is generally a failure. Wherever dairying is followed as a speciality the general purpose cow is discarded, and the dairy breeds in which the profit cow is the rule, and not the exception, are adopted. Shorthorns are left for breeders of steers on the plains, and Holsteins to supply city milk wagons and condensing factories. For the dairy, the greatest production of butter fat at the least cost of food, is the test quality required in the cow. A herd of native cows if carefully selected by this test frequently make a profitable dairy, but the result is more likely to turn out satisfactory if Jerseys or Guernseys are made the base of the dairy herd.

NUMBER OF COWS.

The number of cows that may be profitably kept on an 80-acre farm, for instance, depends upon the extent to which one wishes to make the dairy business a speciality. The number is only limited to a cow to the acre where the business is crowded, but I would not deem it advisable for a beginner to start in with more than 15 or 20 cows. This number will warrant a person in the necessary expenditure of means in preparing stables and dairy and necessary appliances for butter-making. A silo is regarded by many as one of the first necessities and I have no doubt that the silo is an economic method of preparing food, although I have had no experience with one. I put a power and feed cutter on my barn floor and a feed mill in an adjoining building and fed all feed dry. The daily rations consisted of fine cut stalks for bulk food and a mixture of ground feed, corn and oats, with bran and oil meal. The result was very satisfactory. Pure water slightly warmed in winter was always on top, and regarded as a strict necessity. With the number of cows mentioned a separator may be profitably employed and reduce the labor of the care of the milk to a minimum.

ESSENTIALS.

A warm, clean, well ventilated stable, a and commodious ice house, a cool, airy milk churning room, with plenty of cold, pure water are indispensable, to the making of first-class butter.

The care of the cows and the making and marketing of the butter are matters about which the beginner may get valuable points from a good dairy paper, but the aid of an experienced dairyman is necessary to start the more successfully. Twenty cows should not consume the surplus from an 80-acre farm by any means, but if a good herd and the dairy properly managed, they will bring a revenue in milk products, calves, and their contribution to the pork and poultry account of from \$1,200 to \$1,500 a year. Such results are inviting but the way to their attainment appears to many as barred by insurmountable obstacles. The expense in starting and lack of knowledge of the business are the greatest. These may be largely overcome by beginning on a small scale. A herd of five or six good Jersey cows, bred with care and discretion, will bring you a good herd of cows by the time you have got the necessary experience and conveniences for managing them successfully. My earliest shipments of butter did not exceed one hundred pounds a month, so that while I was "catching on" to the way of making butter that would bring best creamery prices, and how to sell it to best advantage, I was not risking a margin on large quantities.

Alma.

Selling the Products.

W. H. PAYNE.

There are but few things that interest the farmer more, after the toil of raising a crop, than how he shall dispose of it, and what he shall get for it. This is worthy of earnest study and attention. The progress of the age in which we live has revolutionized the raising of crops in the old way and made them unprofitable, unless the farmer also progresses and adopts the modern quick ways of doing things, and supplies himself with modern appliances to do his work. The most approved and tested machinery is now an absolute necessity, and to keep up with the times he must raise 2 bushels of wheat, and other products in the same time and with the same amount of personal labor as he before did one, or he will fall behind. Low prices of commodities are not the results of political conditions, or of speculation and trickery, but of an inexorable law of nature which should always be borne in mind. Cost of production, supply and demand, fix the value of all things, which the white wings of commerce average.

COST OF PRODUCTION.

For example let us take wheat: In the

old times a 10 acre wheat field was large, while with poor implements to prepare the soil and a sickle to reap the grain, wheat cost the farmer one dollar or more a bushel, but he got more for it than now. Then later with improved appliances on the broad fields of the west, Minnesota and Dakota, 1000 and 5000 acres in one field were often seen. This was made possible by the gang plows, seeders, reapers and binders, and other improved machinery, and the cost of production was reduced to fifty cents per bushel. In California's immense fields, with 16 foot headers and a machine for cutting, thrashing, and sacking at one operation, the cost was less than 40 cents per bushel. In the Argentine Confederation it costs about 25 cents to produce a bushel of wheat, and the peons of Asia can produce it for 15 cents. In all these cases the production is immensely increased, the cost is greatly lessened, and the demand hardly increased. Now apply the rule: Cost of production, supply and demand, and the cause of low wheat is evident. This applies to all other things. Take iron if you please; not so many years ago steel rails sold for \$175 per ton, and the actual cost of manufacturing them \$100. By the Bessemer process the cost of manufacture of steel rails was lessened one-half and the selling price more than one-half. The French process took off half of this cost and selling prices followed. The improved machinery in the mines and factory so reduced prices that these same rails now sell for \$22 per ton and cost but \$15 to manufacture. Among other things this change has not been so radical, some have fallen less in value than others, but the same law governs all, even gold and silver. Evidently these low prices have come to stay. The recent rise in the value of wheat shows the same law, short supply, increased demand. The present administration is not to blame for this state of affairs any more than for the last rain fall.

SILVER AND PRICES.

Some theorists claim that plenty of silver would increase the price of commodities, but no solid reason can be given for this opinion. In fact the highest prices received in this country—in 1865—were at a time when there was no silver in circulation, or gold either for that matter. Neither can congress or the law of any nation add value to anything, if no one wants a thing, or will not take it, it has no exchangeable value, as witness the French assignats, and our own continental money, that the law tried to oblige people to take under pains and penalties, yet no one would have it and they went down to nothing.

No commerce, or exchange, fixes the value of commodities. Law can only regulate the modes of exchange. Then is it reasonable to think that a simple law of congress can, by making free and unlimited the coinage of silver change or give additional value to wheat or corn? We must bear in mind that money has but one office and that is of middle man to effect exchanges between those who have some valuable thing to exchange. It is useless for any other purpose; it can neither feed the hungry nor clothe the naked, in itself. Like wheat or cotton on a desert island, for a shipwrecked man, all the gold and silver in the land could not purchase a glass of water. Gold and silver merely represent a value which has been earned by someone. Just like a check, draft, or note at hand, they all, as money, merely represent an exchangeable value, which some one has earned and holds in this form. Gold and silver have also a commodity value aside from money, which according to the law of cost of production, supply and demand, makes gold now very much the more valuable, 1 oz. to 32 of silver, and it has now been adopted by the most progressive commercial nations, as the most suitable for a standard, or comparison of value. The most prosperous and happy nations use the gold standard. Compare the United States on a gold standard with Mexico on a silver standard with free coinage of silver. The average for high grade workmen is one-seventh what is received in the United States. Bricklayers 40 cents per day, the best carpenters 60 cents, the spinners and others in factories get from 15 to 50 cents per day; an expert seamstress gets but 35 cents per day, and furnishes her own dinner; the best cooks get but \$8 per month, and house servants, girls and men, get from \$5 to \$6 per month. Rents are higher than in the United States, and an ordinary house is far beyond the hopes of the best mechanic. The cheapest room rents for \$10 per month and board is from \$20 to \$30 per month. Laboring people cannot afford this, and they live principally in adobe huts with clay floor, the usual food, fortilla, a home-made corn bread, with meat once or twice a month, and such a thing as laying aside money to purchase a house is undreamed of.

A COMPARISON.

For comparison we must remember that the Mexican dollar, while it has more silver in it than ours, passes at its value in bullion, and consequently everything bought and paid for costs twice as much

as with us, reckoning in dollars. There is no class in Mexico like the American farmer. The peons are far below in intelligence, and receive as wages from 12 to 25 cents per day. On the coffee estates on the Isthmus, labor commands \$1 per week, yet labor is scarce in that section. Sheep herders, who are considered a good class of laborers, get but \$6 per month and one bushel of corn. Real estate is high, and like most other things on the gold basis. While the skilled labor is not quite up to the United States grade, yet there are many good, ingenious mechanics. Yet the system of labor and finance gives them no chance for improvement—hardly enough to live and support a family. The farmer of the United States, while not as prosperous as he might be, can compare his condition and advantages with any in all the world, and he will find that notwithstanding all his drawbacks, in low prices and hard times, he has a better position morally, and financially, than in any other country, and his chances and the chances of his children are better.

"This world is not so bad a world
As some would try to make it;
But whether ill, or whether good,
Depends on how we take it."
South Haven.

What is New in Dairying?

Something over a year ago the announcement was made that a noted dairyman in Eastern New York state had confounded the savants and had actually fed fat into the milk of his cows, and that there was no doubt of it; and loud were the rejoicings of those who believed that such a thing could be accomplished. Still more, the process was so simple, only to feed the cows raw leaf tallow and in a few days there would be an increase of from 30 to 90 per cent in the butter yields. To be exact, this man, by feeding two pounds of raw tallow to each of his cows, had increased the percentages of fat per cow as follows: 43 per cent, 46 per cent, 48 per cent and 98 per cent, respectively.

This was followed by minute inquiry and revealed the fact that only four cows of a herd of 35 or so, had been tried, and the result had been kept secret for two years. This was all the more strange when butter during the time was selling from 20 to 35 cents per pound; and it would have been a great scheme to turn 3-cent raw tallow into 30-cent butter.

The high character of the man caused the opponents of the idea that fat can be fed into milk, some uneasiness; but the dairy schools at Durham, N. H., and at Cornell, went at it to see if it were possible to feed animal or vegetable fats into a cow's milk so as to bring it above the normal. Each station took ten cows, and started in on a three months test of the matter, selecting cows from various breeds, so that there could be no cry of "not playing fair" raised. In addition to tallow, the New Hampshire station fed by periods palm oil, coconut oil—which is the closest approach to butter known—corn oil, etc., and at the end of the trial it was found that for the first few days there was an apparent increase in fats, but in a few days the milk returned to its fat-normal, and remained as constant in fat and solids as if no fats had been fed. There was no change made in the grains or other rations, so that the tallow and fats could go to the milk direct and add its rich stores to the 30-cent butter. But it only temporarily disturbed the solids, and nature quickly righted the matter, and the extra fats fed were a total loss so far as adding to the butter contents of the milk was concerned.

At Cornell the ten cows were selected, and these were kept for the ten weeks on the tallow addition to the ration, the same that had given this farmer such results. Every precaution was had to make the test thorough and accurate, but from the published result we find that while the tallow was gradually added, so that in due time two pounds was given each cow daily, there was never a temporary increase of fats in the milk. There was in a few cows a falling off, then approach again to the normal line of fat-giving. This was noticed that for weeks after the fat-feeding ceased, there was little or no shrinkage of milk due to lengthened lactation, and more milk was given by these cows than was correspondingly given by other cows fed in the same barn. All of which leads Cornell to say that after the trial they fail to do a single thing claimed by the man in Cobleskill, and that beyond the unexplainable continuance of milk-giving without shrinkage for eight weeks after the trial and no change in fat per cent, they are compelled to say that the tallow feeding experiment turned out the same as all other attempts to change the character of a cow's milk, that is, ended in failure.

Another of the popular beliefs is that feeding cows on sloppy foods increases their flow of milk and at the expense of its quality. But it is noticed that the claimants of this doctrine give it simply as their "belief," and so far as I have read or known, not one of them has had the milk submitted to a test for fat either before, during or after the feeding of the slops for the period of several weeks. Then, it is

almost always the case that a man soon tires of fussing with his cows by slopping them, and is soon feeding them by common methods. Three years ago or more, to give a case in point, the largest city milkman of Guelph, Ont., was a great believer in slopping cows, and was at much expense for apparatus to steam and otherwise slop the cows; but after a time his apparatus got out of repair and he went back to old ways of feeding. Prof. Dean tried to find out why the abandonment, but "Oh, I can't fuss so much," was the reply. Then Prof. Dean proposed to find out with the station herd whether it did or did not increase the milk, or in any way change the quality. So for three years trials have been going on with groups of cows, to see and watch the effects of slops, hot and cold, and of different composition, with the following results: First it was found that the yield of the cows could not, as this dairyman said, be made to go up and down, as a thermometer, at will, by the character of the slop, but remained, as with other food, to all practical intents, stationary.—*John Gould, in Ohio Farmer.*

WOMAN'S WORK.

The Child.

FLORA C. BUELL.

Intellect.

The world moves. The coming generation must be educated to be in keeping with it, that is, as Kant says, "not for the present human race, but for the better possible condition in the future." The means of the development of the infant are the phenomena of nature and the human nature which surround him. These are chaotic and must be systematized. Froebel classifies them in a series of gifts, "claiming only to do with clear consciousness and persistent purpose what maternal instinct has blindly and intermittently attempted."

This century is proving that the primary schoolroom requires a wise student as well as one possessed with tact and love. How much more need is there for wisdom in the home, where the influence which is building our nation is infinitely greater? There nothing comes to naught. All possible knowledge is useful. Questions arise in embryonic minds that reach into deep waters and touch points in the most extended college course. The little philosopher expects answers even though he asks, "But, papa, where does the first seed come from?" or, "Who made God?" His questions should always be heeded, though some thought should be left for him. Lead him, but do not walk for him. What a fine study of English to adapt words to his understanding; to reduce even the common expressions of adults to simple, clear and accurate sentences that may be received in his comprehension!

THE SENSES.

The senses are the avenues by which he gains knowledge. Give the sight, the hearing, the touch, the taste, and the smell each a chance. To dwarf any power lessens the value of all. Life is far richer to him who sees the beauty of the setting sun, the shades of the trees, and the tints of the flowerets. The ear that detects a bird by its song, compares the changes in the rumbling of an approaching train, or is attuned to that "love in search of a word," music, gives more joy to its owner than those that hearing hear not. The possibilities found in the touch when dependent upon it show us what an undeveloped mind we each have. Did you ever blindfold your boy or girl and test his smell with a variety of flowers or liquids? Try it.

INDIVIDUALITY.

Let him be original. Permit him to reveal himself. Shake off that great burden of responsibility which weakens you for your real duty; your part is to study his true self and his thoughts, tastes, and feelings will guide you. If he enjoys books, surround him with the best; if he delights in birds and insects, encourage him; if he is interested in geography or drawing, supply him with materials. "That which each one can do best, none but his Maker can teach him."
Ann Arbor.

Woman's Rights and Property.

HELAN A. BARNARD.

Patrons, while we are discussing the unit school system, and other matters of importance, there is one thing that should not be left out, namely—woman's right and property. A woman may have wealth; at her marriage she gives her husband control of it in his own name. He dies; she has by law the use of a third of his real estate. A young man marries a wife; they begin single handed together to work for a home; she works more hours than her companion, from year to year; does without many things that she really needs, that she may have the means to get what he needs. Years pass on; he is taken by death from her; she can have only the use of a third of their hard earnings. In the

name of common sense where is the justice? Must woman ever be trampled upon in this way? Will the law makers ever see that justice is done her? Never, unless they are made to powerfully feel her injustice. Is there no one to speak in her behalf among the sterner sex? Listen to the wail of a woman's woe in her helpless condition.

Kalkaska.

Little by Little.

Read at Hillsdale Pomona Grange by Miss Lucy Conklin.

"They move bright fables in the days of old, When reason borrowed fancy's painted wings, When truth's clear river flowed o'er sands of gold.

And told in song its high and mystic things."

According to heathen mythology Minerva, the goddess of wisdom, sprang full grown and full armed from the brain of Jupiter. But nothing happens thus in fact. Nothing can match this anomaly of fable, nothing in mind or matter, nothing in general civilization or personal character, nothing in all creation or in grace springs Minerva-like into full rounded completeness and perfect proportion. Since those days of fable sounder judgment has stepped in and clipped those wings of fancy, and the hidden laws of nature, as well as of revelation, are exemplary of a constant gradation; both in the animal and vegetable kingdom the development is little by little.

Not only is this law true in all growth, but equally true in decay. Almost imperceptible, yet we see the result. In the vegetable world we find the units of matter are the protoplasm cells. Gradually they grow and then divide, these cells yet to divide. This we call growth. Take for instance the tree in the spring. It is leafless, apparently dead. Only a few weeks and what a change! Day after day the juices have been pushing forward, ever seeking, never finding equilibrium, carrying the products of growth to all parts of the tree, building new branches that reach upward, outward, anywhere for space and sunshine until it stands forth in leafy verdure. Marvelous development, by these minute workmen acting in unison utilizing the forces of nature.

Yet the sturdy oak which can withstand the heat and frost and fling defiance at the raging storm, must in time succumb to the fungous—the destroyer of all plant life. Its parasitic filaments, breaking through the bark, form dense tissue and grow rapidly, living upon the stored products of the yielding host.

In scanning the pages of history what confronts there but this same law? Nations rise, flourish and decay. Such is the history of Egypt, Greece, and Rome, whose territory is today inhabited by people who are as paupers in the world's enterprise. The revolution which made us a free people, was the growth of years of oppression; over the colonies the war cloud towered, but through a rift in the cloud they beheld liberty; severing themselves from British rule all voices take up the strain—

"My country 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,

Thus arose the most glorious nation the world has ever known. It has flourished under most genial skies; but who is prepared to say that even in this free institution is not already implanted the seeds of decay?

Lastly, passing to the human mind and individual character, the most marvelous and crowning work of the Creator, we find the most constant development and greatest result. As a river at its source a mere brook, flowing onward, each tributary adding its little, continually broadens and its volume gradually increases until at last, expanded into a mighty current, it rolls its waters on and mingles in the sea. The teacher in the schoolroom recognizes the fact that he is training the young not only for future usefulness but for eternal gain. Facts are easily acquired at this time in life and a desire is awakened by nature's marvelous invitation to learn, that leads on through a succession of glorious vision, through ever broadening fields of knowledge and of beauty. Man is continually giving and receiving, continually broadening, gaining truth, until at last he mingles with all truth, in eternal beauty, glorious thought.

Flora's Night.

Read at Flora's meeting of Verona Mills Grange by Mrs. Laura Hunt.

Another year has passed away and once more we have met to assist Flora in carrying out her flower program. Flora, in Roman mythology, was a goddess of spring-time and flowers, to whom for her fostering influence a festival of great gaiety was held in Rome, at first regularly, then annually, with increasing popularity. This festival commenced April 28th, and ended May 3rd, the date of April 28th answering to the foundation day of the temple of Flora. As we enter our Grange home this evening we find Flora already at her post, tastefully and becomingly dressed in white, her only ornaments being flowers. The officers' tables are covered with bouquets of flowers and growing plants. Flowers are

scattered everywhere, flowers sweet and flowers rare, and best of all there is no jar, no discord, but perfect harmony reigns. And as we closely scan the faces of our brothers and sisters we imagine each one is thinking, "It is good to be a Granger." And is it not a pleasure, after the toil of the day is over, to meet our friends and neighbors in this social, friendly way? Husbands with their wives and children meet together here for mutual benefit. Here at least women have equal rights with men. Our members are nearly all present, and a number of invited guests who have met with us at our invitation. To these invited guests we extend a cordial welcome, and trust the time is not far distant when we may greet you as brothers and sisters of our Order.

There is one thing, however, that cannot fail to cast a gloom over our otherwise joyful meeting. One glance at our charter draped in mourning, reminds us of the sad fact that our ranks are broken, and our minds go back to a time not so very long ago when a bright young lady graced our meetings with her presence. Her life work, which has been so nobly done, is ended, and she will be remembered for her many virtues. Her life was modeled on the law of duty and charity to all. Our deceased sister was a charter member of this Grange. As a Grange worker she was zealous and ever ready to help with any project for the good of the Order.

To Sister Flora I would say, have a fresh bouquet of flowers on your table at every meeting. Encourage the cultivation of flowers both in doors and out. Much happiness may be found both in the care and companionship of these beautiful growing plants. Unconsciously for a time we are led away from the toils and cares that burden and weary our lives. As we are created social beings we need something besides our daily labor to occupy our minds. A home that is ever so humble may be made attractive if the windows are filled with thrifty plants.

The farmer's wife who does her work alone, often fails in her attempts at flower culture for lack of time. Household cares demand her time and attention; but she who dearly loves flowers will have a few. Far better, my sisters, to spend more time in the flower garden and less making pastry, both for our own health and the health of our families. But there is some of this work that we cannot do ourselves, and we are obliged to ask the assistance of the men folks, and as it needs to be done at a time when they also are busy, we are often compelled to use strategy in order to bring this about. I have an idea that the best time to ask this particular favor would be directly after a good meal, that being a time that we generally find them in good humor. Farmers as a rule, give more time and attention to what will bring them in a money return, than to anything that tends to beautify the home. Often when driving through a farming district where the fences and buildings indicate agricultural prosperity, we see but few well kept yards. There are several reasons for this. One reason is lack of time; another reason, lack of taste. It is said that flowers have a refining influence. Let us then give heed to all things that tend to refine or elevate. Remember that the home life is the foundation of society.

Then let us not neglect the shade-trees, and the flowers; let vines cling lovingly to the porch, making a home where contentment and rest seem written on every shrub and flower.

The Girls we Know.

Let any one of us for example, look among the girls of our acquaintance and see how many we know who, as daughters, turn to their mothers as readily and as naturally as turns a flower to the sun, writes Edward W. Bok in an earnest article on "The Blot on Our American Life," in the *July Ladies' Home Journal*. How many do we know? Here and there, one, yes. But are they in the majority? We rather find that the average American daughter is absolutely independent of her mother in all but those things in which she must, of very necessity and of her very being, be dependent upon her. By far the majority of mothers have not the confidence of their daughters, and one needs only to be in any position which invites human confidence to know how true is such a statement. The English girl looks to her mother for counsel and guidance on every point in her life. Does the American girl? The life of a French girl always remains a part of the being which bore her. Does that of the American girl? The Italian's girl's life is known to her mother almost as well, even in its most inner thought as to the girl herself. Is that of the American girl? The gospel of the Swiss girl is that of solicitation for her mother, morning, noon and night. Is it the gospel of the American girl? The Dutch girl never dreams of telling her mother that she is going to do thus and so; she asks if she may. Does the American girl? In Germany, the daughter's first thought, when she reaches proper years, is to relieve her mother of every domestic care

and thought. Is it the thought of the American girl? Is there need that I, or any writer, shall supply the answers to these questions?

The Juveniles.

The Beaver.

"Of all beasts he learned the language,
Learned their names and all their secrets—
How the beavers built their lodges,
Where the squirrels hid their acorns,
How the reindeer ran so swiftly,
Why the rabbit was so timid,
Talked with them whenever he met them,
Called them Hiawatha's brothers."
—*Longfellow's "Hiawatha."*

The beaver is about two feet in length, short in stature, its body thick and heavy. It has small ears, and its eyes are small and wide apart. Its fur is soft and close, and very valuable. The tail, however, is the most curious part of the animal. It is broad and flat, nearly half as long as the body. The beaver lives mostly in the water, is very shy, and almost always works at night, so that those who would watch him must take some pains. He lives on the bark of trees; eats much of the bark and wood which he gnaws off in cutting down the trees. Some of the more able-bodied fell large timber, others traverse the banks and cut down smaller trees and poles, which they drag to the water with their teeth, and then float them to a place where a dam is to be built. Still others are employed in bringing earth, which they pack in among the trees and sticks, and thus make quite a solid dam. If at any time these dams are injured by a freshet, the busy architects repair them at once.

The dams are begun by entangling brush in the bed of a stream, fastening it to projecting roots, stones, and the banks, etc., until a dense tangle of brush and sticks is formed across the stream. This is enlarged and filled with dead leaves, turf, and all sorts of debris from the forest, until it becomes water tight. After the building has progressed to a certain stage, however, sticks three or four inches thick, and about three feet long, are sometimes cut and leaned up on the upstream side of the dam, with considerable regularity; and these becoming covered in their turn by additional quantities of leaves and mud, leave only the tops of the sticks exposed.

They use both tail and hind feet in swimming, and carry loads of dirt or rubbish between their forepaws and chin, although in moving timber it is taken in the teeth. The largest beavers sometimes weigh over sixty pounds. They were once plentiful nearly all over the United States. A few are still to be found in the Carolinas and Georgia, a few more in Northern Michigan, but the main supply is now obtained from the great wilderness to the northwest of Lake Superior.

Their houses are simply piles of brush, mud, leaves and sticks heaped together in the water till high enough above the water-line to admit of cutting holes or chambers in the center above the water, the entrances to which are from beneath.

Sometimes beaver villages consist of as many as twenty or thirty cabins, which often give homes to one hundred and fifty and two hundred beavers. "But however numerous the colony, universal peace and good-will seem always to reign." On a sunny autumn day numbers of them may be seen sitting just outside the windows of their cabins, half sunk in the water, and complacently gazing over the surrounding country. But at any sign of danger, the one who first sees or hears it strikes on the water with his tail, and lo not a beaver is to be seen. In a moment they are gone—some into the water and others behind their cabin walls, where they are safe from the attacks of other animals.—*Our Dumb Animals.*

Puzzles.

Contributions and solutions desired from all. Address Thomas A. Millar, 500 12th street, Detroit, Mich.

64—Crossword.

In city not in town;

In feather not in down;

In order not in slack;

In walk not in track;

In head not in arm;

In lot not in farm;

In old not in new;

In green not in blue;

All of you must know it.

That the ALL is a Michigan poet.

Carleton, Mich.

65—Transposition.

As I ONE going home from town,

I TWO a barn on fire;

I helped the man extinguish it

Because HE was my sire.

Flushing, N. Y.

66—Square.

1 a metal, 2 a melody, 3 a falsifier, 4 a famous painter.

Canisteeo, N. Y.

67—Charade.

When I cannot get a work of art,

A ONE I sometimes take;

And two it with all its faults,

Or for the giver's sake.

The WHOLE a tenure of record stands

By which the tenant kept his home and land.

Washington, D. C.

Chat.

A number of sample copies of this issue are sent out to about twenty of our mystic friends and we wish that they will respond with the usual batch of contributions and solutions. We make this special offer: We will send this paper for one year for forty cents. This offer holds good for four weeks. The paper is published the first and third Thursdays of each month. Shooly, and Waldo, we "borrow" No's 65 and 67 from our "North Star" bin. Solutions must reach us in three weeks.

Get your neighbor to take the VISITOR. August 15—a new story. Good time to start then.

THE GRANGE VISITOR

CHARLOTTE, MICH.

The Official Organ of the Michigan State Grange.

Published on the First and Third Thursdays of Each Month

EDITOR:

KENYON L. BUTTERFIELD, LANSING, MICH.

To whom all exchanges and all articles for publication should be sent.

MANAGERS AND PRINTERS:

PERRY & McGRATH, CHARLOTTE, MICH.

To whom all subscriptions and advertising should be sent.

TERMS 50 Cents a Year, 25 Cents for Six Months. In Clubs of 20 more 40 Cents per Year each. Subscriptions payable in advance, and discontinued at expiration, unless renewed.

Remittances should be by Registered Letter, Money Order or Draft. Do not send stamps.

To insure insertion all notices should be mailed no later than the Saturday preceding issue.

Entered at the Postoffice at Charlotte, Mich., as Second Class matter.

NEXT ISSUE, AUGUST 1.

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.

"Aint it awful dry?"

Have you taken a "Fresh Air?"

How is your August picnic coming on?

Has your Grange ordered a traveling library? If not, write to Mrs. Mary A. Spencer, Lansing, Mich., for particulars.

Patrons will be interested in the very full recital of the "Lubin Proposition," which excited so much discussion at the last National Grange.

The Michigan State Fair will be held at Grand Rapids Sept. 9 to 13 inclusive. The premium list at hand shows the usual large premiums and many special features.

We suggest that young farmers desiring to learn will find "Composition and use of fertilizers," on page 6, of value. We shall publish more of the same. Look out for them.

Secretaries, you are again forgetting Grange news. What subject did you discuss at your last meeting? Let us hear about it. Write it on a postal card and mail to us at once!

The Calhoun county institute society is the first society to report its desire to come under the new institute law, and the first county to fill in the blanks required under the rules of the Board of Agriculture.

The initial number of the *North American Horticulturist*, published at Monroe, Mich., has come to our table. There is a field for a horticulturist paper in Michigan, and we hope the new venture will be acceptable to the fruit interests of the state.

Those counties that wish a farmers' institute this coming winter should take early steps to organize an institute society. Every county should have one, but it will not be forced on the people of any county. If the people will not do their share they do not deserve an institute.

It was a farmer further west than Michigan whose sole aim in life was to raise more corn, to feed more hogs to buy more land to raise more corn to feed more hogs, and so on and on. Some farmers there are who aim no higher than the said western farmer, but the average farmer is intelligent, seeks to educate his children, takes a half dozen newspapers and a magazine or two, tries to improve his stock, goes to the

fairs and picnics and aids the cause of farming everywhere by joining and working in the Grange. We want to give a little advice to the non-progressive farmers, those who write their names with the letter X, who are "too poor to take a paper" (and who always will be), who plod on after the fashion of farmers a hundred years ago, who never see a fair or join an organization in a hope to benefit the condition of farmers generally. Unfortunately we cannot reach this class only as we urge those who are intelligent and who read this article to carry the message on to others. By all means, then, not only plan to attend the August picnic yourself kind reader, but see to it that some neighbor, who is "too busy to receive new light," is also in attendance. There is no class so much in need of the after harvest rest as are the farmers, and no other class on earth is so much in need of the benefits to be secured by coming together. Let the farmers' picnics be rally days never to be forgotten.

SPECIAL EDITION.

We hope that Patrons are preparing to work for the VISITOR at the August picnics. Remember that we are to have a special edition, containing articles of unusual value. We shall give free with each copy a fine portrait of one of the foremost Patrons of Michigan. We shall start a new and interesting story. We want your aid. Will you give it?

PICNIC NEWS.

In our special picnic edition, August 15, we should like to get a goodly amount of Grange news. We therefore request Secretaries of Granges to send in a brief note concerning their Grange. What we especially desire is a comparison of your Grange between itself four or five years ago and now. How have your methods changed? Have you gained or lost? etc. We hope that news notes of this sort will come in freely. They should be here as soon after August 1, as possible.

THE POOR MAN'S UNIVERSITY.

The *Detroit Tribune* objects to the remark of Senator McLaughlin at the University commencement, when he urged that the tuition fee should not be raised, lest the sons of poor men should be deprived of the facilities for higher education. The argument of the *Tribune* is that the Senator "concedes the whole contention of socialism." The *Tribune* defines socialism as the principle that "whatever the rich man has the poor man is entitled to have, too, even if the state has to procure it for him." We are not socialists, but we believe that it is a widely recognized principle that the state has the right, and that it is even its duty, to do for the poor man what he cannot do for himself, provided that it is clearly for the interests of the state to perform such service. It is also a generally accepted principle that the education of the people is for the interest of the state. This is the justification of our public school system. It is the only justification of our state colleges and university. It is not logical to assume that because the state should aid the poor man in getting an education, it should aid him in getting everything else he wants. As a matter of fact all the state really does at the University is to give the poor boy the same opportunity as it gives the rich boy. It remits nothing. It really does not discriminate in favor of the poor boy. It simply fails to discriminate in favor of the rich boy, which is quite a different matter. And the University is right.

The *Tribune* is eminently sound in justifying the cost of the University because of the "good that inures to the public." But we believe it is not sound in declaring that the giving of equal opportunities for education to the sons of the rich and the sons of the poor is socialism, and "obliges the state to duplicate the rich man's other privileges to the poor man. And if it is socialism, we want that much of socialism.

ENFORCING THE LAWS.

The following is clipped from an editorial in a *Detroit* daily paper:

It is good to enforce the liquor laws, not because there is likely thereby to be wrought any lessening of the liquor curse,

but because thereby the people will be apprised of the weakness of their laws, and of the pressing necessity for reform, and further reform, until the best that can be done by laws is done.

It occurs to us that this is extremely dangerous doctrine to preach. The people by their representatives make the laws. They elect men to enforce those laws. This editorial utterance assumes that our laws, the liquor laws more particularly, are of decidedly inferior merit, but advises the executives to enforce the law, that the people may know how poorly they have legislated.

One of the most serious weaknesses of our American institutions is our disrespect for law. This disrespect may have been engendered by the repeated follies of incompetent legislators and by the lax and corrupt methods of those who should enforce the laws, but this does not excuse our people in their continued failures to honor their laws. The law should be enforced because it is the law. The executive has no right to usurp legislative powers by partially enforcing a law, or by remitting portions that cause hardship. The people have no right to censure an executive for enforcing a law to the letter, though such enforcement may work them hardship.

It is doubtless true when the laws are enforced, and it is one of the good results of the strict enforcement of law, that the "people will be apprised of the weakness of their laws." But we contend that that is not the spirit in which laws should be enforced. The liquor laws, for instance, should be carried out completely, not to show how imperfect they may be, but simply because they are the laws of the people. There is a vast difference between the two principles which may govern executives. The one makes them masters, to carry out the order of the people chiefly to show the people the weakness of their laws, the other makes them servants, to execute the will of the people, however foolishly that will may have been expressed. In our judgment there can be no choice between the two principles. It is dangerous to preach the one doctrine; it is necessary to clearly enunciate and impress the other doctrine.

A NATION OF RESORTERS.

We are getting to be a nation of resorters. At the beginning of the heated term each year, thousands of women and children, and men as well, leave care and heat behind, and betake themselves to lake, sea, or mountain. Twenty-five years ago this privilege was denied to all except the wealthy. Now it is the common event in the lives of people of moderate means. Scores of summer schools impart instruction as well as rest; hundreds of resorts are inhabited by teachers, preachers, lawyers, doctors, merchants.

This phenomenon is so noticeable to-day that it is interesting to speculate upon the effect it is having upon the people whose practice gives rise to it. Probably the chief gains coming from these summer vacations are in the direction of health, pleasure, and education. The rest and change, with new air, outdoor exercise, renew the energies expended over the desk and counter. The companionships, the parties, the new scenes, give a pleasure that every man and woman desires and deserves. The travel, the meeting of people, the communion with nature, the reading and study, are factors in broadening the mind and cultivating the heart.

The question naturally arises, can not the farmer have similar advantages? If these vacations are of such value, why must the farming classes always be deprived of them? Of course it is impossible for the average farmer and family to take a long vacation in the summer. But it is not always impossible for him to take occasional "days off" to a picnic or Grange meeting. Many farmers do this, and find rest and pleasure. We know of some farmers' families who even take a week, after oat harvest perhaps, and spend it on the banks of some pretty lake not far away. Not all can do this, but many can who do not. The winter season is the vacation time for most farmers. And at this time the farmer can and should plan for visiting friends, the city, the college and experiment farm, institutes, etc. It is his time for rest and study, if he has any at all.

The Grange offers a splendid chance for

this recreation, both in summer and in winter. We not only learn at the Grange, but we have a good time. It draws us out of ourselves. Granges, farmers' clubs, institutes, all will help to give the farmer his outing, in ways to benefit him and his family.

The Master of the National Grange in Michigan.

Bro. Brigham has been assigned dates as follows:

Aug. 20, Baw Beese Park, Hillsdale county, Tri-State Grange Assembly.

Aug. 21, St. Louis, Gratiot county, county Grange picnic.

Aug. 22, Montcalm county. Place not yet located. General Grange and farmers' picnic.

Aug. 23, Orion, Oakland county, union farmers' and Grange festival, held on Island Park.

Aug. 24, Sand Beach, Huron county, basket picnic under auspices of county Grange.

Aug. 27, Coldwater, Branch county, Grange and farmers' picnic conducted by the county Grange.

Aug. 28, Agricultural College, Grand rally of the farmers and others from Eaton, Clinton, and Ingham counties, under the auspices of the Grange.

Aug. 29, Ionia, Ionia county, Grange and farmers' festival, held on fair grounds.

Aug. 30, Lelanaw county Grange and farmers' rally, held on county fair grounds.

Aug. 31, Streeter's Landing, Gun Lake, Barry county, union picnic held under the auspices of the farmers' picnic association of Barry and Allegan counties.

This fills all the time Bro. Brigham can give to Michigan. It now becomes the express duty of members of the Grange and especially those in charge of these assemblages to use such energy and tact as will secure the largest possible audiences. In this way only can the benefit of Bro. Brigham's visit be fully realized. Get out posters and small hand bills and see that they are well distributed over your territory. Have all local newspapers give notice for at least two weeks before time. Get special excursion rates on railroads and special trains where needed. You will find the railroad offices very liberal and willing if you apply in season. They will also assist in your advertising.

Strike while the iron is hot.

Turn everything possible to Grange account at these meetings.

Each Grange should through its members present do field work for new members from the farmers present. Special arrangements should be made for canvassers for the *GRANGE VISITOR*, etc. Every subordinate and county Grange should bring all these matters up at all meetings prior to the great event and by thorough arrangements insure success.

GEO. B. HORTON.

That Trade Pamphlet.

Before the next issue of the *VISITOR* the first Trade Pamphlet prepared and published by the State Grange, will be mailed out to the subordinate Grange secretaries of the state. The establishment of this line of direct dealing is new to Michigan Patrons and has taken much more time to arrange its details than at first seemed necessary. It is so essential to the success and prosperity of the enterprise that its foundation be laid correctly, that all conditions must be carefully thought over. Then follows the long line of correspondence with each business firm to make your proposition and its results understood. The common method with manufacturers in placing their wares before the consumer and user is through the local agency plan. When they contract to deal with farmers direct they must take up their agencies, for the two plans can not be sustained on the same territory at the same time. To induce a firm to make the change takes time for investigation and reflection. The Trade Pamphlet now being bound is not as complete as could be wished for and does not contain the announcements of as many firms as it might, had the work been in hands less busy with the many other Grange cares. After nearly two years of investigation the way seems to open with brighter chances for better progress in the future, so that the next issue of the pamphlet may be much more complete with a longer list of contracts. As intimated the little book soon to be sent out contains the names and location of manufacturers and first dealers who have agreed to sell their lines of goods direct to the subordinate Granges of Michigan at wholesale rates, or in other words with agents' fees and intermediate profits and expenses necessary in the agency plan, eliminated. In some cases net prices are listed with the firm's announcement, and in others reference is made to agreed upon discounts from the firm's regular illustrated catalog prices.

All of the contract firms will keep Granges supplied with circulars and leaflets explanatory of their wares. The Trade Pamphlet issued by the state will be placed in the hands of the Grange secretary for safe

keeping but all will have free opportunity to read it to the extent of becoming perfectly familiar with all of the different articles that can be secured through its contracts. The secretary will also keep on file and handy for reference all corresponding illustrated catalogs of contract firms so that each member of the Grange may readily trace out net prices on any article needed. These contracts call for confidence, promptness and strict business integrity, coupled with the Grange principle of paying cash. It may well be added also that patience must be utilized in this way of dealing, for it is new with many of the firms as well as ourselves and little differences will need be adjusted by correspondence, same as is a daily occurrence with all firms doing business. It will be a great accomplishment to permanently establish for the Patrons of Michigan a system of direct dealing, and to do it calls for education along its lines. We are now but taking the initiatory step. There are many difficulties to overcome, but if the members are tenacious in securing the object "all obstacles will be removed," confidence established and more liberal terms secured. Secretaries of Granges and members should be liberal in correspondence with these firms so that they may know you appreciate the concessions made; it will also give you a better knowledge of the wares each firm offers and secure better acquaintance. Let every Grange work for the success of the enterprise, and remember that success in a good cause is attained only through perseverance.

Geo. B. Horton.

Our Work.

I am sure the friends of the Grange Fresh Air Outing will be pleased to know that the *Detroit Free Press* gave nearly a column of the paper in explaining and advocating our work in this line to the people of Detroit, and headed a contribution toward raising means to transport the people to our homes with twenty-five dollars. The railroads leading out of the city were willing to carry them at half fare. They have thoroughly organized the work there, and have a secretary in Miss C. Estey, 31 Parsons St., Detroit, who is paid a small sum to do the correspondence, secure the children, working girls, and mothers with babies, take them to the trains, and to be a general agent for the work in Detroit.

I have already sent in orders for twenty and they are being filled. Miss Estey writes me she has a minister's daughter, a woman with two children, and two little girls eight and ten years old that she would like places for. Who will take them? If anyone will let them write at once to Miss Estey.

The people north and about Grand Rapids will find an agent in Miss Emma Field, Secretary of the Organized Charity Society, Grand Rapids.

MARY A. MAYO.

The Best Dollar.

Read at Hillsdale Pomona by Mrs. H. A. Hunker, Hillsdale.

"Covet earnestly the best gifts," said one in authority. Common things are the best. For instance ask one who is hungry what is best, and the reply would be food; he that is cold would say warmth; the weary one would designate a comfortable couch as the one thing to be desired; the homeless one would say a home, however humble. Now given a moderate amount of dollars in return for remunerative labor and all these best things are not only attainable but also permanent possession of the same is possible. The dollar is and must be the balance wheel of creature comforts in a material sense, and to make things even there should be nothing but best dollars given in exchange for these best of earthly things, the substantial of every day life.

Recently I heard a man say he wanted the best dollar, the one that was never discounted, that was subject to no fluctuation in value, the one that had the greatest purchasing power, etc., and he designated the gold dollar as the one possessing all those desirable qualities. Money is valuable only as it serves in providing for the needs and necessities of mankind and not for a possession simply. The best of authority teaches that "The love of money is the root of all evil."

MONEY OF THE CONSTITUTION.

It goes without saying that when the constitution delegated to congress the power "to coin money" and "regulate the value thereof" the money of the country was recognized as a component part of our system of government. The constitution further says "no state * * * shall coin money; emit bills of credit, make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts." Do not these provisions clearly imply that both gold and silver should be a legal tender in payment of debts? And more, does not this clause impose upon congress the duty of providing for the coinage of silver and making it full legal tender the same as gold? Then why this talk of "honest money, sound

money, cheap money?" or what right has congress to make by law any but the best dollar, a dollar that is equal in value everywhere, or by any act of legislation to create a money that will do to make a debt in, yet will not do to pay it in? Note the expression, "full legal tender." The act of congress passed August 5, 1861, provided for the issue of demand notes to the extent of \$50,000,000. They were made payable in coin and were receivable for "public dues," but as what dues was not stated in detail, the law at first was construed to exclude them from the custom house, and for this reason they went at a discount. Later the Secretary of the Treasury ordered them received for duties, and that placed them at par with gold. Although redeemable in coin they went at a discount until declared full legal tender for all debts, public and private. The full legal tender act passed the house and senate in February, 1862, but the capitalists and brokers had been at work and in the same month the act of first authorizing the greenback with a restricted legal tender was passed. This act provided for the issue of \$150,000,000 legal tender notes made such for everything except "duties on imports and interest on the public debts." These notes under this act were made redeemable for "bonds the same as coin."

There was a fierce debate in the senate over this restrictive clause and Thad Stevens said, "I have a melancholy foreboding that we are about to consummate a cunningly devised scheme which will carry great injury and loss to all classes of people throughout this Union. * * * There was a doleful sound came up from the caverns of the bullion brokers and from the saloons of the associated banks * * * It now creates money; and by its very terms declares it a depreciated currency. It makes two classes of money—one for the bank and brokers—another for the people."

Senator H. Wilson, afterwards vice president said, "In my judgment if you strike out the legal tender clause, you will have every curb stone broken in the country, the bulls and bears of the stock exchange, and all that class of men who fatten on the public calamity and the wants and necessities of the people, using their influence to depreciate the credit of the government, and break down the value of demand notes."

WEBSTER'S TESTIMONY.

In a great crisis it is the part of prudence to seek counsel of age and experience. Briefly let us enquire of the statesman who has passed on—Daniel Webster, often called the greatest constitutional lawyer of America. We quote: "I am certainly of the opinion that gold and silver at rates fixed by congress constitute the legal standard of value in this country, and that neither congress nor any state has authority to establish any other standard or to displace this standard."

Who that reads the history of Revolutionary times would question the consummate skill and ability of Alexander Hamilton as a master on finance? In his very able and valuable report, made in 1791, on the establishment of a mint, we find this declaration: "To annul the use of either gold or silver money is to abridge the quantity of circulating medium, and is liable to all the objections which arise from a comparison of the benefits of a full circulation with the evils of a scanty circulation."

The evils of a scanty circulation of actual money are everywhere apparent at the present time, as witness, closed mines, the continual reduction of wages by corporations, and the establishment of those dens of extortion and greed known as "sweat shops," along with the thousands of willing, intelligent working people subsisting on organized charities or pinching the body and dwarfing the soul on starvation wages; and *this* in free America with mountains of silver. Such sights call to mind the impassioned lines written on a bank note more than a hundred years ago by the "Ploughman Poet," who felt the grind of poverty all his life:

"I see the children of affliction
Unaided through thy cursed restriction;
I've seen the oppressor's cruel smile,
Amid his hapless victim's smile,
And for thy potency vainly wish
To crush the villain in the duel.
For lack of thee, I leave this much loved
shore,
Never, perhaps, to greet Auld Scotland
more."

Coming down to our own times James A. Garfield said in 1878, "Every man who is opposed to the use of silver coin as a part of the legal currency of the country I disagree with. Every man who is opposed to the actual legal use of both metals I disagree with. I would endow the two dollars with equality and make the coinage free." James G. Blaine in a speech in the senate in 1878 said on this subject, "I believe gold and silver coin to be the money of the constitution, indeed the money of the American people anterior to the constitution which that great organic law recognized as quite independent of its own existence. No power was conferred on congress to declare that either metal should not be money. Congress has, therefore, in my judgment, no power to demonetize

silver any more than to demonetize gold; no power to demonetize either any more than to demonetize both." In the same speech we find these words, prophetic indeed: "I believe the struggle now going on in this country and in other countries for a single gold standard would, if successful, produce widespread disaster throughout the world." The destruction of silver as money, and establishing gold as the sole unit of value must have a ruinous effect on all forms of property except those investments which yield a fixed return in money. These would be enormously enhanced in value, and would gain a disproportionate and unfair advantage over every other species of property. If, as the most reliable statistics affirm, there are nearly \$7,000,000,000 of coin or bullion in the world, not very unequally divided between gold and silver, it is impossible to strike silver out of existence as money without results which will prove distressing to millions, and utterly disastrous to tens of thousands." Were truer words ever spoken? It was Emerson who said, "We shall some day supersede politics with education. When will the people learn that congress is the creature of and not the creator of the power conferred?"

JACKSON'S IDEA.

The friends of the United States bank, whose charter expired during President Jackson's first term of office, sought to maintain by specious argument that the bank was a means of executing constitutional power "to coin money and regulate the value thereof." In his message vetoing the bill to extend the charter of the bank, Jackson replied, "Congress has established a mint to coin money and passed laws to regulate the value thereof. The money so coined, with its value so regulated, and such foreign coins as congress may adopt, are the only currency known to the constitution. But if they have other power to regulate currency, it was conferred to be exercised by themselves and not to be transferred to a corporation; and he also declared such a transfer, "unauthorized by the constitution and dangerous to the liberties of the people." Further on he added, "when the laws undertake to grant gratuities and exclusive privileges to make the rich richer, the potent more powerful members of society—the farmers, mechanics, and laborers, who have neither the time nor means of securing like favors for themselves, have a right to complain of the injustice of government." And we say along with complaint should go demand that congress with the conferred power shall authorize the best dollar. We only want no degrees in the circulating medium; diminutive, comparative, superlative.

Turning again to the best gifts, faith, hope, and charity stand foremost and may we not claim they have fulfillment in the patient pursuit of very ordinary duties? Faith alone will not bring a basket of food to every poor man's door, nor hope satisfy the demand for the necessities of life; but faith in the strong arm can plow, sow, and reap, work at the forge, or tend the mill, and with the best dollar as a return for toil the perennial flower and fruit of hope shall grow and flourish till charity, the greatest of these three, shall be known and used in its highest meaning, a shield of loving care for the faults and frailties of weak human nature. Patrons, always aspire for the gift of the best in the calling you have chosen. Let your courage equal your opportunities. That lofty—

"Courage which means the giving,
Far less to dying than to living,
It means with truth's divine assistance
To arm the soul in stern endurance;
It means with grip no stress can sever
To clatch the sword with high endeavor,
And wage in patience and persistence
This bloodless battle called existence."

How Lincoln Grows as a Hero.

He would be a rash man who should say he understood Abraham Lincoln. No doubt natures deep as his, and various almost to the point of self-contradiction, can be sounded only by the judgment of men of a like sort—if any such there be. But some things we all may see and judge concerning him. You have in him the type and flower of our growth. It is as if Nature had made a typical American, and then had added with liberal hand the royal quality of genius to show us what the type could be. Lincoln owed nothing to his birth, everything to his growth; had no training save what he gave himself; no nurture, but only a wild, and native strength. His life was his schooling, and every day of it gave to his character a new touch of development. His manhood not only, but his perception also, expanded with his life. His eyes, as they looked more and more abroad, beheld the national life, and comprehended it; and the lad who had been so rough-cut a provincial became, when grown to manhood, the one leader in all the nation who held the whole people singly in his heart;—held even the Southern people there, and would have won them back. And so we have in him what we must call the perfect development of native strength, the rounding out and nationali-

zation of the provincial. Andrew Jackson was a type, not of the nation, but of the West. For all the tenderness there was in the stormy heart of the masterful man, and staunch and simple loyalty to all who loved him, he learned nothing in the East; kept always the flavor of the rough school in which he had been bred; was never more than a frontier soldier and gentleman. Lincoln differed from Jackson by all the length of his unmatched capacity to learn. Jackson could understand only men of his own kind; Lincoln could understand men of all sorts and from every region of the land; seemed himself, indeed, to be all men by turns, as mood succeeded mood in his strange nature. He never ceased to stand, in his bony angles, the express image of the ungainly frontiersman. His mind never lost the vein of coarseness that had marked him grossly when a youth. And yet how he grew and strengthened in the real stuff of dignity and greatness; how nobly he could bear himself without the aid of grace! He kept always the shrewd and seeing eye of the woodsman and the hunter, and the flavor of wild life never left him; and yet how easily his view widened to great affairs; how surely he perceived the value and significance of whatever touched him and made him neighbor to itself. Lincoln knew the people and their life as no other man did or could; and now stands in his place singular in all the annals of mankind, the "brave, sagacious, foreseeing, patient man" of the people, "new birth of our new soil, the first American."—Prof. Woodrow Wilson, in *July Forum*.

Coin's Misrepresentations.

If it were necessary to go farther in exposing the inaccuracies, or misrepresentations, of "Coin," we might speak of his ridiculous rant about the misery and destitution of the laboring class brought about by the demonetization of silver in 1873. This act was a "crime because it has made thousands of paupers" (p. 112.) Here again it is only necessary to quote the authentic data on wages (Senate Report on Wholesale Wages and Prices, vol. I, p. 180):

YEAR.	WAGES.	
	Simple average.	Average according to importance.
1860.....	100.0	100.0
1865.....	66.2	68.7
1870.....	133.7	136.9
1873.....	148.3	147.4
1875.....	140.8	140.4
1880.....	141.4	143.0
1885.....	150.7	153.9
1890.....	158.9	168.2
1891.....	160.7	168.6

Not only does a laborer get more gold for his work in 1891, as compared with 1873, in the ratio of \$160.7 to \$148.3; but as we have seen, the articles of his use have fallen. Food has fallen least since 1873, or nearly 10 per cent; clothing 32.2 per cent; fuel 23.7 per cent; metals 35 per cent; lumber nearly 20 per cent; drugs 31 per cent; housefurnishing goods 27 per cent; and miscellaneous articles 10 per cent. That is, not only has the purchasing power of a laborer's wages risen (as prices fell) but his very wages have risen by 8 per cent since 1873. The book is absolutely untrustworthy as to its monetary statistics and facts; its logic is childish; its demagogic appeals to class prejudice are low and unworthy; and it has no claim whatever to economic recognition. —Prof. J. Lawrence Laughlin, in the *July Forum*.

A story is told of three French boys who were studying a volume of Shakespeare in their own tongue, their task being to render portions of it into English. When they came to Hamlet's famous soliloquy, "To be or not to be," their respective translations were as follows: First, "To was or not to am;" second, "To were or is not to not;" "To should or not to will."—*Harper's Round Table*.

\$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, it 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, Ohio. Sold by druggists, 75c.

Centre County, Pa., 3-24-95.

Mr. O. W. INGERSOLL,
Dear Sir: Our Grange hall was painted with your best grade of paint about six years ago and I think that when a paint stands for that length of time without the slightest defect it is sufficient test for one to order, hence you may expect my order very soon.
Fraternally Yours,
A. W. DALE.
See Advt. Ingersoll's Liquid Rubber Paints.

Notices of Meetings.

LENAAWEE POMONA.

The next meeting of Lenawee county Pomono Grange will be held with Cadmus Grange August 1, 1895. As this will be the first meeting with Cadmus Grange, it is important that all Granges in the county be represented.

P. H. DOWLING, Lecturer.

Grange News.

TRAVERSE DISTRICT GRANGE.

Traverse District Grange had a session July 4th which was both pleasant and profitable. The program was as follows: Reports of Subordinate Granges, which showed five flourishing Granges in the jurisdiction; general discussion of the questions asked our Secretary by the Visitor for publication then ensued, which will be given by the Secretary. Next on the program was select reading, bearing on Grange topics by Sister Dickerman. This ended the afternoon session. The evening was devoted to a dramatic presentation by the members of the I. O. G. T. lodge at Old Mission, followed by fireworks on the harbor.

The forenoon of July 4, was devoted to looking over the resort grounds and the fruit farms here, until ten o'clock, at which time it was decided to hold a farmers' picnic for this region at the fair grounds at Traverse City, in August, and the Master and Secretary were constituted a committee of arrangements for that purpose, hoping to secure the Master of the National Grange for that occasion. A most excellent oration was then delivered by Rev. Bro. Robinson of Peninsula Grange, followed by a valuable paper on "Training Girls," by Sister Perry of Grand Traverse Grange. Bro. Rose of Summit Grange showed the "Practical Value of Christianity," and a paper by Bro. Brinkman of Peninsula Grange, gave excellent reasons why all farmers should join the Grange.

A number of beautiful water color paintings of natural scenery by Prof. Wise of Olivet College, who has just established a summer art school at Old Mission, were then placed on exhibition, which, with the usual well-filled tables, completed the program, except the "visiting," which feature after all said and done seems to be the best feature after all. Next meeting with Elk Lake Grange, Sept. 11 and 12. WM. D. BAGLEY, LECTURER.

Hamilton Grange held an open meeting at the hall last Saturday evening to celebrate the Fourth of July. There was a very good attendance, mostly young people. This shows that patriotism is not yet dying out, as some say. The program was very interesting and an honor to the Lecturer. It consisted of patriotic songs and recitations and addresses on patriotic subjects, and all its parts were heartily applauded by all present. All had a good time. AUG. HOLM, Secretary.

A National Transportation Department.

Henry J. Fletcher is making a study of the railroad question. His able paper on "The Railway War" in The Atlantic several months ago created wide interest. The July issue contains a paper from his pen on "A National Transportation Department." He says:—

The government of the United States has hitherto shrunk from assuming some of the most important parts of the duty imposed on it by the constitution in regard to interstate commerce. That duty cannot be adequately performed without taking cognizance of the relations of the transportation companies to at least three different subdivisions of the community: those which they sustain towards their own shareholders, their own employees, and the general body of the people who use the railways and waterways in trade and travel. The first of these relations concerns the ownership of eleven billions (par value) of stock and bonds of railway companies alone, and a trackage of over 175,000 miles; of which between a fourth and a fifth part have been plunged into insolvency as a result of unregulated construction and mismanagement coincident with a period of severe general depression. The second involves the efficiency and happiness of nearly one million railway employees and the welfare of their families, and, as recent history sharply reminds us, affects the steady flow of commerce through all its channels; it penetrates almost to the core of the greatest problem with which society is now struggling,—the question of the rights of labor. Most of the legislation on the subject of railway control has been directed toward the third of these divisions,—the railways as a common carrier,—because it directly concerns the number of people and the widest diversity of interests.

The comprehensive and intelligent adjustment of the relations

between the great agencies of commerce and the rest of the public can never be effected until each of these divisions is examined in detail, and the responsibility of the government in respect to each is recognized and assumed. Each one, when frankly confronted, seems as portentous as the entire problem of which it is but a part, and it is no wonder that the duty of grappling with them in turn has been evaded and postponed, while daily growing more and more formidable. The time seems to have come when it cannot be put off much longer. The railway system has apparently reached a climax in its development. The old-fashioned idea of competition as a regulator of tariffs seems about to be laid aside, at least so far as combination is capable of securing that result, and the alternative is before the people of substituting in its place a well-ordered and equitable scheme of national control, or a concentrated, pool-bound monopoly, regulated only by self-interest. A law abrogating the old prohibition of pooling will lead to the final steps in the grand process of crystalization, which will speedily transform the railways into a single, compact whole, able to meet with united front any threatened attack, whether it be from dissatisfied labor or an alarmed government. The consequences of permitting this unification to go so far, with so little attempt to bring it within the control of the only government capable of grappling with it, will soon be apparent.

Not until 1886 did the national congress set itself seriously to the task of considering its duty, under the constitution, towards the great subject of interstate commerce. The task had been put off from time to time, because it was too vast, too difficult, too delicate—because congress optimistically hoped that somehow it would right itself; it was let alone in part because every avenue of legislation was blocked by a powerful and corrupt lobby. When at last it had become a problem of overshadowing importance, it was taken up timidly, not as a whole, but piecemeal, and a law was evolved which purported to concern only itself with an effort to correct discrimination in rates, to prevent pooling, to collect information, and to secure publicity. Congress distinctly disavowed any intention to deal with the rights of shareholders and bondholders, except incidentally, and did not at all enter upon the questions of the mutual rights and duties of employers and employees. Legislators felt that any attempt at national interference with an agency so vast, powerful, infinitely complex, and bound up so intimately with every interest of the community would be unavailing unless it were at once minute and sweeping, comprehensively gathering within the jurisdiction of the United States government the whole transportation business of the country; and they shrank from so long a step toward centralization and state socialism. They, therefore, contented themselves with passing a law creating a tribunal which it did not venture to dignify with the name or functions of a court. This law and tribunal, thus mild and tentative, the courts of the country have, by a long course of narrow construction, rendered still more ineffectual for good or evil. The commission, entrusted with vague supervisory power over some five hundred railway companies, big and little, intolerant of control and in a state of intermittent war, may spend \$225,000 a year in trying to make its influence felt; while a fluctuation of a twentieth of a cent per ton per mile in the average annual freight rate means according to a recent authority on annual gain or loss of \$800,000 to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, \$9,900,000 to the Northwestern, \$1,385,000 to the New York Central, \$2,190,000 to the Pennsylvania division of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Congress has laid upon the commission responsibilities of vast extent, without any clear and positive definition either of its powers or duties, and without placing in its hands any machinery at all commensurate with the work to be performed. Yet even the timorous and halting legislation known as the interstate commerce law professes to deal with one phase only of the railroad problem.

Citizen Train.

George Francis Train sat in state in Madison Square park the other day, and as he lolled on a bench munching peanuts a man came along who had been drinking. There are few persons on earth who think the sage of the square an easy mark for their shafts of wit.

"Kin you tell me," asked the lurching chap, "why you are crazy?"

George Francis looked at him seriously for a moment. "Yes," he answered; "I am pursued by so many fools who ask questions."

"Don't sensible folks ever talk to you?" went on the man.

"Never," replied the philosopher.

"You have answered your own question," he went on. "If you need the information really, you put yourself down as a silly person. If you're not bright enough to see the point, you are convicted of being one of the class you mention. In any event you're a fool. Now go home and reason it out." And the half dazed individual sauntered away. —New York World.

"The Exhibition of Holdfasts"

by the TIE CO., of Unadilla, N. Y., at the recent Sportsmen's Exposition, Madison Square Garden, New York, gave a new idea to tradesmen and the casual visitor. "Holdfasts" are a string or rope what a buckle is to a strap. They tie automatically. The "Holdfast" may be briefly described as a piece of steel wire so bent that when a string or rope is drawn through it is automatically fastened. It is a most ingenious and simple invention and the variety of its uses is almost illimitable. It gives the farmer a practical corn binder of so little cost it can be used on every shock, and they will last a lifetime. Shoe manufacturers putting it on a shoe must find an increased demand for their product. For hammocks, wash lines, shawl carriers, filing papers, tent ropes, tennis nets, horses tails, etc., it is unquestionably the best thing ever devised. All practical farmers should send to them for circulars.



A PICNIC!

AUGUST 15 we shall issue a special edition of the VISITOR, to be known as a PICNIC EDITION. It will be one of the best numbers ever issued.

WHAT WE WANT.

We wish one or two canvassers at each Grange picnic this summer to distribute samples of this edition and to take subscriptions.

We Also Want

Patrons to get themselves interested and help us out in getting new names. We will announce

SPECIAL TERMS

at a later date.

P. S.—Note that this picnic edition will contain a first-class picture of a first-class man

FREE.

Also we will begin a new and interesting

STORY

at the same time.

GET READY TO HELP US.

The Grange Visitor.



A Tale of a Talkative Tonsorial Artist and His Gruff Customer.

As he threw himself back into the embrace of the cushioned chair of a Union square barber shop he scowled fiercely at the barber and buried his face in the newspaper. But the barber didn't mind the ugly opening. He leaned over, garroted the tonsorial patient with a towel and painted his face with lather. When he had flippantly a razor once or twice along the strop he began mildly:

"Nice day, sir."

"Oh, is it?" answered the other.

The barber looked startled, but he tried again.

"Paper says we're going to have nice weather now."

"Thanks," was the answer, "I know how to read myself."

At this rebuff the barber kept silence. But he shaved against the grain, tweaked the other's nose and daubed soap into the corner of his mouth. The gruff man swore softly, the barber smiled, and as a final act of violence grabbed the other by the top of the scalp and twisted his head until the cervical vertebrae creaked again.

"Say," cried the gruff man, "my head ain't no roulette wheel."

But still the barber shaved on in silence. He shaved and shaved, scraping the skin so close that it showed ragged under the blade. Then, leaning over, he grabbed a handful of raw and tender skin and rolled it between his fingers until the other groaned aloud. As the tear drops stole down the scarified face the barber administered the final taunt:

"Do you shave yourself, sir?"

"No," roared the gruff man, leaping up in the chair, "I shave my grandmother and sister's nieces."

Then he buried his face in the paper and the barber smiled and smiled and smiled, while he rubbed alum into the sore spots on the victim's chin.—New

Got Their Money's Worth.

American naval officers who were in China during the late war tell of a day they spent ashore looking for sport. For a few yen, amounting to about 4 cents, they secured the services of two Chinese to fight for their entertainment. The first fight went on bravely, and as fights go in China, not being up to the American hippodrome style, one of the Chinese was whipped. But he was angry. As he moved away from the scene of combat he found a stone, and, turning upon his late antagonist, struck him a blow that killed him. The murderer was speedily beheaded, but the authorities decided that it was no concern of the American officers if a murder resulted from their plan of amusement. One of the younger officers remarked: "We not only got a fight, but a killing and an execution, all for 4 cents. You couldn't beat those rates."

Sentenced to Siberia.

A nobleman once entered into a conspiracy against the Russian emperor and was sentenced to Siberia. His eyes were bandaged, and he was put into a dark carriage, and for seven days and nights they traveled on and on, only stopping to take food. At last he felt they must have reached Siberia, and in the utmost anguish he perceived that the carriage had stopped, and the bandage was taken off his eyes, and—he was in his own home! He had been driven round and round St. Petersburg the whole time, but the fright cured him.—

FARMERS logo with text: Use and make money by selling Holdfast Corn Binders. Used on every shock. Pull and it's fast. Ties itself. Costs less than string. Never wears out. Thousands and easily sold in a town. Good profits. Get your town agency now. Outfit 50c. TIE CO., Box 55, Unadilla, N. Y.

Fertilizers for Fall Crops

should contain a high percentage of Potash to insure the largest yield and a permanent enrichment of the soil.

Write for our "Farmers' Guide," a 142-page illustrated book. It is brim full of useful information for farmers. It will be sent free, and will make and save you money. Address, GERMAN KALI WORKS, 93 Nassau Street, New York.

Is a book containing illustrations, prices and descriptions of 30,000 articles in common use, a book that will show you at a glance if you are paying too much for the goods you are now buying,

WORTH ANYTHING TO YOU?

Is it worth the 15 CENTS in stamps required to pay postage or express charges on a copy?

THE BUYERS GUIDE AND CATALOGUE (issued every March and September) is the book we are talking about; you are not safe without a copy of the latest edition in the house.

MONTGOMERY WARD & CO.,

111 to 116 Michigan Ave., Chicago.

LIVE FACTS ABOUT WOOL advertisement with large 'WOOL' text and decorative border. Text includes: There are the best of reasons for our saying that we can save you money in the sale of your wool. We do this by securing for you the highest market price and seeing to it that your wool is properly graded and sold in the class that it rightly belongs. WE CHARGE a commission for services rendered—a small one—1 cent a pound. No one can do good, honest service for less. We furnish sacks free to shippers. We make a liberal advance on bill of lading. We treat all consignors fairly and honorably. It is our method of doing business. We make prompt returns; no long and unnecessary delays in making sales because we have the best of facilities, and a market always is ready for us. Our record of 29 years is clean and unquestioned. Our knowledge is the result of years of long experience. We have the best of "wool" talent; men who thoroughly understand the business, work upon our established principle of promptness and fair dealing. Everything moves with the regularity of clock work with us and to the satisfaction of all our clients. We solicit consignments direct. We sell direct to the manufacturers. Our acquaintance with them is large, and some of the largest in the country are our regular patrons. Write for wool letter; and, note please, that 1 cent per pound commission charge we make covers all charges after wool comes into our hands, including fire insurance. SILBERMAN BROS. 208-214 MICHIGAN ST., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. ESTABLISHED 1866. REFERENCES: Any Chicago Bank, and this Paper.

CARRIAGES, BUGGIES, HARNESS advertisement with images of a carriage and a bicycle. Text includes: and Bicycles, at Factory Prices. Work guaranteed and 20 to 40 per cent saved. Our goods received the highest awards at the World's Fair. Our 1895 Mammoth Illustrated Catalogue is free to all. It shows all the latest styles and improvements and reduced prices. It has 200 pages and is the largest and most complete catalogue ever issued. Send for it. It's free. Alliance Carriage Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.